

Terms: Early 1900's - 1950

Note:

Many terms from class (as well as terms from our papers) were omitted from this list, as you should be using those already. Also, the New Deal is NOT covered in here- if you want my New Deal notes check out my "Alphabet Soup" document.

1900's

The Anti-Saloon League was the most successful temperance group that forced the prohibition issue into the forefront of state and local elections and pioneered the strategy of the single-issue pressure group.

Gifford Pinchot was one of America's first scientific foresters, appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1881 as the chief of the Division of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture, where he worked to develop programs and gain more public interest for conservation. He was fired in 1910 by President William Howard Taft after a supposed scandal was uncovered involving western conservation land in the Ballinger-Pinchot Affair.

The Hepburn Act was a proposal for railroad regulation that extended the authority of the Interstate Commerce Commission and gave it the power to set maximum freight rates.

1910's

"The Birth of a Nation" was a controversial but highly influential film directed by D.W. Griffith that showed the power of film propaganda and revived the KKK.

The Clayton Anti-Trust Act of 1914 prohibited price discrimination, "tying" agreements that limited the right of dealers to handle the products of competing manufacturers, interlocking directorates connecting corporations with a capital of more than \$1 million, and corporations' acquisition of stock in competing corporations.

The Eighteenth Amendment was the prohibition amendment that forbade the consumption or purchase of alcohol or any alcoholic beverage.

The Federal Aid Road Act of 1916, also known as the Bankhead-Shackleford Act, was the first federal highway funding legislation in the United States.

The Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916 set up twelve Federal Land Banks, under the control of a Federal Farm Loan Board that offered farmers loans between five to forty years' duration at low interest rates.

Frederick W. Taylor was the original "efficiency expert" who, in the book *The Principles of Scientific Management* from 1911, preached the gospel of efficient management of production time and costs, the proper routing and scheduling of work, and the standardization of tools and equipment.

Margaret Sanger was a leader of the movement to legalize birth control during the early 1900's. As a nurse in the poor sections of New York City, she had seen the suffering caused by unwanted pregnancy. She founded the first birth control clinic in the U.S. and the American Birth Control League, which later became Planned Parenthood.

The Spanish Influenza that struck in 1918 occurred during the First World War, and the movement of soldiers during this time spread the disease until nearly 50 million people-young and old- had perished throughout the world; by comparison, the war going on at the same time only killed 16 million people.

1920's

Albert B. Fall was Secretary of the Interior during Harding's administration, and was an anti-conservationist. He was convicted of leasing naval oil reserves and collecting bribes, which was called the Teapot Dome Scandal.

Alexander Mitchell Palmer was the Attorney General known for rounding up many suspects in the Palmer Raids who were thought to be un-American and socialistic, further increasing the hysteria during the Red Scare. He was nicknamed the "Fighting Quaker" until a bomb destroyed his home, to which led him to have a nervous breakdown and become the "Quaking Fighter."

Alfred E. Smith was the Democratic nominee in the 1928 election against Herbert Hoover. He was the four-time governor of New York and had a very friendly personality. However, he did not get elected because he was "wet" (during the prohibition movement), a native to New York (a city slicker), Catholic (most of the nation was Protestant), and he was a descendant of Irish grandparents (a foreign).

Andrew Mellon was the Secretary of the Treasury during the Harding Administration. He felt it was best to invest in tax-exempt securities rather than in factories that provided prosperous payrolls. He believed in trickle-down economics, also known as Hamiltonian economics.

Black Tuesday (October 29, 1929) was the day of the stock market crash that led to the Great Depression.

Bruce Barton published a best-selling book in 1925, *The Man Nobody Knows*, which suggested that Jesus Christ was the founder of modern business. He was also one of the first to promote more "modern" advertising.

Clarence Darrow was a famed criminal defense lawyer for Scopes, who supported evolution. He caused William Jennings Bryan to appear foolish when Darrow questioned Bryan about the Bible.

Calvin Coolidge became president when Harding died in 1923. He was known for practicing a rigid economy and was known as a man of few words. A Republican and industrialist, he believed that the government should support big businesses.

Charles Evans Hughes was President Harding's Secretary of state who proposed during the Washington Naval Arms Conference that the scaled-down navies of America and Britain should enjoy equality in battleships and aircraft-carriers, while Japan is on the small end of a 5:5:3 ratio.

Charles R. Forbes, head of the Veterans Bureau during Harding's presidency, was caught stealing \$200 million from the government, in connection with the building of veterans' hospitals.

The Dawes Plan was a plan to revive the German economy by loaning Germany money that could be paid to England and France. In turn, these two nations would repay back their loans from the United States. This plan was ultimately replaced by the Young Plan (*see Young Plan*), as Germany couldn't keep up the payments.

The Emergency Quota Act of 1921 limited immigration to 3% of the people of a nationality living in the US in 1910.

Ernest Hemingway was the author of *Old Man and the Sea*, *The Sun Also Rises*, *A Farewell to Arms* and *For Whom the Bell Tolls*.

The Fordney-McCumber Tariff of 1922 was a law that raised American tariffs on many imported goods in order to protect factories and farms after World War I ended and European nations resumed farming, which would hurt American farms. The tariff tried to promote American self-sufficiency and also keep America in the good economic times of the war.

F. Scott Fitzgerald was a novelist known for works such as *The Great Gatsby*.

The Harlem Renaissance was a period in the 1920s when African-American achievements in art and music and literature flourished.

Harry M. Daugherty was Warren G. Harding's Attorney General. He was supposed to prosecute lawbreakers but instead was part of the "Ohio Gang" (*see Ohio Gang*) accused of illegal sale of pardons and liquor permits. He was forced to resign but not convicted.

Henry Ford was an American businessman, founder of Ford Motor Company, father of modern assembly lines, and an inventor.

Herbert Hoover was the head of the Food Administration during World War I. He became the Secretary of Commerce and encouraged businesses to regulate themselves. Hoover was a Republican and won the election of 1928. He had to deal with the Great Crash of 1929 (*see Black Tuesday and Great Depression*), which led to the Great Depression. His belief in "rugged individualism" kept him from giving people direct relief during the Great Depression.

The Immigration Act of 1924 replaced the Emergency Quota Act of 1921 (*see Emergency Quota Act of 1921*), cutting immigration to 2% using the census of 1890, which favored Northern Europeans.

John Dewey is considered the "father" of progressive education, which promotes individuality, free activity, and learning through experiences. He theorized that school is primarily a social institution and not an institution to prepare for future living. He believed that schools should teach children to be problem-solvers by helping them learn to think as opposed to helping them learn only the facts and information. He also believed that students should be active decision-makers in their education. Dewey also believed that teachers have rights and must have more academic independence.

John T. Scopes was a high school teacher who was prosecuted in the "Scopes Monkey Trial" of 1925 for violating a law in Tennessee that prohibited the teaching of evolution in public schools. He was ultimately convicted but his \$100 fine was overturned by the state Supreme Court on a legal technicality.

The Kellogg-Briand Pact was a promise that war would not be used as an instrument of national policy; that is, war was condemned by the nations involved in the pact. This pact did little, however, to prevent the United States from eventually entering World War II.

The Ohio Gang was made of politicians close to President Harding and they were involved in multiple scandals, effectively tarnishing Harding's reputation.

The Sacco and Vanzetti Case involved Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, Italian immigrants charged with murdering a guard and robbing a shoe factory in Braintree, Massachusetts. The trial lasted from 1920 until 1927. Convicted on circumstantial evidence, many believed they had been framed for the crime because of their anarchist and pro-union activities.

The Scopes Trial involved John Scopes (*See John T. Scopes*), who was defended by Clarence Darrow (*see Clarence Darrow*). William Jennings Bryan (*see William Jennings Bryan*) was the prosecutor and made a fool of himself while being cross examined on the Bible. The case showed the mockery of the courts; the town wanted a public trial to give them recognition and bring in money.

Sinclair Lewis was an author who wrote *Babbitt and Main Street* and presented small town Americans as dull and narrow-minded.

The Volstead Act, also known as the National Prohibition Act, enforced the Eighteenth Amendment (*see Eighteenth Amendment*). It made alcohol purchase and consumption illegal and was passed over President Woodrow Wilson's veto.

William Faulkner wrote about the history of the Deep South in an imaginative, fictional way. He wrote *The Sound and the Fury* and *As I Lay Dying*, among other later works reaching until the middle of the 1900's.

William Jennings Bryan was a Democratic candidate who ran for president in 1896 and again in 1900. His goal of "free silver" (*see Free Silver*) won him the support of the Populist Party. Though a gifted orator (known for his 1896 "Cross of Gold" speech), he still lost the election to Republican William McKinley. Later he opposed America's imperialist actions, and in the 1920's, he made his mark as a leader of the fundamentalist cause and prosecuting attorney in the Scopes Monkey Trial (*see Scopes Trial*).

The Young Plan replaced the Dawes Plan (*see Dawes Plan*) and made it easier for Germany to pay off its war debts.

1930's

Alfred M. Landon was the governor of Kansas, and the Republican candidate in 1936. A moderate who accepted some New Deal reforms, but not the Social Security Act (*see Social Security Act*), his loss to FDR was mainly because he never appealed to the "forgotten man."

The Bonus Army consisted of unemployed World War I veterans who came to Washington to demand the immediate payment of the bonuses they were promised in 1922. The veterans were forcibly removed from Anacostia Flats by federal troops under the command of Douglas MacArthur.

The Brains Trust was a group of advisers that Franklin Delano Roosevelt gathered to assist him during the 1932 presidential campaign. These men helped in creating the economic programs included in the "New Deal."

Father Charles Coughlin was a controversial Roman Catholic Priest who, in 1934, announced a new political organization called the National Union for Social Justice. He wrote a platform calling for monetary reforms, the nationalization of major industries and railroads, and protection of the rights of labor. He was also one of the first political leaders to use the radio to reach a massive amount of people.

Frances Perkins was the first woman to be appointed to the cabinet.

Francis Townsend was an American physician who was best known for his "Townsend Plan," which influenced the establishment of the Roosevelt Administration's Social Security system.

Franklin D. Roosevelt was the thirty-second President of the United States. Elected to four terms in office, he is the only U.S. president to have served more than two terms of office. He was a central figure during both the Great Depression and World War II.

The Glass-Steagall Act established the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and included banking reforms, some of which were designed to control speculation. This act was passed due to the economic problems of the Great Depression.

The Good Neighbor Policy described America's attitude toward the countries of Latin America during Franklin D. Roosevelt's presidency. The United States removed troops from other countries, especially those in Latin America, in order to improve relations with them.

The Hawley-Smoot Tariff raised tariffs on over 20,000 imported goods to record levels, and it led to extremely high tariff levels that rivaled those of the Tariff of Abominations. Some believe that this tariff greatly hurt American exports and imports and actually worsened the economic depression that plagued the planet at this time.

Huey Long was a southerner who ran for president against Franklin D. Roosevelt. His "Share the Wealth" program planned to distribute \$5000 from the rich to the poor in order to help boost the economy, which was unrealistic. He was later assassinated.

The Judiciary Reorganization Bill of 1937, frequently called the Court-Packing Bill, was a law proposed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in an attempt to get more judges that agreed with his ideas, such as the New Deal

(*see New Deal*). One part of the bill would have allowed the President the power to appoint an extra Supreme Court Justice for every Justice over the age of 70 and-a-half.

John Maynard Keynes came up with the theory of Keynesian Economics: in bad economic times, deficit spending would be used to help bring a nation out of their depression- in good times taxes would be raised and the acquired debt would be paid off.

The Panay Incident occurred when Japan bombed an American gunboat that was trying to help Americans overseas. This strained the relationship between the two and pushed America farther toward isolationism.

The Stimson Doctrine was created after the Japanese tried to forcefully acquire Manchuria and said that the United States would not recognize any territorial acquisitions that were taken over by force.

1940's

The Atlantic Charter was a pledge signed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in 1941. Britain and the United States promised not to acquire new territory as a result of WWII and to work for peace after the war.

The Battle of Midway was an American naval victory over the Japanese, in which the Japanese lost four of their best aircraft carriers. It marked a turning point of World War II.

The Bracero Program was a series of laws and diplomatic agreements for the importation of temporary laborers from Mexico to the United States.

The Congress of Racial Equality is an organization that was founded by James Leonard Farmer in 1942 to work towards equality. They are responsible for important steps for the Civil Rights Movement (*see Civil Rights Movement*) including the Freedom Rides, the March on Washington, and Freedom Summer.

On D-Day, June 6, 1944, over one million troops led by General Eisenhower stormed the beaches at Normandy, opening a second front (*see Second Front*) for the Allies during World War II; this event was the turning point of World War II.

Douglas MacArthur was an American general and field marshal of the Philippine Army who was Chief of Staff of the United States Army and played a role in the Pacific during World War II.

Dwight D. Eisenhower was a high-ranking United States general who supervised the invasion of Normandy and the defeat of Nazi Germany. He was also the President of the United States between 1953 and 1961 and was a moderate conservative.

Executive Order 9066 was an order signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt that allowed the Secretary of War to declare some areas of the U.S. as military zones; this led to Japanese-American internment camps during World War II.