


# Western Expansion Notes

## Why Were People Moving West?

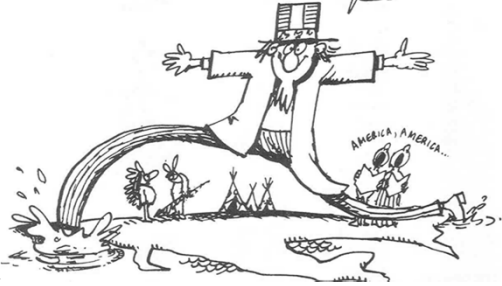
- **Push Factors**
  - Unemployment after the Civil War
  - Expensive Land
  - Business Failures
  - Religious Repression
  - Devastation after the Civil War
- **Pull Factors**
  - Opportunities
  - Cheap Land
  - Railroads
  - Less Discrimination/Prejudice



# Railroads

# How do you build a transcontinental railroad?

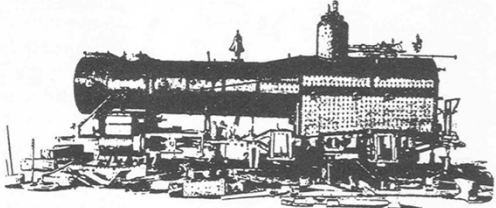
THE BOOM HAD ACTUALLY BEGUN WITH THE CIVIL WAR, WHEN CONGRESS HATCHED A TRULY GRAND SCHEME: BUILD A TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILWAY.

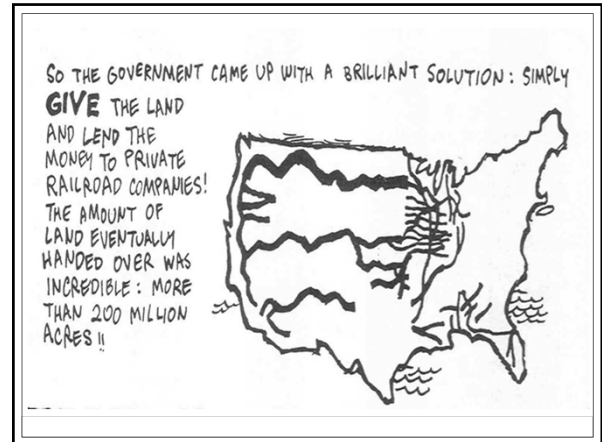


FROM SEA TO SKINING SEA!

AMERICA, AMERICA...



BUT A PROJECT SO ENORMOUS HAD SCARCELY BEEN IMAGINED BEFORE! WHO COULD POSSIBLY AFFORD IT? SUCH A HUGE INVESTMENT IN LAND, LABOR, AND EQUIPMENT WAS BEYOND THE ABILITY OF ANY PRIVATE COMPANY.






### Who built the Transcontinental Railroad?

- Two railroad companies
  - Central Pacific
  - Union Pacific
- Civil War veterans
- Freed slaves
- Native Americans
- Immigrants
  - Irish
  - Chinese


### Change Brought by Railroads

- Drove industrialization during the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Provided the following:
  - modern transportation network
  - increased demand for iron and steel
  - served as model for big business
- Led to:
  - large scale farming
  - economic development in the west



### Change Brought By Railroads Cont.

- Reduced travel time and increased the variety and availability of consumer goods
  - Increased Standard of Living
- Land grants given by the government promoted further growth in the territories along the route
- Created markets along the railroad routes leading to a relationship between resources and industry
- Forced American Indians off their land and onto reservations



### Map Key

- In the bottom right corner of your map you will create a map key.
- Write the different groups we will study in your map key
  - Railroads (Transcontinental Railroad)
  - Miners
  - Cowboys
  - Native Americans
  - Exodusters
  - Settlers/Farmers
  - Populist
- You will need to use a different color to represent each group

**Draw in the Transcontinental Railroad on your map.**

**Perspectives**

- Read the perspective placard for Railroad Owners and Workers.
- Next to each image place a "+" positive and a "-" negative impact of westward expansion.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WdYzemTugs>

**Miners**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wotxPTqKdCo>

**Physical Geographic Effects**

- Gold was found along the Yukon River
- Caused the largest rush in North America
  - Many people, after being hit hard by the Panic of 1893, decided to try their luck panning for gold

Before	After
<p><b>Physical Effects of the Gold Rush</b></p> <p><b><u>Logging</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Mining</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Water Pollution</u></b></p>	

**Human Geographic Factors**

- The population of Seattle increased
  - 40,000 to 240,000
- Seattle became a commercial center for miners
- Demand for gold and silver increased but very few miners found enough to meet the demand
- Historic Seattle:
  - <http://www.nps.gov/klgo/planyourvisit/upload/HistoricSeattle.pdf>
- Klondike Routes:
  - <http://www.nps.gov/klgo/planyourvisit/upload/KlondikeRoutes.pdf>

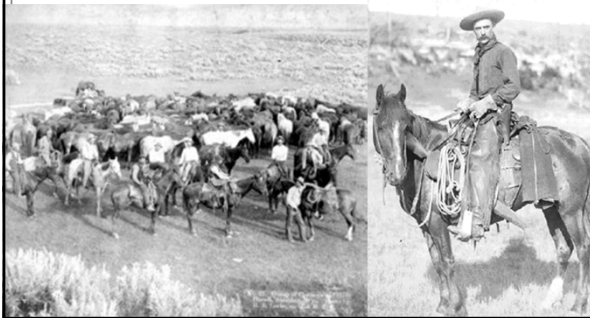
### Assignment – back to your map

- Label Yukon River
- Shade in Alaska, California, Washington, and Oregon on your map. Add the miners to your map legend.

### Perspectives

- Read the perspective placard for Miners
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “-”negative impact of westward expansion.

### Cowboys



### Cattle Drives

- Drove cattle from ranches in Texas to northern railroads in Kansas
- Cow towns developed along these trails
- However, the development of the railroads also put an end to the long cattle drives.
- Famous Cattle Trails
  - Goodnight-Loving
  - Western
  - Chisholm
  - Sedalia-Baxter
  - Spring



### Cattle Boom

- Large supply of wild cattle in Texas and the Southwestern United States
- Demand for beef in the North due to urban growth
- The expansion of the railroads helped connect supply and demand
- Boom drove prices down in some places
- Meat packing become a major industry



### Assignment

- Add the Chisholm Trail to your Map
- Shade in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas
- Add Cowboys to your key



### Perspectives

- Read the perspective placard for Ranchers and Cowboys.
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “-” negative impact of westward expansion.
- The Cowboy Song – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLaW1AwVa7s>

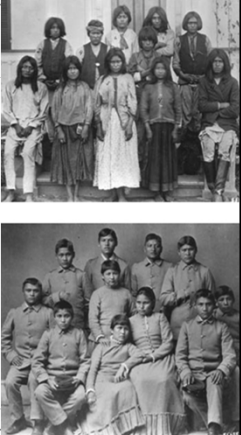
### Native Americans

### Indian Policies

- Differing views of land use and culture caused conflict
- Creation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to address interactions between the government and Native American nations
- **Assimilation policies** – were *efforts to assimilate Native Americans and destroy their traditional way of life*
  1. **Reservations.**
  2. **Carlisle School**
  3. **Dawes Act**
- **Wars** were fought to suppress resistance of these policies

### Carlisle Indian School

- Founded in 1879 at Carlisle, Pennsylvania
- The first off-reservation boarding school
- It became a model for Indian boarding schools in other locations.
- It was one of a series of efforts by the U.S. government to assimilate Native American children into the majority culture.
  - Required to speak English, practice Christian values and traditions




### The Dawes Act of 1887

Goals	Consequences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Reservation land was <u>divided</u> into <u>individual family plots of land</u></li> <li>➢ Change the Native American <u>concept of shared land</u> in <u>favor of the principle of private property.</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ By 1900, Indians had lost 50 percent of the land they had held just two decades earlier.</li> <li>➢ The <b>forced-assimilation</b> doctrine of the Dawes Act remained the cornerstone of the governments' official policy for nearly half a century.</li> </ul>





### Sand Creek Massacre 1864

- Cheyenne and Arapaho accepted protection from the government to stay in the Sand Creek Reservation
- Government orders an attack on the Indians settled on this reservation
- 150 men, women, and children are slaughtered




### Battle of Little Bighorn 1876

- Commonly known as Custer's Last Stand
- Custer leads 264 US troops against 2,500 Sioux and Cheyenne led by Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull
- Custer's troops are defeated

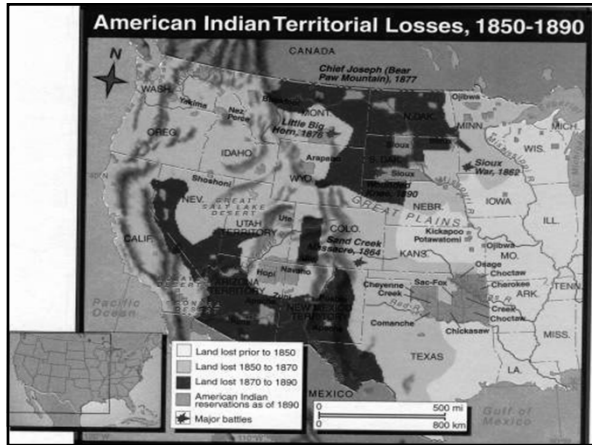



### Battle of Wounded Knee 1890

- US Army rounds up 350 starving Sioux at Wounded Knee
- Sitting Bull was killed
- 300 Sioux and 29 US soldiers lose their lives
- Last major episode of the Indian Wars



Artist Frederick Remington recreated the opening moments of the battle based on soldiers' recollections



### Native American Territory

On your map label the Native American land (reservations) left in 1890.  
Must include OK and then 3 other reservations.

Add Native Americans to your map key

### Perspectives

- Read the perspective placard for Native Americans.
- Next to each image place a "+" positive and a "-" negative impact of westward expansion

### Settlers


## Ho for Kansas!

Brethren, Friends, & Fellow Citizens:  
I feel thankful to inform you that the  
**REAL ESTATE**  
AND  
**Homestead Association,**  
Will Leave Here the  
**15th of April, 1878,**  
In pursuit of Homes in the Southwestern  
Lands of America, at Transportation  
Rates, cheaper than ever  
was known before.  
For full information inquire of  
**Benj. Singleton, better known as old Pap,**  
SUG. & NORTH FRONT STREETS.  
Beware of Speculators and Adventurers, as it is a dangerous thing  
to fall in their hands.  
Nashville, Tenn., March 18, 1878.

One of the many posters calling on western blacks to leave for Kansas

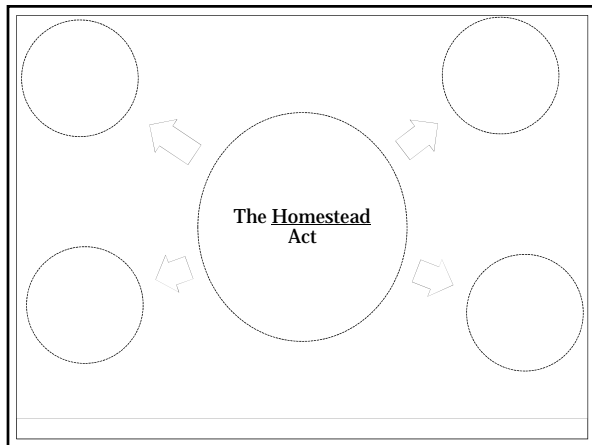
### Exodusters

- After the Civil War, African Americans moved westward to escape:
  - Sharecropping
  - Violence
  - Poverty
  - Debt
  - Exploitation
- 6,000 people in two months move to Kansas
- Name comes from the Exodus in the Bible




### Perspectives

- Read the perspective African Americans.
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “-” negative impact of westward expansion.
- Draw three arrows from the South to Kansas
  - At the end of each arrow write a push/pull factor
- Add Exodusters to your map key






### *The Homestead Act of 1862*

- Offered **160 acres** of land to anyone who met these requirements
- Settlers had to be at least **21 years old** or the head of a family
- Settlers had to build a house and live on the land at least **six months** each year
- Settlers had to farm the land for **five consecutive years**.




### Settlement of the Great Plains

- Challenges faced by Settlers:
  - Defensive Native Americans
  - Great distances
  - harsh conditions
    - ✦ Sod Busting
    - ✦ Bugs – grasshoppers, locust, boll weevils, mosquitoes, flies, snakes
- People adapted to their environment by using resources readily available (i.e. sod houses)

### Farming the Plains

- a large farm owned by a corporation.
  - +: **raised massive quantities of cash crops**
  - -: **oversupply** led to **lower prices**

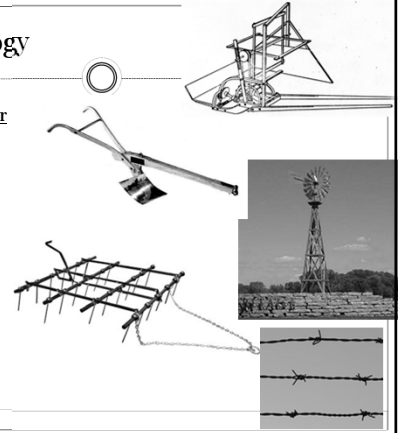


### New Technology

- Helped to create larger farms that required less labor
- Buying this new technology put many farmers into debt, especially after droughts and blizzards ruined crops

### New Technology

- Mechanized Reaper
- Steel Plow
- Steel Windmill
- Barbed Wire
- Harrow
- Hybridization
- Screen Windows



### Perspectives

- Shade in Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa, and Missouri. Add the farmers to your map legend.
- Read the perspective Settlers.
- Next to each image place a "+" positive and a "-" negative impact of westward expansion.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Cya-2AXgOE>

### Farm Issues

- Rising debt crippled many farmers
- Dependence on railroad led to conflicting interest between agriculture and big business
- Resentment of monopolistic big business led to creation of The Grange Movement, the Farmers Alliance, and the People's Party

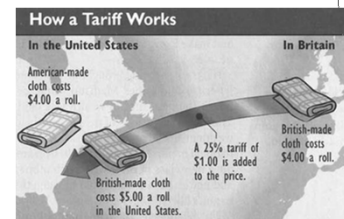
### Populism – "The People's Party"

- Farmer's Complaints:
  - Led to the creation of a 3<sup>rd</sup> party
  - Unstable economy
  - Failure of the banks
  - Unemployment
  - Falling crop prices
  - Loans called in (DEBT)
  - Railroad monopolies
  - Uneven prosperity between agriculture and big business.



### Tariffs Increase


- Tax on imported goods
  - Protect goods made at home
- Also hurt farmers
  - Raised the prices of manufactured goods
  - Kept foreigners from buying American farm products






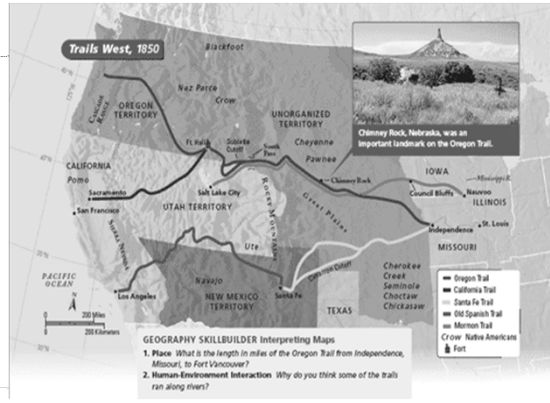
### Interstate Commerce Act

- Created in 1887
- regulated the prices railroads charged to move freight between states
  - proportional to distance traveled
- made it illegal to give special rates to some customers
- set up the Interstate Commerce Commission to enforce the laws



### Omaha “Populist” Platform 1892

- unlimited coinage of silver
- direct election of senators
- term limits for President
- secret ballot
- government ownership of communication and transportation industries
- graduate income tax
- shorter work day
- immigration restrictions

**Trails West, 1850**

Chimney Rock, Nebraska, was an important landmark on the Oregon Trail.

**GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER Interpreting Maps**

1. Place: What is the length in miles of the Oregon Trail from Independence, Missouri, to Fort Vancouver?
2. Human-Environment Interaction: Why do you think some of the trails ran along rivers?

### Map assignments

- Draw one of the trails taken west.
- Add the Populists to your map key

### Perspectives

- Read the perspective for Populist.
- Next to each image place a “+” positive and a “-” negative impact of westward expansion.