Nationalism vs. Sectionalism

Unit 9 Lead Up To The Civil War

What is Nationalism?

Defined - A strong attachment to one's country which is superior to any loyalty to a smaller geographical unit

Some elements of American Nationalism include:

- 1) a common language,
- 2) geographical unity, &
- 3) a sense of common history & tradition.

Events That Increased AmericanNationalism:

- Winning the War of 1812
 - (seen as the 2nd war for American Independence)
- Henry Clay's American System
 - Designed to link U.S. regions together economically
- Manifest Destiny
 - Expanded U.S. borders & increased territory

What is Sectionalism?

Defined - A devotion to the interests of one particular region or state rather than to the best interests of the country as a whole

By the mid 1800's the U.S. could be seen as three distinct regions: 1.) The North

- 2.) The South
- 3.) The West

Events That Increased American Sectionalism

- Abolitionist Movement
 - Division over slavery (regional, economic, religious, political)
- Tariff of Abominations (1828)
 - Protective tariffs were seen to favor northern industry over southern agriculture
- Nullification Issues
 - VA & KY Resolves (1798-99) & Nullification Crisis (1831-32) - Do states have the right to not follow federal laws?

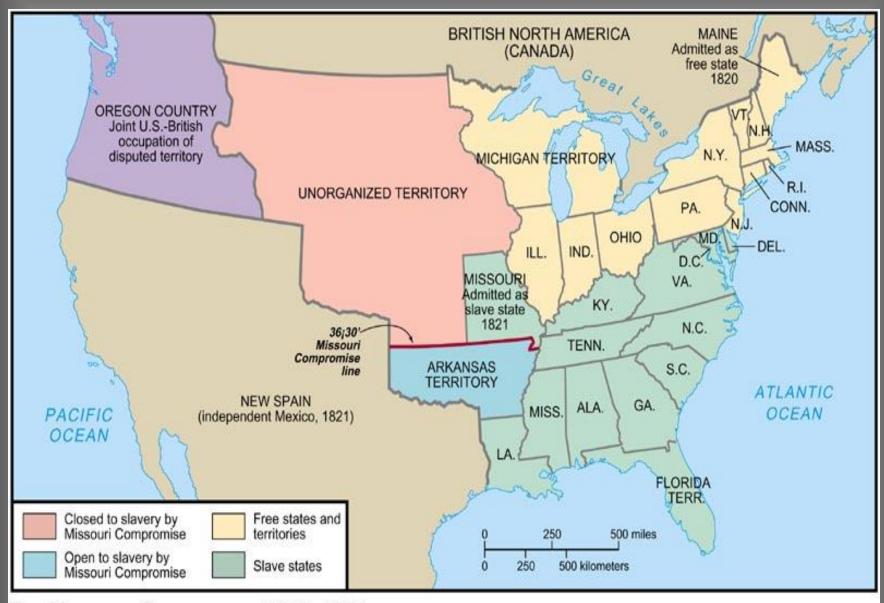
- In 1819, the Missouri Territory petitioned Congress for statehood.
- At the time there were 11 FREE states
 & 11 SLAVE states
- This means an EVEN BALANCE of representation in the U.S. Senate

- The people of Missouri wanted the state to be added as a "slave state" meaning that slavery would be legal.
- If this occurred, then the balance in the Senate would favor the Slave-owning states of the South

 (Attempts were made to try to limit the role of slavery in the new state but no settlement could be reached)

In 1820, Henry Clay (KY) proposed what would be known as the *Missouri Compromise of 1820*. It had THREE (3) components...

- 1.) Missouri would enter the Union as a SLAVE state
- 2.) Maine would join the Union as a FREE state
- 3.) Slavery would be prohibited in any new territories or states formed north of 36° 30' N. Latitude(which was Missouri's southern border)



THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE, 1820-1821

Is the Missouri Compromise an example of an event that led to increased Nationalism or increased Sectionalism?

- In 1827, American manufactures were calling for a protective tariff on imported woolen goods.
- British companies were driving American companies out of business because their goods were made & sold at cheaper costs

 In 1828, Congress placed a high tariff on foreign imports. Southerners would come to call this the "Tariff of Abominations"

- Many Southerners opposed the Tariff because they believed that it caused the price of goods, both imported & domestic to rise.
- It also made trade with Britain very difficult for the Southern states - their primary trading partner.

- John C. Calhoun (V.P at the time) drafted the South Carolina Exposition and Protest (he did this anonymously)
- This document encouraged the idea of "States' Rights."
- States' Rights Doctrine the belief that because the states created the Constitution, then the power of the states should be greater than the power of the federal government

- In addition to the idea of states' rights,
 Calhoun's exposition also brought up the idea of NULLIFICATION. ("nullify" to reject)
- What followed was what came to be known as the "Nullification Crisis"
- Defined The dispute led by John C. Calhoun that said that states could ignore federal laws if they believed those laws violated the Constitution.

- This was NOT the first time the idea of nullification had been brought up in the United States
- Thomas Jefferson & James Madison suggested a similar idea in their Virginia & Kentucky Resolutions, (1798-99) which were written in response to the Alien & Sedition Acts

The Looming Question....

If a state DOES choose to NOT follow the laws of the federal government and the U.S. Constitution, then what????

- In 1830, the debate over nullification reached the Senate floor.
- Robert Hayne (SC) and Daniel Webster (MA)
 argued over the issue in what has been
 referred to as the <u>Webster-Hayne Debate</u>.