War by Act of Germany:

* To defend American interests, Wilson asked Congress for authority to arm American Merchant Ships.
  + Denounced senators against him. Obstruction showed the continuous strength of American Isolationism.
* Zimmerman Note intercepted and published, infuriating Americans
  + Mexico-German alliance with promises of recovering Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.
* On April 2,1917, Wilson at last stood and asked for a declaration of war
  + Lost his gamble that America could pursue profits without being sucked in
  + Myth also developed that America delved into the war by munitions makers and Wall Street bankers, desperate to protect profits and loans
  + Weapons merchants and financiers were already thriving, unhampered by wartime government restrictions and heavy taxation
  + British Harassment: Endurable
  + Germans Murdering: Crossed the line.
* Declaration of War on April 6th 1917

Wilsonian Idealism Enthroned:

* Wilson would have to shatter the Monroe Doctrine
* Wilson needed to come up with a plan to break America’s sense of isolationism.
  + Germans had been roughly shoving a wavering Americans
* No fewer than 6 senators and 50 reps voted against the war resolution
* Wilson had to whip up excitement for the war
* Declared the twin goals of the war:
  + A WAR TO END ALL WARS and a CRUSADE TO MAKE THE WOLRD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY”
  + Sword of righteousness
* Difference between U.S. and others:
  + America did not fight for riches or for territorial conquest
  + Sought only to shape an international order in which democracy could flourish. “Altruism”
* His ideals were taken a bit too well
  + Hang the Kaiser.
  + Peace without Victory notion was gone.

Wilson’s Fourteen Points

* Scaled a summit of inspiring oratory on Jan.1918
* Wanted to keep reeling in Russia, inspired all the drooping Allies to make mightier efforts and demoralized the enemy governments by holding out promises.
  + Proposal to abolish secret treaties
    - Liberals of all countries happy
  + Freedom of seas
    - America happy who distrusted, Germans happy because still could trade
  + Removal of econ barriers
    - Germany would still be able to trade after the war
  + Reductions of armament burdens
    - Gratifying to tax payers everywhere
  + Adjustment of colonial claims
    - Anti-imperialist happy
* All points seductive
  + Independence to Poles, millions of those who were poor
* 14th point, League of Nations
  + International Organization that Wilson dreamed would provide a system of collective security. Give political independence to all countries
  + Some leaders were not enthusiastic, Republicans mocked him with names such as “Fourteen Commandments” or “God Almighty Wilson”

Creel Manipulates Minds:

* Mobilizing people’s minds for war was an urgent task
* Committee on public Information
  + Young journalist George Creel who was spoken and tactless, was gifted with zeal and imagination. He had to sell the world on Wilsonian war aims.
* Creel organization employed some 150,000 workers and used words as weapons
  + “Four minute men” would give countless speeches containing much patriotic pep
* Creel’s propaganda took on several forms:
  + Posters splashed on billboards in the “Battle of the Fences” as artists “Rallied to the colors”
  + Leaflets and pamphlets were spread
  + Booklets with red, white, and blue covers were printed
  + Movies made that exemplified hanging the Kaiser
    - The Kaiser, Beast of Berlin, To Hell with the Kaiser
* Entire nation was into this zeal and burst into song
  + “Over There” by George M. Cohan.
* Sold the ideas to well
  + Made Wilson a God. But public shocked to find out he was too a mortal later on.

Enforcing Loyalty and Stifling Dissent

* Germans numbered over 8 million counting those with at least one parent foreign born
* Dependably loyal to the United states
  + Yet, rumors were quick to spread tales of spying and sabotage, even trifling epidemics of diarrhea were blamed on German agents
  + Few of them were tar and feathered and even lynched.
* German related stuff was banned
  + German orchestras did not play Wagner or BEETHOVEN
  + German books and classes banned
  + Sauerkraut become liberty cabbage
  + Hot Dogs became liberty steak
  + Even German beer became a suspect of supporting Germany
* Espionage of 1917 and Seditions Act of 1918
  + 1900 prosecutions took place including socialists and members of the industrial workers
    - Eugene V. Deb was also taken into jail
    - Industrial Workers of the World leader Haywood were similarly convicted
* All criticism of government could be censored or punished.
* Critics claimed the first amendment but in Schneck v. United States, supreme court argued that freedom of speech could be revoked when such speech posed a clear and present danged to the nation.

Nation’s Factories Go to War

* Victory was no foregone conclusion as they were caught into the global war unready
* The pacifistic Wilson had began a few measures of war in 1915
  + Council of National Defense
  + Shipbuilding Program
  + Modest beefing-up of the army
* Herculean task to throw America’s daunting but disorganized Army into war to bolster the Allied war effort
* Sheer ignorance was the biggest roadblock
  + Old ideas proved to be liabilities, such as thoughts about big government
  + Balked at federal economic control
* Wilson succeeded in imposing some order
  + Bernard Baruch to head the War Industries Board.

Workers in Wartime

* American workers sweated their way to victory. Driven by the war department’s “Work of Fight” rule in 1918, which threatened any unemployed male to be drafted immediately into the war
  + This discouraged strikes
* For the most part, government tried to treat labor fairly
* National War Labor Board exerted itself to head off labor disputes that might hamper war.
  + Pressed employers to grant concessions to labor, high wages, and 8 hour days
  + Board stopped short of supporting most important demand: Guarantee of organizing Unions.
* Allied Cause, Samuel Gompers and AF of L supported the war.
* AF of L loyalty was rewarded
  + 3 million members, heavy unionized sectors such as coal mining, manufacturing, and transportation
  + Real wages, though inflation had risen as well value of the dollar as well.
* Labor harbored grievances
  + Recognition to organize still eluded grasp
  + War time inflation threatened to eclipse wage gains
    - No one could deny these claims
  + Many strikes broke out, stained by blood.
  + 1919 Greatest strike in American History in the steel industry
    - Quarter million steelworkers walked of their jobs in a bid to force employers to recognize their rights
    - Steel companies resisted and would not negotiate. Bought in strike breakers
* Black workers were a fraction of the tens of thousands of southern blacks drawn to the North in wartime by the magnet of War-Industry Employment
* Migrants made up small-scale beginnings
* Explosion riot in East St. Louis Missouri left 9 whites and 40 blacks dead
* Equally gruesome race riot with racial tension as black population expanded into white ones.

Suffering until Suffrage

* Women also heeded calls of patriotism and opportunity
  + Flooded to factories and fields taking up vacated jobs by men who left line for front line
* Progressive era were feminists inclined to oppose war effort
  + National Woman’s Party led by Quaker Alice Paul who demonstrated against ‘Kaiser Wilson’
* Larger support during the war , represented by NAWSA, supported the idea of war
  + Echoed Wilson’s justification for the war. Women should take part to take a role in shaping up peace
* War mobilization gave new momentum to suffrage rights
  + Wilson endorsed women’s rights as “vitally necessary war measure”
  + 1920, in Seneca Falls, the 19th amendment was ratified after shows by NY, MI, OK and SD.
* Women’s wartime gains were fleeting
  + Although Women’s Bureau did emerge in the Department of Labor to protect women workers, most of the women who did work gave up their jobs.
  + Sheppard Towner Maternity Act provided federally financed instruction in maternal and infant health care. Proved that Congress supported women in traditional roles
* Feminists continued to flex political muscles to protect women and prohibit child labor
* Foreshadowed a different way of life for women.

Forging a War Economy

* Mobilization relied more on heated emotions of patriotism than on just laws
  + Largely voluntary character of economic war organization testified to ocean-insulated America’s safe distance from the fighting as well as to still modest scale of government power’s.
* Herbert Hoover: Man chosen to regulate the Food Administration
  + Preferred on voluntary compliance than on compulsory edicts
  + Rejected ration cards and waged a whirlwind propaganda campaign though posters, billboards etc.
  + Save food for export
    - Wheatless Wednesdays, Meatless Tuesdays. Even children when eating apples were urged to be “patriotic to the core”
* Country broke out into rash of vegetable “victory gardens”
* Congress restricted use of foodstuffs for manufacturing alcoholic beverages and wars spawned spirit of self denial
* Many leading brewers were German descended and this taint made th drive against alcohol more popular
* 1919, 18th amendment prohibited drinking of all alcoholic drinks
* Hoover’s approach had worked.
* Farm production increased by ¼ and food exports to Allies were triped in volume
* Hoover’s methods were widely imitated in other agencies
  + Fuel Administration: Heatless Mondays, Lightless nights, Gasless Sundays
  + Treasury: Halt and Han: Promote 4 Great liberty loan drives
* All of these efforts netted a fantastic sum of 21 billion, 2/3 of cost of the war to the U.S. Remainder raised by increased taxes
* Pressure used to sell various kinds of bonds.
* Sovereign formal power exercised at some points
  + Took over nation’s railroads in late 1917. Also got its hands on ships. Seized the enemy ships and orchestrated a gigantic drive to construct a new tonnage.

Making plowboys into doughboys

* Most citizens did not dream of sending forces to France
  + Used Navy to uphold freedom of the seas
  + Continued to ship war materials and loans
  + European associated laid their cards on the bottom, needed not only more money but manpower barrels. Needed huge American army to be trained and raised
* Conscruption was the only answer
* Proposed idea of a draft was immediately placed.
  + Streets would run red with blood. Grudingly got ground to pass it
* The draft required mean between 18 and 45 to come and serve. No “Draft Dodger” could purchase his exemption or hire a substitute
* Registration proved to be a day of patriotic pilgrimiges and saw no signs of blood
* 337,000 slackers escaped and 4,000 who objected were excused
* Army grew to 4 million men. Women also served, 11,000in Navy and 269 in Marines. African Americans also served

Fighting in France- Belatedly

* Russia’s collapse underscored need for haste
  + Bolshevik’s were now in power
* Germans went from Eastern front facing Russia to Western front in Fance and become dangerous. Berlin was right to expect America’s tardiness.
* No effective fighting force reached France till a year later. Berlin also had predicted inability of Americans to raise an army and transport them.
* France began to bustle with American doughboys, first trainees were used as replacements..
* American operations were not just confined in France, fought every where.
* Major American purposes were to prevent Japan from getting Siberia, to rescue Czechoslovak and to snatch supplies from Bolshevik control

America Helps Hammer the Hun

* Dreaded German Drive of the Western Front exploded in Spring with 500,000 troops.
* Allied nations came together under French Marshal Foch
* Yanks finally came in not a moment too soon in May 1918. The Germans were powerful and threatened to knock out France
  + American troops were thrown into the breach at Chateau Thierry, right in the teeth of German Advance
  + Change in War as the doughboys fought on in their gleaming youth.
* Second Battle of the Marne: Marked the turn of the war as Americans had joined
  + Americans wanted to fight more. Pershing was assigned a front of 85 miles. Pershing’s Army undertook the Meuse- Argonne offensive and cut off German Railroads feeding the Western Front.
  + Lasted 47 days and engaged 1.2 troops. Heavy fighting in the Argonne Forest
  + 10% of all Americans involved were killed or wounded. Slow progress due to inadequate training
* Alvin C. York, member of anti-war sect, become a hero when he killed 20 Germans and captured 132.
* Victory was in sight as American armies were rapidly eating supplies and were in danger of them running low.
* Germans were ready to stagger out and cry “comrade”. Allies were leaving them and blows of Allies rained on and on.

Fourteen Points Disarm Germany

* Berlin was ready to host the white flag. Turned to the softhearted Wilson in October 1918 seeking a peace based on the Fourteen Points.
* Stern responses the President made that the Kaiser must be overturned
  + Kaiser was forced to flee to Holland where he lived alive, but unhonored
* Laid down their arms at 11 o clock on 11/11/18. War to end wars had finally ended
* Main Contributions from US
  + Foodstuffs, munitions, credits, oil, man power
  + Prospect of endless US troop reserves that demoralized the Germans
* Pershing depended on Allies more than they on him. Purchased supplies in Europe than received from the states. US was no arsenal of democracy, but it would be two decades later

Wilson Steps Down from Olympus:

* American President towered at the top of his popularity
* People only uttered the word “Wilson”
* Politics is adjourned slogan came back but Wilson breaks it by appealing for a Democratic Victory in the Congressional elections
  + Backfires when the elect a narrow Republican Majority
  + Went to Paris as a diminished leader
  + No president had ever taken a trip.
* Snubbed Senate in the senate by assembling a peace delegation without a single Republican in his party
  + Logical choice was Henry Cabot Lodge but it would have been problematic. Wilson loathed him (personality struggle, scholars in politics, daggers drawn)

An Idealist Battles the Imperialists in Paris:

* Wilson receives great applause from the masses of France, England and Italy
* Still were careful to keep the new Messiah at arm’s length
  + Might arouse people to overthrow their leaders
* Paris Conference: Great and small nations smell into the hands of an inner clique known as the big four:
  + Premier Vittorio, Italy
  + Prime Minister David George, Britain
  + Premier Georges Clemenceau, France
  + President Woodrow Wilson, United States
* Speed was urgent when the Confrerence opened up to prevent the rest of the world to slipping into communism.
* Wilson’s goal was a world parliament to be known as the League of Nations
  + Bent his energies to preventing any vengeful parceling out of the former colonies.
  + Forced through a compromise between naked imperialism and Wilson idealism.
* Victors would not outright take conquered territory, but ould receive it as trustees of League of Nation.
* Midwife for League of Nations, Made League an important aspect of the final peace treaty.

Hammering Out A Treaty:

* Domestic duties required Wilson to make a quick trip to the United States where ugly storms brewing.
  + Sharpening knives against Wilson
  + League was stupid and would take over US
  + Composed of William Borah and Hiram Johnson, Irreconciables
* 39 Senators, enough to defeat the treaty, would not approve the LON in its existing form.
  + Stronger bargaining position because Wilson would have to beg them to change
* France wants takes the Rhineland and Saar Valley
  + LON 15 years, popular vote
  + Gets the Security Treaty
    - Britain and American would come to its aid in event of another German invasion.
* Italy over Fuime, a valuable seaport
  + Wilson insisted that the port go to Yugoslovia and appealed to heads of Italy
* Japan v. China’s Shandong. Japan had seized during the war, but Wilson opposed as a violation of 30 million Chinese RESIDENTS
  + Gave in as Japan threatened to leave. Pledged to return it to China at a later date.

The Peace Treaty that Bred a New War:

* A completed Treaty of Versailles was still wrangling
* Germany had capitulated on the strength of assurances that it would be granted a peace based on the 14 points
  + Only 4 of the original points were honored
  + Betrayal would give rise to Nazi Party
* Wilson was of course guilt to no conscious betrayal
  + Allide powers torn by conflicting aims and were sanctioned by secret treaties
  + Needed to be a compromise to slave the more precious Leage of Nations
* Wilson was not happy with the results. He was aware of the injustices

Domestic Prade of Prejdice

* Returning to America for the second and final time, he sailed straight into political typhoon
* Isolationists raised protest against the treaty, especially to put the US into the League of Nations
  + No part in an alliance
* Rabid hun haters regarded the pact voice discontent
* Other ethnicities not happy because it did not give sufficient repirations
* Even Irish hated it, gave Britain undue influence

Wilson’s Tour and Collapse:

* President felt optimistic about it
* Senator Lodge had no hope of defeating the Treaty, he simply wanted to amend it
  + Republicans could claim credit fo ir
* Delay tactics by muddling and dividing public opinion
* Wilson, seeing this, went on a speechmaking tour to appeal to everyone
* The campaign took a toll on his buody
  + Body began to sag under strain
  + He was willing to die for the country
* He received good applause, but two irreconcilable senators, Borah and Johnson, followed him and roused crows even more.
* Wilson’s high point and breaking point came when he was tearing and pleading for the League of Nations and collapsed
* Wilson’s wife took care of him. He did not meet his cabinet for the next two years

Defeat Through Deadlock

* Lodge was now at the helm. After failing to amend it, he came up with the fourteen formal reservations to it
* Reserved rights of US under the Monroe Doctrine
* Article X alarmed people as it morally bound the US to aid any member victimized by external aggression.
  + Congress wanted to reserve for itself the constitutional war-delcaring
* Wilson, still hating Lodge, told his followers that he would only listen to fellow Democratic amendments. He still obstructed and failed the treaty.
  + True democrats voted against it
* It came into Congress a second time with constructions from both Lodge and Hitcock amendments
  + Despite it, Wilson still tells his true democrats to fail it
* The treaty good simply not gain a 2/3 majority
  + Failed 49-34.

Solemn Referndum of 1920

* Wilson had this own pet solution for the deadlock. He proposed to settle the issue in the forthcoming preseidential election
* Sheer folly, because a true mandate in politics was simply impossible
* Old Guard and Bull Moose rejoin one another and come back in saddle.
* Platform that appeals to both pro-League and anti-League sentiment in the party.
  + Nominee would teeter totter along the edge.
* Warren G. Harding was the candidate, from Ohio, who ran on this platform. A bunch of Senators bosses in room 404 chose him as the next Presidential candidate as he was the complete opposite of Wilson
* VP was Calvin Coolidge who was chosen as a frugal and smart conservative
* Democrats nominated the earnest Governor James M. Cox, from Ohio, who also was surprorted by Assistant Navy Secretary FDR
* Attempts to make the campaign on a referendum of the League
  + Too specific
* Harding kills the election. 16 million to 9 million.
  + Eugene V. Debs gets 1 million from jail
* Reupdiation of a high and mighty Wilson, tired of everything
* “Normalcy”, life before all of the progressive era.