

I American Indians Under Pressure

- A. Indian cultures shared a common thread - They saw themselves as part of nature and respected the natural world.
- B. Being placed on Reservations put restriction on their nomadic way of life.
- C. White Americans faith in Manifest Destiny put them on a path to conflict with Native Americans.
- D. The white urban poor were encouraged to move westward for a better life, no thought was given to the Native Americans who were already living in the West.
- E. The Sand Creek Massacre is a prime example of the basic conflict between white settlers, U.S. soldiers and Native Americans.
- F. Frustration turned to violence as Native Americans resisted the white man to save their land and their way of life.
- G. The Native American way of life depended on being able to hunt buffalo, and move their camp often.
- H. After a trek of more than 1,300 miles, and being hopelessly outnumbered, the Nez Perce's Chief Joseph surrendered and explained "I will fight no more, forever."
- I. Policy makers hoped that Native Americans would assimilate by adopting the culture and civilization of the whites.
- J. The U.S. Government outlawed traditional Native American ceremonies in order to weaken tribal cultures and encourage assimilation.
- K. Helen Hunt Jackson is an outspoke advocate to allow Native Americans to continue their way of life.
- L. The Dawes Act of 1887, was directly influenced by the Home Stead Act of 1862. This program ended reservations, and replaced them by offering each Native American 160 acres of land.

II The West Transformed

- A. The federal government promoted mining in the West by providing land, and patents for new inventions to large mining companies.
- B. The cattle industry is most important industry in Texas.
- C. Farmers from the East, who moved to the the Great Plains built their houses out of sod, because there were no trees.
- D. Geographic factors as well as climatic factors made life on the Plains was very difficult.
- E. By 1890 25% if the U.S. population lived in the West.
- F. Chinese immigrants on the West Coast faced the greatest degree of descrimination.
- G. In 1882 the U.S. makes immigration from China illegal.

III Corruption Plagues the Nation

- A. Gridlock between the Republicans and the Democrates in the late 1800's produced little meaningful legislation.
- B. Because members of his administration were engaged in corruption, President Grant is known as a corrupt President.
- C. As a whole Presidents during the Giled Age were considered weak.
- D. Monopolistic business interest controlled the members of the U.S. Senate.
- E. Illegal activities were carried on at the Tammany Hall political machine of New York City run by Boss Tweed.

IV Farm Issues and Populism

- A. Farmers performed an important job that helped all levels of society.
- B. Farmers were being unfairly exploited by businessmen.
- C. Agriculture commodity prices go on a 30 year decline due to new farming machinery allowing Farmers to produce much more than in years past.
- D. Farmers begin to look for a political solution to their problems and create the Populist Party.
- E. Racial conflict makes it difficult for the poorer classes, of blacks and whites, to achieve economic justice.
- F. The Populist believe that if the government would mint silver coins, this would cause crop prices to increase.
- G. The Populist also wanted the government to take control of the railroads to illiminate unfaire business practices.
- H. The Populist Party tried to appeal to workers of all types, not just farmers.
- I. Populist believed that all laborers contributed to the growth of the economy.
- J. The most outspoke Populist leader is William Jennings Bryan
- K. Bryan and the Populist want to absorb and take over the Democratic Party.
- L. While running for President William Jennings Bryan is the first candidate to tour the nation giving speeches to the masses.
- M. In the election Bryan won a majority of the states (mainly Southern and Western), but McKinley won the states (mainly Northern and Eastern) with the most electoral votes.