**The Great West, The Agricultural Revolution and the Rise of the Urban Class**

**Chapter 26**

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| **PERIOD 6: 1865–1898** The transformation of the United States from an agricultural to an increasingly industrialized and urbanized society brought about significant economic, political, diplomatic, social, environmental, and cultural changes. **Key Concept 6.1: The rise of big business in the United States encouraged massive migrations and urbanization, sparked government and popular efforts to reshape the U.S. economy and environment, and renewed debates over U.S. national identity.**

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| 1. Westward migration, new systems of farming and transportation, and economic instability led to political and popular conflicts. **(ENV-5) (WXT-5) (POL-3) (PEO-3-) (PEO-5) (WXT-7)**
2. Government agencies and conservationist organizations contended with corporate interests about the extension of public control over natural resources, including land and water.
3. Farmers adapted to the new realities of mechanized agriculture and dependence on the evolving railroad system by creating local and regional organizations that sought to resist corporate control of agricultural markets.
4. The growth of corporate power in agriculture and economic instability in the farming sector inspired activists to create the People’s (Populist) Party, which called for political reform and a stronger governmental role in the American economic system.
5. Business interests battled conservationists as the latter sought to protect sections of unspoiled wilderness through the establishment of national parks and other conservationist and preservationist measures.
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| II. As transcontinental railroads were completed, bringing more settlers west, U.S. military actions, the destruction of the buffalo, the confinement of American Indians to reservations, and assimilationist policies reduced the number of American Indians and threatened native culture and identity. **(PEO-4) (ENV-5) (POL-6)**1. Post–Civil War migration to the American West, encouraged by economic opportunities and government policies, caused the federal government to violate treaties with American Indian nations in order to expand the amount of land available to settlers.
2. The competition for land in the West among white settlers, Indians, and Mexican Americans led to an increase in violent conflict.
3. The U.S. government generally responded to American Indian resistance with military force, eventually dispersing tribes onto small reservations and hoping to end American Indian tribal identities through assimilation.
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1. What accelerated the demise of Native Americans after the Civil War?
2. Trace the development of American Indian policy from the 1850s and 1860s.
3. What were the following events in the plight of Native Americans

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| 1864 |
| 1866 |
| 1868 |
| 1874 |
| 1876 |
| 1880s |
| 1887 |
| 1890 |
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1. What were three other factors in the defeat of Native Americans?
2. Provide evidence that American began to sympathize with Native Americans.
3. What was the Ghost Dance Cult?
4. Why did it lead to the end of Native American resistance?
5. What was the Dawes Act?
6. What were they trying to do to the Native Americans?
7. What happened after all the surface gold (and other precious metals) was mined out of an area?
8. What role did the federal government play in this?
9. How did it play a role in the development of the U.S.?
10. What led to industrialization of the beef industry?
11. What led to the end of the “open range”?
12. What was the Homestead Act of 1862?
13. Why did the government want to give it up?
14. What were two other factors that helped settle the west?
15. Why was 160 acres not adequate?
16. What happened in 1890?
17. What was a government reaction to the closing of the frontier?
18. What was the symbolic role of the frontier in the American conscience?
19. What was the government role in the settlement of the west?
20. What were some problems and changes in farming in the second half of the 1800s?
21. Describe the economic cycle that many farmers felt trapped in?
22. Explain how both of the following effected farmers.

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| Nature |  |
| Government and corporations |  |

1. What was the purpose of the Grange?
2. What became their main concern by the 1870s?
3. How did government react?
4. What were the goals of the Farmers Alliances in the 1870s?
5. By the 1890s the Populist Party had emerged, what did they want to do?
6. How did the Populist position strengthen in the early 1890s?
7. What was Coxeys Army?
8. What was the result of the Pullman Strike in Chicago to many workers and farmers?
9. In the election of 1896 what was the Republican Party platform?
10. What did the Populists want?
11. William Jennings Bryan ran for the Democrats, what event solidified his nomination?
12. The Republicans and McKinley won the election of 1896, why?
13. What were some other factors for Populisms decline?
14. Why did the money issues of the late 1800s fade away at the turn of the century?