

STRENGTHENING GERMANY

- I. The German Industrial Giant
 - a. End of Franco-Prussian War 1871 – peace at Versailles
 - i. symbolize shift in power from France to Germany
 - b. Germany becomes dominant industrial power
 - i. lead in chemical, electrical, second in shipping
 - c. Economic progress
 - i. Reasons for success
 - 1. lots of iron and coal
 - 2. large growing workforce
 - 3. railroads developed
 - d. Science government and industry
 - i. Industrialists used science to improve products
 - 1. develop synthetic chemicals and dyes
 - 2. very supportive of research and development
 - ii. Germany develop one currency, railroad, banking system to strengthen self against market forces
- II. Iron Chancellor
 - a. Bismark's foreign policy objectives
 - i. Keep France weak and isolated
 - ii. strengthen ties to Austria and Russia
 - iii. respect England's navy – didn't want to fight with them
 - b. Bismark's domestic policy objectives
 - i. crush local loyalties and opposition
 - ii. target Catholics and socialists
 - c. Campaign against Church
 - i. Catholics were 1/3 of Germany
 - ii. Bismark didn't trust, thought were loyal to Pope
 - iii. Kulturkampf – battle of civilization
 - 1. to force Catholic loyalty
 - 2. government to supervise Catholic education
 - 3. government approve appointment of Catholic priests
 - 4. couples had to be married by government
 - 5. backfires – people move to Catholic political parties away from Bismark, so Bismark backs down
 - d. Campaign against socialists
 - i. Marx organize Social Democrat party
 - 1. called for parliamentary democracy
 - 2. called for improvement in working conditions
 - ii. Bismark fear socialists wouldn't be loyal to government
 - 1. dissolve parties, ban papers, etc
 - a. repression spark sympathy for cause
 - 2. realpolitik – try to attract workers away from socialist with protecting their rights
 - a. health, accident insurance

- b. pioneer of social reform
 - iii. Social Democrat party still grow in size and power
 - 1. become largest party in Reichstag by 1912
 - iv. Tell workers they can get better condition without revolution
- III. Confident new Kaiser
 - a. 1888 – William II become Kaiser
 - b. Ask Bismark to resign because Kaiser wanted to be only ruler
 - i. Believed in divine right
 - c. Resist democracy
 - d. Provide some social welfare (health, education)
 - e. Schools focus on obedience
 - i. Implications for WWII – growth of Nazism and German reaction
 - f. Build up military
 - g. Try to build overseas empire to compete with England and France
 - h.