

The Roaring TWENTIES



Political Change

i. Reactions to Change

A.) Nativism

a.) prejudice against foreign born

B.) Isolationism

a.) pulling away from the involvement in foreign affairs

ii. perceived threat or enemy

A.) Communism

a.) an economic & political system which all wealth & power are to be shared by all

b.) becomes a one party dictators

B.) Red Scare (1919)

a.) fear that communism would take over the United States

b.) several bombs were sent to government and business leaders

C.) Palmer Raids

a.) Attorney General ordered government raids on:

1.) union offices

2.) headquarters of socialist and communist organizations

3.) homes of resident aliens

b.) results:

1.) trampling of civil rights

2.) forced deportation

3.) no evidence of bombs or of a revolutionary conspiracy

4.) increased suspicion of foreigners and immigrants

iii. Increase in Nativism

A.) Sacco & Vanzetti Trial (1920)

a.) arrested and charged w/ robbery and murder in Baintree, Massachusetts

b.) evidence was circumstantial

c.) both men had alibis and asserted their innocence

d.) only crime appeared to be that they were anarchists & Italian

e.) jury found them guilty and they were sentenced to death

f.) executed by electric chair on August 23, 1927

B.) Emergency Quota Act (1921)

a.) established the maximum number of immigrants from each foreign country → 3% of 1910 census

b.) goal was to sharply reduce the number of European immigrants

c.) why?

1.) from 1919-1921 the number of immigrants had risen by 600%!

d.) why?

1.) effects of WWI



2.) inflation, lack of jobs, etc.

e.) one example:

initially

↳ 1921: 227,760 immigrants

1929: 18,068 immigrants

f.) 1924 amendment limited immigration to 2% of the nationals living in the US in 1890

g.) targeted eastern & southern Europeans who did not immigrate in large numbers before 1890

h.) also limited Japanese immigration

c.) KKK returns

a.) 4.5 million members by 1924

b.) expanded racism to Catholics, Jews, and foreign born individuals

c.) criminal activity led to its decrease in power by the end of the decade

d.) challenge to nativist ideas

a.) ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) is created by a group of pacifists & social activists

b.) first sought to defend freedom of speech

e.) unions lose support & membership

iv. Harding presidency (1920-1923)

a.) "return to normalcy"

a.) his pledge to the American people

b.) won by the greatest popular vote margin at that time (over 7 million more votes than Democrat Cox)

b.) accomplishments

a.) Washington naval conference

1.) five major naval powers agreed to limit disarmament based on ratios

2.) U.S. & G.B. granted largest navies

3.) Japanese navy was reduced to half of the U.S. & G.B.

4.) Four power pact

• U.S.

• Great Britain

• France

• Japan

agreed to respect each other's territories in Asia

e.) Kellogg-Briand Pact (1928):

• 15 countries agreed to renounce the use of war and called for the peaceful settlement of disputes

b.) Fordney-McCumber Tariff

• raised the tariff on imported goods to protect American business

↳ Dawes plan

c.) scandal

a.) Ohio gang

1.) group of poker-playing friends who used their offices to gain wealth

b.) Teapot dome scandal:

1.) Sec. of Interior Albert Fall becomes the first cabinet member to be convicted of a felony (bribery) while in office

v. Coolidge presidency (1923-1928)

a.) Goal

a.) keep government interference of business low

b.) allow private enterprise to grow

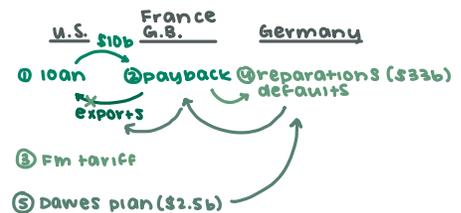
b.) Steps to goal

a.) keep taxes low & business profits up

b.) give business more available credit to expand

c.) high tariffs on foreign imports

d.) reduce income tax



C. results:

a. rising wages

b. more productivity

c. new technologies

VI. Rise of consumer goods

A. automobile

a. changed America

C. results

a. Rising wages

b. More productivity

c. New technologies

6. Rise of Consumer Goods

A. Automobile

a. Changed America

1. New roads

2. New houses

3. New industries

A. Gas stations

B. Repair shops

C. Motels

4. New liberties for families

b. urban sprawl

c. 1 in 5 of all Americans owned a car by the end of the decade

B. airplane

a. Used by the Post Office to deliver mail

b. May 1927: Charles Lindbergh is the first pilot to cross the Atlantic Ocean

c. 1927 Pan American Airways offers the first transatlantic passenger flights

C. Appliances

a. Development of alternating current brings electricity to suburban home

b. Electricity powers refrigerators, stoves, vacuum cleaners, and toasters,

c. More community and leisure for housewives

D. modern Advertising

a. Business' hire psychologist to people's desire for health and wealth

b. Increased American positive view of business'

E. New Purchasing Power

a. Installment plan:

1. Allowed consumers to buy goods over an extended time without putting down much money at the time of the purchase

2. Banks offered low interest rates



VII. Social change

A) Changing ways of life

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) rural life | city life |
| · agricultural | · diverse |
| · slower paced | · busy & bustling |
| · conservative moral values | · competing ideas & change |
| · close social relationships | · night life |
| | · impersonal & frightening |

B) rising migration to the cities

- a) 1922-1929: 2 million people a year moving to cities

C) clash of traditional values

a) prohibition (1920-1933)

b) review:

- 1) 18th amendment
- 2) prohibited the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcohol
- 3) support largely came from rural South & West areas that were largely Protestant and considered drinking a sin
- 4) Volstead act provided for the enforcement of the law (underfunded & undermanned)

c) effects:

- 1) consumption of alcohol declined
- 2) disrespect of law & increased lawlessness
 - speakeasies
 - bootleggers (smuggled alc from Canada)
- 3) growth of organized crime
 - Al Capone
 - ↳ used bribery and violence to run Chicago's biggest criminal empire from 1925-1931
 - jailed in 1931 for tax evasion
 - died at age 48



d) fundamentalism

- 1) background
 - reaction of the modern trends of 1920's
 - address the theological errors of the social gospel and evolution
- 2) beliefs
 - based on the "fundamental" doctrines of the authority of scripture and the deity of Jesus
- 3) battles
 - Northern churches were preaching modernist teachings