Fluency Passages

The era of the cowboy came to an end as a result of changes in the cattle business. When cows roamed the vast ranges of the southwest, the herd could not be rounded up without skilled riders on horseback. But with the invention of barbed wire, great stretches of ranch land were fenced into smaller ranches.

Then the round up was no longer a major event and cowboys became less important. The long trail drives to the north in which the cowboy’s skill at herding cattle was essential, also became a thing of the past. With the coming of the railroad, cattle would be shipped directly to the market.