

Ch. 7, Lesson 2

Visual Summary

In this lesson, you will learn how the U.S. government used progressive ideas and government agencies to prepare the nation for war. You will learn how the military was built to fight this mechanized war. Here are important ideas and events you will learn about in this lesson.

Organizing the Economy

Congress created new agencies to organize people for war.



- The War Industries Board (WIB) organized the creation of war materials.
- The Food Administration increased food production.
- The Fuel Administration managed coal and oil use and started daylight saving time.
- The National War Labor Board urged companies to pay better wages and allowed unions to organize.
- African Americans, Hispanic immigrants, and women entered the workforce.
- The Committee for Public Information (CPI) shaped public opinion.

Building the Military

Progressive ideas were used to recruit soldiers and build the military.



- The Selective Service Act created a draft to expand the size of the army.
- About 2 million men volunteered for military service.
- African American soldiers were segregated and encountered discrimination.
- Women served in the military for the first time as nurses and in clerical, non-combat roles.