

# ***Warm-up:*** The Problem with Cotton

## *Unit 10: Cotton, Cattle, & Railroads*

Name:

Date:

Period:

"The agricultural classes, having a majority of four to one throughout the country, should rule; but that in our own county there was the striking fact to be noticed, that not a single official position was held by a farmer. - That it was the duty of farmers to look out for their own interests and to elect men who would subserve their interests."

- A speech given by T. B. King of the Farmer's Alliance at a Fourth of July Celebration. The Stephenville Empire. (Stephenville, Tex.), Vol. 5, No. 48, Ed. 1 Saturday, July 12, 1879. The Portal to Texas History

1. What is the author's opinion of farmers and their role in the government?

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## The Problem with Cotton *Exit Ticket*

*"Suffering from low prices, high costs, and rising tenancy rates, and tired of waiting in vain for help from the government, farmers organized the People's Party (more commonly called the Populist Party) in 1891 and challenged Democrats and Republicans in state and national elections the following year.... Like all third-party movements, Populism soon disappeared – much of its energy drained off when the national Democratic Party adopted parts of its platform in 1896."*

- Campbell, Randolph, *Gone to Texas: A History of the Lone Star State*. 2003

List THREE things we can learn about the Populist Party based on the excerpt above.

1.

2.

3.



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6.