

# The Closing of the Western Frontier

Presented by: Mr. Anderson, M.Ed., J.D.

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## Essential Questions

1. What national issues emerged in the process of closing the western frontier?
2. Why does the West hold such an important place in the American imagination?
3. In what ways is the West romanticized in American culture?

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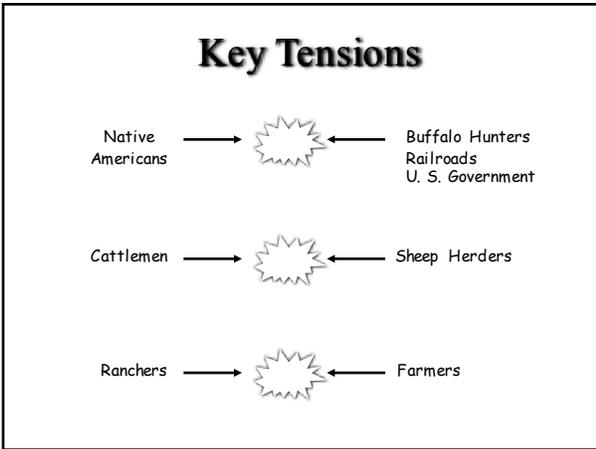
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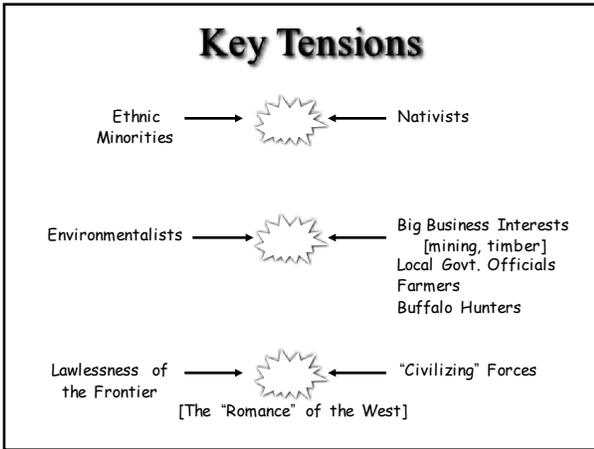
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# The Railroad Builders

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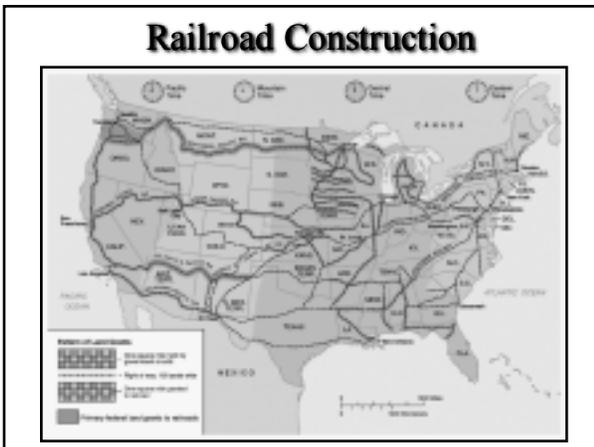
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**"The Big Four" Railroad Magnates**

	
<b>Charles Crocker</b>	<b>Collis Huntington</b>
	
<b>Mark Hopkins</b>	<b>Leland Stanford</b>

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**Promontory Point, UT**  
(May 10, 1869)



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**The  
Cowboys**

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*The Bronc Buster*  
Frederick Remington



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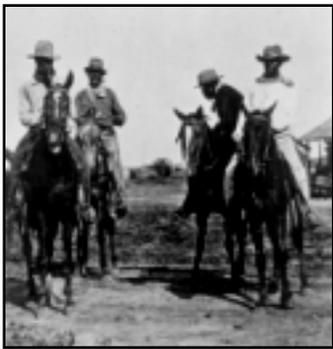
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**Black Cowboys**



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**The**  
**GUNSLINGERS**

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### Colt .45 Revolver



*God didn't make men equal.  
Colonel Sam Colt did!*

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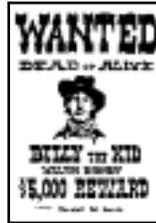
### Legendary Gunslingers & Train Robbers



**Jesse James**



**Billy the Kid**



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### Dodge City Peace Commission, 1890\*



W.H. Harris      Luke Short      Bill Matlock  
Charles Bassel      Wyatt Earp      L. McLean      Neal Brown

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# The MINERS

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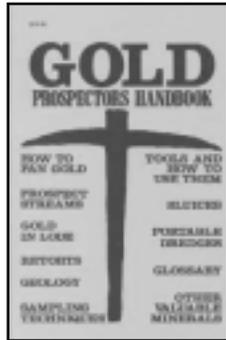
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## Prospecting



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## Mining Centers: 1900



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**Anaconda Copper Mining Co. (MT)**



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**Mining ("Boom") Towns--  
Now Ghost Towns**



**Calico, CA**

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**The  
Cattlemen  
& The  
Sheep Herders**

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### The Cattle Trails



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### Land Use: 1880s



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### New Agricultural Technology



**"Prairie Fan" Water Pump**

**Steel Plow ["Sod Buster"]**



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### Barbed Wire



Joseph Glidden



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### The Range Wars



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# Minority Groups in the West

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### The Buffalo Soldiers & the Indian Wars



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### The "Chinese Question"



- Exclusion Act (1882)
  - Oriental Exclusion Act
  - Chinese Exclusion Act

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### The Tong Wars: 1850s-1920s



Began in San Francisco in 1875.

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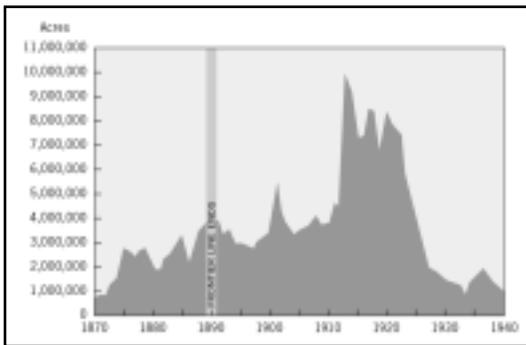
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### Homesteads From Public Lands



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**1887  
Land  
Promotion  
Poster  
for the  
Dakota  
Territories**

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### What is the Message of this Picture?



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**The Realty--A Pioneer's Sod House, SD**



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**Rain Follows the Plow!**



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**Frederick Jackson Turner**



*The Significance of the Frontier  
in American Society (1893)*

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### Newlands Reclamation Act (1902)



Francis Newlands

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# The Plains Indians

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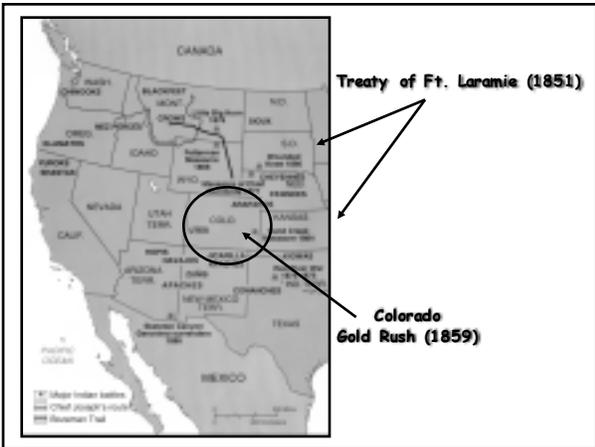
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### Colonel John Chivington



*Kill and scalp all, big and little!*

**Sandy Creek, CO  
Massacre**

**November 29, 1864**

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### Capt. William J. Fetterman



**80 soldiers massacred  
December 21, 1866**

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Treaty of  
Ft. Laramie (1868)**

**Treaty of Medicine  
Lodge Creek (1867)**

### Reservation Policy

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# Gold Found in the Black Hills of the Dakota Territory!

1874

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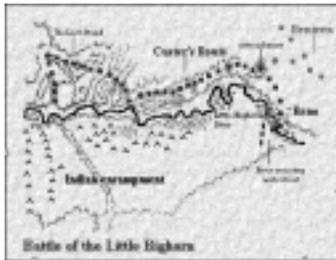
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## The Battle of Little Big Horn 1876



Chief Sitting Bull



Gen. George  
Armstrong  
Custer

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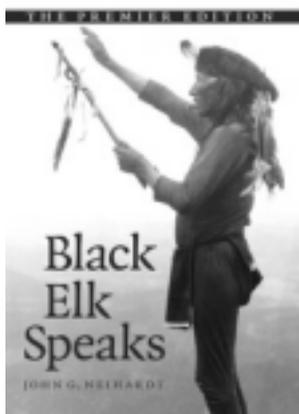
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**Susette La Flesche**



**Omaha Indian → lecture tour on Native American issues in the 1870s**

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**Dawes Severalty Act (1887):  
Assimilation Policy**



**Carlisle Indian School, PA**

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**Arapahoe "Ghost Dance", 1890**



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**Chief Big Foot's Lifeless Body  
Wounded Knee, SD, 1890**



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**Indian Reservations Today**



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**Crazy Horse Monument:  
Black Hills, SD**



**Lakota Chief**

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**Korczak Ziolkowski, Sculptor  
Crazy Horse Monument**



**His vision of the finished  
memorial.**

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**Mt. Rushmore: Black Hills, SD**



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**The Myth  
& Legend  
of the West**

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**The Traditional View of the West**



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**William "Buffalo Bill"  
Cody's Wild West Show**



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**"Buffalo Bill" Cody & Sitting Bull**



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**Legendary Female Western Characters**



**Calamity Jane**



**Annie Oakley**

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*The Fall of the Cowboy*  
Frederick Remington



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**What were the  
long-term effects  
of the Westward  
experience?**

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### Destruction of the Buffalo Herds



The near extinction of the buffalo.

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### Yellowstone National Park



First national park established in 1872.

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### National Parks



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### Conservation Movement



**John Muir**



**With President  
Theodore Roosevelt**

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### Sierra Club



**Founded in 1892**

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