

- **Civil Service Exams-** Laws were passed requiring individuals to pass tests before obtaining government jobs in order to **eliminate patronage and corruption** in government hiring (prevent the people in the government from hiring their friends or accepting bribes). This was a reaction to the **Spoils System** (officials rewarding their supporters with government jobs).

### **Progressive Labor Movement/Unions**

**Labor Union-** An organization of employees formed to bargain with the employer in order to get certain things such as better working conditions, benefits, and pay. Business leaders opposed the efforts of Labor unions to organize and improve conditions. **Clayton Antitrust Act** made unions legal.

**Collective Bargaining-** Discussions between labor union leaders and management (owners/ bosses) to agree on a contract for workers.

**Wagner Act** (1935)- Legalized collective bargaining.

**Triangle Shirtwaist Company Fire-** Tragedy in which many women workers were killed in a factory fire. Drew national attention to the need to protect the safety of workers.

**Samuel Gompers-** Organized workers into unions in order to strive for better conditions and better pay.

**American Federation of Labor-** The first long-lasting, successful labor union in the U.S., because it fought for the rights of skilled workers, focused on gains in wages and working conditions, and was organized on a nationwide basis,

**Pure Food & Drug Act (1906)-** Law that provided federal inspection of meat products and forbade the manufacture, sale, or transportation of unsafe food products and poisonous medicines. Resulted from demands for direct **consumer protection**. Federal government was able to pass it because of the **elastic clause**.

**Meat Inspection Act-** Created **sanitary standards** established for slaughterhouses and meat processing plants. Passed as a result of writings of **muckrakers**. The publication of **The Jungle** by **Upton Sinclair** led congress to pass the law.

**Muckraker-** Writers during the progressive era that exposed social ills of inner cities, factory conditions, and political corruption. Focused on issues including the monopoly of Standard Oil, cattle processing, meat packing, child labor, and wages. Ex) **Upton Sinclair, Ida M Tarbell, Lincoln Steffens, Jacob Riis**.

**Populist Party-** A political coalition of **farming interests** directed against **banking and railroads**.

- A **third party** that eventually disappeared but **proposed ideas that later became law**.
- Expressed the discontent of many **farmers** with their ongoing economic problems.
- Proposed the **national income tax**, free and unlimited coinage of silver, **direct election of senators**, **government ownership of railroads**. Supported **anti-trust laws**.
- **Similar to the Progressive Party** because both **opposed** the strict **laissez-faire** attitudes of the federal government, and both wanted the use of **Federal power to correct social and economic problems**.

**Granger Movement-** Wanted to force **railroads to lower freight rates**. Wanted to pass laws increasing Federal regulation of monopolies. Supported by farmers in the west.

### **Theodore Roosevelt-**

- **New Nationalism-** Policy designed to help the U.S. solve problems caused by industrialization.
- **Square Deal-** Increased the role of the Federal Government in dealing with social and economic problems.

- **Trust Busting-** Had policies that encouraged competition in business by **attacking monopolies, trusts, pools,** etc. Became known as the ***Trustbuster***. Believed the **government should regulate big business**.
- **Big Stick Policy-** *"Walk softly but carry a big stick."* Policy that was used by the U.S. to police the Western Hemisphere and intervene in Latin American affairs. Wanted to prevent the extension of European control over Latin America.
- **Expanded the Monroe Doctrine-** Claimed the Monroe Doctrine permits the U.S. to intervene actively in the affairs of Latin American nations.
- U.S. influence in the Caribbean Sea region is significantly increased as a result of Roosevelt's policies.
- Helped negotiated the end of the Russo-Japanese war (war between Russia and Japan).
- A primary objective of his was to awaken public interest in **conservation efforts** (saving the environment). Set aside land for **national forests** and **water projects**.

### **U.S. Global Involvement/ Imperialism**

- Between the 1890's and the start of World War I (1914), the U.S. **expanded** its access to **overseas markets** and **raw materials** through the policy of **imperialism** (a policy of extending your rule over foreign countries).
- **Reasons for Imperialism-** Due to the **expansion of American industry** (big businesses and factories) during the 1800's, the **U.S. needed** to obtain **raw materials** and **new markets** (the U.S. needed more raw materials to make products and a place to sell those products).
- **Dollar Diplomacy** -attempted to **increase the U.S. power** in Latin America. Indicated a U.S. desire to interact with foreign countries in ways that were profitable to U.S. corporations. Corporations needed a place to sell surplus (extra) goods.
- U.S. practices **economic nationalism** by implementing **protective tariffs** to help American industry.
- **Protective Tariff-** A tax on foreign products making them more expensive so people will buy American products instead.
- **Open Door Policy (1899-1900)-** Issued in order to secure **equal trade opportunities** in China and guarantee access to its markets.
- U.S. annexes (take over a territory) Hawaii and the Philippines.

### **Spanish American War- (1898)**

- **Joseph Pulitzer** and **William Randolph Hears** used **yellow journalism** to **generate public support** for the war. They wrote articles about the sinking of the U.S. battleship Maine in Havana Harbor.
- As a result of the war, the U.S. built the **Panama Canal** so they could move more quickly between oceans in order to increase trade and military security.
- A major **result** was that U.S. obtained overseas **colonies** and was recognized as a **world power**.

### **Woodrow Wilson**

- **Supported** the creation of the **Federal Reserve System (1913)** in order to regulate the amount of money in circulation.
- Worked to **limit the power of big business**.
- **New Freedom-** Designed to help the U.S. **solve problems caused by industrialization** (big business).
- Adopted a policy of **neutrality** (not taking sides in the war) at the **beginning of World War I**.
- Claimed that the Progressive movement would be best served by continued peace (avoiding WWI).



- During his reelection campaign in 1916 he used the slogan *"He kept us out of war,"* but after he was reelected in 1917 Wilson asked Congress to declare war on Germany because Germany resumed unrestricted submarine warfare.
- In the years before the U.S. entered WWI, Wilson **violated** his position of strict **neutrality** by supporting **economic policies** that favored the Allied nations (Britain & France).

## U.S. in World War I

### Causes of WWI

- At the outbreak of WWI in Europe (1914), most Americans believed that their country should stay out of war.
- During the first 3 years of WWI, the U.S. tried to maintain freedom of the seas and trade with European nations (Britain & France) but Germany attacked any ships that traded with their enemies.
- German's violate the freedom of the seas by resuming **unrestricted submarine warfare** (which became a major reason for why the U.S. entered WWI in 1917).
- Wilson declares *"The world must be made safe for democracy"* in order to justify his decision to ask Congress to declare war against Germany.

### During War

- Espionage Act/ Sedition Act (1917)- Used by Wilson's administration during WWI to silence critics of the war effort. This illustrated that national interest is sometimes given priority over individual rights.
- Schenck v. U.S. (1919)- Supreme court ruled that freedom of speech for war protesters could be limited during wartime. The **"clear-and present danger"** doctrine **permits the government to limit speech** that threatens the security of the nation. Freedom of speech is not absolute.
- During WWI, relations between the U.S. and Mexico were characterized by hostility and suspicion.
- **Wilson ordered controls on the U.S. industry to fight WWI.**
- These actions show that Executive (aka **Presidential**) **power can increase during times of international crises.** Similar to Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt because they all expanded presidential powers.

### Economic Effects of WWI

- WWI was a significant **benefit to the U.S. economy** because it **provided a market for the U.S. industry** (the armies of the U.S. and its allies needed a lot of supplies which gave U.S. factories a lot of business).
- **Growth of automobile industry** after WWI changed the U.S. economy by stimulating the development of other new industries.
- In terms of international trade and finance, the **U.S. emerged from WWI as a leading creditor nation** (U.S. becomes the world's leading economic power).
- American **women helped gain support for the suffrage** (right to vote) movement by working in wartime industries.
- **African Americans migrate to the North** during and following WWI as a result of the availability of new factory jobs.

### Political Effects

Fourteen Points-statement of principles proposed by President Wilson that would govern the postwar world.

- Designed to provide for a **just and lasting peace.**

- Aimed to prevent international tensions from leading to war again.
- Believed that the principal of self-determination should be applied to people of all nations (they should be free to rule themselves (aka no more colonies).
- Established the **League of Nations**.
- U.S. follows a policy of **neutrality & isolationism** during the 1920's and 30's because of a disillusionment (disappointment, frustration) with WWI and its results.
- **Congress refuses to sign the Treaty of Versailles** (even though President Wilson wanted them to) because many **Senators objected to the U.S. membership in the League of Nations**, fearing that it would pull the U.S. into another major war.
- **Washington Naval Conferences & Kellogg-Briand Pact**- Were attempts by the U.S. to achieve peace and arms control in the decade after WWI
- **Bolshevik Revolution** (Communist takeover of Russia 1917) increased nativism leading to the **Red Scare** (fear of Communism in the U.S. following WWI).
- Passage of the **immigration quota acts of 1921 & 1924** (restricted the amount of immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe) because of a recurrence of nativist attitudes following WWI (Americans became more fearful and hateful of foreigners being communists).

### **Women's Rights**

- Women were granted the right to vote through the **19<sup>th</sup> Amendment** during the **Progressive Era** (1917).
- The national effort to ratify women's **suffrage** (right to vote) was strengthened by the economic opportunities created by **World War I** because women had to perform the jobs of men while they were away at war.
- Seneca Falls Convention-
- **Susan B. Anthony, Carrie Chapman Catt, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott** were major female leaders of the women's rights movement.
- Many of the **western states** granted women the **right to vote** before the adoption of the **19<sup>th</sup> amendment** because frontier (western) women played important roles in society.

### **Roaring Twenties**

The 1920's are called the "Roaring Twenties" because of widespread **social and economic change** and **changing cultural values (social change)**. During the 20's there was a conflict between old and new American ideals.

### **Social Change**

- **Prohibition**- Law authorized by the **18<sup>th</sup> Amendment** that **banned the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages**.
  - Led to an increase in organized crime.
  - Respect for the law decreased.
  - Led to a public awareness that unpopular laws are difficult to enforce.
  - Prohibition was officially **ended by the 21<sup>st</sup> Amendment**.
- **Increase of nativism** can be illustrated by the **Red Scare, trial of Sacco and Vanzetti, and the activities of the Ku Klux Klan**.
- Immigration acts of the 1920's attempted to use quotas to limit immigration from southern and eastern Europe.



- **Sacco and Vanzetti**- Two immigrant anarchists who were convicted of murder and executed with very little evidence during the height of the Red Scare. **Demonstrated U.S. intolerance toward immigrants.** Represented a **threat to civil liberties.**
- **Scopes Trial** - John Scopes was convicted in 1925 for **teaching about evolution** (because it conflicted with what the Bible says).
  - The conviction was supported by some Americans who wanted to promote traditional **fundamentalist values** (people who believe strictly in a set of principals and do not consider other views or opinions).
  - Illustrated a **conflict concerning religious beliefs and scientific theories.**
  - Illustrated a larger **conflict over cultural values** in American society during the 20's.
- **Harlem Renaissance**- African American authors and artists used literature and art to celebrate the richness of their heritage. Increased pride in African American culture. Ex) **Langston Hughes, Bessie Smith, Duke Ellington.**
- **Flappers**- Women during the 1920's that **rejected traditional feminine roles.** Refused to conform to society's expectations (they acted and dressed how they wanted to, not how society told them they should).
- Automobiles, radio, and motion pictures standardized American culture (influenced what people considered to be "American culture").

## Economic Change

- **Henry Ford**- Use of the **assembly line** in the production of automobiles led directly to a **decrease in the cost of automobiles.**
- Growth of the automobile industry changed the economy by stimulating the development of other new industries.
- Development of many **new consumer goods led to rapid economic growth** during the 1920's.
- The number of **credit purchases increased** (people bought on credit rather than using cash).
- Emergence of a "**consumer culture**" because advertising and installment payments encourage buying.
- **Installment Buying**- Paying for something a little at a time rather than all at once.
- Increase in consumer buying and spending.
- A belief in never-ending prosperity (economic success) helped to promote **heavy increases in stock speculation.**
- During the 1920's prevailing view of government's role in the economy was that the **government should interfere as little as possible.**
- **President Warren G. Harding**- Called for "a return to normalcy" by advocating for reduced international involvement and **less government regulation of business.** Supported **isolationism.**
- **President Calvin Coolidge**- believed the economy functions best if government allows business to operate freely (**free enterprise system**). Small farmers did not fare well during the Coolidge prosperity in the 20's.
- **Overproduction of Farm Crops**- Demand for American farm goods dropped dramatically during the 1920's because European need for imported farm products declined after WWI. Owners of small family farms experienced the most severe economic problems during the 20's.
- **Dust Bowl**- Caused by over-farming and severe drought. The Great Plains (flat farming center of the U.S.) suffered most directly from the Dust Bowl. Resulted in increased westward migration (people in the Great Plains moved west in order to find a better living).

## The Great Depression

### Causes of Great Depression

- **Stock Market Crash of 1929-** Considered the start of the Great Depression. Largely caused by speculators that purchased shares of stock on margin with borrowed funds (bought stocks on credit).
- Decline in farm prosperity.
- **Overproduction and the excessive use of credit.**
- **Overproduction and underconsumption** (U.S. businesses and factories were making more products than the U.S. people could buy). Consumer demand was low, while industrial production was high.
- **Uneven distribution of income** between the rich and poor (people were either really rich or really poor).
- Wages lagged behind the cost of living (workers were getting paid too little and could not pay their bills).
- Rapid, worldwide spread of the Great Depression of the 1930's was evidence of **global financial interdependence** (economies all over the world are tied to each other and depend on each other. If one falls they all fall).

### President Herbert Hoover- President of the U.S. at the start of the Great Depression.

- His policies **avored big business.**
- **Trickle Down Economics-** Believed that economic growth depends on making increased amounts of capital available to big business.
- Believed that the problems of the Depression could be solved by relying on private enterprise and individual initiative to improve economic conditions.
- Hoover's response to the Great Depression was criticized because it **failed to provide direct relief for the neediest people.**
- Refused to provide funds for the unemployed during the Depression based on his belief that **Federal relief programs would destroy individual initiative** (people would not be motivated to work hard if the government helped them).
- Hoover and the Republican party believed that the economy would recover on its own.
- **Hoovervilles-** Nickname given to poor communities because of Hoover's refusal to provide direct federal aid to the homeless. Hoover was blamed for the suffering of the poor.
- **Bonus Army-** WWI veterans march on Washington in protest, demanding to be paid for their services. Demonstrated the growing discontent with Republican efforts to deal with the Great Depression.

## FDR and the New Deal

- **Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) wins an easy victory** over Herbert Hoover (1932), demonstrating that most voters **blamed Herbert Hoover** for the Great Depression.
- The big difference between FDR and Hoover was that **FDR was more willing to use government intervention to solve economic problems.**
- The election of FDR in 1932 reflected the desire of many Americans to have government take an active role in solving economic problems.



### FDR's Administration

- **Supreme Court declared several New Deal laws unconstitutional** because they overextended the power of the federal government. FDR responded by proposing legislation to **increase the size of the court** to make it favorable to New Deal laws. This was seen by his opponents as a **threat to the system of checks & balances**.
- Used deficit spending to stimulate economic growth.
- **FDR Reelected to 3<sup>rd</sup> Term in 1940**- Seen as controversial because it challenged a long held political tradition of presidents stepping down after 2 terms. Most strongly influenced by the advent of **WWII in Europe**.
- FDR's reelection to 3<sup>rd</sup> term in 1940 eventually led to the **establishment of presidential term limits**.
- **Good Neighbor Policy**- Reduced U.S. military intervention in Latin America. Designed to improve relations with Latin America.

### New Deal-

- Most immediate goal was to **provide work for the unemployed**.
- Tried to stimulate economic recovery by creating **public works jobs**.
- Social welfare programs were expanded.
- **Increased government involvement** with both business and labor.
- **Agricultural Adjustment Acts**- Designed to increase prices of farm products by reducing farm output.
- **Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) 1933**- Created to improve economic conditions in a poor rural region. An example of federal intervention to meet regional needs.
- **Social Security Act 1935**- Considered an important program because it extended support to elderly/retired citizens.
- **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)**- Tried to restore **public confidence in banks**. Safeguards savings (government insures the money you have in the bank so that you can't lose it if the bank fails).
- Declared a **bank holiday (1933)** in order to restore confidence in the nation's banks.
- **WPA**- Intended to help unemployed workers.
- **Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)**- Intended to help unemployed workers.
- **Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)**- Regulates certain economic activities of banks and the stock market. Develops rules to limit speculation. Designed to correct abuses in the stock market.
- **National Labor Relations Act (Wagner Act)**- Strengthened labor unions because it legalized **collective bargaining**. Labor movement grew rapidly during the 1930's once the right to organize was protected by law.

### Opposition to New Deal

- The strongest **opposition** to FDR's New Deal programs came from **business leaders**. New Deal policies ran contrary to (against) the tradition of **Laissez-Faire** (government shouldn't interfere with the economy).
- Republicans criticized the New Deal because it spent more money than was taken in.
- **Critics of the New Deal** claimed the TVA and Social Security System threatened the U.S. economy by applying **socialist principles**.

### Impact of New Deal

- **Raised national debt** (the U.S. owed a lot of borrowed money).
- Resulted in the **expansion of the power of the Federal Government**
- Resulted in a stronger link between the national and local levels of government.
- Changed political thinking in the U.S. because it supported the idea that the government should become more involved in the social and economic life of the people.

- State governments **increased** their **powers of taxation**.
- The effectiveness of the New Deal in ending the Great Depression is difficult to measure because the U.S. involvement in **WWII rapidly accelerated economic growth** (many historians say that WWII ended the Great Depression, rather than the New Deal).

## World War II

### U.S. Neutrality

- In the 1930's Fascism rises in Europe (Germany & Italy). U.S. responds by passing a series of **neutrality laws**.
- In the 1930's Germany was seeking to dominate the European continent. Great Britain and France followed a policy of **appeasement** (avoid war at all costs) when they allowed Germany to expand its territory. WWII started when Germany went too far and invaded Poland (1939) causing Britain & France to declare war on Germany.
- **Primary objective of the U.S. foreign policy during the 1930's was to avoid involvement in Asian and European conflicts (Neutrality and Isolationism)**. This was due to **disillusionment** (disappointment) over the failure to achieve U.S. goals in the postwar world.
- Congress passes **Neutrality Acts** in mid 1930's in attempt to avoid mistakes that led to WWI.
- **Lend-Lease Act/ Cash-and-Carry Act/ Destroyers for Naval Bases-** - Efforts to help the **Allies** (Britain/France/Soviet Union) without formally declaring war. Signaled a shift from neutrality toward more direct involvement.
- Japan invades Chinese territory which heightens tensions between U.S. and Japan.

### U.S. Involvement in WWII

- Bombing of **Pearl Harbor** by Japan brought the U.S. directly into World War II.
- U.S. became involved to fight totalitarian aggression (Germany, Italy Japan) and because Germany and Japan achieved important military successes in Europe and Asia.
- **D-Day Invasion June 1944-** Important to the outcome of WWII because it opened a new Allied front in Europe (Germany had to fight enemies from the East and West instead of just the East).
- A key challenge faced by the U.S. during World War II was fighting the war on several fronts (Europe and Asia).
- The cooperation between the U.S. and Soviet Union during WWII supports the idea that alliances are built upon **mutual self-interest** (the U.S. and Soviet Union were enemies but formed an alliance because they were both enemies with Germany).
- 1944 election of FDR to a fourth term can be attributed to the unwillingness of voters to change leadership during a major crisis.
- The personal diplomacy conducted by FDR during WWII strengthened the President's role in shaping U.S. foreign policy.

### The U.S. Home-Front During World War II

- Women replaced men in essential wartime industries.
- Posters of **Rosie the Riveter** were used to recruit women into wartime industries.
- During the war, economic opportunities expanded for women.
- After the end of the war, many working women left their factory jobs because they were forced to give up their jobs to returning war veterans.
- More African Americans migrated to large cities because industry was expanding.