



Chapter 25

The Roaring Twenties

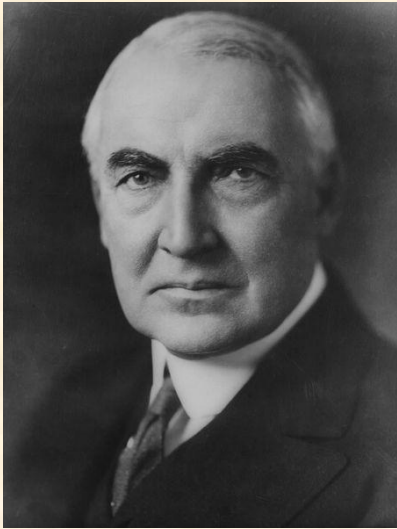
(1919-1929)

Textbook Pages 716-743

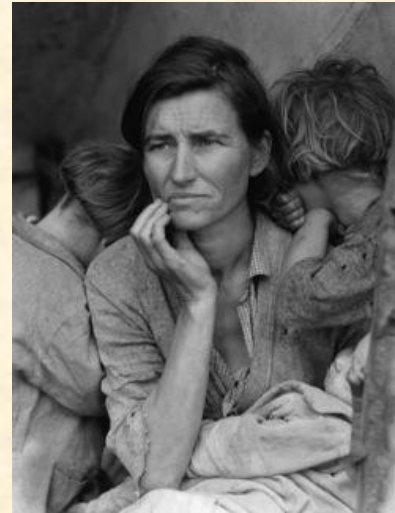


1. Politics and Prosperity

Warren G. Harding was elected as the new President in 1921. World War I helped the economy. Factories expanded rapidly to meet the need for military supplies. When the war was over more than 2 million soldiers came home looking for jobs. At the same time factories stopped turning out materials. The result was a sharp recession, or economic slump.



Warren G. Harding



Dorothea Lange's *Migrant Mother* depicts destitute pea pickers in California, centering on Florence Owens Thompson, a mother of seven children, age 32, in Nipomo, California, March 1936.

Harding filled his cabinet positions with his old friends. This created a scandal. Many believed Harding sudden death was attributed to the many scandals during his presidency. In the Teapot Dome Scandal the first cabinet official was sent to prison for being involved in an oil bribery. On the day Harding died, Calvin Coolidge, the Vice President became the new President.



Calvin Coolidge



Doheny (2nd from right) testifying before the Senate Committee investigating the Tea Pot Oil Leases

Coolidge set out to repair the damage caused by the scandals. Coolidge cut regulations on business to make the country prosper. As a result industry had a rapid economic growth. As a result their was more jobs and incomes rose. To encourage the buying of products, business allowed installment buying, or buying on credit.



Buying on credit led to a soaring [stock market](#). Corporations sold stocks, or shares of ownership, to investors. Investors made or lost money depending on whether the price of the shares went up or down. A period of increased stock trading or the rising of stock prices is known as a [bull market](#).



The [New York Stock Exchange](#)

The Soviet Union set up a government called communism. Communism is an economic system in which all wealth and property is owned by the community. Americans refused to recognize this government started by a man named Lenin. Most Americans disliked Communism. An Arms race was one of the Causes of World War I. Many Americans were in favor of a disarmament of Europe. A disarmament of weapons is a reduction of weapons.



Lenin



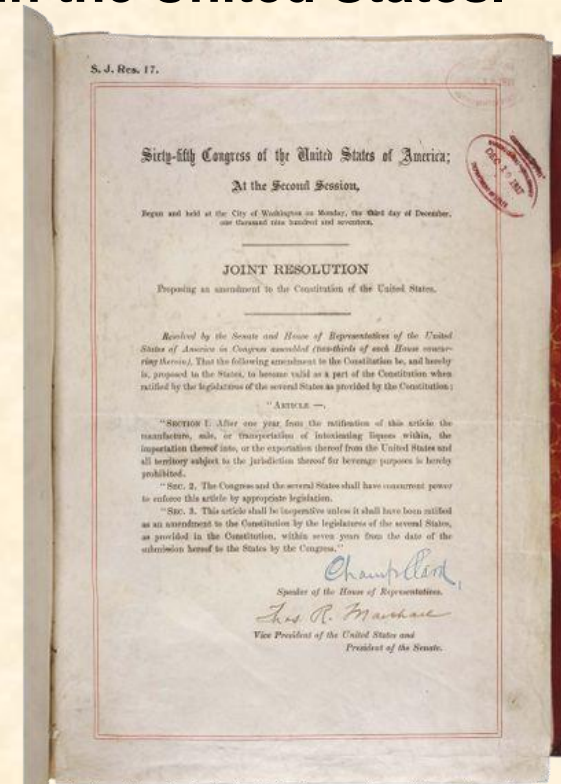
The Soviet
Flag

2. New Ways of Life

Prohibition began in the 1920's. Prohibition was the ban on the manufacture, sale, and transportation of liquor any where in the United States. Supporters of prohibition were overjoyed. Soon the Eighteenth Amendment went into affect. It banned the use of liquor in the United States.



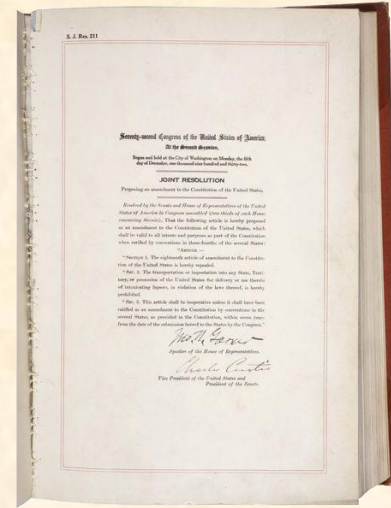
Liquor was banned in the United States.



Eighteenth Amendment



Click on picture to learn more about smugglers



[Twenty First Amendment](#)

Many Americans found ways to get around the law. People manufactured their own liquor in their own homes to get around the law. [Smugglers](#) hid bottles in their own boots, they became known as bootleggers. Organized crime took a great boost by providing liquor for every illegal speak-easy. Soon in 1933 the United States ratified the [Twenty First Amendment](#) which repealed, or cancelled the Eighteenth Amendment.

Another Amendment that changed American lives was the Nineteenth Amendment. Ratified in 1920, it gave women the right to vote. The league of women voters was set up to help educate the voters.



Suffragettes

Soon women served as delegates in the Republican and Democratic conventions. In 1924 two women governors were elected, [Nellie Tayloe Ross](#) and [Miriam A. Ferguson](#). Women of the suffrage movement also worked to pass the [Equal Rights Amendment](#). The Equal Rights Amendment stated that no rights shall be denied or abridged by the United States based on account of being a man or a woman.



[Nellie Tayloe Ross](#)



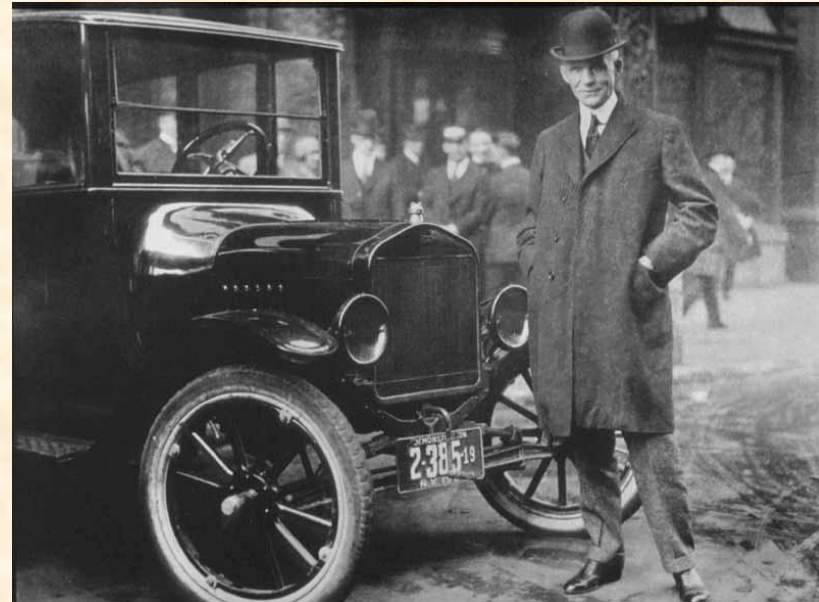
[Equal Rights Amendment](#)

Life had changed for women during World War I. Many women worked outside of their homes. When the troops returned home many women remained working outside of their home. Many bought ready made dresses. Electric appliances such as refrigerators and washing machines made life easier for women.



Women helped support the soldiers in WWI

The invention of the automobile had a great impact on Americans in the 1920's. Car sales grew rapidly during this period. Americans traveled to more places than ever before thanks to the automobile. The cost of the [Model T](#) dropped from \$850 to \$290. As a result, Americans do not to be rich to buy a car. Car prices also fell because factories became more efficient.



[Henry Ford](#)
and the
Model T

[Model T](#)

With the low cost of the Automobile people moved outside of the towns, called suburbs. A suburb is a community located outside the city. With cars people could drive to their job in the city even though it was miles away.



A suburb

Radio's became very popular in the 1920's. More than ten million families owned radios and listened to broadcasts. Millions of Americans went to the movies. The first movies had no sound and were in black and white. A pianist played music that went with the action.



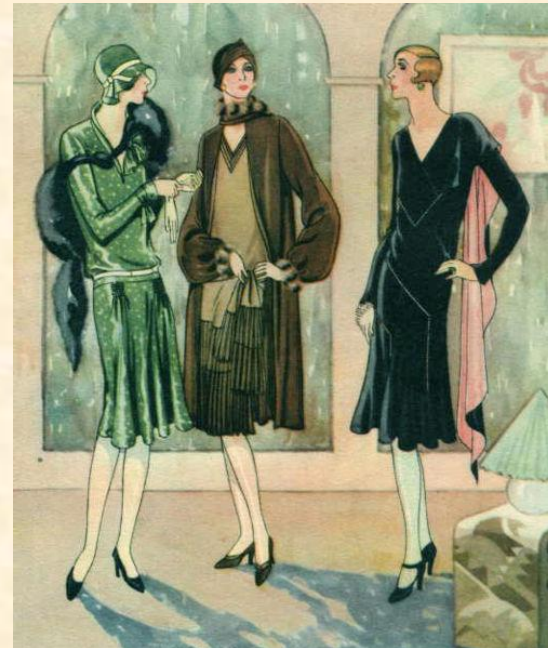
An early radio

3. The Roaring Twenties

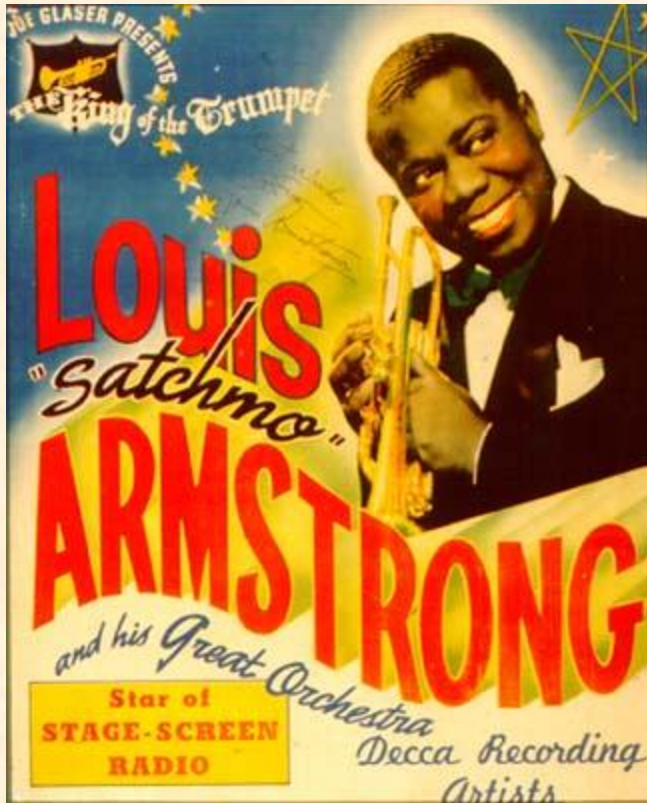
During the 1920's new dances, new music, new games and other new ways of fun swept the country. New fads caught on in the country. A fad is an activity or fashion that is taken up with great passion for a short time. Dances and crazes came and went rapidly. Young women known as flappers rebelled against the traditional ways of thinking and acting.



flappers

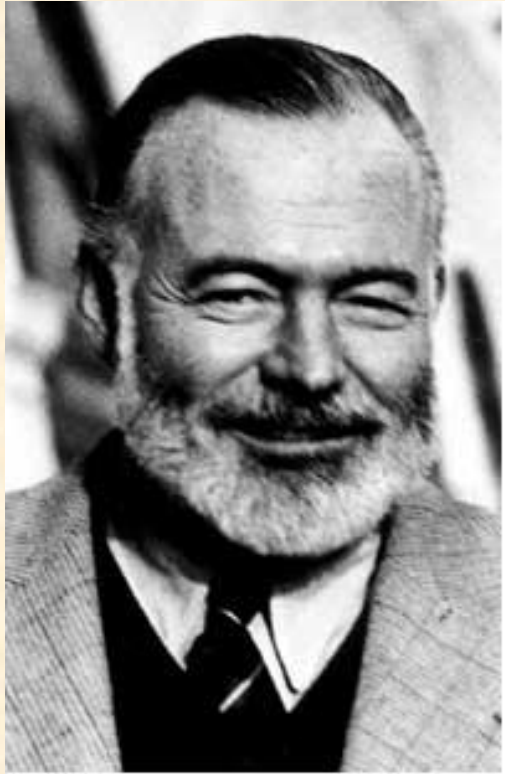


Louis Armstrong

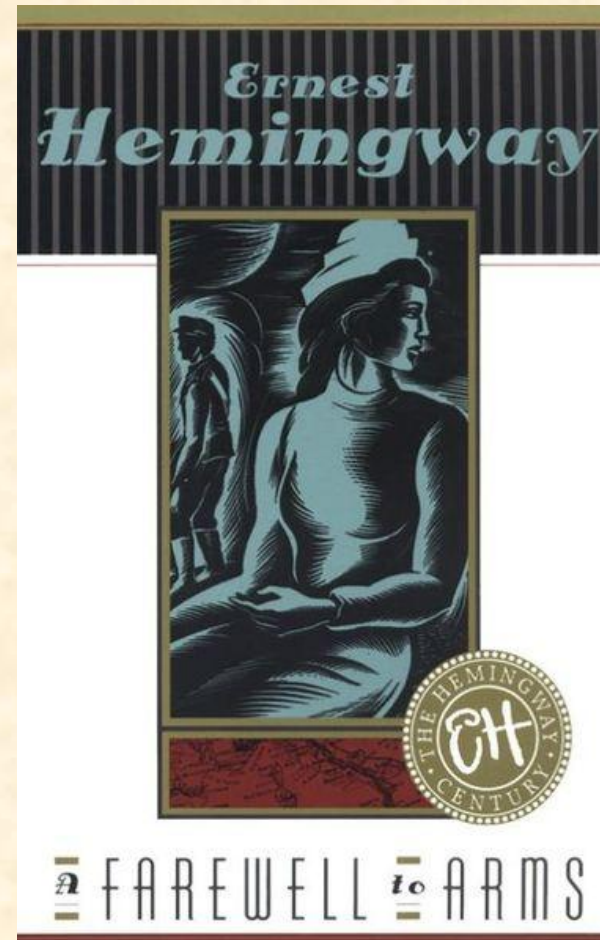


Another innovation in the 1920's was jazz. Born in New Orleans, jazz combined West African rhythms. Louis Armstrong was one of the brilliant young African American musicians who helped create jazz

New writers earned worldwide fame in the 1920's. [Ernest Hemingway](#) wrote of his war experiences in a novel called [A Farewell to Arms](#). The novel is about a young mans disgust for the war.



[Ernest Hemingway](#)





Duke Ellington and his orchestra



W.E.B. Du Bois was a famous writer of the Harlem Renaissance

In the 1920's, large numbers of African American musicians, artists , and writers settled in Harlem. This period of time became known as the Harlem Renaissance. During the Harlem Renaissance young black artists celebrated their African and American heritage. ¹⁸

Langston Hughes was the best known poet of the Harlem Renaissance. He published his first poem, The Negro Speaks of Rivers.



Langston Hughes

Athletes such as [Jack Dempsey](#), [Bill Tilden](#), and [Helen Wills](#) became famous during the 1920's. [Charles Lindbergh](#) flew a plane from New York across the Atlantic Ocean. He was known as "Lucky Lindy."



[Jack Dempsey](#)



[Bill Tilden](#)



[Charles Lindbergh](#)

4. A Nation Divided

In 1929 the average family earned \$2000.00 a year. Their was trouble with prosperity. Workers were hurt by the changes in industry. Shorter skirts meant lees material needed to be produced. Coal miners lost their jobs as oil became a new source of energy. Trains began losing business to the trucking industry. Farmers were hit the hardest during World War I. Europeans bought products from the farmers. After World War I they stopped buying the farmers products. The farmers could not pay off their loans after the war so they lost their farms.



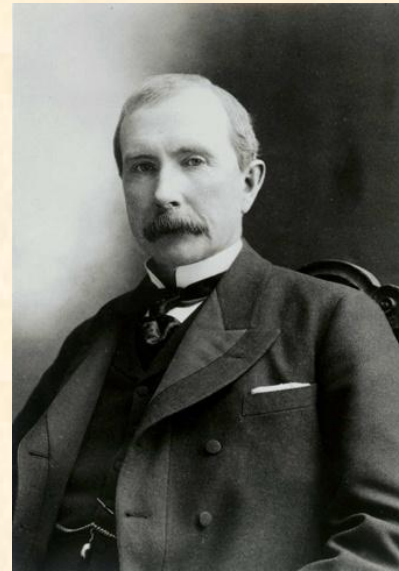
A farmer in
1929

After World War I workers demanded higher pay. Strikes broke out around the country. Judges limited the rights of unions in the courts. Company's created company unions or labor organizations that were controlled by the management.





Anarchist's
symbol

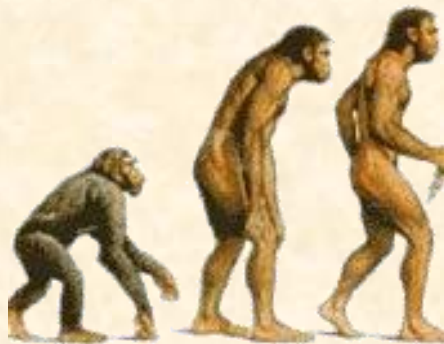


John D.
Rockefeller

With the rise of communism many Americans were on alert for secret spies that would sabotage, or secretly destroy property . Many people known as anarchists opposed the organized government in America. Many anarchists plotted to kill many well known Americans such as John D. Rockefeller. Many foreigners were deported, or expelled from the country. Their was anti-foreign feeling, known as nativism that developed among Americans. Congress responded by setting up the quota system. In the quota system only a certain number of Americans were allowed to enter from each country into the United States.



Scopes Trial

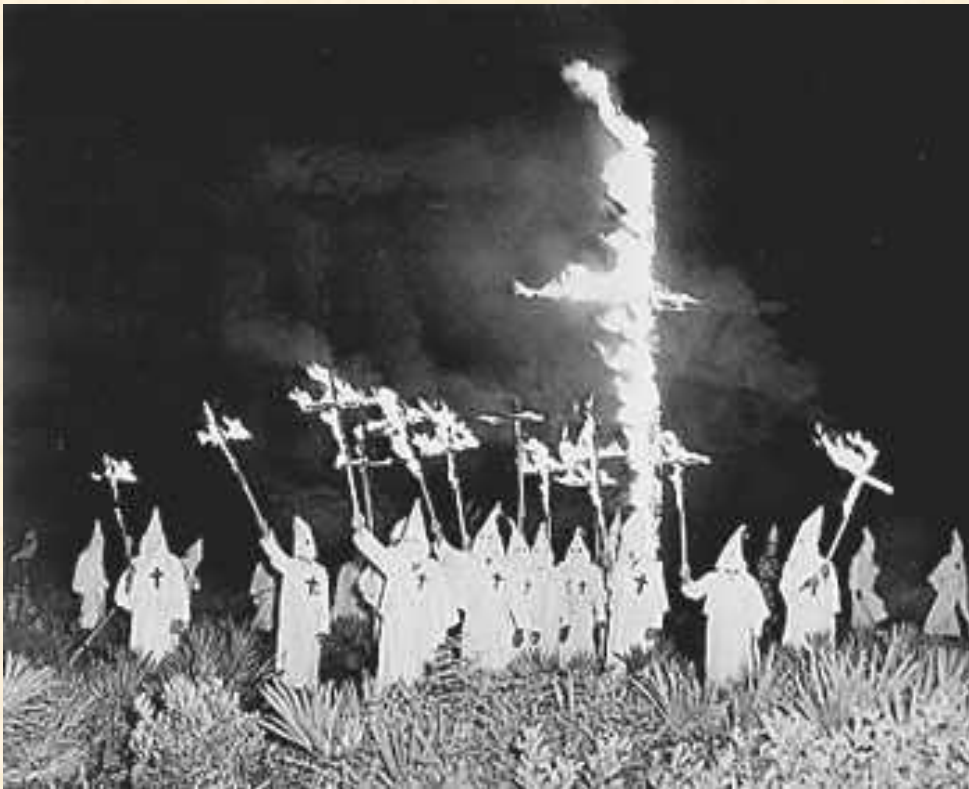


Theory of Evolution

In the Scopes Trial the class between old and new values erupted. Darwin's Theory of Evolution was on trial.

Churches condemned Darwin's Theory. As a result of the trial the teaching of evolution was condemned in schools, although it is rarely enforced today.

A new organization called the [Klu Klux Klan](#) began in 1915. The original Klan kept African Americans from voting during the Civil War. Now The Klan's had a broader aim: to preserve the United States for white, native-born Protestants. The Klan terrorized immigrants and African Americans by using lynching and burning crosses on front lawns.



After returning back from World War I African Americans returned back to a segregated society. Racial prejudice was widespread through the United States. [Marcus Garvey](#) became a popular black leader. He started a black nationalist movement.



Marcus Garvey (far right) in parade

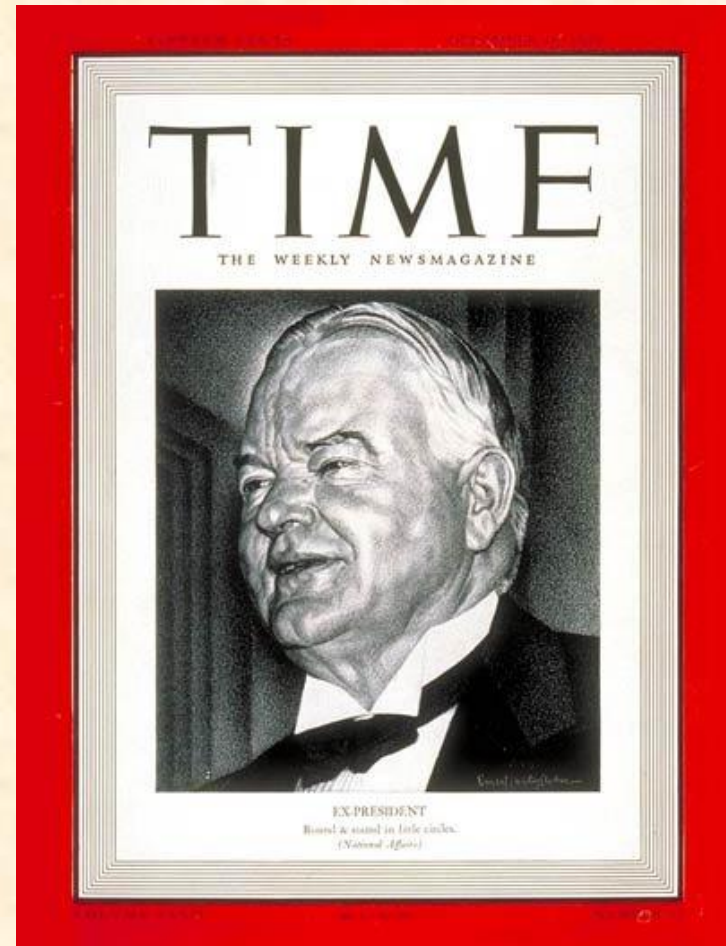


[Marcus Garvey](#)

In the election of 1928 Herbert Hoover became the new President of the United States of America. He was the 31st President of the United States.



Herbert Hoover



The End