

# History 201 Reading Assignment 7

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## 1 Main keypoints to the reading

- Billy Sunday
- The Scopes trial
- The second Klan
- 1924 immigration act
- Race Policy
- Pluralism
- Halem's culture
- The Great Depression
- How Depression affect American lives.
- How President Hoover responded
- Hawley-Smoot Tariff

## 2 Keypoints explained

### 2.1 Billy Sunday

- Christian belief, fundamentalist.
- most flamboyant apostle was Billy Sunday.
- at talented professional baseball player who became a revivalist preacher.
- 1900 to 1930 Sunday drew huge crowd with a highly theatrical preaching style and a message denouncing sins ranging from Darwinism to alcohol.
- Prohibition which fundamentalist strongly supported, succeeded in reducing the consumption of alcohol as well as public drunkenness and drink related diseases

## 2.2 The Scopes trial

- In Tennessee, the trial of John Scopes, he was arrested for violating a state law that prohibited the teaching of Charles Darwin theory of evolution.
- There was two definition of freedom in American in prior to this trial
  - Fundamentalist Christians, strong in rural areas of the South and West.
  - American Civil Liberties Union, freedom meant above all the right to independent thought and individual self-expression. which is Scope defenders.
- renowned labor lawyer Clarence Darrow defend Scopes.
- The highlight of the trial came when William Jennings Bryan came to stand as an expert witness of the Bible: Bryan revealed an almost complete ignorance of modern science and proved unable to respond effectively to Darrow's sarcastic questioning.
- The jury found Scopes guilty, although the Tennessee supreme court later overturned the decision on a technicality.

## 2.3 The second Klan

- reborn in Atlanta in 1915 after the lynching of Leo Frank, a Jewish factory manager accused of killing a teenage girl.
- American civilization The Klan insist, was endangered not only by blacks but by immigrants (especially Jews and Catholics) and all the forces (feminism, unions, immorality, even, on occasion the giant corporation) that endanger the individual liberty.
- Klan's influence faded after the 1925, when its leader in Indiana was convicted of assaulting a young woman.

## 2.4 1924 immigration act

- 1921, restricted European immigration to 357,000 per year which is one-third of the annual average before the war.
- Three years later limited to 150,000 per year.
- 1924, no limits on immigration from the Western Hemisphere.

## 2.5 Race Policy

- President Coolidge signed the new law about race policy, immigration policy must now rest on a biological definition of the ideal population
- reflect the desire to improve the quality of democratic citizenship
- reveal how these aims were overlaid with pseudo scientific assumptions about the superior and inferior races.
- concept of race lacked of any rational foundation, and the Supreme Court

agree to it in 1923, White was not a scientific concept at all but part of common speech to be interpreted with the understanding of common man.

## 2.6 Pluralism

- The idea of Pluralism came from the interpretation of the Supreme Court of the Fourteenth Amendment. It is the guarantee of equal liberty to include the right to marry, establish a home and bring up children and to practice religion as one chose without the interference from the state.

## 2.7 Harlem's culture

- New York's Harlem gained an international reputation as the capital of black America.  
- 1920, it became famous for slumming when whites visited dance halls, jazz clubs, search for exotic adventure. Harlem of the white imagination was a place of primitive passions, free from the puritanical restraints of mainstream American culture.  
- Harlem Renaissance

- Harlem became the link to New York's artistic mainstream
- Poets and Novelists such as Cullen, Hughes, and McKay were sponsored by white intellectuals and published by white presses.
- New Negro became a term for black to ask for rejection of stereotype and asking for black values.
- This quest of new negro and the emergence of Harlem have led to something called the Harlem Renaissance
- Writing from Harlem Renaissance rooted for the black experience and contained the strong element of protest. They want to say that blacks would no longer allow themselves to be murdered defenselessly by whites.

## 2.8 The Great Depression

- Black Tuesday, stock market crashed. As panic selling set in, more than \$10 billion in market value (equivalent to more than ten times now) vanished in five hours. U.S. and entire world find itself in the grip of the Great Depression, the greatest economic disaster in modern history.  
- Before 1929, signs of economic trouble became evident. spectacular burst, banks failing, land remain underdeveloped, mortgage foreclosed. European demands for American goods reduced.  
- Germany refused to pay debts made leading these government to stop paying debts to American.

- Bank failed because of the depositors withdrew money, Millions of families lost their life savings.
- 1929, the gross national product had fallen by one-third prices by nearly 40 percent, and more than 11 million Americans-25 percent of labor forces. could not find work.

## **2.9 How Depression affect American lives.**

- Detroit, 4000 children stood in bread lines each day seeking food.
- In Chicago, where half of the working population can't find work at beginning of 1932.
- Soviet ask for workers, 100,000 applications from the United States.
- Many American return to rural area to grow their own food for their family.
- 1953, 33 millions people lived on farms.
- Suicide rate rose to the highest level in nation's history, birth rate fall to the lowest

## **2.10 How President Hoover responded**

- He didn't much, not really caring partly because of the advice from Andrew Mellon that economic downturn were a normal part of capitalism.
- He even said that the Government should not support the people because federal aid weakens the sturdiness of our national character.
- His responses were considered as associational action which means that he put his faith in voluntary steps by business to maintain investment and employment, and efforts by charity organizations to assist needy neighbors.
- He made a comment about unemployed men selling apple that Many persons left their jobs for more profitable one of selling apple. This makes me believe this guys is a horrible President.

## **2.11 Hawley-Smoot Tariff**

- 1930, made economic situation worse.
- Raising the already high taxes on imported goods, it inspired similar increase abroad, leading to reduce international trade.