

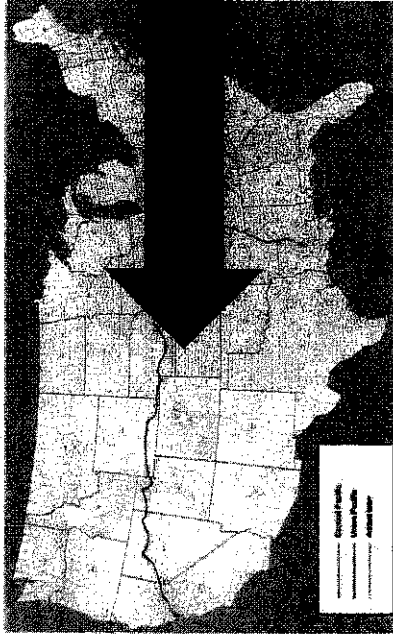
WHAT'S GOING ON NATIONALLY?

THE GILDED AGE THE INDUSTRIAL REV.

- BIG ECONOMIC GROWTH
 - POLITICAL CORRUPTION
 - MASSIVE WAVE OF IMMIGRATION
- CHANGES IN TECHNOLOGY
 - WORKERS' LIVES WORSEEN.

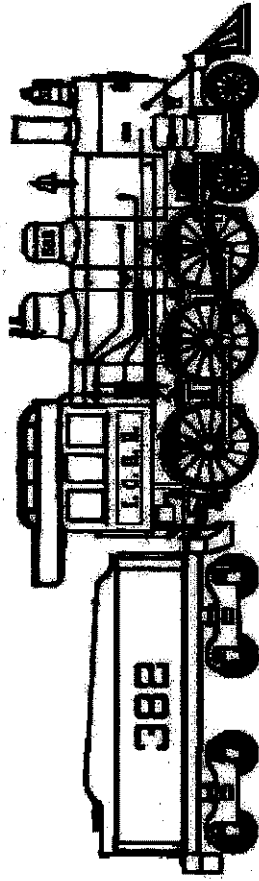
Closing Out the West

The Transcontinental Railroad finished in 1869.



During the Civil War, Americans began settling the interior region (the great plains). REMEMBER FROM AMH1: settlers skipped the interior region thinking it undesirable land.

It took English speaking people about 200 years to settle lands east of the Mississippi River but it only took 1 generation to settle the West. Why was this so and what made it possible?



THE TRANSCONTONENTIAL RAILROAD

Government + Private Industry Working Together

Govt granted land to RR, Mining, and cattle corporations.



Passage of the Homestead Act
Govt gave farmers opportunity to own land for FREE



Massive Migration to the Great Plains

The Economy of the West (How do people make a living?)	The People of the West	Problems Caused by Settlement
<p>Ranching</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Started out cheap (OPEN RANGE) - Cheap cattle, land, - Became costly when it grew as an industry - Workers lives changed for the worse over time <p>Mining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Similar experience to cattle ranching. - Starts out cheap, became expensive when corporations take over. <p>Timber</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Became hard to do if you didn't own land <p>Farming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hard - Tough soil, extreme weather, few resources, unfair practices by RR's, grain elevators, and banks - Came fitted from Homestead Act - Towns needed businesses to run properly - Businesses failed when busts occurred 	<p>Homesteaders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Families - Generally poor - Became more politically active - Faced many challenges - Made up of US citizens and N.E. immigrants <p>EXODUSTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Af-Americans that left the South for the West - Mostly to Kansas & Nebraska <p>Immigrants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Irish - Worked on RR and mining camps - Discriminated against - Chinese - Worked on RR and mining - HEAVILY DISCRIMINATED AGAINST - Banned from many jobs - N. European - Favored by US citizens - Moved West to Homestead <p>Women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Few moved WEST - Most that moved became BECAME HOMESTEADERS 	<p>Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DESTROYED THE ENVIRONMENT - Mining - Cattle ranching depleted the grass of the plains - Loss of animal life AND physical environment. - Overhunting of buffalo - Done to... 1) Supply cattle to EAST 2) Destroy/hurt Native Americans <p>Cycles of Boom and Bust</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very common for western towns to have BIG economic gains followed by BIG economic losses <p>Indian Wars</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caused over land claims of US gov't & settlers - US gov't eventually defeated ALL tribes - Sioux very successful in fighting 1) 2nd Treaty of Ft. Laramie 2) Battle of Little Bighorn - US gov't targeted Sioux - US gov't began process of Americanization bc it was more "HUMANE" 1) Indian Boarding Schools. 2) Dawes Act.