Aditya Patel

APUSH

Period 4

01/29/2021

CH 22 Focus Qs 1, 2, 6, 7

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1. The 1920s were a time of new technology reaching the masses. The widespread usage of radio during the Great War allowed its mass production during the following decade, and by 1930, almost every family had one. This widespread radio was one of the causes for the new culture of the decade, as a new, separate youth culture developed. At the same time, commercial aviation developed, and the mass production of cars began to allow middle class and even lower class to get cars. Cars, especially, was one of the main sources of the boom in American industry in the 1920s, boosting the oil, steel, rubber, and many more industries with it. American universities were among the first to begin to experiment with early computers, genetic research, and test more theories of evolution. There was great backlash, however, as traditional Protestants pushed back against evolution, resulting in William Bryans, an important spokesperson for them embarrassing himself at the Scopes “Monkey Trial”.
2. The federal government acted as enforces for businesses in the Gilded Age, ending at the start of the Progressive Era. However, the rekindling of the close collaborative relationship between industry and government during the Great War did not end there. As the American Plan was popularized in the 20s, so did the practice of union busting, which had grown weak and disorganized. Along with “Return to Normalcy”, the practice of opposing Unions and strikes came back, as Supreme Court and Justice Department interventions to stop strikes became common. This was in part led by the new Federal Government, and Andrew Mellon, a businessman himself, who was Secretary of the Treasury for the majority of the 20s, helped businesses become more efficient by greatly reducing taxes. This, along with President Hoover’s Associationalism, allowed businesses to grow much larger and become much more efficient. The impact the government had on these industries is similar to the Gilded Age, where government interference led to much greater profits for businesses.

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1. As education and modernization of cities occurred during the time, there was significant pushback from people who wanted to remain to their traditional values. As the 18th Amendment passed just before the start of the 20s, an argument began over the failure of prohibition. City Progressives, who had initially supported Prohibition, turned to oppose it as organized crime grew, and faced off against rural Protestants, who defended it. The Ku Klutz Klan also had a massive revival, fueled by increased nativism and in order to “defend Traditional Values”. These pushed back against ideas of “modernist Religion”, which accepted science and devalued religion. Women also became significantly freer, by being more often accepted at professional work and popularization of the “Companionate” Marriage, which shifted away from motherhood. Many traditional Protestants also opposed new scientific ideas of Evolution and were embarrassed by new modernist Religion believers in the Scopes “Monkey Trial”.
2. The 20s were also a significant time in the development of women and African Americans. As women increasingly joined the workforce and gained rights, new liberated ideas developed. The “Flappers” were also a clear symbol of the shift from the traditional Victorian style “respectable” woman to the modern, liberated lifestyle of new. The Sheppard-Towner Act provided funds to establish mother and child health care programs but was disliked by some due to it portraying all women as mothers. African Americans, after significant efforts and contributions in the Great War, created a proud new generation in the “Harlem Renaissance”, and contributed greatly to American culture with musicians, intellectuals, and more. New ideas of African American pride also floundered in this time, alongside increased racism and opposition at many parts of the country, as the KKK grew and became popular. Both women and African Americans gained many rights, despite opposition from traditionalists, and racists.

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