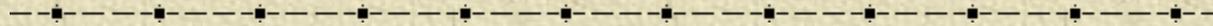




Chapter Twenty-Two

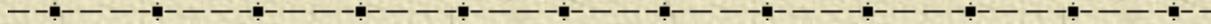


World War I, 1914—1920





Part One:



Introduction



World War I



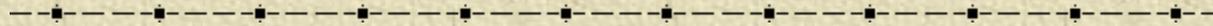
✦ How does this painting reflect American opinion on World War I?

Chapter Focus Questions

- ✦ How did America's international role expand?
- ✦ How did the United States move from neutrality to participation in the Great War?
- ✦ How did the United States mobilize the society and the economy for war?
- ✦ How did Americans express dissent and how was it repressed?
- ✦ Why did Woodrow Wilson fail to win the peace?



Part Two:



American Communities

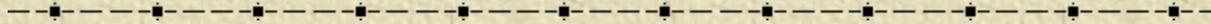


Vigilante Justice in Bisbee, Arizona

- ✦ The radical Industrial Workers of the World (“Wobblies”) organized a peaceful strike that won support from over half the town’s miners in 1917.
- ✦ Armed men began rounding up strikers at a copper mine in Bisbee, Arizona.
 - ◆ The sheriff and town’s businessmen justified vigilantism by invoking patriotism and racial purity.
 - ◆ Of the 2,000 men kept under armed guard, 1,400 refused to return to work and were taken on a freight train to a small town in the desert.
- ✦ Neither the federal nor the state government would act.
- ✦ The Arizona mines operated without unions into the 1930s and with very few immigrant workers.



Part Three:



**Becoming a
World Power**



Roosevelt: The Big Stick

- ✦ Americans believed that they had a God-given role to promote a moral world order.
- ✦ Theodore Roosevelt's "big stick" approach called for intervention.
 - ◆ He secured a zone in Panama for a canal, completed in 1914.
 - ◆ He expanded the Monroe Doctrine to justify armed intervention in the Caribbean where the United States assumed management of several nations' finances.
- ✦ In Asia, the United States pursued the "Open Door" policy.
- ✦ TR mediated a settlement of the Russo-Japanese War.

Taft: Dollar Diplomacy

- ✦ Map: The U. S. in the Caribbean
- ✦ Roosevelt's successor, William Howard Taft, favored "dollar diplomacy" that substituted investment for military intervention.
 - ◆ Taft believed that political influence would follow increased U.S. trade and investments.
 - ◆ American investment in Central America doubled.
- ✦ Military interventions occurred in Honduras and Nicaragua.
- ✦ In Asia, the quest for greater trade led to worsening relations with Japan over the issue ownership of Chinese railroads.

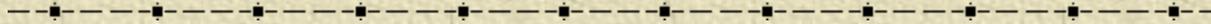
Wilson:

Moralism and Realism in Mexico

- ✦ Woodrow Wilson had no diplomatic experience before becoming president.
- ✦ He favored expanding the Open Door principle of equal access to markets.
- ✦ He saw expansion of American capitalism in moral terms.
 - ◆ The complex realities of power politics interfered with his moral vision.
- ✦ Unable to control the revolution in Mexico, Wilson sent troops to Vera Cruz and northern Mexico.
- ✦ When relations with Germany worsened, Wilson accepted an international commission's recommendation and withdrew U.S. troops from Mexico.



Part Four:



The Great War



The Guns of August

- ✦ Competition between Britain and Germany had led to competing camps of alliances.
 - ◆ The Triple Alliance (Central Powers): Germany, Italy, and Austria-Hungary
 - ◆ The Triple Entente (Allied Powers): England, France, and Russia
- ✦ The alliances prevented small problems but threatened to entangle many nations in any war that erupted.
- ✦ The assassination of the Archduke of Austria by a Serbian nationalist in 1914 escalated into a general war.
 - ◆ Germany had pushed Austria to retaliate against Serbia.
 - ◆ Serbia was under the protection of Russia.
 - ◆ If Serbia was attacked, Russia would enter the conflict, bringing England and France as well.

American Neutrality

- ✦ Wilson and most Americans wanted to stay neutral.
- ✦ Many Americans had Old World ties.
- ✦ The English and Germans bombarded Americans with propaganda.
- ✦ Economic ties hurt American neutrality.
 - ◆ Wilson opposed the British blockade of Germany but did not trade with the Germans.
 - ◆ Trade with the Allies increased dramatically.

Preparedness and Peace

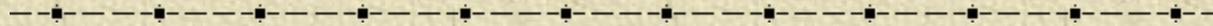
- ✦ Germany declared the waters around Britain to be a war zone and began submarine attacks.
- ✦ In May 1915 Germans sank the *Lusitania*, a British passenger ship secretly loaded with armaments, killing 1,198 people including 128 Americans.
- ✦ In March 1916, Germany changed its submarine policy, but Wilson pushed for greater war preparation.
 - ◆ Opponents mobilized on the streets and in Congress.
- ✦ In 1916, Wilson won re-election with the slogan “He Kept Us Out of War.”

Safe for Democracy

- ✦ Germans resumed unrestricted submarine warfare in February 1917 gambling that they could destroy the Allies before America intervened.
 - ◆ Wilson broke diplomatic relations with Germany.
- ✦ The White House publicized a note from the German foreign secretary to Mexico which proposed an alliance with Mexico if the United States entered the war.
- ✦ The Zimmerman note provoked an outpouring of anti-German feeling.
 - ◆ Wilson issued an executive order authorizing the arming of merchant ships and allowing them to shoot at submarines.
 - ◆ In one month German U-boats sank seven merchant ships.
- ✦ On April 6, 1917, Congress declared war.



Part Five:



American Mobilization



Selling the War

- ✦ Uncertain about public backing for the war, Wilson appointed George Creel to head the Committee on Public Information that tried to promote public support.
- ✦ Creel enlisted over 150,000 people to promote the cause.
- ✦ The CPI:
 - ◆ published literature
 - ◆ sponsored huge rallies featuring movie stars
 - ◆ portrayed America as a unified moral community engaged in a crusade for peace and freedom
 - ◆ depicted Germans as bestial monsters

Fading Opposition to War

- ✦ Many progressives and intellectuals identified with Wilson's definition of the war as a defense of democracy.
- ✦ Women's suffrage leaders who had initially opposed war preparedness threw themselves behind the war effort.
 - ◆ The war effort gave women a leading role in their communities selling war bonds, coordinating food conservation drives, and working for hospitals and the Red Cross.
 - ◆ Many hoped that supporting the war effort would help the suffrage cause.
- ✦ Only a minority maintained their opposition to the war.

“You’re in the Army Now”

- ✦ Recruiting a large army required a draft that met with only scattered organized resistance.
- ✦ On the first day, nearly 10 million men registered for the draft.
 - ◆ By the end of the war 24 million had registered, 2.8 had been called to serve, and 2 million had volunteered.
- ✦ Recruits took a range of psychological and intelligence tests.
- ✦ Some praised the army for promoting democratic equality among the troops.

Racism in the Military

- ✦ But black troops were organized into separate units and subjected to white harassment.
- ✦ Most had noncombat jobs, but those African Americans who did fight served with distinction, and were well treated by the French.

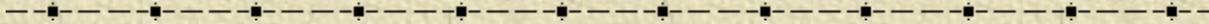
Americans in Battle

✦ Map: The Western Front, 1918

- ✦ Initially, American support for the war effort concentrated on protecting shipping.
- ✦ The massive influx of American troops and supplies hastened the end of the war.
- ✦ In 1918, fresh American troops shored up defensive lines to stop a German advance that came within fifty miles of Paris.
- ✦ Americans joined the counter-offensive that followed and helped force the Germans into signing an armistice.
- ✦ Approximately 112,000 Americans died—half from disease—and twice that number were wounded. However, these losses were far less than the millions of losses suffered by European nations.



Part Six:



Over Here



Organizing the Economy

- ✦ In a sense, WWI was the ultimate progressive crusade.
- ✦ Wilson established the War Industries Board to coordinate industrial mobilization.
 - ◆ Headed by Bernard Baruch, the WIB forced industries to comply with government plans.
- ✦ Herbert Hoover ran the Food Administration.
- ✦ The Fuel Administration introduced daylight saving time.
- ✦ Financing the war required new taxes.
- ✦ Most of the needed financing came from Liberty Bond drives.

The Business of War

- ✦ Industrialists saw the war as an opportunity for expansion and high profits.
- ✦ Henry Ford pioneered efficient mass production techniques.
- ✦ Businessmen and farmers saw the war years as a golden age of high demand and high profits.
- ✦ The need to coordinate war mobilization:
 - ◆ required more efficient management
 - ◆ resulted in an unprecedented business-government partnership
- ✦ Government cooperation helped to create new corporations like RCA that set the stage for the new radio broadcasting industry of the 1920s.
- ✦ Some worried about the trend toward a higher government presence in their lives.

Labor and the War

- ✦ The wartime labor shortage led to higher wages and a growth in union membership.
- ✦ The National War Labor Board (NWLB) included AFL President Samuel Gompers and former President Taft.
 - ◆ It mediated wage disputes and arbitrated solutions that generally led to higher wages.
 - ◆ The NWLB supported workers' rights to organize unions and the eight-hour day.
- ✦ Immigration laws were eased in the Southwest to recruit Mexican workers.
- ✦ The radical IWW was destroyed as businesses and government cracked down on it. Over 300 "Wobblies" were arrested in a single government roundup, effectively destroying the organization.

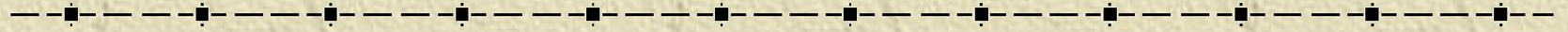
Women at Work

- ✦ The war allowed women to shift from low paid domestic service to higher-paying industrial jobs.
- ✦ The Women in Industry Service advised industry on the use of women workers and won improved conditions.
- ✦ Women earned much less than their male counterparts.
- ✦ At the end of the conflict, nearly all women lost their war-related jobs.

Woman Suffrage

- ✦ The war also brought a successful conclusion to the women's suffrage campaign.
 - ◆ Prior to WWI, women in several western states had won the vote.
 - ◆ Most suffragists had opposed entry into the war.
- ✦ Carrie Chapman Catt, a key leader, convinced her organization to back the war effort.
- ✦ Militants like Alice Paul pursued a strategy of agitation.
- ✦ Catt won Wilson's support and by 1920 the nineteenth amendment became law.

The Vote for Women



✦ Map: Woman Suffrage by State, 1869–1919

Prohibition

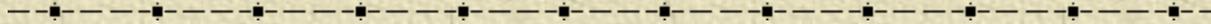
- ✦ During the war, the temperance movement benefited from:
 - ◆ anti-German feeling that worked against breweries with German names
 - ◆ the need to conserve grain
 - ◆ moral fervor associated with the entry into the war
- ✦ Prohibition gained during the war leading to passage of the eighteenth amendment.

Public Health

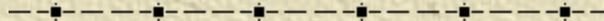
- ✦ The war effort also addressed public health issues such as child welfare, disease prevention, and sex hygiene.
- ✦ The government attempted to safeguard the soldiers' moral health by discouraging drinking and educating troops on the dangers of venereal disease.
- ✦ Both the war and a worldwide flu epidemic that killed 20 million people in 1918–1919 influenced Congress to appropriate money for public health after the return of peace.
- ✦ In the postwar years, clinics for prenatal and obstetrical care greatly reduced the rate of infant and maternal mortality and disease.



Part Seven:



**Repression and
Reaction**



Muzzling Dissent: The Espionage and Sedition Acts

- ✦ WWI intensified social tensions in American life, leading to oppression of dissent. The Espionage Act of June 1917:
 - ◆ set severe penalties for anyone found guilty of aiding the enemy.
 - ◆ excluded from the mail periodicals the postmaster considered treasonous.
- ✦ The Military Intelligence police force grew and a civilian Bureau of Intelligence (precursor to the FBI) was established.
- ✦ The Sedition Act widened the government's power to crush antiwar opposition.
- ✦ The Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of these prosecutions.

The Great Migration

- ✦ Economic opportunity triggered a mass African-American migration out of the South and into northern cities.
- ✦ Kinship and community networks were pivotal to the Great Migration.
 - ✦ Black clubs, churches, and fraternal lodges sponsored the migration of their members.
- ✦ Most migrants settled for lower-paid jobs as laborers, janitors, porters, etc.

Racial Tensions

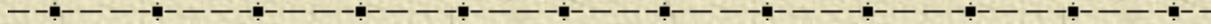
- ✦ Racial violence in the South had contributed to the Great Migration.
 - The NAACP held a national conference on lynching in 1919 pledging to defend persecuted African Americans, publicize the horrors of the lynch law, and seek legislation against it.
- ✦ In the North, white outrage at the African-American influx exploded in a series of riots.
- ✦ African Americans who had hoped their service in the war would be rewarded were quickly disillusioned.
- ✦ Many returned with an increased sense of militancy.

Labor Strife

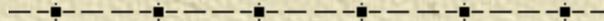
- ✦ Peace in Europe shattered the labor peace at home.
- ✦ Postwar labor unrest was caused by:
 - ◆ inflation
 - ◆ non-recognition of unions
 - ◆ poor working conditions
 - ◆ concerns about job security
- ✦ In 1919, there were 3,600 strikes involving 4 million workers.
- ✦ The largest was the steel strike which involved 350,000 workers and was unsuccessful.



Part Eight:



**An Uneasy
Peace**



The Fourteen Points

- ✦ Delegates from twenty-seven countries met in Versailles to work out a peace settlement.
- ✦ The leaders of Britain, France, Italy, and the United States dominated the conference.
- ✦ Wilson offered his vision for peace in a series of Fourteen Points.
- ✦ The most controversial point was Wilson's vision of a collective security through a League of Nations as a way to maintain a stable world.

Wilson in Paris

- ✦ Wilson's fellow negotiators shared little of his idealism.
- ✦ His ideal of self-determination found limited expression when independent states were carved out of the homelands of the beaten Central Powers.
- ✦ The victorious Allies seized control of the former German colonies.
- ✦ Germany was forced to take full responsibility for starting the war and to accept a reparations bill of \$33 billion.
- ✦ Wilson was unhappy with many of the compromises in the final treaty but was pleased by the commitment to the League of Nations.

The Treaty Fight

- ✦ The League did not enjoy wide support at home, however.
 - ◆ Republicans had won control of Congress and many senators opposed American participation in any treaty.
 - ◆ Some senators were adamant isolationists; others were racist xenophobes.
 - ◆ Senate majority leader Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts and many others feared the League would impinge on American autonomy.
- ✦ Wilson went on a grueling speaking tour to drum up support for the League. He collapsed and had a stroke.
- ✦ Wilson opposed any compromise and the treaty did not pass Congress. The United States never joined the League.

The Russian Revolution

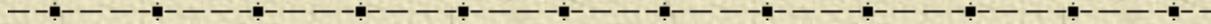
- ✦ The Bolshevik victory in 1917 changed the climate of foreign and domestic affairs.
- ✦ Wilson sympathized with the overthrow of the czar.
- ✦ In August 1918, Wilson sent American troops into northern and eastern Russia, purportedly to protect railroad connections.
 - ◆ Some troops actually participated in the Russian civil war against the Bolsheviks.
 - ◆ The troops stayed to counter Japanese influence and avoid alienating the French and British.

The Red Scare

- ✦ In the United States, the charge of Bolshevism became a weapon against dissent.
- ✦ A growing fear of foreigners fueled a new round of government repression.
 - ◆ Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer rounded up 6,000 alleged radicals, despite the absence of any evidence against them.
 - ◆ Many were deported without evidence.
- ✦ Business groups found “red-baiting” to be an effective tool for keeping unions out of factories.
- ✦ The election of Warren G. Harding in 1920 showed that Americans wanted to retreat from the turmoil of international affairs and “return to normalcy.”



Part Nine:



Conclusion



World War I



Media: Chronology