**Chapter 15 - Agriculture’s Western Advance**

1. The abrupt end of long distance cattle drives in 1885 was primarily due to

a. the development of railroad cars that could haul cattle.

b. organized efforts by northern cattlemen to reduce overstocking of cattle on the northern ranges.

c. the advent of barbed wire fences.

d. a reduced demand for beef in both domestic and export markets.

2. Between 1870 and 1900, total land under cultivation

a. increased by roughly 25 percent

b. increased by roughly 50 percent.

c. more than doubled.

d. increased fourfold.

3. Which of the following statements correctly characterizes changes in farming and agriculture land during the period between 1870 and 1900?

a. The number of farms rose, but the number of acres under cultivation fell.

b. The number of farms fell, but the number of acres under cultivation rose.

c. The number of farms, as well as the number of acres under cultivation rose.

d. The number of farms, as well as the number of acres under cultivation fell.

4. Which of the following pieces of legislation represents a liberalization of federal land policy?

a. The Homestead Act of 1862

b. The Desert Land Act of 1877

c. The Timber and Stone Act of 1878

d. All of the above are correct.

e. Only a and c are correct.

5. The Homestead Act was passed in 1862. However, only about 20 percent of newly-added farm land between 1870 and 1900 belonged to homesteads because

a. Americans were more interested in moving to cities than to homesteads.

b. the available land was best suited for grazing livestock, but 160-acre plots were too small to do so profitably.

c. a treaty between the U.S. government and Native Americans prevented homesteaders from acquiring most of the land.

d. homestead filing fees were gradually increased during this time period.

6. In the early 1900s, the Homestead Act

a. was modified to allow settlers to obtain larger, more practical-sized farms.

b. was repealed by Congress.

c. was amended to reduce the size of a homestead from 160 acres to 80 acres.

d. was amended to increase the residency requirement to 10 years.

7. Under the Dawes Act of 1887,

a. nearly 100 acres of Indian territories were opened for public purchase.

b. “squatters” rights were legally recognized.

c. substantial tracts of land were granted to western railroads.

d. 160 acres was granted to anyone who agreed to plant trees on at least 40 acres.

8. Quantitative evidence on federal land policy has led current economic historians to conclude that

a. the policy was inefficient and reduced total output.

b. the policy was largely inefficient, with evidence of increased output only found on large farms.

c. the Homestead Act allowed western farmers to enjoy rising agricultural prices for most of the post-bellum period.

d. average rates of return on western agricultural investments were comparable to those in manufacturing.

9. By 1900, the leading cotton producing state was

a. Georgia.

b. Louisiana.

c. Texas.

d. Mississippi.

10. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, farmers in the Great Lakes region

a. specialized in grain production.

b. specialized in production of fresh fruits and vegetables.

c. switched their emphasis from grain production to dairy farming.

d. earned high profits by raising cattle for beef production.

11. Recent research by Olmstead and Rhode (2002) emphasizes the importance of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in explaining increased agricultural productivity in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

a. “learning by doing”

b. the movement from family farms to corporate farms

c. better access to banks and financial capital

d. biological and chemical innovations

12. Between 1870 and 1910, corn and wheat

a. output showed little, if any, growth in land productivity.

b. output increased dramatically, due to labor productivity increases.

c. yields per acre hardly changed.

d. output increased dramatically due to the effects of increased amounts of capital per worker.

e. All of the above are correct.

13. Cyrus McCormick is best known for

a. manufacturing the mechanical reaper.

b. developing hybrid strains of corn.

c. introducing chemical fertilizers.

d. the invention of the single-horse plow.

14. Between 1860 and 1920, the number of mouths fed per farmer

a. decreased by about 10 percent.

b. initially decreased, but then returned to its former level and remained there.

c. increased by about 50 percent.

d. nearly doubled.

15. Worsening terms of trade can be offset by

a. increased productivity.

b. increased competition.

c. reductions in domestic tariffs.

d. increased property taxes.

16. Problems for farmers in the last half of the 19th century included

a. falling per capita incomes.

b. reduced domestic agricultural output.

c. rising prices for consumer goods.

d. increased world supply of agricultural products.

e. All of the above.

17. During the second half of the 19th century, export demand for U.S. agricultural products

a. declined.

b. increased.

c. remained static.

d. experienced chaotic periods on increase and decrease.

18. Quantitative analysis of relevant data show that economic problems for farmers in the last half of the 19th century included

a. falling prices for wholesale farm products.

b. rising real interest rates.

c. rising prices for consumer goods.

d. rising prices for farm equipment.

e. All of the above.

19. In the late-19th century, farmers blamed their problems on a number of factors. Which of these complaints is supported (somewhat) by quantitative evidence gathered by economic historians?

a. Eastern bankers conspired to inflate interest rates on western farm mortgages.

b. Manufacturers charged unreasonably high prices for farm equipment.

c. Consumer goods prices were rising too rapidly.

d. Certain sections of railroad were monopolized, resulting in unreasonably high freight rates.

20. Farmers who joined the Greenback Party in the late-19th century felt that

a. the government should make efforts to curb the inflation that the country was experiencing.

b. farm prices were too high in comparison to the overall price-level of the economy.

c. the government should own all transportation and communication facilities.

d. an increase in the money supply would benefit debtors.

21. The Grangers were the first farm organization of importance and are noted for

a. encouraging the federal government to re-issue “greenbacks.”

b. establishing cooperatives that sold farm and consumer goods to their members.

c. refusing to sell grain to foreign countries.

d. forming a cartel that set upper limits on members’ output of basic farm products.

e. All of the above.

22. Members of the Populist Party supported

a. government ownership of banks.

b. government ownership of railroads.

c. government-imposed anti-monopoly policies.

d. government policies designed to encourage inflation.

e. All of the above.

23. Established in 1862, the Department of Agriculture’s functions during the 19th and early 20th century included all of the following *except*

a. research and experimentation on plant and animal breeding.

b. regulation of agricultural prices and output.

c. distribution of information through publications and experiment stations.

d. regulation of quality through inspection of meat and dairy products.

24. The Morrill Act of 1862 established

a. local chapters of the organization that later became known as “Future Farm Leaders of America.”

b. state-run agricultural experiment stations.

c. “land-grant” colleges that provided agricultural education and research.

d. funding for high-school vocational training.

25. The first major step toward natural resource reform was

a. the General Revision Act of 1891.

b. the Commons Preservation Act of 1896.

c. the Reclamation Act of 1902.

d. the Snowden-Higgs Act of 1904.

26. Major achievements of the Roosevelt administration, championing American conservation legislation, included all of the following *except*

a. protection of 150 acres of national forests.

b. retention of rights to 75 million acres of mineral wealth.

c. adoption of policies that would ultimately provide for construction of reservoirs and irrigation projects.

d. protection of over 100 species of animals and birds, including the bald eagle.