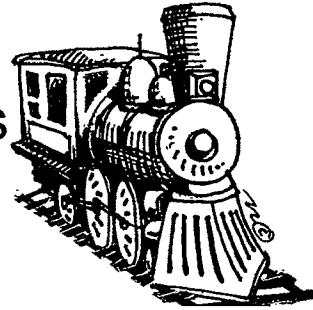# Mining

- California, Montana, Idaho, South Dakota, Alaska
- Boomtowns: towns near mines--many types of businesses prospered
- Mining polluted water, cleared forests, forced Native Americans to move
- Chinese and Mexican miners treated unfairly

- Problems with crime and violence-- vigilantes were self-appointed law officers who took care of criminals

Railroads

- Benefits for the West: brought supplies and people, shipped gold and silver
- Transcontinental Railroad--from Sacramento CA and Omaha NE
- Federal gov't helps pay for it: railroad companies are paid with land

---

- Railroad workers: low pay, dangerous
- Immigrants worked for less pay; East--Irish, West--Chinese, also Mexican
- Railroads meet at Promontory, Utah in 1869
- Other transcontinental lines followed
- Settlements and cities grow along the lines and where cattle trails joined
- Rapid growth!