

THE MANITOBA SYLLABUS OF BRITISH HISTORY

By D. C. Harvey and G. J. Reeve

The history section of the M. E. A. Convention at its meeting of Easter, 1918, passed unanimously a resolution which warmly commended the action of the advisory board in introducing a syllabus in British history, and sought to have the syllabus made a permanent feature in this subject.

A precisely similar course was taken by the committee of sub-examiners in history at a meeting held at the Normal School early in July.

A desire for a re-issue of the syllabus was very generally expressed; thanks to the courtesy of The Western School Journal, we can now submit a thoroughly revised and improved edition of the syllabus to the teachers of the province.

SYLLABUS

The lessons are grouped under the following main headings:

I. The Foundations of England (up to 1066).

II. England in the Middle Ages (1066-1485).

A. Experiment (1066-1272).

B. Consolidation (1272-1485).

III. The New Monarchy (1485-1603).

IV. Struggle for Sovereignty between the King and Parliament (1603-1783).

V. The Expansion of England in the 17th and 18th Centuries.

VI. Modern Britain (from the Industrial Revolution to the present day).

I.—The Foundations of England
(—1066)

1. Roman Britain: Extent, character and effects of Roman occupation of Britain.
2. The Saxon Conquest: (a) Character and extent of Saxon conquest. (b) Free village community of the Saxons.
- 3, 4. The Church Before the Norman Conquest: (a) The Conversions: Patrick, Columba, Augustine. (b) Roman vs. Celtic Christianity and the Whitby Settlement. (c) Organization under Theodore of Tarsus, and its effects. (d) Bede and Dunstan. (e) Church on eve of conquest.

5. The Coming of the Danes: (a) Their raids and settlements. (b) Influence upon England. (c) Rise of Wessex and work of Alfred.

6. Anglo-Saxon Government: (a) Monarchy; moots; judicial procedure; taxation. (b) Weakness of this Government.

7, 8. The Struggle for the Possession of England: (a) The Danish Conquest: causes, effects, temporary nature. (b) The Coming of the Normans: 1. In the Reign of Edward the Confessor. 2. In the Hastings campaign.

II.—England in the Middle Ages
(1066-1485)

A. Experiment: Norman Ideas vs. Saxon Ideas (1066-1272)

9, 10. Feudalism: (a) A system of land tenure: king, tenants-in-chief, knights, villeins. (b) A system of government: military, judicial, financial. (c) Chivalry and the Crusades.

11, 12, 13. Feudalism vs. the Central Power: (a) 1. William's claim to be direct heir of Edward the Confessor.

2. The Salisbury Oath. (b) Baronial struggles for independence, particularly under Stephen. (c) The reforms of Henry II.

1. Restoration of order. 2. Sheriffs; assize of arms; extension of royal justice; uses of jury. (d) Baronial attempts to control the Central Power: The Charter.

1. Events leading to the Charter. 2. Main terms of the Charter. 3. Results of the Charter: King under Law. (e) Adoption of Representative Principle (De Montfort).

14, 15. Church and State: (a) Separation of Courts and Norman Revival (William I). (b) Struggle about Investitures (Henry I). (c) Dispute over Courts (Henry II). (d) Quarrel with Pope over Election (John). (e) Monks, Friars, Universities.

16, 17. Relations of England with Continent—premature imperialism: 1. Normandy. (a) Effects of its possession upon king, barons, trade. (b) Circumstances of its loss. (c) Effects of its loss. 2. The Angevin Empire: Its origin, extent (map), its gradual loss.