Postwar Social Change
Chapter 20

Role of Women

1. Rebellion among young women
   a. increase in young women working (due to typewriter, better educations, lower wages)
   b. change in fashion (higher hemlines, shorter hair “the bob”)
   c. public behavior changes (smoking, drinking, dancing, etc.)
   d. Women gain the right to vote (political power – voice in public life, right to hold political office) under the 19th Amendment

Demographics

1. African Americans move to industrial North
   a. more diversity, bring culture with them (including jazz)
   b. The Harlem Renaissance is sparked (rebirth of African American culture, including literature, music, art, etc.)

2. increased migration occurred from rural America to urban America as people looked for higher-paying jobs
   a. Cities grew crowded and needed to change infrastructure (roads, sewers, water supply, etc.)
   b. Growth of suburbs occurred because of public transportation and practical, affordable cars
   c. Mexicans who settled in cities and created their own Spanish speaking neighborhoods called “barrios”

American Heroes

1. Aviation heroes
   a. Charles Lindbergh became famous for being the first to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in The Spirit of St. Louis
   b. Amelia Earhart became famous American aviatrix for flying exploits. She disappeared attempting to fly around the world
c. Sports Heroes
   Sports fascinated the public and
   Athletes became heroes
ex. **Babe Ruth** (Baseball),
    **Jim Thorpe** (Olympics, football)
    **Jack Dempsey** (boxing),
    **Helen Willis** (tennis),
    **Gertrude Ederle** (swimming)

Mass Media

1. **Mass media** are print, film, and
   broadcast methods of communicating
   information to large numbers of people.
   a. **The film industry** became the
      country’s 4th largest business in the 1920s
   b. **The Jazz Singer** was the
      first film with audio (or sound)
   c. some of the famous movie stars of the
      time were: **Greta Garbo, Mary
      Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, and
      Charlie Chaplin**
   d. **Newspapers** increased in size and
      circulation during the 1920s
   e. **Profits** drove the newspaper business
   f. **Tabloids** of the 1920s replaced
      newspapers and focused on sports,
      fashion, and sensational stories about
      crimes and scandal
   g. **Magazines** sales rose as well
   h. Examples of magazines that were popular
      in the 1920s were: **Time, The Saturday
      Evening Post, and Ladies Home
      Journal**
   i. Mass media led to the creation of a
      **national culture** in which Americans
      shared the same values, fashions, and
      ideas
   j. **Radio** was invented by Guglielmo
      Marconi
   k. The first commercial radio station the
      U.S. was **KDKA** in **Pittsburgh, PA**
   l. Radio became very profitable for
      **advertisers**
   m. By 1922, there were more than **500** radio
      stations in the U.S.
The Jazz Age

1. **Jazz music** grew out of African American music of the South, especially ragtime and blues
   a. In 1929, **two-thirds** of radio airtime was devoted to jazz
   b. One of the most popular places to listen to jazz was in **Harlem**
   c. Harlem had some **500** jazz clubs

2. The **jazz influence** ran through all the arts of the 1920s
   a. Artists **Edward Hopper** and **Rockwell Kent** painted the rougher side of American life during the Jazz Age
   b. Artist **Georgia O’Keeffe** painted natural objects in a way that suggested the objects were something greater than themselves
   c. Many **writers** also began fruitful careers during the 1920s
   d. **Sinclair Lewis** was the first American to win a Nobel Prize for literature
   e. **Eugene O’Neill** was a playwright of the 1920s to 1950s who wrote dark tragedies about everyday American life
   f. The **materialistic** society of the 1920s troubled one group of important writers
   g. Many of these writers, who felt American popular culture was artless and uninspiring fled to Europe and became known as **The Lost Generation**
   h. Writers of the Lost Generation included: _ and **Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Gertrude Stein**

The Harlem Renaissance

1. **Harlem, NY** was becoming the cultural center of the African American community

2. **The Harlem Renaissance** was the African American literary awakening
Prohibition

1. **Prohibition** was the ban on the sale, manufacture, and transport of alcohol.

2. The **18th Amendment** was the Constitutional Amendment that banned alcohol in the U.S. (became effective in 1920).

3. The goals of Prohibition were:
   a. **reduce workplace absenteeism and accidents**;
   b. **close saloons where vice is prevalent**; and
   c. **end domestic violence and other social problems**.

4. The **Volstead Act** provided the system for enforcing Prohibition.

5. **Bootleggers** were smugglers or suppliers of illegal alcohol:
   a. Illegal alcohol was smuggled overland from the country of **Canada** and by ship from the **Caribbean Islands**.

6. **Speakeasies** were illegal bars in which alcohol was served during Prohibition.

7. Supplying illegal alcohol was a complex business and helped lead to the development of **organized crime**:
   a. one of the most notorious organized crime bosses was **Al Capone**, also known as “Scarface.”
   b. Capone’s organized crime organization operated in **Chicago**.

8. The government fought back against organized crime with improved law enforcement. The **Bureau of Investigation** was established under the leadership of J. Edgar Hoover.
09. Capone was eventually arrested and convicted, not for bootlegging, but for **tax evasion**
10. Prohibition ended in the year **1933**

**Issues of Religion**

1. Challenges to traditional beliefs came from:
   a. **scholars who claimed Bible contradicted itself**;
   b. **science and technology became important**; and
   c. **war and post-war world was more skeptical of religion**
2. In response to new ideas, like the theory of evolution, some people supported traditional Christian ideas, which became known as **fundamentalism**
3. Two famous fundamental preachers of the 1920s were:
   a. **Billy Sunday**
   b. **Aimee Semple McPherson**
4. Aimee McPherson used the **radio** to broadcast her Christian message
5. The state of **Tennessee** passed a ban on the teaching of evolution in 1925
   a. Biology teacher **John T. Scopes** violated the law against teaching evolution
   b. **Clarence Darrow** represented the defense in the Scopes Trial
   c. **William Jennings Bryan** helped the prosecution in the Scopes Trial
   d. Scopes was eventually found guilty and was fined **$100**

**Racial Tensions**

1. Americans clashed over **race** in the 1920s
2. During the summer of 1919, violence between African Americans and whites erupted and the summer became known as **Red Summer** for all the blood spilled
   a. Racial turmoil occurred several cities in 1919, including: **Omaha, NE, Tulsa, OK, Chicago, IL**, and **Washington, D.C.**
   b. The worst racial violence in 1919 occurred in **Chicago** after a young African American boy was killed when he accidentally swam into the “Whites Only” part of the beach
c. The boy’s death touched off a riot that spread throughout the city

3. Revival of the Ku Klux Klan in the early 1900s
   a. A former preacher, Col. William Simmons revived the KKK in 1915
   b. By 1922, KKK membership has risen to 4 million

4. The KKK’s focus shifted from terrorizing African Americans to also terrorizing Catholics, Jews, and immigrants

5. Increasing violence against African Americans rallied the efforts of the NAACP, which fought against discrimination
   a. The NAACP fought in vain to pass federal anti-lynching laws
   b. During the 1920s, the NAACP also worked to protect the voting rights of African Americans

6. The Garvey Movement
   a. Marcus Garvey established the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) to build up African American self-respect and economic power
   b. Garvey supported African American businesses and the transportation of followers who wished to “return” to Africa
   c. Garvey’s message of self-respect and economic power attracted large numbers of followers
   d. W.E.B. DuBois criticized the Garvey Movement because of Garvey’s call for separation of the races as well as Garvey’s careless business practices
   e. Garvey received $10 million for a steamship line, The Black Star Line, which was to be used to transport followers to the “motherland” (Africa)
   f. Garvey was eventually jailed for mail fraud in relation to the stock he sold for the Black Star Line (his sentence was later commuted and he was deported back to his native Jamaica)
   g. Garvey’s deportation led to the end of the
UNIA, but some of his ideas inspired future “black pride” movements