

Studying 4 Major Issues of the Post-World War I and 1920s Era with Primary Sources

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RESOLVED (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein) that the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of a treaty of peace with Germany, signed by the plenipotentiaries of the United States and Germany and by the plenipotentiaries of the twenty-seven Allied and Associated Powers, at ~~Paris~~, ^{Versailles} on June 28th, 1919, with the following reservations and understandings to be made a part and a condition of such ratification, which ratification is not to take effect or bind the United States until the said following reservations and understandings have been accepted as a part of and a condition of said instrument of ratification by at least three of the four Principal Allied and Associated Powers, to wit: Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan:

1. The United States reserves to itself the unconditional right to withdraw ~~on not less than six months' notice~~ ^{upon the notice} from the League of Nations as provided in Article I of said treaty of peace with Germany.

2. That the United States declines to assume, under the provisions of Article X, or under any other Article, any obligation to preserve the territorial integrity or political independence of any other country whether a member of the League or not, or to employ the military or naval forces of the United States, or to adopt economic measures, for the protection of any other country, whether a member of the League or not, against external aggression or for the purpose of coercing any other country, or for the purpose of intervention in the internal conflicts which may arise in any other country, and no mandate shall be accepted by the United States under Article XXII, Part

Handwritten: ^{in such countries} ^{of the League of Nations}

NAID 5678178

Senate opposition leader Henry Cabot Lodge objected to the Treaty of Versailles's proposal for U.S. membership in an international League of Nations.

The Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I, created a League of Nations in which negotiations and cooperative defense agreements would reduce the threat of future wars. When President Woodrow Wilson submitted the treaty to the U.S. Senate for ratification, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge successfully rallied the opposition to reject the treaty. Lodge objected to Article X of the treaty that required League members to defend any other member nation from an attack. He saw this obligation as undercutting America's traditional independence in foreign affairs.

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NAID 6011704

The U.S. played a leading role in negotiating agreements to limit the size of navies as a way of preserving international peace.

The lifeboat passengers watching anxiously for submarines represent the nations negotiating the 1921 Washington Naval Treaty which regulated the size of the participating nations' navies. The major powers agreed to balance the number of surface ships, but failed to reach agreements limiting the number of submarines. The boat in the cartoon bears the name of the conference and carries five figures representing the five treaty powers: Great Britain, Japan, France, Italy, and the United States. While four nations peer fearfully at the "submarine issue," Uncle Sam faces forward confidently saying, "Don't let it frighten us boys." Berryman's depiction of Uncle Sam as leading the negotiations reflects America's prominent role in postwar world affairs.

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NAID 6011968

During the 1920s, the major powers depended on international treaties to reduce the threat of war; in 1928 they agreed to outlaw war as a way of resolving international disputes.

A figure representing Mars, the Roman god of war, plods sadly across a barren and empty landscape toward the sunset, following news that 15 nations had signed the Kellogg Briand Pact outlawing war as a way to resolve conflicts between nations. Eventually, 34 additional countries would sign the pact, reflecting an optimistic hope for the prevention of future wars.

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NAID 6011709

When the newly elected Republican majority in Congress first pushed for increased tariffs (taxes on imported goods) in 1922, Senator McCumber had difficulty in gathering support.

Congress had grappled with tariff reform during 1921 and still had not reached agreement by early 1922. Senator McCumber of North Dakota, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, was a leader in creating a new tariff bill. Cartoonist Clifford Berryman highlights the situation by having Senator McCumber attempting to crank a snow and ice-covered "new tariff" automobile. He vows: "I'll get her started shortly." Eventually, the Fordney-McCumber Tariff Act was passed in September, 1922.

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NAID 6011735

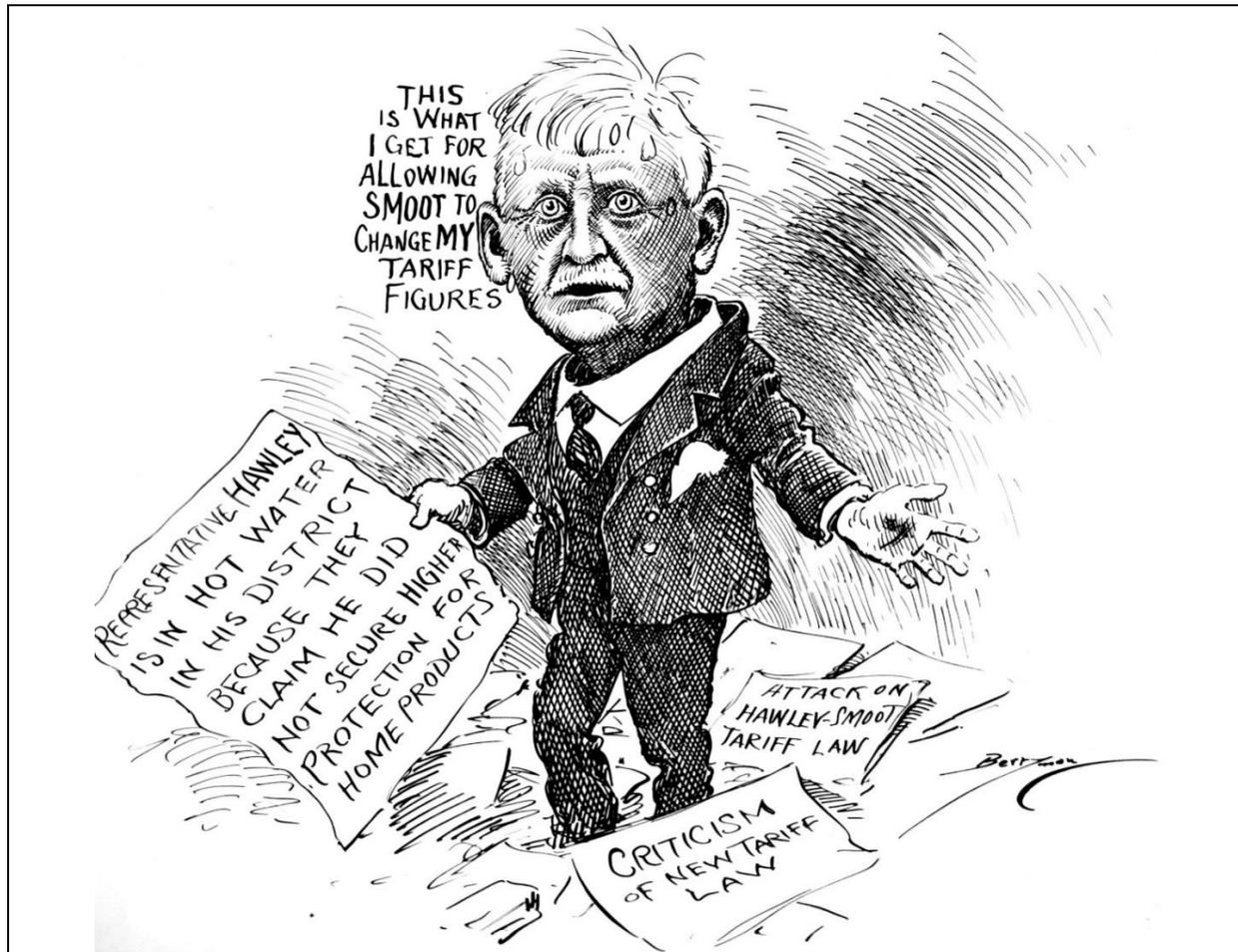
The Democratic Party favored lower tariffs; Republicans favored higher ones. This difference of opinion produced uneasy political struggles throughout the 1920s

Democratic and Republican Parties differed sharply in their views of tariff legislation. The Democrats drew a lot of support from farmers who favored low tariffs to promote the sale of American crops overseas. Meanwhile the Republican-backed industrial interests wanted higher tariffs to protect American industry from cheaper imported goods.

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NAID 6012050

Although the Hawley-Smoot Tariff Act of 1930 imposed the highest tariffs in U.S. history, some Americans felt it was not protective enough.

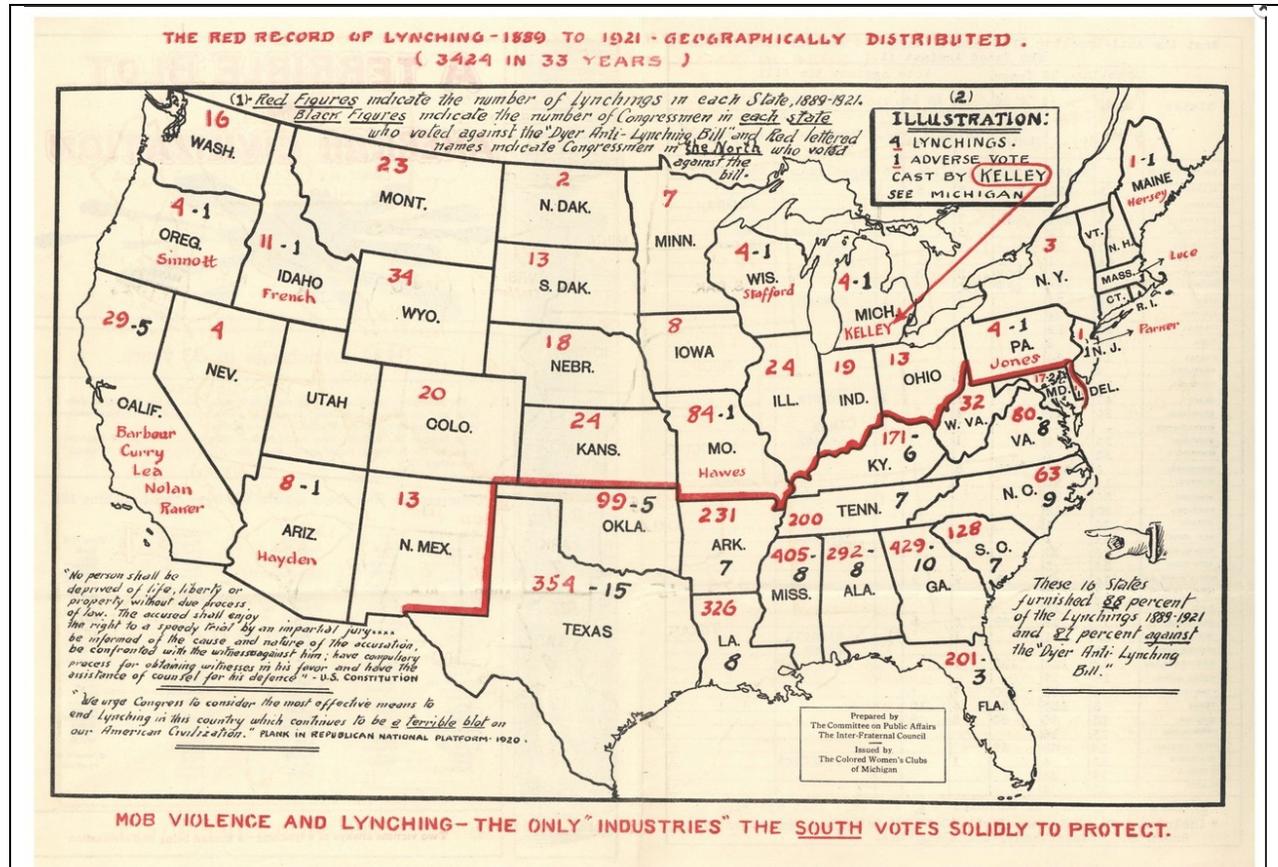
The Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, signed on June 17, 1930, raised the duties on imported items so high that, in some cases, they essentially blocked imports. Liberals who wanted trade with other nations to increase, considered the tariff rates to be too high, while conservatives, who wanted to protect American industry and jobs from competition with cheaper imported goods, blamed its sponsor for not making it protective enough. Despite the fact that the Smoot-Hawley Tariff was the most protective tariff in U.S. history, conservative voters in Rep. Hawley's district showed their unhappiness by voting against him in the election of 1932.

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NAID 149268727

Lynching—hanging committed by a mob—was a terror tactic used to oppress African Americans throughout America, although this form of murder most frequently occurred in the South.

This map was submitted to Congress in 1922 to support an anti-lynching bill. It was created by the Colored Women's Clubs of Michigan to show the distribution of lynchings by state. The proposed anti-lynching bill was killed by a filibuster led by senators from Alabama and Mississippi. A filibuster is a delaying tactic using in the U.S. Senate to oppose legislation. The Senate filibuster was also used earlier in the twentieth century to block the two other anti-lynching bills that had cleared the House.

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the privileges or immunities of its citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law; nor deny any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law."

7. That the plaintiff has been deprived of his constitutional rights jointly by the officials of the City of Tulsa and the military force of the State of Oklahoma.

8. That on the morning of the 1st day of June, 1921, at about ten o'clock A. M., as hereinafter mentioned, in the forenoon of the above day and date, following the riot between the white and colored race on the night of the 31st day of May, 1921, as hereinafter more fully stated, while the plaintiff was peacefully at his home, 402 North Elgin Avenue, in the City of Tulsa, he was seized by some of the police force or special police officers and carried to the Convention Hall, where plaintiff was held in prison for more than twenty four hours; and at the same time, when plaintiff was arrested, his dwelling house had just caught on fire in the top of the building, by some cause unknown to this plaintiff; that the fire could have been easily extinguished by the plaintiff had he not been prevented from so doing by the officers who had the plaintiff under arrest.

9. That John A. Gustafson was at the time, as hereinafter mentioned, Chief of the Police Department, acting under the authority and direction of the Mayor and the Board of City Commissioners; and it was the duty of said Chief of Police to keep the City of Tulsa well policed in order to protect the lives and property of the citizens thereof, and to preserve the peace and dignity of the said City of Tulsa.

NAID 68887332 page 3

Violence against African American communities spread from the South to other regions of the country in the 1920s.

Post-Civil War resistance to African American civil rights was centered in the South, but in the 1920's it spread to Northern and Western states. This document is one page from the records of a civil suit brought by G.W. Hutchins against the city of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The case was a result of the race riot in Tulsa, Oklahoma from May 31 to June 1, 1921 in which mobs of white residents attacked black residents and burned homes and businesses. It has been called the single worst incident of racial violence in American history. Its location shows racial oppression spreading beyond the deep South.

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NAID 541885

The revived Ku Klux Klan had widespread support beyond the South during the 1920s. The Klan also expanded its hostility to include immigrants as well as African Americans.

Opposition to African American civil rights was led by the Ku Klux Klan in the mid-1920s. Unlike the terror group of the post-Civil War era, the twentieth-century Klan was also active in Northern states and broadened its hostility to also target immigrants, Jews, and Catholics. This photo of the Klan marching from the Capitol to the White House along Pennsylvania Ave in Washington, DC illustrates the popularity of second Klan as well as its action beyond the deep South.

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NAID 6011441

Overcoming opposition to woman suffrage within Congress was a major challenge for supporters of a Constitutional Amendment granting women the right to vote.

This cartoon refers to the Susan B. Anthony woman suffrage amendment introduced in the 65th Congress in 1918. A suffragist urges the Senate to pass the constitutional amendment so it can be sent to the states for ratification. The House of Representatives had passed the amendment granting women the right to vote in January of 1918 but it did not pass in the Senate. When amendment was reintroduced in 1919, it quickly passed in both Houses of Congress and was sent to the states for ratification.

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NAID 533773

Civil disobedience was an important element of enlisting public support for a Constitutional Amendment granting women the right to vote, referred to as Woman Suffrage.

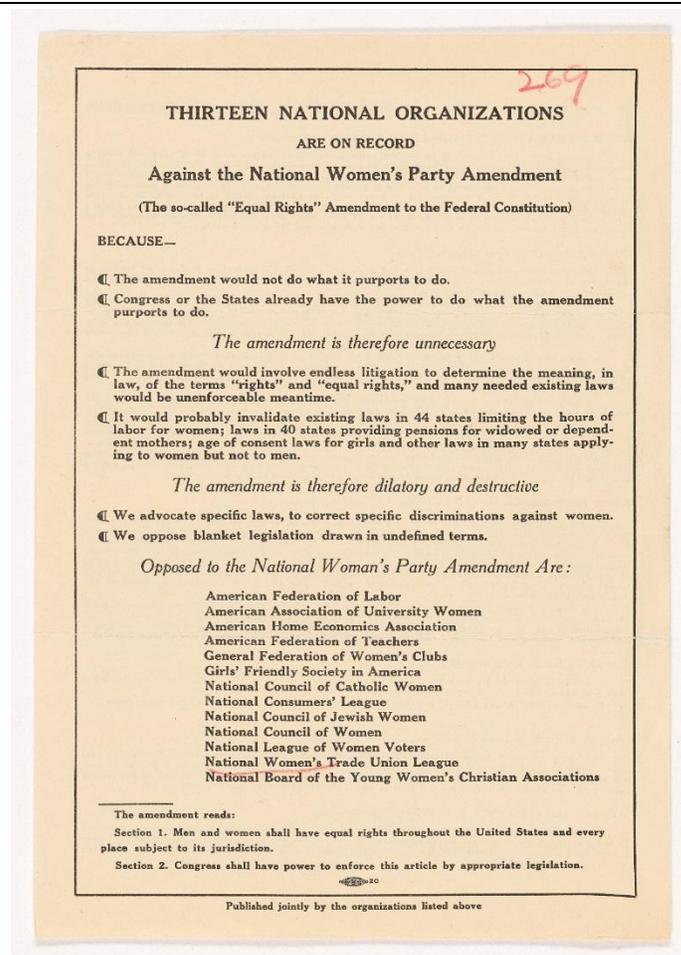
The National Women's Party (NWP) fought for Woman Suffrage (women's right to vote) by using civil disobedience tactics such as hunger strikes and protests. Members of the NWP were the first political activists to picket in front of the White House. They began peacefully protesting six days a week in January 1917, but encountered hostile crowds after the United States entered World War I. Dozens of women were arrested, and many of them were jailed. The protesters demonstrated for nearly 30 months until Congress passed a joint resolution proposing a 19th amendment on June 4, 1919.

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NAID 119652188

The 19th Amendment was an important step toward equality for American women, but during the 1920s many people called for ending gender-based discrimination in all areas of life by passing a constitutional amendment guaranteeing women's equality.

In 1924 the National Woman's Party lobbied for Congress to pass a constitutional amendment guaranteeing women's equality. The measure had been introduced in Congress and was being debated in the House of Representatives. This publication advertised the opposition of 13 leading labor organizations to the proposed amendment. A chief concern of the labor groups was that the amendment would undercut the protections for women established by prior acts of legislation.

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