

Test: The Populist Revolt and the Currency Debate

Part I: Multiple Choice: Choose the best answer for each question.

- The Populist Party was mainly supported by
 - factory owners
 - farmers and laborers
 - railroad executives
 - wealthy bankers
- The Populist movement began because many farmers were unhappy about
 - low crop prices and high debt
 - free college education
 - immigration laws
 - overseas trade
- What was the main goal of the "Free Silver" movement?
 - To stop the use of all coins
 - To increase the money supply by coining silver
 - To replace paper money with gold
 - To end banking
- Which famous speaker supported the Free Silver movement with his "Cross of Gold" speech?
 - Theodore Roosevelt
 - Andrew Carnegie
 - William Jennings Bryan
 - Grover Cleveland
- Farmers believed railroad companies often
 - lowered prices too much
 - charged unfair shipping rates
 - provided free transportation
 - refused to build tracks
- The Populist Party was also known as the
 - Greenback Party
 - Liberty Party
 - People's Party
 - Reform Party

Part II: Fill in the Blank

Word Bank

silver

gold

farmers

inflation

Populists

railroads

debts

William Jennings Bryan

- Many _____ joined together to support the Populist movement.
- The _____ wanted more money in circulation to help people pay off loans.
- Supporters of Free Silver believed it would create _____.
- Many farmers struggled to repay their _____ during the economic hard times.
- The currency debate centered around the use of silver versus _____.
- _____ gave the famous "Cross of Gold" speech.
- Farmers accused _____ of charging unfair shipping prices.
- Free coinage of _____ was a major Populist demand.

Part III: True or False: Write T or F for each statement.

1. ____ The Populist Party mainly represented wealthy business owners.
 2. ____ The Free Silver movement supported increasing the money supply.
 3. ____ William Jennings Bryan supported the gold standard only.
 4. ____ Farmers wanted government regulation of railroads.
 5. ____ The currency debate focused on whether silver should back U.S. money.
 6. ____ The Populist movement grew during economic hardship in the late 1800s.
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