

The Rise of the American City



New York City's first skyscraper, the Tower Building, 1889
"What shall we do with our great cities? What will our great cities do with us...?[T]he question...does not concern the city alone. The whole country is affected...by the condition of its great cities.

Lyman Abbott, 1891

"The greater part of our population must live in cities--cities much greater than the world has yet known. In due time we shall be a nation of cities."

Josiah Strong, 1898

I. Sources of Urbanization

- A. As steam replaced water power for mills, industries concentrated geographically (ironmakers in Pittsburgh, meat-packing in Chicago, Haverhill, Massachusetts in shoes, etc.)
- B. Large-scale production instantly created small cities of workers--company towns dominated by one industry.
- C. Gateways for immigrants (New York, Boston, San Francisco) provided abundant cheap labor.

II. Problems of the City

- A. Mass transit

1. Until 1890, the horsecar (using railroad tracks) accounted for 70% of city traffic. Limitations:
 - a. Slow
 - b. Limited pulling power
 - c. Left piles of manure
2. Cable cars (first used in San Francisco in 1873) and electric trolley cars (Richmond, 1887) with overhead power lines replaced horses in many cities
- B. Overcrowding in tenements
- C. Poor sanitation, inadequate water supplies

IV. Corruption in the City

- A. Police forces (separate from the military and controlled by local officials) established to maintain law and order
 1. Poorly defined duties
 2. Ineffective in controlling theft, prostitution, gambling
 3. Symbiotic relationships developed between police and institutions, such as saloons, they were supposed to oversee
 4. Reform came slowly, as independent police commissions were established to control bribery and graft
- B. Political bosses emerged, controlling city machines
 1. Ward captains turned out voters on election day
 2. Jobs handed out as political favors, as were tax breaks and licenses
 3. While some machines provided welfare services, opportunities for corruption were great
 - a. Boss Tweed in New York's Tammany Hall controlled 60,000 jobs. He was arrested, bribed his way out of jail, escaped, re-caught and finally died in jail.
 - b. Big Jim Pendergast held absolute power in Kansas City, controlling gambling and liquor licenses

V. Battling the City's Problems

- A. Reformers sought to counter poverty and other urban problems by focusing on moral uplift
 1. YMCAs and YWCAs formed to provide housing and recreation opportunities
 2. Salvation Army effective in providing emergency aid, housing, street kitchens
 3. Comstock laws sought to close down gambling, pornography, prostitution, and Sunday liquor sales.

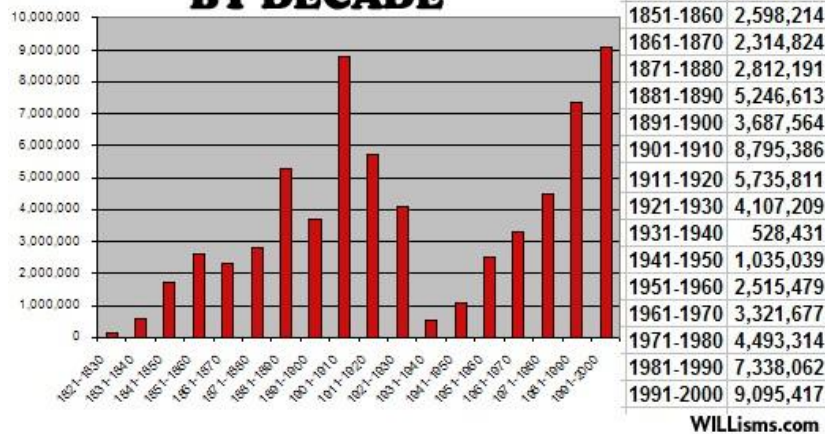
B. Social Gospel sought to apply teachings of Jesus' to the problems of urban society. Blame for problems did not rest with the poor, but with society.

1. Washington Gladden--true Christianity requires churchgoers to fight social injustice

2. Walter Rauschenbusch--Christianity and the Social Crisis. Churches should unite to reform the abuses of industry and fight for peace.

C. Settlement Houses--founded by Jane Addams to offer literacy classes, crafts classes, job training, and a sense of dignity to urban dwellers, particularly immigrants

IMMIGRATION TO THE USA, BY DECADE



I. Immigration in Early American History

A. Attitude of ambivalence to immigrants

1. Need for laborers a constant theme as growth took place
2. Yet resentment against newcomers was not uncommon
 - a. In colonial times, laws restricted the freedom of blacks
 - b. Descendants of first European immigrants resented other Europeans they felt were racially impure or of the wrong religion
3. Government policy toward immigrants was also ambivalent
 - a. Virtually no restriction or national control until 1880s
 - b. When restrictions were imposed, they were against specific nationalities or groups
 - i. 1875—criminals, prostitutes, and Chinese laborers
 - ii. 1882—Chinese Exclusion Act banned all Chinese immigration
 - iii. 1921—immigration quotas assigned to specific nations, favoring northern and western Europe

II. Immigration & Expansion in the 19th century

- A. Westward expansion and the California gold rush created a continual demand for workers and settlers
- B. Political unrest, dislocation caused by industrialism, and famine in Ireland led to waves of European immigration
- C. Homestead Act and Burlingame Treaty (Chinese laborers) encouraged settlement encouraged immigration
 - 1) Between 1840 and 1870, over 6 million immigrants arrived in the U.S.
 - 2) Many came from southeast Europe (Italy, the Balkans) and China, regions that had previously sent few immigrants

III. Exclusion Policies

- A. Chinese Exclusion Act 1882 limited and then banned Chinese immigrants
- B. Immigration Act of 1891 created a Bureau of Immigration and allowed for deportation of unlawful immigrants, and added polygamists, and individuals with contagious diseases to the list of inadmissible aliens
- C. Anarchist Exclusion Act of 1903—first restriction on political beliefs

- D. Immigration Act of 1907—mandated the exclusion of “imbeciles,” “feeble-minded” persons, individuals afflicted by a physical or mental disability that might impede their ability to earn a living, those with tuberculosis, children not accompanied by their parents, and individuals who admit to having committed a crime of “moral turpitude.”
- E. Despite these exclusions, between 1870 and 1930, 30 million immigrants arrived in the U.S.
 - 1) By 1910—14.7% of the U.S. population was foreign-born
 - 2) In 2010—12.5% of the U.S. population was foreign-born

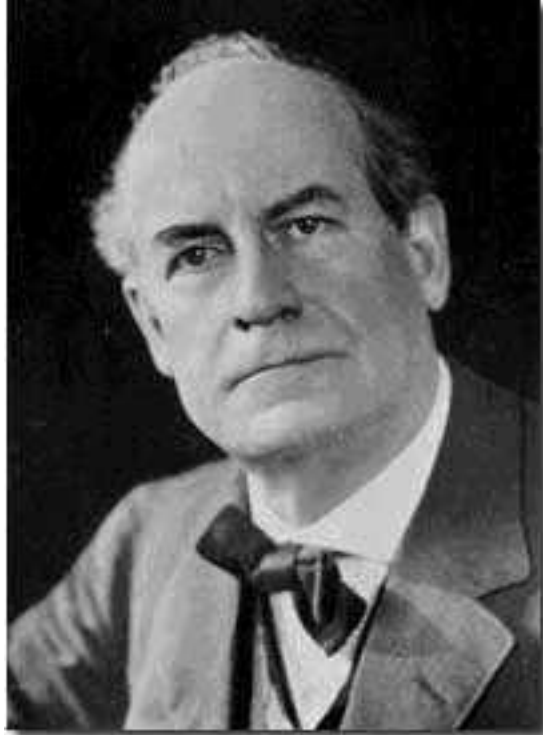
IV. Quota Systems

- A. Quota Law of 1921—first immigration law to impose numerical limits on immigration, capping overall immigration to about 350,000 per year and restricting immigration from any particular country to 3% of the number of people of that ancestry who were living in the United States in 1910
- B. National Origins Act of 1924—reduced quotas and favored immigrants from northern and western Europe. Did not restrict immigrants from the Western Hemisphere
- C. Restrictions were lifted for some groups in the 1940s, such as Chinese in 1943 (105 per year) and displaced persons due to World War 2
- D. Demand for agricultural workers during World War 2 led to the *bracero* program which allowed for millions of temporary work permits for Mexicans
- E. McCarran-Walter Act of 1952—eliminated racial restrictions, but set a quota for each country outside the western hemisphere at one-sixth of 1% of the number of persons of that ancestry living in the United States as of 1920; meaning that most immigration slots were reserved for immigrants from the United Kingdom, Ireland, and Germany
- F. Immigration Act of 1965—abolished the discriminatory national-origins quota system. Immigration set at 170,000 per year for the Eastern Hemisphere—with a 20,000-per-country limit—and, for the first time, 120,000 for the Western Hemisphere—without a per-country limit.
- G. Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (Reagan Amnesty Plan) allowed illegal immigrants to remain after paying a fine but created sanctions for employers knowingly hiring new illegal immigrants

V. Immigration Policy in the 21st Century

- A. U.S. policies and attitudes remain ambivalent and conflicted
 - 1. From 2000-2013 the U.S. government has spent billions of dollars trying to control illegal immigration
 - 2. There are currently at least 12 million illegal aliens in the U.S., 28% of foreign-born people in the U.S.
 - 3. The DREAM Act allows the children of illegal aliens to have access to avoid deportation and have access to higher education
- B. As federal legislative efforts for comprehensive immigration reform have failed, state and local authorities have attempted to use local police to act as immigration agents

Lecture: Gilded Age Politics (1869-1900)



William Jennings Bryan, "the majestic man who was hurling defiance in the teeth of the money power"

I. Corruption of Grant Administration (1869-1877)

A. Gould-Fisk gold scheme--Gould & Fisk, two government-friendly financiers, attempted to use government influence to corner the gold market. Convincing Grant to hold U.S. gold from the market, they then proceeded to buy all the gold available.

B. Credit Mobilier scandal--The builders of the Union Pacific Railroad used a construction company they owned to build the rail line. Congress became involved when it was learned that several Congressmen were major stockholders in the company.

II. Civil Service Reform

A. Pres. Garfield's assassination by a disappointed office-seeker in 1881 convinced Congress to reform the system of awarding government jobs.

B. Pendleton Civil Service Act (1883) created system of competitive examinations for some government positions, thus reducing the influence of the patronage system.

C. Democratic Pres. Grover Cleveland added 12,000 jobs to the classified list, thus expanding the merit system.

III. Growth of Populism

A. Frustrated with the laissez faire attitude of the federal government and the cycle of falling prices, scarce money, and debt, farmers in the west organized the Populist Party in 1892. Goals:

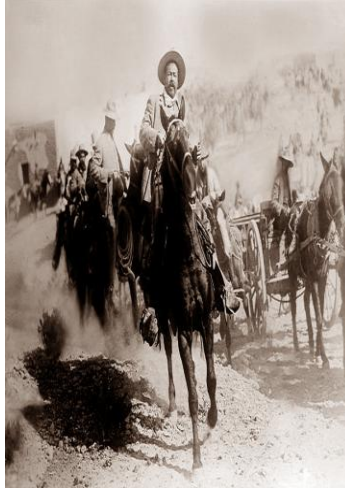
- 1) Tariff reduction
- 2) Graduated income tax
- 3) Public ownership of railroads
- 4) Popular election of senators
- 5) Currency reform
 - a) Since silver was removed as a currency in 1873, farmers had pushed for the unlimited coinage of silver in a 16:1 ratio.
 - b) Sherman Silver Purchase Act (1890) allowed the government to purchase silver and thus increase the nation's money supply.
 - c) Panic of 1893 severely reduced farmers' purchasing power

B. As the depression worsened in the 1890s, Populists gained strength. Coxey's Army (thousands of protestors) marched to Washington to demand government jobs paid for with paper currency

C. In the election of 1896, the Populists joined the Democrats in supporting William Jennings Bryan, a strong supporter of silver interests which he argued eloquently in his "Cross of Gold" speech

D. Bryan was defeated by Republican William McKinley, a conservative supporter of business and high tariffs.

Lecture: American Imperialism (1877-1914)



Pancho Villa, President Wilson's nemesis proved an elusive foe in Mexico

I. Roots of Expansion

A. Diplomacy in the Gilded Age

- 1) in 1880 the U.S. population was 50 million and it was the second leading industrial nation in the world
- 2) While the Civil War put the U.S. in opposition to France and England, during the Gilded Age, the U.S. became inward-focused and isolationist
- 3) The U.S. purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867, though it was nicknamed "Seward's Folly" at the time
- 4) Pres. Cleveland halted an American takeover by the sugar interests in Hawaii in 1890, claiming it was out of spirit with America's non-interventionist tradition

B. Economic Expansionism

- 1) As America's economy surged, companies began building factories overseas
- 2) Need to export goods to balance foreign debt
- 3) While most goods went to Europe and Canada, non-western markets were seen as important for future growth

II. Creation of U.S. Foreign Policy

- A. Captain Mahan's *The Influence of Seapower Upon History* (1890) argued that control of the seas was key to become an international power. He called for a canal linking the Pacific and Atlantic.
- B. In 1890 funding for three battleships was approved in development of a two-ocean navy.
- C. The U.S. challenged Britain during a border dispute between Venezuela and British Guiana, promising it would use force to protect its interests

III. Sources of Imperialist Ideology

- A. Social Darwinism—if the U.S. wants to survive, it needs to expand
- B. Belief in the inherent superiority of the Anglo-Saxon race and the thought that with privilege comes responsibility (Kipling's *White Man's Burden*)
- C. A new manifest destiny strain (John Fiske) developed, suggesting that every nation should be English in language, religion, and customs
- D. Turner Thesis suggested that as the American frontier closed, interests would turn outward to foreign frontiers

IV. Spanish-American War (Cuba & Philippines) See *Spanish-American War Chart*

V. Filipino Insurrection

- A. Following the Spanish-American War, the U.S. did not want to return the Philippines to Spanish rule, have complete U.S. colonial rule, or let the Filipinos govern themselves
- B. Treaty of Paris provided that the U.S. pay \$20 million for the Philippines, though anti-imperialists argued that the U.S. should not conquer and subjugate alien peoples
- C. A war between U.S. soldiers and Filipino insurgents broke out (1899-1902), leading to the U.S. using concentration camps to control rebels
- D. In 1916 the Jones Act committed the U.S. to granting Philippine independence. This did not occur until after the Japanese surrendered in 1945.

VI. Teddy Roosevelt on the World Stage

- A. TR's motto: "Speak softly and carry a big stick" (especially a big navy)
- B. TR helped Panama break free from Colombia and authorized building of the canal, though Congress was split "(I took the canal zone and let Congress debate)". Canal completed in 1914
- C. Roosevelt Corollary to Monroe Doctrine—unrestricted American right to determine Caribbean affairs

VII. Open Door Policy in Asia

- A. In 1890 Secretary of State Hay sent the European powers the "Open Door" note, claiming the U.S. had the right to equal trade in China
- B. Boxer Rebellion—1900. The U.S. joined European powers in resisting the Chinese Boxer's attack on foreign embassies in Peking

- C. Pres. Taft used "dollar diplomacy" to counter Japanese power in Asia, though when the Chinese Revolution of 1911 overthrew the Manchu Dynasty, the U.S. supported the nationalists and entered a rivalry with Japan.

VIII. Woodrow Wilson and Mexico

A. Opposing dollar diplomacy as a bullying tactic and unfairly supporting American businesses, Wilson insisted U.S. foreign policy should follow democratic principles

- 1) Following the overthrow of Mexico's dictator (Diaz) by Madero, who was murdered by Huerta in 1913, Wilson refused to recognize Huerta's government
- 2) The U.S. began to support Huerta's opponent, Carranza, and occupied Veracruz.
- 3) Carranza's rival, Pancho Villa, raided across the New Mexico border, causing Wilson to send troops led by Gen. Pershing into Mexico to capture Villa, which they never did.

The Progressive Era



McClure's Magazine, muckraking at its finest, May 1903

We've got to start to make this world over. (Thomas Edison, 1912)

I. Sources of Progressive Reform

A. Industrialization, with all its increase in productivity and the number of consumer goods, created

- 1) Unemployment and labor unrest
- 2) Wasteful use of natural resources
- 3) Abuses of corporate power

B. Growing cities magnified problems of poverty, disease, crime, and corruption

C. Influx of immigrants and rise of new managerial class upset traditional class alignments

D. Massive depression (1893-1897) convinced many that equal opportunity was out of reach for many Americans.

II. Who Were the Progressives?

A. New middle class composed of young professionals

1. Sought to apply principles of professions (medicine, law, business, teaching) to problems of society
 2. Strong faith in progress and the ability of educated people to overcome problems
 3. Rise in volunteer organizations organized to address issues (American Bar Association, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, National Municipal League, eg.)
 4. Mainly urban in residence and orientation
- B. Muckraking journalists attacked corruption and scandal with a sense of moral outrage
1. Lincoln Steffens exposed city machines in *The Shame of the Cities* (1904)
 2. Ida Tarbell exposed Standard Oil Trust abuses
 3. Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* (1906) attacked the meat-packing industry
- C. Political reformers (many opposed to traditional party politics)
- D. Socialists--frustrated workers who promised to destroy capitalism. Led by Eugene Debs (who polled 900,000 votes for president in 1912), socialists were rejected by most Progressives as too extreme in their goals and methods

II. Teddy Roosevelt & the Square Deal

- A. Using the power of the presidency (a "bully pulpit") as no president since Lincoln, T.R. loved to lead and to fight those he felt were not acting in America's best interests.
1. Coal Strike--When coal mine owners refused to deal with the union in a 1902 strike, T.R. summonsed them and the head of the mine workers to the White House and threatened to use army troops to keep the mines open. Owners backed down and T.R. was credited with ending the strike
 2. Northern Securities Case--T.R. used the Sherman Antitrust Act to attack a railroad monopoly. Supreme Court ordered the company to dissolve.
 3. Added Departments of Labor and Commerce to the Cabinet
 4. Pushed through the Hepburn Act (1906), strengthening the Interstate Commerce Commission
 5. Urged Congressional approval of the Pure Food and Drug Act (1906), which forbade impure foods and required labelling of ingredients of foods and drugs.

B. Conservation reform added massive areas to the national forests (total of 190 million acres)

1. Transferred forests to the U.S. Forest Service headed by Gifford Pinchot, who insisted that trees be planted as well as harvested
2. Withdrew millions of acres of public land from sale to protect resources
3. Used public land sale revenues to build dams and canal systems

III. City and State Government Reform

A. City government system changed to prevent boss or "machine" rule

1. City commissions replaced mayors and city councils in some areas
2. City managers (nonpolitical professional managers) were hired to run small cities

B. State level reform efforts championed by Robert La Follette of Wisconsin

1. Direct primary to give voters control over candidates
2. Competitive civil service and restrictions on lobbying
3. Many states passed workmen's compensation laws
4. Election reforms to bring direct democracy to voters
 - a) Initiative--allowed 5% of voters to "initiate" laws in state legislatures
 - b) Referendum--in some states voters could then pass initiatives into laws
 - c) Recall--by petition voters could force an official to stand for re-election at any time

IV. Major Progressivism Programs

A. Education

1. Progressive education--John Dewey led movement that focused on personal growth, not mastery of body of knowledge and learning through experience.
2. Charles Eliot of Harvard pioneered elective courses and new teaching techniques (such as seminars) to make university learning more meaningful
3. Women began attending colleges in large numbers (by 1920, 47% of total enrollment was female).
4. Believing that more education would help bring an enlightened

population, Progressives pushed enrollments to record levels (86% of children in schools by 1920) without seriously assessing how schools were doing.

B. Law--judges opinions needed to be based on factual information, not just oral arguments and precedents

1. Muller V. Oregon (1908)--limited women's working hours
2. Not all Progressive legal principles prevailed. In *Lochner v. New York* (1905), the Supreme Court overturned a New York law limiting bakers' working hours.

C. Settlement houses--Jane Addams and others established group homes in city slums to aid poor urban residents.

1. Promoted public health reform in cities, chlorinating water and tightening sanitary regulations
2. Developed education and craft programs for residents
3. Created neighborhood health clinics and dispensaries

D. Racial anti-discrimination efforts

1. Booker T. Washington (Atlanta Compromise) argued for self-help and accommodation on the part of blacks to white society
2. W.E.B. DuBois (Niagara Movement--1905) urged blacks to assert themselves and agitate for political and economic rights. Formed NAACP to use legal means to end racial discrimination

E. Women's rights

1. While the number of employed women stayed constant from 1900-1920 (20%), the type of work switched from domestic labor (servants, cooks, laundresses) to clerical work (clerks, typists, bookkeepers), factory work, and professionals.
2. Most women still held the lowest paying and least opportune jobs
3. Significant Progressive feminists called for greater reform
 - a) Charlotte Perkins Gilman attacked the male monopoly on opportunity and declared that domesticity was an obsolete value for American women
 - b) Margaret Sanger led the movement to provide birth control to prevent unwanted pregnancies among poor women
 - c) Suffragists urged that women be given the franchise, which came on the national level with the 19th Amendment (1919).

F. Child labor laws--most states passed minimum working age laws and prohibited children from working more than 10 hours per day, but enforcement was difficult to achieve.

G. Temperance--Anti-Saloon League and Women's Christian Temperance Union fought alcoholism on the state level through blue laws and on the national level with the 18th Amendment which prohibited the manufacture, sale, and transportation of liquor.

V. Presidential Election of 1912

A. Republican successor Taft proved to be less progressive than T.R. in the areas of tariff reform and conservation.

1. Payne-Aldrich Tariff (heralded by Taft as "the best tariff passed by the Republican Party") protected industries and kept consumer prices high
2. A public land sale scandal in Alaska pitted Pinchot against Secretary of Interior Ballinger. Taft fired Pinchot

B. T.R. organized the National Progressive or "Bull Moose" Party after Progressive Republicans bolted the Taft-controlled Republican convention. Party platform included long list of Progressive demands

C. Democrats nominated Woodrow Wilson, the scholarly governor of New Jersey who called for moral revival and reform, including low tariffs, the breaking up of all monopolies, and for the government to be an umpire in disputes between labor and business.

D. Socialists nominated Debs, who called for public ownership of all natural resources and major industries.

E. Wilson won 40/48 states as Republicans split between Taft and TR. Height of Progressivism as Wilson, TR, and Debs totalled 11 million votes to 3.5 million for Taft.

VI. Wilson's New Freedom and Progressivism

A. Tariff reform--Underwood Tariff (1913) gave first significant tariff reduction since 1860s as Wilson personally delivered his goals to Congress.

B. Currency and banking reform-- Creation of Federal Reserve System

1. Acted as bankers' banks and prevent "runs" on bank assets
2. Federal reserve notes issued a flexible new currency to the banking system

C. Clayton Antitrust Act (1914) to restrict monopolies and set up a Federal Trade Commission to stop unfair practices which may arise

VII. Evaluation of Progressivism

A. Weaknesses of Progressive reform

1. Material progress of Americans weakened zeal of reformers
2. Myriad of Progressive goals were often confusing and contradictory
3. Opposition to Progressivism apparent as initiatives failed and courts struck down Progressive legislation
4. Government remained mainly under the influence of business and industry
5. Outbreak of World War I dampened enthusiasm of attempts to use governments to create just societies on earth

B. Progressive accomplishments

1. Trustbusting forced industrialists to notice public opinion
2. Legislation gave federal and state governments the tools to protect consumers.
3. Income tax helped build government revenues and redistribute wealth
4. Progressives successfully challenged traditional institutions and approaches to domestic problems.

U.S. Involvement in World War I



Anti-German Propaganda
Imperial War Museum, London

Event	Date	Location	Significance
Archduke Ferdinand assassinated	June 28, 1914	Sarajevo, Bosnia	Unsteady alliances erupt into war as Russia, Serbia's ally, begins to mobilize
Germany declares war on Russia and France	August 1, 1914		Although guaranteeing Belgian neutrality, Germans march through Belgium into France.
Nations align for war	August 1914		Bulgaria and Turkey join Germany and Austria-Hungary in the Central Powers. France, England, Russia (later Japan and Italy) join the Allied Powers
Wilson declares U.S. neutrality	August 4, 1914	Washington, D.C.	Reflecting strong public opinion, Wilson states that U.S. will not join the war
Germany declares waters around British Isles a war zone	February 15, 1915		Neutral vessels are warned of potential u-boat attacks. Wilson warns Germany that it would be accountable for any loss of American life
Lusitania sunk by Germans	May 7, 1915	Off coast of Ireland	Torpedoed without warning, the Lusitania sinks in 18 minutes, killing 1198 (128 Americans)
Arabic Pledge	September 1, 1915	Berlin	Germany promises not to sink unarmed liners following sinking of British liner Arabic

Sussex Pledge	May 31, 1916	Berlin	Following sinking of French steamer Sussex, Germany again agrees to "visit and search" rules, but insists that Great Britain should also agree to obey international laws regarding freedom of the seas
Wilson wins 1916 presidential election	November 1916	U.S.	Declaring "he kept us out of war," Wilson and Democrats barely defeat Hughes and Republicans (277 to 254 in electoral college)
Wilson calls for "peace without victory"	January 22, 1917	Washington, D.C.	Frustrated with his efforts to mediate a peace, Wilson becomes convinced that both sides needed to cease hostilities
Germany resumes unlimited submarine warfare	January 31, 1917	Berlin	Confident that U.S. help would be too late, Germany seeks to starve England into submission
Zimmermann note discovered	February 1917	Berlin to Mexico City	Foreign minister Zimmermann asks Mexico to join Germany in exchange for return of southwest U.S. British intercept message
Wilson asks Congress for greater powers	February 1917	Washington, D.C.	Senate, led by La Follette of Wisconsin, refuse to grant Wilson power to wage an undeclared naval war
Russian Revolution deposes Czar Nicholas	March 15, 1917	Russia	Instability in Europe encourages Wilson to act
Wilson asks for declaration of war	April 2, 1917	Capitol Building, Washington, D.C.	"The world must be made safe for democracy," Wilson insists
Food Administration formed	May 1917	Washington, D.C.	Herbert Hoover heads effort to conserve food and boost agricultural output
Creel Committee issues official propaganda	May 1917	Washington, D.C.	Daily "Official Bulletins" seek to convince Americans of the crusade for freedom and democracy and the bestial nature of the "Huns"
War Industries Board created	May 1917	Washington, D.C.	Led by Bernard Baruch, the WIB set prices and determined what goods should be produced by private industry
Selective Service Act passed	May 28, 1917	Washington, D.C.	Nearly 10 million men are listed and a lottery chooses first 687,000 to serve. Eventually 3,000,000 men serve as draftees in the war
14 Points declared	January 1918	Capitol Building, Washington, D.C.	Wilson lists his goals for a war-free world, including a League of Nations
Cantigny	May 28, 1918	North of Paris	First victory for American troops
Chateau-Thierry	May 1918	France	French and American troops block German advance
Belleau Wood	June 1918	France	American forces suffer heavy losses but defeat Germans
Second Battle of the Marne	July 1918	France	Allied forces defeat Germans who begin retreat east

Meuse-Argonne	September to November 1918	Eastern France	Gen. Pershing loses 120,000 men (10%) of his troops in heavy fighting
Sedan	October 1918	Eastern France	American troops cut German supply lines 50 miles behind German front
Germans surrender, expecting a peace drawn up under Wilson's generous 14 Points	November 11, 1918	Compiègne, France	Worst war in world history is over. 10 million soldiers killed, 10 million civilians die from disease and starvation
Treaty of Versailles signed	June 28, 1919	Versailles, France	Germany signs treaty drafted by "Big Four" which includes huge reparation demands

The Roaring Twenties



Darrow and Bryan at the Scopes Trial, Dayton, Tennessee, 1925

I. Postwar American Attitudes

A. Disillusionment following World War I, particularly among veterans, artists, and intellectuals (the Lost Generation)

1. Society was lacking in idealism and vision
2. Sense of personal alienation
3. Americans were obsessed with materialism and outmoded moral values

B. Fear of Bolshevism

1. Success of Russian Revolution combined with epidemic of strikes frightened Americans into "Red Scare" mentality of 1919-1920
2. Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer arrested 6000 suspected radicals and deported many following several bombings

C. Fear of foreigners

1. Over 800,000 immigrants came to America in 1920-21, with 2/3 coming from southern and eastern Europe
2. To preserve the northern European racial composition of America, quotas were set up to restrict new immigration in a

series of acts, including the National Origins Act of 1924 which cut immigration to 2% of each nationality from the 1890 census.

3. Sacco and Vanzetti, two Italian anarchists, were executed in 1927 for murder despite protests from within and outside the U.S. that anti-immigrant attitudes prejudiced their trial.

D. Rise of the nativist Ku Klux Klan

1. Reconstituted partly after the success of the movie *Birth of a Nation*, the new KKK was more antiforeign than antiblack. Its strength was in the midwest and South.

a) Targets: foreigners, Jews, Catholics, pacifists, communists, and evolutionists

b) By 1925, 5 million members had joined to march in parades, burn crosses, and hold secret meetings

2. Movement lost strength, particularly after it was exposed as a money-making scheme by organizers

II. Movements of the 1920s

A. Prohibition--authorized by passage of the 18th Amendment in 1919

1. Strong demand for alcohol and weak enforcement led to widespread hypocrisy

2. Saloons were replaced by illegal "speakeasies" serving high proof alcohol

3. Home-made alcohol (bathtub gin) sometimes resulted in blindness and death

4. Organized crime stepped in, most famously in Chicago, to meet consumers' needs to drink

a) Over 500 murders in Chicago in the 1920s by competing gangs

b) Gangsters used Prohibition profits to move into prostitution, gambling, and narcotics sales

B. Fundamentalism vs. Modernism

1. Fundamentalist Christians, stressing literal biblical interpretation, opposed any scientific teaching that cast doubt on veracity of scripture, particularly Genesis
2. Modernist Christians, mainly urban and better educated, attempted to adapt religion to the teachings of modern science and a changing world
3. Scopes Trial, Dayton, Tennessee, 1925
 - a) John Scopes purposely violated Butler Act forbidding the teaching of evolution
 - b) William Jennings Bryan assisted prosecution while Clarence Darrow defended Scopes
 - c) Scopes found guilty (conviction later overturned), but Darrow's cross-examination of Bryan exposed narrowness of fundamentalist position as anti-science and anti-progress

C. Prosperity and Consumerism

1. Tremendous performance of American economy in early 1920s. From 1920-1929:
 - a) Manufacturing output rose more than 60%
 - b) Gross national product (total of goods and services) rose 5% a year
 - c) Industrial output per worker grew 33%
 - d) Per capita income grew 30% with virtually no inflation
2. Causes of economic boom
 - a) Destruction of European economies during World War I left the U.S. as the only major industrial nation
 - b) Technology allowed for expansion, particularly in the auto industry
 - i) 1.5 million cars sold in 1920, 5 million cars sold in 1929

- ii) Assembly line methods used by Ford and others made cars affordable to many American families
- c) Radio and motion picture industry grew as a result of technological innovations
- d) Cheap, readily available energy sources (coal, oil) made expansion affordable
- e) Scientific management techniques promoted by Frederick Taylor were adopted widely in an attempt to improve efficiency

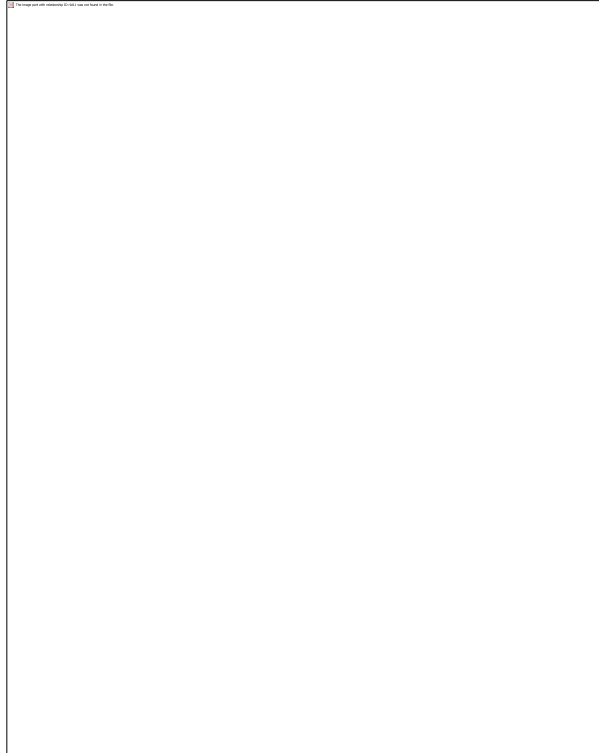
3. Consumerism fostered growth of advertising which benefited from expansion of national mass-circulation magazines, such as *Time*, *Reader's Digest*, and *The Saturday Evening Post*.

III. Republican Government

- A. Three conservative presidents (Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover) encouraged a warm relationship between business and government
 - 1. Harding--1921-1923-- ("I am a man of limited talents from a small town") delegated much of his responsibility to subordinates and friends, with whom he partied regularly
 - a. Teapot Dome Scandal--Secretary of Interior Albert Fall was jailed for a year for accepting bribes to provide oil leases in Wyoming and California to wealthy businessmen
 - b. Harding, largely unaware of the corruption that was riddling his administration, died in August 1923 on a trip to the West
 - 2. Coolidge--1923-1929--("The business of America is business") was the least active president in history, taking daily afternoon naps and proposing no new legislation
 - 3. Hoover--1929-1933-- was much more progressive than his predecessors and actively ran the Department of Commerce in the 1920s. (See "Great Depression" outline for Hoover's programs and demise)

B. Major goal of government in the 1920s: help business and industry to operate with maximum efficiency and productivity

The Great Depression



Apple Salesman: Symbol of Hard Times

We in America today are nearer to the final triumph over poverty than ever before in the history of any land. The poorhouse is vanishing from among us. Herbert Hoover, 1928

...[A] host of unemployed citizens face the grim problem of existence, and an equally great number toil with little return. Only a foolish optimist can deny the dark realities of the moment. Franklin Roosevelt, March 1933

I. Causes of the Great Depression

A. Massive business inventories (up 300% from 1928 to 1929)

B. Lack of diversification in American economy--prosperity of 1920s largely a result of expansion of construction and automobile industries

C. Poor distribution of purchasing power among consumers

1. Many farmers and factory workers were unable to purchase cars and houses and thus maintain economic growth

2. Farm income declined 66% from 1920 to 1929
3. By 1929 the top 10% of the nation's population received 40% of the nation's disposable income

D. Huge credit problems

1. Steady stream of bank failures in late 1920s as customers (many of them farmers) were unable to pay mortgages
2. Many bankers had small reserves as they attempted to capitalize on stock market growth.
3. Low margins encouraged speculative investment on the part of banks, corporations, and individual investors

E. Decline in demand for American goods in international trade

1. Some European industry and agriculture gradually recovered from World War I
2. Some nations, particularly Germany, were so beset by financial crises and inflation that they could not afford to purchase American goods
3. Unable to pay wartime debts, many European nations borrowed from American banks, further increasing indebtedness
4. High American protective tariffs discouraged trade

II. Stock Market Crash, 1929

- A. By October 1929, margin buying had reached \$8.5 billion in loans to stock purchasers
- B. Stock prices began to fall in September 1929. On October 24 (Black Thursday) and October 29 (Black Tuesday), prices fell drastically as sellers panicked. By December \$40 billion in stock value had been lost.
- C. Hoover and business leaders attempted to calm Americans by assuring them that the country's economy was fundamentally sound
- D. J.P. Morgan and other bankers bought \$20 million of U.S. Steel to try to restore confidence
- E. Economic downturn accelerated by market crash

1. Between 1929 and 1933, 100,000 businesses failed
2. Corporate profits fell from \$10 billion to \$1 billion
3. Between 1929 and 1933, over 6000 banks failed with over 9 million savings accounts lost (\$2.5 billion)
4. By 1933, 13 million workers were unemployed (25% of the work force) and many were underemployed
5. Malnutrition increased, as did tuberculosis, typhoid and dysentery.
 - a) In 1932 95 people died in New York City from starvation
 - b) Many turned to soup kitchens and breadlines for food
6. Large numbers of homeless workers roamed the U.S., particularly the Southwest, seeking work

III. Hoover's Response

- A. Rejected direct relief (the dole) as undermining to character and rugged individualism
- B. Urged Americans to turn to community and church resources (Salvation Army, Community Chest, Red Cross) to meet needs of the poor
- C. Gradually used federal agencies to address issues
 1. Met with business and labor leaders to reduce layoffs and strikes
 2. Financed federal work projects, such as massive dams in the West (Boulder, Hoover, and Grand Coulee)
 3. Set up RFC (Reconstruction Finance Corporation) in 1932 to make loans to stimulate economy in a "trickle-down" manner
 4. Raised tariffs 33% by signing the Hawley-Smoot Tariff in attempt to keep foreign goods off the U.S. market.

IV. Election of 1932

A. Hoover refused to accept any responsibility for the economic downturn ("No president must ever admit he has been wrong") and was booed and jeered when he made his few campaign appearances outside Washington

1. Campaign slogans: "The Worst is Past," "Prosperity is Just Around the Corner"
2. Accused FDR of seeking the destruction of capitalism

B. Franklin Roosevelt preached a brand of cautious liberalism, rejecting Hoover's conservatism and the radical approach of socialists and communists.

1. Offered a New Deal for the "forgotten man" and promised a balanced budget along with economic reforms
2. Campaign slogan: "Happy Days are Here Again" signalled Democratic optimism in face of economic problems

C. Though party platforms were remarkably similar, Democrats supported repeal of Prohibition and an increase in federal relief

D. FDR won 57% of the popular vote and Democrats took control of both the House and Senate

E. Following long lame-duck period for Hoover and Republicans (November 1932-March 1933), FDR launched Hundred Days of legislative and administrative changes

1. Relief
2. Recovery
3. Reform

American Involvement in World War II

Event/Battle	Date	Location	Significance
Germany invades Poland	September 1, 1939	Polish-German border	Following non-aggression treaty with Soviet Union, German troops invade Poland. England and France declare war on Germany. Soviets invade Poland from East.
Germany's <i>blitzkrieg</i> takes western Europe	March-June 1940	Western Europe	Denmark, Norway, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and France are crushed by German offensive.
Battle of Britain	Fall 1940	Great Britain	German bombers ruin British cities in attempt to obtain British surrender before U.S. entry. Britain's breaking of German code ("Ultra") helps Britain endure air attacks.
U.S. enacts draft bill	September 1940	Washington D.C.	Registration of all men between 21 and 35. Limit of 900,000 men in time of peace.
Destroyer for Bases deal	September 1940	Washington D.C. and London	U.S. transfers 50 old destroyers to Britain in exchange for the use of eight British Atlantic bases.
Lend-Lease plan	November 1940	Washington D.C.	U.S. agrees to "lend" military equipment to

			cash-strapped Britain.
Germany invades Russia	June 1941	Polish-Russian border	Germany begins two-front war with invasion of Russia. Germans halt 15 miles from Moscow in December 1941.
Atlantic Charter	August 1941	North Atlantic	FDR and Churchill agree to war aims, self-determination, and condemnation of Nazism.
Japan attacks Pearl Harbor	December 7, 1941	Hawaii	361 Japanese warplanes attack American airfields and shipyards, disabling 19 ships, destroying 200 planes, and killing over 2300 men. Southeast Asia, Hong Kong, Malaya, Philippines soon fall to Japan.
FDR asks for war on Japan	December 8, 1941	Washington, D. C.	Congress approves entry into war. Germany and Italy declare war on U.S.
Battle of Coral Sea	May 1942	South Pacific	Carrier-based U.S. planes halt Japanese advance on Australia.
Midway	June 1942	Central Pacific	Threat on Hawaii ended as four Japanese aircraft carriers are sunk. Perhaps the turning-point naval battle in the Pacific theater.

Allies attack Germans in North Africa	November 1942	North Africa	Huge Allied landing forces Germany to retreat to Tunisia, where they are surrounded by British and American forces.
Guadalcanal	February 1943	Solomon Islands, South Pacific	Americans take first island in start of island-hopping strategy.
Event/Battle	Date	Location	Significance
Germans surrender at Stalingrad	February 1943	Central Russia	Germans surrender after fierce hand-to-hand fighting and huge casualties for each side.
Germans surrender at Tunisia	May 1743	Tunisia, North Africa	Over 250,000 German and Italian troops are captured as Allies prepare to invade Sicily and Italy.
Allies invade Sicily	July 1943	Sicily	In largest amphibious invasion in history, over 250,000 American and British troops land. Germans and Italians retreat to mainland of Italy.
Italy surrenders	September 1943	Italy	Although Italian troops quit fighting the Allies, Germans continue in fierce fighting. Rome finally surrenders on June 4, 1944.
D-Day Invasion	June 6, 1944	Normandy coast of	Allies use 4600 ships to invade German-

		France	held France. Suffering heavy casualties, the Allies are able to retake Paris in August.
Battle of Leyte Gulf	October 1944	Pacific east of Philippines	60 Japanese ships in arguably the largest naval battle in history.
Battle of Hurtgen Forest	September 1944-February 1945	Belgian-German border	In the longest single battle in American history, the U.S. suffer over 24,000 battle casualties in a poorly planned and executed plan that underestimated the strength of German forces.
Battle of the Bulge	December 1944	French-German-Belgian border	German counteroffensive almost succeeds in retaking Belgium but is finally crushed with Allied reinforcements.
Tokyo Bombing Raids	March 1945	Tokyo, Japan	American bombers destroy 250,000 buildings and kill 83,000 in massive fire-bombing.
Russians take Berlin	April 1945	Berlin, Germany	Russians take German capital after house-to-house fighting. Hitler commits suicide.
V-E Day	May 7, 1945	Europe	German government issues unconditional surrender to Allied forces.
Okinawa	April to	Southern tip	Fighting from caves

	June 1945	of Japan	and bunkers, Japanese inflict 80,000 losses on Americans. Over 30 American ships are sunk by Japanese suicide missions.
Gen. MacArthur retakes Philippines	July 1945	Philippine Islands	After Manila's fall to Americans in May, Japanese surrender here after inflicting 60,000 American casualties.
Hiroshima	August 6, 1945	Japan	180,000 killed, wounded, or missing after atomic bomb is dropped. Two days later Soviet Union enters war against Japan, fulfilling Yalta Conference pledge.
Nagasaki	August 9, 1945	Japan	Second bomb is dropped after Japanese delay surrender. 80,000 killed or missing.
V-J Day	September 2, 1945	Tokyo Bay	Japan surrenders with one condition: the emperor must retain his throne.

The Home Front During World War II



I. Industrial & Farm Production

- A. War Production Board halted non-essential building to conserve materials for war purposes.
- B. Rationing goods to consumers reached major levels as goods became scarce--gasoline, butter, rubber, shoes, sugar, and meat were rationed.
- C. Labor groups made no-strike pledges, but some wildcat strikes broke out, particularly among miners.

1) Smith-Connally Anti-Strike Act (1943) made it a criminal offense to tie up industry

2) Except for brief work stoppages, American workers chose not to strike (less than 1% of working time during the war was lost, a record better than England's).

D. Farm income doubled, as in World War I. Victory gardens were replanted.

E. Industries switched to war production very quickly. One ship was completed by Henry Kaiser's workers in five days.

II. Women in the Work Force

A. Women joined the armed forces in record numbers, though not in combat roles. Most took clerical jobs in the various branches (WAVES and WAACS).

B. Women (characterized as "Rosie the Riveter") took many jobs in heavy industry, such as shipbuilding and aircraft production.

C. Popular opinion opposed women working and some private contractors refused to hire women.

1. Office of War Information supported a domestic propaganda campaign to make women's work seem patriotic.

2. Between 1941 and 1945, 6.5 million women entered the work force, a 57% increase.

III. Propaganda

A. As in World War I, the government actually promoted prowar messages.

1. Why We Fight series by Frank Capra

2. Commercial movies were blatantly patriotic and emphasized the melting pot nature of American forces.

B. While Nazis and Japanese were portrayed as ruthless barbarians, Italians were treated more generously in films and written propaganda.

1. FDR wanted to de-emphasize anti-German hysteria and distinguished between Nazis and other Germans.

2. Nazi stupidity became a common stereotype, as viewers were encouraged to laugh at Hitler and his followers.

3. Japanese were portrayed as subhuman, partly in response to atrocities committed by the Japanese and partly because of race hatred.

IV. Civil Rights Issues

A. Japanese-Americans were arrested, housed in concentration camps, and forced to endure the length of the war in remote locations (Manzanar, eg.)

1. Executive Order 9066 (1942) required the internment and relocation of all Japanese in the Western U.S.
2. In the 1944 *Korematsu* decision, the Supreme Court upheld the relocation on the grounds of military necessity.
3. Despite this treatment, 18,000 Nisei volunteered for military service.

B. African-Americans challenged race prejudice during the war in several ways.

1. Civil rights organizations expanded their membership during the war.
2. Repudiation of Nazi racism by the U.S. strengthened civil rights efforts
3. African-Americans were not allowed to serve in integrated units.

C. Mexican-Americans, particularly in California, faced segregated housing, high unemployment, and low wages.

1. Pachuco gangs of young Mexican-Americans, wearing zoot suits, challenged conformity to white standards.
2. Zoot Suit Riots broke out in Los Angeles in 1943 as servicemen beat Mexican-Americans for four days.

World War II Conferences & Treaties



Churchill, FDR, and Stalin at Yalta, February 1945

Conference /Treaty	Date	Participants	Highlights
Molotov-Ribbentrop Treaty	August 23, 1939	Germany, Soviet Union	Hitler and Stalin sign non-aggression pact which meant the Soviets would not intervene if Poland were invaded. Hitler later invaded Russia (June 22, 1941)
Atlantic Conference	August 1941	Great Britain, US	FDR and Churchill approve the Atlantic Charter which supported self-determination, a new permanent system of general security (a new League of Nations), and the right of people to regain governments abolished by dictators.
Casablanca Conference	January 1943	Great Britain, US	FDR and Churchill agree to step up Pacific war, invade Sicily, increase pressure on Italy and insist on an unconditional surrender of Germany.
Teheran Conference	November 1943	Great Britain, US, Soviet Union	Allies agree to launch attacks from Russia on the east at the same time as US and Great Britain attack from west.

Yalta Conference	February 1945	Great Britain, US, Soviet Union	Stalin agreed that Poland would have free elections after the war and that the Soviets would attack Japan within three months of the collapse of Germany. Soviets receive territory in Manchuria and several islands
San Francisco Conference	April 22, 1945	50 nations	United Nations Charter approved establishing a Security Council with veto power for the Big Five powers (US, Great Britain, France, China, and Soviet Union) and a General Assembly.
Potsdam Conference	July 1945	U.S, Great Britain, Soviet Union	Pres. Truman met with Stalin and Churchill and agreed that Japan must surrender or risk destruction. Atomic bomb successfully tested on July 16 and then dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945.

The Origins of the Cold War



West Berlin residents await supplies from 1948 Airlift

I. Opposing Perspectives

A. Alliance of Britain and U.S. with Soviet Union was pragmatic: need to defeat Germany

1. Lack of trust of Stalin. Neither Churchill nor FDR told Stalin about the atomic bomb

2. Many Allied leaders hoped USSR could be persuaded to join a new, stronger League of Nations organization

B. Communist leaders feared capitalist nations

1. Expected for European and then world domination by communism.

2. Hoped for collapse of capitalist economies and societies

II. United Nations Formed

A. U.S., Britain, China, and Russia met in 1944 to discuss plans for new organization to replace League of Nations

B. In April 1945, San Francisco Conference formed U.N.

1. Security Council (11 members) with veto power and permanent seats for five major powers (U.S., France, Britain, China, and USSR).

2. Secretariat, headed by Secretary-General, to handle day-to-day affairs

3. General Assembly with delegates from each nation. Three votes to USSR as result of Yalta Conference promise

4. International Court of Justice to deal with legal disputes between members

III. Problems with USSR

A. Free elections promised in Poland by Stalin following the war

1. Communist government formed with no elections

2. Border nations pressured into establishing communist governments

B. Churchill responded with "Iron Curtain" speech in March 1946, declaring that USSR's intentions were to control Eastern European and expand power throughout the world

C. American diplomat George Kennan proposed a "containment" policy to prevent spread of communist ideology.

D. Truman Doctrine--Truman asked for major economic aid to Greece and Turkey to oppose communism

E. Marshall Plan--Western Europeans nations provided \$12 billion to rebuild economies and resist Soviet pressures

IV. European Crises

A. Berlin Blockade and Airlift

1. Partition of Germany among Allies had resulted in Berlin being a divided city within the Soviet sector.

2. In June 1948, Soviets blockaded West Berlin and halted all traffic into the city.

3. Allies (U.S., France, and England) responded by airlifting massive amounts of food, coal, and other supplies to keep West Berlin open.

4. Soviets backed down and allowed traffic to resume

B. Formation of NATO--Twelve nations (10 European nations plus Canada and the U.S.) joined in April 1949 in an attempt to establish collective security and resist Warsaw Pact nations expansion

V. Second Red Scare

A. Loyalty checks of government workers begun in 1947 because of fear of communist infiltration

B. House Un-American Activities Committee held numerous public hearings and ruined reputations of blacklisted individuals, including many from TV, radio, and the movies.

C. Alger Hiss, former State Dept. diplomat, accused of disloyalty by Whittaker Chambers, a confessed Soviet spy.

1. Hiss sued Chambers for libel, but was convicted of perjury in 1950
2. Democrats, many of whom supported Hiss, were seen as soft on communism

D. Sen. Joseph McCarthy began to speak out against communist influence in the government with a speech in February 1950 in which he contended that the State Dept. was riddled with communists

E. McCarran Internal Security Act (1950) required communist and "communist-front" organizations to register with the Justice Dept.

1. Membership lists and financial statements were required
2. President was given broad powers to detain potential enemies
3. Truman vetoed the bill as "a long step toward totalitarianism" but it was passed over his veto.

E. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg arrested, tried, and executed in 1951 for providing atomic secrets

The Tumultuous 1960s



John F. Kennedy at Democratic Convention, Los Angeles, 1960
(Paul Schutzer, *Life Magazine* 1961 ©Time, Inc.)

I. The New Frontier of John F. Kennedy (1961-1963)

- A. JFK defeated Richard Nixon in 1960 in a very close election partially decided by a series of televised debates
- B. Spirit of optimism and Camelot inspired Kennedy's supporters and frustrated opponents.
- C. Inauguration speech heralded new approaches
 1. "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."
 2. Promised a landing on the moon by the end of the decade
 3. Strong challenge to the Soviet bloc to respect human rights
- D. Success and failures of New Frontier
 1. Domestic
 - a) Promoted economic expansion by cutting taxes and holding down prices. Economy boomed through the 1960s
 - b) Many domestic programs proposed to address civil rights, Medicare, education issues. Very few actually won Congressional approval.

2. Foreign

- a) Alliance for Progress--economic aid for Latin American nations
- b) Peace Corps--paid volunteers 11¢ a day to assist underdeveloped nations with education, economic, and health programs
- c) Bay of Pigs invasion (April 1961)--Failed invasion by anti-Castro Cuban-Americans embarrassed JFK as the CIA had trained and financed the mission
- d) Cuban Missile Crisis (October 1962)--Soviets placed offensive missiles in Cuba. U.S. used diplomatic and military pressure (embargo of ships bound for Cuba). After tense two-week period, Soviets removed missiles.
- e) Berlin Visit (1962)--JFK declared "I am a Berliner" to huge crowd in challenge to Soviet presence and response to building of the Berlin Wall ("For those who say communism is a better system, let them come to Berlin")
- f) Vietnam Quagmire (see Vietnam War chart). JFK continued Eisenhower's policy of support for anticommunist forces in Southeast Asia to prevent "domino effect" of nations falling under communist control

D. Kennedy's assassination (November 22, 1963) in Dallas, Texas by Lee Harvey Oswald (a pro-Castro malcontent) ended his presidency, about which historians have widely differing assessments.

II. Johnson Presidency (1963-1969)

A. LBJ pushed through more domestic legislation than any 20th century president except FDR

1. Declared a war on poverty and creation of a Great Society

a) Medicare and Medicaid programs

b) VISTA--domestic Peace Corps

c) New cabinet offices created in Transportation and Housing and Urban Development

d) Head Start programs to aid underprivileged children

e) Food Stamp aid to help poor families

2. Significant civil rights legislation passed through Congress, including Voting Rights Act and Civil Rights Acts

B. Urban unrest

1. Watts Riot (1965) resulted in 34 deaths and \$35 million damage and demonstrated frustration of urban blacks with unemployment and police practices

2. Riots followed in black neighborhoods in Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit, Newark, and Jacksonville from 1965-1967.

3. King's assassination in April 1968 further antagonized racial tensions. National Commission concluded "Our nation is moving towards two societies, black and white, separate and unequal."

C. Foreign problems

1. U.S. invasion of Dominican Republic to bolster pro-American dictator put down revolt but weakened LBJ's credibility in foreign affairs

2. Vietnam (see Vietnam War chart). Because of criticism, LBJ announced on March 31, 1968 he would not seek second full term as president in 1968 election.

III. Countercultural Movements

A. Port Huron Statement (1962)--group of young intellectuals formed the SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) and set out an agenda for societal reform, that included student rights, economic justice, and anti-nuclear war views

B. Free Speech Movement (1964) begun at UC Berkeley by Mario Savio in protest of university policies spread to other universities as general student unease focused on anti-establishment sentiments.

C. Radicalization of American students led to challenge to Establishment norms and laws

1. Youth culture openly scornful of middle class values

2. Increased and public use of hallucinogenic drugs

3. Rise of hippies ("tune in, turn on, drop out") led to development of communes and other counterculture movements

4. Rock and folk music reflected iconoclastic views of the counter culture.

a) Rock groups such as the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, and the Doors expressed mystical approach that embraced drugs and Eastern religions as well as themes of anger, frustration, and rebelliousness

b) Folk singers (Joan Baez, Bob Dylan) expressed explicit radicalism and challenged traditional mores.

D. New militancy among ethnic groups (Native Americans and Hispanics) and feminists also challenged values and laws through affirmative action and university programs that focused on correcting past abuses and stridency in pushing for equal treatment and legal protection

The Rise of Conservatism and the End of the Cold War



President Reagan in Berlin, 1987

I. The Rise of Reagan and Conservatism

- A. Jimmy Carter, who had defeated Gerald Ford in 1976, proved to be a disappointing leader
 - 1) Brokered Israeli-Egyptian Camp David Accords peace talks but accomplished little in real Mideast progress
 - 2) Unable to obtain Senate ratification of Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) with Soviet Union
 - a) Boycotted Moscow Olympic Games to protest Afghan invasion
 - b) Placed grain embargo on Soviet Union
 - 3) Iranian hostage crisis
 - a) Following our sheltering of Iran's Shah, Iranians seized American embassy and held 52 hostages for 444 days
 - b) Helicopter rescue attempt in 1980 failed
 - c) Hostages released on Reagan's inauguration day, January 20, 1981

- B. Ronald Reagan's election in 1980 was a victory for conservatives, particularly evangelical Christians known as the Moral Majority. Issues:
 - 1) Anti-abortion (*Roe v. Wade*, 1973, had allowed abortions in the first trimester)
 - 2) Anti-homosexual
 - 3) Prayer in schools

- 4) Public schools permissiveness and secularism (teaching of evolution)
- C. Reagan won 90% of the Electoral College vote, sweeping the West and the South

II. Reaganomics

- A. Supply-side economic theory: Lower taxes and cut government spending to boost private investment
- B. Broke air traffic controllers union after a strike by firing 11,000 workers
- C. De-regulated some industries and opened federal lands to mining, lumbering, and oil drilling
- D. Stock Market crashed in 1987, losing 20% of value in one day
- E. Tax cuts and increased military spending led to huge federal budget deficit

III. Foreign Relations

- A. Support for anti-communist *contras* in Nicaragua led to secret military missions and a Congressional ban on U.S. aid
 - 1) White House secretly funneled money to *contras*, using money obtained from Iran for arms sales in the Iran-Contra scandal
 - 2) Reagan aide Oliver North indicted for obstructing investigation and destroying documents
 - 3) Reagan called to testify, but no charges brought against him
- C. Mideast violence: 239 U.S. Marines were killed by a bombing in Beirut, Lebanon in 1983. U.S. removed remaining Marines
- B. Soviet-U.S. relations improved and the Cold War ended
 - 1) Reagan challenged Gorbachev in Berlin to "tear down this wall" in 1987
 - 2) Reagan visited Moscow in historic meeting in 1988
 - 3) Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev signed a treaty removing 2500 U.S. and Soviet missiles from Europe, 1988
 - 4) Berlin Wall fell in 1989 as George Bush took office and the Soviet Union collapsed

Significant American History Events 1973--present

Roe v. Wade, 1973. Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional most state statutes restricting abortion. It ruled that a state may not prevent a woman from having an abortion during the first 3 months of pregnancy, and could regulate, but not prohibit abortion during the second trimester. Decision in effect overturned anti-abortion laws in 46 states.

Election of 1976. Democratic Governor Jimmy Carter of Georgia defeated Gerald Ford, who was a colorless and uninspiring campaigner.

Bakke v. Board of Regents, University of California at Davis, 1978. Barred colleges from admitting students solely on the basis of race, but allowed them to include race along with other considerations when deciding which students to admit.

Iranian Hostage Crisis-1978 - a popular uprising forced the Shah to flee Iran and a Muslim and national leader, the Ayatollah Khomeini, established an Islamic

Republic based on the Koran. President Carter allowed the Shah to come to the U.S. for medical reasons. Young Iranian militants broke into the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and kept the staff hostage for 444 days, releasing them in January, 1981.

Panama Canal Treaty 1978 - Passed by President Carter, this called for the gradual return of the Panama Canal to the people and government of Panama. It provided for the transfer of canal ownership to Panama in 1999 and guaranteed its neutrality.

Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty-1978: Menachem Begin, Anwar Sadat sign agreement brokered by Pres. Carter. Product of the Camp David Accords, Sadat represented Egypt and Begin represented Israel. Israel returned land to Egypt in exchange for Egyptian recognition. Earned both men the Noble Peace Prize.

Election of 1980: Ronald Reagan, Republican defeated Jimmy Carter, Democrat and John B. Anderson, Independent. The issues were government spending and traditional values.

Reaganomics: Pres. Reagan's theory that if one cuts taxes, it will spur the growth of public spending and improve the economy. It included tax breaks for the rich, "supply-side economics," and "trickle down" theory.

Supply side economics: Reaganomics policy based on the theory that allowing companies the opportunity to make profits, and encouraging investment, will stimulate the economy and lead to higher standards of living for everyone. Argued that tax cuts can be used stimulate economic growth. Move money into the hands of the people and they will invest, thus creating prosperity, it postulated.

Iran-Contra scandal-1985. U.S. policymakers seek to assist anti-communist contras in Nicaragua and sell arms to Iran in an attempt to free American hostages held in Lebanon. Oliver North questioned by Congress for illegal activities. Pres. Reagan not tied to any direct wrongdoing Perestroika (restructuring) and Glasnost (openness). Themes associated with Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev, who in 1985 attempted to reduce tension with the U.S. in a series of summits with Pres. Reagan. Reform policies led to the breakup of the Soviet Union and a number of Eastern European nations rejecting communism.

In 1989 the Berlin Wall was torn down and Germany was reunified for the first time since 1945.

Operation Desert Storm—1991. Following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, the U.S.-led coalition bombed Baghdad and routed Saddam Hussein's forces in a 100-hour battle. Pres. Bush, fearing the power vacuum that would result with Saddam's fall, refused to capture Baghdad and Saddam was left in power.

Election of 1992. Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas defeated George Bush and Ross Perot after economic pressures caused Pres. Bush to raise taxes. Clinton's campaign focused on economic issues ("It's the economy, stupid!")

Somali intervention, 1992. U.S. troops attempted to provide food relief and stabilize the political situation, but left after a number of soldiers were killed. Because of this setback, the U.S. provided no assistance when over 1 million Rwandans were murdered in 1994.

Yugoslavia intervention. Ethnic strife in Yugoslavia resulted in bloodshed after

Bosnia and Croatia declared their independence in 1991. Serbian leader Milosevic urged Serbs in the region to fight other groups. U.S. and NATO forces used air strikes to force Serbia to withdraw from the region of Kosovo in 1999.

NAFTA, 1993—North American Free Trade Agreement reduced tariffs between Canada, the U.S. and Mexico.

Clinton Impeachment Crisis—Investigations by Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr into Clinton financial improprieties led him in 1998 to interview Monica Lewinsky, a 21-year old White House intern about a sexual affair with the President. Clinton was later impeached by the House for lying to a grand jury, suborning perjury, and leading a cover-up. In January 1999 Clinton was acquitted of all charges by the Senate.

Election of 2000. Vice-president Al Gore defeated Governor George W. Bush of Texas by over 500,000 popular votes, but lost by 300 votes (out of 6 million cast) in Florida, whose 25 electoral votes would prove decisive. In Bush v. Gore, the

Supreme Court voted 5-4 not to manually recount the ballots and Bush was elected president by the Electoral College.

September 11, 2001—Al Qaeda terrorists financed by Osama Bin Laden led four suicide attacks by planes (two destroying the World Trade Center in New York, one crashing into the Pentagon, and a fourth crashing in Pennsylvania) that killed over 3000 Americans and caused a financial slump.

Afghanistan offensive, October 2001. Air attacks and a U.S. invasion toppled the repressive Taliban regime that had sheltered Bin Laden. The U.S. began a military presence there that continues today.

Iraqi invasion, March 2003. Hoping for regime change in Iraq and contending that the Iraqis were hiding weapons of mass destruction, the U.S. led an air and land invasion of Iraq, despite lack of support from the United Nations or many of the nations in the Desert Storm coalition. After two months, Saddam's regime had collapsed and the U.S. began what appears to be a long, costly occupation of the nation.