

Ch. 7, Lesson 4

Visual Summary

In this lesson, you will learn how the end of World War I affected American society. You will learn about the economic and political upheaval that concerned many Americans. People struggled to find jobs even as race riots raged and worries about communism grew. Here are important ideas and events you will learn about in this lesson.

Economic Problems

- Inflation and cost of living rose rapidly after World War I ended.
- Strikes occurred across the United States as workers demanded higher wages.
- Racial unrest occurred when returning veterans tried to get back jobs that had gone to African Americans who had come North.
- Race riots and violence led to rise in membership in the NAACP.

**The First Red Scare**

- Strikes of 1919 led to fears that Communists ("Reds") were infiltrating the labor movement.
- Mail bombs in several cities alarmed Americans and added to fears of Communist infiltration.
- The Palmer Raids on various labor and radical organization led to deportation of many immigrants. The raids did not turn up evidence of Communist conspiracy, however.
- Warren Harding won the election of 1920 with a campaign based on a "return to normalcy."