

**APUSH PERIOD 5:  
KEY CONCEPT 5.1  
1844-1877  
REVIEWED!**

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**Key Concept 5.1:**

The idea of **Manifest Destiny** and the **movement west** will have a variety of economic, political, and social consequences.

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**Irish Immigrants**

- Driven from Ireland due to potato crop failure and severe famine in the 1840s.
- Largely settled in cities (Boston, NY)
- Worked largely in unskilled laborer jobs
  - Competition with African Americans led to racial tensions in northern cities.
- Politically the Irish vote becomes important: largely support the Democrats
  - Tammany Hall in NY

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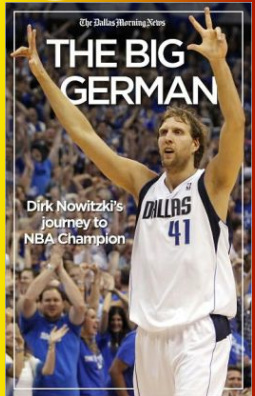
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# German Immigrants

- **Extremely diverse group**
  - Germany not a nation
  - Mix of religions
  - Wide variety of social classes/occupations
  - Largely settled in Old Northwest & frontier on homesteads
- **Tight-knit German communities**




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# NATIVISTS

**Reasons:**

- Took **jobs** from “native” Americans
- Would **outvote** the “native” Americans, ruin American **Anglo culture**
- Many were Roman **Catholics** (especially the Irish)



**Know Nothing Party**- group of American nativists

- Advocated for restrictions on immigration

**America was becoming more ethnically and racially diverse**

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Key Concept: Lots of enthusiasm for **territorial expansion**. Based on:

- 1) Economic
  - 2) National security interest
  - 3) Claims of U.S. racial and cultural superiority
- Belief in the idea of **Manifest Destiny**.
    - Belief that it was America's destiny to conquer and civilize **the entire continent**
    - Built upon belief of **white superiority**
  - **Oregon Treaty 1846**: 49<sup>th</sup> parallel, No **54 '40** or **Fight needed**
  - Texas annexed in 1845
  - **Mexican American War**: **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** Mexico loses California, New Mexico, and the rest of the Southwest




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**New territories** were brought into the **Union** which forced the **issue of slavery** into the center of **national politics!**

# **SECTIONALISM**

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## **WESTERN EXPANSION**

**The federal government actively promoted economic development and the movement west**



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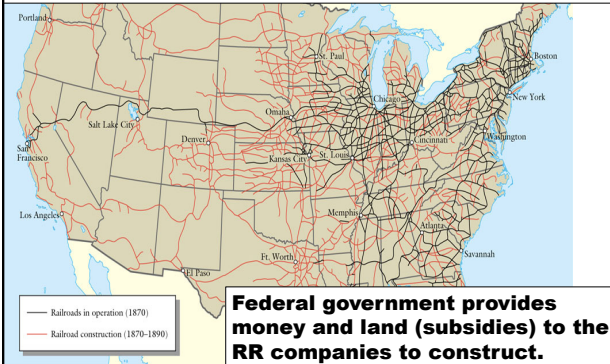
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### **Economic activities out in the west:**

**Pacific Railroad Act (1862)-** authorized the building of transcontinental railroad along a northern route.



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**Mining booms take place throughout the west**




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**Movement of people to trans-Mississippi west to start farms.**

**Homestead Act (1862) offered public land (160 acres) to any person who farmed it for five years.**




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**Dramatic environmental changes will take place as a result of westward expansion:**

Severe decline in the population of **buffalo**.

- Killed to make way for building of railroad
- Undermine Native American resistance
- Demand for buffalo hides

The removal of grass on the great plains will lead to **soil erosion** and **degradation of the land**.

The biggest impact will take place upon the lives of **Native Americans** in the **trans-Mississippi west**.




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# CONFLICT




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## The expansion of the U.S. led to conflict with Native Americans:

- **Sand Creek Massacre** (1864): Colorado Militia attack and kill over 100 Native people
- **Battle of Little Big Horn** (1876): The Sioux tribe (Inspired by **Sitting Bull**) kill Custer and his men in the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry (**Custer's Last Stand**)
- Native Americans expected to **assimilate** into white society or forced onto **reservations**.




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## Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo: 1848



Hispanic residents of this area were guaranteed their property and citizenship rights.

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**U.S. interest** in expanding trade led to economic, diplomatic, and cultural initiatives westward to **Asia**.

- **Clipper ships** allow for faster travel and boost **U.S. trade with Asia**
- **Treaty of Wanghia (1844)**
  - first **diplomatic agreement** between US and China,
  - Goal to promote trade
  - Many **missionaries go to China to spread Christianity**
- **Japan opens up:**
  - Japan isolated for over 200 years
  - President Fillmore sends **Comodore Matthew Petty** in **1852 to Japan**
    - Begins **U.S. and Japan trade relationship**

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