18-4 Notes

* European colonies in North America developed differently from each other and from Europe.
* French explorer Samuel de Champlain set up a fur trading post named Quebec which became the capital of the colony of New France.
* English settlers came to North America to make money, have religious freedom and have a chance to own land for themselves.
* The first permanent English settlement in North America was Jamestown belonging to the colony of Virginia.
* A cash crop is grown in large quantities to sell for profit. Tobacco became the first cash crop of the English colonies.
* By the 1700s the English had created 13 colonies which now wanted to govern themselves.
* The colonists set up a representative government – a gov’t in which people elect representatives to make laws and conduct government.
* Constitution – a written plan of government
* To control trade, Britain passed the Navigation Acts in which they controlled where Americans could sell their goods.
* The French and British fought for control of North America. The British won the war but it left them in debt so they made plans to tax the colonists and tighten trade rules.
* The taxes led to protests and the protests led the Americans to revolt.
* The Americans formed a new nation, The United States of America. The War of Independence began in 1775.
* George Washington was named the head of the Continental Army while Congress tried to settle their differences with Great Britain, but King George III refused to listen.
* Thomas Paine wrote a pamphlet called *Common Sense* which urged the colonists to separate from Great Britain.
* On July 4, 1776 the Congress issued the Declaration of Independence, written by Thomas Jefferson. It stated that the colonies were separating from Great Britain and form a new nation, the USA.
* In 1783 Great Britain recognized American independence.
* In 1787 delegates met to write the new United States Constitution.
* In 1789 George Washington was elected the first president of the United States.
* Popular Sovereignty is the idea that government receives its powers from the people.
* Limited Government is the idea that a government may use only those powers given to it by the people.