Democratic Nominating Convention 1924 is a mess:

- Conflicts
  - Wets vs. Drys
  - City vs. Country
  - Fundamentalist vs. Modernist
  - Northerners vs. Southerners
  - Middle vs. Upper Class
- Takes 102 tries to choose John Davis, a Wall Street banker!!!!!!!

Since both major parties choose ultra-conservative candidates

- Progressives:
  - “Fighting Bob” LaFollette
  - AFL jump on board
  - Socialist Party endorses
  - But 80+% are farmers
  - 5,000,000 votes
  - Coolidge gets 15,000,000+
“The Business of America Is Business”  
Calvin Coolidge

- Back to Laissez-Faire (unless labor gets out of hand) economics
- Frugal
- Dry sense of humor (Coolidge Effect)
- Lazy, lazy, lazy. Slept 14 hours a night, then took an afternoon nap.
- Lowered taxes and spending
- Helped create Dawes Plan that helps create temporary RICH times but ultimately the Great Depression.

Hero worship. The progression has been:

- 1660: Religious Leader (Mathers, Bradford)
- 1776: Civilian politician (Washington, Jefferson)
- 1820: Military hero (Jackson)
- 1880: Businessmen (Carnegie, Rockefeller, etc)
- 1920: Entertainer and/or Criminals

- Babe Ruth (athletes)
- Valentino (actors)
- Capone (gangsters)
- Lindberg (daredevils)

American Heroes of the 20s

- In 1929, Americans spent $4.5 billion on entertainment (includes sports)
- People crowded into baseball games to see their heroes
- Babe Ruth was a larger than life American hero who played for Yankees
- He hit 60 homers in 1927

Beginning of Endorsements!!!

Scandals
Network | Brittany | Walter Reed
---|---|---
FOX News | 121 | 10
MSNBC | 96 | 84
CNN | 40 | 53

CRIMINAL AS HERO

Lindbergh made the first nonstop solo trans-Atlantic flight
- He took off from NYC in the Spirit of St. Louis and arrived in Paris 33 hours later to a hero’s welcome
- America’s most beloved hero of the time wasn’t an athlete but a small-town pilot named Charles Lindbergh
MUSIC AND ART

- Famed composer George Gershwin merged traditional elements with American Jazz
- Painters like Edward Hopper depicted the loneliness of American life
- Georgia O'Keeffe captured the grandeur of New York using intensely colored canvases

WRITERS OF THE 1920S

- The 1920s was one of the greatest literary eras in American history
- Sinclair Lewis, the first American to win the Nobel Prize in literature, wrote the novel, Babbitt
- In Babbitt the main character ridicules American conformity and materialism

WRITERS OF THE 1920S

- Writer F. Scott Fitzgerald coined the phrase “Jazz Age” to describe the 1920s
- Fitzgerald wrote Paradise Lost and The Great Gatsby
- The Great Gatsby reflected the emptiness of New York elite society

WRITERS OF THE 1920S

- Literary changes caused by WWI, disillusionment, new generation of writers:
  - F. Scott Fitzgerald: all gods dead, all wars fought, all faiths in man shaken
  - Sinclair Lewis: Babbitt as the foolish ‘sheeple’
  - H.L. Mencken: Journalist who lampooned EVERYTHING
  - Theodore Dreiser: An American Tragedy
  - Ernest Hemingway: anti-war novel A Farewell to Arms
  - William Faulkner: unmasked the vacuity and inbreeding of the aristocratic South.
  - Ex-patriots poets: Pound, Eliot,
  - Playwrights like Eugene O’Neill
  - e e cummings

WRITERS OF THE 1920S

- edward estlin cummings

Buffalo Bill

Buffalo Bill's
defunct
who used to
ride a watershined-silver
stallion
and break one-street-burgh pigeons just like that
Jesus
he was a handsome man
and I want to know is
how do you like your blue-eyed boy
Walter Death

Edward Estlin Cummins
WRITERS OF THE 1920

Ernest Hemingway, wounded in World War I, became one of the best-known authors of the era.

In his novels, *The Sun Also Rises* and *A Farewell to Arms*, he criticized the glorification of war.

His simple, straightforward style of writing set the literary standard.

THE LOST GENERATION

Some writers such as Hemingway and John Dos Passos were so soured by American culture that they chose to settle in Europe.

In Paris they formed a group that one writer called, "The Lost Generation".

By 1928 the coming crash is apparent to some:

- Middle-East partitioned under Sykes-Pichot and Balfour Agreement
- Dawes Plan is bankrupting Europe
  - American investment in Europe is the only thing keeping it going.
- Major agricultural overproduction
- McNary-Haugen Bill to help farmers vetoed TWICE by Coolidge

Election of 1928

The Smartest Geek Ever!
Black Tuesday Oct. 29th 1929

- $40,000,000,000 lost in 2 months
- No more loans to Germany = world-wide bankruptcy
- 4 million jobless Americans
- 5,000 banks declare bankruptcy
- Smoot-Hawley Tariff raises it still higher

Hoover’s response = Huge federal spending, but still Trickle Down

- Hoover Dam (1931-1936)
- Reconstruction Finance Corporation
  - Banks
  - Insurance co’s
  - RR’s
  - Local Gov’ts
- Went fishing to appear calm and in-charge
- Agricultural/Marketing Act
  - Set up Agric. Coops
  - Federal Farm Act $1/2 Billion in loans. Too little, too late

Result was:
- Hoovervilles
- Hoover Flags
- Hoover Blankets
- Bonus Army and “Battle of Anacostia Flats”

World Wide Effects

- Hitler,
- Mussolini,
- Franco (Spain)
- Hirohito
  - Attacks China
    - League of Nations does nothing
    - Stimson Doctrine

Prompt:

- Analyze the methods used by the federal government to seek support on the home front for the war effort during WWI.

Thesis Statement

- In 1914 Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated by a group of Serbian rebels. The following months would bring the world to war. As America prepared itself to enter the war in 1917, the government had to gain the support of its people. To gain the support of the population the government initiated forceful legislation, took moderate control over several parts of the economy, and instituted a broad program of propaganda.