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U.S History

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31-january-2017

Through United States History, Congress has passed legislation to address important political, social, or economic issues. These laws have often had a significant impact on american society. Both the Homestead Act and the Missouri Compromise were pieces of congressional legislation which significantly impact our country.

The Homestead Act, passed in 1862, had a resounding impact in the United States. h/Americans believed they had a god-given right to expand westward and claim all of the the land in the United States. Manifest Destiny as this was labeled led to the purchase of the louisiana territory from france doubling the size of the U.S in order to encourage people to move west and farm the land the Homestead act gave free land to those willing to establish working farms for five years.

The act has a significant social and economic impact. These Impacts affected both native Americans and settlers. Native Americans were displaced from their land while settlers moved west. The impact it had was that the natives lost access to resources lost their land and were eventually forced onto reservations. Another huge impact of the Homestead act was the creating of the railroad system. Across the United States the Transcontinental railroad made it easier to transport goods therefore boosting American economy.

Although the Homestead act had a major economic and social impact on our economy there was another one that also impacted our economy the Missouri compromise. The 36° 30' N latitude line caused any state that is below is a slave state and any state above is a free state , but later in Missouri it was turned into a slave state. It caused tension between the north and the south that led up to the civil war.

It is clear that both the Missouri compromise and the Homestead act had resounding impacts in America. Not only did it affect the economic growth of the country, but they shifted the social climate of the United States. These important pieces of congressional legislation shaped American history.



