

## Divisions & Democracy in France



## **As a Young Historian, I will be able to...**

- List the domestic and foreign policies of Napoleon III.
- Describe the challenges and political reforms of the Third Republic.
- Explain how the Dreyfus affair divided France and contributed to the growth of the Zionist movement.

# Napoleon III & Second Empire

Napoleon III ruled the country almost as dictator with the power to appoint officials

1860s, however, he eased control & wrote a new constitution with democratic rights

He began a massive urban renewal project of Paris & construction of railroads in France

**Suez Canal**- Canal in Egypt to link the Mediterranean with the Red Sea & Indian Ocean

# Policies in France

**Labor unions were allowed & public programs such as universal education helped move people from poverty**

**Napoleon III struggled in warfare & foreign affairs losing massive territory across Europe**

**The loss of the Franco-Prussian War starved the nation & France signed harsh peace treaty**

**France was no longer the dominate country & a deep resentment for Germany**



# Third Republic Struggles

The Third Republic takes control of the government & new problems arise

Rebels set up the Paris Commune to “save” the republic from those who supported royalty

A civil war broke out in Paris & the Paris Commune fought the military by setting fires, destroying monuments, & slaughtering hostages

After they were suppressed the government executed 30,000 communards

# MORE Struggles!

Government remained in power for 30 years & lead by a **premier**- Prime Minister of France

Various parties would combine into **coalitions**- alliances of various parties, to gain votes

France does pay back war damages to Germany & began to expand Empire overseas.

Various scandals rock the country such as the Minister of War Boulanger plotting to overthrow environment



# The Dreyfus Affair

**Captain Alfred Dreyfus of the French Army is charged with treason starting a controversy**

**Accused of spying for Germany, but most likely due to antisemitism, imprisoned on Devil's Island**

**Trial split the nation causing tension as some believed Dreyfus innocent**

**French Novelist Emile Zola writes a charge against suppression in the country, charged with...**

**Libel-** the knowing publication of false & damaging statements

# Anti-Semitism in Europe

People began to accuse Jews for economic & social issues & began extreme hatred for them

**Zionism**- Jews began to believe they needed their own nation state in their own Homeland



# Reforms in France

Laws regulating wages, work hours, & safety conditions for workers

New laws promoting the separation of church & state were implemented

1896- Women could have control over their own earnings

French Union for Women's Suffrage fought for the right to vote