

# Nations in Upheaval: Europe 1850-1914

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# The Rise of the Nation-State

- Political leaders driven to consolidate power
- By 1871 the process of consolidation and unification had created modern Germany and Italy, altering the balance of power
- The struggle between states for land and wealth occurred primarily outside Europe through imperialism
  - The process of expanding a nation's territory through the acquisition of colonies and dependencies.

- The ideology of nationalism linked the individuals identity with the state, connecting his/her sense of pride, prestige and power with the internal and external strength of the nation.
- Success of a nation did not depend upon national sentiment, but political leaders had to be able to harness the power of the people's pride in the state in pursuit of national objectives.
- What is an example of political leaders attempting to harness the people's pride to pursue an objective?

## ■ Quebec Referendum

- Political leaders attempting to use the identify of Francophones to separate Quebec from Canada and declare independent.

# Louis Napoleon Bonaparte

- No longer a monarchy, but a republic.
- A state in which supreme power is held by the people or its elected representatives and not by a monarch
- Ruled as president from 1848-1852
- As emperor as Napoleon III from 1852-1870 during the time of prosperity in which Paris was restored as the diplomatic and cultural capital Europe
- Ended in disaster
- Why? (Think to Monday's class activity)



Louis Napoleon Bonaparte III  
(1808-1873)



- Prussia overwhelming victory over France in 1870 brought Napoleon III and his Second Empire to an end
- Resulted in modern Germany as the dominant power in Central Europe
- On Dec. 1-2 1851, the army occupied Paris and the police arrested 78 National Assembly deputies
- Army killed 200 rioters on Dec. 4, while suppressing a left wing uprising in Paris.

- During the rule of Napoleon III, the French populace seemed content of democracy.
- The economy was prosperous, as the boom in railroad construction had a multiplier effect that stimulated French industries and generated employment
- Created “Credit Mobilier”, an investment trust in which citizens deposited savings, which in turn financed industrial development
- What does that resemble today?

- By 1860, financial scandals, dissent over foreign policy and reawakened political criticism
- Napoleon responded by liberalizing reforms that:
  - relaxed controls on the press,
  - allowed freer debate in legislative assembly,
  - made ministers more responsible to elected representatives,
  - reduced the influence of the church on education,
  - made schools more accessible to females and
  - legalized trade unions and the right to strike.

# Modern Germany: The Role of Key Individuals

- From 1815-1848, liberal nationalists dreamed of the creation of a unified Germany under a liberal constitution
- Significant political obstacles
- German confederation of 1815 brought together 39 states, including the larger and more powerful Prussia and Austria
  - purpose of the confederation was not to unite German states but to preserve the existing political structure of small states ruled by absolutist

- Economic and social development had begun to break down some of the divisions between Prussia and Austria
  - 1834, customs union, brought the northern German states, including Prussia but excluding Austria, into a closer economic association.

- “Greater Germans” are those who favoured the inclusion of Austria, were drawn largely from southern Catholic regions
- “Lesser Germans” are those who favoured the exclusion of Austria and looked to Prussian leadership, were drawn largely from northern Protestant areas

# Czarist Russia: Reform and Repression

- Russia's defeat in the Crimean War, 1854-1856, demonstrated the need for industrialization of the economy and modernization of the army
- The most significant change was to liberate 22.5 serfs in 1861
- The peasantry paid the price of reform: had to pay for their freedom from restraint
- This was to satisfy the upper class people

- Consequently, traditional peasant communes continued to control land usage and restrict the movement of peasants away from communal village
- Peasants were still trapped in poverty and conditions became worse with the increase in population.

- Discontent grew in the urban areas of Russia due to the exploitative conditions due to the Industrial Revolution
- Czar reverted to a policy of repression when faced with criticism and discontent and in reaction to a nationalist uprising in 1863.
  - this cause the discontentment to grow further among different members of the population.

- In 1881, a terrorist's bomb succeeded in assassinating Alexander II
- It was thought that with the assassination of Alexander II, an uprising would occur, but rather it introduced a new and prolonged period of repression under the new czar.
- What are some reasons that prevented the uprising of the people?

# Britain 1867-1894

- Mid-1860, the issue of the voting and the question of when, by whom and to whom
- Throughout the second half of the first nineteenth century, Britain witness a struggle between the forces of change.
  - Social reform and the forces of continuity, in support for the monarchy and other conservative traditions

## Disraeli

- In 1867 prime minister Benjamin Disraeli and the Conservatives passed a Second Reform Act, which granted the vote to male urban working class householders.
- An optimist and knew how to seize opportunity.
- Redefined the appeal of conservatism across class lines by calling on tradition, patriotism, and paternalism, embodied in three key terms: monarchy, empire, and social reform
- Pursued an aggressive colonial policy, engaging in wars
- Passed the most innovative social reforms of the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, improving the legal status of trade unions and introducing legislation on consumer protection, industrial safety and public housing

## Gladstone

- in 1884, prime minister William Gladstone and the Liberal extended the vote on the same terms to male householders in rural constituencies.
- rallying cry was “Peace, Retrenchment and Reform”
- “Peace” meaning free trade and opposition to costly foreign and colonial adventures
- “Entrenchment” meaning a laissez-faire policy in which the role of the government was strictly limited, and the costs of tax were reduced as much as possible
- “Reform” meaning getting rid of laws that benefited the privileged.
- 1870, introduced national primary education

- Gladstone won the electorate campaign in 1880 and gave his liberals a majority
- Lord Salisbury became the dominate party in Britain for the next two decades due to Gladstone's Irish Home Rule bill

# Developments in Political Thought: Socialism

- Directly address the political needs of trade unionists and working people.
- Strongly influenced by Karl Marx's analysis of industrial capitalism.
- What is Karl Marx's analysis of industrial capitalism?



What is your interpretation of the political cartoon?

- Marx predicted that industrial capitalism would continue to expand and draw increasing numbers of people to a system of wage labour.
- The conflict between employers and employees conforms to the daily experience of many late-nineteenth century industrial wage earners.

- The First International Workingmen's Association in 1864, was the first attempt to build an international socialist political organization
- It was one of the many failure of the Paris Commune in 1871.
- First International disbanded in 1876

- Second International in 1889
- By then working people were now national political parties
- German socialist theorist Eduard Bernstein (1850-1932) proposed that socialism could win gradually by elected governments implementing socialist measures over time.
- Divided the Second International as well as various national movements.
  - Social democrats in Germany and the socialists in Russia

# The Revolution in Russia, 1905

- The contradictory policies of rapid industrial development and continued political repression created the potential for revolutionary explosion.
- Russia experienced a second wave of rapid industrial development by relying on financing by foreign capital

- Lenin (1870-1924) published an influential pamphlet under the title *What is to be Done?*
- Defending the necessity of revolution, Lenin argue that it was not sufficient to wait for a spontaneous insurrection of the masses
- Mel's group could you please explain further to the class about his work and contributions?

- The defeat of Russian naval and military forces by Japan in 1904-0905 created a political crisis.
- The economic slump and hardship among the peasantry and industrial worker only added on to the political crisis.
- Escalated into revolution when, on Bloody Sunday (January 22, 1905) troops killed several hundred peaceful and unarmed demonstrators who sought to petition the czar at the Winter Palace to grant political reforms and economic relief.

- Nicholas II was forced to create Duma or parliament after the constitutional crisis, coupled with extensive rural unrest, recurrent general strikes and a mutiny in the navy and incidents of political violence.

- Studying for Chapter 8 Quiz
  - Only pages 291-319 (ending at Western Art of the Nineteenth Century)
  - Power Point presentation