15-3 Notes

* Vikings conquered part of western France across the English Channel from England. This region came to be called Normandy, after the Vikings, or Norsemen, who ruled it.
* William (the Conqueror) a descendant of the Viking ruler who had conquered Normandy, fought the Battle of Hastings and became the King of England. He wanted to know all about his kingdom, so he took the first census since Roman times known as the Domesday Book.
* Henry II – used law courts to increase his power. He set up juries to handle arguments over land. He also established common law, or law that was the same throughout the whole kingdom.
* Grand jury – decided whether people should be accused of a crime.
* Trial jury – decided whether an accused person was innocent of guilty of a crime
* Nobles met with King John and forced him to sign a document of rights called the Magna Carta. It took away some of the kings’ rights. It established that all people have rights.
* In the 1200s, another English King, Edward I, called for a meeting of the people from different parts of England to advise him and help him make the laws. This gathering was called the Parliament, England’s first step toward representative government. England’s government is still called Parliament today.
* The French had social classes called estates. First estate: clergy – people who have been ordained as priests. Second estate: nobles. Third estate – peasants.
* Estates general – a meeting of France’s first parliament- its first step toward representative gov’t.
* Vikings ruled a group of small territories in Eastern Europe called the Kievan Rus.
* Moscow (Russia) became important because it was a tradimg center. Ivan the Great (III) called himself czar – which is the shorter version of Caesar and means emperor.
* Crusade is a holy war. This war is between the Muslims (Turks) and the Christians.
* There were 10 crusades in all. The First Crusade was won by the Christians. The Second Crusade was won the Muslims as were all the rest.
* The Crusades affected Europe in two ways: (1) it increased trade between Europe and the Middle East (2) it helped break down feudalism