

United States History

Chapter 16 - Day 1

1921-1929

Section 1—Presidential Politics

- Election 1920 Warren G. Harding Republican wins
- Presidential appointments
 - (1) Charles Evans Hughes—Sec of State—good
 - (2) Herbert Hoover—Sec of Commerce—good
 - (3) Andrew Mellon—Sec of Treasury—good
- # 4-8 were called the “Ohio Gang” friends Harding appointed from his home state
 - (4) Charles Sawyer—White House Physician—ineffective
 - (5) Daniel Crissinger—chairman Federal Reserve Board—ineffective
 - (6) Charles Forbes—head of Veteran’s Bureau—criminal—embezzled \$200 million from VA hospitals
 - (7) Albert Fall—Sec of Interior—criminal—Tea Pot Come Scandal accepted bribes to allow private oil companies to lease land containing Naval Oil Reserves at Tea Pot Dome, WY and Elk Hills, CA. He was 1st cabinet member to go to prison.
 - (8) Harry Daugherty—Attorney General—alleged criminal—accused of accepting bribes from a German to purchase a company the U.S. seized during WWI
- Pres. Harding died of natural causes Aug. 2, 1923
- Vice Pres. Calvin Coolidge “Silent Cal” became Pres.
- Coolidge kept the most capable of cabinet members got rid of the rest
- Coolidge believed in Laissez-faire gov’t with business
- Coolidge win re-election in 1924

Section 2—A Growing Economy

- Standard of living went up as number of industries did
- Pay increased, hours decreased
- US Steel cut days to 8 hours, Ford cut work week to 5 days, International Harvester gave 2 weeks paid vacation
- Henry Ford introduced the moving assembly line in 1913—Model Ts came off the line every 10 sec, price dropped from \$850 to \$360. Ford made cars available to millions.
- By 1920 General Motors and Chrysler were competing with Ford
- Auto industry spurred growth in industries like rubber, glass, steel and petroleum
- Also sparked new jobs—auto repair, gas stations, motel, drive-thru etc.
- Cars changed people lives—where they lived, got kids out from parents control