

## **Westward Ho!: *Trails and Cattle Galore!***

### **I. The Trail West**

- Wagon Trains would take many to the West
- Two of the Major Trails
  - Oregon Trail
  - Santa Fe Trail

### **II. Obstacles Faced**

- Topography
- Weather
- Disease
- Native Americans

### **III. Cattle Frontiers**

- The demand for beef turned cattle ranching into big business
- Wild Cattle = Longhorns
- “The Cattle Kingdom”
  - Southwest to the Grassy Great Planes

### **IV. Branding Cattle**

- A method of Identification
- Each had significance

### **V. Cattle Drivers**

- Ranchers would drive their cattle in groups
- Chisholm Trail
- Dangers
  - From Elements
  - From Man

## **Farming in the West: *Farming in the West***

### **I. Homestead Act of 1862**

Congress passed a law that would give land to people in the west.

- Positives
  - People received Free LAND to Farm
- Problems
  - People didn't have enough Money
  - Large companies illegally took the money

### **II. Oklahoma Land Rush**

- 100,000 people lined up to take free farm land
- Boomers: Those who charged in
- Sooners: Those who sneaked in early

### **III. Sodbusters**

- The land in the Great Plains was great for farming
  - Thick layer of Sod
- Sodbusters cut through the sod to the fertile land

### **IV. Populist Party**

- Farmers and Labor Unions came together in 1892 to form a political party
- They demanded:
  - Income Taxes
  - Increase in farm prices
  - Free silver to farmers