

# The great west and the agricultural revolution

[History](#), [Revolution](#)



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1. The	2. Roughly a
Clas	million
h of	square miles,
Cult	the West,
ures	home to
on	Indians,
the	bison, and
Plai	other
ns	wildlife,
Receding	beckoned to
Native	White
Population	settlers who
Bellowing	continued
Herds of	migrating
Buffalo	west after
	the Civil War
The End	3. White
of the	settlers
Trail	competed
Mining:	with the
From	Indians for
Dishpan	both land
to Ore	and bison,
Breaker	spread their

Beef diseases and  
Bonanzas caused  
and the internal  
Long conflict  
Drive among the  
The Indians.  
Farmers' 4. The federal  
Frontier government  
The Far signed  
West treaties with  
Comes of many Indian  
Age Chiefs at Fort  
The Laramie in  
Fading 1851 and  
Frontier Fort Atkinson  
in 1853.  
The Farm However,  
Becomes these chiefs  
a Factory did not  
Deflation represent all  
Dooms of the  
the Indians who  
Debtor didn't  
Unhappy recognize  
Farmers authority

The	outside of
Farmers	their
Take their	families.
Stand	5. In the 1860s,
Prelude to	the U. S.
Populism	government
Coxey's	increased
Army and	the moving
the	of Indians
Pullman	from their
Strike	ancestral
Golden	lands into
McKinley	reservations
and Silver	Indians with
Bryan	the promise
Class	that they
Conflict:	wouldn't be
Plowholde	bothered
rs Versus	further.
Bondhold	These
ers	promises
Republica	were often
n	broken.
Standpatti	6. Many Native
	American

tribes fought  
back against  
the U. S.  
Army.

#### 7. The Indian

Wars saw  
savage  
violence  
from both  
sides.

#### 8. Colonel

sm  
Enthroned  
Custer's  
discovery of  
gold in 1874  
in the Black  
Hills of South  
Dakota  
started  
another  
round of  
conflict when  
gold-seekers  
invaded the  
Sioux  
reservation.

9. Sitting Bull

and the  
Sioux  
annihilated  
Custer's  
Seventh  
Cavalry at  
Little Big  
Horn. The  
Apaches of  
Arizona and  
New Mexico,  
led by  
Geronimo,  
proved most  
difficult to  
subdue.

10. The

Indians were  
subdued due  
to a  
combination  
of various  
factors such  
as the

railroad,  
diseases, the  
exterminatio  
n of the  
buffalo,  
wars, and  
losing their  
land to the  
Whites.

11. In the  
early days,  
tens of  
millions of  
bison  
roamed the  
American  
prairie, but  
the  
development  
of the  
railroad  
started the  
buffalo  
massacre.  
Buffalo were

killed for  
their meat,  
their skins,  
or their  
tongues, but  
many were  
killed just for  
sport.

12. By  
1885, the  
buffalo were  
almost  
extinct with  
fewer than  
100 left.

13. Helen  
Hunt  
Jackson's  
book, *A  
Century of  
Dishonor* ,  
helped to  
prick the  
nation's  
moral

conscience.

Humanitaria

ns wanted to

help the

Indians

become

westernized

while hard-

liners wanted

to

exterminate

them. No

one cared

about

preserving

Indian

culture.

14. The

Dawes

Severalty Act

of 1887

dissolved

tribes as

legal entities

but the

Indians could  
get their  
citizenship  
and lands  
back in 25  
years for  
good  
behavior.

15. The  
Dawes Act  
tried to  
reform the  
Indians from  
being tribally  
organized to  
being  
individualists  
, by  
removing  
their land. By  
1900, the  
Indians had  
lost half the  
land they  
had held just

20 years

before.

16. In  
1858, gold  
was  
discovered  
at Pike's  
Peak in  
Colorado and  
in 1859, the  
Comstock  
Lode in  
Nevada was  
discovered.  
More than  
\$340 million  
was mined.

17. After  
the surface  
gold has  
been mined,  
expensive  
ore-breaking  
machinery  
was used for

the mining.

18. Wome  
n found new  
economic  
opportunities  
as well as  
got voting  
rights in  
Wyoming  
Utah,  
Colorado and  
Idaho.

19. The  
problem of  
transporting  
meat  
profitably to  
the eastern  
markets was  
solved by the  
new  
refrigerated  
rail cars. A  
highly  
industrialized

meat-  
packaging  
industry  
sprang up.

20. Cowbo  
ys herded  
cattle in the  
“ Long  
Drive” to  
railroad  
terminals in  
Kansas.  
Dodge City,  
Abilene, and  
Cheyenne  
became  
favorite  
stopovers.

21. The  
arrival of  
homesteader  
s who fenced  
their land  
forced cattle  
breeders

learned to  
fence their  
ranches and  
become  
highly  
organized.

22. The  
Homestead  
Act of 1862  
allowing  
people to get  
160 acres in  
return for  
living on it  
for five  
years, and  
paying a fee  
of \$30. 00,  
spurred  
landownershi  
p. However,  
dry weather  
and drought  
meant that  
160 acres

was not  
enough to  
earn a living.

23. Railroads helped  
develop  
agriculture in  
the West,  
which proved  
to be  
surprisingly  
fertile once  
ploughed  
and watered.

24. Huge  
federally  
financed  
irrigation  
projects such  
as dams over  
the Missouri  
and  
Columbia  
Rivers,  
irrigated

more than  
45 million  
acres across  
seventeen  
states.

25. The  
Great West  
experienced  
a population  
explosion.  
Colorado,  
North  
Dakota,  
South  
Dakota,  
Montana,  
Washington,  
Idaho, and  
Wyoming  
were  
established  
as new  
states.

26. In  
Oklahoma,

the U. S.  
government  
made  
available  
former  
Indian land,  
and  
thousands of  
“ Sooners”  
illegally went  
into  
Oklahoma,  
often forcing  
U. S. troops  
to evict  
them.  
Oklahoma  
became the  
“ Sooner  
State” in  
1907.

27. In  
1890, the  
superintende  
nt of census

announced  
that a clear  
cut frontier  
was not  
visible.

28. The  
frontier was  
supposed to  
be a safety  
valve for  
folks who  
could simply  
move West  
during hard  
times and  
take up  
farming.

29. In  
reality, few  
city-dwellers  
left the cities  
for the West,  
still, free  
acreage did  
attract many

immigrant  
farmers to  
the West.  
The real  
safety values  
were the  
cities, as  
failed  
farmers and  
others made  
Chicago and  
San  
Francisco  
into large  
cities.

30. Farmin  
g also  
changed as  
farming  
became  
large scale  
increasingly  
producing  
single “  
cash” crops,

and buy  
manufacture  
d goods.

31.      Mecha  
nization of  
farming led  
to enormous  
farms, such  
as those in  
the North  
Dakota and  
California's  
Central  
Valley.

32.      This  
one crop  
dependency  
led American  
farmers to  
ruin in the  
1880s and  
1890s, when  
world  
markets  
produced

more crops

and

depressed

prices.

33. Thousa

nds of

homesteads

foreclosed

and farm

tenancy

increased.

34. In the

late 1880s

and early

1890s,

droughts,

grasshopper

plagues and

floods made

farmers

miserable

and poor.

35. Adding

to their

burden,

lands were  
over-  
assessed  
forcing the  
farmers to  
pay painful  
taxes. The  
railroads  
increased  
freight prices  
and the  
farmers had  
to pay for  
their  
harvesters,  
barbed wire,  
and fertilizer.

36. In  
1890,  
farmers still  
made up one  
half of the U.  
S. population  
but were  
disorganized.

37. In  
1867, the  
National  
Grange of  
the Patrons  
of  
Husbandry,  
known as  
The Grange,  
was founded  
by Oliver  
Kelley to  
improve the  
lives of  
isolated  
farmers.

38. The  
Grange tried  
to improve  
the plight of  
the farmers  
by  
establishing  
cooperativel  
y owned

stores and  
warehouses.

39. The  
farmers  
found a vent  
in the  
Greenback  
Labor Party.  
In 1878, the  
Greenback  
Laborites  
won over a  
million votes  
and elected  
14 members  
of Congress.

40. The  
Farmers'  
Alliance,  
founded in  
the late  
1870s, was  
another  
coalition that  
tried to

break the  
status quo  
through  
cooperative  
buying and  
selling.

However, it  
ignored  
Black  
farmers and  
landless  
farmers.

41. From  
these  
alliances,  
Populists  
from the  
newly  
formed  
People's  
Party called  
for  
nationalizing  
railroads,  
telephone

and creating  
a new  
federal sub-  
treasury.

42. The  
Panic of  
1893  
resulted in  
many armies  
of  
unemployed  
marching to  
protest their  
plight. The  
most famous  
was “  
General”  
Jacob  
Coxey’s  
Army that  
marched on  
Washington.  
The march  
ended with  
them being

arrested for  
walking on  
grass.

43. The  
Pullman  
Strike in  
Chicago led  
to federal  
troops being  
called in to  
break up the  
strike.

44. McKinl  
ey was the  
leading  
Republican  
candidate in  
1896. The  
Democrats  
fielded  
William  
Bryan after  
his “ Cross of  
Gold  
Speech” at

the  
Democratic  
National  
Convention.  
Fearing  
McKinley, the  
Populists  
endorsed the  
Democrats  
and Bryan  
during the  
Election of  
1896.

45.      McKinl  
ey won  
decisively,  
getting 271  
electoral  
votes, in  
what would  
be called the  
“ gold vs.  
silver”  
election.

46.      The

election was  
a victory for  
big business,  
and middle  
class  
conservative  
values.

47. This  
victory also  
established  
Republican  
control of the  
White House  
for 16 years.

48. After  
McKinley  
took office in  
1897, the  
Dingley Tariff  
Bill replaced  
the Wilson-  
Gorman law,  
raising the  
tariff level to  
46.5

percent.

49. Prospe

rity returned

in 1897.

Farm prices

rose and

industrial

activity

hummed.

50. The

Gold

Standard Act

was passed

in 1900. New

deposits of

gold were

discovered in

the Klondike

and the new

cyanide

process for

extracting

gold was

cheap.

51. Inflation became moderate.