

Chapter 22 Notes

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1 Politics (Pages 475-477)

1. The Republican party dominated both the White House and Congress.
2. Republicans did not want laissez-faire economics but rather wanted limited government regulation as an aid to stabilizing business. The regulatory commissions established in the Progressive era were now run by appointees who were more sympathetic to business than the general public. The main idea was that the nation would benefit if business and the pursuit of profits took the lead in developing the economy.
3.
 - Warren Harding
 - Appointed able men to his cabinet including
 - * Presidential Candidate and Supreme Court justice Charles Evans Hughes to be secretary of state
 - * An admired former mining engineer and Food Administration leader Herbert Hoover to be secretary of commerce
 - * Pittsburgh industrialist and millionaire Andrew Mellon to be secretary of the treasury
 - Domestic Policy
 - * Reduced income tax
 - * Increased tariff rates through Fordney-McCumber Tariff Act of 1922
 - * established the Bureau of the Budget.
 - * Pardoned Eugene Debs
 - Scandals and Death
 - * Appointed incompetent and dishonest men to fill important positions including
 - Secretary of Interior Albert B. Fall (Accepted bribes for granting oil leases near Teapot Dome, Wyoming)
 - Attorney General Harry M. Daugherty (Accepted bribes for agreeing not to prosecute certain criminal suspects)
 - Calvin Coolidge
 - The Election of 1924
 - * Calvin Coolidge because the Democrats voted for a 3rd party candidate
 - * Surprisingly, the 3rd party did very well
 - Vetoes and Inaction
 - * Calvin Coolidge did little but except keep a close watch on the budget.
 - * Coolidge vetoed even the acts of the Republican majority.
 - * This included bonuses for World War 1 veterans.
 - * This also included an act (the McNary-Haugen Bill of 1928) to help farmers as crop

prices fell.

2 Economics (Pages 477-479)

1. Strengths and Weaknesses of 1920's economy:

- Strengths
 - Unemployment was below 4%
 - The standard of living for Americans improved significantly
 - Indoor plumbing and central heating became commonplace
 - Two-thirds of all homes had electricity
- Weaknesses
 - Prosperity was not universal
 - 40% of families were in the poverty range, struggling to live off of \$1,500 a year
 - Farmers did not participate in the booming economy

2. The most significant cause of business prosperity was increased productivity because it allowed the mass production of many new consumer goods of the 1920's. Without the assembly line, many new goods would take too long to manufacture in order to make a profit.

3. The automobile changed life in

- Social/Cultural changes
 - Affected:
 - * Traveling for pleasure
 - * Commuting to work
 - * dating
 - Created new problems including:
 - * Traffic jams
 - * Injuries and deaths due to accidents
- Economic Impact
 - Other industries such as steel, glass, rubber, gasoline, and highway construction depended on automobile sales
- Political Effects
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3 Culture and Society (Pages 479-486)

4 Values in Conflict

5 Ku Klux Klan

6 Summary Questions