

The Making of the Modern Britain State

I. Basic Data and Geography

II. A State of Unions

III. Major Trends in British National
Development

A. Parliamentary Government

B. Popular Democracy

C. Industry and Empire

IV. The Early 20th Century

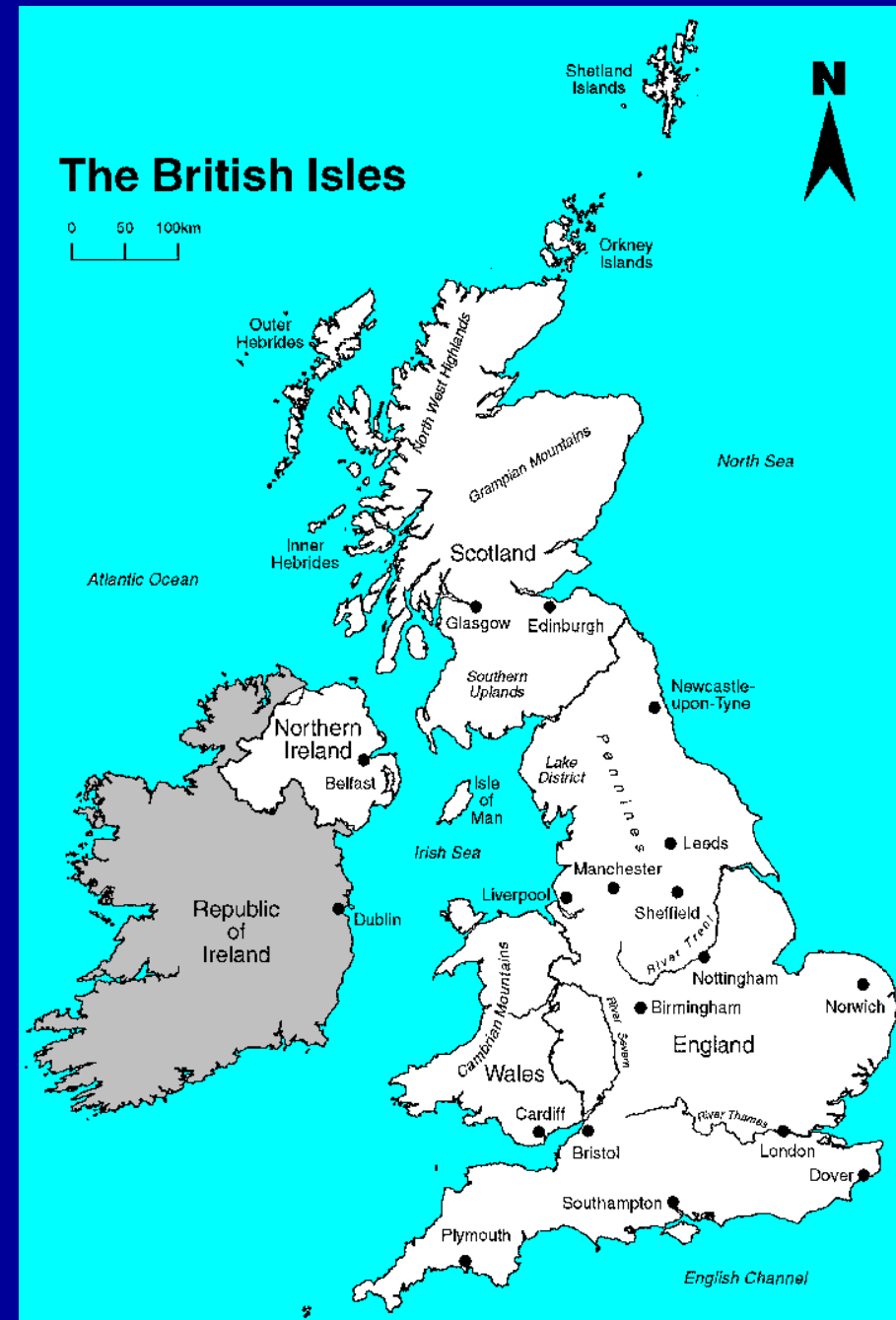


Basic Data

- **Population:** 61 million
 - Multinational state made up of the English, Scots, Welsh, and Irish
 - Ethnically is 92% white, 3% south Asian (India & Pakistan), 2% black, 1.5% mixed race; 1.5% various other
- **Land:** 245K sq. km – slightly smaller than Oregon
- **Economy:** GDP = \$2.5 trillion (8th largest in the world); per capita GDP: \$37,500 (3rd among G-7; US = \$48,100)
- **Government:** Constitutional monarchy with a bicameral parliamentary system
 - Member of UN Security Council, NATO, and EU (among others)
 - Joined EU in 1973; does NOT use the euro

Geography

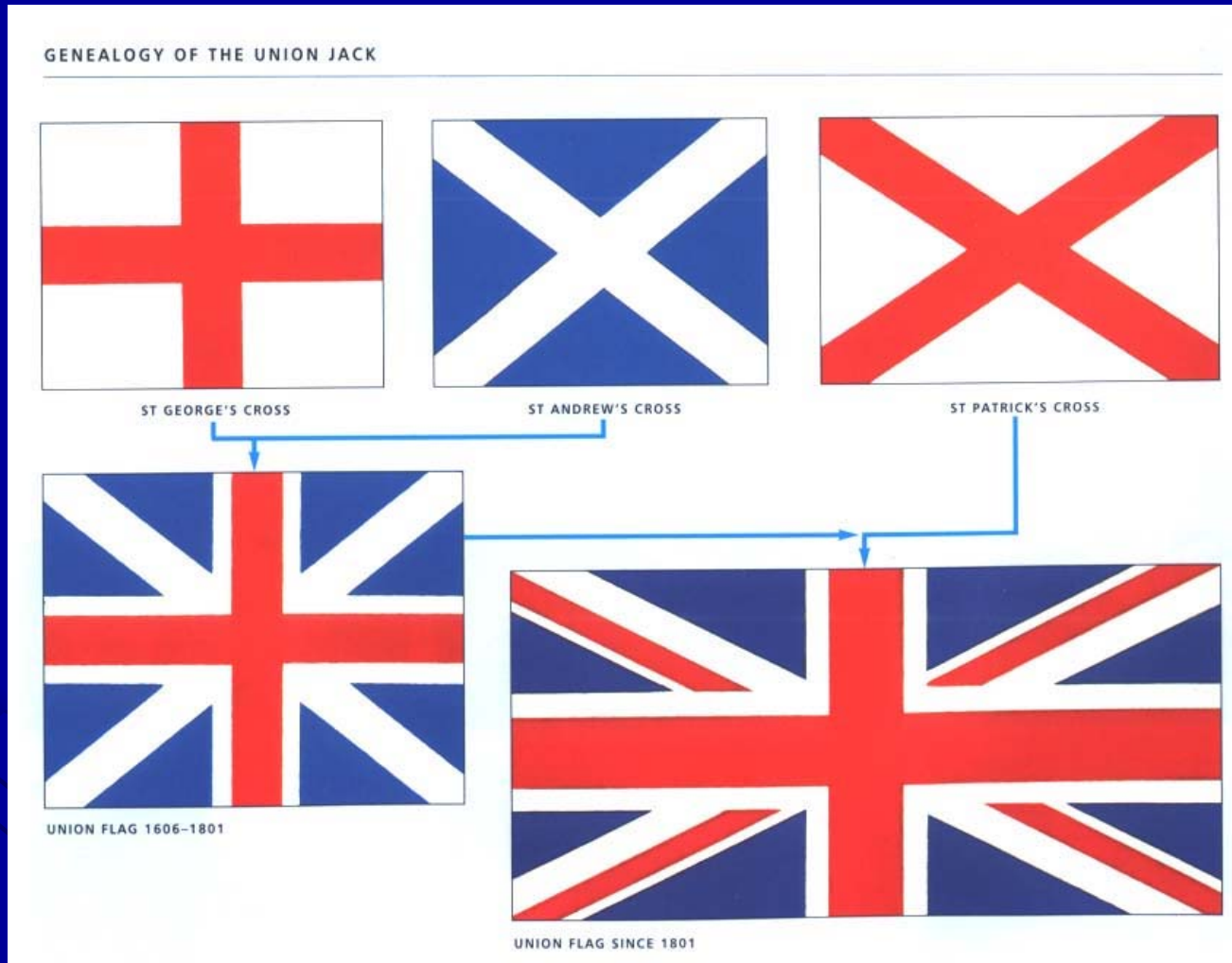
- British Isles
- United Kingdom
- Great Britain
- England (and parts)
- Dominance of London



Britain as a 'State of Unions'

- Modern state developed as other states were united with English Crown
 - Wales (1536)
 - Scotland (1707)
 - Ireland (1801)
 - Separation of southern Ireland
 - Irish Free State (1922-37); Republic of Ireland (1937-Present)
 - Northern Ireland (Ulster) remains part of UK
- Hence 'United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland'

The “Union Jack”



Full Name: “The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland”

State Developing: Parliamentary Government

- **Magna Carta (1215)**
- **Tudors and Break with Rome**
- **Stuarts Monarchy (James I)**
- **Charles I & English Civil War (1642-51)**
- **Oliver Cromwell's Commonwealth**
- **Stuart Restoration (Charles II and James II)**
- **Glorious Revolution (1688) and Bill of Rights (1689)**
- **Cabinet Government**

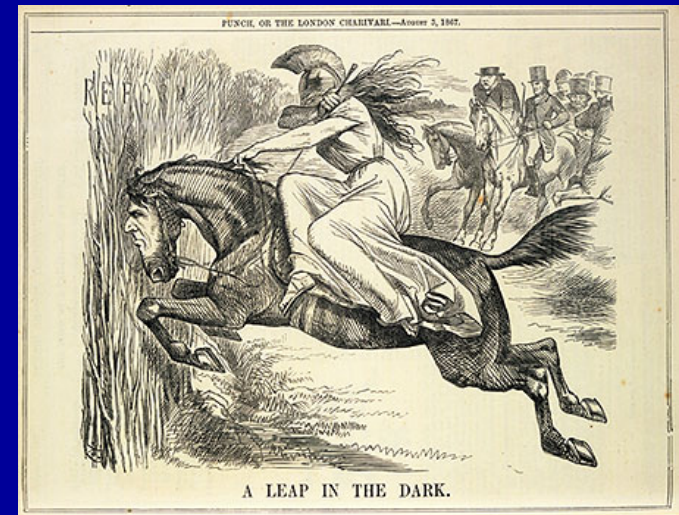


Charles I...
Lost his head

Popular Democracy

- American and French Revolutions
- Industrialization and the 'Industrial Elite'
- First Reform Act (1832)
- Second Reform Act (1867)
 - 1884: included almost all working males
 - 1918: married women
 - 1928: Single Women over 21
 - 1969: lowered from 21 to 18
- Stripping House of Lords of (most) power (1911)

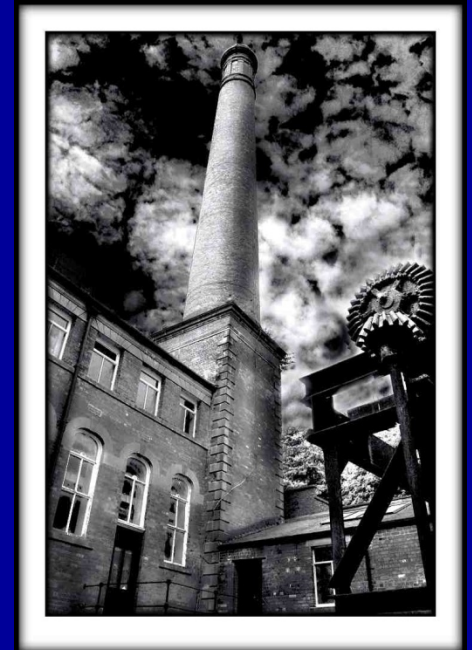
Democracy...a 'leap in the dark'



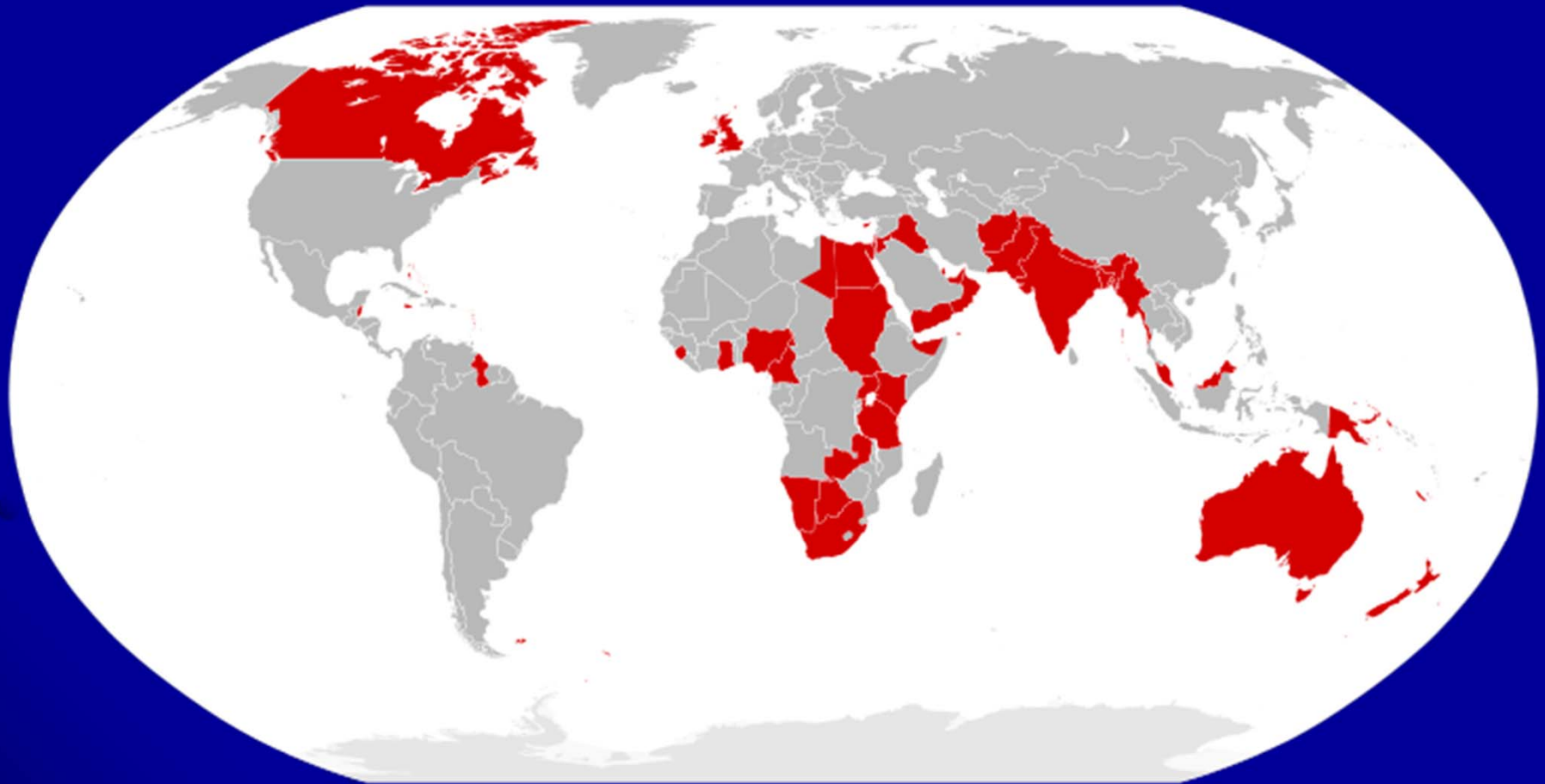
Industrialization and Empire

- 1870: $\frac{1}{4}$ of all manufactured production from UK
- 1905: About $\frac{1}{4}$ of all people on earth
- Pervasive Problem of Decline
 - Catch-Up on Industrialization (US, Germany)
 - Decolonization
 - World Wars
- **Postwar Decline**
 - **2nd largest industrial power in 1950**

Britain's 'Dark Satanic Mills'



The British Empire circa 1919



IV. The Early 20th Century

- The First World War Experience
- Britain in the Great Depression
- The Failure of Appeasement
- Britain in the Second World War
 - Battle of Britain (July 1940-June 1941)
 - The Domestic Legacy of the War



Keeping the
Cabinet in
line during
the Battle of
Britain...



“Please understand that there is not depression in this house and we are not interested in the possibilities of defeat. They do not exist” (quote from Queen Victoria during the Boer War)