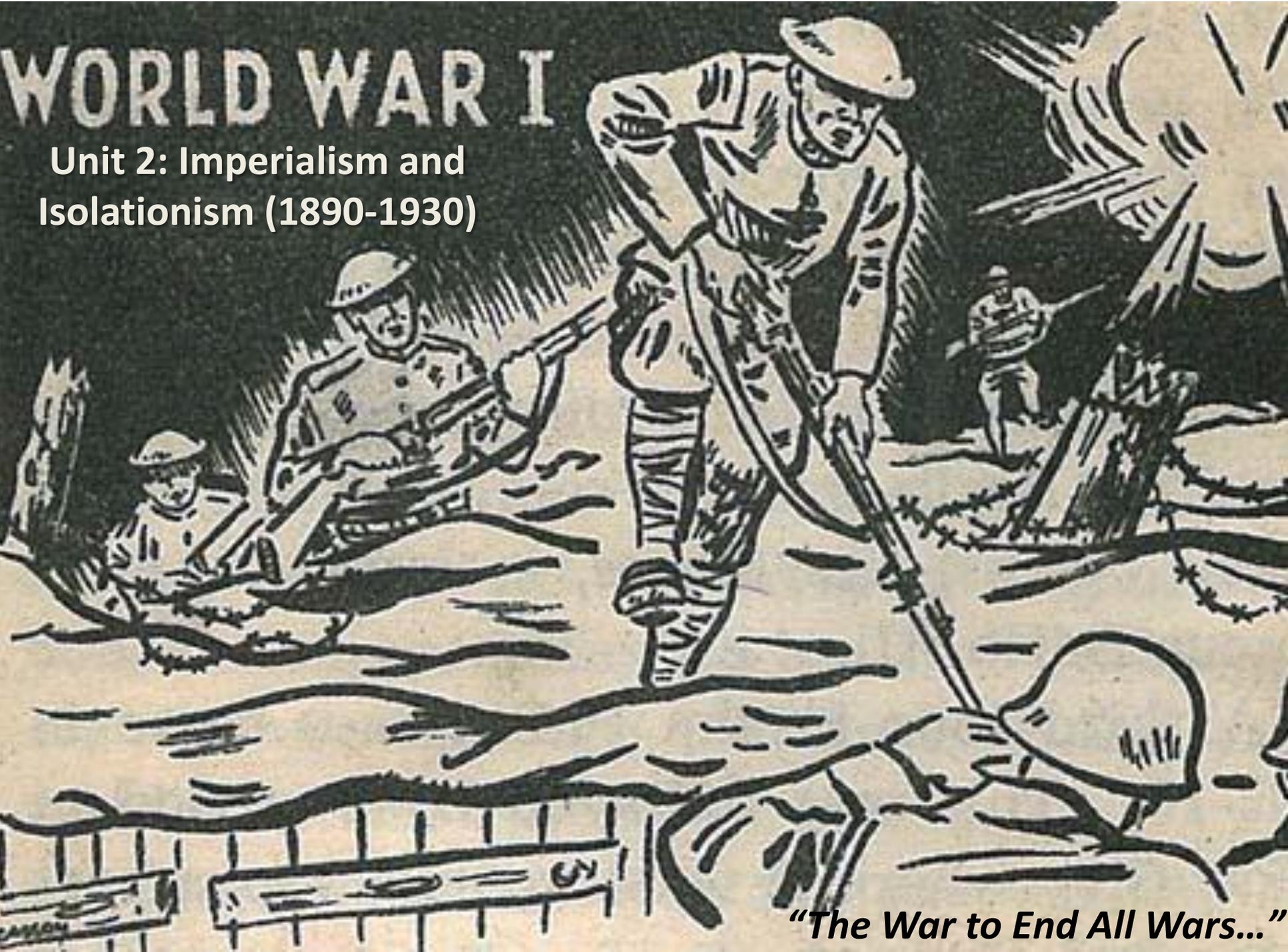


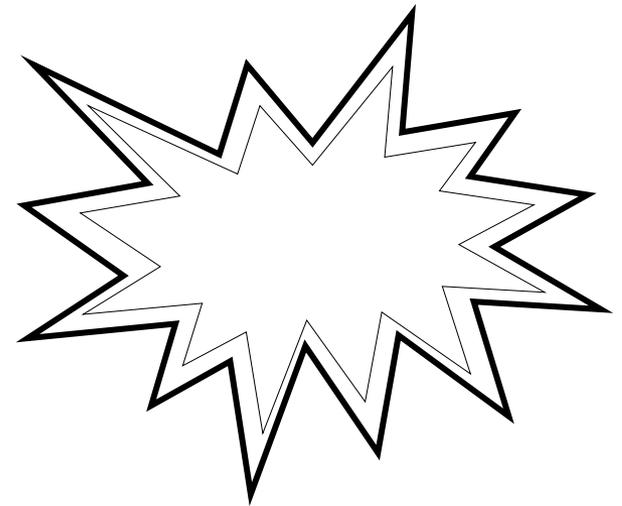
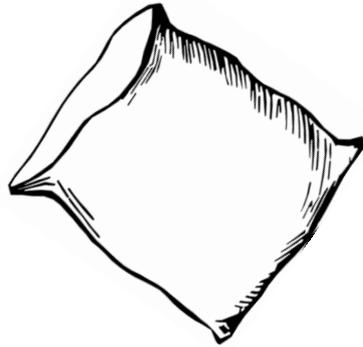
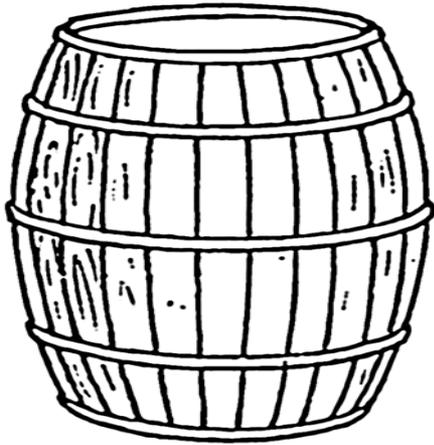
WORLD WAR I

Unit 2: Imperialism and Isolationism (1890-1930)



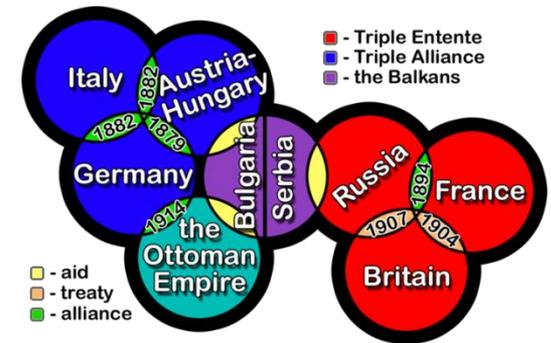
"The War to End All Wars..."

*What would cause a
“world” war to break out?*



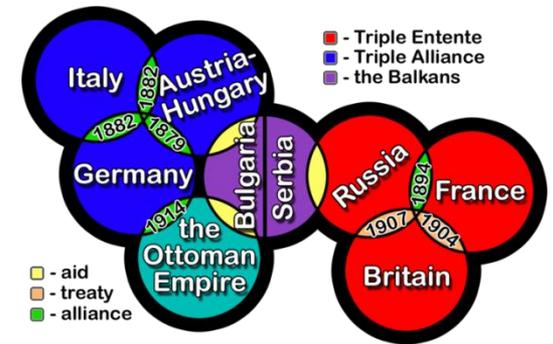
Long-term Causes

- Militarism = Armed intimidation → escalation/fear
- Alliances = Buddy system → Allies vs. Central Powers
- Imperialism = Empire building → competition/jealousy
- Nationalism = national interests first → rivalry/hostility (offensive and defensive)



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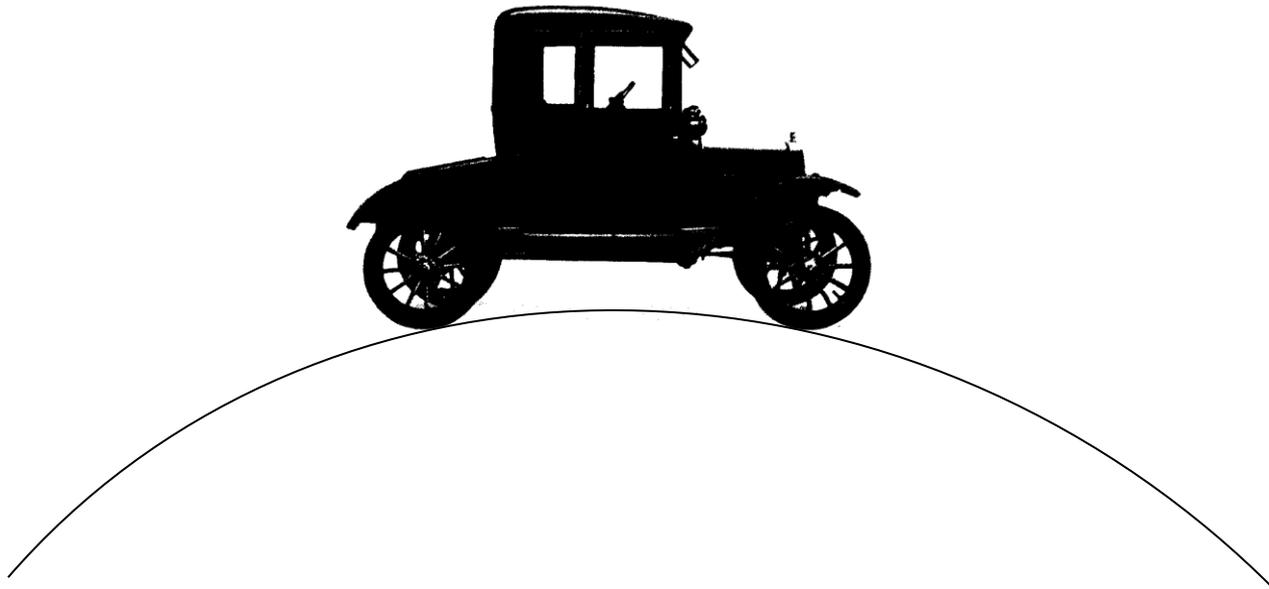


Immediate Causes

- Balkan Peninsula = “Powder keg of Europe” →
- Archduke Ferdinand assassinated (1914) →
- Alliance System pulls nations in →
- German Invasions on Eastern and Western Front



*Why would the U.S. get
involved in a war in Europe?*



The Debate...

YES

- Immigrants' concern, interests
- Germany's "bully" tactics
- Economic interdependence
→ Sympathy for Allies

NO

- Socialists: imperialist struggle
- Parents: protect sons
- Pacifists: war is evil

"If civilization is to advance, the day must come when a nation will feel no more obligated to accept a challenge to war that an American citizen now feels to accept a challenge to fight a duel."

– W.J.Bryan

Wilson's Position

- Though he opposed Germany's use of unrestricted submarine warfare to break through the British blockade, Wilson did not view these as "actual overt acts" of aggression against the U.S.
- In 1916, the re-election campaign included the slogan, "He kept us out of war!"



Neutrality Breaks Down

- 
- Zimmerman Note (Germany-Mexico)
 - Unarmed American merchant ships sunk
 - Russian czar overthrown – democracies vs. monarchies

“The present German submarine warfare against commerce is a warfare against mankind...

The world must be made safe for democracy.”

– Wilson’s War Resolution (1917)

*How do we get a
military force overseas?*



Mobilization



- Selective Service Act = 18+ males must register for draft (Conscientious objectors – moral opposition)
- “Bridge to France” = shipbuilding
- Convoy system = military ships escort merchant ships
- “Doughboy” freshness

*How does the war affect
American society?*



The Home Front

- Public + Private industry needed: weapons, ammunition, etc. →
- Congress gives Wilson direct control over “wartime economy”
- War Industries Board
- Fuel Administration
- National War Labor Board
- Food Administration (voluntary rationing, Victory gardens)
- Raised taxes
- Liberty Loans (War bonds = loan to the gov’t)
- Committee on Public Information ([propaganda](#), Four-Minute Men)

“It is not an army we must shape and train for war, it is a nation.” - Wilson

UNITED STATES FOOD AD

and defeat
righteousness

Civil Liberties

Nativism + Anti-German reaction =
Anti-immigrant hysteria

Espionage and Sedition Acts
fine/imprisonment for :

- Draft interference
 - Blocking sale of war bonds
 - Saying anything “disloyal”
- Violated spirit of 1st Amend
(*Schenck v. U.S.*)
- Targeted socialists and labor leaders
(*Red Scare I coming soon...*)



Social Changes

Women increase public service → 19th Amend.

Great Migration = Southern blacks move North

- Why? Discrimination (*de jure*), cotton failure, job availability in cities increased (Model T assembly lines opened to blacks, immigration decreased, men going off to war)
 - Crowded ghettos, outrageous rent
 - Discrimination (*de facto*) and hostility – competition for jobs (“scabs”) → race riots

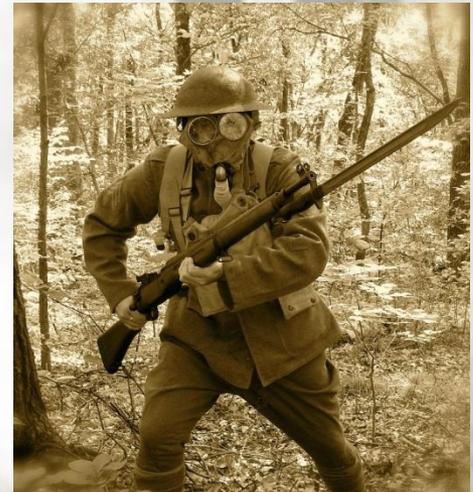
*Why is WWI the first
“modern” war?*



Mechanized Warfare

- Relies on machines powered by gasoline and diesel engines
- Machine guns – 600 rpm
- Tanks – clear path for infantry
- Poison gas → gas masks

→ “shell shock”



Germany Collapses



- Economy and military exhausted (U.S. entrance gives Allies the push they need to hold on...)
 - Mutiny = military refused to keep fighting
- Rebellion = overthrew the king (keiser) → Republic

How can we avoid another world war?



LEAGUE OF NATIONS



SOCIETE DES NATIONS

Wilson's 14 Points

Speech to Congress

#1-5 addressed causes:

- No secret treaties
- Freedom of seas
- Free trade (lower or no tariffs)
- Arms (weapons) reduction
- Consider interests of colonial people

#6-13: boundary changes

avored “historically established lines of nationality.”

#14: only one included in the actual treaty!

called for the League of Nations = international organization to settle crises

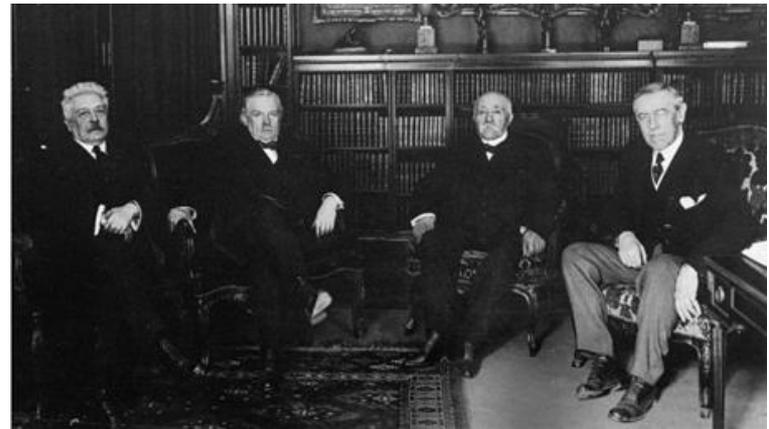
Pres. Wilson delivering his message to Congress

Treaty of Versailles

- 9 new nations (Poland, Czech, Yugoslavia, etc.)
- Ottoman Empire → 4 mandates = “temporary” colonies: Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine (now Israel and Jordan)
- Germany: demilitarized, forced to sign “war-guilt” clause and pay reparations (war damages) → ☹️

U.S. did NOT sign it

- Too harsh, sell-out to imperialism, didn’t satisfy demands for self-determination
- Debate over League of Nations...



League of Nations

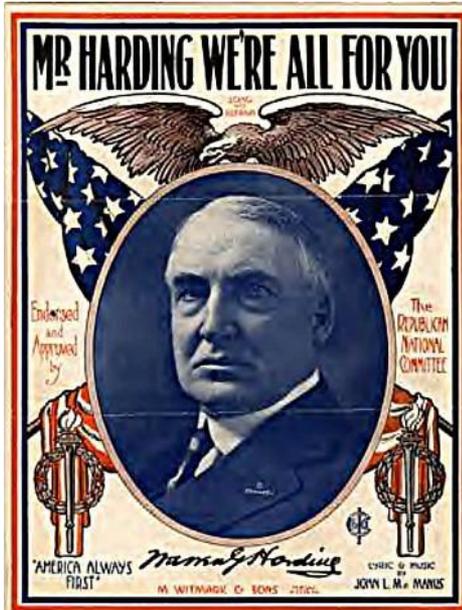
- YES: Wilson – Protection against future “aggression”
 - NO: Henry Cabot Lodge, etc. – Threat to self-determination: “the right of our people to govern themselves free from all restraint, legal or moral, of foreign powers.” (Remember GW’s farewell address...)
 - Wilson would not compromise, then has a stroke and can’t continue to campaign for it. Congress votes it down.
- League is formed, but U.S. does NOT join

1920

How do we know the conflict isn't resolved?



Return to Normalcy



“America's present need is not heroics, but healing; not nostrums, but normalcy; not revolution, but restoration; not agitation, but adjustment; not surgery, but serenity; not the dramatic, but the dispassionate; not experiment, but equipoise; not submergence in internationality, but sustainment in triumphant nationality.”

President Warren G. Harding called for a “return to normalcy” to a time before WWI and the Progressive Era

Isolationism

- He invited the major powers to the Washington Naval Conference to agree to stop making and even destroy warships
- In 1928, fifteen countries signed the Kellogg-Briand Pact to renounce war as a national policy
- The U.S. would hold to its isolationism until several years after the start of WWII.



Tariffs

- The Fordney-McCumber Tarriff Raised taxes on imports to 60%, the highest level ever.
- Stifled international trade in general, which hurt European recovery



- Helped U.S. industries but made it impossible for Britain and France to sell enough goods in the U.S. to pay war debts
- The U.S. intervened to keep war from breaking out over German reparations

Nativism



- KKK membership soars as it promises devotion to “100 percent Americanism”
- Emergency Quota Act of 1921 set strict limits on immigration
- Immigrants often had legal rights violated
 - Sacco and Vanzetti executed without due process of law

Red Scare

- Russian Revolution sparked fear of communism
- Suspected communists and socialists had civil liberties violated in the Palmer Raids
- Management labeled labor leaders “communists” to scare workers away from joining unions
 - U.S. Steel Strike
 - Unions also had trouble organizing and stayed segregated by race

