

### **Industrial Workers of the World (I.W.W.)**

- Established in 1905, this union attempted to unionize the unskilled workers who were usually not recruited by the A.F.L.
- "Wobblies" included blacks, poor sharecroppers, and newly arrived immigrants from eastern Europe.
- Leaders were influenced by Marxism.

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### **Central Powers**

- An alliance of Germany, Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire, and Bulgaria.
- Was opposed in World War I by Britain, France, Russia, and later the United States.

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### **National Security League**

- Founded in 1914 and preached patriotism and preparation for war.
- In 1915, it successfully lobbied government officials to set up camps to prepare men for military life and combat.
- In 1917, it lobbied against immigration.

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### ***Lusitania***

- British liner sunk off the coast of Ireland by a German U-boat on May 7, 1915.
- 128 Americans were among the almost 1,200 dead.
- The sinking caused outrage in the United States, and drew the U.S. closer to war with Germany.

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### **Sussex Pledge**

- After a German U-boat sank the French liner *Sussex* in March 1916, injuring 6 Americans, President Wilson demanded that Germany refrain from attacking passenger ships.
- In the Sussex Pledge, the Germans said they would stop these attacks for a time.

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### **Unrestricted Submarine Warfare**

- In early 1917, Germany announced that U-boats would attack all ships attempting to land at British or French ports.
- Woodrow Wilson said that this violated the neutral rights of the United States, and America was forced to declare war.

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### Zimmermann Telegram

- In January 1917, the German foreign minister sent a telegram to Mexico suggesting that the Mexican army should join forces with Germany against the United States and reclaim the American southwest.
- The British deciphered this and turned it over to the U.S., causing anti-German feeling.

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### American Expeditionary Force

- The American army sent to Europe to aid Britain and France after the United States entered World War I.
- General John J. Pershing commanded the army.

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### Convoy System

- Convoys were used to protect American ships carrying materials to Great Britain and France in World War I and to Great Britain in World War II.
- Merchant ships traveling were protected by American warships, which guarded them from German U-boats.

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### Battle of Chateau-Thierry

- In 1918, American troops at Chateau-Thierry stopped Germans from crossing the Marne and advancing into Paris.
- One of the first major battles of World War I involving American troops.

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### Meuse-Argonne Offensive

- American forces played a decisive role in this September to November 1918 Allied offensive.
- Last major American offensive of World War I and helped convince the German general staff that victory was impossible.

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### Liberty Bonds

- Sold to United States civilians during World War I.
- A holder who paid \$10 for a bond could get \$13 back if the holder held on to the bond until it matured.
- Were important in financing the war effort, and celebrities helped sell them.

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### Lever Food and Fuel Control Act

- August 1917 measure that gave President Wilson the power to regulate the production and consumption of food and fuels during wartime.
- Some in his administration argued for price controls and rationing, but Wilson instituted voluntary controls instead.

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### War Industries Board

- Authorized in 1917, this board was to mobilize American industries for the war effort.
- Headed by Wall Street investor Bernard Baruch, who used his influence to get American industries to produce materials useful to the war effort.
- American production increased 22%.

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### Committee on Public Information

- Created by Woodrow Wilson during World War I to mobilize public opinion for the war.
- The most intensive use of propaganda to that time by the United States.
- Image of "Uncle Sam" was created for this propaganda campaign.

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### Espionage Act

- World War I-era law passed in 1917 made it illegal to obstruct the draft process in any way.
- Mandatory prison sentences were imposed on those who interfered with the draft.
- Any material sent through the mail that was said to incite treason could be seized.

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### Great Migration

- Large numbers of southern blacks moved to the Midwestern and eastern industrial cities beginning with World War I and continuing into the 1940s.
- Workers were needed through originally because of the war and later because of immigration restrictions.
- Many blacks gladly left the racist South.

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### Fourteen Points

- Woodrow Wilson's view of a post-World War I world that he hoped the other Allied powers would endorse.
- Wilson's vision included elimination of secret treaties, arms reductions, national self-determination, and the creation of a League of Nations.

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### League of Nations

- International body of nations that was proposed by Woodrow Wilson and was adopted at the Versailles Peace Treaty ending World War I.
- Was never an effective body in reducing international tensions, in part because the United States never joined.

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### "Irreconcilables"

- After World War I, this group of U.S. senators was opposed to a continued American presence in Europe any form.
- Influential in preventing the passage of the Versailles Treaty in the Senate.

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### "Reservationists"

- Group in the United States Senate led by Henry Cabot Lodge that was opposed to Sections of the Versailles Treaty.
- Concerned that if the United States joined the League of Nations, American troops could be deployed without congressional approval.

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### Sedition Act

- 1918 act that stated it was illegal to criticize the government, the Constitution, the U.S. Army, or the U.S. Navy.
- Socialist leader Eugene Debs received a 3-year sentence for criticizing militarism, and hundreds of others went to prison.

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### Universal Negro Improvement Association

- Black organization of the early 1920s founded by Marcus Garvey, who argued that blacks should disassociate themselves from the "evils" of white society.
- Organized a "back to Africa" movement, and encouraged independent black businesses.

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### Red Scare

- A vigorous repression of radicals, "political subversives," and "undesirable" immigrant groups took place in the years immediately following World War I.
- Nearly 6,500 "radicals" were arrested and sent to jail, while nearly 500 immigrants were deported.

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### Palmer Raids

- Part of the Red Scare, these were measures to hunt out political radicals and immigrants who were potential threats to American security.
- Organized by Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer (and carried out by J. Edgar Hoover), these raids arrested 5,500 people. However, there was little evidence found.

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### Selective Service Act

- Stated that all men between the ages of 20 and 45 had to be registered for possible military service. Used in case draft became necessary.
- Overall, 3 million men were drafted into the army, another 2 million volunteered.

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### *Birth of a Nation*

- Epic movie released by director D.W. Griffith in 1915.
- Portrayed Reconstruction as a time when Southern blacks threatened basic American values, which the KKK protected.
- Was applauded by many including President Woodrow Wilson.

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### National Culture

- Happens when a general unity of tastes and a commonality of cultural experience exist in a country.
- Occurred in America for the first time in the 1920s, as many people saw the same movies, read the same magazines, and heard the same things on the radio.

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### Advertising Age

- Described America's consumer culture in the 1920s.
- In this decade, advertising began to significantly influence the choices of consumers.

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### Teapot Dome Scandal

- Took place during the presidency of Warren G. Harding.
- The secretary of the interior accepted bribes from oil companies for access to government oil reserves as Teapot Dome, Wyoming.
- Harding died before he could clear up the scandal.

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### Emergency Quota Act

- Also called the Johnson Act, this 1921 bill limited immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe.
- Stated that in a year, total immigration from any country could only equal 3% of the number of immigrants from that country living in the United States in 1910.

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### National Origins Act

- This very restrictive immigration legislation, passed in 1924, lowered immigration to 2% of each national as found in the 1890 census.
- This lowered immigration dramatically, and, quite intentionally, almost ended immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe.

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### Speakeasies

- During the Prohibition era, these urban clubs illegally sold alcohol to patrons.
- The sheer number of speakeasies in a city such as New York demonstrated the difficulty of enforcing a law such as prohibition.

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### Scopes Trial

- In 1925, Tennessee teacher John Scopes was charged with teaching evolution in violation of state law.
- The American Civil Liberties Union hired Clarence Darrow to defend Scopes, while the chief prosecutor was three-time presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan.

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### Creationism

- Belief in the Biblical account of the origin of the universe and the origin of man.
- Believers in creationism and believers in evolution both had their day in court during the 1925 Scopes Trial.
- Scopes lost, but defense attorney Darrow made fun of prosecutor Bryan's creationism.

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### Jazz Age

- Term used to describe the image of the liberated, urbanized 1920s, with a flapper as the dominant symbol of the era.
- Many rural, fundamentalist Americans deeply resented the changes in American culture that occurred in the "Roaring Twenties."

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### Flapper

- The "New Woman" of the 1920s, who wore short skirts and had bobbed hair.
- Rejected many of the social regulations that controlled women of previous generations.

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### *The Jazz Singer*

- 1927 film starring Al Jolson was the first movie with sound.
- The story of the film deals with a young Jewish man who has to choose between the "modern" and his Jewish past.

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### "Lost Generation"

- Group of American intellectuals that viewed America in the 1920s as bigoted, intellectually shallow, and consumed by the quest for the dollar.
- Many went to Paris to live and work.
- Ernest Hemingway wrote of the in *The Sun Also Rises*.

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### Harlem Renaissance

- Lack literary and artistic movement centered on Harlem that lasted from the 1920s into the early 1930s.
- Both celebrated and lamented black life in America.
- Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston were two famous writers of this movement.

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### Prohibition

- Partly as a war measure to conserve grain, partly as the culmination of a long campaign by temperance groups, the 18<sup>th</sup> amendment prohibited the sale, manufacture, or transportation of liquor was ratified in 1919 and went into effect in 1920.
- Was repealed in 1933.

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### Sacco and Vanzetti

- Italian immigrants accused of murdering two employees of a Massachusetts shoe company in 1920.
- Because they were anarchists as well as immigrants, many believed that nativist prejudice tainted their trial.
- After protests, they were executed in 1927.

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**Installment Plan**

- Purchasing plan that emerged in the 1920s to facilitate consumption.
- Instead of waiting to save the purchase price, consumers could make 36-48 "easy" payments on a refrigerator or an automobile.
- With most cars bought on credit by 1928, some economists foresaw economic danger.

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**Charles Lindbergh**

- On May 21, 1927, Lindbergh completed the first transatlantic flight from New York to Paris.
- This solo feat made Lindbergh the most celebrated hero of the 1920s, and many songs and headlines were devoted to him.

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**Return to "normalcy"**

- During the 1920 campaign, Warren G. Harding promised a return to "normalcy" - the way life was before WW I.

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**"Welfare Capitalism"**

- During the 1920s, some employers adopted a system known as "welfare capitalism," which provided workers with fringe benefits such as shorter workweeks and retirement pensions.

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**A. Phillip Randolph**

- The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, founded in 1925 and led for years by A. Phillip Randolph was a vigorous union, led by an African American, and representing a virtually all-black work force.
- Over time, Randolph won some significant gains for his members—increased wages, shorter working hours, and other benefits. He also enlisted the union battles for civil rights for African Americans.

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**McNairy-Haugen Bill**

- The bill was a plan to raise the prices of farm products. The government could buy and sell the commodities at world price and tariff. Surplus sold abroad. It was vetoed twice by Coolidge. It was the forerunner of the 1930's agricultural programs.

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### F. Scott Fitzgerald

- Most critics regard the *The Great Gatsby* as his finest work. Written in 1925, it tells of an idealist who is gradually destroyed by the influence of the wealthy, pleasure-seeking people around him.

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### The Ohio Gang

- Friends of Harding, from Ohio, who he placed in his cabinet. Mostly associated with scandals and corruption.

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### National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

- Formed in 1909, this organization fought for the rights of blacks in America.
- Originally went to court for the plaintiff in the *Brown v. Board of Education (1954)* case with Thurgood Marshall as the main attorney.

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### Speculation

- Practice of purchasing either land or stocks with the intent of selling them for a higher price later.
- After the Homestead Act and other acts that opened up the western United States for settlement, many speculators purchased land with no intent of ever settling on it.

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### "On the Margin"

- Practice in the 1920s of buying stock and only paying in cash 10% of the value of that stock.
- The buyer could easily borrow the rest.
- This system only worked when investors could sell at the profit and repay their loans.
- After the 1929 crash, many could not repay.

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### Hoovervilles

- Groups of crude houses made of cardboard and spare wood that sprang up on the fringes of many American cities during the first years of the Great Depression.
- Occupied by unemployed workers, the name of these communities reflected a belief that President Hoover should have done more.

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### Dust Bowl

- Part of the Great Plains region that suffered severe drought and experienced severe dust storms during the 1930s.
- Because of extreme conditions, many who lived in the Dust Bowl left their farms and went to California to work as migrant farmers.

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### Agricultural Marketing Act

- 1929 act championed by President Herbert Hoover that authorized the lending of federal money to farmers' cooperatives to buy crops to keep them from the oversaturated market.
- Was hampered by a lack of adequate federal financial support.

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### Hawley-Smoot Tariff

- In response to the Great Depression, Congress authorized the tariff of 1930.
- Established the highest tariff rates on imported goods at the highest level in history.
- The effect on world trade was disastrous as other countries erected tariff barriers on American goods.

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### Reconstruction Finance Corporation

- Established by Herbert Hoover in 1932 to offset the effects of the Depression.
- Was authorized to give federal credit to banks to assist their operations.
- Banks receiving these loans were expected to extend loans to businesses providing jobs or building low-cost housing.

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### Bonus Army

- Group of 17,000 veterans who marched on Washington in May 1932 to demand the military bonuses they had been promised.
- The army drove them from their camp.
- This fed the public perception that the Hoover administration cared little for the poor.

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### Scottsboro Boys

- 9 young black men who were accused of raping two white women in a railway boxcar in Scottsboro, Arizona, in 1931.
- Quick trials, suppressed evidence and inadequate legal council made them symbols of the discrimination that faced blacks on a daily basis in this era.

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### **"Black Tuesday"**

- On Tuesday, October 29, 1929, the bottom fell out of the stock market after a period of market volatility and panic selling.
- Prices fell and investors lost \$20 million.
- Stockbrokers and banks called in loans that many could not pay, beginning a crisis that led to the Great Depression.

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### ***The Grapes of Wrath***

- Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* was about "Okies" from Oklahoma migrating from the Dust Bowl to California in the midst of the Depression.

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### ***Life* magazine**

- The enormously popular new photographic journal *Life*, which began publication in 1936 and quickly became one of the most successful magazines in American history, had the largest readership of any publication in the United States. It devoted some attention to politics and to the economic conditions of the Depression, more, in fact, than did many of its competitors.
- It was best known for stunning photographs of sporting and theater events, natural landscapes, and impressive public projects.

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### **Farmer's Holiday Association**

- In the summer of 1932, a group of unhappy farm owners gathered in Des Moines, Iowa, to establish a new organization: the Farmers' Holiday Association, which endorsed the withholding of farm products from the market—in effect a farmer's strike.
- The strike began in August in western Iowa, spread briefly to a few neighboring areas, and succeeded in blockading several markets, but in the end it dissolved in failure.

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