## THE 1920S

## THE MODERN TEMPER

## THE POST-WAR PROSPERITY

- Prosperous time
- Consumer society
- "People's Capitalism"
- Rise of advertising and mass marketing
- Changing attitudes to sexuality and marriage
- Age of Celebrity
- Celebrating Business Civilization

How's your breath TODAY?


Growth of Six Leading Grocery Chains


Expenditures on Advertising, 1915-1929

THE FLAPPER
Doing the Charleston!!


## THE CHARLESTON



## INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

- Skilled workers
- Semi-skilled workers
- $40 \%$ in poverty
- Labor surplus
- Coal and textile workers
- Sidney Hillman
- Not a good era for unions
- Yellow-dog contracts



Value of Regional Cotton Textile Output, 1880-1930

## WOMEN AT WORK



## THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

- Adrift
- Shepard-Tower Act
- League of Women Voters
- Division
- Equal Rights Amendment
- Protective Labor Legislation
- Margaret Sanger
- American Birth Control League

SANGER DELIVERS BURNING SPEECH LOCAL KKK GALS HANG ON EVERY WORD


## THE POLITICS OF BUSINESS



## HARDING AND THE POLITICS OF PERSONAL GAIN

- Harry M. Daugherty
- The "Ohio Gang"
- Albert Fall
- Teapot Dome
- Elk Hills
- Howard Sinclair
- Edward Doheny
- Charles R. Forbes
- Veteran's Bureau
- Dies 1923



## SILENT CAL' AND THE POLITICS OF LAISSEZ-FAIRE

- Untainted by Harding scandals
- Believed in minimalis $\dagger$ government
- Reduce government's control over the economy
- Revenue Act of 1926
- Twice vetoed McNaryHaugen Bill



## HOOVER AND THE POLITICS OF "ASSOCIATIONALISM"

- Directed Food Administration during WWI
- Commerce Secretary 1921-1929
- Economy built on trade associations
- Saw government as
 dynamic force


## THE POLITICS OF BUSINESS ABROAD

- Washington Naval Conference, 1921-1922
- Five Power Treaty
- Charles Evans Hughes
- Dawes Plan, 1924
- Kellogg-Briand Pact 1928
- Hands-on approach in Latin America



## NOT EVERYONE WAS HAPPY...

- Farmers
- Small town Protestants
- Moral traditionalists
- Racists - the Klan
- Disillusioned Intellectuals


## AGRICULTURAL DEPRESSION

- Slump after wartime boom
- The Tractor
- Farmers abandoning, selling or losing their farms
- McNary-Haugen Bill
- Cultural dislocation
- Urbanization



Urbanization, 1920

## PROHIBITION

- Eighteenth Amendment
- Volstead Act, January 1920
- Encouraged law-breaking more than abstinence
- Speakeasies

- Al Capone
- Urban supporters rethink support
- Confirms racist views of rural supporters



## THE KLAN RETURNS

- William Simmons
- D.W. Griffiths Birth of a Nation
- Hatred extended to Jews, Catholics, and foreigners
- 1924: 4 million members

- No longer a Southern movement
- Women of the KKK
- Hate speech often sexually themed



## BIRTH OF A NATION



## IMMIGRATION RESTRICTED

- Resurgence of Nativism
- "Old immigrants vs. new immigrants"
- Johnson-Reed Act, 1924
- Border Patrol



## RELIGIOUS CLASHES

- Fundamentalists
- anti-urban

Vs.

- Liberal protestants
- adapt to modernism
- Scopes Trial

- ACLU
- William Jennings Bryan vs.

Clarence Darrow

## ETHNIC AND RACIAL COMMUNITIES

- African Americans
- The Jazz Age
- Harlem
- European Americans
- "Americanization campaigns"
- The Democratic Party
- Split in 1928
- Al Smith
- Mexican Americans



## THE LOST GENERATION

- Alienated White artists
- Sinclair Lewis
- Main Street (1920)
- Babbit (1922)
- T.S. Eliot-- The Waste Land (1922)


## The GREAT GATSBY

- F. Scott Fitzgerald-- The Great Gatsby (1925)
- Eugene O'Neill's plays
- Ernest Hemingway-- A Farewell to Arms (1929)
- William Faulkner--The Sound and the Fury


## THE 1920S

- Consumerism and mass production
- Society seemed somewhat more egalitarian
- However, many groups did not benefit from economic prosperity of the 1920s:
- Working-class
- Rural Americans
- Democratic party
- Tensions between traditionalists and new populations
- Alienated intellectuals
- Republicans take credit for prosperity...


## OCTOBER 21, 1929



## OCTOBER 24, 1929



