

Unit 3 – From Jazz to Depression

DAY 1

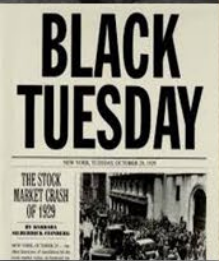


THE

ROARING TWENTIES



***BECAUSE ALL THAT GLITTERS
ISN'T GOLD ... IT'S JAZZ***



OBJECTIVES

- Discuss how American culture changed during the Twenties
- Identify five key “players” in the “Roaring Twenties”
- Understand how these changes may lead to civil unrest or tension
- *Terms:*
 - Mass Media
 - Pop Culture
 - Charles Lindbergh
 - Flapper
 - Walt Disney
 - Great Migration
 - Harlem Renaissance
 - Jazz Age
 - Langston Hughes

REMIND ME...

- How did WWI change the way the world saw America?
- How did America itself change?
- How involved was America IN the war?
(What was our main contribution?)
- Thus, how do you think WWI affected America, economically?

MASS EFFECT

- One new development in WWI is that, for the first time, Americans could SEE the images of war, not only in print, but also video, and they could hear the stories on the radio.
 - Those earlier inventions by Edison in particular helped
- America, then, saw the advent of Mass Media
 - Communication that reaches large numbers of people.
 - Big 3 in 20s: film, television, and radio
 - *Why is that such a big deal?*

POP GOES THE WEASEL

- Now that everyone could see the same film or show, or listen to the same radio program, we saw the beginning of what would later lead to things like Comic Con...

- **Pop Culture**

- Culture developed around particular media

- Usually targeted at the youth

- *Think “fandoms”*

- This creates, for the first time, the concept of “celebrity”

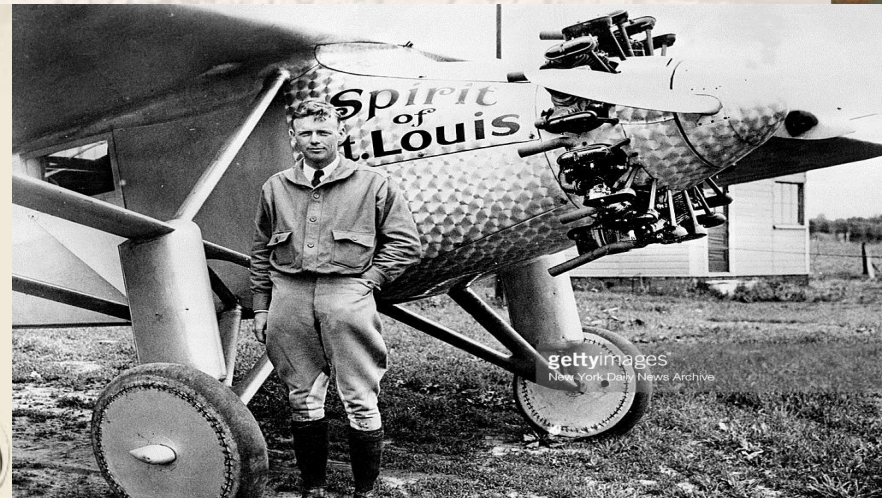
(A person who is admired strictly for being famous)

- *Now let's look at a few...*



INTO THE WILD BLUE LINDBERGH

- While aviation had been important in the war, it entered popular culture when Charles Lindbergh became a household name
 - Army Air Corp Pilot
 - First pilot to make solo transatlantic flight non-stop (*New York City to Paris, France*)
 - Received the Medal of Honor
 - *His plane was the “Spirit of St. Louis”*



THE LEGEND OF ZELDA



- One famous writer of the '20s, F. Scott Fitzgerald (*who wrote "The Great Gatsby"*) had a wife that was greatly admired and copied.
- **Zelda Fitzgerald became the original Flapper**
 - Young women in the '20s who defy convention in dress and behavior
 - Named for their "flapping" dresses

MAGIC OF A MOUSE

- In entertainment, motion pictures were just becoming popular, but one man, more than any other, influenced their mass appeal, and ability to reach children...

• Walt Disney

- Animator, Film-maker, and Entertainer
- Made animated films mainstream and “family entertainment” common
- *Also built theme parks, created propaganda, etc.*
- *Oh yeah, and Mickey Mouse ☺*





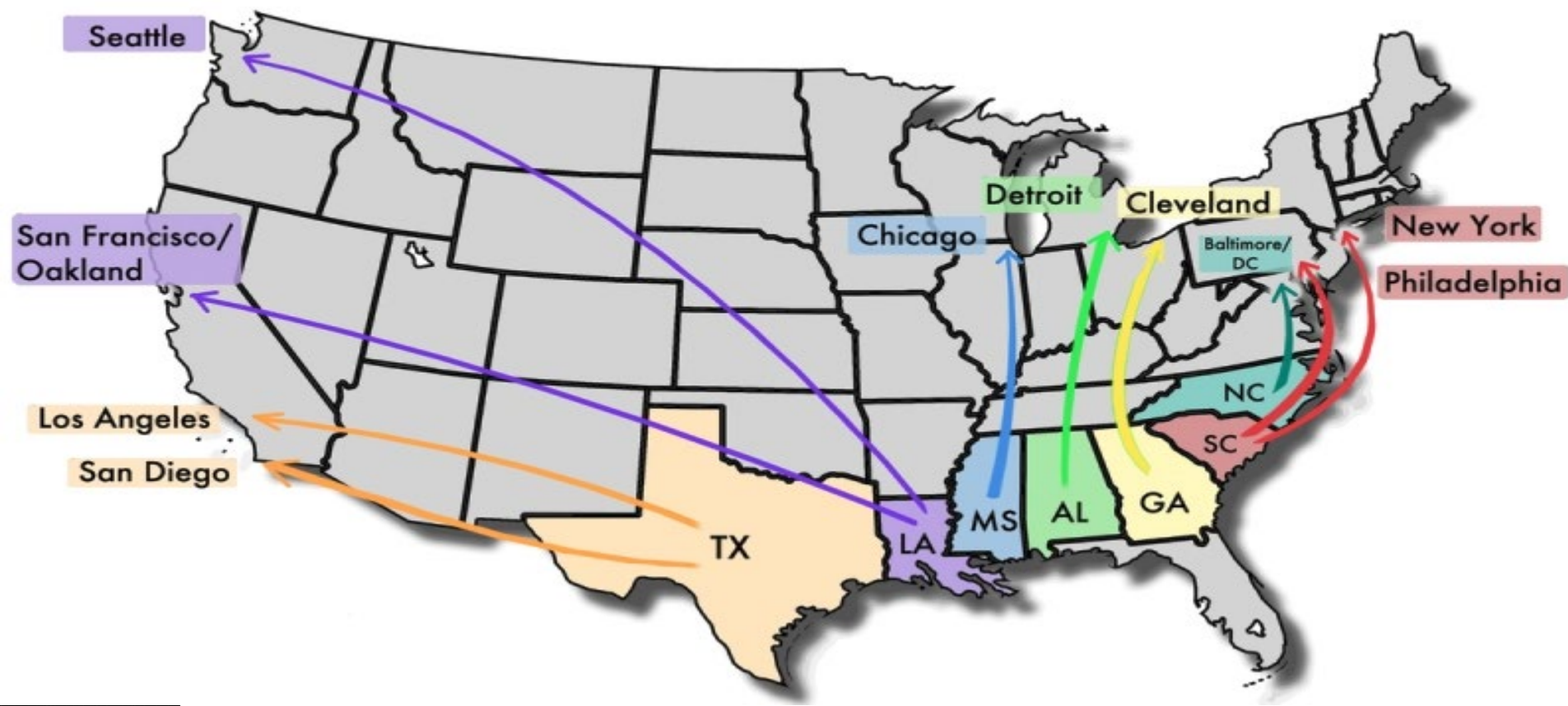
MOVING ON UP

- To understand the final two “players” one needs to understand a different type of “movement” that occurred, beginning in the Twenties
- While the Civil War ended more than 50 years before, segregation was heavy in the south, as was racial violence and intolerance
- The Ku Klux Klan saw a surge in membership ☹️
- Thus, nearly 6 million African-Americans participated in The Great Migration
 - Mass exodus of millions of African-Americans from the rural south to the large urban cities
 - Mostly in the Northeast (Chicago, New York, etc.)



The Geography of the Great Migration

The Migration of African Americans from the American South (1910-1970)



THE REAL HARLEM SHAKE

- Many of those who moved ended up in Harlem (in New York City), which in turn ended up very segregated
- It also became a center of African-American Culture, as, for the first time, it was celebrated, developed, and popular
- This “re-awakening” was dubbed

The Harlem Renaissance

- Cultural movement of the 20s, centered in Harlem, that celebrated black traditions, the black voice, and black ways of life.
- *Just like the other Renaissance, it had its own great minds...*

AND ALL THAT JAZZ



- In Music, African-Americans like Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong led a “revolution” with their introduction and popularization of Jazz
- **The Twenties are often called “The Jazz Age”**
 - Nickname for the Twenties
 - Called because it was not traditional, involved improvisation, and crossed cultures

YOU SNOOZE, YOU HUGHES

- Another writer, by the name of Langston Hughes gave a powerful voice to this new movement
- Author, Poet, and Activist
- Became the icon for the Harlem Renaissance
 - *Seen almost as the “leader”*
- In part, because he was educated, spoke very well, and didn't try to force change
- *Here's one of his poems...*





THE NEGRO SPEAKS OF RIVERS

BY LANGSTON HUGHES

AND SO

- *While WWI made America a “World Power” and force, we still had to figure out what that meant for US, especially inside the country*
- *While the economy prospered, culture was changing, and sometimes that leads to conflict*
- *But what rights we need, the clash that results, and the fight for “equality” is for next time ☺*

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