

End of the War

The Great War, that is...



Main Ideas

- Combined Allied forces stopped the German offensive
- Peace settlements brought political and territorial changes to Europe and created bitterness and resentment in several nations...leading to more....WAR...!



The Last Year of the War

- Russia had withdrawn from war due to their Revolution...more to come on this
- Germany could now concentrate on the Western Front (trench warfare☹)
- US helped Allied powers with financial and psychological boost



A New German offensive

- Military leader, Erich Ludendorff, tried to break the stalemate, but failed at the Battle of Marne, when Allied troops overcame them
- Germany signed an armistice (truce) in 1918...they had lost



After the truce?

- Germany had to deal with revolutionary forces in its own country:
 - Radical socialists (German Communist Party) did not like policies set up by Social Democrats and they tried to seize Berlin and Munich
 - Social Democrat party crushed the rebels and murdered two of its leaders



The Peace settlements

- Even though the fighting was over, some issues needed to be settled
- In 1919, reps from 27 victorious Allied nations met in Paris (Germany and Russia were not invited...leads to problems later!)
- US President Wilson (and others too) wanted to prevent this from happening again



Wilson's Fourteen Points

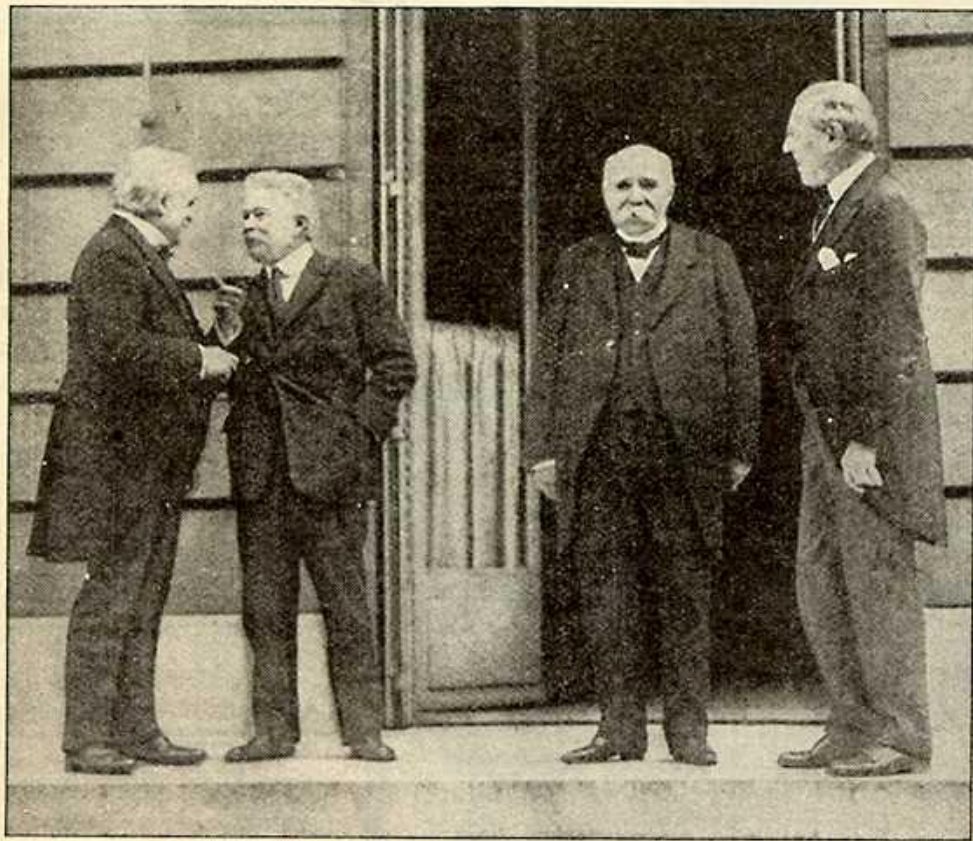
- Very famous folks
- Above all, “No more secrecy, and more cooperation!!”
- Reducing armaments (weapons)
- Ensure self-determination (people have the right to rule their own nation!)
- Set up an association of nations (League of Nations) based on international cooperation

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Box 2

Handwritten musical notation on a five-line staff. The notation consists of various notes, rests, and slurs. A large, hand-drawn circle is drawn around the middle section of the staff, encompassing several measures of music. The notation is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

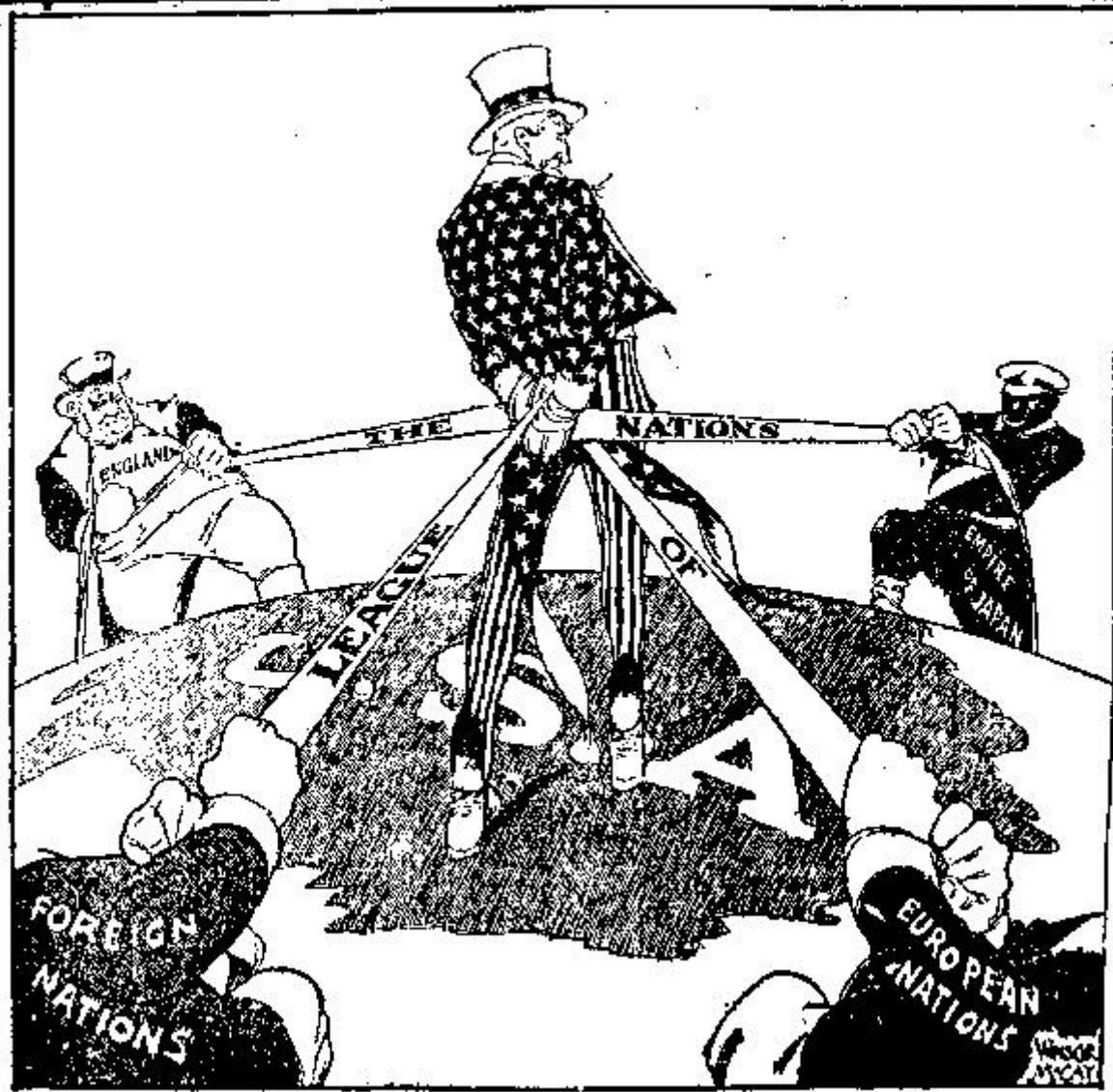
Paris Peace Conference

- Even though Europeans applauded Wilson's ideas, it was a tough idea to pass
- Everyone was looking out for themselves (territorial gains from old alliances)
- Big Four: US, GB, France, and Italy made compromises to get what they wanted...
- Really, though, it was the BIG THREE (Italy didn't play much of a role!)
- U.S. Senate refused to ratify the agreement...it was weakened b/c of this



THE "BIG FOUR"

In front of President Wilson's Paris residence. From the reader's left they are:
Premiers Lloyd George, Orlando, and Clemenceau, and President Wilson.





Discussion Question

- To ensure that war does not break out again, which of the following should be the priority after a war has ended?
 - Punish the losers of the war?
 - Address issues that caused the war?

So what was decided with the **Treaty of Versailles?**

- Read “The Objectives of President Wilson” and “The Objectives of European Powers”
- Create a peace treaty
- We will find out together!

Expert Groups

- With a partner, read one of the “Objectives” sheets
- Look at treaty terms (little slips of paper)
- What is the most important to you? Rank them all.
- Your top 6- explain WHY in the right column
- The rest? On the back, explain why they were not as important

Negotiation Phase

- Pairs of one “objective” will meet with pairs of the other “objective”, set up desks facing each other
- All must agree on, write, and sign a treaty
- Each team describe to the other what their top 6 were and why
- Negotiate!! Choose ONLY 6 terms!

As you negotiate...

- Keep in mind your two objectives:
 - Ensuring world peace
 - Protecting the interests of the leader(s) you represent

Post-treaty discussion:

- How did it feel to negotiate the treaty?
- What made negotiating the treaty difficult?
- What were Wilson's objectives at Versailles?
- How did Wilson's objectives differ from those of the European powers?
- Why did the two sides have such different objectives at the peace conference?
- Which side's goals have a better chance of achieving world peace and European security?

Major Provisions of the Treaty of Versailles

- What provisions were passed?
- Whose objectives were more fully met- Wilson's or the European powers'?
- How do you think Wilson felt about the final peace terms? The European powers? Germany? The international community?