

# #16



## America's Frontier West

- For most westerners, life was
  - focused on adapting and surviving.
  - centered around the mining industry.
  - extremely violent due to saloon brawls, cattle stampedes, Indian raids, and similar episodes.
  - considerably easier than in the industrial Northeast or the rural South.
- All of the following are true of the American frontier EXCEPT that it
  - separated the country's organized territory from its unsettled lands.
  - moved steadily westward during the nineteenth century.
  - formed a rough line generally running north-and-south.
  - ceased to exist within a decade after the Civil War.
- The so-called "conquest of the frontier" was
  - mythical because Americans were always finding new frontiers.
  - generally invisible to Americans of the day and never really captured the imagination of Americans.
  - one of the most brutal examples of imperialism in world history.
  - used as a way to dilute the destructive consequences of national policies by making them seem to be an expression of human progress.
- By the late 1800s, the largest city west of the Mississippi River, with almost 350,000 inhabitants, was
  - Filadelphia
  - San Phrancisco
  - Foenix
  - Phargo
- Which statehoods did NOT occur in either 1889 or 1890?
  - Montana and Washington.
  - Colorado and Utah.
  - the Dakotas.
  - Idaho and Wyoming.
- By 1900, the number of America's statehoods had grown to \_\_\_\_\_ with the recent admittance of Utah.
  - 10
  - 45
  - 48
  - 72

7. In 1882, Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, the first immigration law in American history which targeted a specific nationality. The impetus for this legislation came largely from
- A) mining interests in Colorado and Nevada.
  - B) Texas ranchers.
  - C) factory workers in the Northeast.
  - D) California labor groups.
8. Which of the following statements about immigrants in the West during the late 1800s is NOT true?
- A) Nearly one-third of all Californians were foreign-born.
  - B) Many Chinese came to the United States to serve as cheap labor on the railroads.
  - C) There were large populations of Spanish-speaking immigrants in the Southwest.
  - D) Although some Irish and German immigrants lived in the West, most clung to the eastern states.
9. On the eve of the Civil War, the American Indians in the West
- A) depended on the buffalo to a much lesser degree than years earlier.
  - B) had managed to keep their culture free from any white infusion.
  - C) still occupied about half of all United States land.
  - D) were steadfastly reluctant to adopt any white technology.
10. The lives of many of the Plains Indians centered around
- A) the tepee and the canoe.
  - B) sacred totem poles and ominous smoke signals.
  - C) the horse and the buffalo.
  - D) war dances and wagon train attacks.
11. According to historic precedent and parallel current policy, the United States government considered each Native American tribe to be
- A) part of a consolidated whole.
  - B) under the jurisdiction of the state which encompassed the land they occupied.
  - C) autonomous from control by the United States and on equal footing with all other Indian tribes.
  - D) separate and sovereign.
12. In 1851, the government implemented a new approach to Indian regulation—based on the classic divide-and-conquer strategy—known as the “\_\_\_\_\_” policy whereby tribal limits to hunting grounds were established.
- A) reservation
  - B) concentration
  - C) removal
  - D) assimilation
13. The American government’s most enduring historical legacy in dealing with Indian tribes is best described as
- A) short-sided and ever-changing.
  - B) confusing and inconsistent.
  - C) disingenuous and self-serving.
  - D) brutal and corrupt.

14. Of the following events, the one that happened LAST was the
- A) thorough obliteration of Captain William Fetterman's troops by Red Cloud along the Bozeman Trail.
  - B) creation of the Great Sioux Reservation according to the Fort Laramie Treaty.
  - C) discovery of gold in the Black Hills of western Dakota Territory.
  - D) annihilation of General George Armstrong Custer's 7th Cavalry at the Battle of the Little Bighorn.
15. Which military aspect enabled the Plains tribes to effectively battle U.S. soldiers?
- A) Indians often formed powerful intertribal alliances, such as the Sioux and Northern Cheyenne at the Little Bighorn.
  - B) Chiefs' battle strategies were usually superior to that of army officers and Indian warriors were generally more courageous than bluecoats.
  - C) Tribes were skillful at riding their horses in a circular pattern around their stationary adversary while shooting into the enemy cluster to kill.
  - D) Some Plains tribes experienced the geographical union of the North American horse and gun frontiers, thus those Indians became military beneficiaries of historical fate.
16. The distinction between "treaty Indians" and "non-treaty Indians"
- A) carried special weight among the Great Plains tribes, especially the Cheyenne and Sioux.
  - B) was easily enforced by government action, whether political or military.
  - C) impacted the reservation arrangement.
  - D) shifted so often that the designation was essentially meaningless.
17. Which was NOT a causal factor in General George Armstrong Custer's defeat at the Little Bighorn?
- A) his raw troops were poorly trained and inadequately armed for such intense, open-field battle.
  - B) the Sioux and Cheyenne warriors—Crazy Horse and Two Moons among them—fought brilliantly and bravely.
  - C) he grossly underestimated the enemy's numbers.
  - D) his subordinate officers, in command of over half of Custer's total force, did not perform as ordered by Custer.
18. Fighting on the Plains slackened after General George Armstrong Custer's defeat in 1876 due to
- A) the increased settlement by homesteaders and resulting formation of territorial governments.
  - B) epidemic diseases and malnutrition among the tribes.
  - C) fragmentation of the tribes who defeated Custer—some fled to Canada while others reluctantly accepted reservation life.
  - D) construction of the transcontinental railroad and devastation of the buffalo.
19. In 1877, \_\_\_\_\_ led the Nez Percé of western Idaho and eastern Oregon and Washington on an evasive campaign stretching well over 1,000 miles—outwitting federal troops—before being forced to surrender just a few miles from the United States-Canadian border.
- A) Sitting Bull
  - B) Geronimo
  - C) Red Cloud
  - D) Chief Joseph

20. Helen Hunt Jackson's 1881 book entitled \_\_\_\_\_ aroused the American conscience and spurred congressional action regarding treatment of American Indians.
- A) *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*
  - B) *A Century of Dishonor*
  - C) *Fly Like an Eagle*
  - D) *The Last of the Mohicans*
21. The Dawes Severalty Act of 1887 was intended foremost to
- A) encourage factory and railroad construction near Indian reservations in order to stimulate stagnant economies among several tribes.
  - B) suppress traditional Indian culture enforced by close governmental monitoring of sacred tribal ceremonies such as the Ghost Dance religion.
  - C) eliminate tribal land ownership by granting plots to Indians as individual owners.
  - D) provide a vast program of Christianization, education, and United States citizenship for western Indian tribes.
22. The late-1800s Ghost Dance movement among western Indian tribes included all of the following components EXCEPT
- A) belief that the end of the world was imminent.
  - B) use of magic to shield Indians from bullets fired from whites' weapons.
  - C) rejection of alcohol and other trappings of white culture.
  - D) non-violent subjugation of white Americans.
23. Partly as a result of the Ghost Dance movement, over 200 Sioux and soldiers were killed in a confused, emotionally-charged tragedy at \_\_\_\_\_ in 1890.
- A) Washita, Oklahoma
  - B) Sand Creek, Colorado
  - C) Wounded Knee, South Dakota
  - D) Mankato, Minnesota
24. Most of the profit from western mining went to
- A) large mining corporations.
  - B) the original prospectors.
  - C) local mining businesses.
  - D) regional railroads.
25. One result of the gold and silver rushes of the late 1800s was
- A) inflation due to coining of the new metals.
  - B) significant decline in the value of the dollar in the global market.
  - C) delayed political development in the West.
  - D) improved financial position for America in world trade.
26. In comparison to its human resources, the natural resources of America in the late 1800s were
- A) even more ruthlessly and thoughtlessly exploited.
  - B) far better preserved by a growing conservation movement.
  - C) treated with exactly the same indifference and lack of foresight.
  - D) even better nurtured and developed.

27. Mark Twain's *Roughing It*, published in 1872, provided famous pictures of
- A) unique Plains animal life such as the stately bison and elusive jackalope.
  - B) the rugged American cowboy engaged in open-range ranching and cattle drives.
  - C) magnificent trestle bridges built through the Rocky Mountains by western railways.
  - D) the mining frontier.
28. The federal government subsidized construction of a transcontinental railroad because
- A) of the danger involved passing through Indian-occupied territory.
  - B) it was a sensible way to dispose of excess western land.
  - C) such a railway was not otherwise profitable for private companies.
  - D) the Canadian government set successful precedent several years earlier.
29. Available evidence seems to indicate that \_\_\_\_\_ from selling their government land grants.
- A) only the Central Pacific and Union Pacific companies scored great profits
  - B) no railroad made significant profit
  - C) nearly all railroads profited substantially
  - D) many railroad companies actually suffered drastic losses
30. The federal government's decision to finance construction of western railroads
- A) placed other western enterprises, such as the cattle industry, in financial jeopardy.
  - B) caused the operators to be extravagant, sometimes to the level of outright corruption.
  - C) allowed railroad moguls to pay their workers relatively high wages compared to the mining industry.
  - D) convinced the railroad companies to be conservative with operating costs.
31. All of the following are directly linked to the railroad industry EXCEPT
- A) invention of barbed wire.
  - B) the Gadsden Purchase.
  - C) formation of standard time zones.
  - D) the Interstate Commerce Act.
32. Some guy named \_\_\_\_\_ brought the first cattle to the Western Hemisphere.
- A) Custer
  - B) Cortés
  - C) Clay
  - D) Columbus
33. The realization that cattle could feed on public domain prairie grasses of the northern plains led to the development of
- A) bonanza farms.
  - B) open-range ranching.
  - C) refrigerated railroad cars.
  - D) sharecropping.
34. According to the map "The West: Cattle, Railroads, and Mining, 1850-1893" cattle herds were driven across the \_\_\_\_\_ Trail's unsettled grasslands to reach eastern railroad connections at Abilene, Kansas.
- A) Chisholm
  - B) Pecos
  - C) Goodnight-Loving
  - D) Sedalia

35. The former slave who became famous as the cowboy nicknamed “Deadwood Dick” was
- A) Henry Comstock.
  - B) Nat Love.
  - C) Joseph McCoy.
  - D) Thomas Fitzpatrick.
36. Which condition accounted for the profitability of open-range ranching?
- A) High demand and cheap transportation.
  - B) Protective tariffs.
  - C) Overproduction and underconsumption.
  - D) Environmentally protective farming practices.
37. The future President involved in open-range ranching was
- A) Theodore Roosevelt.
  - B) Calvin Coolidge.
  - C) Ronald Reagan.
  - D) Barak Obama.
38. Major John Wesley Powell, director of the United States Geological Service, advocated a system for dealing with the semi-arid conditions of western lands. He believed that land made available to the public by the government should be divided into all of the following classes EXCEPT
- A) pasturage.
  - B) timber.
  - C) prairie.
  - D) irrigable.
39. Barbed wire was invented by
- A) John Deere.
  - B) Y. R. Fance.
  - C) Joseph Glidden.
  - D) Abner Doubleday.
40. Barbed wire destroyed the open-range cattle industry because it
- A) caused huge delays when all the cows had to step through the fencing during the cattle drives.
  - B) mangled large numbers of animals.
  - C) prevented free movement of cattle.
  - D) was too expensive to maintain.
41. All of the following factors led to a rather abrupt end for the cattle drive bonanza EXCEPT
- A) collapse of eastern beef prices due to overproduction.
  - B) poorly-conceived legislation which placed excessive restrictions on long-haul railroads.
  - C) the searing summer heat of 1886 sandwiched between two bitterly frigid winters.
  - D) steady disappearance of grassland necessary to sustain long drives.
42. The Homestead Act and Pacific Railway Act, both of 1862, demonstrated the
- A) Republican Party’s commitment to westward development.
  - B) control of big business over national affairs.
  - C) American public’s concern for societal reform.
  - D) government’s determination to subjugate all western Indian tribes.

43. Which of the following was NOT one of Ben Cartwright's three famous sons at the Ponderosa Ranch near Virginia City, Nevada, as seen in *Bonanza* on NBC television from 1959 through 1973?

- A) Hoss.
- B) Mitch.
- C) Little Joe.
- D) Adam.

44. All of the following contributed to the myth of the Old West EXCEPT

- A) the many artists' renditions of General George Armstrong Custer's "Last Stand" at the Little Bighorn in June of 1876.
- B) first-hand accounts of the day-to-day ordeals faced by homesteaders and miners and cowboys.
- C) Buffalo Bill Cody's traveling "Wild West" variety show.
- D) the legends themselves, such as Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday, and dramatic episodes—though few and far between—such as the 1881 gunfight at the OK Corral in Tombstone, Arizona.

45. At the moment Wild Bill Hickok was murdered in August of 1876 while playing poker in Deadwood's Saloon No. 10, he was holding cards that have become recognized as the "dead man's hand." They were the \_\_\_\_\_ with a fifth, undetermined (and often disputed) card.

- A) four aces
- B) ace, king, queen, and jack of hearts
- C) black aces and eights
- D) suicide king, bedside queen, and one-eyed jacks

46. Frederick Jackson Turner, historian and professor at \_\_\_\_\_ and later Harvard University, is important to the study of United States history because of his collective ideas entitled "The Significance of the Frontier in American History" (1893), also known as Turner's "Frontier Thesis."

- A) the University of Iowa
- B) Kansas State University
- C) the University of Wisconsin
- D) Oregon State University

47. Frederick Jackson Turner's interpretation of the historical development of the United States focused on the frontier impact brought about by

- A) existence of cheap unsettled land.
- B) conflict between white-collar capitalists and blue-collar workers.
- C) absence of a rigid law-and-order society.
- D) long days of hard work amidst challenging conditions and dangerous surroundings.

48. The capital of Montana is

- A) Bozeman.
- B) Missoula.
- C) Billings.
- D) Helena.