

Mercantilism and Staple Resources (Pages 98-99)

1) What is a "staple" resource? What were Canada's staple resources?

A staple is a product that dominates an economy's exports.

fish, furs, timber and wheat from the colonies to the more advanced economies of France and England influenced not only the economic development of Canada but its social

2) What initially motivated the Europeans to expand? What did they find? European expansionism was motivated by the desire to find the same vast supplies of gold and silver that the Spanish had in the fifteenth century. and political development as well.

3) What is mercantilism? What was its purpose?

Mercantilism was the primary economic system of trade used from the 16th to 18th century.

4) How did exporting staple goods benefit colonies?

They started to build their economy after selling so much and made more money.

5) Summarize what the "Staple Thesis" argues. Growth and development of colonial economies was dependent on the nature and value of staple

Harold Innis staple thesis argues that European expansionism and colonization were motivated by the desire to export staples to enrich the homeland.

Staples shaped both economic development and settlement patterns in the colonial hinterland. 1) manufacturing 2) flexibility 3) "staples trap" rely on staples

Heartland: a region that is the economic centre of a country or empire.

Hinterland: a region that provides the resources needed by the heartland.

Feeding Europe: The Cod Fishery (Pages 99-101)

1) Why did the Europeans turn to fish in the late 1400s? Where was the abundance of fish found?

Europe was facing a crisis in its ability to meet its food supply requirements. The discovery of an abundant supply of fish was found on the Grand Banks near Newfoundland.

2) Who discovered the abundance of fish? What happened as a result of England not having a monopoly over fishing?

John Cabot was the first explorer to find the supply of fish. English fishing fleets were soon joined in waters by French, Portuguese, Dutch, and Spanish fleets.

3) What are the 2 harvesting methods for fish and how were they done?

The 2 methods are wet and dry. Wet fishing began with fishers netting fish swarming off the side of the ship. It was brought on board to be cleaned and filleted, then preserved with a lot of salt and sent to Europe. Dry fishing, the fish were taken onshore, they were cleaned, split, and lightly salted. They were then dried naturally on wooden racks.

4) Why did the English use the dry method? What did the demands of this method lead to?

The English used dry fishing b/c they lacked a reliable supply of salt. Since fishers had to work on shore, the English built seasonal fishing stations along the Atlantic coast. This led to permanent settlements.

5) What were the impacts of the Cod Fishery?

Since cured fish could be easily exported to Europe, there was no real incentive for local business to develop around the fishing industry. There was little need for Europeans to develop roads or establish agriculture settlements.

The Fur Trade: Fashion from the Hinterland (Pages 101-103)

1) How did the resource of fur come to be found and by who?

If the English, by way of John Cabot, had the good fortune to stumble upon the Grand Banks, the French had similar luck due to Jacques Cartier's forays into the interior of the continent.

2) What was the most popular fur? What was it used for?

Of all the fur-bearing animals, the beaver was the most coveted. Its fine, felt-like inner fur was an excellent material for crafting stylish felt hats.

3) Why was the fur trade more challenging than the cod fishery? How was this overcome?

Obtaining furs, however, was a greater challenge to the European. Unlike fishing, the process of hunting and trapping animals for furs was an activity in which the explorer had little experience.

4) How did the Huron use French dependence on them to their advantage?

The Wendat saw this dependence as a tool in aiding them against their rivals.

5) What company was created in 1670? What was it founded in response to?

The Hudson's Bay Company.

They wanted to be a part of the fur trade.

6) When and why did the rivalry end?

The rivalry ended after New France became a British colony in 1763 and all French claims to the fur trade were terminated.

7) What was the impact of the Fur Trade?

The Europeans who owned and ran the fur trade made lots of money. And they got to know knowledge of North America.

It was beneficial for Aborigines at first but then costs of disease & warfare hurt their population.

Timber "For Wooden Ships and Iron Men" (Pages 103-105)

1) Why was timber an important staple?

Timber was an important staple b/c there was plenty of timber and it marked the beginning of full-scale development of the colonial economies.

2) What happened in New England that cut European timber supplies?

New England cut European timber supplies off because of the outbreak of the American Revolution. New America became independent, now known as the U.S.A.

3) What is the Preferential Trade Status and what did it do for the colonies?

Preferential Trade status is having favorable terms of trade with a trading partner. It gave the colonies an advantage in selling to Britain, the richest market in the world.

4) What was the impact of the Timber Trade?

The impact of the Timber trade was that timber provided an opportunity for the creation of secondary industry in the colonies. Traditional shipbuilding began to decline over time. Steel replaced even traditional wood schooners.

5) Describe the Timber Industry process. What was not considered?

The timber industry revolved around the process of cutting down and hauling trees from the interior areas, then floating the logs downriver to ports for export. The concept of conservation was not part of their thinking because they believed the great pines would last forever.

Wheat: A Symbol of Canadian Agriculture (Pages 105-106)

1) What led to Britain to turn to its colonies for wheat?

Uncertain trade opportunities in Europe motivated Britain to seek a reliable supply of wheat and grain. Trading wheat with other countries is expensive so they traded with their own colonies which was for free.

2) What was the impact of the Wheat Trade?

As the wheat industry flourished, the population expanded. New settlements sprung up across the region. More roads and canals were built to provide greater mobility and access to other resources, and flour mills were built to process grain. The economic boom by wheat trade was the beginning of central Canada's place as the nation's economic heartland.

Repealing Preferential Trade Status

3) Why did people object the Preferential Trade Status?

Although it encouraged commerce with the colonies, the policy was not widely embraced in Britain, because high tariffs on foreign products stifled trade with other countries.

4) What was the impact of tariffs?

Without the tariff advantage, colonial farmers had difficulty competing in an open market, in which lower-priced European goods could be transported to Britain at a fraction of the cost of transatlantic transport. As to Canadian farmers, lucrative markets that dried up. So they looked back to United States market to fill the void.

Reciprocity

5) What was the Reciprocity Treaty?

A mutual exchange of privileges between two trading nations.

