Lesson 3- New Nations

I. Nationalism and Unification
   A. Nationalism not only contributed to imperialism, but also motivated some countries to unify and create new nations, including Germany and Italy.
      1. For hundreds of years there were no German or Italian nations, much of the territory that makes up these nations today were controlled by France, Austria or the Catholic Church.
      2. The people of Italy, including Giuseppe Mazzini and Germany wanted to create their own nations.
   B. When looking to form their new nations, Germans and Italians looked to Greece who had fought for their independence from the Ottoman Empire in the 1820’s.

II. A German Nation
   A. Before Germany became a unified country, Prussia was the largest state, with Otto von Bismarck as its Prime Minister.
      1. Bismarck wanted to unify Germany and put it on the map and he fought three wars to do so.
      2. Bismarck first defeated Denmark in 1864 and then Austria in 1866, winning quick victories.
      3. Prussia then entered into war with France, between 1870-1871 and again won a quick victory.
   B. Prussians than declared Germany a unified empire with a Prussian king, known as kaiser or emperor.
   C. Germany became a powerful country, but it was not democratic.
      1. Kaiser Wilhelm II believed that Germany fought to become a world power and it was his business to maintain that power.
         a) Other European nations, including France and Great Britain became fearful of Germany’s growing power.

III. A United Italy
   A. A movement of unification began in Italy.
      1. One leader was Giuseppe Mazzini who wanted Italian leaders to be overthrown and form a democratic Italy.
      2. Another leader was Camillo di Cavour who wanted to unify Italy under the rule of the Sardinian king, Victor Emmanuel II.
         a) In 1859, Cavour formed an alliance with France and attacked Austria who controlled northern Italy.
b) Many states in northern and central Italy decided to join Sardinian under Victor Emmanuel II.

3. Giuseppe Garibaldi was another leader of the unification movement in Italy, who formed a small army known as the “Redshirts.”
   a) In 1860 much of southern Italy had been united by Garibaldi and his Redshirts, under Victor Emmanuel II, after they had freed Sicily and Naples.

B. In early 1861 the nation of Italy was formally announced and it would grow.

C. Italy was able to take over Venice and eventually Rome, in 1871, after Austria went to war with Prussia in 1866.

IV. British Dominions
A. In the mid 1800’s many British colonies in Canada, Australia and New Zealand began to pressure the British government to allow them to self-govern.
   1. British then began preparing these colonies to become dominions.
      a) Dominions are self-governing nations that still have ties to the ruling empire and establish a government similar to that of the ruling empire.
      b) In this case the colonies of Canada, Australia and New Zealand formed a parliament or elected legislature to create laws and select national leaders.
      c) Each dominion also had a representative of the king or queen, known as a governor-general.

2. Canada became the first dominion in 1867, which was made up of four provinces, Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.
   a) Sir John MacDonald was the first prime minister of Canada.

B. Australia was first colonized in New South Wales in 1788, which was the land that was claimed by Captain James Cook.
   1. Because of the growing British colonization many of the Aborigines were forced off their land.
      a) It is estimated that in the first 50 years of colonization the Aboriginal population dropped by one-half.
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2. Sir Edmund Barton led the efforts in creating a constitution for Australia and in 1901 they became the second British dominion.
   a) Barton also became the first Prime Minister.

C. British missionaries were the first to arrive in New Zealand, in 1814, which had originally been settled by the Maori.
   1. British colonists began arriving soon after the missionaries.
   2. In 1840, a treaty was signed by William Hobson and the Maori chiefs, which did two things,
      a) ended the rebellion of the Maori people and
      b) made New Zealand a British colony.
   3. New Zealand become a British dominion in 1907, but as the nation grew prosperous the relationship between the maori and the British became strained.