

U.S. HISTORY STUDY GUIDE

CHAPTER 20: THE ROARING '20S, 1920-1929

GEORGIA PERFORMANCE STANDARDS (your objectives for this chapter):

SSUSH16 Investigate how political, economic, and cultural developments after WW I led to a shared national identity.

- Explain how fears of rising communism and socialism in the United States led to the Red Scare and immigrant restriction.
- Describe the effects of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Amendments.
- Examine how mass production and advertising led to increasing consumerism, including Henry Ford and the automobile.
- Describe the impact of radio and movies as a unifying force in the national culture.
- Describe the emergence of modern forms of cultural expression including the origins of jazz and the Harlem Renaissance.

KEY TERMS

A. Mitchell Palmer Attorney General of the U.S. in 1919

anarchist individual who opposes all forms of government

assembly line arrangement of equipment and workers in which work passes from operation to operation in direct line until the product is assembled

bootlegger someone one who sold illegal alcohol to consumers

bull market a period of rising stock prices

buying on margin a form of credit often used to purchase stock in the 1920s

consumer revolution a period of time when a large number of new goods became widely available

Cotton Club a famous Harlem nightclub

deported to be expelled from a country

flapper young woman from the 1920s who defied traditional rules of conduct and dress

Harlem Renaissance the flourishing of African American arts

Henry Ford innovative business man and founder of Ford Motor Co.

installment buying a type of credit in which a small down payment is followed by monthly payments

jazz a style of music influenced by Dixieland music and ragtime

Langston Hughes a writer of the Harlem Renaissance and leading voice of the African American experience in the United States

Louis Armstrong jazz musician and celebrity of the Roaring 20s

Marcus Garvey African American leader and founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association, who urged African Americans to settle in Africa

mass media radio, movies, newspapers, and magazines aimed at a broad, popular audience

mass production manufacture of goods in large numbers through use of machinery and assembly lines

Model T automobile manufactured by Henry Ford to be affordable on the mass market

Palmer raids 1919-1920 mass arrests and deportations of immigrants and radicals

Prohibition time when manufacture, distribution and sale of alcohol was illegal

Red Scare a panic in the United States caused by the fear that Communists would seize power in the U.S.

speakeasy bar where people illegally purchased alcohol

SUMMARY

The decade between the end of World War I and the Stock Market Crash of 1929 is often called the "Roaring '20s" or the "Jazz Age." This signifies the idea that after the end of the Progressive Era and World War I, people wanted to have some relaxation and fun. President Harding campaigned on a pledge of "return to normalcy," an awkward but telling phrase. Although in many ways this time period reflected such ideas, there were also elements of strife and difficulty, especially in the time period immediately following World War I's armistice.

A large economic boom in the 1920s was sparked largely by the automobile industry. World War I impacted American foreign policy in the 1920's, causing the government to work with other countries to collect war debts and prevent future wars. A noticeable divide appeared between urban and rural areas in the United States, as modern views spread in cities. African Americans, Jews, Catholics, and immigrants endured discrimination. Americans were divided over the Eighteenth Amendment, which made it illegal to manufacture or sell alcohol anywhere in the country.

Americans had more free time on their hands to engage in leisure activities. Women's roles changed as they were given more social and political opportunities. After World War I, new styles and ideas had appeared in many artistic and literary works. African American writers and artists expressed racial and cultural views, leaving a lasting impact on how all Americans viewed African Americans.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- Discuss general political, economic and social conditions in the aftermath of World War I.
- What was made illegal in the United States in 1919? What condition was placed on its legalization in 1933?
- How did the rise of the automobile industry end the post-World War I recession and revolutionize daily life for millions of Americans?
- What part did advances in technology play in the creation of the "New Woman?" What group of women was largely excluded from this progress?