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 American Nationalism:

- 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?
The Missouri Compromise

• 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 Missouri Compromise

• 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

- Closed to slavery by Missouri Compromise
- Free states and territories
- Open to slavery by Missouri Compromise
- Slave states

Key:
- OREGON COUNTRY: Joint U.S.-British occupation of disputed territory
- UNORGANIZED TERRITORY
- ARKANSAS TERRITORY
- NEW SPAIN (independent Mexico, 1821)
- BRITISH NORTH AMERICA (CANADA)
- MAINE Admitted as free state 1820

Map showing the 36°30' Missouri Compromise line that划定了奴隶制在美国的边界。
The Missouri Compromise

Is the Missouri Compromise an example of an event that led to increased Nationalism or increased Sectionalism?
The “Tariff of Abominations”
a.k.a
The Protective Tariff of 1828

• 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
The “Tariff of Abominations”

a.k.a

The Protective Tariff of 1828

• In 1828, Congress placed a high tariff on foreign imports. Southerners would come to call this the “Tariff of Abominations”
The “Tariff of Abominations” 
a.k.a  
The Protective Tariff of 1828

- 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.
The “Tariff of Abominations” a.k.a The Protective Tariff of 1828

- 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
The “Tariff of Abominations” a.k.a The Protective Tariff of 1828

• 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.
The “Tariff of Abominations”

a.k.a

The Protective Tariff of 1828

• 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????
The “Tariff of Abominations” 
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The Protective Tariff of 1828

• 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 *Webster-Hayne Debate*. 