

Why did America become an imperial nation at the end of the 19th century?

1. Commercial Interests

2. Military/Strategic Interests

Alfred T. Mahan → The Influence of Sea Power on History: 1660-1783

America's "Great White Fleet"

3. Social Darwinist Thinking

White Man's Burden

4. Religious/Missionary Interests

5. Closing the American Frontier

1890 Census & Turner's Frontier Thesis

U. S. Business Interests In Hawaii

- Protestant missionaries from New England and later from Utah go to Hawai'i- many stay.
 - Hawaii becomes a U.S. Protectorate in 1849 by virtue of economic treaties.
 - Land ownership starts to shift from natives to the children of missionaries who stayed in the islands.
 - 1875 – Reciprocity Treaty
 - 1890 – McKinley Tariff
 - 1893 – American businessmen backed an uprising against Queen Liliuokalani.
 - Sanford Ballard Dole proclaims the Republic of Hawaii in 1894.
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U.S. Relations with Japan



Commodore Matthew Perry “Opens Up” Japan 1853

Treaty of Kanagawa: 1854

- Peace and friendship between the United States and Japan, opens 2 ports and US can buy provisions in Japan

Gentleman's Agreement: 1908

- A Japanese note agreeing to deny passports to laborers entering the U.S.
- The U.S. government got the school board of San Francisco to rescind their order to segregate Asians in separate schools.

Lodge Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine: 1912

- Non-European powers, like Japan, would be excluded from owning territory in the Western Hemisphere.
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U.S. Relations with Spain- Cuba

Valeriano Weyler's "Reconcentration" Policy

- Stop guerrillas from living off the land

"Yellow Journalism" & Jingoism

De Lôme Letter

- Criticized President McKinley as weak and a would-be politician.

Remember the Maine and to Hell with Spain!

- Hearst and Pulitzer's papers sensationalized the explosion of the Maine, and turned public opinion against Spain.
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April 11, 1898 the president sent his war message to Congress

- War with Spain seemed inevitable
- America had to defend democracy
- Opposing a war could split the Republican party and America.
- **The Teller Amendment** was added the U.S. could not annex Cuba but only leave "control of the island to its people."
- After the war the Senate passed the **Platt Amendment**, forcing a peace treaty on Cuba which prohibited it from signing treaties with other nations or contracting a public debt.

The war will last the summer of 1898

- Cuba and Puerto Rico are under U.S. military control by the end of the summer.
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U.S. Relations with Spain- Philippines

- **Emilio Aguinaldo** was invited by America to help overthrow the Spanish gov't in the Philippines.
 - US didn't live up to their promises of Filipino ind.
 - Leader of the Filipino Uprising.
 - **Jones Act-** 1916 - provided the Philippine Islands a "more autonomous government" to prepare the territory for independence.
 - July 4, 1946: Philippine independence
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The Treaty of Paris: 1898

- Cuba was freed from Spanish rule.
 - Spain gave up Puerto Rico and the island of Guam.
 - The U. S. paid Spain \$20 mil. for the Philippines.
 - Widely protest by the **American Anti-Imperialist League**
 - Mark Twain, Andrew Carnegie, William James, and William Jennings Bryan among the leaders.
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Puerto Rico: 1898

DILEMMA—Did U. S. citizenship follow the flag?

1900 - **Foraker Act.**

PR became an “unincorporated territory.”

Citizens of PR, not of the US.

1901-1903 → **the Insular Cases.**

Constitutional rights were NOT automatically extended to territorial possessions.

1917 – **Jones Act.**

Gave full territorial status to PR.

PRs could NOT vote in US presidential elections.

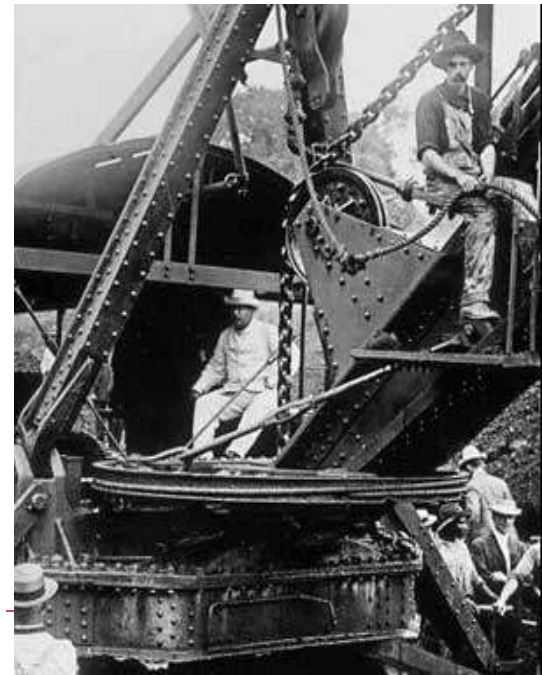
Panama Canal

1901 → Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.

1903 → Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty.

Dr. Walter Reed.

"I took the Canal Zone and let Congress debate, and while the debate goes on, the Canal Zone does too."



The Monroe Doctrine states three major ideas, with one more added by President Theodore Roosevelt. **First**, it conveys that European countries cannot colonize in any of the Americas: North, Central, or South as well as islands of the Caribbean which were considered to be a part of the Americas. **Second**, it enforces Washington's rule of foreign policy, in which the U.S. will only be involved in European affairs if America's rights are disturbed. **Third**, the U.S. will consider any attempt at colonization a threat to its national security. Roosevelt added to the doctrine, and summed up his additions with the statement, "Speak softly and carry a big stick".

The Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine: 1905

Chronic wrongdoing... may in America, as elsewhere, ultimately require intervention by some civilized nation, and in the Western Hemisphere the adherence of the United States to the Monroe Doctrine may force the United States, however reluctantly, in flagrant cases of such wrongdoing or impotence, to the exercise of an international police power.

Speak Softly, But Carry a Big Stick!



U.S. Relations with China

The Boxer Rebellion: 1900

The Open Door Policy

- Secretary John Hay.
- Give all nations equal access to trade in China.



U.S. Relations with Mexico

The Mexican Revolution: 1910s

The U.S. also got involved by occupying Veracruz and the new dictator, Huerta fled the country.

Eventually Carranza gained power in Mexico.

How did WW1 Start?

1. The Alliance System (pre-war)
2. Arms Race
3. Economic & Imperial Rivalries
4. Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand

How did the US get involved?

1. 1914- Wilson's Neutrality Proclamation
 2. Sinking of Passenger Ships
 - Lusitania
 2. Sovereignty of the Seas
 - British Blockage
 - German Unrestricted Submarine Warfare
 - Arabic and Sussex pledges
 3. We made extensive loans to England and France.
 4. Zimmerman telegram, 1917
 5. 1917- Wilson declares war to preserve democracy- "It is a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful people into war....But **the right is more precious than peace.**
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Wilson's Fourteen Points

The Fourteen Points were a set of idealistic goals for peace.

No more secret treaties.

Freedom of the seas was to be maintained.

Adjustment of colonial claims in the interests of natives and colonizers.

“Self-determination,” or independence for oppressed minority groups who would choose their own government

A League of Nations, an international organization that would keep the peace and settle world disputes.

Selling the war and enforcing loyalty

Committee on Public Information, headed by George Creel, was created to “sell” the war.

- Pamphlets, posters and billboards.
 - Anti-German movies like *The Kaiser* and *The Beast of Berlin*.
 - Anti-German propaganda fueled support for the war, but it also contributed to intolerance on the home front.
 - The **Espionage Act of 1917**
 - The **Sedition Act of 1918**
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Fighting the War at Home

The **National War Labor Board** settled labor difficulties that might hamper the war production.

The Great Migration 70,000 African-Americans migrated to the North to find industrial jobs.

Women also found more opportunities in the workplace, since the men were gone to war.

- Women gave up their jobs at war's end.

Hoover headed the Food Administration.

- Voluntary “**Meatless Tuesdays**” and “**Wheatless Wednesdays**”

The war was paid for through the sale of war bonds- Liberty Loans, and increased taxes.

Selective Service- a lottery system for the draft

Battles and the end of the War

The Americans got **General John J. Pershing** to lead at the front.

- The **Meuse-Argonne offensive**

End of the War

- Bolshevik Revolution
- 1918 Flu Pandemic
- Armistice

Treaty of Versailles

Led by Henry Cabot Lodge, William Borah of ID and Hiram Johnson of CA, the Senate became bitterly opposed to the League.

Wilson toured America to gain support for the treaty, but it was defeated and never ratified.

U.S. isolationism doomed the Treaty of Versailles

1920s

Harding's election in 1920 puts an end to two decades of progressive reform and ushers in an era of conservatism.

Americans denounced “radical” foreign ideas and “un-American” lifestyles.

- **“Red Scare”** of 1919-20
 - **Sacco and Vanzetti** were convicted
 - **The Rise of the Second KKK**
 - Birth of a Nation
 - In 1921 Congress passed the Emergency Quota Act and later the **National Origins Act of 1924**
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Prohibition

The **18th Amendment** (enforced with the Volstead Act) prohibited the sale of alcohol

Impossible to enforce

Positive results: bank savings increased and absenteeism on the job went down.

Negative results: the increase in gangs that competed to distribute liquor.

- Capone, Moran, etc.
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Fundamentalist vs. Modernist Christians

Scopes “Monkey Trial.”

Clarence Darrow vs. William Jennings Bryan

The trial proved to be inconclusive but
illustrated the rift between the new and old.



“Roaring 20s”

Prosperity took off in the 20s

Helped by the tax policies of Treasury Secretary Andrew Mellon

- Technology – cars, radios
- Construction
- Bad time for farmers

Consumerism

- Credit
- Advertising

Harlem Renaissance

The Politics of the 1920s

Three conservative presidents (Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover) encouraged business (Laissez-faire, high tariffs, and reduced regulation)

Scandal rocked the Harding administration in 1923 when Charles R. Forbes embezzled over \$200 million from the Veterans' Bureau.

The Teapot Dome Scandal was the most shocking of all.

Coolidge--1923-1929--("The business of America is business") was the least active president in history

Election of 1928

The Presidential candidates in the election of 1928 represented the transformation underway in American politics.

Herbert Hoover was a representative of the middle class, born into an Iowa Quaker family. Supporting business and Prohibition, Hoover was the Republican candidate for President

Alfred E. Smith was Democratic opponent from a Catholic immigrant family.

Stock market crash of 1928

There was much over-speculation in the 1920s, especially on Florida home properties and even during times of prosperity banks were failing each year.

- The whole system was built on fragile credit.
- Over-speculation
- Overly high stock prices

By 1930, the depression was a national crisis, and hard-working workers had nowhere to work, thus, people turned bitter and also turned on Hoover.

- **Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC)**
 - Hoover Dam
 - Bonus Army March
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