

## Unit 8 1920-1940

**James Joseph "Gene" Tunney** (May 25, 1897 – November 7, 1978) was the [world heavyweight boxing champion](#) from 1926-1928 who defeated [Jack Dempsey](#) twice, first in 1926 and then in 1927. Tunney's successful title defense against [Dempsey](#) is one of the most famous bouts in boxing history and is known as [The Long Count Fight](#). Tunney retired as an undefeated heavyweight after his victory over [Tom Heeney](#) in 1928.

**William Tatem Tilden II** (February 10, 1893 – June 5, 1953), nicknamed "Big Bill," is often considered one of the greatest tennis players of all time.<sup>[1]</sup> An American [tennis](#) player who was the [World No. 1](#) player for seven years, Bill Tilden dominated the world of international tennis in the first half of the 1920s. During his 18 year amateur period of 1912-30, he won 138 of 192 tournaments, and had a match record of 907-62, a winning percentage of 93.6 percent.

**Helen Newington Wills Roark** (October 6, 1905 – January 1, 1998), also known as **Helen Wills Moody**, was an American [tennis](#) player. She has been described as "the first American born woman to achieve international celebrity as an athlete."

**Johnny Weissmuller** (born **Johann Peter Weißmüller**; June 2, 1904 – January 20, 1984) was an [Austro-Hungarian](#)-born American [swimmer](#) and actor. Weissmuller was one of the world's best swimmers in the 1920s, winning five [Olympic gold medals](#) and one [bronze medal](#). He won fifty-two US National Championships and set sixty-seven [world records](#). After his swimming career, he became the sixth actor to portray [Tarzan](#) in films, a role he played in twelve motion pictures. Dozens of other actors have also played Tarzan, but Weissmuller is by far the best known. His character's distinctive, [ululating Tarzan yell](#) is still often used in films.

"**Flapper**" in the 1920s was a term applied to a "new breed" of young [Western](#) women who wore short skirts, [bobbed](#) their hair, listened to [jazz](#), and flaunted their disdain for what was then considered acceptable behavior. Flappers were seen as brash for wearing excessive makeup, [drinking](#), treating [sex in a casual manner](#), [smoking](#), driving [automobiles](#) and otherwise flouting social and sexual norms.

**Warren Gamaliel Harding** (November 2, 1865 – August 2, 1923) was the [29th President of the United States](#), serving from 1921 until his death from a heart attack in 1923. A [Republican](#) from [Ohio](#), Harding was an influential [newspaper](#) publisher. He served in the [Ohio Senate](#) (1899–1903) and later as the [28th Lieutenant Governor of Ohio](#) (1903–1905) and as a U.S. Senator (1915–1921). He was the first incumbent [United States Senator](#) to be elected President.

The **Ohio Gang** was a group of politicians and industry leaders who came to be associated with [Warren G. Harding](#), the twenty-ninth [President of the United States of America](#).

The **Teapot Dome Scandal** was an unprecedented [bribery](#) scandal and investigation during the White House administration of [United States President Warren G. Harding](#).

**John Calvin Coolidge, Jr.**, (July 4, 1872 – January 5, 1933) was the [30th President of the United States](#) (1923–1929). A [Republican](#) lawyer from [Vermont](#), Coolidge worked his way up the ladder of [Massachusetts](#) state politics, eventually becoming governor of that state. His actions during the [Boston Police Strike](#) of 1919 thrust him into the national spotlight. Soon after, he was elected as the [29th Vice President](#) in 1920 and succeeded to the Presidency upon the sudden death of [Warren G. Harding](#) in 1923. Elected in his own right in 1924, he gained a reputation as a small-government [conservative](#).

**Herbert Clark Hoover** (August 10, 1874 – October 20, 1964) was the [31st President of the United States](#) (1929–1933). Hoover was a professional [mining engineer](#) and author.

**The Dawes Plan** (as proposed by the Dawes Committee, chaired by [Charles G. Dawes](#)) was an attempt following [World War I](#) for the [Triple Entente](#) to collect [war reparations](#) debt from [Germany](#). When after five years the plan proved to be unsuccessful, the [Young Plan](#) was adopted in 1929 to replace it.

**Charles Evans Hughes, Sr.** (April 11, 1862 – August 27, 1948) was a [lawyer](#) and [Republican](#) politician from the State of New York. He served as the [36th Governor of New York](#) (1907–1910), [Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States](#) (1910–1916), [United States Secretary of State](#) (1921–1925), and [Chief Justice of the United States](#) (1930–1941). He was the Republican candidate in the [1916 U.S. Presidential election](#), losing to [Woodrow Wilson](#). Hughes was an important leader of the [progressive movement](#) of the 1900s, a leading diplomat and New York lawyer in the days of Harding and Coolidge, and a leader of opposition to the [New Deal](#) in the 1930s. Historian [Clinton Rossiter](#) has hailed him as a leading [American conservative](#).<sup>[2]</sup>

The **Washington Naval Treaty**, also known as the **Five-Power Treaty**, limited the naval armaments of its five signatories: the [United States of America](#), the [British Empire](#), the [Empire of Japan](#), the [French Third Republic](#), and the [Kingdom of Italy](#). The treaty was agreed at the [Washington Naval Conference](#), which was held in [Washington, D.C.](#) from November 1921 to February 1922, and was signed by representatives of the [treaty](#) nations on 6 February 1922. It was an attempt to prevent a naval [arms race](#) that began after [World War I](#).

The **Kellogg–Briand Pact** (also called the **Pact of Paris**, formal name: General Treaty for the Renunciation of War) was signed on August 27, 1928 by the [United States](#), [France](#), the [United Kingdom](#), [Germany](#), [Italy](#), [Japan](#), and a number of other states. The pact renounced aggressive war, prohibiting the use of [war](#) as "an instrument of national policy" except in matters of self-defense.<sup>[1]</sup> It made no provisions for sanctions. The pact was the result of a determined American effort to avoid involvement in the European alliance system. It was registered in *League of Nations Treaty Series* on September 4, 1929.<sup>[2]</sup>

**Nicaragua** (pronounced /nɪkərəgwə/ (聆听) [nik-ə-RAH-gwə](#)) officially the **Republic of Nicaragua** ([Spanish](#): *República de Nicaragua*, pronounced [repuβlika ðe nikaɾaɣwa] (聆听)), is a [representative democratic](#) republic. It is the largest country in [Central America](#) with an area of 130,373 km<sup>2</sup>. The country is bordered by [Honduras](#) to the north and [Costa Rica](#) to the south. The [Pacific Ocean](#) lies to the west of the country, the [Caribbean Sea](#) to the east. The country's Caribbean coast is

part of the [Western Caribbean Zone](#). Falling within the [tropics](#), Nicaragua sits between [11 degrees](#) and [14 degrees north](#) of the [Equator](#) in the [Northern Hemisphere](#). Nicaragua's abundance of biologically significant and unique ecosystems contribute to [Mesoamerica's](#) designation as a [biodiversity hotspot](#). The capital city of Nicaragua is [Managua](#). Roughly one quarter of the nation's population lives in the Nicaraguan capital, making it the second largest [city](#) and [metropolitan area](#) in Central America (following [Guatemala City](#)).

**Pax Americana**<sup>[1][2][3]</sup> ([Latin](#) for "American Peace") is an appellation applied to the [historical](#) concept of relative [peace](#) in the [Western hemisphere](#) and, later, the [Western world](#), resulting from the preponderance of power enjoyed by the [United States of America](#) starting around the [turn of the 20th century](#). Although the term finds its primary utility in the later half of the [20th Century](#), it has been used in various places and eras, such as the post [United States Civil War](#) Era in [North America](#)<sup>[4]</sup> and globally during the time between the Great World Wars.<sup>[2]</sup>

**Sandino** is a municipality and city in the [Pinar del Río Province](#) of [Cuba](#).

A [speakeasy](#), also called a [blind pig](#) or [blind tiger](#), is an establishment that illegally sells [alcoholic beverages](#). Such establishments came into prominence in the [United States](#) during the period known as [Prohibition](#) (1920–1933, longer in some states). During this time, the sale, manufacture, and transportation ([bootlegging](#)) of alcoholic beverages was illegal throughout the United States.

The **Twenty-first Amendment (Amendment XXI)** to the [United States Constitution](#) repealed the [Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution](#), which mandated nationwide [Prohibition](#). It was ratified on December 5, 1933.

**Alphonse Gabriel "Al" Capone** (January 17, 1899 – January 25, 1947) was an [Italian-American gangster](#) who led a [Prohibition-era crime syndicate](#). Known as the "Capones", the group was dedicated to [smuggling](#) and [bootlegging liquor](#), and other illegal activities such as [prostitution](#), in [Chicago](#) from the early 1920s to 1931.

The **Volstead Act**, formally the **National Prohibition Act**, was the enabling legislation for the [Eighteenth Amendment](#) which established prohibition in the United States. The [Anti-Saloon League](#)'s [Wayne Wheeler](#) conceived and drafted the bill, which was named for [Andrew Volstead](#), Chairman of the [House Judiciary Committee](#), which managed the legislation.

The term **Red Scare** denotes two distinct periods of strong [anti-Communism](#) in the United States: the **First Red Scare**, from 1919 to 1920, and the **Second Red Scare**, from 1947 to 1957. The [First Red Scare](#) was about worker (socialist) [revolution](#) and [political radicalism](#). The Second Red Scare was focused on (national and foreign) communists influencing society or [infiltrating](#) the [federal government](#), or both.

The **Immigration Act of 1924**, or **Johnson–Reed Act**, including the **National Origins Act**, **Asian Exclusion Act** (43 Statutes-at-Large 153), was a [United States federal law](#) that limited the number of immigrants who could be admitted from any country to 2% of the number of people from that country who were already living in the [United States](#) in 1890, down from the 3% cap

set by the Immigration Restriction Act of 1921, according to the [Census of 1890](#). It superseded the 1921 [Emergency Quota Act](#). The law was aimed at further restricting the [Southern](#) and [Eastern Europeans](#) who were immigrating in large numbers starting in the 1890s, as well as prohibiting the immigration of [East Asians](#) and [Asian Indians](#).

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The **Immigration Restriction League**, <sup>[1]</sup> was founded in 1894 by five [Harvard College](#) graduates, [Charles Warren](#), [Robert DeCourcy Ward](#), and [Prescott Farnsworth Hall](#) and two others. The members of the league felt it necessary to oppose the avalanche of supposedly "undesirable immigrants" that were coming to the [United States](#) from southern and eastern Europe. Many people in the U.S. at this time felt that these immigrants were threatening what they saw as the American way of life.

**Albert Johnson** (March 5, 1869 - January 17, 1957) was a [U.S. Representative](#) from [Washington](#) state.

**Ku Klux Klan**, often abbreviated **KKK** and informally known as **The Klan**, is the name of three distinct past and present [far-right](#)<sup>[2][3][4]</sup> organizations in the [United States](#), which have advocated extremist [reactionary](#) currents such as [white supremacy](#), [white nationalism](#), and [anti-immigration](#),<sup>[5][6][7]</sup> historically expressed through [Christian terrorism](#) and a fervent [anti-communist](#) stance.<sup>[8]</sup> The current manifestation is splintered into several chapters and is widely considered to be a [hate group](#).<sup>[9]</sup>

***The Birth of a Nation*** (premiered with the title ***The Clansman***) is a 1915 American [silent film](#) directed by [D. W. Griffith](#). Set during and after the [American Civil War](#), the film was based on [Thomas Dixon's \*The Clansman\*](#), a novel and play.

*The Birth of a Nation* was the highest-grossing film of the silent film era, and is noted for its innovative camera techniques and narrative achievements. It has provoked great controversy for promoting [white supremacy](#) and positively portraying the "knights" of the [Ku Klux Klan](#) as heroes.<sup>[2]</sup>

The **Scopes Trial**—formally known as *The State of Tennessee v. Scopes* and informally known as the **Scopes Monkey Trial**—was an American legal case in 1925 in which high school biology teacher [John Scopes](#) was accused of violating the state's [Butler Act](#) which made it unlawful to teach [evolution](#).<sup>[1]</sup>

The **League of Women Voters** is an [American](#) political [organization](#) founded in 1920<sup>[1]</sup> by [Carrie Chapman Catt](#) during the last meeting of the [National American Woman Suffrage](#)

[Association](#) approximately six months before the [Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution](#) gave women the right to vote. It began as a "mighty political experiment" aimed to help newly-enfranchised women exercise their responsibilities as voters. Originally, only women could join the league; but in 1973 the charter was modified to include men. The league is a grassroots organization with chapters in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The league has approximately 150,000 members (as of 2006).<sup>[2]</sup>

The **National Woman's Party** (NWP), was a [women](#)'s organization founded by Alice Paul in 1915 that fought for [women's rights](#) during the early 20th century in the [United States](#), particularly for the right to vote on the same terms as [men](#).

**Florence Kelley** (September 12, 1859 – February 17, 1932) was a social and political reformer from [Philadelphia](#). Her work against [sweatshops](#) and for the [minimum wage](#), [eight-hour workdays](#)<sup>[1]</sup>, and [children's rights](#)<sup>[2]</sup> is widely regarded today.

The **Sheppard–Towner Maternity and Infancy Protection Act** of 1921 was a U.S. [Act of Congress](#) providing federal funding for maternity and child care. It was sponsored by senators [Morris Sheppard](#) and [Horace Mann Towner](#), and signed by President [Warren G. Harding](#) on November 23, 1921.

**Alice Stokes Paul** (January 11, 1885 – July 9, 1977) was an [American suffragette](#) and activist. Along with [Lucy Burns](#) and others, she led a successful campaign for [women's suffrage](#) that resulted in the passage of the [Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution](#) in 1920.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Marian Anderson** (February 27, 1897 – April 8, 1993)<sup>[2]</sup> was an American [contralto](#) and one of the most celebrated singers of the twentieth century

**Amelia Mary Earhart** (pronounced /ɛərhart/ *AIR-hart*); (born July 24, 1897; missing July 2, 1937; declared legally dead January 5, 1939) was a noted [American aviation](#) pioneer and author.<sup>[1]</sup> Earhart was the first woman to receive the [Distinguished Flying Cross](#),<sup>[3]</sup> awarded for becoming the first [aviatrix](#) to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.<sup>[4]</sup> She set many other records,<sup>[2]</sup> wrote best-selling books about her flying experiences and was instrumental in the formation of [The Ninety-Nines](#), an organization for female pilots.<sup>[5]</sup> Earhart joined the faculty of the world-famous [Purdue University](#) aviation department in 1935 as a visiting faculty member to counsel women on careers and help inspire others with her love for aviation. She was also a member of the [National Woman's Party](#), and an early supporter of the [Equal Rights Amendment](#).

The **Confederation of Mexican Workers** ([Spanish](#): *Confederación de Trabajadores de México* (CTM)) is the largest confederation of [labor unions](#) in [Mexico](#). For many years it was one of the essential pillars of the [Partido Revolucionario Institucional](#) (the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI), which ruled Mexico for more than seventy years. However, the CTM began to lose influence within the PRI structure in the late 1980s, as [technocrats](#) increasingly held power within the party. Eventually the union found itself forced to deal with a new party in power after the PRI lost the [2000 general election](#), an event which drastically reduced the CTM's influence in Mexican politics.

The **League of United Latin American Citizens** (LULAC) was created with the aim of combating the discrimination that Mexican Americans faced in the United States Southwest. Established February 17, 1929 in Corpus Christi, Texas, LULAC was consolidation of smaller, like-minded civil rights groups already in existence. Since its creation, the organization has grown and now boasts a national headquarters, active councils in many states, and a professional staff (Gutierrez 9). LULAC continues to operate and, while it is perhaps more nationally visible than ever, in recent decades it has lost considerable strength, due to a decreasing and less active membership base as well as decreasing funds.<sup>[1]</sup>

**James Mercer Langston Hughes** (February 1, 1902 – May 22, 1967) was an American novelist, playwright, short story writer, and columnist. He was one of the earliest innovators of the new literary art form [jazz poetry](#). Hughes is best-known for his work during the [Harlem Renaissance](#). He famously wrote about the Harlem Renaissance, saying that "Harlem was in vogue".

The **Harlem Renaissance** was a [cultural movement](#) that spanned the 1920s and 1930s. At the time, it was known as the "New Negro Movement", named after the 1925 anthology by [Alain Locke](#). Though it was centered in the [Harlem](#) neighborhood of [New York City](#), many French-speaking black writers from African and Caribbean colonies who lived in [Paris](#) were also influenced by the Harlem Renaissance.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Zora Neale Hurston** (January 7, 1891<sup>[1][2]</sup> – January 28, 1960) was an American [folklorist](#), [anthropologist](#), and author during the time of the [Harlem Renaissance](#). Of Hurston's four novels and more than 50 published short stories, plays, and essays, she is best known for her 1937 novel [Their Eyes Were Watching God](#).

**Paul Leroy Robeson** (April 9, 1898 – January 23, 1976) was an [American bass-baritone](#) singer and actor, who became noted for his [political radicalism](#) and wide-ranging [activism](#).

**Asa Philip Randolph** (April 15, 1889 – May 16, 1979) was a prominent twentieth-century [African-American civil rights leader](#) and the founder of both the [March on Washington Movement](#) and the [Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters](#), a landmark for labor and particularly for African-American labor organizing.

**Ernest Miller Hemingway** (July 21, 1899 – July 2, 1961) was an American [author](#) and [journalist](#). His distinctive writing style, characterized by economy and [understatement](#), influenced 20th-century fiction, as did his life of adventure and public image. He produced most of his work between the mid-1920s and the mid-1950s. He won the [Nobel Prize in Literature](#) in 1954. Hemingway's fiction was successful because the characters he presented exhibited authenticity that resonated with his audience. Many of his works are classics of [American literature](#). He published seven novels, six short story collections, and two non-fiction works during his lifetime; a further three novels, four collections of short stories, and three non-fiction works were published [posthumously](#).

**Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald** (September 24, 1896 – December 21, 1940) was an American author of novels and short stories, whose works are the paradigm writings of the [Jazz Age](#), a

term he coined himself. He is widely regarded by many as one of the greatest American writers of the [20th century](#). Fitzgerald is considered a member of the "[Lost Generation](#)" of the 1920s. He finished four novels, [This Side of Paradise](#), [The Beautiful and Damned](#), [Tender Is the Night](#) and his most famous, the celebrated classic, [The Great Gatsby](#). A fifth, unfinished novel, [The Love of the Last Tycoon](#) was published posthumously. Fitzgerald also wrote many short stories that treat themes of youth and promise along with despair and age.

**Henry Louis "H. L." Mencken** (September 12, 1880 – January 29, 1956), was an American [journalist](#), [essayist](#), magazine editor, [satirist](#), acerbic [critic](#) of American life and culture, and a student of American English.<sup>[1]</sup> Mencken, known as the "Sage of [Baltimore](#)", is regarded as one of the most influential American writers and prose [stylists](#) of the first half of the 20th century.

**Harry Sinclair Lewis** (February 7, 1885 – January 10, 1951) was an [American novelist](#), [short-story](#) writer, and [playwright](#). In 1930, he became the first writer from the United States to be awarded the [Nobel Prize in Literature](#), "for his vigorous and graphic art of description and his ability to create, with wit and humor, new types of characters." His works are known for their insightful and critical views of American society and [capitalist](#) values, as well as for their strong characterizations of modern working women.

The **United States presidential election of 1928** pitted [Republican Herbert Hoover](#) against [Democrat Al Smith](#). The Republicans were identified with the booming economy of the 1920s, whereas Smith, a [Roman Catholic](#), suffered politically from anti-Catholic prejudice, his [anti-prohibitionist](#) stance, and the legacy of corruption of [Tammany Hall](#) with which he was associated. Hoover won a landslide victory.

The **Wall Street Crash of 1929 (black Tuesday)** (October 1929), also known as the **Great Crash**, and the **Stock Market Crash of 1929**, was the most devastating [stock market crash](#) in the history of the United States of America, taking into consideration the full extent and duration of its fallout.<sup>[1]</sup> The crash began a 12-year [economic slump](#) that affected all the Western industrialized countries<sup>[2]</sup> and that did not end in the United States until the onset of World War II at the end of 1941.

**Andrew William Mellon** (March 24, 1855 – August 26, 1937) was an [American](#) banker, industrialist, philanthropist, art collector and [Secretary of the Treasury](#) from March 4, 1921 until February 12, 1932.

A **stock market crash** is a sudden dramatic decline of [stock](#) prices across a significant cross-section of a [stock market](#), resulting in a significant loss of [paper wealth](#). Crashes are driven by panic as much as by underlying economic factors. They often follow [speculative stock market bubbles](#).

The **Great Depression** was a severe worldwide [economic depression](#) in the decade preceding [World War II](#).

**Herbert Clark Hoover** (August 10, 1874 – October 20, 1964) was the [31st President of the United States](#) (1929–1933). Hoover was a professional [mining engineer](#) and author.

The **Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC)** was an [independent agency of the United States government](#) chartered during the administration of [Herbert Hoover](#) in 1932. It was modeled after the [War Finance Corporation](#) of World War I. The agency gave \$2 billion in aid to state and local governments and made loans to banks, railroads, mortgage associations, and other businesses. The loans were nearly all repaid. It was continued by the [New Deal](#) and played a major role in handling the [Great Depression in the United States](#) and setting up the relief programs that were taken over by the [New Deal](#) in 1933.

The **Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)** was a [proposed amendment](#) to the [United States Constitution](#). The ERA was originally written by [Alice Paul](#). In 1972, it passed both houses of Congress, but [failed to gain ratification](#) before its June 30, 1982 deadline.

The **United States presidential election of 1932** took place as the effects of the [1929 Wall Street Crash](#) and the [Great Depression](#) were being felt intensely across the country. President [Herbert Hoover](#)'s popularity was falling as voters felt he was unable to reverse the economic collapse, or deal with [prohibition](#). [Franklin D. Roosevelt](#) used what he called Hoover's failure to deal with these problems as a platform for his own election, promising reform in his policy called the [New Deal](#). Roosevelt won by a landslide, and this "critical election" marked the collapse of the [Fourth Party System](#) or [Progressive Era](#). The voters soon were realigned into the [Fifth Party System](#), dominated by Roosevelt's [New Deal Coalition](#).

The **Farmers' Holiday Association** was a movement of [Midwestern United States](#) farmers who, during the [Great Depression](#), endorsed the withholding of farm products from the market, in essence creating a farmers' [strike](#). The Farmers' Holiday Association was organized in the May, 1932 by [Milo Reno](#).<sup>[1]</sup> The group urged farmers to declare a "holiday" from farming, with a slogan of "Stay at Home-Buy Nothing-Sell Nothing" and "Lets call a Farmer's Holiday, a Holiday let's hold. We'll eat our wheat and ham and eggs, And let them eat their gold."<sup>[1]</sup>

The self-named **Bonus Expeditionary Force** was an assemblage of some 43,000 marchers—17,000 [World War I](#) veterans, their families, and affiliated groups—who protested in Washington, D.C., in spring and summer of 1932. Called the **Bonus March** by the news media, the Bonus Marchers were more popularly known as the **Bonus Army**. It was led by [Walter W. Waters](#), a former Army sergeant. The veterans were encouraged in their demand for immediate cash-payment redemption of their service certificates by retired [Marine Corps](#) Major General [Smedley Butler](#), one of the most popular military figures of the time.

[General of the Army Douglas MacArthur](#) (January 26, 1880 – April 5, 1964) was an American general and [field marshal](#) of the [Philippine Army](#). He was a [Chief of Staff of the United States Army](#) during the 1930s and played a prominent role in the [Pacific theater](#) during [World War II](#). He received the [Medal of Honor](#) for his service in the [Philippines Campaign](#). [Arthur MacArthur, Jr.](#), and Douglas MacArthur were the first father and son to each be awarded the medal. He was one of only five men ever to rise to the rank of general of the army in the U.S. Army, and the only man ever to become a field marshal in the Philippine Army.

