

Summarize the impact that government policy and the construction of the transcontinental railroads had on the development of the national market and on the culture of Native American peoples.

## The Transcontinental Railroads

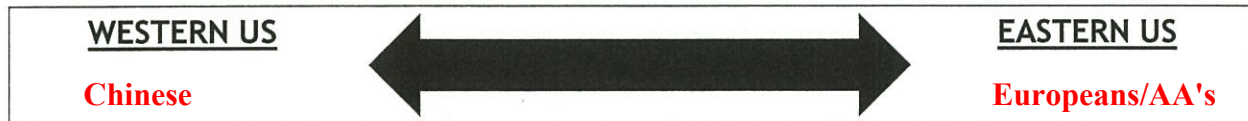
The Civil War was a turning point in the economic history of the United States. When Southern states seceded from the Union, Congress lost many of its members who believed in the **Jeffersonian** vision of a limited government and a *laissez-faire* economy. The Republican majority shared **Hamilton's** vision of an active government that would provide direct funding for **internal improvements**.

The federal government sought to encourage the settlement of the West and used Land grants to encourage Western settlement and economic development. The federal government owned (and still owns) most of the land in the West and passed legislation aimed at populating and developing the West:

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <u>Homestead</u> ACT       | <i>Provided Western settlers with 160 acre parcels of land for free as long as they improved and developed it</i> |
| <u>Pacific</u> RAILWAY ACT | <i>Granted land subsidies to corporations involved in building a transcontinental railroad</i>                    |



The Transcontinental railroads linked the Eastern and Western United States and helped to create a national market.



*The government-led development did not come without a price. Corporations schemed to get as much government money as possible, with some even resorting to fraud (e.g., Credit Mobilier Scandal).*

## Subjugation of the Western Indian Tribes

The Plains Indians depended on buffalo herds as their primary source of food. Unfortunately, buffalo herds and railroads cannot coexist. The railroad companies hired men like "Buffalo Bill" Cody to shoot bison in order to clear the way (and to feed railroad workers).

The Plains Indians were forced to live on Reservations, often away from their ancestral lands (these lands often had gold and silver deposits). These Indians, unable to hunt for food, became dependent on the federal government, which took advantage of them.

The Dawes Act took Indian lands away from the tribes and gave parcels to individual Indian families in return for U.S. citizenship.

The goal of the Dawes Act was to encourage the Assimilation of Native Americans (get them to adopt mainstream American culture). Boarding schools, such as the *Carlisle Indian School*, were founded with this goal in mind.

Many Native Americans resisted, resulting in a series of **Indian Wars** launched by the U.S. government.

The Wounded Knee Massacre was the last major armed encounter between Native Americans and the U.S. Cavalry.



**Buffalo herds and railroads cannot coexist.**

Explain the causes and effects of urbanization in late nineteenth-century America, including the movement from farm to city, the changing immigration patterns, the rise of ethnic neighborhoods, the role of political machines, and the migration of African Americans to the North, Midwest, and West.

## The “New Immigrants”

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, the United States was flooded with millions of “New Immigrants” from Southern and Eastern Europe, which included countries such as Italy, Greece, and Russia.

Native born Americans tended to resent the “New Immigrants” for several reasons:

1. They didn’t understand English.
2. Their home countries lacked traditions of Republican government.
3. Their religions (Catholic, Orthodox, Jewish) were largely alien to native born Americans.
- \*\* 4. They provided a steady supply of Cheap Labor, which undermined efforts by labor unions to get better wages.

Catholicism and cheap labor were also reasons why people resented the Irish immigrants during the antebellum period. However, the Irish did speak English and had traditions of republican government, so no efforts were made by Congress to limit Irish immigration during the nineteenth century.

### Anti-Immigrant Legislation and Quotas

| Chinese Exclusion Act (1880s)   | Immigration Quota Acts (1920s)   |
|---|--|
| The first legislation to prohibit immigration by people of a specific nationality. Laws restricting immigration from Asia remained on the books until the WWII era. | Severely limited immigration from <u>Southern</u> and <u>Eastern</u> Europe, giving preference to immigrants from the British Isles and Germany. |

## Ethnic Neighborhoods and Immigrant Poverty

In most cases, immigrants were too poor to move beyond coastal cities, leading to the rise of densely populated ethnic neighborhoods. Immigrants relied on **political machines**, led by party bosses, to help them find jobs. The political machines relied on immigrant votes to keep themselves in power.

**Muckrakers**, such as Jacob Riis, author of *How the Other Half Lives*, exposed the poor conditions in urban **tenements** (low-rent apartments) and **sweatshops**, where immigrants performed cheap labor.

Although most immigrants stayed in coastal cities, such as NYC, many went to Chicago and other cities in the Midwest where low-paying, undesirable jobs (e.g., meatpacking) were available. Upton Sinclair’s book, *The Jungle*, exposed the wretched working conditions in Chicago’s meatpacking industry.

Progressivism

Compare the accomplishments and limitations of the women's suffrage movement and the Progressive Movement in affecting social and political reforms in America, including the roles of the media and of reformers such as Carrie Chapman Catt, Alice Paul, Jane Addams, and presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson.

## The Settlement House Movement



Jane Addams (Pictured) started the Hull House, a "settlement house" where immigrant families could go to receive education, job training, and child care, amongst other things. Settlement houses served as community centers for immigrants trying to make their way in America.

## The Progressive Presidents

### Teddy Roosevelt

Before Teddy Roosevelt ("TR") was elected president, the federal government had tended to side with "big business" when there were conflicts between business and labor. Roosevelt offered Americans a "Square Deal," promising to stand up to corporations who didn't play fairly.

**Anthracite Coal Strike** – The first attempt by a president to end a strike by Arbitration.

TR earned the reputation as a "Trust buster" for prosecuting corporations who flagrantly violated the principles of the Sherman Antitrust Act. However, it became apparent that the Sherman Act was not strong enough to rein in monopolies.

### Progressive Legislation Passed During Roosevelt's Administration

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Pure <u>Food</u> and <u>Drug</u> Act<br>(1906)           | <u>Meat</u> Inspection Act<br>(1906)                            |
| Created the <u>Food and Drug Administration</u><br>(FDA) | Prompted by Upton Sinclair's publication of <u>The Jungle</u> . |

### Conservation

*Of wildlife and natural resources*




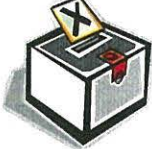


### Progressive Legislation Passed During Woodrow Wilson's Administration

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Clayton Antitrust Act</b>   | <b>Child Labor Legislation</b>   | <b>Federal Reserve Act</b>  |
| Strengthened the provisions of the Sherman Antitrust Act<br><br><b>Exempted Labor Unions</b> | Declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. This is an example of judicial <u>Review</u> . | A central banking system created to regulate the <u>Federal</u> supply and <u>Interest</u> rates. |

## Constitutional Amendments Ratified During the Progressive Era

During the Progressive Era, four amendments were proposed by a 2/3 vote of Congress and ratified by 3/4 of the states. These amendments were products of two of the goals of Progressives:

1. Popular elections
2. An expanded role for the Federal government
3. Social Reform (e.g., Temperance)

|                                     |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>16<sup>th</sup></b><br>Amendment |   | <b>Federal Income Tax</b>  |
| <b>17<sup>th</sup></b><br>Amendment |   | <b>Direct Election of Senators</b>                                     |
| <b>18<sup>th</sup></b><br>Amendment |   | <b>Prohibition of Alcohol</b><br>Repealed by the <u>21st</u> Amendment |
| <b>19<sup>th</sup></b><br>Amendment |  | <b>Womens Suffrage (right to vote)</b>                                 |