

APUSH PERIOD 5: KEY CONCEPT 5.1 1844-1877 REVIEWED!

Key Concept 5.1:

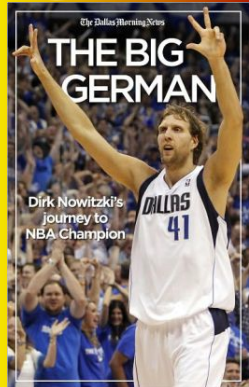
The idea of **Manifest Destiny** and the **movement west** will have a variety of economic, political, and social consequences.

Irish Immigrants

- Driven from Ireland due to potato crop failure and severe famine in the 1840s.
- Largely settled in cities (Boston, NY)
- Worked largely in unskilled laborer jobs
 - Competition with African Americans led to racial tensions in northern cities.
- Politically the Irish vote becomes important: largely support the Democrats
 - Tammany Hall in NY

German Immigrants

- **Extremely diverse group**
 - Germany not a nation
 - Mix of religions
 - Wide variety of social classes/occupations
 - Largely settled in Old Northwest & frontier on homesteads
- **Tight-knit German communities**



NATIVISTS

Reasons:

- Took **jobs** from “native” Americans
- Would **outvote** the “native” Americans, ruin American **Anglo culture**
- Many were Roman **Catholics** (especially the Irish)

Know Nothing Party- group of American nativists

- Advocated for restrictions on immigration

America was becoming more ethnically and racially diverse



Key Concept: Lots of enthusiasm for territorial expansion. Based on:

- 1) Economic
 - 2) National security interest
 - 3) Claims of U.S. racial and cultural superiority
- Belief in the idea of **Manifest Destiny**.
 - Belief that it was America's destiny to conquer and civilize **the entire continent**
 - Built upon belief of **white superiority**
 - **Oregon Treaty 1846**: 49th parallel, No **54 '40° or Fight needed**
 - Texas annexed in 1845
 - **Mexican American War**: **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** Mexico loses California, New Mexico, and the rest of the Southwest



New territories were brought into the **Union** which forced the **issue of slavery** into the center of **national politics!**

SECTIONALISM

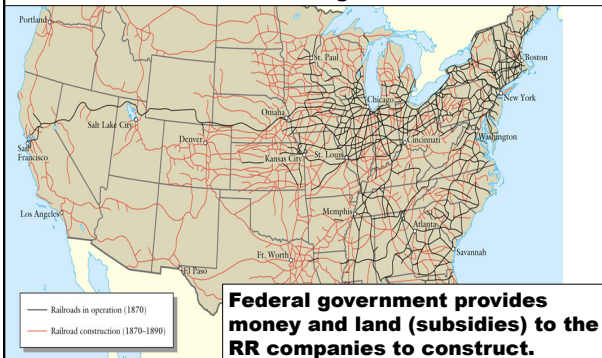
WESTERN EXPANSION

The federal government actively promoted economic development and the movement west



Economic activities out in the west:

Pacific Railroad Act (1862)- authorized the building of transcontinental railroad along a northern route.



Mining booms take place throughout the west



Movement of people to trans-Mississippi west to start farms.

Homestead Act (1862) offered public land (160 acres) to any person who farmed it for five years.



Dramatic environmental changes will take place as a result of westward expansion:

Severe decline in the population of **buffalo**.

- Killed to make way for building of railroad
- Undermine Native American resistance
- Demand for buffalo hides

The removal of grass on the great plains will lead to **soil erosion** and **degradation of the land**.

The biggest impact will take place upon the lives of **Native Americans** in the **trans-Mississippi west**.



CONFLICT



The expansion of the U.S. led to conflict with Native Americans:

- **Sand Creek Massacre** (1864): Colorado Militia attack and kill over 100 Native people
- **Battle of Little Big Horn** (1876): The Sioux tribe (Inspired by **Sitting Bull**) kill Custer and his men in the 7th Cavalry (**Custer's Last Stand**)
- Native Americans expected to **assimilate** into white society or forced onto **reservations**.



Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo: 1848



Hispanic residents of this area were guaranteed their property and citizenship rights.

U.S. interest in expanding trade led to economic, diplomatic, and cultural initiatives westward to **Asia**.

- **Clipper ships** allow for faster travel and boost U.S. trade with Asia
- **Treaty of Wanghia (1844)**
 - first **diplomatic agreement** between US and China,
 - Goal to promote trade
 - Many **missionaries** go to China to spread Christianity
- **Japan opens up:**
 - Japan isolated for over 200 years
 - President Fillmore sends **Commodore Matthew Perry** in 1852 to Japan
 - Begins U.S. and Japan **trade relationship**