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## APUSH Unit 6 Notes

### Crash Course 17

- Journalist John O'sullivan coined the phrase "**Manifest Destiny**".
- The expansion had a lot to do with economics.
- By 1860 nearly 300,000 people had made the so called "**Oregon Trail**".
- Oregon was at the time was jointly controlled by the US and Britain.
- Northern Mexico at the time included what are now Texas, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, and California.
- When Mexico became independent there were only about 2,000 Tejanos living there, so to encourage economic development, Mexico's government granted a very big tract of land to Moses Austin whose son made a big profit out of selling small parts of the land until 7,000 American American lived there.
  - This worried Mexico so they annulled the land contract with America and banned further immigration to Texas.
  - Slavery was abolished in Mexico by now.
    - Austin along with a group of Mexican elites demanded that Mexico allow them to use slave labor.
      - Thinking the better of it, Mexican General Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana decided to take control of the restive land with his army, turning the demand for slave labor into a full scale revolt for independence.
        - On March 13, 1836, General Santa Ana defeated the American defenders of the Alamo, killing 187-188.
          - They would come back and defeat Santa Ana in the **battle of San Jacinto**.
            - Mexico was forced to recognize Texas' independence.
              - This became the lone star republic, while in 1837 Texas wanted to become a US state.
                - Congress ignored it due to it wanting to become a slave state and disrupting the

balance between free and slave states.

- James K. Polk, who was Jackson's friend, managed to become president and beat Henry Clay in the elections.
  - He annexed Texas in March of 1845, days before Polk took office.
    - America agreed to divide Oregon at the 49th parallel to maintain the balance of free vs slave states in the senate.
- James Polk's goal was to get California from Mexico but they declined.
  - He had already attempted to purchase it.
    - He decided to provoke violence at the border and blame Mexico for the bloodshed, and he did just that.
      - A war broke out.
    - It was the first American war fought in foreign soil primarily.
    - Among the dissenters was a Massachusetts transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau.
- Santa Ana and his army were defeated in February 1847 but Mexico itself refused to give up, which led to when Winfield Scott captured Mexico City itself in September.
  - A final peace treaty, the **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** was signed in **1848**.
    - Mexico confirmed the annexation of Texas and California among others and in return the US paid them 15 million dollars.
- After the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed, 750,000 Spanish-speaking mostly Catholic Mexicans and 150,000 Native Americans were under the jurisdiction of the US.
  - Mexicans were still thought of as less intelligent than Anglo-Saxons.
    - This did not help the rising tide of anti-immigrant, anti-Catholic sentiment in the East known as Nativism.
      - The American Party was part of this movement.
        - They were known as "The Know Nothings".
- In California there were not enough non-Mexicans to apply for statehood until gold was discovered and the number rose from 15,000 to 200,000.
  - Not all were white men.
    - There were Chinese men and White women.
      - The ratio of men to women were 1 to 3.
- The California constitution of 1850 limited civil participation to whites, no Asians, Blacks or Native Americans could vote or testify in court.
  - This led to the drop in the population of Native Americans from 150,000 to 30,000 between 1848 and 1860.



- This provided more evidence to the people of the North to believe that there was a slave power controlling the government.
  - The Federal government was more pro-slavery than anti-slavery.
- The new Republican party ran their first presidential candidate in 1856, John C. Calhoun.
  - He lost to James Buchanan.
- Kansas attempted to run elections, but they were too fraudulent.
  - Border ruffians flocked to Kansas from pro-slavery Missouri to cast ballots on Kansas elections, which led to people coming in from free states and setting up their own rival governments.
  - Fighting eventually broke out, and more than 200 people were killed due to this incident.
    - An example of this, is when a group made up of pro-slavery forces laid siege to Kansas with cannons.
- Kansas in the end passed two constitutions, the first being the pro-slavery **Lecompton constitution.**
  - Kansas joined the union as a free state.
- Dred Scott had been a slave, whose master had taken him to Illinois, where he claimed that if slavery was illegal in Illinois that he was not a slave.
  - The court ruled he was indeed a slave, but also addressed the issue of slavery altogether.
    - Roger Taney stated that all African Americans were all slaves and property of the government.
- In 1859, John Brown led a disastrous raid on the federal arsenal at the Harpers Ferry, hoping to capture guns and give them to slaves who would rise up.
  - The raid was a failure.
- In 1860 the Republican party chose Abraham Lincoln as its presidential candidate.
  - In his campaign, he received no votes in nine states but won 40% of the overall popular vote, which won him the electoral college.
  - Lincoln's election led many states to secede from the union.
    - Even though Lincoln had promised to leave slavery be in the states that already had it.
  - By the time he took office, seven states had already seceded and formed **the Confederate States of America.**
  - **The Civil War** began in April 12th 1864.

- **Manifest Destiny (340-341)**
  - It was the idea that American had the god-given right to expand westward.
    - Some wanted to colonize the continent, and some the world.
      - Some wanted to do it peacefully while some wanted to do it forcefully.
    - They believed the “American Race” was superior than any other people.
    - It could not be absorbed into the republican system.
    - By the 1840’s it was widespread throughout the nation.
    - People like Henry Clay opposed it since they think that it would reopen the slavery question that would threaten the stability of the union.
- **Americans in Texas (341)**
  - The US was attempting to buy Texas from Mexico, but they refused all of their offers.
  - Mexico, in an attempt to better the Texan economy, encouraged American Immigration to Texas.
    - They also liked the idea of the Indians standing in between the Indians in the north.
    - They thought Americans would develop loyalty towards the Mexican government.
      - They promised Americans cheap land and four years of tax exemptions.
    - Americans began to establish institutions that challenged the Mexican government.
    - There were 7,000 Americans, twice as many as the Mexicans.
    - Mexico realized what was happening and they revoked the law, but they were too late. Americans were still coming from all sides.
- **Tensions between Texas and the US (341-343)**
  - Americans were unhappy with Mexican rule at the time.
  - In the mid-1830’s, instability in Mexico drove General Santa Ana seized power as a dictator and imposed a new more conservative autocratic regime.
    - He put more power into the federal government and Americans took it personally.

- In 1836, American settlers proclaimed their independence from Mexico.
    - Santa Ana marched an army to Texas and annihilated their defenses.
      - Americans were disorganized in Texas.
      - Their rebellion seemed to have died, since all Americans were fleeing eastward.
    - Mexicans had executed the American who had rendered at the end of the battle.
  - A large number of Tejanos had fought with the Americans in the battle.
    - Americans did not trust them, thinking they were spies, and through them out.
    - Texans wished to join the American union.
      - Americans opposed this since it would bring a disbalance in free and slave states, and would bring war with Mexico.
      - Denied from the union, Texas sought land and money from Europe.
        - They acquired help from France, but it was short lived since France did not want to get involved in the situation.
    - In 1844 they reapplied for statehood, but were rejected.
- **Oregon (343)**
  - Control of Oregon at the time was crucial at the time.
    - Both Britain and the US claimed sovereignty in the region.
      - They signed a treaty, allowing peoples of both countries access the territory.
        - It only lasted for twenty years.
    - Interest in the land grew in the 1820's-1830's.
      - They considered it to be a good place for evangelical efforts.
      - Many American moved there and outnumbered the British.
        - They both decimated the Indian population.
- **The Westward Migration (343-344)**
  - The migration to Texas were part of a bigger movement to move white and black Americans into western lands in 1840-1860.



- Americans also took over New Mexico (socially).
- Americans were interested in taking California.
  - Polk committed to taking New Mexico and California.
    - He instructed the Pacific naval squadron to seize California ports if it came to war with Mexico.
- **The Mexican War (1847-1851)**
  - Polk was preparing for war.
    - He sent a minister named John Slidell to try to buy off the Mexicans.
      - They rejected his offer.
    - Once the news got to Polk, he sent an army to guard the borders.
      - Mexican troops attacked the army at the border and the US immediately declared war against Mexico.
      - Opposition to the war grew as the casualties and expenses were made clear to the public.
        - Victory did not come as easily as Polk had hoped.
        - The US now had control over the two territories it went to war for.
          - A new Mexican government had taken over and expressed its willingness to sign a peace treaty.
            - In February 2, 1848, the US reached an agreement with the New Mexican government on the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.
              - They agreed to hand over New Mexico and California as well as acknowledge the new border of Texas.
                - The US in turn paid 15

million  
dollars.

- Ardent expansionists wanted to take over all of Mexico.

- **Slavery and the Territories (351)**

- Polk wanted to appropriate 2 million dollars for the purchase of peace with Mexico.
- David Wilmot wanted to pass a bill, that would ban all slavery in the newly acquired territories from Mexico.
  - He failed, since the Senate rebuffed by saying that all Americans have the right to move their property (slaves).
- Polk wanted to extend the Missouri Compromise through the new territories in the Pacific coast.
  - Banning slavery in the north of the line and allowing it in the south.
    - This went against many who believed in “**Popular Sovereignty**”.
      - The issue remained unresolved when Polk left office in 1849.
  - In the 1848 elections, the Whig party's nominee, General Zachary Taylor, won.
  - Martin Van Buren ran against him, nominated by the new **Free Soil party**.

- **The California Gold Rush (351-353)**

- Pressure to solve the slavery question in the west was on.
  - In 1848 James Marshall, a carpenter, found traces of gold in the foothills of Sierra Nevada.
  - He tried to keep it a secret and get the gold for himself, but by the week end the whole US knew of the gold.
    - Thousands of people moved to California to try to get a piece of the gold.
      - The population of non Indians in the area had grown twenty fold in the next four years from 14,000 to 220,000.
      - At the peak of the gold rush, San Francisco was nearly depopulated.
      - The gold rush society was volatile due to the absence of children, women and families in general.
  - The gold rush also attracted the first chinese immigrants to the US.





- They thought the government was trying to create a new slave state in Cuba.
  - The kingdom of Hawaii tried to join the US but the treaty fell in court, due to the prohibition of slavery.
  - Similarly, there was a movement to annex Canada.
    - Canadians wanted access to the American markets.
- **Slavery, Railroads, and the West (354-356)**
  - The slavery question resurfaced, and revived the sectional crisis.
    - The land that the US had given to the Indian tribes was taken back, because they were discovered to be fertile.
    - The Indians were once again relocated.
      - They violated Indian rights and there was close to no opposition from any side.
  - Support for a **transcontinental railroad** emerged.
    - The railroad passed through a piece of Mexico, but Americans persuaded Mexico with 10 million dollars in exchange for the strip of land.
- **The Kansas-Nebraska Controversy (356-357)**
  - Douglas introduced a bill in January 1854 to create the territory of Nebraska.
    - This would help the railroad avoid violating Indian rights.
    - In order to make this acceptable for the south, Douglas repealed the Missouri Compromise.
      - “Popular Sovereignty” was now the norm.
      - He also divided the territory into two parts, Nebraska and Kansas.
        - Kansas was more likely to become a slave state.
    - This caused immediate consequences.
      - It divided and destroyed the Whig party in 1856.
      - It divided the Northern Democrats.
    - People began to call themselves anti-Nebraska Whigs or Democrats.
    - They formed a new organization called the Republican party.

- They created the House of Representatives.
- **“Bleeding Kansas” (356-357)**
  - Events in Kansas raised political turmoil in the North.
    - White settlers moved in almost immediately after the Kansas-Nebraska act was passed.
  - Kansas only had 1,500 voters, but bands of Missourians came and made it 6,000.
    - Kansas became a slave state.
    - Free-staters were outraged and met at Topeka to adopt a new constitution that banned slavery.
      - They chose a governor and applied for statehood.
        - They were seen as traitors by the president, while the federal government now backed the pro-slavery territory.
        - The government organized for the arrest of their leaders.
          - When this band arrived in Lawrence Kansas, burned the governor's house, ransacked the town and destroyed the printing press.
            - Retribution followed quickly.
  - Among these who fought for Kansas to be a free state was John Brown.
    - He had come to Lawrence with his sons to fight for liberty.
    - He and six other anti-slavery advocates murdered five pro-slavery settlers and left their mutilated bodies for all to see, to prevent people from entering Kansas.
      - This was known as the **Pottawatomie Massacre**.
      - Guerilla warfare ensued by bands of both sides alike.
      - **“Bleeding Kansas”** became a symbol of the sectional controversy.
      - In may of 1856, Charles Sumner of Massachusetts gave a speech titled, **“The Crime Against Kansas”**.
        - The blatant sexual references and innuendo outraged Preston Brooks, a member of the House of Representatives.

- He beat Sumner with a cane and almost killed him in his office.
    - Brooks became a hero in both the North and the South.
- **The Free-Soil Ideology (357-359)**
  - As the nation expanded and political power had spread out, each section (North and South) wanted have the US fit their ideologies.
  - Some white northerners came to believe that slavery was dangerous for what it did to whites.
    - They believed that slavery was holding the South back from its true potential.
      - It was stagnating compared to the North which was improving.
      - Free-laborites believed that the South had a conspiracy to maintain slavery alive.
        - The “**slave power conspiracy**”.
        - The only way to fix this was to spread the free labor ideology throughout the country.
          - This ideology strengthened the commitment of Republicans to the Union.
- **The Pro-Slavery Argument (359)**
  - In the South had accepted the **pro-slavery argument** which was much more influential than free-labor.
    - It was created out of the fear the white southerners had after the Nat Turner uprising in 1831, the expansion of the cotton market in the Deep South, and the growth of the Garrisonian abolitionist movement.
    - They argued that slavery was good because it was the only way that the two races could coexist.
      - John C. Calhoun said that southerners should stop apologizing for slavery and calling it a “necessary evil” and start defending it as “a good -- a positive good”.
        - The major argument though, was that slavery helped the “southern way of life”, which was a way of life superior to any in the world.



- **The Emergence of Lincoln (362-363)**
  - Lincoln had not been know well outside of Illinois.
    - In the 1858 elections, he would be better known for his anti-slavery debates against Douglas.
      - He claimed that slavery was immoral and unnecessary.
        - He was not an abolitionist.
          - He believed that stopping the spread of slavery was more important, and that the constitution would die on its own in slave states.
    - He lost the run, this cemented him in the US as a valuable politician.
- **John Brown's Raid (363)**
  - John Brown, the same person person who had shed blood Kansas, was to lead an insurrection in the South against slavery.
    - He planned to take over a mountain fortress in Virginia.
    - He had eighteen other abolitionists aiding him, and he was being sponsored by rich abolitionists.
      - He did not inspire the uprising he had hoped for though, and surrendered to local militia and the army when ten of his men were killed.
        - He and six of his men were sentenced to death.
- **The Election of Lincoln (363-364)**
  - The presidential election of 1860.
  - Democrats were torn apart by a battle against southerners.
    - Lincoln was the Republican choice.
      - He won because of his eloquence and anti-slavery beliefs.