

SECTION 1 Time Of Turmoil

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

World War I made some Americans intolerant—not willing to respect the beliefs or practices of others.

Key Terms

capitalism, anarchist, deport

Reading Strategy

Analyzing Information As you read the section, re-create the diagram below and answer the question for each blank.

	What was it?
The Red Scare	
Sacco-Vanzetti trial	
UNIA	

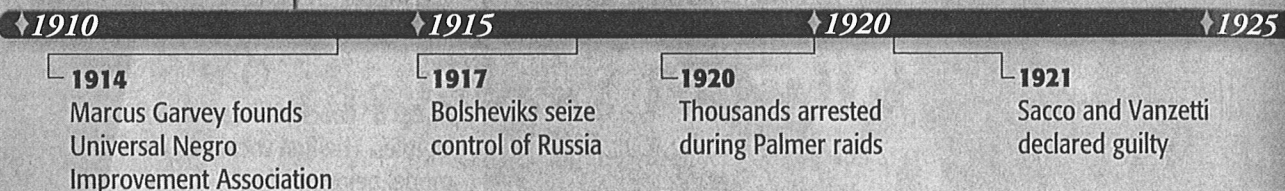
Read to Learn

- what factors contributed to prejudice toward foreigners.
- how the labor and racial unrest of the 1920s affected the nation.

Section Theme

Continuity and Change After World War I, conflicts came to the surface, especially among workers and different races.

Preview of Events



AN American Story

On a hot summer day in 1920, about 50,000 African Americans marched through the streets of Harlem in New York City. Thousands more lined the sidewalks, cheering the marchers. Their leader, Marcus Garvey, stirred new hope in African Americans, saying: "We are descendants of a people determined to suffer no longer." A participant at the march later recalled, "It was the greatest demonstration of [African American unity] in American history. . . ."

Fear of Radicalism

Most of the 1920s was anything but unified. During World War I, the United States government had taken away some of the liberties of American citizens. Many people who opposed the nation's role in the war were arrested. After the war an atmosphere of distrust remained. Tired of war and world responsibilities, Americans were eager to return to normal life. They grew more and more suspicious of foreigners, foreign ideas, and those who held views different from their own.

In 1919 Wilson and the world leaders attending the peace conference signed the **Treaty of Versailles**. Despite Wilson's efforts, however, the Senate refused to ratify the treaty.

At about the same time, the Russian Revolution deeply disturbed some Americans. As you read in Chapter 23, the Bolsheviks took control of Russia in November 1917 and began establishing a Communist state. They encouraged workers around the world to overthrow capitalism—an economic system based on private property and free enterprise—anywhere it existed. Many Americans feared that “bolshevism” threatened American government and institutions.

Fanning those fears were the actions of anarchists—people who believe there should be no government. A series of anarchist bombings in 1919 frightened Americans. A number of public officials—mayors, judges, and the attorney general of the United States—received packages containing bombs. One bomb blew off the hands of the maid of a United States senator. Many of the anarchists were foreign-born, which contributed to the fear of foreigners that was sweeping the country.

The Red Scare

This wave of fear led to the **Red Scare**, a period when the government went after “Reds”—as Communists were known—and others with radical views. In late 1919 and early

Picturing History

Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti enter a Massachusetts courtroom, while immigrant protesters in New York City demand the freedom of the two men. **What did the Sacco and Vanzetti case reveal about the feelings of many Americans?**



1920, Attorney General **A. Mitchell Palmer** and his deputy, J. Edgar Hoover, ordered the arrest of people suspected of being Communists and anarchists. Palmer and Hoover also staged raids on the headquarters of various “suspicious” groups. In the raids, the government arrested a few thousand people, ransacked homes and offices, and seized records. They did not find the large stockpiles of weapons and dynamite they claimed they were seeking.

Palmer said the raids were justified. “The blaze of revolution was sweeping over every American institution of law and order,” he declared, “burning up the foundations of society.” The government deported—expelled from the United States—a few hundred of the aliens it had arrested but quickly released many others for lack of evidence. In time people realized that the danger of revolution was greatly exaggerated. The Red Scare passed—but the fear underlying it remained.

Sacco and Vanzetti

Fear of immigrants and radical ideas surfaced in a criminal case in Massachusetts in 1920. Two men robbed a shoe factory in South Braintree, Massachusetts, shooting and killing a guard and





Strikes, such as the 1919 steel strike, lessened public support for labor unions.

paymaster. Soon afterward the police arrested Italian immigrants **Nicola Sacco** and **Bartolomeo Vanzetti** for the crime. The two men were tried and convicted in July 1921 and were sentenced to death.

The Sacco and Vanzetti case created a furor. Neither man had a criminal record. Both men were anarchists, and Sacco owned a pistol similar to the murder weapon. Future Supreme Court justice Felix Frankfurter wrote a defense of the two men. Chief Justice William Howard Taft attacked Frankfurter for “vicious propaganda.”

Many Americans demanded that the death sentence be carried out. In 1927 a special commission appointed by the governor of Massachusetts upheld the verdict. Sacco and Vanzetti—proclaiming their innocence—were executed. While historians continue to debate the verdict, the case suggested the depth of feelings against foreigners and radicals in the United States in the 1920s.

✓ Reading Check **Explaining** What is capitalism based on?

Labor Unrest

During the war years, labor and management had put aside their differences. A sense of patriotism, high wages, and wartime laws kept conflict to a minimum. When the war ended, conflict flared anew. American workers demanded

increases in wages to keep up with rapidly rising prices. They launched more than 2,500 strikes in 1919. The wave of strikes fueled American fears of Bolsheviks and radicals, whom many considered to be the cause of the labor unrest.

Strikes Sweep Country

A long and bitter strike—the largest in American history to that point—occurred in the steel industry. Demanding higher wages and an eight-hour workday, about 350,000 steelworkers went on strike in September 1919.

Using propaganda techniques learned during the war, the steel companies started a campaign against the strikers. In newspaper ads they accused the strikers of being “Red agitators.” Charges of communism cost the strikers much needed public support and helped force them to end the strike—but not before violence had occurred on both sides. Eighteen strikers had died in a riot in Gary, Indiana.

In September 1919, police officers in **Boston** went on strike, demanding the right to form a union. This strike by public employees angered many Americans, and they applauded the strong stand Massachusetts governor **Calvin Coolidge** took against the strikers. Coolidge said,

“There is no right to strike against the public safety by anybody, anywhere, any time.”

When the strike collapsed, officials fired the entire Boston police force. Most Americans approved of the decision.

Workers found themselves deeper in debt because of rising prices and unchanged wages. Still labor unions failed to win wide support among working families. Many Americans connected unions with radicalism and bolshevism. A growing feeling against unions, together with strong pressure from employers and the government not to join unions, led to a sharp drop in union membership in the 1920s.

During this period of union decline, a dynamic African American, **A. Philip Randolph**, started the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Made

up mostly of African Americans, this union of railroad workers struggled during its early years but began to grow in the 1930s, when government policy encouraged unions. In the 1950s and the 1960s, Randolph would emerge as a leader of the civil rights movement.

✓ Reading Check Summarizing What was the outcome of the Boston police strike?

Racial Unrest

During World War I, more than 500,000 African Americans had left the South for new jobs in the North. Many Northern whites resented African American competition for jobs.

In 1919 rising racial tensions led to violence. In the South more than 70 African Americans were lynched. In Chicago a violent riot broke out after a group of whites stoned an African American youth who was swimming in Lake Michigan. The youth drowned, and the incident set off rioting. For two weeks African American and white gangs roamed city streets, attacking each other and burning buildings. The riot left 15 whites and 23 African Americans dead and more than 500 people injured.

Many African Americans turned to **Marcus Garvey** for answers. Marcus Garvey was born to a poor family in Jamaica, the youngest of 11 children. Educated as a journalist and filled with ambition, Garvey arrived in New York City at the age of 28. A powerful leader with a magnetic personality, Garvey opposed integration. Instead he supported a “back-to-Africa” movement, urging African Americans to establish their own country in Africa. Garvey founded the **Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA)** in 1914 to promote racial unity and pride.

During the 1920s Garvey gained an enormous following and great influence, especially among the urban poor. Garvey told audiences that “to be a Negro is no disgrace, but an honor.” With branches in many states, the UNIA organized rallies and parades to build pride and confidence among African Americans. It helped African Americans start businesses. One African American newspaper summed up Garvey’s achievements: “He taught [African Americans] to admire and praise black things and black people.”

✓ Reading Check Explaining Did Marcus Garvey support or oppose integration? Explain.

SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT



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Checking for Understanding

- 1. Key Terms** Define each of the following terms: **capitalism**, **anarchist**, **deport**.
- 2. Reviewing Facts** Who were Sacco and Vanzetti? Explain how the fear of radicals and foreigners affected the outcome of the Sacco and Vanzetti trial.

Reviewing Themes

- 3. Continuity and Change** Why was there a sharp drop in union membership during the 1920s?

Critical Thinking

- 4. Drawing Conclusions** Suppose you are making a video about the life of Marcus Garvey. If he could speak to American youth today, what statement might he make?
- 5. Making Generalizations** Re-create the diagram below and list the reasons organized labor had for demanding better wages after the war.

Reasons for demanding better wages

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Analyzing Visuals

- 6. Picturing History** Compare the photographs of the demonstrators on pages 701 and 702. What are the purposes of the demonstrations? In what ways are the photos similar? Different?

Interdisciplinary Activity

Descriptive Writing Make a list of three to five adjectives that you think describe the mood of the country during this era. Draw or paint these adjectives on poster board in a way that expresses the words’ meanings.

SECTION 2 Desire for Normalcy

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

The Harding and Coolidge administrations stressed a return to government as it had been before progressivism and World War I.

Key Terms

lease, isolationism

Reading Strategy

Organizing Information As you read the section, re-create the diagram below and describe the policies the Harding and Coolidge administrations followed.

Administration policies	
Domestic affairs	Foreign affairs

Read to Learn

- what problems faced the Harding presidency.
- what policies Presidents Harding and Coolidge followed in business and foreign affairs.

Section Theme

Continuity and Change Presidents Harding and Coolidge promised to return America to normalcy after the war.

Preview of Events

♦ 1920

1920

Warren G. Harding is elected president

♦ 1925

1922

Senate investigates Teapot Dome lease

1923

Calvin Coolidge becomes president

♦ 1930

1928

Kellogg-Briand Pact aims to outlaw war

AN American Story

Warren G. Harding attracted attention with his friendly personality, fine voice, and handsome appearance. These glowing assets could easily make Harding president, thought political strategist Harry Daugherty. As Harding's campaign manager, Daugherty took credit for prodding Harding into the 1920 presidential race: "I found him sunning himself, like a turtle on a log, and I pushed him into the water."

The Harding Presidency

In the summer of 1920, the Republicans gathered in Chicago to nominate a candidate for president. Although confident of victory in the upcoming election, they had no outstanding leaders to head the party ticket. As one Republican noted, "There ain't any first raters this year." So party bosses chose "the best of the second raters" as their presidential candidate—Senator **Warren G. Harding** of Ohio. Harding had earned a reputation as a loyal Republican, and Ohio political boss Harry Daugherty pushed through his nomination.

Sensing Americans' longing for calm and stability after decades of progressive reform and world war, Harding declared in his campaign that "America's present need is not heroics, but healing." He promised a return to "normalcy." What Harding meant by "normalcy" was not really clear, but the word sounded reassuring to those Americans who wanted an end to foreign involvement and domestic turmoil.

As Harding's running mate, the Republicans nominated Massachusetts governor **Calvin Coolidge**, who was recognized for his firm stand in the Boston police strike. The Harding-Coolidge ticket won a landslide victory in November 1920—the first presidential election in which women could vote. The Republicans defeated the Democratic candidate, Governor **James Cox** of Ohio, and his young running mate, **Franklin Delano Roosevelt** of New York. The Republicans also made large gains in Congress.

Harding admitted having doubts about his qualifications for the presidency. He reportedly told a friend, "I knew that this job would be too much for me." He tried to compensate by appointing several talented people to the cabinet—**Charles Evans Hughes**, a former Supreme Court justice, as secretary of state; **Andrew Mellon**, a prominent Pittsburgh banker and financier, to head the Treasury Department; and **Herbert Hoover**, a talented organizer, as secretary of commerce.

The "Ohio Gang"

President Harding also gave jobs in government to many of his friends and political supporters—the so-called **Ohio Gang**. He appointed **Harry Daugherty** attorney general. He named Senator **Albert Fall** of New Mexico, a close friend, secretary of the interior. **Charles Forbes**, another friend, became head of the Veterans Bureau. Other friends of Harding filled offices throughout the administration.

Many of these appointees were unqualified; some turned out to be corrupt. By 1922 Washington buzzed with rumors of scandals within the Harding administration. Forbes, convicted of stealing funds from the Veterans Bureau, fled to avoid imprisonment. Daugherty was accused of receiving bribes but refused to resign.

Teapot Dome Scandal

The biggest scandal of the Harding administration involved **Albert Fall**. In 1922 Fall secretly leased, or rented, government oil reserves in Elk Hills, California, and Teapot Dome, Wyoming, to the owners of two oil companies. In exchange Fall received more than \$400,000. After the scandal became public, Fall was convicted of bribery and sent to prison, becoming the first cabinet officer ever to go to jail. **Teapot Dome** became a symbol of the corruption in the Harding administration and of government corruption and scandal in general.

Harding himself was not directly involved in any scandals, but as the rumors spread, he grew increasingly distressed. "I have no trouble with my enemies," he said. "But my friends . . . they're the ones that keep me walking the floor nights!"

Warren G. Harding conducted a successful "front porch" campaign for the presidency in 1920.





Analyzing Political Cartoons

The cartoonist uses familiar images of the 1920s.

"Big Business", portrayed as a carefree "flapper" girl, dances to jazz music played by President Coolidge.

What was the relationship between government and business during Coolidge's presidency?

Although Coolidge and Harding differed in style, they held similar political views. Coolidge believed that the best government was the least government and that government should not interfere in the life of the nation. He once said approvingly, "If the federal government should go out of existence, the common run of the people would not detect the difference for a considerable length of time."

In the summer of 1923, before the full story of the scandals came out, Harding escaped the stresses of Washington, D.C., by taking a trip west. During the trip he became ill, suffered a heart attack, and died.

Vice President Calvin Coolidge was visiting his father in Vermont when he was awakened in the early morning hours of August 3, 1923, with the news of President Harding's death. Coolidge's father, a justice of the peace, administered the presidential oath of office. Then the new president—in characteristic Coolidge fashion—calmly turned off the lights and went back to bed.

Honesty Returns to the White House

Calvin Coolidge was in many ways the complete opposite of Harding. While Harding loved to talk and meet people, Coolidge said very little and earned the name "Silent Cal." In addition, Coolidge had a reputation for honesty. After becoming president, he allowed the investigations into the Harding scandals to proceed without interference. He fired Daugherty and replaced the remaining members of the Ohio Gang with honest officials.

A Friend to Business

Under President Coolidge the government took an active role in supporting business. As the president explained, "The chief business of the American people is business. . . . The man who builds a factory builds a temple."

Coolidge and the Republican-dominated Congress aimed to create a favorable climate for business to promote the nation's economic prosperity. The government lowered income tax rates on the wealthiest Americans and on corporate profits and cut government spending. It also raised tariffs to protect American business and overturned laws regulating child labor and wages for women.

A New Term

Coolidge seemed to be exactly what the country wanted. At the Republican national convention in 1924, the president was nominated without opposition. The Democrats took more than 100 ballots to nominate a little-known lawyer, John W. Davis of West Virginia, as their presidential candidate. Wisconsin senator Robert La Follette led a third party, the Progressives, in

the race. Coolidge swept the 1924 presidential election with 54 percent of the popular vote. For the first time in America's history, women won governors' races—**Nellie Tayloe Ross** in Wyoming and **Miriam Ferguson** in Texas.

Reading Check Comparing Do you think Coolidge followed Harding's policies about business? Explain.

Foreign Policy

Harding and Coolidge both favored a limited role for the nation in world affairs. They desired world peace but did not want the nation to join the League of Nations or become involved in international disagreements. Harding had promised the American people that he would not lead them into the League "by the side door, back door, or cellar door." Many Americans supported this policy of isolationism.

Promoting Peace

The Harding administration made serious efforts to promote peace. After the war the United States, Great Britain, and Japan began a naval arms race. In 1921 Secretary of State Hughes invited Japan and Britain to Washington, D.C., to discuss the problem. In February 1922 the three nations, along with France and Italy, signed the **Five-Power Treaty** to limit the

size of the nations' navies. The treaty marked the first time in modern history that world powers agreed to disarm.

The United States continued working for peace. In August 1928, it joined 14 other nations in signing the **Kellogg-Briand Pact**, which called for outlawing war. Within a few years, 48 other nations had signed the pact, but it lacked any means of enforcing peace.

A More Friendly Neighbor

The United States had intervened in Latin American countries several times in the early 1900s to support American business interests. When Harding took office, American troops were stationed in Haiti, the **Dominican Republic**, and **Nicaragua**, and relations with Mexico were tense.

After the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua held elections in the mid-1920s, the United States withdrew its troops from those countries.

At about the same time, American investors asked President Coolidge to send troops into Mexico when its government threatened to take over foreign-owned oil and mining companies. Coolidge chose to negotiate instead, and the United States reached a settlement with Mexico.

Reading Check Explaining Why would the Kellogg-Briand Pact prove to be ineffective?

SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT

HISTORY
Online

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Checking for Understanding

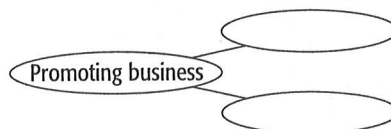
- Key Terms** Use the terms **lease** and **isolationism** in separate sentences that will help explain their meanings.
- Reviewing Facts** Where was Teapot Dome? What did Teapot Dome come to symbolize?

Reviewing Themes

- Continuity and Change** What actions did the United States take to promote world peace in the 1920s?

Critical Thinking

- Comparing** What role did Harding and Coolidge think the government should play in people's lives?
- Making Generalizations** Re-create the diagram below and list two ways the United States government worked to promote American business.



Analyzing Visuals

- Political Cartoons** Study the cartoon on page 706. Who do the figures represent? What image of the Federal government does the cartoon portray?

Interdisciplinary Activity

Art Draw a political cartoon that illustrates an example of an event that took place during the Harding presidency. Make sure to include a caption with your cartoon.

SECTION 3 A Booming Economy

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

The United States experienced periods of prosperity and economic expansion during the 1920s.

Key Terms

recession, gross national product, productivity, installment buying

Reading Strategy

Analyzing Information As you read the section, re-create the diagram below and describe how these ideas affected the American economy.

	Effect on economy
Scientific management	
Assembly line	
Installment buying	

Read to Learn

- how the prosperity of the 1920s affected the nation and the American people.
- what impact the automobile had on American life.

Section Theme

Economic Factors After a brief post-war recession, the American economy began a steady growth that lasted for most of the 1920s.

Preview of Events

◆ 1920

1920s

Stock market booms

1922

GNP reaches \$70 billion

◆ 1925

1924

Model T sells for less than \$300

◆ 1930

1929

Electricity runs 70 percent of factories

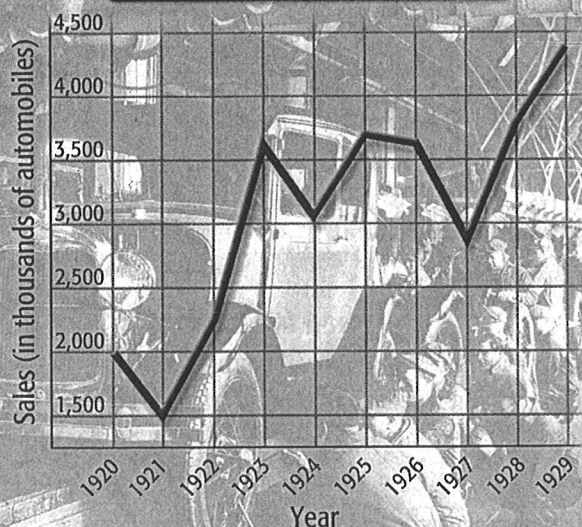
AN American Story

During the “golden age of the automobile” in the 1920s, the car became a vital part of many Americans’ lives. A mother of nine children said that her family “would rather do without clothes than give up the car.” In the past, they had wanted to visit her sister-in-law, but by the time the children were “shoed and dressed” there wasn’t any money left to pay for trolley fare. “Now no matter how [the children] look, we just poke ‘em in the car and take ‘em along.”

Growth in the 1920s

After World War I, the American economy experienced problems readjusting to peacetime. Millions of soldiers returned, entering the labor force and competing for jobs. Government orders for wartime goods came to a halt, forcing many companies to lay off workers. Other companies went bankrupt. Prices rose, making it hard for workers to make ends meet. This economic downturn, or recession, lasted about two years. The economy then began a steady growth that lasted most of the decade. In 1922 the nation’s gross national product

Auto Sales, 1920–1929



Source: Historical Statistics of the United States from Colonial Times to 1970.

Graph Skills

A drop in auto sales occurred in 1927 when Ford stopped producing the Model T. Six months later his new Model A was produced.

Comparing About how many more autos were sold in 1928 than in 1924?

(GNP)—the total value of all goods and services produced—was \$70 billion. By 1929 it had risen to \$100 billion!

Technology made rapid industrial growth possible, and electricity powered American industry. Before World War I, only 30 percent of factories were run by electricity. By 1929 this figure had risen to 70 percent. Electricity was cheaper than steam power. By cutting costs, businesses could lower prices and increase profits.

Scientific Management

New ways of managing operations contributed to economic growth as well. Many employers used **scientific management**—hiring experts to study how goods could be produced more quickly. By adopting new work methods, businesses tried to lower costs and increase **productivity**—the amount of work each worker could do.

Many businesses adopted mass production techniques using the **assembly line**, which was

first introduced in Henry Ford's automobile factories. Assembly line methods increased productivity and cut production costs.

Worker Relations

Businesses tried to build better relations with workers. Many companies set up safety programs that lowered the risk of death or injury on the job. Some began to provide health and accident insurance. Many companies encouraged workers to buy stock in the company. These steps—known as **welfare capitalism**—were designed to link workers more closely to the company they worked for. Business also adopted these steps to discourage workers from joining independent unions.

The Consumer Economy

American industry changed in another way as well. As electricity became more available, demand grew for appliances using electric power. By the 1920s, more than 60 percent of American households had electricity. Consumers eagerly acquired refrigerators, stoves, vacuum cleaners, fans, and radios. As demand for these items grew, more and more of them were produced, leading to reduced production costs and lower prices. Between 1920 and 1929, for example, the cost of a refrigerator dropped from \$600 to \$300.

These appliances transformed daily life. People did not have to spend as much time on household chores. Now they had more leisure time.

In the 1920s successful companies joined with or purchased competitors. Three companies—Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler—dominated the auto industry. One grocery chain—the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company (A&P)—had more than 15,000 stores across the country. Businesses became national as the products of many local companies were replaced by national brands.

To market those national brands, businesses spent more and more money on advertising. Propaganda techniques learned during World War I were now used to persuade consumers to buy a particular brand of toothpaste, clothing, or soap. Newspapers and magazines were filled

with ads, and with the spread of radio a new advertising form—the commercial announcement—was born.

Spurred by ads to buy more and more, consumers found a new way to make those purchases—**installment buying**. Consumers could now buy products by promising to pay small, regular amounts over a period of time. One critic of installment buying called the system “a dollar down and a dollar a week forever.” The installment method of buying boosted consumer spending.

Reading Check Explaining Why did the price of some consumer goods decrease?

The Automobile Age

More often than not, people used the installment plan to buy a new car. During the 1920s, automobile registrations jumped from 8 million

to 23 million. America quickly became a “car culture,” in which people’s lives revolved around the automobile. The nation’s economy, too, revolved around the automobile. Almost four million Americans worked for auto companies or in related jobs. **Detroit, Michigan**, became the automobile manufacturing center of the world.

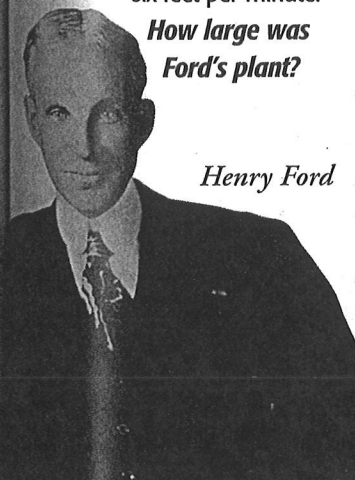
Henry Ford was a pioneer in the manufacture of affordable automobiles with his **Model T**, which was built using assembly line methods. The car was sturdy, reliable, inexpensive, and available only in black. In 1914 Ford stunned the auto industry—and all corporate leaders, for that matter—by announcing that he would pay his workers the high wage of \$5 per day. Workers were happy, and Ford had more potential customers as he steadily dropped the price of his Model T. By 1924 the car sold for less than \$300. With the average industrial worker earning about \$1,300 a year, many families could afford to buy a Model T.

TECHNOLOGY & History

Henry Ford's Assembly Line

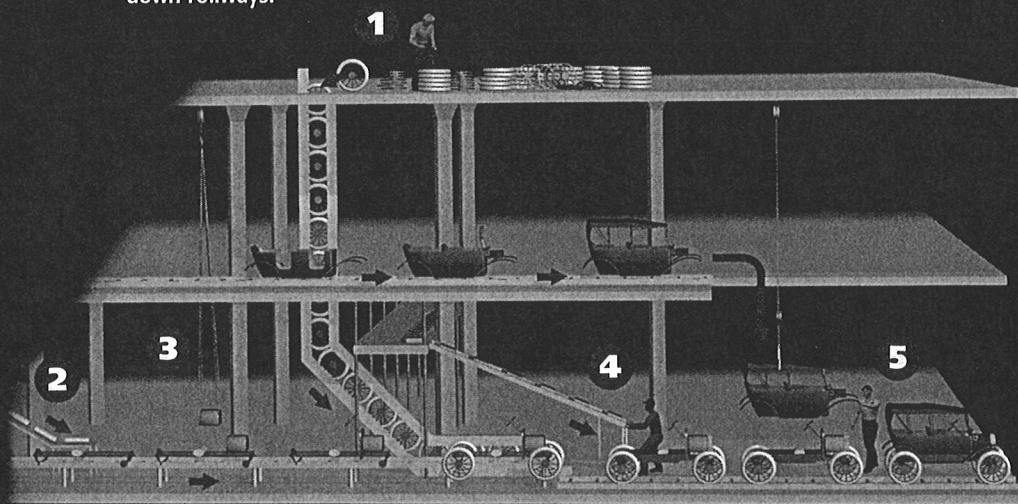
The industrial boom of the 1920s owed much to the assembly line Henry Ford first used in 1913–1914. Parts moved on a conveyor belt. Workers attached the parts to cars moving past them at a steady speed of six feet per minute.

How large was Ford's plant?



Henry Ford

1 Tires are put on the wheels and dropped down rollways.



2 Tanks filled with one gallon of gas slide from the “Tank Bridge.”

3 Engines built on the third floor are lowered onto the chassis.

4 Radiators arrive from the far end of the 60-acre factory.

5 Auto bodies are assembled on the second floor, then lowered through the ceiling onto the moving chassis.



Student Web Activity

Visit taj.glencoe.com and click on **Chapter 24—Student Web Activities** for an activity on the history of the automobile.

By the mid-1920s, other automobile models challenged the Model T. General Motors cut into Ford's sales by offering a line of cars in a range of colors and with features to improve passenger comfort. In 1927 Ford

responded with the **Model A**, which had better engineering and came in several colors. Out of this competition came the practice of introducing new car models each year.

Effect on Other Industries

The automobile had a tremendous impact on other American industries. Americans' love of driving called for new roads and highways. Highways, in turn, needed gas stations and rest stops. Businesses along major roads profited from the millions of people now traveling around the country by car. Tourism grew dramatically.

The car boom affected industries that made products used in cars. The steel, rubber, and glass industries grew. During the 1920s the oil industry shifted from producing lubricants to refining gasoline for automobiles.

The automobile dramatically changed the lives of many Americans. Travel for pleasure became a regular part of American life. People could now go wherever they wished. Cars also

contributed to the spread of suburbs. Because people could now drive to work, they could live in a suburb and still hold a job in the city.

Those Left Behind

Despite all the signs of prosperity, many Americans did not share in the boom of the 1920s. Farmers had an especially difficult time. During the war, the federal government had purchased wheat, corn, and other products, and farmers had prospered from higher prices. When the war ended, farmers had to compete with European agriculture again. Food prices fell, and farm income plummeted. Unable to pay their debts, many farmers lost their farms.

Farmers were not the only ones feeling the pinch. Those who worked in the railroad and coal mining industries had a difficult time as trucks took business from railroads and electricity replaced coal as a power source. Americans now were buying less cotton and more clothes made of synthetic fibers. As cotton prices plunged, many textile factories were forced to shut down. Wages rose slightly for most workers, but the cost of living rose more. By 1929 nearly three-fourths of families had incomes below \$2,500, the accepted level necessary for a comfortable life.

✓ Reading Check Explaining What action did Henry Ford take when other auto manufacturers offered new lines of cars?

SECTION 3 ASSESSMENT

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Checking for Understanding

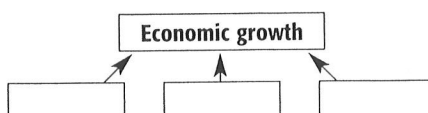
- 1. Key Terms** Define each of the following terms: **recession**, **gross national product**, **productivity**, **installment buying**.
- 2. Reviewing Facts** Describe the economic problems that existed in America after World War I.

Reviewing Themes

- 3. Economic Factors** How did the auto industry help boost other industries?

Critical Thinking

- 4. Drawing Conclusions** How did welfare capitalism discourage people from joining unions?
- 5. Organizing Information** Re-create the diagram below and identify three factors that helped to bring about a strong economy.



Analyzing Visuals

- 6. Graph Skills** Study the graph on page 710. In which year did auto sales first pass three million?

Interdisciplinary Activity

Math Research the total auto sales for a recent 10-year period. Compare your findings with the graph on page 710. Write a paragraph comparing the two sets of figures. Include any conclusions you reach.

SECTION 4 The Roaring Twenties

Guide to Reading

Main Idea

Many Americans favored traditional values, while others favored change.

Key Terms

flapper, mass media, expatriate, Prohibition, nativism, quota system, evolution

Reading Strategy

Organizing Information As you read the section, re-create the diagram below and describe the accomplishments of these individuals.

	Accomplishments
Charles Lindbergh	
Bessie Smith	
Langston Hughes	
Ernest Hemingway	

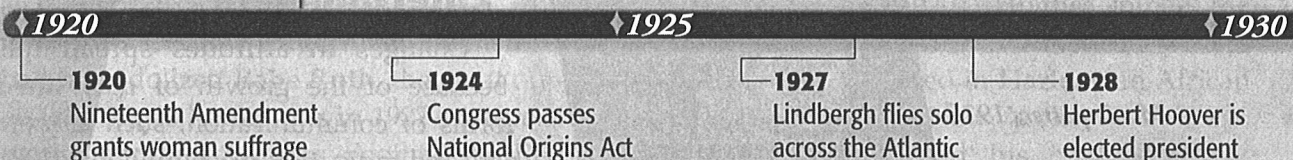
Read to Learn

- how lifestyles in America changed in the 1920s.
- what cultural clashes occurred in the United States in the 1920s.

Section Theme

Continuity and Change The Roaring Twenties were a time of changing attitudes and clashing cultures.

Preview of Events



AN American Story

On the evening of May 19, 1927, a young pilot named Charles Lindbergh learned that, although it was drizzling on Long Island, the weather reports predicted fair skies for his miraculous trip. He decided to get ready. Throughout a sleepless night, Lindbergh made the final preparations for takeoff. Shortly before 8:00 A.M., Lindbergh climbed into his aircraft and took off for Paris. With the news of his departure “flashing along the wires,” the American people were united in “the exaltation of a common emotion.” All minds and hearts were focused on the brave pilot who was crossing the vast Atlantic Ocean.

New Directions

In May 1927, aviator **Charles Lindbergh** became the first person to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean. He did so in a tiny, single-engine plane named the *Spirit of St. Louis*. Americans went wild and hailed a new hero. Cities across the nation held parades to honor Lindbergh—in New York City well-wishers threw