Name _____

## The Populist Movement – The Value of Third Parties

*Read pages 612-624 and employ outside sources to complete the following worksheet.*

1.  How did low prices and deflated currency add to the challenges facing small farmers in the Gilded Age?

2.  What other conditions contributed to the unhappy state of farmers?

3.  Identify and provide the significance of each of the following post-civil war farmer movements.

    National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry (the Grange) –

    Farmer's Alliance –

    Colored Farmer's National Alliance –

4.  What was Coxey's Army and what demands did they make to the government?

5.  In which presidential campaign did the Populists first appear?

6.  What groups made up the Populist movement?

7.  In what sections of the country did the Populists gain their greatest support?

8.  List 5 political and/or economic reforms the Populists proposed in their platforms.

9. To what extent did the Populists continue to focus on grievances from earlier movements?


10. What percent of the total popular vote in 1892 did each party gain? (page A 57)

    a. Republicans

    b. Democrats

    c. Populists

11. How did these percentages explain why the Democrats adopted several Populists planks and nominated the Populist candidate as their own nominee in 1896?


12. How did William Jennings Bryan's "Cross of Gold" speech prove to be both a strength and a weakness of the Populists?


13. How did Republicans try to project a universal appeal in their 1896 platform?


14. What role might each of the following have played in the outcome of the election in 1896?

    a. Panic of 1893


    b. Republican party's $16 million campaign fund compared to $1 million available to Democrats for educating and persuading voters


    c. Some factory owners paid off their workers on Election Day and told them not to return to work on Wednesday if Bryan won; others threatened to pay their workers in fifty-cent pieces instead of dollars if Bryan won.


15. While the election of 1896 is recognized as the end of the Populist movement, several of their proposals were eventually adopted. Name 3.