**World War I**

**Woodrow Wilson elected President in 1912 – supports legislation against trusts, is in favor of unions, etc. – he is a progressive. But he is an ardent segregationist**

**Term is office eventually dominated by foreign affairs**

1. World War I
   1. Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine (1904)
      1. USA as policeman of western hemisphere
      2. Europeans stay out
      3. US intervenes all over Caribbean, central America – see cartoon
   2. Mexican Revolution during Wilson’s 1st term
      1. US sends troops
      2. “teach them to elect good men”
   3. Isolationist regarding Europe **we’re here, they’re there, don’t get involved.**
   4. June 28, 1914 – Archduke Ferdinand murdered – War!
      1. Germany – AustroHungary – Italy – Turkey
      2. Russia – France – Britain US (eventually
   5. Wilson declares neutrality
      1. Traditional – fight with no one, trade with everyone
      2. Trades with both sides **but Britain is blockading Germany, so there really isn’t THAT much trade with them**
      3. Popular support is against Germany **tension among immigrant groups – Irish and Germans do not support this war – leads to more nativism**

**Appeal for neutrality doc**

1. America enters the war **Wilson wins the election of 1916 with the slogan “he kept us out of the war” – now Wilson is calling for “peace without victory” – trying to get both sides to just stop fighting – he wants to mediate the settlement**
   1. 1915 – Submarine warfare **from a submarine no way of knowing if the ship is military or civilian – indiscriminate killing**
      1. Lusitania sunk – 1915 – 128 Americans killed **Wilson asks Germany to please not attack citizens of neutral nations, even when on british or French ships – Germany agrees**
      2. Allies start arming non military ships – 1916
      3. Germany revives unrestricted sub. Warfare – jan. 1917.
   2. Feb. 1917 – Zimmerman Note
      1. Alliance b/w Germany and Mexico
      2. Mexico to attack USA
      3. Germany to help regain Texas, NM, Arizona
      4. Japan will join
   3. March 1917 – Russia collapses – new gov’t a democracy
   4. April 1917 – Wilson’s war message to Congress
      1. 2.8 million Americans served, including women, 400,000 blacks

**Wilson’s war message to Congress here**

**Next day**

1. The War at home
   1. Social effects
      1. Espionage and Sedition Acts
         1. Crime to criticize the war
         2. 6,300 Germans interned in camps
         3. Debs put in jail
   2. Economic effects
      1. Gov’t control of economy
         1. Set prices, production levels
      2. Union membership up
      3. War bonds
         1. Get Americans invested in the war
         2. Support for capitalism

**Propaganda posters activity**

1. The Treaty of Versailles
   1. The League of Nations
      1. Jan. 1918 – Wilson introduces “14 points”
         1. Freedom, self-determination for Europeans
         2. International organization to preserve the peace
         3. Try not to make anybody too angry
      2. Jan. 1919 – conference held at Versailles
         1. Wilson represents US – brings no republicans **this is a huge mistake, since the Senate needs to ratify his treaty, and the Senate is controlled by Republicans!**
         2. Treaty is a compromise – much harsher on Germany than Wilson wanted, but includes League of Nations
      3. L.O.N. – respect independence and protect each other from outside aggression
   2. American debate **league sparks really strong debate over role of US in the world**
      1. Traditional isolationism – that war was so bad – let’s stay out!
      2. Wilson’s idealism – this is a new era – get involved! US leadership!
      3. Opposition led by Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge (MA)
         1. Prefers traditional foreign policy
         2. Does everything possible to obstruct treaty
      4. Sept. 1919 – Wilson tours the country speaking in support of treaty
      5. Exhausted – Oct. 1919 – suffers a stroke
      6. Both sides still refuse to compromise – never passed by US.
      7. No consensus going forward **Wilson dies soon after**