

Test: The Populist Revolt and the Currency Debate

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

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

Part II: Fill in the Blank

Word Bank

silver

gold

farmers

inflation

Populists

railroads

debts

William Jennings Bryan

1. Many _____ joined together to support the Populist movement.
2. The _____ wanted more money in circulation to help people pay off loans.
3. Supporters of Free Silver believed it would create _____.
4. Many farmers struggled to repay their _____ during the economic hard times.
5. The currency debate centered around the use of silver versus _____.
6. _____ gave the famous "Cross of Gold" speech.
7. Farmers accused _____ of charging unfair shipping prices.
8. 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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