

## Ch 10 The Union in Peril

### Section 1 The Divisive Politics of Slavery

#### Differences Between North and South

##### Industry and Immigration in the North

- 1850s North industrialized; makes large amount, variety of products
- Railroads carry raw materials east, manufactures and settlers west
  - small towns quickly become cities
  - telegraph wires provide fast communication
- Immigrants become industrial workers, fear expansion of slavery
  - slave labor might compete with free labor
  - could reduce status of white workers unable to compete

##### Agriculture and Slavery in the South

- South predominantly rural, mostly plantations and small farms
- Economy relies on cash crops; manufacture under 10% of U.S. goods
- Few immigrants; free, enslaved African Americans meet labor needs
- In 3 states, blacks are majority; in 2, are half of population
- Whites fear restriction of slavery will change society, economy

#### Slavery in the Territories

##### The Wilmot Proviso

- **Wilmot Proviso**—no slavery in territory acquired from Mexico; favored by the North
- North: slave territory adds slave states; no jobs for free workers
- South: slaves are property under Constitution; fear more free states

##### Statehood for California

- 1850, CA writes constitution; elects leaders; applies for statehood
- Pres. Zachary Taylor supports admission of California as free state
- Recommends to angry South that slavery be decided by each territory

#### The Senate Debates

##### Clay's Compromise

- Some Southerners threaten **secession**, withdrawal of state from Union
- Henry Clay offers **Compromise of 1850** to settle disputes over slavery

##### Terms of the Compromise

- Compromise has provisions to appease North and South:
  - California to be a free state
  - more effective fugitive slave law
  - **popular sovereignty**—residents of territory vote to decide slavery
  - government to pay Texas \$10 million for its claim to eastern NM
  - slave trade banned in D.C. but slavery permitted
  - voters in the Utah and New Mexico territories decide about slavery
- Clay gives speech begging North and South to compromise, save Union

##### Calhoun and Webster Respond and support Compromise

- Clay's speech starts one of greatest debates in U.S. history
- John C. Calhoun presents Southern case for slavery in territories
- In famous speech, Daniel Webster calls for national unity

#### The Compromise is Adopted

- Senate rejects compromise; Clay leaves Washington

- **Stephen A. Douglas** reintroduces resolutions individually
- President **Millard Filmore** gives support; South decides to negotiate
  - Compromise of 1850 voted into law