

The 1920's

Outcome: Transition America

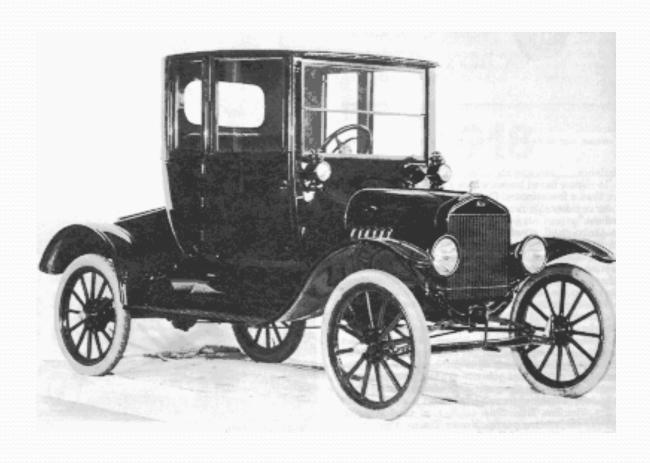


- 1. After World War I, America saw many new changes or transitions
 - a. Transition from war to peace
 - i. <u>Isolationist</u> spirit was strong after WWI
 - U.S. rejected Treaty of <u>Versailles</u> fearing involvement in the League of Nations would be another <u>entangling alliance</u>
 - 2. U.S. led <u>disarmament</u> talks w/1921 Wash. Naval conference which resulted in treaties that <u>reduced</u> the <u>navies</u> of several countries
 - 3. Efforts were made to outlaw <u>war</u> itself (1928 Kellogg-Briand Pact)
 - 4. U.S. attitude: "Leave **Europe** alone!"
 - 5. Inward focus caused new forms of <u>entertainment</u> to occur such as <u>sports</u>, <u>movies</u>, <u>radio</u>, & <u>travel</u>

- Nationalism swept over the country following WWI
 - 1. Xenophobia: a fear of <u>immigrants</u> and nativism intensified
 - 2. New <u>ideas</u> were viewed as a threat to national <u>security</u> (paranoia?)
 - 3. Fear of "Reds" or <u>communists</u> and <u>anarchists</u> (those against government) created a national hysteria
 - 4. Goal: to create a country of **pure** Americans
 - 5. Solutions
 - a. Immigration **<u>quotas</u>** (favored **N** & **W** Europe)
 - **b.** <u>Deportation</u> of suspected Reds
 - c. Terror and threats (The new Ku Klux Klan emerged)

- a. Transition from <u>rural</u> to urban (<u>51</u>% lived in cities)
 - i. The 1920 Census showed a population shift
 - 1. Farms changed: <u>larger and fewer and more mechanized</u>
 - 2. Black migration North: filled factory jobs during WWI
 - 3. Land shortage: <u>frontier closed in 1890</u>
 - 4. Urban attractions: <u>faster pace</u>; <u>entertainment</u>; <u>better jobs</u>
 - 5. **Automobile's impact**: <u>expanded</u> living & working <u>opportunities</u>, <u>liberated</u> rural families, <u>created jobs</u> in related industries

Model T



Rural vs. Urban







- ii. Values Clashed (Liberals and Conservatives)
 - 1. Conservatives: those who did like change; those who preferred the older or traditional ways
 - 2. Conservatives tended to be more rural
 - 3. Liberals: those who preferred newer, modern ways of life
 - 4. Liberals tended to be more <u>urban</u>



- iii. Rural <u>Conservatives</u> vs. Urban <u>Liberals</u>
 - Role of women "<u>Traditional</u>" vs. "<u>Flappers</u>"
 - 2. Prohibition (18th amend) "Drys" vs. "Wets"
 - The Economy: "<u>Cash</u>" vs. "<u>Credit</u>"
 - 4. Individual rights: "All are <u>not</u> equal" vs. "Equality" <u>for all</u> humans
 - 5. Man's origin: "Fundamentalism" vs. "Evolutionary Theory"
 - 6. The <u>car</u> and radio <u>sped</u> up this clash

- c. Transition from a <u>cash</u> economy to a credit economy
 - i. Attitude: "Be young, play, buy now, pay later"
 - 1. Excessive <u>advertising</u> became big business
 - 2. <u>Installment</u> Buying became all the rage

- ii. <u>Industries</u> prospered; <u>Farmers</u> suffered
 - 1. Farmers had borrowed \$ for <u>machinery</u> & <u>land</u> during the war
 - 2. Farmers lost <u>European markets</u> when the war ended, resulting in <u>over production</u> ----> <u>surplus</u> ----> <u>falling</u> crop prices

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- 1. Brokers a 10% dow
- 2. Results:
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 - b. The Sto



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Flappers





- d. Transition for women 1920's 1st great "<u>liberation</u>" movement
 - i. A small minority expressed their independence by becoming <u>flappers</u>
 - ii. Many sought new <u>employment</u> opportunities
 - Some began demanding greater <u>equality</u> in the marriage partnership