

Lesson #50 U.S. History

Post-Civil War

Cattle Frontier:

- Extancias, ranches, & rodeos
 - Vacquero & cowboy
 - Black cowboys
 - Outlaws

Cattle drives

- Trails: Old Chisholm
- Cow towns: Abilene & Dodge City
- Romance of the cowboy
- Stampedes

Farmers and the West:

- The problem of land
- Homestead Act 1862
- Newlands Reclamation Act
- The problem of water-irrigation
- Technological advances aided farmers
- Transportation both helped & hurt the farmers /Trans-Mississippi West

Sod-House Frontier

- The farmer's frontier
- Wire and windmills
- Plowing the sod
- Living on the prairie
- Land law and nightmares
- Immigrants and the middle border
- Oklahoma sooners

Southern Life:

Planters lost slaves and held the land and expanded holding in most cases

- Alabama 1850 – 10% of landowners held 55% of land

- 1870 – 10% of landowners held 63% of land

- Louisiana small farms drop 14% between 1860 to 1880 large plantations increased 287%

- Centralized plantation became de-centralized

Some argue that standard of living dropped 50% after war

Tenant farming trapped in system

- Sharecropping in the South – control by large Plantations

- Crop mortgage – credit at store for crop “crop lien” agreement paid even in bad years

Held down Poor Whites and Blacks and turned these two groups against each other - Owner furnish tools and land. Freedmen standard of living 29% more for less work

The Problems of Farmers

Decline in commodity prices

International competition

Railroads and middlemen

High tariffs

Inadequate currency

Problems of geography and climate

Each part of the country raised different crops made working together hard

Used Immigrants and race to divide groups

Organized Resistance:

The Grange:

Oliver H. Kelley, organizer

Granger Laws:

1. Regulation of railroads

2. Court decisions:

a. *Munn vs Illinois*

b. *Wabash vs Illinois*

Decline of the Grange

The Farmer's Alliance

The growth of the Alliance

The economic program of the Alliance

The Alliance and politics

Third party success in the West

Aided the Democrats in the South

People's Platform Preamble " We meet in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral, political and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot box, the legislatures, the congress, and touches the ermine of the bench. The people are demoralized..."

Mary E. Lease "raise less corn and more Hell"

"...if one man has not enough to eat three times a day and another man has \$25 million, that last man has something that belongs to the first."

Freedmen and Progress:

Booker T. Washington was born in slavery and he saw the nation getting better with Civil Rights Amendments and Black Reconstruction. He began a school in Tuskegee, Alabama. Had the Students build the buildings and then furnish the rooms before intellectual study.

Vocational training:

Agricultural & Mechanical schools
Education for agriculture

“Character not, Circumstance makes the man”

1876 and end of Reconstruction

Booker T. Washington and the Atlanta Compromise

Jim Crow started in River Boats and move into Railroad travel

Grandfather Clause: If your Grandfather did not vote then you can not Vote

Poll Tax: pay a sum of money to vote – eliminated the poor

Literacy Test – difficult for the illiterate or immigrants

W.E. B. DuBois born after the Civil War and saw things getting worst. Later he would join the Niagara Movement with African Americans and Jewish leaders. That organization became the NAACP.

The end of frontier: 1893

1. Frederick Jackson Turner
2. The hypothesis: "The significance of the frontier"
3. New frontier was education