



Chapter 28

THE RISE OF TOTALITARIANISM


Changes in Society after WWI

- Cars, telephones, motion pictures and radio brought the world closer together
- Jazz became a popular music form
- Young women, known as flappers, rejected old ways
- Women's lives were made easier by inventions like washing machines and vacuum cleaners






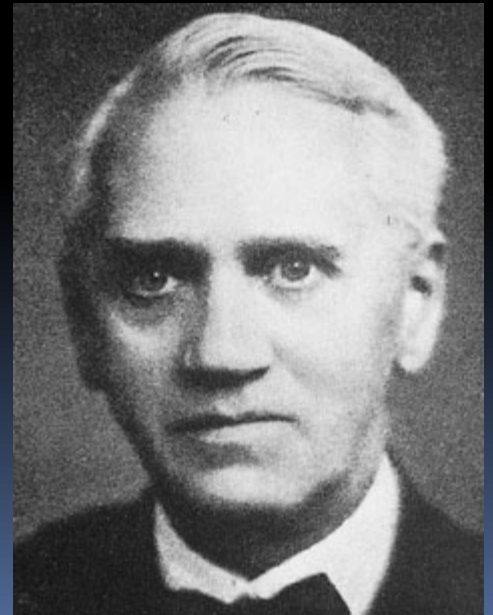
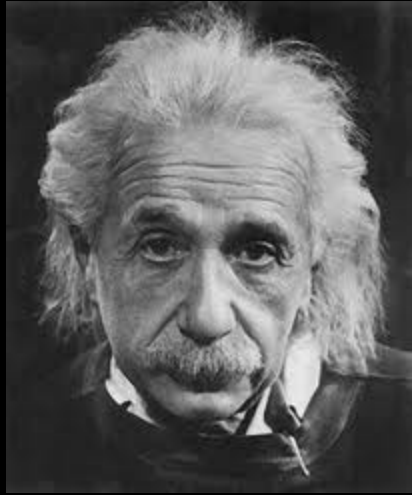
The New Literature

- TS Eliot's *The Wasteland* portrayed the modern world as spiritually empty
 - Hemingway's *The Sun Also Rises* depicts the lack of conviction in young people
 - These post war authors became known as the Lost Generation
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New Scientific Theories

- Marie Curie – radioactivity
 - Albert Einstein – relativity
 - Enrico Fermi – atomic fission
 - J Robert Oppenheimer – the atomic bomb
 - Alexander Fleming – penicillin
 - Sigmund Freud - psychoanalysis
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Modern Art and Architecture

- Pablo Picasso – cubism
 - Vasily Kandinsky – abstract
 - Both styles inspired surrealism
 - Bauhaus school of architecture in Germany
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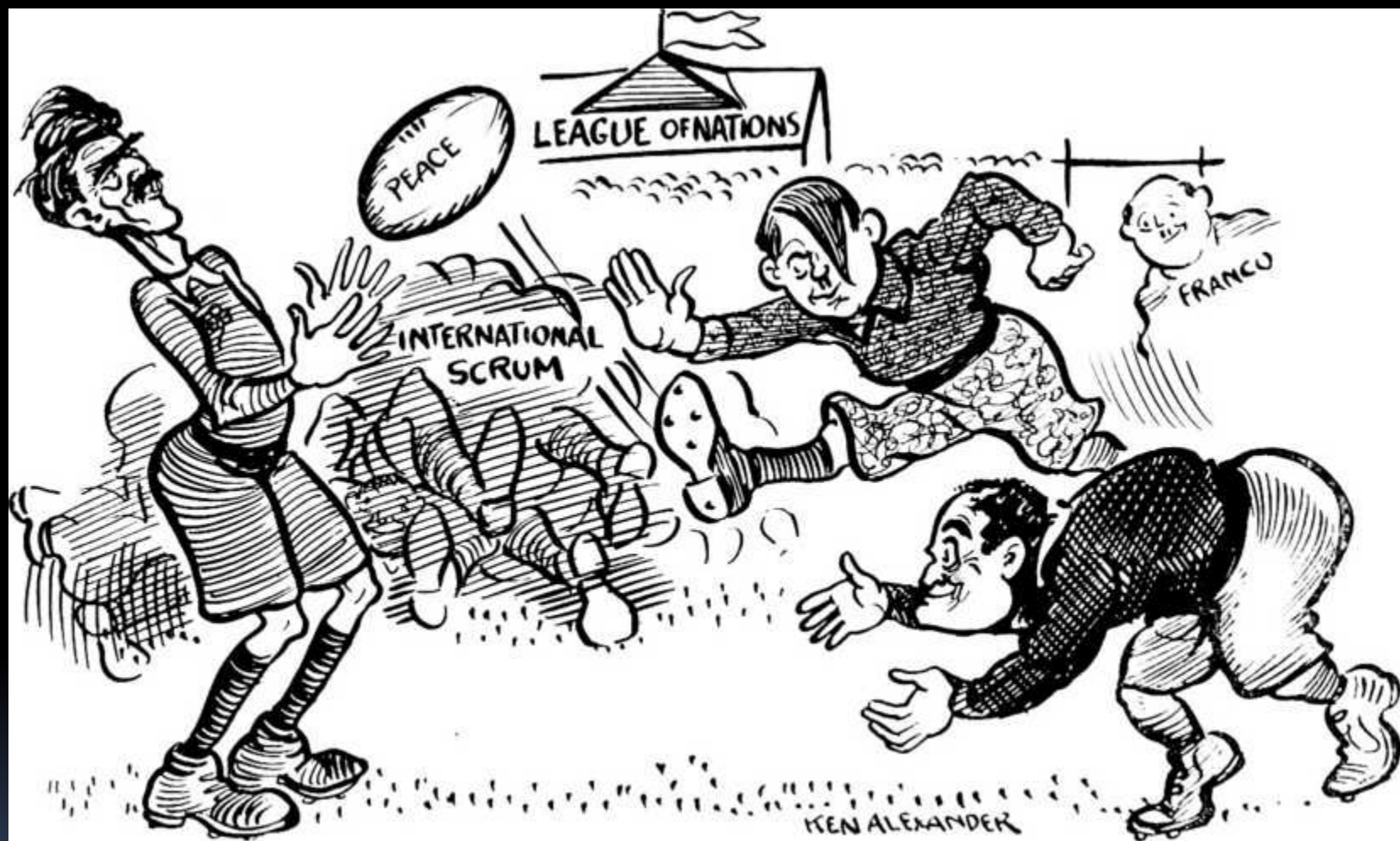


Politics in the Postwar World

- Political struggles between Conservatives and Labour Party
- Most of Ireland became the self-governing Irish Free State
- Quickly changing coalition governments ruled France
- Isolationism and Red Scare in US

Postwar Foreign Policy

- Treaty at Locarno – France and Germany agreed to never make war against each other
- Kellogg-Briand Pact – almost every country in the world agreed to “renounce war as an instrument of foreign policy”
- Difficult to enforce due to:
 1. League of Nations had no armed forces
 2. The US refused to join the League



"The League of Nations would be a referee's retreat, and Geneva a place where nations could kick as much as they liked, and no harm done."

The Great Depression

- Problems in the US economy
 1. Unequal distribution of wealth – families were too poor to buy goods; reduction in production resulting in layoffs
 2. Overproduction – science and technology led to increased crop yields leading to surpluses
 3. Lessening demand for consumer goods



Stock Market Collapse

- Buying stocks on margin
- Panic caused stock sell off
- Billions of dollars in “paper wealth” disappeared



Global Depression

- American bankers stopped making loans and demanded repayment
- The US place tariffs on goods; other nations followed
- World trade dropped by 65%





World Response

- Britain – protective tariffs, increased taxes, lowered interest rates
- France – less dependent on foreign trade, high unemployment led to political instability
- Socialist governments – Denmark, Sweden and Norway sponsored public works

Roosevelt's New Deal

- Public works
- Relief
- Recovery
- Reform





Loss of Faith in Democracy

- As the Depression wore on, people lost faith in the ability of government to solve problems
- Misery and hopelessness created space for extremists who promised radical solutions

Mussolini's Rise to Power

- Criticized Italy's government
- Combat squads (Black Shirts) attacked communists and socialists on the streets
- Played on fear of workers' revolt
- Emmanuel II let Mussolini form a government




Fascist Promises

1. Revive the economy
2. Restore national pride
3. Punish those responsible for hard times



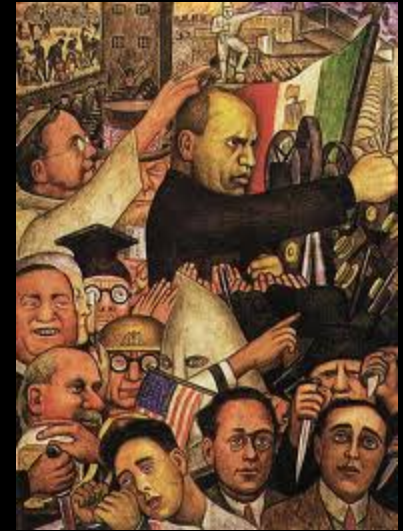


Fascist Ideas

1. Extreme nationalism
 2. Loyalty to an authoritarian leader
 3. Peaceful nations were doomed to be conquered
 4. Each class had a place and function
 5. Uniforms, salutes, mass rallies
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Il Duce's Leadership

- Outlawed all political parties
- Secret police
- Censorship and propaganda – Believe!
Fight! Obey!
- Dictatorship upheld by terror
- State control of a capitalist economy
- First totalitarian state





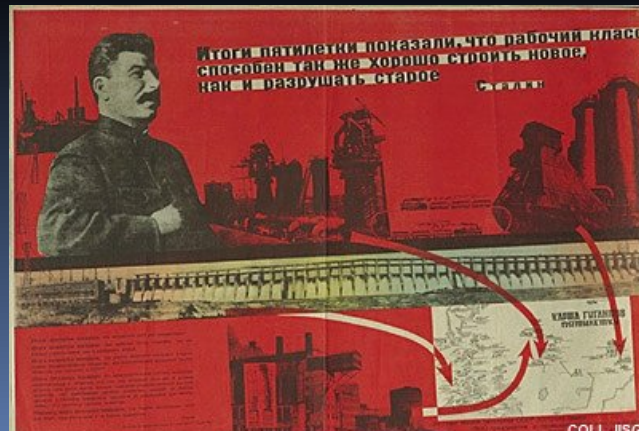
Nature of Fascism

- Authoritarian government
- Glorification of the state
- No emphasis on human rights
- Extreme nationalism
- Violence, warfare, expansionism
- Anti-democratic
- Mussolini projected a sense of power and confidence, revived national pride

What Is Fascism?	
Differences from communism	Society with defined classes, supported by business leaders and wealthy landowners
Similarities to communism	Blind devotion to the state, charismatic leader, use of terror, gained support during economic hard times

The Soviet Union under Stalin

- Imposed government control of the economy
- Five Year Plan – aimed at industrialization
- Command economy – government makes all economic decisions





Mixed Results in Industry

- Factories, power stations and industrial complexes grew
- Oil, coal and steel production increased
- Mining expanded, railroads were built
- Standard of living remained low
- Central planning resulted in shortages/surpluses
- Scarcity of consumer goods

Collectivization in Agriculture

- Forced peasants to farm on state owned farms (collectives)
- Government provided equipment and supplies, peasants provided labor
- Peasants allowed to keep personal belongings, but animals and equipment and animals were turned over to the government
- Peasants resisted by killing animals and burring crops

COLLECTIVISATION - BY SEEYONGCHUN



Stalin's Response

- Blamed wealthy peasants (kulaks)
- Vowed to liquidate the kulaks as a class
- Confiscated their land, sent thousands to labor camps
- Peasant response was subsistence
- Government response was to seize grain
- Extreme famine – 5 to 8 million peasants starved in the Ukraine alone





Victims of the famine in the Ukraine in 1933.



Stalin's Terror Tactics

- Used terror as a weapon
- against own people
- Perpetrated crimes against humanity and violated human rights
- Critics were sent to the gulag
- Great Purge – persecution of party activists, army heroes, industrial managers, writers and critics
- At least 4 million people were purged

Results of the Purge

- Increase in Stalin's power
- Experts in industry, economics, engineering, writers, army officers were sacrificed




Attempts to Control Thought

- Propaganda – “Cult of Personality”
- *Pravda* – “The Truth”
- Censorship – government control of published material
- Socialist realism – showed Soviet life in a positive light
- Russification
- War on religion





Soviet Society under Stalin

- Rule by communist elite
 - All children attended school
 - Free medical care, day care, inexpensive housing
 - Food shortages
 - Women won equality
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Soviet Foreign Policy

- Contradictory and unsuccessful
- Comintern – encourage world wide revolution
- Joined the League of Nations



Germany's Weimar Republic

- Three weaknesses
 1. Lack of strong democratic tradition
 2. Multi-party system
 3. Millions blamed the Weimar government for defeat in WWI and the Treaty of Versailles

Inflation – reparations, printing money – millions saw their savings wiped out

Dawes Plan – which loaned \$200M to stabilize German banks, slowed inflation

Adolph Hitler



- Hitler – Austrian German who fought in WWI
- Hatred Weimar government and Jews
- Organized the Nazi party into fighting squads (storm troopers)
- *Mein Kampf* – My Struggle – outlined Hitler's obsessions of extreme nationalism, racism and anti-Semitism



Hitler Comes to Power

- Political support split between Nazis and communists
- Conservatives turned to Hitler who was appointed chancellor in 1933
- Within a year, Hitler was a dictator
- Suspended civil rights, destroyed communists and socialist parties, disbanded other political parties
- Purge of Nazi party

Third Reich Controls Germany

- To fight the Depression, Hitler launched large public works programs
- Began a swift program of rearmament
- Nazis controlled all aspects of life – government, religion, education
- Secret police (Gestapo) suppressed any opposition
- Nuremberg Laws – Jews were deprived of German citizenship and other rights



Nazi Germany



- *Kristallnacht* – Nazi led mobs attacked Jewish communities all over Germany and Austria
- Nazi Youth – school children were indoctrinated with Nazi ideology
- Women's roles were limited
- German culture was purged – jazz, modern art, Christianity were condemned