**NL Studies 2205 Study Notes**

**Unit Three**

**Section 3.1: Settling In (p. 180)**

* More and more people beginning to move to Newfoundland permanently
* Merchants liked it because they didn’t have as much risk, residents fished and the merchants bought the fish from them
* Wars between Britain and France and Britain and the U.S. caused problems for shipping supplies and workers for a migratory fishery so it was easier for people to live here permanently
* A lot of young men were forced to go into the British Navy so that meant there was a shortage of people to move to Newfoundland-it made more sense for people to move here permanently
* By 1815, residents of Newfoundland were catching all the fish that the merchants needed

**Section 3.2: Those who Settled (p. 184)**

* Settlement in NL was different from other parts of North America:
1. Almost all our settlers came for England and Ireland with some from Scotland, Channel Islands and France
2. Settlement in NL was encouraged by merchants, it often wasn’t an individual choice
* English Immigration (why did the English come to NL)
	+ Several push and pull factors brought people to NL-Push (forced people out of Europe) and Pull (something about NL that drew people here)
	+ Some push factors were boredom, poverty, and low wages
	+ Some pull factors were good wages, freedom, and adventure
	+ Demand for fish in England was increasing and good chance for young teenage men to get work in NL
	+ Merchants actively advertised jobs in NL as servants and planters
	+ Contracts required men to stay for several years
* Irish Immigration (why did the Irish come to NL)
	+ Potato famine of the 1730’s and 40’s, people were starving and out of work
	+ The country was running out of land and families had no more land to hand down to their sons
	+ Young Irish people saw Newfoundland has a place to get work
* Scottish Immigration (why did the Scottish come to NL)
	+ Not many came until the 1800’s
	+ Most Scottish who came here were tradesmen and shipbuilders or involved in the merchant trade
	+ In the 1800’s some Scottish moved to Labrador to work with the Hudson Bay Company, but most stayed on the east coast of NL as far as Trinity
	+ In the 1860’s some Scottish immigrants came to NL’s west coast from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia
* French Immigration (why did the French come to NL)
	+ They were attracted to the fishery as well
	+ Permanent French settlement in Placentia in 1662
	+ In time, a small number of settlers moved around the island in areas known as the Treaty Shore, named after the Treaty of Utrecht that was signed between Britain and France-most moved to the Port au Port Peninsula on the west coast around the areas of Stephenville today
	+ By the middle of the 1800’s, there were a lot of Acadians who moved to the west coast from Nova Scotia

**Section 3.3: The Resident Fishery (p. 200)**

* **Shore Fishery**
* Resident fishers were involved in a shore fishery with small boats which involved going out in the morning and coming back with the catch in the evening to begin drying and salting it
* This job was done by family members
* There were also people who were hired, called “sharemen” who would help and then take part of the profits.
* New technology was introduce (dories, long lines or bultows, the cod trap,
* Labrador Fishery
	+ During the early 1800’s the demand for fish in Europe was high and some of it was starting to be overfished and disappearing in the traditional areas around conception bay and trinity bay
	+ People started going to the coast of Labrador for the summer months to catch fish-they would go in large schooners and sometimes take their families
	+ Labrador fishery had two groups ***stationers*** (lived on shore) and ***floaters*** (lived on the schooners and fished from them)
	+ Floaters packed their fish in salt and brought it back to NL in the fall, the stationers dried their fish on shore during the summer
	+ Over time, some Labrador fishers decided to stay on the Labrador coast, most lived along the Labrador straits and southern Labrador
* Seal Fishery
	+ Commercial seal fishery began in the 1700’s
	+ Early on it was done from shore with fishermen catching them in nets
	+ Most seals are found along the northern peninsula, southern Labrador and along the north east coast outside of Twillingate-as a result people started moving to these areas to catch seals
	+ Eventually it became an enterprise where large ships would leave St. John’s and then go “to the front” to hunt seals
	+ At its peak in the 1830’s and 40’s the seal fishery in NL employed 14 000 men
	+ The pelts were used to make clothing and the seal oil was used to light street lamps and home lamps in Europe. It was also used for making soap and as a lubricant
	+ Seal hunt was risky for everyone- the merchants risked losing ships in the ice or didn’t make any money because they didn’t find enough seals
	+ It was dangerous work for the sealers-living conditions on the sealing boats were horrible with only bare food and the dangers of getting lost in snowstorms on the moving ice, falling in the ocean, etc.
* Bank Fishery
	+ Oldest fishery in NL- carried out by French, Spanish, Portuguese, and English from the 1500’s
	+ Carried out on the Grand Banks off the south coast of the Avalon Peninsula
	+ Fishery ran from March to October
	+ The schooners were anchored in a favourable place and the men would go out and fish from dories
	+ Bad weather, fog and heavy gales of winds made this very dangerous work

**Section 3.4: The Role of the Merchants (p. 218)**

* Early on in the 1800’s the merchants were in England and controlled the fishery in Newfoundland
* By the middle of the1800’s there were lots of merchants in St. John’s, Trinity, and Bonavista that controlled the fishery in Newfoundland
* This was a credit system- fishermen would get all the supplies they needed for the fishery and their families and in the fall, the fishermen would give their catch to the merchant which the merchant would grade and set the price for
* Fishermen were often in debt and in some cases this debt was passed on to their children
* The merchant also risked never getting their money back
* The advantage for the fishermen was that he could live and work even when there was no fishing to be done during the winter
* This system also slowed down the economic growth of Newfoundland, produced poor quality of fish

**Section 3.5: Life and Culture (p. 220)**

* The seasonal round
	+ Life centred around the cod fishery that lasted from May to November
	+ Fishermen would go sealing from February and March
	+ Subsistence farming (growing garden vegetables for food source) would begin with planting in late May or early June and harvested in September and October
	+ Berries were picked in September and stored for the winter
	+ December and February was spent cutting wood for buildings, firewood and fixing boats
	+ During late February, nets were fixed and everything was geared for getting ready for the fishery

**Section 3.6: World’s Collide (p. 232)**

* Beothuk
	+ Beothuk were encroached upon during the 17 and 1800’s
	+ As settlers moved into Notre Dame Bay, the lifestyle of the Beothuk was interrupted
	+ Beothuk would go to Notre Dame Bay during summer months to catch salmon in the rivers, shore birds and other fish species-during the winter they moved inland around Red Indian Lake to hunt caribou
	+ When the European settlers moved to this area, conflict began
	+ Most due to lack of communication
	+ European settlers drove the Beothuk from the rivers and often shot them whenever they were around-Beothuk would retaliate by killing settlers, burning their fishing gear and stealing materials
	+ Boethuk were eventually driven inland permanently where they were tracked by English settlers which caused more problems like the spread of disease and more violence-they would become extinct by the early 1800’s

**Section 3.7: Representative Government (p. 246)**

* Outline NL succession of Government up to 1832?
* In Europe and Americas, we see a movement towards democracy in the 1700’s and 1800’s
* American declaration of Independence 1776
* France-The Rights of Man 1791
* Idea that people should be “citizens” not “subjects”
* With a growing resident population there was a need for a better type of government
* Year around governor was sent to Newfoundland from Britain in 1817
* 1825 Newfoundland given colonial status
* People felt that we should be able to elect representatives to sit in the British government like other colonies such as Nova Scotia and Upper and Lower Canada
* Leaders of Representative government were William Carson and Patrick Morris
* They argued that Newfoundland needed more democracy to get more prosperity
* To see the structure-See page 248
* Representative Government was granted to Newfoundland in 1832, some efforts were:
* Main expenses were courts, jails, upkeep of public buildings, expenses of legislature and helping the poor
* Small amount spent on roads and bridges
* Lighthouses along the coast
* Health and Education left to the churches
* Government provided about 100 jobs, there was no taxes and money came from importing/exporting goods

**Section 3.8: Responsible Government (p. 252)**

* Responsible govt was modeled on the British System
* The executive council which we today call the government had to be drawn mostly from members of the political party holding the most seats elected in the House of Assembly.
* The political party that won the most seats, formed the government and the leader of that party then became the Prime Minister
* Responsible government did not mean complete independence
* The British government kept all final say on laws and policies of Newfoundland
* See the flow chart on p. 253 to see how this system was set up
* The push for Responsible government had been driven by an alliance between the Catholic and Methodist members of the Liberal party
* Both groups resented what they perceived as a control of the Newfoundland political power by a British elite with no hope for the lower classes of people
* The first government under responsible government was Liberal built on a Catholic-Methodist alliance
* People realized that a dependence on the fishery was problematic
* Some people argued we needed more industries and the way to it was to build a railway to be able to reach the mineral and timber resources in the interior of Newfoundland

**Section 3.9: Autonomy (p. 256)**

* Section looks at the debate about Newfoundland joining Canada in the 1800’s
* There was no real interest in the idea of confederation, but there were people who argued both sides of the issue
* The Anti-Confederates believed that
	+ Taxes would be increased if we joined Canada
	+ Federal tariffs (taxes) to protect mainland industry would make it hard to get Newfoundland goods sold on the mainland
	+ There was no evidence that confederation would be any good for Newfoundland
	+ Newfoundland was part of the North American world, but because we were an island we were not a part of the continent
	+ Confederation would remove Catholic schools and government share of Catholic patronage
* The Pro-Confederates believed that
	+ Taxes in Newfoundland would be reduced
	+ Joining Canada would strengthen Newfoundland’s economy and Canadians would invest money in Newfoundland business and industry
	+ Newfoundland would be better off joining the new North American world instead of staying a part of the old North Atlantic world
	+ Newfoundland would improve public service in Newfoundland like education and healthcare.