

Name: Key

Period: _____

Chapter 15 Notes

Lesson 1:

Manifest Destiny- The belief that was popular in the US during the 1800's that the country should expand to the Pacific Ocean

Joint Resolution- Requires a majority vote in both houses of Congress

Ratify- To formally approve something

Texas Requests Annexation:

~ Immigrants were the main source of population growth during the Republic. Most of these people came from the United States.

~ John Tyler was the president of the United States during Houston's second term.

~ In April 1844, representatives from the US and Texas met and signed a treaty of annexation. This made Texas a territory of the United States.

~ This was beneficial to Texas because the United States would pay off the \$12 million debt of the Republic. In return Texas would give up all claims to public lands.

~ In order for the treaty to be official it needed to be approved by the US Senate. They overwhelmingly rejected it with a vote of 35 to 16.

~ Many senators did not want to accept Texas because the it would tip the balance of slave and non-slave states, giving slave states the advantage.

~ There were also many senators who wanted to expand the United States. This made the annexation of Texas a central issue in the upcoming election.

Manifest Destiny and Texas:

~ Many Americans in the 1800s believed that it was the destiny of the United States to settle North America from coast to coast.

~ Henry Clay was the Whig party candidate in the election of 1844. He was against the annexation of Texas.

~ James K Polk was the Democratic party candidate, and was for the annexation of Texas.

Texas Annexed in 1845:

~ Polk won the election of 1844.

~The British were worried that their trade deals would go south if Texas joined the US. They were maneuvering against the annexation of Texas so President Tyler asked congress for a joint resolution to annex Texas.

~A joint resolution requires only a majority of votes in each house, while a treaty requires the approval of 2/3 of the Senate.

~ On Feb 28, 1845 Congress passed the joint resolution. This was a better deal for Texas because it entered the US as a State, and was able to Keep its public lands.

~ On Dec 29, 1845 President Polk signed the resolution that made Texas a state, but it wasn't until Feb 19, 1846 that the transfer of power took place. Texas had officially become the 28th state of the United States of America.

Big Idea:

What were the positives and negatives for the US with the annexation of Texas?

Westward expansion, Resources / Trade

Anger Mexico, unbalance Slave/Free States

What were the positives and negatives for Texas?

Debt paid, Keep public lands, protection from Mexico + NF

New government, Fought for independence

Lesson 2:

Nativism- Biased toward, or favoring of native born American citizens.

Reservations- Land set aside for Native Americans

Politics in Early Statehood:

~James Rockney Henderson was elected the first Governor of Texas in 1845.

~ Two political parties emerged in Texas; the Whigs and the Democrats.

~Democrats supported/represented Farmers and Slavery.

~The Whig party supported business and was opposed to slavery. Instead they supported the abolitionist movement.

~The Know-Nothing Party was a secretive organization that believed in nativism. They wanted to prevent immigration and favored particular religions such as Catholicism.

~Women, African Americans (enslaved or free), and Native Americans were not allowed to vote or join political parties.

State and Federal Issues:

~As more people moved west, clashes between settlers and Native Americans increased.

~The federal government wanted to keep its citizens safe so it forcibly relocated the Native Americans and placed them on reservations.

~Settlers did not like this. Instead they favored the construction of forts on the edge of the frontier.

Big Idea:

Why would the party representing the farmers be pro slavery, and the party representing businesses be pro abolition?

The southern farmers needed slaves to keep up with the production of cotton. If the slaves were free there would be a larger work force for businesses.

Lesson 3:

Reparation- Payment for damages + suffering.

Envoy- A person sent by one government to represent it in dealings with another government.

Armistice- A temporary end to fighting.

Causes of the War:

~The annexation of Texas strained the relationship between the US and Mexico.

~There was a dispute about the southern border between Texas and Mexico. Texas and the US believed the Rio Grande was the border, while Mexico believed that the Nueces River was the border.

~The US demanded that Mexico pay reparations for damages caused during the Texas revolution. Mexico refused to make these payments.

~In 1845 President Polk sent John Slidell as a secret envoy to negotiate the purchase of the land between the rivers, as well as the land that is now California, Arizona, and New Mexico. The Mexican President refused to negotiate and President Polk took it as an insult to the US.

~President Polk ordered General Zachary Taylor to cross the Nueces River. Mexico viewed this as an invasion and attacked the US forces. On May 9, 1846 Polk prepared a declaration of war against Mexico.

War and Its Aftermath:

~On May 8th and 9th General Taylor won battles at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. Then headed south.

~More than 5,000 Texans joined and fought in the Mexican-American War.

~Taylor won the Battle of Monterrey in September 1846 and agreed to an armistice with the Mexican commander. This temporarily ended the fighting. Polk would not accept peace and ordered his troops to continue fighting.

~Santa Anna has returned to power and attacked Taylor's forces in Northern Mexico in the Battle of Buena Vista. The Americans were victorious.

~The American troops invaded Veracruz and fought a 2 day battle called the Battle of Cerro Gordo. The Americans won and the Mexicans retreated.

~ The last battle was the Battle of Chapultepec Castle. American forces took Mexico City.

~ On February 2, 1848 the US and Mexico signed the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Mexico gave up all claims to Texas and accepted the Rio Grande as the boundary between the US and Mexico. It also surrendered all territory between Texas and the Pacific Ocean. In return the US paid Mexico \$15 million and agreed to pay \$3.25 million to the American citizens.

~All the new territory acquired by the United States caused a new political issue in the US. Southerners wanted the new states to be slave states, while Northerners wanted the territory to be free. After much debate the United States worked out the Compromise of 1850. As part of the agreement, California would enter as a free state and the remaining territory would decide for themselves if they wanted to be a slave or free state.

Big Idea:

Why was the boundary between Texas and Mexico disputed in the first place?

Because Mexico never recognized Texas' independence

Why was the new territory gained in the Mexican American War such a problem for the United States?

It tipped the balance of slave + free states in Congress. It would give the southern slave states more power. Arguments began over the new states in the acquired territory

Lesson 4:

Census- An official count of the people living in an area.

Antebellum- Referring to the decades before the Civil War.

New Arrivals From America:

~The population of Texas grew rapidly during the early statehood period.

~Texas was one of the most diverse states in the Union. Made up of settlers from many different southern states, African Americans, Native Americans, and Europeans.

~The largest group of citizens were Mexican. They faced prejudice from many Anglo citizens.

~ African Americans were the next largest group in antebellum Texas. Most were enslaved.

While Texas encouraged settlement, free African Americans were not allowed.

~Most of the Native Americans left Texas, with the exception of the Alabama and Caushatta, who had helped settlers during the Runaway Scrape, and were seen favorably by the Texans.

New European Arrivals:

~Many Europeans came to Texas because of the free or cheap land. Some also came to escape problems in their homeland.

~The Irish came when a fungus infected the potato crops.

~Texas offered escape from prejudice, promise of economic opportunities, and political freedom.

~ The largest group of immigrants came from Germany.

Big Idea:

How would these diverse groups immigrating to Texas influence life?

They model towns off of their homeland. It changed the architecture, cuisine + customs of Texas.

How could this diverse group be a problem for Texas government?

The more diverse the group, the harder to please the people. Conflicts arise between groups.