

Flappers Depression, and Global War



but this was one of Georgia's and America's most eventful times. "Calamity Jane," a huge heavy artillery gun on wheels, fired the final shots of World War I at 10:59 a.m. on November 11, 1918. The "war to end all wars" was over. President Wilson wrote, "Everything for which America has fought has been accomplished. It will now be our fortunate duty to assist by example, by sober, friendly counsel, and by material aid, in the establishment of just democracy throughout the world." America was at peace, and the party was about to begin.



Chapter Preview

Georgia character word: **Respect for the Creator** Terms: jazz, the blues, boll weevil, Great Migration, stock market, Great Depression, laissez-faire, relief, New Deal, minimum wage, collective bargaining, rural electrification, subsidy, integrate, isolationism, dictator, appeasement, World War II, Holocaust, ration, G. I. Bill **People:** Bessie Kempton Crowell, Viola Ross Napier, Ma Rainey, Charles Lindbergh, **Bobby Jones, Franklin D.** Roosevelt, Richard B. Russell Jr., Eugene Talmadge, Eurith Rivers, Ellis Arnall Places: Blue Ridge Lake, Lake

Section 1 The Roaring
Twenties
Section 2 The Great
Depression
Section 3 The New Deal

Harbor

Chatuge, Lake Nottley, Pearl

Section 4 World War li

Left: Democratic presidential candidate Franklin Delano Roosevelt campaigns in Atlanta in 1932. His wife Eleanor is sitting on the right side of the car.

Signs of the Lines

Population: 131.6 million in 1940

in 1940, Male 60.8 and Female 68.2

milk was \$0.14 a quart, bread was \$0.09 a loaf, flour was \$0.39 a pound, coffee was \$0.46 a pound, eggs were \$0.15 a dozen, and 10 pounds of sugar cost \$0.43. A new house cost \$7,146. A new car cost \$610, and gas was \$0.10 a gallon.

of the period included Willem de Kooning,
Georgia O'Keeffe, Thomas Hart Benton, Edward
Hopper, Grant Wood, N. C. Wyeth, Jackson
Pollock, Piet Mondarian, and Andrew Wyeth.
Skyscrapers erected during this period included
the Woolworth Building and the Empire State
Building in New York and the Wrigley Building in
Chicago. U.S. Army Engineers completed the
five-sided Pentagon Building.

period included Dr. Benjamin Spock's Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care, Dashiell Hammett's The Maltese Falcon, Pearl Buck's The Good Earth, John Steinbeck's The Grapes of Wrath, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings's The Yearling, Margaret Mitchell's Gone With the Wind, Richard Wright's Native Son, and E. B. White's Stuart Little. Leading poets of the era included e. e. cummings, Carl Sandburg, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Langston Hughes, and Robert Frost.

\$2,160 but only \$1,973 in 1930. In 1920, a teacher's salary was \$970; in 1940, it was \$1,441. The minimum wage in the 1940s was \$0.43 an hour.

blues, and sentimental ballads. The 1930s was the big band era. Big bands gave way to rhythm and blues. Hit songs included "I'm Just Wild About Harry," "California Here I Come," and "Second Hand Rose." Hit singers included Frank Sinatra, Dinah Shore, Kate Smith, Bing Crosby, Perry Como, Billie Holiday, and Ella Fitzgerald.

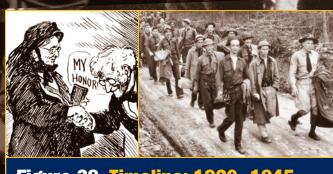
and television began to expand late in the era. Dance marathons were popular; popular dances were the Charleston, black bottom, shimmy, and jitterbug. The board game "Monopoly" was invented. Women began wearing knee-length skirts. Ready-to-wear fashions became popular. Zippers became common in clothes. Hats were mandatory for men. Women's nylon stockings were first marketed in 1939.

in 1930 in Toledo, Ohio. The International Bible Students Association became Jehovah's Witnesses in 1931. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1943 that schoolchildren could not be required to salute the flag in school if their religion prohibited it.

Science: The bulldozer was invented in 1923. RCA licensed NBC as the first nationwide entertainment network in 1926; CBS was organized in 1927. The nation's first planetarium opened in Chicago in 1930. DuPont marketed the first nylon product—a toothbrush. Aerosol spray cans were introduced. Computers were developed in 1945; the digital computer named ENIAC weighed 30 tons and stood two stories high.

Laucation. At the height of the depression in 1933, some 2,000 rural schools closed, 200,000 teachers were out of work, and about 2.3 million children were out of school. The concept of junior high schools spread across the nation in the 1920s. National Spelling Bee began in 1925, sponsored by the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Vansportation: The first coast-to-coast bus line, Yelloway Bus Line, offered service from New York to Los Angeles, a 5-day, 14-hour trip. Charles Lindbergh made the first nonstop transatlantic airplane flight. Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly alone across the Atlantic in 1932. She disappeared on a flight across the Pacific in 1937. The Queen Mary arrived in New York on its maiden voyage. Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco opened. Leisure lime: The movie Gone With the Wind premiered in Atlanta, and Margaret Mitchell won a Pulitzer Prize for her novel. Eight Chicago White Sox players were accused of "fixing" the World Series; they were found not guilty but banned from baseball. Baseball Hall of Fame established in Cooperstown, New York. The first Winter Olympic Games were held the in U.S. in Lake Placid, New York in 1932. Bobby Jones developed the Augusta National Golf Club, which opened for play in 1933.





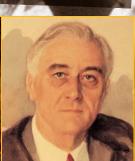


Figure 38 Timeline: 1920-1945

1922 Rebecca Latimer Felton appointed to U.S. Senate

WSB radio went on air

Drought hit state

Paved highway opened from **Atlanta to Brunswick**

1937 **Margaret Mitchell won Pulitzer** Prize for Gone With the Wind

> **State government** reorganized into 17 agencies

Gone With the Wind movie premiered in Atlanta

> **Georgia first state** to allow 18-yearolds to vote

1920 1925

1930

1935

1940

1945

1929 Stock market crashed

1932 Franklin Roosevelt elected president

CCC and **TVA** created

Textile workers strike

World War II broke out in Europe

1941 **U.S. entered World War II** after attack on Pearl Harbor World War II

President Roosevelt died at **Warm Springs**

Section

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- Georgia's first two female legislators,
- new forms of music,
- problems in agriculture, and
- vocabulary terms: jazz, the blues, boll weevil, and Great Migration.

The Roaring Twenties

When the peace treaty ending World War I was signed, people throughout the nation were ready to celebrate the end of rationing, the end of worry about loved ones overseas, the end of sadness associated with a deadly world-wide flu epidemic, and the end of hard times associated with the war. In his presidential campaign, President Warren Harding had promised to return the country to normalcy, and that is exactly what he tried to do. But the normalcy of the past was going to take a big left turn.



The New Woman

On August 26, 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment was ratified, giving women the right to vote. Suddenly, women felt a new sense of equality and a new freedom of expression. Many who had stepped into the labor force during the war years wanted to continue working.

The idea of femininity changed drastically. Out were tight corsets and long petticoats. In were knee-length, free-moving dresses that exposed women's legs and arms. Out was the long hair put up in buns or braids; in was a short, bobbed, boyish hair style. Out was the natural look; in was make-up such as lipstick and rouge. Out was the demure, modest, and well-behaved matron. In was the young woman who drank, smoked, and danced all night without a chaperone. And times would never again be the same. Many of the females of the 1920s proudly took on the label *flappers*. The term was first used in Great Britain after World War I to describe young girls between childhood and adulthood. But writer and publisher H. L. Mencken described the flapper as "a somewhat foolish girl, full of wild surmises and inclined to revolt against the precepts and admonitions of her elders."

The Nineteenth Amendment also opened the doors for women to run for political office. In 1922, two women became the first female legislators in the Georgia house of representatives—Bessie Kempton Crowell from Fulton County and Viola Ross Napier from Bibb County.

In that same year, Rebecca Latimer Felton was honored when Governor Thomas Hardwick appointed her to fill the U.S. Senate seat of Tom Watson, who had died in office. Felton's appointment was an acknowledgment of her outstanding reform work and efforts supporting the suffrage movement. Since the Senate was not in session at the time of her appointment, Felton was not officially sworn in to her new office. Nor did she really serve time in Congress; Walter F. George was elected to the Senate seat in a special election. But when the Senate reconvened, the 87-year-old Felton was sworn in for a day, making her the first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate.

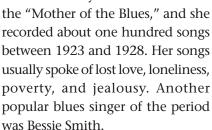
Music

Thousands of clubs called *speakeasies* opened across the country, and most were well stocked with illegal liquor. Often, the music that was played in those clubs was a unique African American contribution known as jazz. Jazz was different from traditional music styles because it relied on improvisation. That is, jazz was "on the spur of the moment";

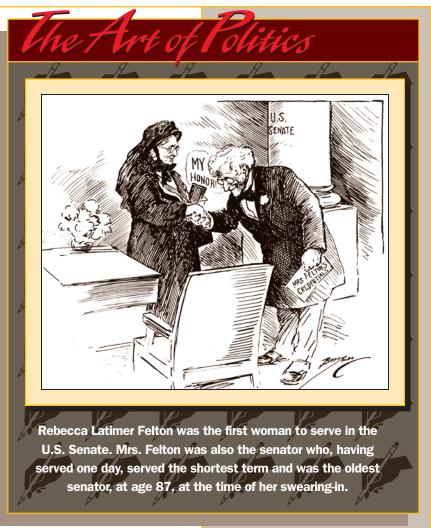
it did not follow written notes. Although jazz had been around for a long time, it burst onto the national stage during the 1920s. Musicians such as Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong played at jazz clubs, which opened up around the country. The most famous club was the Cotton Club in Harlem, which was packed each night with black and white audiences.

The blues was another popular music of the period. Blues music was based on black folk music. Georgia's own Ma Rainey became known as





An African American musical, "Runnin Wild," featured a dance that swept the nation and became synonymous with the period—the Charleston.





Opposite page: Women's

reflected social changes.

fashions of the 1920s

Crime

There was a dark note to the Roaring Twenties, as the period was called. The prohibition of the 1920s gave rise to organized gangs in large cities such as Chicago and New York. These gangsters made millions by supplying illegal liquor to speakeasies and other private clubs. The public followed the misdeeds of such mobsters as Scarface Al Capone, "Bugs" Moran, Baby Face Nelson, and Frank Nitty.

Capone, dubbed Chicago's "Public Enemy No. 1," was finally arrested and convicted of tax evasion. Capone spent one year in the Atlanta federal penitentiary before he was transferred to Alcatraz.



Life in the Roaring Twenties

After the war years, life was good. A trip to the doctor's office was only \$5, and for an extra dollar or two the doctor would come to your home. Many things came right to the front door—milk, butter and cream, ice, and even fresh vegetables. Vegetable deliveries were short lived, however. In 1926, a man named Clarence Birdseye perfected a method for freezing and packaging foods. His process freed women from the chore of buying fresh foods every day and from having to cook everything from scratch.

Little by little, life was becoming more convenient. Electricity became more widely available, and electric appliances

became more common. For example, in 1927, the first pop-up toaster was introduced. Gas ranges replaced wood and coal stoves. Convenience foods began to appear. Quick-cooking rolled oats, pancake mix, and canned goods (everything from tuna to pineapple) were available. By the end of the decade, families could buy presliced bread. Gerber's baby foods first went on the market in 1928.

In November 1920, radio station KDKA started broadcasting in Pittsburgh, and it changed America forever. One year later, Americans spent \$10 million on radio sets and parts. Families gathered around the radio to listen to baseball games, news reports, and favored programs such as "The Grand Ole

Opry." In 1922,WSB radio in Atlanta joined the ever growing number of stations throughout the country. Those tuned in heard a jazz rendition of the "Light Cavalry Overture." The station became known as the "Voice of the South." In 1923, WRAB radio was licensed in Savannah, and in 1924 radio station WDBA was li-



Top: This is an early washing machine. Center: These flappers of the 1920s are dancing the Charleston.

Bottom: The two items in the background are early radios.
The disks in the foreground are 78rpm records.

censed in Columbus. The radio stations linked Americans to each other and to the world more than ever before.

Movies were a favorite pastime. In 1927, the first talking motion picture, *The Jazz Singer* with Al Jolson, hit theaters. Children and adults were enthralled just a year later when Walt Disney's first talking cartoon, "Steamboat Willie," appeared. It introduced a new American movie hero—Mickey Mouse.

The Destruction of King Cotton

For many Georgians, the twenties were not a time of abundance. A small, grayish, long-snouted beetle, the **boll weevil**, was destroying the primary source of income for many Georgia farmers: cotton. The boll weevil had come from Mexico, moved through Texas, and into the southern states in the 1890s. The beetles hatch in the yellow flower of the cotton plant. As the flower becomes a boll (the place were the fibers are formed), the larvae feeds on the growing white, fluffy cotton, making it useless.

The boll weevil appeared in southwest Georgia in 1915 and quickly spread across the state, destroying thousands of acres of Georgia's major agricultural crop. By 1923, cotton production had dropped to 600,000 bales from a high

of 2.8 million bales in 1914. The postwar price was only fifteen to seventeen cents a pound.

In 1924, Georgia farmers were hit with another natural disaster—a major drought. The sun-baked fields slowed down the destruction of the boll weevil, but the drought ruined most of Georgia's other crops. Over 375,000 farm workers left Georgia between 1920 and 1925. The number of working farms fell from 310,132 to 249,095.

When farms failed, banks that had loaned the farmers money took huge losses. Many farm-related businesses closed. Georgia was in a deep depression.

The Great Migration

While parts of the nation were living it up during the Roaring Twenties, an agricultural depression led many tenant farmers to leave the South and migrate north looking for work. Black farmers, in particular, moved to northern industrial cities such as Chicago and Detroit, hoping to find work in factories and assembly plants. This movement of southern blacks, which lasted until the 1960s, was called the **Great Migration**.

In the South, most well-paying jobs went to whites. Better jobs and higher pay were available in the North. In fact, many northern companies actively recruited African Americans for jobs.

There were other reasons for the migration. Southern states restricted voting rights, while the North offered the hope of full citizenship rights. Public

Above: These young African American men from the South moved north and found work in shipyards, meat-packing plants and steel mills. schools for African Americans in much of the South were poor, and the North offered more educational opportunities. Health care was better in the North. In addition, segregation in the South kept African Americans from hotels, restaurants, and recreation areas, while the North offered open access to these facilities.

Because they did not have enough money to move everyone at once, African American and poor white families first sent their young men to get jobs. Most were unskilled and found work in the meat-packing plants, ship-yards, and steel mills. When they had saved enough money, they sent for the rest of their families. The African Americans generally improved their lives by moving north. But they were also crowded into segregated housing in overpopulated cities and faced a different type of prejudice than they had known in the South.

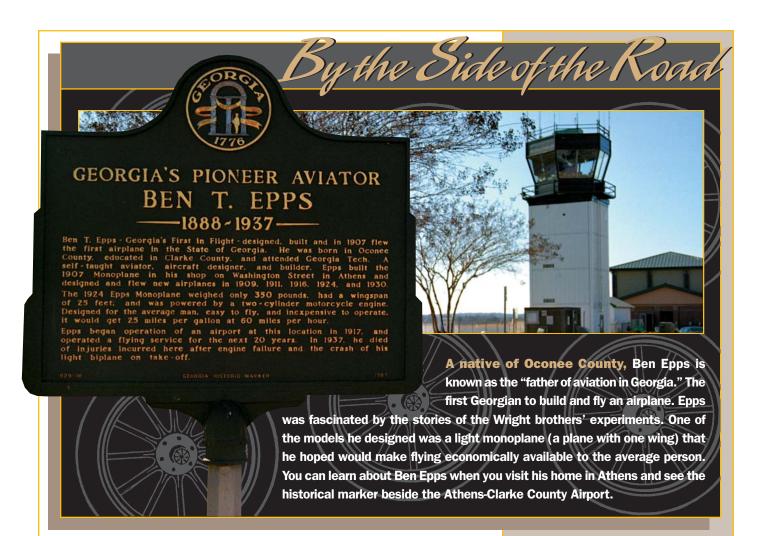
The Klan Strengthens

In Chapter 10, you learned that the Ku Klux Klan was reborn in Atlanta in 1915. The Klan's targets included not only African Americans but also Jews, Catholics, and immigrants. Talk of "returning America to traditional values and morals" and a "patriotism of traditional America" gained the group new members. Not only did membership increase in numbers, it also increased in stature as doctors, lawyers, judges, businessmen, and even ministers joined.

During the 1920s, the Klan gained a foothold in the Midwest and the Southwest. By 1922, the Klan had branches in all forty-eight states. In 1925, forty thousand costumed and hooded Klansmen marched past the White

Below: The Ku Klux Klan was not just a force in the South. This march took place in Washington, D.C., in 1926.





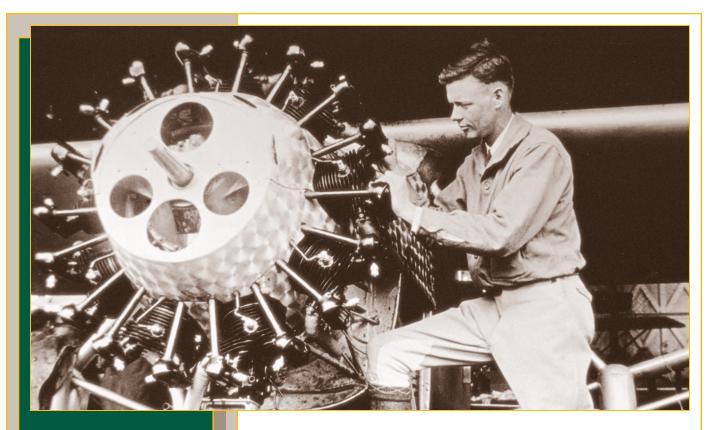
House. Only rain prevented them from burning a cross beside the Washington Monument. The Klan also gained political influence, and five U.S. Senators elected in the 1920s were open members of the Klan. One member, who later recanted his membership, became a Supreme Court justice.

Race riots broke out in many parts of the country in the early and mid-1920s. In some places, the Klan even became an organized part of local law enforcement.

Scandals within the Klan leadership in the late 1920s led to a decline in membership throughout the country. People began to see the relationship between the Klan and racial terrorism. By the time the Depression hit, the Klan had lost most of its national power.

A Special Day

In 1919, a wealthy hotel businessman announced a prize of \$25,000 to the first person who flew nonstop from New York to Paris, France, or from Paris to New York. In May 1927, three pilots in the United States were poised to make the attempt. One was a tall, lean, quiet, boyish pilot who had flown mail out of St. Louis. In fact, he named his plane the "Spirit of St. Louis." He was 25-year-old Charles Lindbergh, and he tackled the 3,600-mile transatlantic trip alone.



Above: Charles Lindbergh checks the engine of his plane, the "Spirit of St. Louis," before his record-breaking flight to France. Because he was a lone pilot in a single-engine plane, he was nicknamed the "Lone Eagle."

Lindbergh flew without the help of navigational or weather instruments, using only landmarks to guide him. He took with him a bag of sandwiches and a quart of water, along with a rubber raft in case he had to ditch in the ocean. Lindbergh took off on a misty Friday morning, May 20, 1927, at 8:00 a.m., from Long Island, New York. The public followed his progress, staying glued to their radio sets.

The trip took $33\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Upon his arrival in France, Lindbergh became an instant hero. Songs were written about him, including one called "Lucky Lindy." Wherever he went, crowds of people gathered to see him. In October 1927, six months after his historic flight, Lindbergh flew into Atlanta, where he was welcomed by over 20,000 admirers. Soon afterward, a street in the city was named Lindbergh Drive in honor of the "Lone Eagle."

Vid You Know?

In 1927, Charles Lindbergh was the first person honored as *Time* magazine's "Man of the Year."

lts lour burn

- **1.** Who were the first female members of the Georgia General Assembly?
- 2. Who was the "Mother of Blues"?
- 3. What two factors led to Georgia's agricultural problems during the Roaring Twenties?
- 4. How does the Great Migration pattern of sending young men to find work and then moving families to join them repeat itself today with immigration patterns in the United States?

The Great Depression

Buck Rogers first appeared in comic strips and wax milk cartons were used for the first time. It was the year Wyatt Earp died, but it was also the year Martin Luther King, Jr., was born. Georgian Bobby Jones won the U.S. Open Golf Championship, and Royston resident Ty Cobb continued to display unparalleled baseball talents. Despite these highlights, 1929 is most remembered as the "boom that went bust!"

The Bottom Drops Out

People thought that the good times of the Roaring Twenties would last forever. Few realized its end would be so drastic. In March 1929, right after President Herbert Hoover was inaugurated, the Federal Reserve Board began meeting daily. In March, a series of "mini-crashes" had occurred in the **stock market**, the place where shares of ownership in corporations (stock) are bought and sold. Each time, the economy recovered. Summer seemed to bring back the good times—until the day after Labor Day. Then, the roller coaster started.

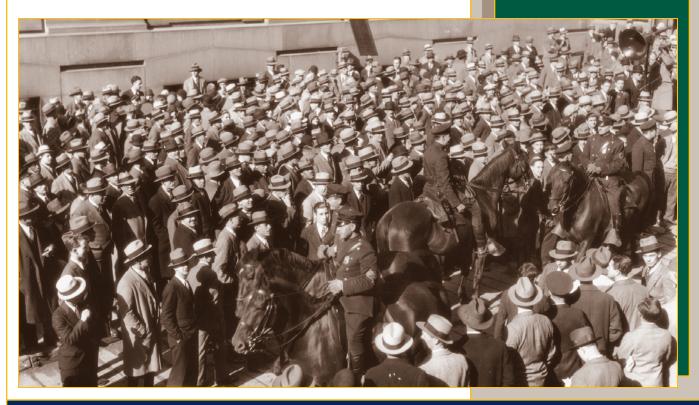
It was Thursday morning, October 24, 1929. With the opening bell of the stock exchange, the ticker tape machines began running. Investors tried to sell their stocks at any price. Screams of "Sell, Sell, Sell," could be heard all over New York's Wall Street. By noon, police were called in to handle the growing crowd. The lunch break seemed to slow things down a bit, and there

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

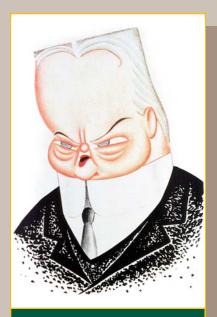
- causes of the Great Depression.
- effects of the depression on Georgians,
- efforts by federal, state, and local governments to help, and
- vocabulary terms: stock market, Great Depression, laissez-faire, and relief.

Below: Mounted police had to be called in to control the crowd on Wall Street on "Black Tuesday."





In 1929, less than 1 percent of the American people owned stock. Today, 50 percent of all households own stock.



Above: This is a caricature (an exaggerated drawing) of President Herbert Hoover. The president tried but was unable to stimulate the American economy.

was even a small rebound that carried over into Friday. Everyone was relieved when the weekend arrived and the market closed.

On Monday, it became clear that things were not getting better. Panic set in as people all over the country began trading anew. Unlike the previous week, this trading was not a recovery. On Tuesday, October 29, 1929, a day known as "Black Tuesday," the stock market "crashed." By the end of that day, millions of Americans had lost everything they had.

With each day that passed, the country went deeper and deeper into an economic downturn, which today we call the **Great Depression**. By the end of the year, the value of stocks on the stock market had fallen \$40 billion. A share of U.S. Steel that had been selling for \$262 had dropped to \$22, a 92 percent decrease. Montgomery Ward stock prices sank from \$138 to \$4 a share, a 97 percent decrease. Many stocks dropped to a penny or less a share.

Causes of the Depression

What caused the Great Depression? One cause was that the people of the United States had borrowed more money than they could afford to repay. This hurt the banks that had loaned the money and the businesses waiting for their payments. Businesses that did not get paid had to lay off workers.

Many factories had produced more goods than they could sell. When the demand for the goods fell, the businesses had to slow production until the surpluses were gone. Farmers were also guilty of overproduction. For several seasons, the farmers had produced surplus crops, causing prices to decline steadily. After World War I, European farmers began raising crops again; that added to the worldwide overproduction. The decline in farm income meant farmers could not repay their debts or buy goods from suppliers.

After World War I, Americans wanted to trade with other nations. But the United States and other nations had enacted tariffs. The high tariffs made it difficult for other countries to sell their goods in the United States to get money with which to repay wartime loans and buy American products.

Speculation in the stock market also helped cause the Great Depression. During the 1920s, most people bought stock and paid only a portion of the cost of the stock at the time of the purchase. Even though the stock was not completely paid for, the investor had the right to sell it. If the stock price had gone up, the investor sold the stock and made enough to finish paying for the stock. This practice forced the price of stocks up, making them higher than what they were really worth.

Many banks had purchased large amounts of stock. When the market crashed, the banks lost a lot of money. When depositors learned this, there were runs on the banks. When too many people withdraw their money from a bank, the bank collapses; everyone loses.

One final cause was the **laissez-faire** attitude of the American people and of American government and business leaders. Almost every government official believed the economy itself, not the government, would work out any problems. President Hoover did what any other politician of the time would have done—nothing. Hoover kept telling the American people that "prosperity is just around the corner." But prosperity was *not* just around the corner.

Living Through the Depression

By 1932, unemployment in the nation had reached 13 million; 1 out of 4 Americans was unemployed. Men who had once managed large corporations were walking the streets looking for any type of work or were standing on street corners selling apples.

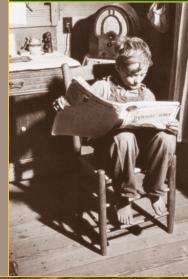
Over 9,000 banks closed their doors. Millions lost their savings and their cash. In 1931 alone, 31 banks failed in Georgia.

People were forced out of their homes, and many lived in shacks made of collected junk. Such "neighborhoods" were called "Hoovervilles" for the president who was powerless to help. Many people were literally starving and were saved only by soup kitchens set up by the government or charities. Barter became a common practice, particularly in the South.

Education suffered tremendously during the depression. With little cash and few taxes, many schools were forced to close or to shorten schedules. Salaries were cut, and teachers making \$40-\$50 a month considered themselves lucky.

Because Georgia was already in an economic depression when the stock market crashed, Georgians did not immediately feel the impact of "Black Tuesday." However, between 1929 and 1932, an average farmer's income dropped from \$206 a year to \$83; cotton prices fell to \$0.05 a pound.

During the depression, most Georgians were challenged simply by trying to meet their everyday needs. Many workers in the state lost their jobs, resulting in great suffering and despair. Children of the unemployed often did Below: Collie Smith of Carroll County reads the *Progressive* Farmer. Bottom: This is a one-room, one-teacher school for African American children in Veazy.





not go to school because they had no shoes or proper clothes. Families went hungry, with many living for weeks on a single food like cornmeal or rice.

State services suffered. Many rural children did not get an education. There was no money for health care and highway construction. The economic advances of the previous several decades were stopped dead in their tracks.

But there were some bright spots. In 1930, plane service from Atlanta to New York was introduced and strengthened business ties between the "Empire State of the South" and the nation's center of commerce. Another major transportation feat of the period was the completion of the highway from

Above: Bobby Jones, born in Atlanta, is considered the greatest golfer in the history of the game.

les lour Turn

- What happened on "Black Tuesday"?
- Explain the laissez-faire attitude of the American government toward the economy.
- 3. Do you think President
 Hoover should have done
 more to end the Great
 Depression? Why or why
 not?

Atlanta to Brunswick. Finally, Georgians could travel to most of the state's cities on paved roads. One of those roads led to Augusta.

In 1931, world class amateur golfer Bobby Jones, a native of Atlanta, announced his intentions to build a golf course in Augusta. That golf club, Augusta National, opened in 1933. Today, it is home to one of the world's four major golf tournaments—the Masters.

Easing the Burden

President Herbert Hoover was the first president to use the power of the federal government to help the economy recover. In one program de-

signed to help farmers, the government bought large amounts of cotton, wheat, and other commodities (crops). This, it was believed, would cause farm prices to rise. The government would then sell its commodities on the market later, after the prices had risen. However, the government bought too little of the commodities, and the plan did not work. Hoover did use the government's stored wheat and cotton to provide flour and cloth for the needy.

President Hoover approved a program that loaned federal money to needy businesses. He also supported public works projects, such as the building of post offices, parks, courthouses, and roads. These projects put many unemployed men back to work. With Hoover's urging, the government loaned money to the states for their own public works projects. Hoover's programs helped, but they did not end the depression or provide enough help for the poor.

Besides the federal and state governments, many local agencies also helped. The most effective were the Red Cross and the Salvation Army. Hospitals provided free lunches for the needy. Local governments provided free lunches for needy children and paid men low wages to sweep streets, plant trees, drain swamps, cut firewood, and plant gardens. Still, public and private efforts to provide relief (money and goods given to people in special need) were not enough. What was needed was a program that coordinated efforts at all levels.

The New Deal

In 1932, President Hoover ran for re-election. His opponent was Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt of New York. When Roosevelt accepted his party's nomination, he told the audience, "I pledge you, I pledge myself, to a new deal for the American people." Campaigning was difficult at times, because Roosevelt had been struck with polio in 1921, and his legs were paralyzed. He wore steel leg braces, but most people did not know about his paralysis. However, his spirits were high as he campaigned for the presidency, and he became very popular with the American people.

Roosevelt won the election. In his inaugural address, Roosevelt said:

We are stricken by no plague of locusts. Compared with the perils which our forefathers conquered because they believed and were not afraid, we have still much to be thankful for. Nature still offers her bounty and human efforts have multiplied it. Plenty is at our doorstep. . . .

His speech and his natural optimism won the people's confidence. They believed Roosevelt would try new ways to end the depression, which was, by then, felt all over the world. When Roosevelt took office on March 4, 1933, he took steps to fulfil his promise of "a new deal for the American people."

Roosevelt had no clear idea of how to deal with the depression. He gathered a group of advisers from all over the country; they became known as the "brain trust." With their help and at Roosevelt's urging, Congress passed a series of laws that came to be known as the **New Deal**. The purpose of these laws was to bring about economic recovery, relieve the suffering of the unemployed, reform defects in the economy, and improve society.

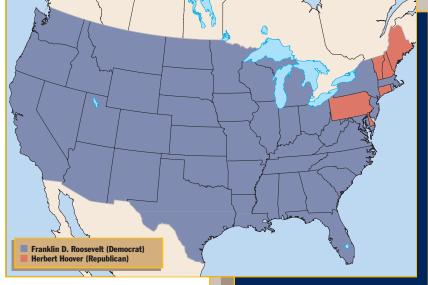
The first objective of the New Deal was economic recovery. The day after his inauguration, Roosevelt closed all banks until each could be investigated for soundness. The sound banks were allowed to re-open. The government loaned money to others to reopen. This action went a long way in helping the citizens regain faith in America's banking system. Other economic recovery programs were designed to help farmers and manufacturers.

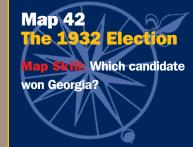
A number of New Deal programs were designed to help the unemployed. The New Deal tried to correct weaknesses in the economy that may have added to the depression. Finally, the New Deal went beyond trying to solve

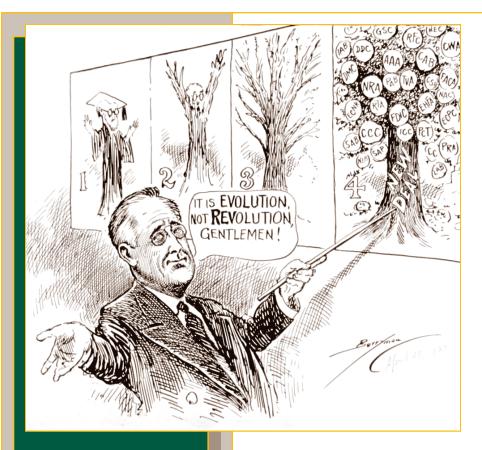
Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- New Deal programs,
- New Deal programs in Georgia,
- Georgia's governors, and
- vocabulary terms: New Deal, minimum wage, stretch out, collective bargaining, rural electrification, subsidy, and integrate.







Above: This 1934 cartoon pokes fun at President Roosevelt and the many "alphabet" agencies created under the New Deal.

the problems of the depression by trying to improve people's lives.

Congress implemented so many programs that the New Deal agencies became known by their initials. There were so many agencies that Roosevelt's administration was called "government by alphabet." Figure 39 lists a number of the New Deal programs, many of which are still in place.

Although some of Roosevelt's New Deal programs worked better than others, together they provided the nation with the chance for recovery that it so desperately needed. The New Deal did not end unemployment, and it did not bring the depression to a halt. But it paved the way for recovery, and it showed Americans that they could believe in government again.

Georgia and the New Deal

One of the president's New Deal programs that did not work was the National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA). It was designed to help workers by setting minimum wages, permitting them to organize unions, and al-

lowing factories to cut back on production. (A minimum wage is the least amount an employer can pay an employee for a certain number of hours worked.) In Georgia, this legislation mainly affected the textile industry. Although labor unions had been active in the North for many years, most manufacturers in the South had forbidden unions, and workers were not allowed to even discuss them. Those who did were often fired for being "trouble makers."

Roosevelt's NIRA posed a major threat to mill owners, and it did not take long for trouble to break out. Mill owners began using the **stretch out**, a practice requiring workers to tend more machines. Under this practice, workers had to do the same

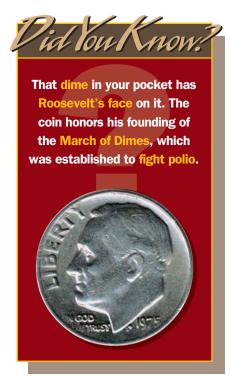


Figure 39 New Deal Programs and Legislation

Program/Legislation	Date	Purpose
Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)	1933	Built dams on the Tennessee River to control flooding and generate electricity. Three north Georgia lakes are now a part of the TVA.
Public Works Administration (PWA)	1933	Put people to work building roads, buildings, and other public works projects.
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)	1933	Insured individual savings accounts so that people did not lose their money if banks failed or closed their doors.
Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA)	1933	Provided federal funds for state and community relief efforts.
Civil Works Administration (CWA)	1933	Provided temporary federal jobs for the unemployed.
Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)	1933	Provided jobs for young single men building forest trails and roads, planting trees to reforest the land and control flooding, and building parks.
Federal Housing Administration (FHA)	1934	Insured home loans for low-income families.
Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)	1934	Regulated stocks and gave stock information.
Social Security Administration (SSA)	1935	Created a system for retirement and unemployment insurance.
Works Progress Administration (WPA)	1935	Employed out-of-work Americans to repair roads, build or repair bridges, paint murals, write guidebooks, put on plays and musical performances, and create statues in parks.
National Labor Relations Act	1935	Guaranteed the right of employees to organize and to bargain collectively with their employers. Created the National Labor Relations Board to hear unfair labor practices.
National Youth Administration (NYA)	1935	Provided job training and part-time work for college students.
Fair Labor Standards Act	1938	Established a maximum workweek and a minimum wage, prohibited child labor in certain industries, and set a minimum age for child workers.

amount of work in an 8-hour shift that they had previously done in a 12-hour shift. It was a brutal, if not impossible, schedule and clearly against the intent of the law.

In August 1934, textile workers all over the South joined in a strike called by the Textile Workers of America union. Workers immediately left their jobs and went into the streets of cities such as Macon, where 3,500 mill workers protested their treatment. Across Georgia, some 45,000 union workers took part, a large portion of the 60,000 mill hands in the state. Groups of striking

TENNESSEE

N.C. Chatuse Dain

Ga Counties
Served by TVA

Blue Ridge Lake

Served by TVA

workers, called "flying squadrons," traveled from mill to mill stirring up workers and closing down production. At one point, things were so bad that Governor Eugene Talmadge called out the National Guard and had thousands of workers arrested.

For many mill workers, however, the strike caused financial hardships. On September 22, the union called off the strike. Although mill workers returned to their jobs, many things were never the same. Feuds between strikers and nonstrikers increased. Some union activists were blacklisted and unable to find work. Workers were forced to leave their mill homes. The failed strike and the hardships that followed made an impression on Georgia workers that lasted for years.

In 1935, the U.S. Supreme Court declared the NIRA unconstitutional. To replace it, Congress quickly passed several laws to protect workers. The Wagner Act of 1935 guaranteed workers the right of collective

bargaining, discussions between a union and employer to determine such things as working conditions and employees' wages, hours, and benefits. It also outlawed many unfair labor practices (such as firing union members) and established a board to enforce the law. Congress hoped workers would organize for higher wages. With higher wages, workers could buy more consumer goods and help the economy recover.

One New Deal program was more popular in Georgia and is still enjoyed today. As a result of the TVA, we now have Blue Ridge Lake (which was actually created in 1925), Lake Chatuge, and Lake Nottely.

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was popular in Georgia in part because of its work at Camp Brumby with the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. The CCC also built many of the facilities at Roosevelt State

Map 43
Georgia's TVA
Lakes
Map 56Mf In which counties
are these lakes located?

Top: Lake Chatuge is an
important part of the TVA's
system for flood control and
electricity generation.



Park in Pine Mountain. Other CCC projects in Georgia included construction of sewer projects in many of the state's cities; flood control and drainage projects such as Tybee Island's seawall; recreational facilities such as ball fields, band stands, and theaters throughout the state; and a host of municipal facilities such as Augusta's Savannah River Levee, Atlanta's Municipal Auditorium, St. Simons' airport, Macon's airport, Stewart County's courthouse and jail, and renovations of Dalton's city hall. The CCC also worked to build, expand, or improve schools and hospitals throughout the state. For example, much of the work on Grady Hospital in Atlanta was done by the CCC.

Rural electrification was an important New Deal program. In the 1920s, power companies mainly ran lines to towns and cities. Because the rural population was spread out, power lines were expensive to build and maintain. The Rural Electrification Authority (REA) reportedly was a result of President Roosevelt's first night at Warm Springs, Georgia. He was sitting on the porch of his small cottage, trying to catch a breeze on a hot, sultry summer night. He noticed that no lights were showing from neighboring farms. When he received his electrical bill at the end of the month, he saw that it was many times higher than what he paid at his mansion in Hyde Park, New York. Roosevelt never forgot that night, and on May 11, 1935, he signed into law the act creating the REA. The REA loaned over \$300 million to farmers' cooperatives to help them extend their own power lines and buy power wholesale. This program was one on the most important and far-reaching of the New Deal programs. By 1940, a significant percentage of farmers in Georgia and other parts of the nation had electricity. Electric water pumps, lights, milking machines, and appliances made farm life much easier.

Above: More than 3 million young men earned a dollar a day from jobs with the Civilian Conservation Corps.



Workers in the CCC made \$30 per month. They were expected to send most of that money home to their families.



Above: These black sharecroppers are working in a field near White Plains in Greene County.

African Americans During the New Deal

Although most African Americans supported Roosevelt's candidacy for president, they did not, as a whole, make great gains under the New Deal. For example, under the Agricultural Adjustment Act, farm **subsidies** (grants of money from the government) went to property owners rather than to the tenant farmers, who were predominantly black. The Social Security Act was not designed to provide an income for farm and household workers, so Af-

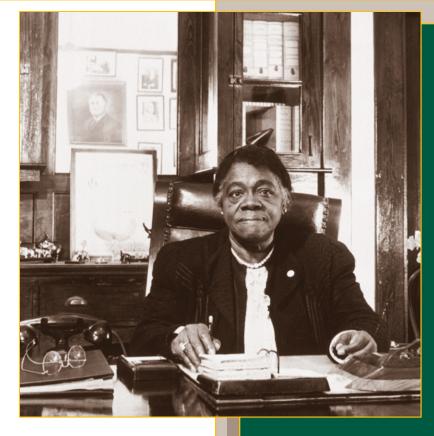
rican Americans working at those jobs were not covered.

When the WPA and other federal employment programs were organized, President Roosevelt ordered state relief officials "not to discriminate . . . because of race or religion or politics." Despite a lack of support from Governor Eugene Talmadge, those responsible for New Deal programs in Georgia made every effort to equally distribute WPA programs.

Several prominent African Americans were instrumental in leading



the New Deal programs. Clark Foreman, a staff member at the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, brought qualified African Americans into government agencies and investigated complaints about racial discrimination. Robert Weaver started his government career during the New Deal and later, in the 1960s, became the first head of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. William Hastie was the assistant solicitor (lawyer) for the Department of the Interior. In 1937, he became the first African American federal judge. Educator Mary McLeod Bethune was appointed to an advisory committee for the NYA. She made sure that African Americans received a fair share of federal funds to provide jobs for young people. Those four influential African Americans made up what some called Roosevelt's "Black Cabinet."





Above: Mary McLeod Bethune was perhaps the most prominent African American to serve in the government during the New Deal. In the glass behind her, you can just see a portrait of President Roosevelt. Left: William Hastie was a lawyer, federal judge, law professor, law school dean, and governor of the Virgin Islands.



Above: This 1939 photograph shows some of the governors who served Georgia from 1911 to 1941. They are, left to right, Ed Rivers, Eugene Talmadge, Richard B. Russell, Jr., Clifford Walker, Thomas Hardwick, Hugh Dorsey, and John Slaton.

Georgia's New Deal Governors

The depression years brought new leadership to Georgia. Like the people in the rest of the nation, Georgians based their hopes for a better future on this new leadership.

Richard Russell, Jr.

On June 27, 1931, Winder resident Richard Russell, Jr., succeeded Lamartine Hardman as governor. Administering the oath of office was his father, Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Richard B. Russell, Sr.

Richard B. Russell, Jr., used his experience as a former member and speaker of the Georgia house of representatives to make some needed changes. One of his first acts was to combine 102 state offices into 17 agencies. In an equally daring political move, he combined the boards of trustees of state colleges and universities into one governing group—the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. During the creation of the new system, some colleges were closed while others were combined. Russell appointed Hughes Spalding, an Atlanta lawyer, as the first chairman of the board of regents.

Russell tried to run the state like a successful business. His approach eased some of the problems brought on by the depression. In 1932, Governor

Russell was elected to the U.S. Senate, where he served for the next thirty-eight years. Russell favored national military preparedness and states' rights. He served on the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee, which was responsible for funding government programs. He became a respected advisor to six United States presidents and, when he served as president pro tempore of the Senate, he was third in line for the presidency.

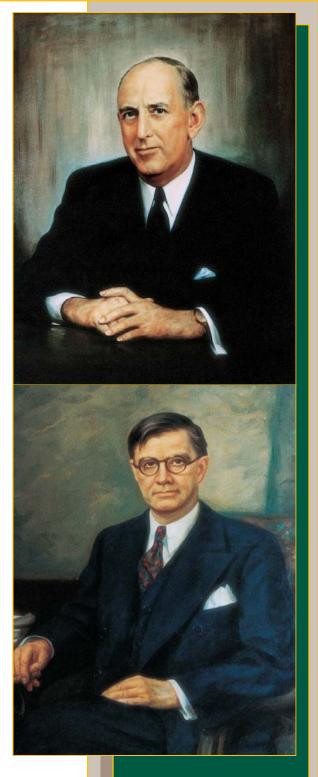
Eugene Talmadge

State government changed greatly when Eugene Talmadge became governor in 1933. The Forsyth farmer, lawyer, and sawmill owner had been elected commissioner of agriculture in 1926 and had served three years in that position. Talmadge was a dramatic politician in the style of Tom Watson. He often compared himself with Watson, especially when trying to get the support of rural voters. You may have heard the expression that politicians "stumped the state" giving speeches to voters. Talmadge actually took a stump with him, a sawed off section of an oak, two feet high and three feet in diameter. He put it in the middle of the crowd, stood on it, and delivered fiery speeches. He often told rural Georgia voters that they had three friends – Sears Roebuck, God Almighty, and Eugene Herman Talmadge.

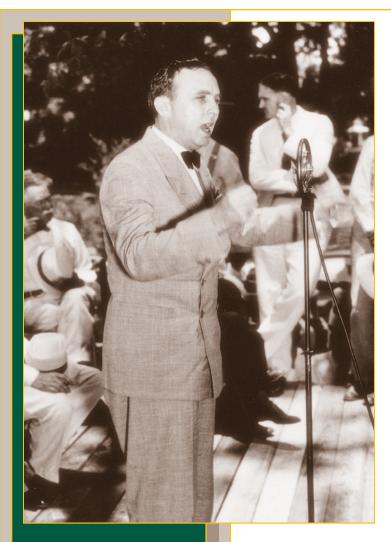
Talmadge was a conservative white supremacist who did not like federal government intervention or government debts. He especially disliked relief efforts, public welfare, and federal assistance programs. After becoming governor, he tried to rid the state of New Deal programs. He used federal funds to build highways more often than to help the unemployed. He reduced property taxes, utility rates, and some license fees.

Talmadge was elected to a second term in 1934 by a landslide. Officials who disagreed with Talmadge were fired and replaced with his supporters. Once, Talmadge ordered the highway commissioner to reduce spending or resign. The commissioner refused. Talmadge called in the National Guard, declared martial law, and had the commissioner physically removed from his office. A Talmadge supporter was named as the new commissioner. When Talmadge refused to follow federal New Deal regulations, the federal government took over New Deal programs in Georgia.

In 1934, during the state's worst textile strike, the governor declared martial law again and used the National Guard to arrest strikers. However, Talmadge's political power plays did not change the fact that Georgia law would not allow him to serve more than two consecutive terms. Because he could not run for governor, Talmadge ran for the U.S. Senate in 1936 against Richard Russell and was soundly defeated.



Top: As governor, Richard Russell, Jr., reorganized state government. **Above:** Eugene Talmadge was a master at campaigning on the "stump."



Above: During the 1936 governor's race, Eurith "Ed" Rivers campaigned across the state in support of New Deal policies.

Pid You Know?

When Arnall became governor in 1943, he was the youngest governor in the nation.

Eurith Rivers

Talmadge's hand-picked successor for governor, Charles Redwine, was beaten by Lanier County resident Eurith "Ed" Rivers. A former newspaperman and speaker of the Georgia house of representatives, Rivers supported President Roosevelt's New Deal programs. He also supported and gained passage of constitutional amendments granting health services for all Georgians, old age pensions, teacher pay raises, a seven-month school year, homestead exemptions for taxes, and expansion of the state's highway system.

Under Rivers's leadership, electrical services were expanded to rural areas of the state. Georgia moved from the lowest-ranked state to the top of the list in the number of rural electrification associations. While he was in office, the State Bureau of Unemployment Compensation was created, allowing Georgians to receive unemployment benefits.

After Rivers's re-election in 1938, he ran into problems financing many of his improvement programs. Although the budget was reduced by 25 percent, he was able to convince the legislature to create the Georgia Housing Authority and obtain federal funds to build public housing. It was during this time that Atlanta's Techwood Homes and University Homes were built. Several

other Georgia cities also began public housing programs.

During Rivers's second term, there were political scandals and charges of corruption. Some staff members did not follow proper procedures in awarding highway contracts. Some of them sold prison pardons. Many of Rivers's appointees and staff members were charged with corrupt practices, and the charges reflected poorly on the governor.

Talmadge Re-Elected

In 1940, Eugene Talmadge ran for governor again and was elected. Talmadge had softened his anti-Roosevelt stand and began using modified versions of New Deal legislation. The state's economy grew. Then, a series of events angered the voters and put Georgia in a bad light.

A Talmadge supporter was an instructor at the University of Georgia. He told the governor that one of the deans at the university and the president of the Teachers College in Statesboro (now known as Georgia Southern University) had plans to **integrate** the school (open it to members of all races and ethnic groups). Talmadge convinced the board of regents to fire the two individuals. He also got rid of several members of the board of regents who publicly opposed his interference in the university system.

There was a great deal of national publicity, strongly against the governor's stand. The situation so offended the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools that they voted to take away the accreditation of white Georgia colleges. Georgians were upset with both the association and the governor.

Ellis Arnall

Ellis Gibbs Arnall defeated Talmadge in the governor's race in 1942, taking office in 1943. A native of Newnan, Arnall had served as the state's attorney general. A constitutional amendment passed during Governor Talmadge's third term made Arnall the first Georgia governor to serve a four-year term.

Arnall quickly took steps to correct the problems with university accreditation. The General Assembly passed a constitutional amendment that made the board of regents a separate entity, no longer under the influence of the governor's office. The terms of regents were staggered so there were always

experienced members serving on the board. These actions led the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to restore accreditation to Georgia's colleges and universities.

Arnall also removed the prison system from the governor's control. He established a board of corrections to oversee state prisons and a pardon and parole board to handle those requests. Arnall abolished the poll tax, and, under his leadership, a new state constitution was adopted in 1945.

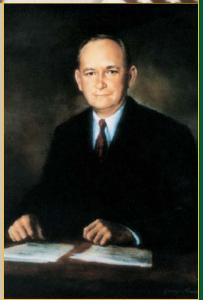
Governor Arnall is probably best known for leading Georgia to become the first state in the nation to grant eighteen-year-olds the right to vote. When young men were drafted into the armed forces during World War II, Arnall argued that youths old enough to fight for their country were old enough to vote for their country's leadership.

les lour turn

- 1. What were the four aims of New Deal legislation?
- 2. What did the term stretch out mean in the textile mills?
- 3. Who made up Roosevelt's "Black Cabinet" during the New Deal?
- 4. Which New Deal governor do you think brought about the most changes in Georgia?
- 5. Which New Deal programs do you think were most important?

 List your top five choices and indicate why each made your list.





Top: This photograph shows
Eugene Talmadge in his
trademark white shirtsleeves
and red suspenders. Above:
Ellis Arnall was the first
Georgia governor to serve a
four-year term.

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- the reasons for World War II,
- why the United States entered the war.
- how the war affected Georgia's economy,
- how Georgians contributed to the war effort, and
- vocabulary terms: isolationism, dictator, appeasement, World War II, Holocaust, ration, and G. I. Bill.

Below: In this photograph, Adolf Hitler is shown in a triumphal procession after the fall of France in June 1941.

Section 4

World War II

The United States was still struggling to get out of the Great Depression when war broke out in Europe in September 1939. In the late 1930s, the United States tried to maintain a policy of **isolationism** (not taking part in the affairs of other nations), but that came to an end as the war came to America's shores.

Increasing Tensions

The 1930s was a time for the rise of **dictators**, individuals who wanted to rule countries through military might. Four nations—Japan, Italy, Germany, and the Soviet Union—were trying to expand their power and territory. Germany was led by Adolf Hitler, Italy was led by Benito Mussolini, Japan was led by Emperor Hirohito, and the Soviet Union was led by Joseph Stalin.

Japan was an industrial nation, but it did not have basic raw materials such as coal, iron ore, and rubber. In 1937, Japan seized most of the coastal area of China. It then announced a "new order in Asia." It would take the resources it needed from China.

In 1935, Benito Mussolini sent Italian troops into the African nation of Ethiopia. In 1939, Italy conquered Albania.

Adolf Hitler came to power in Germany in 1933. He had promised to make Germany a great nation again and to regain the territory it lost after World



War I. Hitler began a program of economic improvements. He also rebuilt the German military forces, which violated the treaty ending World War I. Because he believed that German Jews were responsible for Germany's defeat in World War I, he began to persecute them. At the same time, Hitler and his followers (called Nazis) silenced all opponents.

In 1936, Hitler and Mussolini signed a treaty and formed the "Berlin-Rome Axis." In 1940, Japan joined the Axis Powers.

By 1930, Joseph Stalin had seized control in the Soviet Union. He quickly built up the country's industries, but he also forced the peasants onto collective farms. In 1939, Hitler and Stalin signed a nonagression pact; that is, they agreed not to wage war against each other.

Below: This man is standing on a London roof looking for enemy planes. Bottom: This World War II poster celebrates the bravery of British fighter pilots during the Battle of Britain.

The War Begins

In Hitler's quest for power, he tried to unite all the Germanic peoples of Europe. By early 1938, he had seized the Rhineland (an area between France and Germany) and annexed Austria. In 1938, Great Britain and France agreed to let Hitler take over the Sudetenland, a part of Czechoslovakia. This action by Great Britain and France was appeasement, the policy of giving an aggressor what it wants in order to avoid war. When Hitler seized the rest of Czechoslovakia in 1939, Great Britain and France warned Hitler not to seize any more territory.

On September 1, 1939, German

troops invaded Poland. Shortly thereafter, Great Britain and France declared war on Germany. But before Great Britain or France could send troops, German and Soviet forces had divided Poland between them. The Soviet Army also took over Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania and invaded Finland. World War II had begun.

Hitler struck again in April 1940. Within a month, the German army conquered Denmark and Norway. In May, German troops overran Holland, Bel-

People in England were urged to eat carrots during the war so that they would have better nighttime vision to watch for enemy planes.

gium, Luxembourg, and a large part of France. The British Army retreated from the continent across the English Channel. Hitler then made plans to invade Great Britain. His air force heavily bombed British cities from August through December 1940. The Royal Air Force, however, was able to hold off the German bombers, and Great Britain was not invaded.





Top: The Italian foreign minister (left) and the German foreign minister in Berlin for the signing of the alliance between Germany, Italy, and Japan. Above: Lend-Lease supplies—in this case, bacon—being unloaded in England.

A Neutral United States

President Roosevelt watched as Japan, Italy, the Soviet Union, and Germany carved up the world. Most Americans felt strongly that we should not get involved, but Great Britain was an ally and Roosevelt wanted to help. He thought that only the British could stop Hitler from crossing the Atlantic Ocean.

In the 1930s, Congress had passed neutrality acts to keep the United States out of another war. One of those acts would not allow the president to sell weapons to any warring nation. In 1939, Roosevelt asked for and got a new law that allowed the Allied Powers to buy arms if they paid cash and carried them

in their own ships. In 1940, Roosevelt gave Great Britain old weapons and traded fifty destroyers for British bases in the Western Hemisphere.

In early 1941, when the British ran out of cash with which to buy American supplies, Congress authorized Roosevelt to lend or lease arms to them. After Germany turned on and invaded the Soviet Union in June 1941, Roosevelt gave lend-lease aid to the Soviets as well. To make sure the supplies got to them, Roosevelt built air bases in Greenland and Iceland. Planes from these bases tracked German submarines. Roosevelt also ordered the U.S. Navy to convoy (escort) British ships part of the way across the Atlantic. In late 1941, German submarines sank an American destroyer. The United States was engaged in an undeclared war that was about to become a declared one.

"A Day That Will Live in Infamy"

Meanwhile, American-Japanese relations got worse. To protest Japanese expansion, the United States stopped exporting airplanes, metals, aircraft parts, and aviation gasoline to Japan. After Japan invaded French Indochina in 1941, Roosevelt seized all Japanese property in the United States.

Badly needing the oil that Roosevelt had cut off, Japan decided to invade the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia) in late 1941. The only force that could stop the Japanese was the U.S. Navy stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

December 7, 1941, was a peaceful Sunday morning. Many of the sailors stationed on the island were eating breakfast or going about their early morning routines. Suddenly, around 8:00 a.m., the air was filled with the sounds of machine gun fire and low level bombing. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was over by 10:00 a.m., but the damage to the Navy's Pacific fleet was incredible. All eight battleships in port were destroyed or severely damaged; more than 180 planes were destroyed. Over two thousand people were killed, and over one thousand were wounded. President Roosevelt called the attack a "day that will live in infamy."

On December 8, Congress declared war on Japan, and the United States entered World War II. A few days later, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States. Now it was a full-fledged war between the *Allied Powers*



Pid You Know?

Almost half of the U.S.
casualties at Pearl Harbor
were aboard the U.S.S.
Arizona, which sank with
most of her crew aboard.
Today the National Park
Service manages the site of
the Arizona's sinking as a
national monument.

led by the United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union and the Axis Powers of Germany, Japan, and Italy. Joining the Allies meant the United States had to fight on two fronts, facing Germany and Italy in Europe and Africa and Japan in the Pacific.

American Military Forces

Millions of Americans enlisted in the armed forces after the Pearl Harbor attack. The nation's military ef-

fort in World War II was not limited to any one group, race, or gender. Close to 400,000 Mexican Americans served in the armed forces during the war.

Over 330,000 women served in the war in jobs that ranged from nurses to clerks to aides and drivers. Women in World War II were not allowed to go into combat, but they took over jobs to free men to fight on the battle-fronts. The WASPs (Women's Air Force Service Pilots) trained as pilots and delivered planes from factories to airfields. They also served as pilots testing the newest planes the Army Air Force was building, and they flew target planes, pulling targets behind them for male pilots to practice on.

Above: Within two hours,
Japanese bombers destroyed,
sank, or capsized 18 ships
and over 180 airplanes. Most
of the casualties were on the
U.S.S. Arizona.

Of Special Interest



In World War I, Eugene Bullard had made history in France as the first African American to fly in combat. World War II did not represent much of an improvement in the area of discrimination in the military. However, one group of flyers made the Pentagon rethink its position on the role of African Americans in combat. The military referred to their flying as an "experiment," but the Germans, who faced the fighters, called them the "Black Bird Men."

Each flight crew was composed of six men. Working out of a training facility at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, these men made history as the "Tuskegee Airmen." At first, funding for the training facility was a huge problem. Few gave the program any chance of succeeding. But the training continued under the direction of Chief Flight Instructor Charles Anderson who, twelve years earlier, had taught himself to fly in a plane he purchased.

One day in May 1941, Eleanor Roosevelt arrived at Tuskegee to visit while the president rested at Warm Springs. She arrived at the airstrip, visited briefly, and told the small assembled group that she wanted to fly with Mr. Anderson. After the successful and highly publicized flight, the training facility received money to continue its program.

After their training, the airmen were assigned as escorts for allied bombers. At first, the bomber flight crews wanted nothing to do with their escorts, but the airmen's reputation quickly spread, and flyers clamored to have the Tuskegee Airmen by their side. In over two hundred missions, the flight squadron never lost a single bomber they were escorting.

By the end of the war, close to 1,000 young African Americans had completed the training. Their skills were demonstrated by shooting down or damaging over 4,000 enemy planes and flying over 1,500 missions, while losing only 98 pilots. One hundred fifty pilots received decorations, including Flying Crosses, Purple Hearts, and Silver Stars.

Many of these pilots' names are familiar today. Daniel "Chappie" James became America's first black four-star general. General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., became the Air Force's first black lieutenant general. Others included Coleman Young, who served as Detroit's mayor; cable television mongol Percy Sutton; and Roscoe Brown, president of Bronx Community College in New York.

The Tuskegee "experiment" was a success and led the way for the integration of the armed forces.

Restrictions and segregation reduced the participation of African Americans in the war effort at first. Those who did participate served in segregated units. But military records indicate that approximately 700,000 African Americans served in the Army, 165,000 in the Navy, 5,000 in the Coast Guard, and 17,000 in the Marines. The Red Ball Express, a trucking unit that supplied gasoline and supplies to the American soldiers moving through France and into Germany, was manned primarily by African Americans. The Tuskegee Airmen flew more than 15,000 sorties and completed 1,578 missions with the Army Air Force.

Native Indians had their role in America's war efforts too. Over 425 Navajo served in the Marine Corps as communication specialists using their native

The highest-ranking African
American officer in the armed
forces was Brigadier General
Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who
was the first African American
general in the U.S. Army.



language as a code that was never broken. Navajo "Code Talkers" took part in every assault the U.S. Marines conducted in the Pacific from 1942 to 1945. When the war ended, the Navajo were told to keep their part in the war effort a secret in case the code was needed again. It was not until 1969 that the truth about the role of the Navajo in World War II became public knowledge.

The War in Europe

In late 1942, British and American troops invaded North Africa and won control of the area by May 1943. From Africa, the Allied armies moved into Sicily and Italy. The Italian people overthrew Mussolini and joined the Allies. Germany and Japan were the remaining Axis Powers.

In 1943, American General Dwight D. Eisenhower was named Supreme Commander of Allied Forces. It was his responsibility to coordinate and plan the Allies' efforts to recapture Europe. On June 6,



Top and above: During
World War II, women served
in all branches of the service.
At home, they worked in
factories, as nurses, journalists, farmers, mail deliverers,
garbage collectors, builders,
and mechanics. Women
made major contributions to
the war effort.



Above: On June 6, 1944,
Allied forces invaded the
beaches of Normandy, France,
in an action called Operation
Overload. Future President
Dwight D. Eisenhower led the
assault that involved 4,000
ships, 11,000 planes, and
176,000 soldiers.

1944, D-Day, Allied forces landed at Normandy in northern France. By early 1945, Allied troops had pushed the German army out of France and across the Rhine River to Germany. At the same time, the Russian Army recaptured four smaller countries that were part of the German alliance: Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, and Romania.

Europe was freed from Hitler's control in April 1945, when the Soviet and American troops came together at the river Elbe in central Germany. Adolf Hitler committed suicide on April 30, and the last German forces surrendered to the Allies in May.



Georgia Loses a Friend

President Roosevelt had been a frequent visitor to Georgia, spending time at the "Little White House" in Warm Springs. On March 30, the president returned to the Little White House. He planned to rest and work on a speech for the United Nations. On April 24, Roosevelt was sitting for a portrait. Suddenly, the president put his hand to his head and said, "I have a terrific headache." At 5:48 p.m., a stunned nation learned of the death of the man who had led

the country through recovery from the depression, through the New Deal, and to the brink of victory in World War II. He had suffered a massive stroke.

As Roosevelt's body was carried by train from Warm Springs back to the nation's capital, the tracks were lined by thousands of crying Georgians who had come to think of Roosevelt as one of their own. Whole families stood alongside the railroad tracks to say goodbye to their beloved president. And, it was not just Georgia. All along the route to Washington, Americans stood with their hands over their hearts in a final salute.

Vice President Harry S Truman became president on the death of Roosevelt and was the nation's commander-in-chief during the final months of World War II.

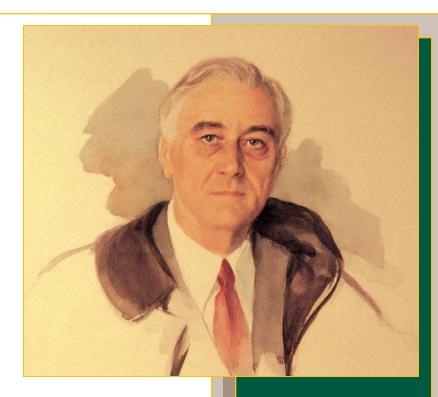
The War in the Pacific

By early 1942, Japan had captured Burma, Hong Kong, Malaya, Thailand, and the Philippines. Japan threatened New Guinea and Australia before its advance in the Pacific was stopped.

Allied forces began to retake the Pacific islands, the Philippines, and Burma. In the summer of 1945, Allied forces began daily air raids on Japan. On July 26, Allied leaders demanded that Japan surrender. Japan refused. To bring an earlier end to the war and avoid the loss of perhaps half a million American lives, President Truman authorized the use of a new weapon. On August 6, the *Enola Gay*, a U.S. bomber, dropped

an atomic bomb on Hiroshima. It virtually destroyed the city of 255,000 people. Still, the Japanese refused to surrender. A second atomic bomb was dropped on the city of Nagasaki on August 9. Japan surrendered to the Allies on August 15, 1945. The bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were the first and last times to date that atomic warfare has been used to settle differences between nations. At last, World War II was over.

The war had been costly. Over 50 million people—military and civilian—died in the war. The United States lost over 300,000 soldiers; Great Britain lost over 450,000. The Soviet Union lost some 20 million people during the war. In addition to casualties, the war cost a great deal of money. The United States alone spent over \$360 billion.





Top: President Roosevelt was sitting for this portrait, now unfinished, when he was stricken. Above: A U.S. Navy corpsman helps a wounded Marine on Guam. Japan captured Guam in 1942; the Allies were not able to retake it until 1944.

American Spotlight

Carl Vinson, Father of the Two-Ocean Navy

It is impossible to review World War II

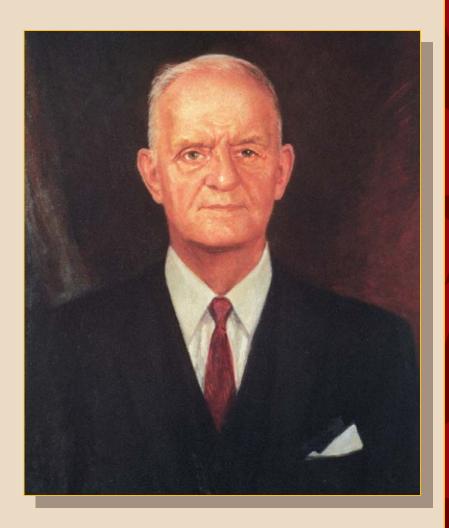
without examining the contributions of one of Georgia's most influential leaders, Carl Vinson. Vinson is often referred to as the "father of the two-ocean navy." He served twenty-five consecutive terms representing Georgia in the U.S. House of Representatives, from 1914 to 1965. When he retired, he had established a record for longevity in the House.

Vinson, a native of Baldwin County, served as chairman of the House Naval Affairs Committee for 16 years and its successor, the House Armed Services Committee for 14 years. Even before World War II, Georgia's economy had grown to depend heavily on the state's military installations, and Vinson represented Georgia's interest in the military through his committee work.

Vinson was a major influence in promoting a strong national defense. Alarmed by rising tensions in Europe, President Roosevelt and Vinson worked to increase the country's military readiness. Almost two years before Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, Vinson maneuvered two important bills through Congress. One bill expanded the

naval aviation system to 10,000 planes, trained 16,000 pilots, and established 20 air bases. The second piece of legislation eased labor restrictions in the shipbuilding industry and allowed faster construction of navy ships.

Even after World War II, Vinson continued his dominance in Congress, pushing for a strong defense throughout the Cold War with the Soviet Union. In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson awarded Carl Vinson the Presidential Medal of



Above: Congressman Carl Vinson was a powerful force in the growth of America's land, sea, and air forces.

Freedom. After serving for over 50 years in the nation's Congress, Vinson retired to his Milledgeville farm in 1965. In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon honored Vinson by naming the country's third nuclear carrier for him. He died in 1981.

The Holocaust

In the spring of 1945, as Allied troops pushed into Poland, Austria, and Germany, nothing could have prepared them for what they found. Auschwitz, Buckenwald, Dachau, Treblinka, Bergen-Belsen, and other concentration camps were set up by the Nazis as the "final solution to the Jewish problem." Those who were left alive in the camps were emaciated skeletons from years of starvation, disease, cruel treatment, and forced labor.

The Holocaust was the name given to the systematic extermination (killing) of 6 million Jews. An additional 5-6 million people, labeled as "undesirables," were also killed by the Nazis. In the camps, many died from starvation; others died from disease, mistreatment, and medical experiments. Prisoners, including children, were gassed in chambers they thought were showers. Their bodies were incinerated in huge ovens or thrown into mass graves. The deaths of these Jews, Poles, Czechs, Russians, Gypsies, homosexuals, and the mentally or physically disabled all fit Hitler's plan to rid Europe of what he called "inferior" people.

Those who survived the German concentration camps had a daily reminder of the horrors they experienced—a number branded into their arms.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, established by an act of Congress, opened in Washington, D.C., in April 1993. The museum was created as a memorial to the 6 million Jews and millions of other victims who perished in the Holocaust.

Georgia During World War II

After the United States's declaration of war, over 320,000 Georgians between the ages of 21 and 35 put on military uniforms. Of that number, 7,388 died in battle. Eight Georgians received the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military decoration.

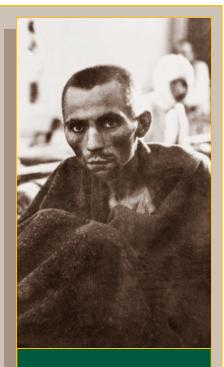
A Boost to the Economy

World War II brought prosperity to Georgia. Millions of federal dollars poured into the state, strengthening the economy. Because of its climate and the influence of politicians like Senator Richard Russell, Jr., Senator Walter F. George, and Representative Carl Vinson, the state became the site of several military installations.

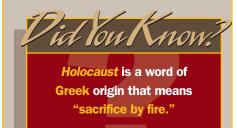
Major military bases included Fort Benning in Columbus, Camp Gordon in Augusta, Fort Stewart and Hunter Air Field in Savannah, and Warner Robins Air Field near Macon. Airmen from Glynco Naval Air Station, near Brunswick, flew blimps along the southern Atlantic coast in search of German submarines.

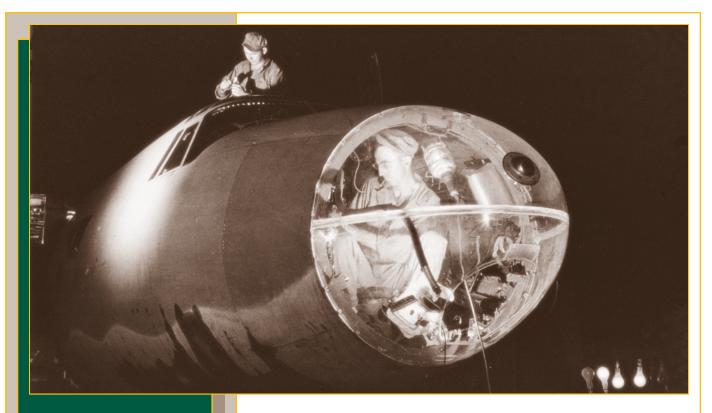
In fact in April 1942, the war came frighteningly close to Georgia's shores. A German submarine sank the S.S. *Oklahoma*, a merchant marine vessel, and the Esso *Baton Rouge* tanker off the coast of St. Simons Island. The community rallied quickly, and fishing boats and yachts raced to the waters to pick up survivors of both boats.

Fort McPherson, in the Atlanta area, was a major induction center for newly drafted soldiers from all over the country. A military hospital, which had been



Above: The German government set up concentration camps to imprison and later kill Jews, Gypsies, other victims of ethnic and racial hatred, and political opponents of Nazism. This is a survivor of the Gusen camp in Austria.





Above: Aircraft mechanics work on the nose and cockpit of a B-26 bomber at Warner Robins Air Field near Macon in July 1943.

Vid You Know!

During 1943 alone, school children across the country bought enough stamps and bonds to pay for 13,500 airplanes and 44,200 jeeps.

used in World War I, was reopened in Atlanta. In nearby Clayton County, Fort Gillem, an army storage facility and railroad yard, began operation.

In 1943, the Cobb County Airport became the Marietta Army Airfield. At Fort Oglethorpe, some of the 150,000 women who served in the WAAC (Women's Army Auxiliary Corp, later known as WACs) trained to become postal workers, clerks, typists, switchboard operators, code clerks, and drivers or aides.

In Marietta, 30,000 men and women built B-29 bombers at the Bell Bomber Plant. Thousands of Georgians were also employed in automobile and textile plants that were being used to produce military vehicles and uniforms. The Atlanta airport became an air base in 1941, and Delta Airlines named Atlanta the home of its fast growing fleet.

Georgians Support the War Effort

Georgia farmers planted peanuts for their oil, grew vegetables, and raised cotton and livestock to help feed the country and its allies. By 1944, the annual farm income was \$454, over three times what it had been in 1940.

Gasoline, shoes, and food items such as meat, butter, and sugar were rationed; that is, their consumption was limited. Women used leg makeup because it was hard to get silk and nylon stockings. Georgia joined the rest of the nation in donating 13 million pints of blood for the war wounded.

Children and young people helped in the war effort too. Students collected everyday items soldiers might need like toothbrushes or a washcloth, soap, pencils, or small writing pads. In some schools, students made candles to send to Great Britain, where much of the household electricity had been destroyed by German air raids.

Spotlight on the Economy

Georgia's Wartime Industries



A large part of Georgia's contribution in World War II came from the military installations in our state, which trained men and women to function in a variety of military activities. Georgia's thirteen military installations add over \$25 billion to Georgia's economy each year.

But, as World War II opened, industries in Georgia were also contributing to the war effort. One effort was the building of Liberty ships at Brunswick and Savannah shipyards. President Roosevelt named the cargo ships "Liberty ships" after Patrick Henry's famous quotation, and the ships were essential to the war effort. The first of Georgia's Liberty ships was launched in November 1942—the U.S.S. James Oglethorpe, which was sunk by a German submarine the next year. In all, eighty-eight Liberty ships were built in Savannah by 15,000 workers, many of whom were women.

In Brunswick, over 16,000 men and women worked around the clock in 1943 and 1944 on six ships at a time. In December 1944, they set a national record by building seven ships in just one month. The crews even worked on Christmas Day and donated their checks for that day to the war effort. In all, Brunswick's shipyards produced ninetynine Liberty ships. Both of Georgia's port cities can be proud of their tremendous contributions to the war effort.

Another massive effort was undertaken at Warner Robins Air Force Base. During the war years, 23,670 employees repaired thousands of planes and trained 60,000 field **Above:** In Marietta, a bomber plant was built to produce B-29 aircraft, called the "Superfortress" because of its size and bomb-carrying capacity.

mechanics who were deployed throughout the world wherever there was fighting. They also supplied needed equipment like spark plugs, parachutes, and radio sets, even small arms.

While coastal Georgians were building ships, Marietta was transformed from a bedroom community of Atlanta to a major industrial area. In spring 1943, Bell Aircraft Company began assembling B-29 bombers for the U.S. Army Air Force. The bomber plant was the largest facility in the Deep South, with over 4.2 million square feet. Between the end of 1943 and the close of the war, over 28,158 employees finished 668 planes.

In addition to those major efforts, many other mills and factories in the state switched to making war supplies, weapons, equipment, and even military vehicles. While Georgia did not enter this period as a major industrial state, at the close of World War II, the industrial base in Georgia was fully developed. A boom in industry and manufacturing after the close of the war led to some of the state's most prosperous times. As the decade drew to a close, more Georgians were engaged in manufacturing than in agriculture for the first time in the state's history.

The popular student magazine, *The Weekly Reader*, kept students informed about the war and had instructions for spotting enemy planes. Students were encouraged to save their money and buy war bonds and defense stamps to finance the war effort.

Students were also expected to help plant, maintain, harvest, and even can foods from the family's "Victory Garden." Young people took children's wagons and collected any scrap metals along the roadside or in vacant fields. Those scraps were melted down and reused in American factories. Children

picked milkweed floss, which was used in making life jackets and clothing for the sailors and soldiers.

Figure 40 Social Effects of World War II

- In 1944, Congress passed the Serviceman's Readjustment Act. The G. I. Bill, as it was called, made low-cost loans to veterans who wanted to buy homes or start businesses. The G.I. Bill also gave all returning soldiers the opportunity for a college education, which, in turn, changed job availability and heralded a new middle working class.
- In 1943, Congress imposed a withholding system on taxpayers. Federal income tax was withheld from workers' pay and sent directly to the U.S. Treasury. The number of taxpayers jumped from 4 million in 1939 to 42.7 million in 1945.
- Racial segregation was no longer acceptable to returning African American soldiers.
- Women who had experienced a new sense of freedom and independence were not ready to leave the workplace and return to the homemaker roles that had been their only option before the war. And, new inventions were releasing women from many of the time-consuming "homemaking" responsibilities.
- The horrors of the Holocaust forced Americans to re-examine their policy of isolationism.

POW Camps in Georgia

Many Georgians do not realize that many of our military bases were also POW (Prisoner of War) camps for German, Austrian, and Italian soldiers captured during the war. Fort Oglethorpe, Fort Benning, Fort Gordon, Fort Stewart, and Camp Wheeler provided housing for hundreds of POWs. At one point during the war, there were over four thousand prisoners. POWs received housing, medical care, food, and canteen visits. In some places, the POWs had educational opportunities; in others, they took part in work programs, toiling in fields or nearby factories.

At the end of the war, the POWs were "re-educated" about what to expect when they returned to their war-torn countries. Some of the prisoners, when released, chose to make Georgia their permanent home.

The War's Effects on Society

Once the United States declared war on Japan and joined the Allies, the nation turned its full attention to the war effort. Almost overnight, women replaced men in the workplace, rationing became a way of life, and everyone (including children) was expected to share in ensuring an American, and an Allied, victory. In addition, war production pulled the United States out of the last stages of the Great Depression and pushed the throttle fully open on the economy.

When the war finally ended in 1945, many changes faced the nation and returning GIs (see Figure 40). The war changed the role of women and helped attack prejudice and discrimination.

les lour turn

- **1.** Why did President Roosevelt feel so strongly about helping the British?
- 2. What event finally led the United States to enter the war?
- What events led to the surrender of Japan?
- 4. Which military installation was located in Columbus?

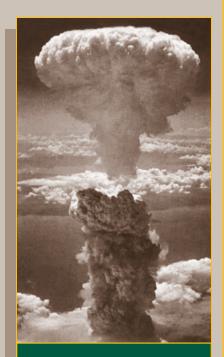
A Final Note

Our Constitution ensures that we have the freedom to believe as we wish. The pledge that is said daily in our schools along with the words on the coins in our pockets—"In God We Trust"—are reminders for us to have **respect for our creator**. In a sermon given about the 1942 Bataan Death March, in which thousands of Filipinos and Americans died or were imprisoned, William T. Cummings said, "There are no atheists in foxholes." What do you think he meant by that comment?

In World War II, 2,278 Catholic priests, 243 rabbis, and 5,620 Protestant chaplains served our country. In what ways do you think the military Chaplain Corps helped soldiers maintain respect for their creator?

Chapter Summary

- The 1920s, known as the Roaring Twenties, was a time of prohibition, illegal liquor, mobs and speakeasies, flappers, jazz, and the blues.
- The prosperity of the 1920s ended with the stock market crash.
- Failures of banks and businesses caused massive, widespread unemployment across the country.
- After Roosevelt's election, a series of New Deal programs put people back to work, provided insurance and pensions for retirees, and delivered electrical power to the nation's rural areas.
- During this period, most Georgia governors supported New Deal legislation.
- Governor Talmadge did not at first support Roosevelt's economic policies, but he later softened his opposition.
- World War II broke out in Europe in 1939, and the United States entered the war in 1941 after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.
- Germany surrendered in May 1945, and Japan followed suit in August 1945.
- During the war, the economies of both the United States and Georgia prospered, pulling the country and the state out of the Great Depression.
- World War II made the United States a superpower and changed the nature of the American work force and the roles of women.



Above: In August 1945, the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were destroyed by atomic bombs in an attempt by the United States to shorten the war.

Chapter Review

Reviewing People, Places, and Terms



Use the following terms in a paragraph describing the United States during the Great Depression and World War II.

- 1. dictator
- 2. Great Depression
- 3. isolationism
- 4. laissez-faire
- 5. New Deal
- 6. ration
- 7. rural electrification
- 8. Social Security Act
- 9. stock market

ts

Understanding the Facts

- 1. What was Georgia's first radio station?
- 2. What natural disaster struck Georgia's cotton growers during the 1920s?
- 3. What were some of the reasons that African Americans moved in large numbers from the South to the North during this era?
- **4.** Name two ways in which President Hoover tried to help the economy recover.
- **5.** Name three problems in the U.S. economy that led to the Great Depression.
- 6. After President Roosevelt took office, what was his first act to prevent the nation's banks from failing?
- 7. What New Deal laws were intended to help the nation's workers?

- 8. Which Georgia governor refused to go along with New Deal programs?
- 9. In what ways did the United States protest Japanese aggression in the Far East?
- 10. What was the country's "Little White House" during Roosevelt's presidency?

Developing Critical Thinking



- 1. Do you believe that another stock market crash is possible in this country today? Why or why not?
- 2. Do you think a guaranteed minimum wage is a good thing? Why or why not?
- 3. What might have been the impact on history if the United States had not entered World War II?
- 4. Why do you think gasoline, shoes, women's nylons, and certain food items were rationed during World War II?
- 5. How do you think minority soldiers felt when they returned to their own country after the war and found segregation and discrimination still in place?

Checking It Out



- 1. Check local historical records and find out what CCC projects took place in your county and whether those projects are still in place today. Which major CCC projects happened in the section of the state where you now live?
- 2. Research the Bataan Death March and answer the following question: Could the May 6, 1942.

- surrender of Corregidor have been prevented? How? What role did Douglas MacArthur have?
- 3. Use your research skills to find information on the Manhattan Project. What would have been the likely outcome of the Japanese war had we not developed and used the atomic bomb? How might our world be different today?
- 4. Use your research skills to find out more about Winnie the Pooh. Did you know she was an actual bear and was a mascot for a Canadian regiment of soldiers? Pooh died in 1934 at age 20, but she was the very bear A. A. Milne wrote about.

Writing Across the Curriculum



- 1. Prepare a short report on one of the New Deal programs or laws. Include information on when the program was created or when the law was passed, its purpose, and its effectiveness.
- 2. Political cartoons and propaganda slogans were widely used in World War II.



"Loose lips sink ships" was one favorite that reminded people not to talk about war secrets to anyone, especially civilian workers in defense plants. Examine some of the cartoons of the famous World War II cartoonist Bill Mauldin and some of the recruitment posters used in World War II, then try your own hand. Either be a cartoonist and represent an attitude about any event that happened in Georgia during this period or be an editorialist and develop wartime slogans for Georgia during this period. Try to prepare at least two cartoons or two slogans that will teach your classmates some facts about this chapter's time period.



1. The number of shares of stock traded on the New York Stock Exchange for certain years between 1920 and 1935 are shown below. Prepare a bar chart using this information. What does the chart suggest about the nation's attitude toward buying stock after the stock market crash?

1920 227,636,000 shares 1925 459,717,623 shares 1929 1,124,800,410 shares 1930 810,632,546 shares 1935 381,635,752 shares

2. Timelines are an important way of looking at history. Use your research skills and prepare a timeline that shows the twenty-five most famous Georgians who were born between 1920 and 1945. The individuals could be politicians, noted sports people, entertainers, or business people. Post the chart so that you can compare the list with the information in upcoming chapters.