

(d) *U.S.A. a World Power — Woodrow Wilson*

1. America's industrial might fits her to enter world power politics.
2. Estimate her foreign policy interests by examining her geographical position in the world. Revise the Monroe Doctrine.
3. What happened in the Spanish-American War, 1898?
4. What is the story of the Panama Canal?
5. Neutrality during most of World War I.
6. Reasons for entering the war in 1917 on the side of the Allies.
7. America's part in the war.
8. Woodrow Wilson — biographical note. His proposal of a 'League of Nations'.
9. Why did Congress reject entry into the League?

**Part E. Between the First and Second World Wars**(a) *'Back to Normalcy!' and the 'Prosperous Twenties' (1919-29)<sup>2</sup>*

1. Review problems at home and abroad facing the U.S. after the War.
2. What did the Republicans mean by their 1920 slogan, 'Back to normalcy'?
3. What was the result of the steep increase in the tariff?
4. Why was immigration reduced?
5. Prohibition! What happened?
6. Outline the economic prosperity of the 'Golden Twenties'.
7. And some other aspects of the way of life of Americans.
8. What were America's foreign policy aims? What is 'isolation'?
9. Despite prosperity, there were many voices of discontent that increased in volume as the 'twenties proceeded. Whose were they?

(b) *The Great Depression (1929 to c.1934)*

1. There had been 'slumps' before. What caused them? (See the chapter on the World Depression.)
2. Discuss, to get as clear as possible, the social distress.
3. List as many causes of the Depression as you can find; then arrange them in order of significance.
4. Why did the 'Great Depression' become world-wide?
5. What efforts did the Hoover Administration make to counter the Depression?
6. Why did Americans judge these efforts to be inadequate?

(c) *Roosevelt and The New Deal (1933 onwards)<sup>3</sup>*

1. Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882-1945) — biographical note, to 1933.
2. What was the policy that gained him election in 1933?
3. 'The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.' What did he mean?
4. What immediate action was taken on banking?

5. Examine the New Deal slogan: 'Relief, Recovery, Reform'.
6. Trace the growth of a 'welfare state' in formerly *laissez-faire* U.S.A., and explain RFC, NIRA and NRA, FERA, WPA, CCC, TVA, SSA, NLRA, AAA, PWA.
7. Who supported the New Deal and who opposed it? How successful was the New Deal?
8. Briefly outline the foreign policy of the Roosevelt Administration.
9. Refer briefly to Roosevelt's role in World War II, and sum up his qualities as a leader in peace and war.

### **Part F. In the Second World War, and After**

(N.B.: 'The World Since World War II', pp. 372-380, will assist this section.)

1. Discuss American attitudes to the War from 1939-41.
2. How did America become involved?
3. What was her contribution in supplies, arms, men?
4. Her role in UNO. Post-war policy of containment of Communism.
5. Great setback to this policy when China goes communist, 1948.
6. The Korean War, 1950-53.
7. Economic and social problems in post-war America.
8. Domestic and foreign record of the administrations of — Truman (1945-53), Eisenhower (1953-61), Kennedy (1961-63), Johnson (1963- ).

## **Rapid Industrialisation after the Civil War**

**AIM:** This detailed guide can be built into a set of notes by investigating the following points and finding data sufficient for the writing of a 'fact-packed' paragraph on each. (There are useful maps in *Map Guide to Modern History* by Price and others.)

### **NOTE-MAKING GUIDE**

1. **'Factors Necessary for Industrialisation'**—Review these general factors (see pp. 129-134 for a list of such factors as applied to Britain).

2. **Potential Resources** — size — climate — soil — timber — minerals (especially coal, iron, oil).

3. **Industrial Expansion up to the Civil War** — Samuel Slater, 'father of the American factory system', built the first textile factory, 1790 — thereafter rapid growth of textile manufacturing — rise of the coal and iron industry in Pennsylvania — by 1860 the value of manufacturing production (over \$1,000 million per annum) exceeded agricultural production—great difference between North and South in their levels of manufacturing by 1860.

4. **During the Civil War, 1861-65** — huge expansion of manufacturing to meet military needs.

5. **The South after the Civil War** — after the failure of 'Reconstruction', 1865-77, a 'New South' arose as industry entered the area and expanded (e.g., iron and steel around Birmingham, Alabama; textile industry steadily

# Depression, New Deal — and F. D. Roosevelt

**AIM:** To make a set of notes, with the help of the following guide, after consulting several books on the important period, 1929-41.

## NOTE-MAKING GUIDE

### 1. The Great Depression, 1929-33

The prosperity of the 1920's.

The 'Wall Street Crash' in October 1929.

General and immediate causes of the crisis.

The extent of social distress.

How depression became world-wide and reacted on the U.S.

President Hoover's failure to produce a remedy.

### 2. Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882-1945)

Biographical notes.

The policy that won the 1932 election.

His New Deal programme — 'Relief, Recovery, Reform'.

His popular re-election in 1936. (See further on 'F.D.R.' below.)

### 3. The New Deal — Towards a Welfare State

Relief of urgent cases of distress.

Reform of the banking system.

Vast expansion of public works.

Restriction of agriculture to restore prices.

Extensive regulation of industry.

Growth of the trade unions.

Steps towards a 'welfare state'.

### 4. How Successful? — Evaluation of the New Deal

Contemporary American evaluations:

(a) by N.D. supporters, (b) by opponents.

Write your own assessment of the success or failure of the New Deal in bringing about (a) *Relief* of acute distress, (b) *Recovery* of the economy, (c) *Reform* of the economic and social system that had allowed depression and distress to reach crisis proportions.

Estimate Roosevelt's personal contribution to the New Deal.

(Further on F. D. Roosevelt. Having studied so much of Roosevelt's domestic policies, you would be well advised to complete a biographical study by looking at his *foreign policy* and his *role in World War II.*)

# The United States in the 1920's

## A PLAN FOR AN ESSAY

**Instructions:** Fill out these points by referring to books on the period, and convert each of the numbered sections into one or two paragraphs of an essay. The page references are from Bragdon & McCutchen's *History of a Free People*, which is in most school libraries. If this book is not available others will be found to treat all or most of the issues raised here.

1. **How Americans felt** at the end of World War I; why they rejected Woodrow Wilson and his League of Nations in favour of Warren G. Harding and his 'return to normalcy' pledge (see pp. 541-542, *History of a Free People*, especially the quotation from F. L. Allen). Extra Data: 4,500,000 servicemen and 12,000,000 war workers to be rehabilitated. National Debt had risen from \$1 billion to \$25 billion, of which \$10 billion was owed to the U.S. by her allies. Prices were rising fast. Strikes and 'red scares' were frequent. Prohibition was unsettling the nation. The war was followed by a moral let-down. Industry was tooling up for mass production.)

2. The 1920's was '**a Republican decade**': Presidents Harding, Coolidge, Hoover (dates). Represented business interests, especially 'Big Business'. 'The 1920's were a period of great prosperity characterised by remarkable achievements in the field of business enterprise' (547).

3. America **returned to isolation**, deserting the world's problems: (a) rejected the League of Nations (532); (b) tried to keep out of European political conflicts and played a small role in foreign affairs generally (only the Washington Treaties of 1921-22 were really significant); (c) tariff was raised so high that few goods came to the U.S. from other countries, making it impossible for America's debtors to repay her in goods (547-548) (also note chart, 544); (d) immigration was at last drastically restricted (548-549).

4. Under Coolidge, the **prosperity of the 'Golden Twenties'** emerged. Its basis was mass production (551-552) and liberal credit. Great role of advertising. Supremacy of *laissez-faire*, though some government regulation existed. A new formula for wealth (high wages, mass production, etc.) (552); 'instalment-buying'. Decline of the labour unions (555).

5. **Dizzy social conditions** (555-559): Prosperity — 'two cars in every garage' — gadgets galore — leisure — recreation — cult of the good time — radio — dress — changing status of women — education — cynicism — boredom — apathy towards politics — abandonment of ideals — conformity in a mass production society. Also corruption, gansters, bootlegging.

6. But **prosperity was not universal**. The state of agriculture. Monopolies and chain stores made small businesses suffer (554). 'Sick industries', e.g., coal-mining, textiles. 'Technological unemployment' (555). Labour did not always benefit (555).

7. **President Hoover — and the 'Crash'** (563). 'Rugged individualism' — and super confidence. Then the 1929 slump.

8. **Summing up**. State your views boldly, conclusively.