

Social Studies
Chapter 8, Lesson 2
Colonists Speak Out
Notes

Name: _____ #: _____ Date: _____

❖ The Stamp Act

- put tax on many paper items in the colonies
- newspapers, legal documents, playing cards, etc.
- No Taxation Without Representation
 - colonists said Britain could not tax them because they had no representation in Parliament
 - Mercy Otis Warren
 - Massachusetts write who disagreed with the new tax
 - wrote plays that accused British leaders of being greedy
 - Patrick Henry
 - from Virginia
 - told House of Burgesses that Parliament did not represent the colonists
 - accused of treason
 - October 1765
 - representatives from nine colonies met in New York City
 - became known as the Stamp Act Congress
 - colonial speakers spoke out against the Stamp Act

❖ Colonists Work Together

- tried to force Britain to take back the Stamp Act
 - wrote letters to Parliament
 - chose not to buy taxed goods
 - boycotted all British goods

- The Sons and Daughters of Liberty
 - Sons of Liberty
 - captured British workers who tried to collect taxes
 - tarred and feathered tax collectors
 - chased tax collectors out of town
 - Daughters of Liberty
 - spun thread and wove their own cloth instead of buying British cloth
- The Stamp Act is Repealed
 - 1766 Stamp Act repealed
 - Declaratory Act
 - Britain had "full power...to make laws...[for the] people of America...in all cases."
 - worried the colonists
- Committees of Correspondence
 - colonists needed better ways to share information
 - formed Committee of Correspondence to spread information between colonies more quickly
 - Samuel Adams
 - organized the first Committee of Correspondence in 1764
 - spoke out against British imperial policies
 - committee member in each colony wrote letters to other cities and towns
 - asked people to protest British policies
- ❖ The Townshend Acts
 - 1767—Parliament passed the Townshend Acts
 - glass, tea, paint, and paper brought into the colonies
 - set up new group of tax collectors
 - Parliament believed it still had the right to make laws for the colonists

- More Boycotts
 - Daughters of Liberty---asked people to stop drinking British tea
 - merchants in Boston would not import taxed goods
- Townshend Acts didn't last long
 - 1770---acts repealed except for tax on tea
- more soldiers sent to the colonies due to protests
 - 1770---9,000 British soldiers in the colonies
 - 4,000 of them were stationed in Boston

❖ The Boston Massacre

- having British soldiers in their towns made many colonists angry
- called soldiers: "lobsters", "lobsterbacks", "redcoats"
- soldiers became angry and destroyed colonial property
- Shots Are Fired
 - March 17, 1770
 - angry colonists shouted at soldiers and threw rocks and snowballs at them
 - crowd knocked down a soldier
 - soldiers opened fire killing five colonists
 - Crispus Attucks---first person killed in the fight for the colonies' freedom
 - Paul Revere
 - Boston silversmith
 - created *The Bloody Massacre*

❖ Patrick Henry

- *"I know not what course others may take: but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"*

- spoke these words during a speech to the Virginia House of Burgesses to persuade them to prepare for war against the British
- well known as a public speaker
- became one of the most important voices among colonists who were against British rule
- encouraged colonists to think of themselves as Americans
- words and speeches helped unite Americans