As you read, look for:

- problems faced by the freedmen;
- ways the government attempted to help freedmen;
- the role of the Freedmen’s Bureau;
- the treatment of former Confederates after the Civil War;
- the efforts to control blacks;
- terms: Freedmen’s Bureau, test oath, disfranchise, Ku Klux Klan.

As president, Abraham Lincoln wanted desperately to bring some final solution to the issue of slavery. He believed the only way to legally and permanently abolish slavery was through a constitutional amendment. To that end, he convinced Congress to pass the Thirteenth Amendment on January 31, 1865—before the Civil War actually ended. A few days later, on February 3, West Virginia’s governor approved an act that abolished slavery and gave slaves immediate emancipation.

Freedmen

Once the Civil War came to an end, one of the first issues faced by the United States government was to make plans for the freedmen. Thousands of slaves were free, but where were they to go? What were they to do? Most could not read or write. They had no special training or skills. If they continued to work on the South’s plantations, the planters had no money to pay them. Many ended up in shantytowns, huddled together in poverty. Where there are impoverished conditions, there is generally disease. An estimated one-fourth to one-third of the 4 million freed slaves died. One former slave reported seeing five or six wooden coffins piled on wagons pass his house daily.

Above: Many freed slaves had nowhere to go.
In an effort to bring relief to these people, the federal government established the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands in March 1865. General Oliver Howard, from Maine, was named to head the Bureau. The original purpose of the agency, which soon became known as the Freedmen’s Bureau, was to help both freedmen and poor whites cope with their everyday problems.

The Freedmen’s Bureau marked the first time in the history of the United States that the federal government gave support to the needy and underprivileged. Its immediate charge was to relieve hunger and distress, but it also tried to find work and land for blacks, if possible. The Freedmen’s Bureau established schools, furnished food and medical supplies, and protected the freedmen from corrupt labor contracts. Additionally, it established military courts to administer justice.

In 1867, the Freedmen’s Bureau established Storer College at Harpers Ferry. Storer College, the first black college in West Virginia, was named for John Storer from Maine who contributed $10,000 towards its construction. The college offered high school and a few junior college
courses. When it began, the campus consisted of only four large brick houses that the federal government donated after the armory at Harpers Ferry closed. At its peak, the school had fifteen buildings on forty acres of land. Storer College closed in 1955.

**Former Confederates**

In 1863, when West Virginia was admitted to the Union, the Legislature declared that all the property within the state that had belonged to Confederate soldiers would be forfeited (given up as a penalty) to the state. Since the war was still being fought, however, the law was really unenforceable, as were laws designed to keep Confederate supporters from speaking, writing, or printing anything favorable to the South’s cause.

In 1865, as the war was nearing its end, West Virginia was faced with yet another dilemma. The state constitution extended suffrage (the right to vote) to all white males over the age of twenty-one. Nationally, however, laws were being passed to deny former Confederates the right to vote. Since both Union and Confederate supporters lived in West Virginia, who could vote became an important issue. The governor and the Legislature became concerned that Confederate veterans returning home from the war might vote with other anti-Unionists to gain control of the state.

As a result, West Virginia lawmakers passed a law requiring all eligible voters to take a test oath that stated they had never taken up arms against the United States or held office in any illegal (Confederate) government during the war. Before being allowed to vote, men were also required to register, but they could not register without first taking the required oath.

To ensure that the law was consistent, the state passed a constitutional amendment in 1866 taking away citizenship rights from all persons who had supported the Confederacy. Within a year, former Confederates were disfranchised; that is, they had their right to vote taken away. In addition, they could not hold public office, practice law, serve as jurors, teach school, sue in court, or defend themselves in lawsuits brought by others.

**Above:** Members of the Confederate cabinet had their right to vote taken away after the Civil War.
Efforts to Control Blacks

The task of Reconstruction was to bind up the country’s wounds and reunite it politically. Southerners lived under the rules and regulations of the northern radicals for twelve years, and the events of those twelve years created the circumstances that influenced the social, economic, and political life of the South for the next century.

Former Confederates felt so violated by Reconstruction that, once they returned to power, they were determined to get revenge and return to the antebellum years. Many white southerners believed they needed protection from the power of the blacks and radicals. They blamed the corruption in government and the misuse of government funds as reasons for their economic problems. Frustrated because they could not make their voices heard politically, some turned to violence as a means of achieving their objectives. Others, once they regained power, supported the passage of laws to restrict the rights of the freedmen.

The Emergence of the Ku Klux Klan

The Ku Klux Klan was one of several secret organizations that tried to keep freedmen from exercising their new civil rights. The group began in Pulaski, Tennessee, in 1865, as a social club for returning Confederate soldiers. It quickly changed into a force of terror. Its members dressed in robes and hoods so no one would recognize them. They terrorized and intimidated the freedmen to keep them from voting. By doing so, the Klan hoped to return political control to the Democrats.

Freedmen who were not frightened away from the polls were carefully watched. Those voting Republican lay awake at night listening for the sounds of horses, indicating the Klan was nearby. There were numerous reports of beatings, whippings, and murders. Most people knew that the price for voting could be death. Hostilities between whites and African Americans resulted in an increase in the number of incidents of racial conflict.

Black Codes

Although the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery, it did not abolish discrimination. By 1865, most of the southern states had passed laws, known as Black Codes, that were designed to restrict the rights of the freedmen. The codes included regulations that controlled the types of jobs freedmen could have; permitted whipping as punishment; and established labor periods from sunrise to sunset, six days a week. Because these codes permitted the imprisonment of jobless blacks, freedmen
were forced to take whatever jobs they could find regardless of low wages or other conditions. Although the Freedmen's Bureau recommended wages of $144 a year, plus food and shelter, most workers were paid between $50 and $100 a year.

Other sections of the Black Codes did not allow freedmen to vote, to serve on juries, or to testify in court against whites. The codes also declared marriage between the races illegal.

Reaction to the Black Codes was fairly swift. Congress overrode a presidential veto and passed the Civil Rights Act of 1866. This law not only extended citizenship to African Americans, but it also gave the federal government the right and responsibility to intervene any time civil rights were taken away from the newly freed men and women. To ensure this, both houses of Congress passed the Fourteenth Amendment in June 1866. This amendment granted citizenship to the freedmen and forbade any state from denying anyone "equal protection of the laws." West Virginia ratified the amendment on January 6, 1867, and it became law on July 9, 1868.

That same year, the radical Republicans gained control of both houses of Congress. They claimed that the southern states were not "adequately reconstructed." They required the southern states to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment before they could rejoin the Union.

**Reviewing the Section**

**Reviewing the Content**

1. How were the freedmen treated after the Civil War?
2. Why did Abraham Lincoln want to be lenient toward the former Confederates after the war?
3. What was the purpose of the Black Codes?

**Using the Content**

How would you have treated the former Confederates and freedmen after the Civil War? Design a plan for Reconstruction.

**Extending the Literacy Skill**

Read the section on Freedmen on pages 479-481. Make a chart like the one on page 478 to record facts from your reading. Then write a summary describing the life of former slaves after the Civil War.

**Above:** The Black Codes took away the freedmen's right to vote as well as many other rights.
Storer College

When the Civil War ended, there were over 30,000 newly freed slaves in the Shenandoah Valley, many of whom needed an education to help them adapt to their new life. Churches and religious societies were the first to establish schools. The Free Baptists were assigned to work in the Valley of Virginia, and Reverend Nathan Cook Brackett, a superintendent for the schools established by the Freedmen's Bureau, was put in charge of building schools in the eastern panhandle. In 1865, Brackett opened a Freewill Baptist primary school, with nineteen students and two teachers, in the Lockwood House in the Camp Hill area of Harpers Ferry. The war-torn Lockwood House, the former U.S. Armory paymaster's quarters, became a place where reading, writing, and arithmetic were taught to the children of former slaves.

The school was successful, and within two years it became evident that more teachers were needed. Reverend Brackett realized that something had to be done to train more teachers. Luckily, it was at this time that John Storer, a philanthropist living in Maine, offered to donate $10,000 to anyone who would build a school somewhere in the South that would be open to all races and genders. Though Storer was agreeable to building the school in any southern state, he required the recipient of his money to raise funds to match the donation. The U.S. government donated seven acres of land with buildings near Harpers Ferry. The Freewill Baptists raised money for the cause, and Storer was opened on October 2, 1867. Things did not go well in the early days of the school. There was considerable resistance to the school by residents of Harpers Ferry. The school withstood slander, vandalism, and political interference to shut it down. Eventually, attitudes changed.

The West Virginia Legislature appropriated money for educating blacks above the elementary level. By 1870, Storer was administered as a normal (teacher-training) academy. The school offered a four-year high school program, a traditional two-year junior college program, and separate courses focusing on homemaking and agriculture. It was also the only teacher-training institution for African Americans in the state of West Virginia. In 1938, Storer became a four-year college and, in
1942, the college awarded its first college degrees. In 1946, it granted BA degrees in elementary education and secondary education in English, social science, science, and home economics. Storer College remained a viable institution of higher learning until the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education decision by the United States Supreme Court. This decision, which declared segregation unconstitutional, resulted in West Virginia discontinuing funding for the college. Storer closed its doors on June 30, 1956.

A number of historic events have taken place at Storer College. In 1881, Frederick Douglass, one of the college's trustees, delivered a major speech on John Brown, the central figure in the historic raid on Harpers Ferry. In 1905, Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois and other leading African American activists created the Niagara Movement, which later merged into the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). In 1906, the organization held its second annual convention on the campus of Storer College. In 1910, John Brown's Fort was moved to the campus after it experienced several relocations. In 1959, Senator Robert C. Byrd sponsored legislation to make Storer's campus a National Park Service Training Center. On March 1, 1960, Storer College became part of the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.
GUIDED READING
CHAPTER 13: WEST VIRGINIA AND RECONSTRUCTION
Section 1: Social Changes

Directions: Use the information from pages 479-485 to complete the following statements.

Introduction

1. As president, Abraham Lincoln wanted desperately to bring some _________ solution to the issue of ________.

2. To that end, he convinced _____________ to pass the __________________ Amendment on January 31, 1865.

3. On February 3, West Virginia’s ______________ approved an act that abolished slavery and gave slaves immediate ________________.

Freedmen

4. Once the _________________ came to an end, one of the first issues faced by the United States government was to make plans for the _________________.

5. Most could not _________ or __________. Many ended up in ________________, huddled together in ____________.

6. In an effort to bring relief to these people, the _________________ government established the Bureau of Refugees, ________________, and Abandoned ___________ in March 1865.

7. The _________________ marked the first time in the history of the United States that the federal government gave support to the ________________ and _________________.

8. The Freedmen’s Bureau established ___________, furnished ___________ and ___________ supplies, and protected the freedmen from corrupt ______________ contracts.

9. In 1867, the Freedman’s Bureau established ______________ College in _______________.

Guided Reading – Chapter 13: West Virginia and Reconstruction
Former Confederates

10. In 1863, when West Virginia was admitted to the ___________, the Legislature declared that all the property within the state that had belonged to ________________ soldiers would be ______________ to the state. The law was really unenforceable.

11. West Virginia lawmakers passed a law requiring all eligible voters to take a __________ oath that stated they had never taken up __________ against the ________________ or held office in any _______________ (Confederate) government during the war.

12. The state passed a constitutional ________________ in 1866 taking away __________ rights from all persons who had supported the Confederacy. Within a year, former Confederates were ________________.

Efforts to Control Blacks

13. The task of ________________ was to bind up the country's wounds and reunite it ________________.

14. Southerners lived under the rules and regulations of the northern ________________ for __________ years.

15. Former Confederates felt so ________________ by Reconstruction that, once they returned to power, they were determined to get __________ and return to the ________________ years.

16. The ________________ was one of several __________ organizations that tried to keep ________________ from exercising their new civil rights.

17. Its members dressed in __________ and __________ so no one would recognize them. They terrorized and intimidated the ________________ to keep them from ________________.

Guided Reading – Chapter 13: West Virginia and Reconstruction
18. Although the Thirteenth Amendment abolished ____________, it did not abolish

__________________________.

19. By 1865, most of the ___________ states had passed laws, known as ________________,
that were designed to restrict the ____________ of freedmen.

20. Because these codes permitted the ________________ of jobless blacks, freedmen were
forced to take whatever __________ they could find.

21. Reaction to the Black Codes was fairly __________. Congress overrode a presidential ______
and passed the ________________ Act of 1866.

22. This law not only extended ________________ to African Americans, but it also gave the
__________ government the right and responsibility to ________________ any
time civil rights were taken away from the newly freed men and women.

23. Both houses of Congress passed the ________________ Amendment in June 1866. This
amendment granted ________________ to the freedmen and forbade any state from denying
anyone “equal ________________ of the law.”

24. That same year, the ____________ Republicans gained control of both houses of _________.
They required the southern states to ________________ the Fourteenth Amendment before they
could ____________ the Union.

Special Feature: Storer College

25. When the Civil War ended, there were over 30,000 newly freed ________________, many of
whom needed an _____________________.

26. ______________ and religious societies were the first to establish schools.

27. The war-torn ________________ House became a place where reading, writing, and arithmetic
were taught to the children of ________________ slaves.

28. John Storer, a ________________ living in Maine, offered to donate ________________
to anyone who would build a school somewhere in the ________ that would be open to ______ races and genders.

29. Storer College was opened on October 2, ____________.

30. The school withstood slander, ________________, and _________ interference to shut it down.

31. Eventually, ______________ changed.

32. By 1870, Storer was administered as a ______________ (teacher-training) academy.

33. It was the only ______________ -______________ institution for African Americans in the state of West Virginia.

34. In __________, Storer became a _____-year college and in 1942 awarded its first college ____________.

35. Storer College remained a viable institution of higher learning until the ____________

   Brown v. Board of Education decision by the United States ____________ Court.

36. This decision, which declared ________________ unconstitutional, resulted in West Virginia discontinuing ______________ for the college.

37. Storer __________ its doors on June 30, ____________.

38. On March 1, ____________, Storer College became part of the ______________

   National Historical Park.
Section 2

Political Changes

As you read, look for:
- boundary disputes between West Virginia and its neighbors;
- West Virginia's debt controversy with Virginia;
- the process used to determine the location of West Virginia's permanent capital;
- changes in voting requirements during Reconstruction;
- the return of power to the Democrats;
- terms bond, poll tax, literacy test, grandfather clause, biennial.

After the Civil War, West Virginia had to find solutions to a number of political problems—everything from boundary disputes with its neighbors to striking a balance between the rights of former Confederates and the newly acquired rights of freedmen. The state was also embroiled in a controversy with the State of Virginia over a debt created when Virginia was under the control of a government that was loyal to the Union.

Boundary Disputes

West Virginia faced several boundary disputes after the Civil War. Because of a provision in the U.S. Constitution, all disputes between states must be settled by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1863, Berkeley and Jefferson Counties voted to become part of West Virginia after the United States government approved the proclamation for statehood. After the war, however, Virginia sued for the return of the two counties, claiming that the actions that led to West Virginia statehood were illegal. On March 2, 1866, the U.S. Congress denied Virginia's claim, thus officially recognizing that the counties were indeed a part of West Virginia. But the issue was not settled; Virginia appealed the decision. It was not until 1871 that the U.S. Supreme Court declared that Berkeley and Jefferson Counties were part of West Virginia.

West Virginia also had to settle boundary disputes with the neighboring states of Ohio and Maryland. The settlement with Ohio set...
the state’s western boundary at the low-water mark on the north side of the Ohio River. This decision gave West Virginia all the islands in the Ohio River along the border between the two states.

The controversy over the West Virginia-Maryland border dated back to the days of Lord Fairfax. It did not become critical, however, until Maryland began to form Garrett County shortly before the Civil War began. This dispute also made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court, where it was discussed for nineteen years, from 1891 to 1910. The Court's decision confirmed the Fairfax Stone as the starting point of the Maryland-West Virginia border. The Court also decided the original survey would serve as the final boundary. As a result of the decision, West Virginia gained control of the Potomac River to the low-water mark of the south bank.

The Debt Controversy

The U.S. Supreme Court was also involved in resolving a debt controversy between Virginia and West Virginia. Money belonging to the State of Virginia was given to the Restored Government of the State of Virginia while Francis Pierpont was governor of the restored state. Money due Virginia from the federal sale of land was also given to the Pierpont government, as were tax revenues, especially from the counties along the B&O Railroad. When West Virginia became a state, the Restored Government of Virginia gave the new state over $175,000 to get it on its feet financially.

Below: West Virginia Treasurer W. S. Johnson presented a check to Judge William F. Rhea, the attorney general of Virginia, on April 18, 1919. This payment, plus the issuance of bonds due in 1939, ended the Virginia debt controversy.

something extra!
Some people believe that the original Fairfax Stone may have been set by George Washington, who was a surveyor when he was young.
West Virginia's 1863 constitution acknowledged an agreement made at the Second Wheeling Convention requiring West Virginia to pay a fair share of Virginia's public debt as of January 1, 1861. The two states, however, could not agree on the amount. Because West Virginia resisted paying the debt, the Virginia General Assembly took matters into its own hands in 1871 and determined that West Virginia owed one-third of the debt that existed just before the war began. This amount, according to Virginia, totaled $34 million. That was considerably more than the $1 million West Virginia believed it owed. At the same time, West Virginia declared that Virginia owed the new state a little over $500,000!

The dispute continued until 1906 when Virginia sued West Virginia. The U.S. Supreme Court decided in Virginia's favor and set the amount owed at $7,182,500. West Virginia did not pay the debt immediately. By January 1919, the amount with interest had grown to $14,562,867. In that year, the Legislature made a cash payment to Virginia of $1,062,867 and issued 3 1/4-percent bonds (documents that serve as proof of a debt and require the payment of the debt plus interest). The bonds were due in 1939 in the amount of $13,500,000. The debt was finally paid off when the bonds came due on July 1, 1939, almost eighty years after the debt was incurred.

Above: W. S. Johnson signed $12,366,500 worth of United States bonds in New York City using a signagraph machine.
The State Capital

At the same time these controversies were being debated, West Virginia's capital moved from Wheeling to Charleston and back to Wheeling. Citing the need for a more central location, the Legislature first relocated the capital to Charleston in 1870. Charleston was thought to be a better choice because of its position on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad as well as its fine hotels. Five years later, the Legislature changed its mind and moved the seat of government back to Wheeling.

Shortly after this move, the people of the state were permitted to vote on a permanent location for the capital. The cities under consideration were Charleston, Clarksburg, and Martinsburg. Two well-known politicians, John Kenna and Romeo H. Freer, favored Charleston and traveled around the state trying to persuade others to vote for their hometown. The crowds that they attracted, however, were small. Then, while in Huntington, they told their story—that they could not get an audience to listen to them—to a man who turned out to be a circus clown. The clown, named John Lowlow, arranged for Kenna and Freer to travel around the state with the circus and gave them five minutes during each performance to speak to the audience. The politicians traveled with the circus for about a week and spoke with up to 5,000 people at each show. Their perseverance paid off. In the election, which was held on August 7, 1877, Charleston received 41,243 votes; Clarksburg, 29,942; and Martinsburg, 8,046. As a result of the popular vote, Governor Henry Mathews declared that the state capital would permanently return to Charleston in 1885.

Voting Rights

The Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed on February 27, 1869. The amendment stated "The rights of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." The Fifteenth Amendment was the last of the three amendments that became part of the Constitution as a result of the Civil War. The West Virginia House of Delegates approved the amendment on March 22, by a vote of 22 to 19. The state Senate ratified the amendment the next day by a vote of 10 to 6.

Above: The state capital was permanently moved to Charleston in 1885. The current Capitol building was completed in 1932.
Voting Restrictions

White southerners did not immediately set out to ignore the Fifteenth Amendment and deny African Americans the right to vote. However, a number of states passed specific voting requirements that restricted who could vote. One such law required all voters to pay a poll tax (a tax that had to be paid before a person could vote). Another required each voter to take a literacy test (a test to determine whether a person could read or write). These laws removed many blacks from the voting lists because a large number of them had little money or education. Although the poll tax and the literacy test were directed against blacks, they also kept many whites from voting.

In an effort to allow illiterate whites to vote, some states added a grandfather clause to their state constitutions. Specifically, the grandfather clause stated that any man who had been eligible to vote on January 1, 1867, or who was the son or grandson of a man eligible to vote on that date, would be permitted to vote—even if he could not pay the poll tax or pass the literacy test. Thus, blacks whose fathers and grandfathers did not have the right to vote in 1867 were denied suffrage. (The Fifteenth Amendment, which gave freedmen the right to vote, was not ratified until 1870.) Supporters of laws like the poll tax, literacy test, and grandfather clause argued these laws did not violate the Fifteenth Amendment because that amendment did not guarantee the right to vote—only that one cannot be denied that right because of race, color, or previous servitude.
The Flick Amendment

Over time, West Virginians became divided in their support of existing election laws. Some favored a more lenient policy toward former Confederates. Others went so far as to break from the traditional Republican Party to become liberal Republicans. The liberals favored democratic reforms and individual liberty and argued that the former southern sympathizers had suffered enough.

In the 1868 governor’s race, Republican William E. Stevenson defeated his Democratic challenger Johnson N. Camden by a narrow margin. The narrow margin of victory was a signal that the state’s voters were becoming displeased with the radical Republican policies.

In 1870, Democrat John J. Jacob was elected governor. Liberal Democrats also gained enough support in the Legislature to remove the restrictions on the former Confederates. The time was right for W. H. H. Flick, state senator from Pendleton County, to propose an amendment to the state constitution that would give the right to vote to all male citizens, except for minors and paupers, regardless of race. The voters of the state approved the amendment the next year by a margin of 23,546 to 6,323.

After the passage of the Flick Amendment, pressure for a constitutional convention began to increase. The political climate was changing. The Unionists and the radical Republicans had lost control to the Democrats and liberal Republicans. Many believed that the constitution of 1863, written by Unionists, was outdated. More specifically, three major areas of concern were the expense of administering the secret ballot, the ill-suited township system, and the extension of suffrage to too many people.

The vote to call the convention was very close. There were 57,958 votes cast on August 24, 1871, with the margin in favor of calling the convention only 2,482. The following October, the citizens elected seventy-eight delegates, including only twelve Republicans.

The Constitution of 1872

On January 16, 1872, the convention met in Charleston in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Samuel Price of Greenbrier County was chosen president. The convention met for eighty-four days and produced a document that, with some amendments, still provides the framework for West Virginia’s state government.

The document and its amendments reflected the political makeup of the delegates. It restructured the government along the lines of the Virginia constitution of 1851. In the executive branch, the governor would now serve a four-year term but could not serve two consecutive terms. On the

something extra!

Of the seventy-eight delegates to the constitutional convention, only one—Waitman T. Willey—had attended the first constitutional convention in Wheeling.

Above: W. H. H. Flick proposed an amendment to the state constitution that would give the right to vote to all male citizens, except for minors and paupers, regardless of race.
Board of Public Works, the secretary of state became an appointed position, while the superintendent of free schools was to be elected by the people. The governor was given the power to veto legislation.

In the legislative branch, the term of state senators was increased to four years, while members of the House of Delegates could now serve two-year terms. Senatorial districts were increased from eleven to twelve. Regular sessions of the legislative branch became biennial (every other year). A regular session was only forty-five days.

In the judicial branch, the number of judges on the supreme court increased to four. The constitution also declared that the state could never be sued. At the local level, the township form of government was replaced with the old county system, and justices of the peace were again in power.

The constitution of 1872 provided for several liberal measures in matters of voting. All males over twenty-one were allowed to vote. There was no voter registration, and voting could be open or by secret ballot. State elections were scheduled for November, at the same time as federal elections.

Reviewing the Section

Reviewing the Content

1. With what states did West Virginia have boundary disputes after the Civil War?
2. Why did West Virginia owe Virginia money after the Civil War? How was it resolved?
3. What was the Flick Amendment?

Using the Content

Write a letter to your representative in West Virginia's Legislature during Reconstruction in favor of or opposed to the poll tax, the literacy test, or the grandfather clause.

Extending the Literacy Skill

Read the section on Voting Restrictions on page 490. Make a chart like the one on page 478 to record facts from your reading. Then write a summary describing the restrictions placed on newly freed slaves to keep them from voting.

Above: Samuel Price of Greenbrier County was selected president of West Virginia’s constitutional convention of 1877.
John J. Jacob

John Jeremiah Jacob, West Virginia's fourth governor, was born December 9, 1829, in Green Spring in Hampshire County. He was the first of West Virginia's governors to be born within the present-day borders of the state.

Jacob attended Romney Classical Institute and later received a BA degree from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. After his graduation, he returned to Hampshire County to teach and begin a study of law. Later, he took a teaching position at the University of Missouri but left to formally study law in Columbia, Missouri. Jacob worked as an attorney in Missouri during the Civil War and returned to Hampshire County after the war to establish a law practice in his hometown.

His political career began shortly after his return to West Virginia. In 1868, he was elected to the House of Delegates. Two years later, he defeated the incumbent governor, William E. Stevenson, to become the state's first Democratic governor.

As governor, Jacob supported legislation that eliminated discrimination against former Confederates. He also worked to create statewide schools to train teachers. During his term, the West Virginia constitution of 1863 was revised. The new constitution expanded the governor's term in office from two to four years, but it also prohibited the governor from serving two consecutive terms.

Because Jacob's term as governor came to an end before the newly revised constitution completely took effect, he was permitted to run for a second term. However, his party did not nominate him, instead choosing Johnson Newlon Camden as its candidate. Republicans, who had no candidate of their own, talked Jacob into running as an Independent to oppose Camden. Jacob defeated Camden and, in so doing, became West Virginia's only Independent governor. During his second term in office, West Virginia's state government returned to Wheeling.

After his second term, Jacob chose to stay in Wheeling and practice law. He was elected to the House of Delegates from Ohio County in 1879 and appointed to fill a vacancy as a circuit judge in 1881. He was elected to continue as a circuit judge in the next election and served until 1888. When his term ended, Jacob practiced law until his death on November 24, 1893.
GUIDED READING
CHAPTER 13: WEST VIRGINIA AND RECONSTRUCTION
Section 2: Political Changes

Directions: Use the information from pages 486-493 to complete the following statements.

Boundary Disputes

1. Because of a provision in the U.S. ________________, all disputes between states must be settled by the U.S. ________________.

2. In 1863, _____________ and _____________ counties voted to become part of West Virginia. After the war, however, _____________ sued for the return of the two counties.

3. On March 2, 1866, the U.S. Congress ________________ Virginia’s claim. But the issue was not settled; Virginia ________________ the decision.

4. It was not until 1871 that the U.S. ________________ declared that Berkeley and Jefferson counties were part of ________________.

5. West Virginia also had to settle boundary disputes with the neighboring states of ____________ and ____________.

6. The controversy over the West Virginia-Maryland border dated back to the days of ____________ ________________. The (U.S. Supreme) Court’s decision confirmed the ________________ ________________ as the starting point of the Maryland-West Virginia border.

The Debt Controversy

7. Money belonging to the State of ________________ was given to the ________________ Government of the State of Virginia when Francis Pierpont was ________________ of the restored state.

8. When West Virginia became a ____________, the Restored Government of Virginia gave the new state over ________________ to get it on its feet financially.
9. West Virginia’s 1863 ________________ acknowledged an agreement made at the Second ________________ Convention requiring West Virginia to pay a fair share of Virginia’s public ______ as of January 1, 1861. The two states, however, could not agree on the ________________.

10. The dispute continued until the year ____________ when Virginia sued West Virginia. The U.S. Supreme Court decided in ________________ favor.

11. The debt was finally paid off when the bonds came due on July 1, ____________, almost ________________ years after the debt was incurred.

The State Capital

12. Citing the need for a more ________________ location, the Legislature first relocated the capital to ________________ in 1870.

13. Five years later, the Legislature changed its mind and moved the seat of government back to ________________.

14. Shortly after this move, the people of the state were permitted to ____________ on a permanent location for the capital. The cities under consideration were ________________, ________________, and ________________.

15. In the election, which was held on August 7, 1877, ________________ received 41,243 votes; ________________, 29,942; and ________________, 8,046.

16. As a result of the popular vote, Governor Henry ________________ declared that the state capital would ________________ return to Charleston in 1885.

Voting Rights

17. The ________________ Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed on February 27, __________.

18. The amendment stated “The rights of citizens of the United States to ______ shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of ______, ________, or previous condition of ________________.”
19. A number of states passed specific voting requirements that ____________ who could vote.

20. One such law required all voters to pay a ____________. Another required each voter to take a ____________ test.

21. These laws removed many ____________ from the voting lists because a large number of them had little ____________ or ____________.

22. In an effort to allow ____________ whites to vote, some states added a ____________ clause to their state constitutions.

23. In the 1868 governor’s race, Republican William E. ____________ defeated his ____________ challenger Johnson N. Camden by a narrow margin.

24. In 1870, Democrat John J. ____________ was elected governor.

25. The time was right for W. H. H. ____________, state ____________ from Pendleton County, to propose an amendment to the state constitution that would give the right to vote to all ____________ citizens, except for ____________ and ____________, regardless of ____________.

26. After the passage of the ____________ Amendment, pressure for a ____________ convention began to increase. Many believed that the constitution of 1863, written by ____________, was ____________.

27. The following October, the citizens elected ____________ delegates, including only ____________ Republicans.

**The Constitution of 1872**

28. The convention met for eighty-four days and produced a document that, with some ____________, still provides the ____________ for West Virginia’s state government.

29. In the executive branch, the ____________ would now serve a four-year term but could not serve two ____________ terms.
30. In the legislative branch, the term of state ______________ was increased to four years, while members of the House of ______________ could now serve two-year terms.

31. In the judicial branch, the number of judges on the supreme court increased to ______________.

32. At the local level, the ______________ form of government was replaced with the old ______________ system, and ______________ were again in power.

West Virginia Portraits: John J. Jacob

33. John Jeremiah Jacob, West Virginia's ______________ governor, was born December 9, 1829. He was the first of West Virginia's governors to be born within the present-day ______________ of the state.

34. Jacob worked as an attorney in ______________ during the Civil War and returned to ______________ County after the war to establish a ______________ practice in his hometown.

35. As governor, Jacob supported legislation that eliminated ______________ against former ______________.

36. During his term, the West Virginia ______________ of 1863 was revised.

37. He was permitted to run for a second term. However, his party did not ______________ him.

38. Republicans, who had no ______________ of their own, talked Jacob into running as an Independent to ______________ (Johnson Newlon) Camden.

39. Jacob defeated Camden and became West Virginia's only ______________ governor.

40. During his ______________ term in office, West Virginia's state government returned to ______________.
Section 3
The Rise of Labor Unions

As you read, look for:
- the purpose of labor unions;
- the names of early labor unions and labor leaders;
- the "unholy four" used by coal companies against miners;
- the location of the first West Virginia unionized mine;
- provisions of early coal mining labor contracts;
- terms: labor union, yellow-dog contract, blacklist, lockout, strike, depression, injunction, scab, cribbing.

The struggle for better working conditions and the right to organize unions became an issue during Reconstruction as previously rural areas quickly became industrialized. The uneven growth and distribution of population and the individualism of both owners and workers are important factors in the labor movement in West Virginia.

Labor unions (organizations of workers formed to improve wages, benefits, and working conditions) evolved as workers searched for ways to work with business owners to protect themselves from discriminatory and sometimes unfair situations. Companies used many tactics to control their workers' lives. Before being hired, all miners had to sign yellow-dog contracts by which they pledged not to join a union. If the miners broke the pledge, they were automatically fired. If fired, they lost not only their jobs, but also a place to live. If workers complained about conditions, they were fired and their names were placed on a blacklist (a list containing the names of individuals or companies to be avoided or punished). Other mining companies would not hire "troublemakers" on this list. Sometimes companies even used a lockout (a procedure whereby workers are not allowed to enter the workplace) to keep their workers from their jobs.

Below: Coal workers were subjected to many discriminatory and unfair situations.
An individual worker had little power to change any of these unfair practices, but workers who joined together could stop working until the employer treated them fairly. Such an action was called a strike (a work stoppage). A strike was the most important weapon that workers struggling to improve their working conditions had. Railroad workers led the first major strike in West Virginia.

**The First Strike**

In 1873, a disastrous depression (a prolonged decline in economic activity) spread across the country, causing an economic tailspin. Factory output decreased as businesses failed. The decline in production led to rising unemployment. The effects of unemployment spread out like ripples in a pond. With no wages, workers could not pay their rent or buy food, which in turn took more money out of circulation. Many of those who were lucky enough to keep their jobs had their wages cut. Thousands of people found themselves hungry and homeless.

Because times were hard, violence often broke out. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad had a train yard at Martinsburg in Berkeley County. In July 1877, the B&O announced a cut in wages for the fourth time in seven years. Workers became angry and left their trains to go on strike. After the company hired new employees to run the trains, the strikers gathered on the tracks and refused to allow the trains to operate.

*Below: Blockade of engines at Martinsburg on July 16, 1877.*
When the sheriff could not control the strikers, the mayor of Martinsburg telegraphed Governor Henry Mathews for help. By law, the governor was required to protect the company’s property, and he immediately ordered the state militia to Martinsburg. The militia’s first attempt to quiet the strikers ended in gunfire and withdrawal. The head of the militia wired Mathews that many men in his unit were railroad men and that they could not be depended on to break up the strikers. The governor turned for help to President Rutherford B. Hayes, who sent two hundred infantrymen. This was probably the first time federal troops were used for this purpose. Federal troops arrived in Martinsburg on July 19, and the strike ended the next day. The workers accomplished nothing by the strike, and their wages were further reduced when they returned to their jobs.

Though broken in West Virginia, the strike spread nationally throughout the railroad industry. The great railroad strike of 1877 was but a small sample of the coming labor unrest in West Virginia.

Early Labor Unions

Labor unrest increased dramatically in the late 1800s as larger and larger companies spread industry throughout the country. If workers went on strike in one area, companies could still operate in other areas, which weakened the power of the strike. Workers fought back by forming nationwide labor organizations. Workers in each trade realized that they had much in common with workers in other trades, and they began to experiment with a national federation of all labor unions.

The first national federation was the Noble and Holy Order of the Knights of Labor, created in 1869. Established by Uriah S. Stephens and six other men, the organization began as and remained a secret group for twelve years in order to protect the jobs of its members. The union’s goal was to unite all workers regardless of race, gender, or occupation. For a period in the 1870s and 1880s, the Knights of Labor was the leading labor federation. In 1879, Terence Powderly became head of the Knights of Labor. Under his leadership, membership increased, and the union led a successful strike against the railroad industry. The Knights’ leadership, however, seemed confused at times about what it wanted to achieve. It was often blamed for actions it did not approve and, by 1887, the union was losing members.
A new federation of trade unions, begun in 1881, filled the vacuum left by the Knights' decline. The American Federation of Labor (AFL), as it became known in 1886, was a loose alliance of other national unions. Workers joined their trade's union, which in turn became an affiliate (branch) of the AFL.

The founder of the AFL, Samuel Gompers, helped stabilize American unionism. Many early unions had been weak and poorly financed; the first failed strike often ruined them. Some of the unions even wanted workers to take over American industry. Gompers had a different vision. He was satisfied with industry remaining in the hands of private investors. He only wanted unions to be in a stronger bargaining position. Under Gompers's guidance, unions adopted policies that enabled workers to lead successful strikes, and the AFL grew.

**Unionism Comes to West Virginia**

West Virginia had local unions representing workers in many industries. However, much of the early conflict occurred in the state's largest industry—coal mining.

**Early Mine Strikes**

Nonunion miners posed a threat to the good wages earned by union members. Some mines in the Kanawha Valley that had been unionized early were able to secure contracts in which miners received 50 cents per ton of loaded coal. Unorganized miners in Fayette County received only 38 cents a ton. In January 1880, the miners working near Hawks Nest, under the remnants of the Knights of Labor, went on strike. This strike suffered the same fate as other local strikes; it was broken without much difficulty by the West Virginia militia.

Companies fought strikers with what the miners called the “ unholy four”: (1) the state militia, which often arrested law-abiding strikers; (2) injunctions (orders issued by local judges that stop a particular action or force a particular action); (3) the companies' private armed guards, who intimidated strikers; and (4) scabs (people willing to work for the companies when regular workers went on strike). Because scabs were usually willing to work for lower wages than the unions were seeking, their presence in the coalfields made it difficult for workers to win their strikes and improve their working conditions.

The mining companies were helped in their fight against unions by the state government. Many early West Virginia politicians had connections to mine owners or the railroads, which hauled coal for big profits; they believed unions would harm the growth of business in the state. Wealthy businessmen donated money to the campaigns of state politicians who promised to follow policies to help company owners. Thus, the state...
Below: In 1907, a mine explosion at Monongah in Marion County killed at least 361 men. The disaster at Monongah illustrated the need for federal safety regulations in the mines.

government allowed mine owners to hire their own private armies to defeat strikes. When that was not good enough, the governor at times sent in the state militia to scare union members and put their leaders in jail.

Early Labor Agreements

The United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) was organized in 1890 in Columbus, Ohio, when the National Miners' Union merged with an affiliate of the Knights of Labor. The UMWA was especially interested in organizing West Virginia. If the mines within the state were allowed to remain nonunion, mine owners could sell nonunion coal more cheaply, putting union miners in other states out of work. On April 21, 1890, the UMWA established District 17 at Wheeling to begin unionizing the West Virginia mines.

Despite many obstacles, the UMWA won some agreements. These agreements were often simple. The 1897 contract at the Farewood Mines in Fayette County had only five parts and was less than a page long. According to the contract: wages were 2.25 cents for every bushel of 1/4-inch screened coal; union workers were returned to their old jobs; discrimination against employees because of their connection with any organizations was forbidden; interference in the mines by members of the Ku Klux Klan was prohibited; and the company was required to hire check weighmen, who would verify that the coal mined by each miner was accurately weighed.

Honest check weighmen were important because miners were paid according to the number of tons of coal they mined. Each coal car brought out of the mine held a certain amount of coal. Sometimes, however, the cars were fixed so they held more coal than the stated amount. For example, a coal car might state that it held 1,000 pounds of coal, while it actually held 1,200 pounds. The miners were only paid for the stated 1,000 pounds. This system, known as cribbing, would be corrected by hiring honest weighmen.

Such simple contracts were major victories for the miners. At the other end of the spectrum were contracts negotiated by the unions of skilled crafters. In the window glass industry, for example, the union had sixty-six pages of rules that it enforced. The iron workers' union had rules governing who would be hired, what each worker would be paid, how much iron the workers would make each day, and what the size of the work crew would be. These craft unions also strictly controlled
who could become members. Usually, a young man could not become an apprentice to learn a craft in the iron or glass industry unless he had a father or an uncle already in the trade. As a result, it was especially difficult for women and minorities to gain entrance to unions.

### Reviewing the Content

1. How did the depression of 1873 contribute to the strike against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad?
2. What was the first national labor union? Who was its leader?
3. What did coal companies do to fight strikers?

### Using the Content

Write a contract that would be acceptable to miners.

### Extending the Literacy Skill

Read the section on The First Strike on pages 495-496. Make a chart like the one on page 478 to record facts from your reading. Then write a summary describing the first national railroad strike.

---

**Above:** Workers were paid according to the number of tons of coal they mined each day.
GUÍED READING
CHAPTER 13: WEST VIRGINIA AND RECONSTRUCTION
Section 3: The Rise of Labor Unions

Directions: Use the information from pages 494-499 to complete the following statements.

Introduction
1. Labor unions evolved as ___________ searched for ways to work with ________________
______________ to protect themselves from ________________ and sometimes
______________ situations.
2. Before being hired, all miners had to sign ______________ contracts by which they
pledged not to join a ____________.
3. If workers complained about conditions, they were ____________ and their names were placed on
a ________________.
4. Sometimes companies even used a _______________ to keep their workers from their ________.
5. Workers who joined together could stop ______________ until the employer treated them fairly.
   Such an action was called a ________________.

The First Strike
6. In 1873, a disastrous ________________ spread across the country, causing an ________________
tailspin. The decline in production led to rising ________________.
7. Because times were hard, ________________ often broke out.
8. In July 1877, the ____________ announced a cut in ________ for the fourth time in seven years.
9. Workers became angry and left their ________________ to go on strike. After the company hired
   new ________________ to run the trains, the strikers gathered on the ____________ and
   refused to allow the trains to operate.
10. By law, the ________________ was required to protect the ________________ property, and he
    immediately ordered the state ________________ to Martinsburg.
11. The governor turned for help to President Rutherford B. ________, who sent two hundred

12. Federal troops arrived in ____________ on July 19, and the ________ ended the next day.

13. The workers accomplished ____________ by their strike, and their wages were further

14. If workers went on strike in one area, ______________ could still operate in other areas,

15. Workers fought back by forming nationwide __________ organizations.

16. The first national federation was the Noble and Holy Order of the ________________ .

17. The union’s goal was to unite all workers regardless of ______________ , ______________ ,

18. For a period in the 1870s and 1880s, the Knights of Labor was the ________ labor federation.

19. By 1887, the union was __________ members.

20. The American Federation of Labor (AFoFL), as it became known in 1886, was a loose

21. The founder of the AFoFL, Samuel ____________, helped ______________ American unionism.

22. Nonunion ____________ posed a threat to the good ____________ earned by union members.

23. Companies fought strikers with what the miners called the “__________ four”: (1) the state

24. ____________ , which often arrested law-abiding strikers; (2) ________________ (orders issued

25. by local _________ that stop a particular action or force a particular action); (3) the companies’
private armed ____________, who ________________ strikers; and (4) ________
(people willing to __________ for the companies when regular workers went on ________).

24. The United Mine Workers of America was organized in 1890 in Columbus, _________, when
the National Miners’ Union ____________ with an affiliate of the Knights of Labor.

25. Despite many obstacles, the ________________ won some agreements. These agreements were
often ________________.

26. Honest check ________________ were important because miners were paid according to the
number of ________ of coal they mined.

27. Such simple contracts were major victories for the _________. At the other end of the spectrum
were contracts negotiated by the unions of skilled ________________.

28. These craft unions also strictly ________________ who could become ________________. As a
result, it was especially difficult for _____________ and ________________ to gain entrance.
While the new state of West Virginia was struggling to resolve social and political issues after the Civil War, a famous feud broke out. The feud, between two families who lived across the Tug Fork River from one another, actually had its beginning in the Civil War when the West Virginia Hatfields supported the Confederacy and the Kentucky McCoys supported the Union.

There are several versions of what triggered the “feudin’ and fightin’” between the Hatfields, who lived in Logan County, West Virginia, and the McCoys, who lived in Pike County, Kentucky. One of the most mentioned stories is that the feud erupted after an argument over some pigs. Descendants of the two families have discounted this version, however.
Floyd Hatfield and Randolph (Ranel) McCoy, who had married sisters, often tended pigs that roamed wild in the countryside. One day in 1873, Floyd Hatfield gathered up a sow and her piglets and took them to his farm. When Randolph McCoy went to the Hatfield farm, he accused Floyd of stealing the pigs. Hatfield had to stand trial for the charges McCoy brought against him. Large numbers of family members from both sides of the Tug Fork River attended the trial, held in a cabin belonging to Reverend Anderson Hatfield. At the end of the trial, Floyd Hatfield was acquitted (found not guilty) of the charges, primarily on the vote of Selkirk McCoy, who was married to a Hatfield.

The trial was followed by several years of minor hostilities. The Scots-Irish ancestry of both families made them intensely loyal to family. They considered a wrong against any one family member as a wrong against the whole family. And the McCoys believed a wrong had been done to their family, not only by the loss of the pigs but also by the acquittal of Floyd Hatfield. As a result, the McCoys singled out and beat Bill Stanton, the husband of a Hatfield, in retaliation for his testimony during the trial.

The beating of Stanton did not go unanswered. Several times, Stanton or others in the Hatfield clan attacked members of the McCoy clan. One day while he was hunting, Stanton came upon Sam and Paris McCoy. Stanton fired at them, wounding Paris. Sam then attacked Stanton. During the fighting, Sam fired his gun, mortally wounding Stanton. Sam McCoy was charged and tried for Stanton’s murder. The jury acquitted him, ruling that the shooting was self-defense. The acquittal enraged the Hatfields.

The feud was made more complicated by the Hatfields’ frequent jaunts into Kentucky. The Hatfields came and went at will, always in bands and always heavily armed.
Even though the two families were feuding, they occasionally attended the same social events. On Election Day 1880, both families turned out to socialize and vote for their favorite candidates. Johnse Hatfield (the oldest son of Devil Anse Hatfield) and Roseanna McCoy (a daughter of Randolph McCoy) were among those taking part in the festivities. The two slipped away from the others. When they returned at dusk, they were surprised to see that most of the crowd had gone home. Roseanna went home with the Hatfields so she could be with Johnse. On many occasions, the McCoys tried to persuade Roseanna to return home. Vicious gossip spread through the mountains.

Although he knew his son loved Roseanna, Devil Anse Hatfield would not give his permission for the two to marry. About a year after she first went to live with the Hatfields, Roseanna moved in with an aunt. She was about three months pregnant at the time and continued to see Johnse even though the two did not marry. During one of Johnse’s frequent visits, Roseanna’s brothers captured him and set out to take him to the McCoy homestead in Pikeville, Kentucky. Upset by her brothers’ actions, Roseanna rode to Devil Anse’s house to tell him what had happened. He gathered his men, headed off the McCoys, and rescued Johnse.

Johnse’s capture resulted in a change of heart for two Hatfields. Devil Anse realized that Roseanna must truly love his son to have risked her life to betray her brothers. He was sorry that he had not given the two young people his blessing to marry. Johnse, however, believed Roseanna had betrayed him. He never crossed the river to be with Roseanna again. In 1881, their daughter Sarah Elizabeth was born, but she died a few months later during a measles epidemic. Johnse eventually married a McCoy, but it was Roseanna’s cousin Nancy.

Election Day 1882 is generally given as the “official” start of the feud. It was on that day that Ellison Hatfield and Tolbert McCoy got into a fistfight. All the hatred and anger that had been building up from all the various incidents exploded. As the confrontation began, two other McCoys ran to join the fight. The fighting intensified, and Reverend Anderson Hatfield rushed to separate the men. A shot rang out, and Ellison Hatfield fell seriously wounded. Ellison, who was wounded in Pike County, Kentucky, was carried across a swinging bridge over the Tug Fork River to a house in Matewan in Mingo County. Law officials arrested

something extra!

Ellison Hatfield had taken part in Pickett’s Charge at the Battle of Gettysburg on July 3, 1863.

Above: Ellison Hatfield was mortally wounded by three McCoys on Election Day 1882. In retaliation, the Hatfields killed the three McCoys.
the McCoys, but the Hatfield family intercepted them on their way to the jail and took the McCoys prisoner. The Hatfields kept the McCoys in an abandoned schoolhouse while they waited to see what would happen to Ellison. Sarah McCoy, along with her daughter-in-law Martha, went to plead for the release of her sons. Devil Anse Hatfield told the women the fate of the McCoy boys rested on whether Ellison Hatfield lived or died. While Sarah McCoy was pleading with the Hatfields to spare her sons, Randolph McCoy was in Pikeville, Kentucky, trying to get help from the county police.

At about 3:00 p.m. on the day after he was shot, Ellison Hatfield died. Just after dusk, the three McCoy boys were shot and killed. Warrants were issued in Kentucky for those Hatfields believed to have murdered the McCoys. Rewards were offered for the capture of the Hatfields, and West Virginia’s governor agreed to help bring the guilty parties to trial. However, none of the seventeen persons for whom warrants were issued were ever arrested, and so the feud continued.

During the next six years, sporadic raids continued. In 1888, the Hatfields made another major raid into Kentucky. Their objective was to kill Randolph McCoy. The Hatfields set Randolph’s home on fire and fatally wounded his daughter, Alifair. As Sarah McCoy ran to help her daughter, she was beaten unconscious and left for dead. One of Randolph’s sons, Calvin, was also killed. Randolph McCoy escaped to Pikeville, but he was a tired and broken man.

The Hatfields were eventually captured when Kentucky Governor Simon Bolivar Buckner sent deputies to West Virginia to arrest and transport them to Pikeville. The Pikeville jail, as well as the whole town, was placed under heavy guard in anticipation of a Hatfield raid. Both Governor Buckner of Kentucky and Governor E. Willis Wilson of West Virginia wanted custody of the prisoners. Governor Wilson questioned whether it was legal for Kentucky law officers to cross the Tug Fork River to seize West Virginia citizens. The matter eventually found its way to the

Above: The Hatfield home was located in Logan County.
U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled that the arrests were legal since the Kentucky officers entered West Virginia in the pursuit of criminals. Most of the Hatfields held in Pikeville were eventually sentenced to prison, although one was hanged.

The feud died down on its own after legal authorities became involved. Clannish loyalty decreased as the area became less isolated. Younger members of both families followed more peaceful pursuits. One, Henry D. Hatfield, became a prominent physician. He later became governor of West Virginia and, after leaving that office, was elected to the U.S. Senate.

A ceremonial end to the feud occurred on May 1, 1976, at the dedication of a McCoy family monument at the old McCoy Cemetery on Blackberry Fork above Hardy, Kentucky. At the dedication ceremony, Willis Hatfield, the last surviving son of Devil Anse Hatfield, and Jim McCoy shook hands and thus symbolically buried the hatchet, putting the feud to rest.

---

**Reviewing the Section**

**Reviewing the Content**

1. What caused the Hatfield and McCoy feud?
2. What role did Johnse Hatfield and Roseanna McCoy play in the feud?
3. What event is considered the "official" start of the feud?

**Using the Content**

Write a newspaper article describing one of the incidents that occurred during the Hatfield and McCoy Feud.

**Extending the Literacy Skill**

Make a chart like the one on page 478 to record information on various encounters between the Hatfields and the McCoys as you read Section 4. Then write a summary describing two of those encounters.

---

Above: Henry D. Hatfield, physician and governor of West Virginia.
Preserving the Hatfield-McCoy Feud

The story of the Hatfield-McCoy Feud, which has generated interest for over 150 years, has all the elements of a good novel—lawlessness, gun-toting vigilantes, family loyalty, family disloyalty, revenge, and a modern Romeo and Juliet love story. The Hatfields and the McCoys, who lived across the Tug Fork of the Big Sandy River from one another, fought on opposite sides during the Civil War. Randolph McCoy’s younger brother, Asa Harmon McCoy, suffered a broken leg and was discharged from the Union army in late December 1865. Two weeks later, he was killed by a local Confederate militia, the Logan Wildcats, led by Devil Anse Hatfield. McCoy was accused of spying and killing horses that belonged to the Logan Wildcats. No one was ever prosecuted for the murder. Although historians do not consider this event the beginning of the feud, they do recognize that it created hostile feelings and a call for revenge that lasted over 100 years.
The story of the Hatfields and McCoys is remembered annually in West Virginia as well as in Kentucky through fairs, festivals, and outdoor drama. Theatre West Virginia first offered an outdoor drama that told the story of the Hatfield-McCoy Feud at the Cliffside Amphitheatre in Beaver, West Virginia, near Beckley, in 1970. The most recent performance was during the summer of 2018.

Another event that focuses on the feud is the annual Hatfield and McCoy Reunion Festival and Marathon, held in Matewan and Williamson, West Virginia. During the festival, narrated tours to historic sites are available. Stops include the Hog Trial site, the place where Johnse and Roseanna met, the spot where Devil Anse Hatfield’s brother was murdered, the Paw Paw Massacre site, the home of the McCoys, and the location of the New Year’s Day Raid. There is also a tour of Matewan and a visit to a museum with exhibits related to the feud.

Besides the activities in West Virginia designed to preserve the history and culture of the feud, there is also a lot of national attention given to the event. In 2012, Kevin Costner starred in a miniseries on the History Channel focusing on the famous feud. The miniseries received many awards, including an Emmy for Costner for his performance as Devil Anse Hatfield.
CHAPTER 13: WEST VIRGINIA AND RECONSTRUCTION
Section 4: A Famous Feud

Directions: Use the information from pages 501-507 to complete the following statements.

1. While the new state of West Virginia was struggling to resolve ________ and ________ issues after the Civil War, a famous ________ broke out.

2. The feud, between ________ families who lived across the ________________ River from one another, actually had its beginning in the ________________ when the West Virginia Hatfields supported the ________________ and the Kentucky McCoys supported the ________________.

3. One of the most-mentioned stories is that the feud erupted after an argument over some ________.
   Descendants of the two families have ________________ this version, however.

4. Floyd ________________ and Randolph (Ranel) ________________, who had married ________________, often tended pigs that roamed wild in the countryside.

5. One day in 1873, ________________ gathered up a ________ and her ________ and took them to his farm. When ________________ went to the Hatfield farm, he accused Floyd of ________________ the pigs.

6. Hatfield had to stand ________ for the charges ________ brought against him. At the end of the trial, Floyd Hatfield was ________________ of the charges, primarily on the vote of ________________ McCoy, who was married to a ________________.

7. The ________________ ancestry of both families made them intensely ________ to family.

8. The McCoys singled out and ________ Bill Stanton, the ________________ of a Hatfield, in retaliation for his ________________ during the trial.

9. One day while he was hunting, Stanton came upon ________ and ________ McCoy.
   Stanton fired at them, wounding ________.
10. Sam then attacked __________. During the fighting, Sam fired his gun, mortally wounding __________.

11. Sam McCoy was charged and tried for Stanton’s __________. The jury __________ him, ruling that the shooting was __________.

12. On Election Day 1880, both families turned out to __________ and vote for their favorite __________.

13. Johnse __________ and Roseanna __________ were among those taking part in the festivities.

14. Roseanna went home with the __________ so she could be with __________.

15. Although he knew his son loved __________, Devil Anse __________ would not give his permission for the two to __________.

16. About a __________ after she first went to live with the Hatfields, Roseanna moved in with an __________. She was about __________ months pregnant at the time.

17. During one of Johnse’s frequent visits, Roscanna’s __________ captured him and set out to take him to the McCoy homestead in Pikeville, __________.

18. Upset by her brothers’ actions, Roseanna rode to __________ house to tell him what had happened. He gathered his men, headed off the McCoys, and __________ Johnse.

19. Devil Anse realized that Roseanna must truly __________ his son.

20. He was sorry that he had not given the two young people his __________ to marry.

21. Johnse, however, believed Roscanna had __________ him. He never crossed the __________ to be with Roseanna again.

22. In 1881, their __________ Sarah Elizabeth was born, but she died a few months later during a __________ epidemic.

23. Election Day __________ is generally given as the “__________” start of the feud. It was on that day that __________ Hatfield and __________ McCoy got into a fistfight.
24. The fighting intensified, and _______________ Anderson Hatfield rushed to _______________ the men.

25. A shot rang out, and _______________ fell seriously wounded.

26. Law officials _______________ the McCoys, but the Hatfield family _______________ them on their way to the jail and took the McCoys _______________.

27. At about 3:00 p.m. on the day after he was _____________, Ellison Hatfield ___________. Just after dusk, the three McCoy boys were ___________ and _____________.

28. None of the seventeen persons for whom _______________ were issued were ever _______________, and so the _______ continued.

29. During the next ______ years, sporadic _______ continued. In 1888, the Hatfields made another major raid into _______________. Their objective was to ______ Randolph McCoy.

30. The Hatfields were eventually _____________ when Kentucky _______________ Simon Bolivar Buckner sent _____________ to West Virginia to arrest and transport them to _______________.

31. The matter eventually found its way to the U.S. _____________ Court, which ruled that the arrests were _____________ since the Kentucky officers entered West Virginia in the _______________ of criminals.

32. The feud died down on its own after _______ authorities become involved.

33. A _______________ end to the feud occurred on May 1, 1976, at the dedication of a _______________ family monument.

34. At the dedication ceremony, Willis Hatfield, the last surviving _______ of Devil Anse Hatfield, and Jim McCoy shook hands and thus _______________ buried the hatchet.

**Focus on Culture: Preserving the Hatfield-McCoy Feud**

35. The Hatfields and the McCoys, who lived across the Tug Fork of the Big _________ River from one another, fought on _______ sides during the Civil War.
36. Asa Harmon McCoy suffered a broken _______ and was discharged from the ________

Army in late December 1865.

37. Two weeks later he was killed by a local __________________ militia led by Devil Anse

__________________

38. No one was ever __________________ for the murder.

39. It (the murder) created ______________ feelings and a call for ___________ that lasted

over ______________ years.

40. Theatre West Virginia first offered an outdoor ____________ that told the story of the

Hatfield-McCoy ____________ at the Cliffside Amphithetre in 1970.

41. The annual Hatfield and McCoy ______________ Festival and Marathon is held in Matewan

and Williamson, West Virginia.