Unit 8: Cotton, Cattle, Railroads and Closing the Texas Frontier

1866-1900
Unit 8 Vocabulary

- **Subsistence farming** – the practice of growing enough crops to provide for one’s family group.
- **Commercial agriculture** – the practice of growing surplus crops to sell for profit.
- **Vaqueros** – Spanish term for cowboy.
- **Urbanization** – the process of increasing human settlement in cities.
- **Settlement patterns** – the spatial distribution of where humans inhabit the Earth.
- **Barbed Wire** – strong wire with sharp points on it used as fencing.
- **Windmill** – a mill that converts the energy of wind into rotational energy using blades.
- **Textiles** – Cloth or woven fabric.
- **Open Range** – prairie land where cattle roamed freely, without fences.
- **Cattle Drive** – moving cattle in a large herd to the nearest railroad to be shipped to the North.
Native Americans vs. Anglo Settlers.

- **Anglo settlers** – Continued to push their homes and towns west.

- **Native Americans** – Were forced off of their land and felt that their way of life was being destroyed.
Which group do you sympathize with? (Answer on your note sheet and in Google Classroom.)

- Anglo settlers
- Native Texans
Protecting the Frontier Before 1860

- Forts were established along the Frontier Line
  - Native Texans bypassed forts and attacked settlements
  - In 1836, Comanche Indians attacked Ft. Parker and kidnapped 8yr old Cynthia Ann Parker
  - She was raised by the Comanche and married the chief
  - Her son Quanah Parker was the last Great Comanche Chief.
    - Quanah became a powerful and influential leader.
Where are the majority of the Forts located?

A. West Texas
B. The Frontier Line
C. Dallas
D. Along the Rio Grande
Protecting the Frontier During the Civil War

- Peace treaty signed between Texas government and several Comanche and Kiowa groups
  - Not all Native Texans recognized the treaty so fighting continued

- Frontier Regiment is formed
  - Ranger companies that patrolled the area between forts on a regular basis

- **First Battle of Adobe Walls** 1864
  - 300 Union troops defeated thousands of Comanche and Kiowa
  - After the battle, the troops burned the Native Texans’ homes, buffalo robes, and food stored for the winter.
Protecting the Frontier - 1867

• The Treaty of Medicine Lodge
  • Established reservations located in Indian Territory (Oklahoma)
  • US Government agreed to send food and supplies and limit access to the area
  • Native Americans had to live there and stop raiding settlements

• Reasons for failure
  • Some Native Americans refused to give up their way of life to live on reservations
  • Government did not provide enough food and supplies
  • Buffalo hunters and outlaws entered reservations at will
Why did the Treaty of Medicine Lodge Fail? (Answer on your note Sheet and In Google Classroom)
Buffalo Soldiers

- African American frontier soldiers who scouted, mapped, built roads, and patrolled the frontier.
  - Name given by Native Americans who respected their bravery
- Henry O Flipper
  - First African American to graduate from West Point
  - Served on the Texas Frontier
Protecting the Frontier 1869

- **Quaker Peace Policy**
  - Move Native Americans to reservations where a Quaker agent was in charge
  - No one else was allowed to enter the reservation
  - US Government would give supplies, education, and protection

- **Reasons for Failure**
  - Government did not provide enough food and supplies
  - Government failed to stop buffalo hunters from entering reservations
  - Native Americans left and raided settlements then came back for protection
Who do you sympathize with? Why? (Answer on your Note Sheet and in Google Classroom)
Protecting the Frontier 1870-1873

• US government decided to discard the peace policy
  • Raid at Salt Creek
    • Kiowa Indians led by Chief Satanta attacked a US army supply train slaughtering 7 soldiers

• Indian Removal
  • Move all Native Americans to reservations by force
  • The US Army and Texas Rangers worked to move the Native Texans to the reservations
Do you agree with the Indian Removal Policy? Why? (Answer on your Note Sheet and in Google Classroom.)
Do you believe that the government was dedicated to making the reservations successful? (Answer on your Note Sheet and In Google Classroom)
A New Strategy

1874

- Kill the buffalo
  - Native Americans depended on the buffalo for food
  - The buffalo were hunted to near extinction
The Red River War 1874

- Native Americans Fight Back
  - Second Battle of Adobe Walls
    - 70 buffalo hunters with long range rifles defeat a group of 700 Comanche warriors commanded by Quanah Parker
- Battle of Palo Duro Canyon
  - US Army attacked Native Americans at their winter home in Palo Duro Canyon
  - US Army burned several villages, destroyed winter food stores, and killed thousands of horses
  - Native Americans were forced to move to reservations or starve
MAJOR BATTLE SITES OF THE RED RIVER WAR, 1874

- Adobe Walls, June 27
- Lyman's Wagon Train, Sept. 9-12
- Buffalo Wallow Fight, Sept. 12
- Battle of Sweetwater Creek, Sept. 12
- Farnsworth's Engagement, Nov. 6
- Battle of McClellan Creek, Nov. 8
- Palo Duro Canyon, Sept. 28
- Battle of Red River, Aug. 30
Cattle in Texas
Spanish Origins
Cattle in Texas
Spanish Origins

• Spanish **vaqueros**, or cowboys developed skills in riding, roping, herding, and branding.
  • They used **lariats**, or lassos, to round up cattle.
• Spanish cows mixed with heavier European animals resulting in the Texas longhorn.
Cowboy Myths vs. Reality

- Two-thirds of cowboys were African-Americans (former enslaved people), Mexican-Americans, and women.

- Famous cowboys:
  - Daniel Webster
  - “80 John” Wallace
  - Bose Ikard
  - Oliver Loving
  - Charles Goodnight
  - Maria del Carmen Cavillo
  - Elizabeth “Lizzie” Johnson
    - First woman to ride the Chisholm Trail with a herd under her own brand
Cattle Trails

• Cattle trails were used to get cattle to the railroads, which took them to market in northern states.

• Most important trails
  • Chisholm Trail
    • Named for Jesse Chisholm.
    • The route ran from South and Central Texas to Kansas (Abilene and Ellsworth)
  • Great Western Trail
    • Opened in 1874 by drover John T. Lytle.
    • Ran through Indian Territory to Dodge City, Kansas and then north to a rail station in Nebraska
  • Goodnight-Loving Trail
    • Trail blazed by Charles Goodnight and Oliver Loving
    • Ran from West Texas through New Mexico, into Colorado and finally Wyoming
Cattle Trails & Texas
Problems with Cattle Trails

• **Bandits** stole cattle

• Farmers complained:
  1. Cattle trampled their crops
  2. Longhorns spread “Texas Fever” to their cows

• Some states passed **quarantine** laws to keep Texas cattle away
  • **Quarantine** – isolate or separate to prevent the spread of disease
### Effects of the Development of West Texas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political</th>
<th>Economic</th>
<th>Social</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Range wars – farmers and ranchers battled between each other. Cutting and destroying fences, and burning pasture land, resulted in gunfights, and lower property values.</td>
<td>1. Expansion of the railroad</td>
<td>1. Growth of population and towns in West Texas</td>
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<td>2. Legislation – fence cutting became a felony</td>
<td>2. Cattle ranching becomes BIG business</td>
<td>2. Use of barbwire to fence-off land</td>
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<td>3. Growth of large ranches</td>
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<td>4. Inventions – barbwire and windmill</td>
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<td>5. Sheep ranching increased</td>
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<td>6. Improvements in quality of beef</td>
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End of the Cattle Trails

• Two things brought an end to the cattle drives.
  • 1. **Railroads**
    • railroad junctions were established in Texas connecting to the rest of the country.
  • 2. **Barbed Wire**
    • Invented by **Joseph Glidden**
    • Fenced in the open range
Ranches & The end of the Open Range
Ranching on the Open Range

• The first West Texas ranchers owned little or no land
• Some ranchers bought land along a river or stream to have a reliable water source
• Livestock grazed on the open range
  • Open range – vast area of undeveloped public land held by the state government for future sale
• Ranchers marked animals with a brand to show ownership
Big Ranches

• By the late 1870s, land and cattle companies owned more than **HALF** the land in West Texas
• Ranchers soon enclosed nearly all the rangeland in South Texas
• This brought an end to the big cattle drives
• Huge ranches spread out across Texas
King Ranch
Headquarters
Kingsville, TX

Richard King
King Ranch

• Richard King started with 15,000 acres in Nueces County in 1852
  • When King died in 1885, he owned more than 600,000 acres
  • His widow Henrietta and his son-in-law, Robert Kleberg doubled the size of the ranch

• The King ranch grew to more than ONE MILLION ACRES, about as large as the state of Rhode Island
JA Ranch

- Charles Goodnight’s JA Ranch was located in the Panhandle
  - It covered more than one million acres by the late 1880s
  - The ranch supported 100,000 cattle
- Goodnight improved his cattle through careful breeding
- His ranch produced some of the nation’s finest beef
XIT Ranch

Charles and John Farwell
XIT Ranch

- XIT was another large Panhandle ranch
- It enclosed more than 3 million acres, surrounded by 6,000 miles of barbed wire fence
- XIT was almost as large as the state of Connecticut
- Group of investors from Chicago, John and Charles Farwell, owned the XIT
- Received land after building a new capitol in Austin in 1888
Other Texas Ranches

• Sheep industry thrived in Central and South Texas
• By 1886, Texans owned nearly 5 million sheep
• Goat ranching also expanded in Texas in the late 1800s
• Some Texans owned mustang ranches
• Mustangs are wild horses and thousands lived on the plains
Advancements in Agriculture

• Barbed wire – fencing that prevented cattle and other animals from destroying crops

• Windmill (windpump or windwheel) – allowed cattle, sheep, goats, and crops to be watered on a farmers land. They didn’t have to be near a river or water source.

• Irrigation - artificial application of water to the soil; usually used to assist the growing of crops in dry areas and during periods of inadequate rainfall
## Impacts of the Agricultural Industry

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| 1. Increase of revenue for state | 1. Products were moved, sold, and transported across the nation.  
2. New cash crops were grown in Texas  
3. Cotton and corn grown across the state  
2. New methods of farming – dry farming, irrigation, and terraces  
3. Increase of sharecropping and tenant farming, which resulted in many people in deep debt |
Railroads
Effects of Railroads

• Allowed raw materials in Texas to be sent to northern markets
• Texans had fast, inexpensive, and reliable transportation
• Cause for the industrialization of Texas
• Opened areas for settlement
James Hogg

- Texas Attorney General & later Governor
  - He worked at reforming big business fighting to protect citizens from unjust businesses practices.
  - He supported the creation of the Texas Railroad Commission
    - Texas Railroad Commission - protected citizens from unfair practices by railroads