Americans Move West

Farming and Populism

What is the Homestead Act?

Gave Government owned land to small farmers

What is the Morrill Act?

Granted more than 17 million acres of federal land to the states...Required each state to sell this land and to use the money to build colleges

Who did the Homestead Act grant land to?

Unmarried women

Who are Exodusters?

Southern African Americans made a mass exodus from the South to Kansas

20,000 to 40,000 African Americans moved to Kansas...Exodusters means exodus or departure

What are sodbusters?

The hard work of breaking up the sod earned Plains Farmers this nickname

What is dry farming?

New method of farming that shifted the focus away from water-dependent crops such as corn

What did the Great Plains become known as?

Breadbasket of the world

Explain the National Grange.

Social and educational organization for farmers

What is deflation?

Decrease in the money supply and overall lower prices

Who is William Jennings Bryan?

Candidate for president who wanted free silver coinage

Explain the Populist Party

New political party who wanted the government to own the railroad, telephone, and telegraph systems

Why did the frontier end?

End of open range, competition to get land