

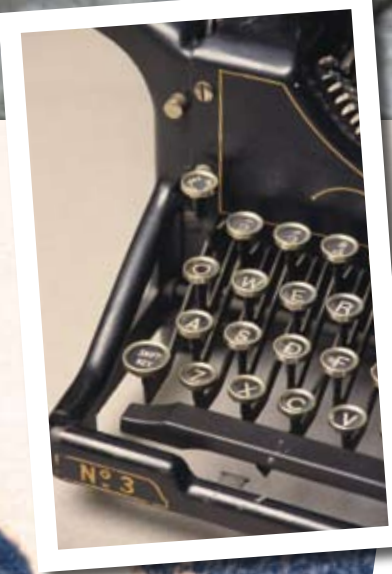
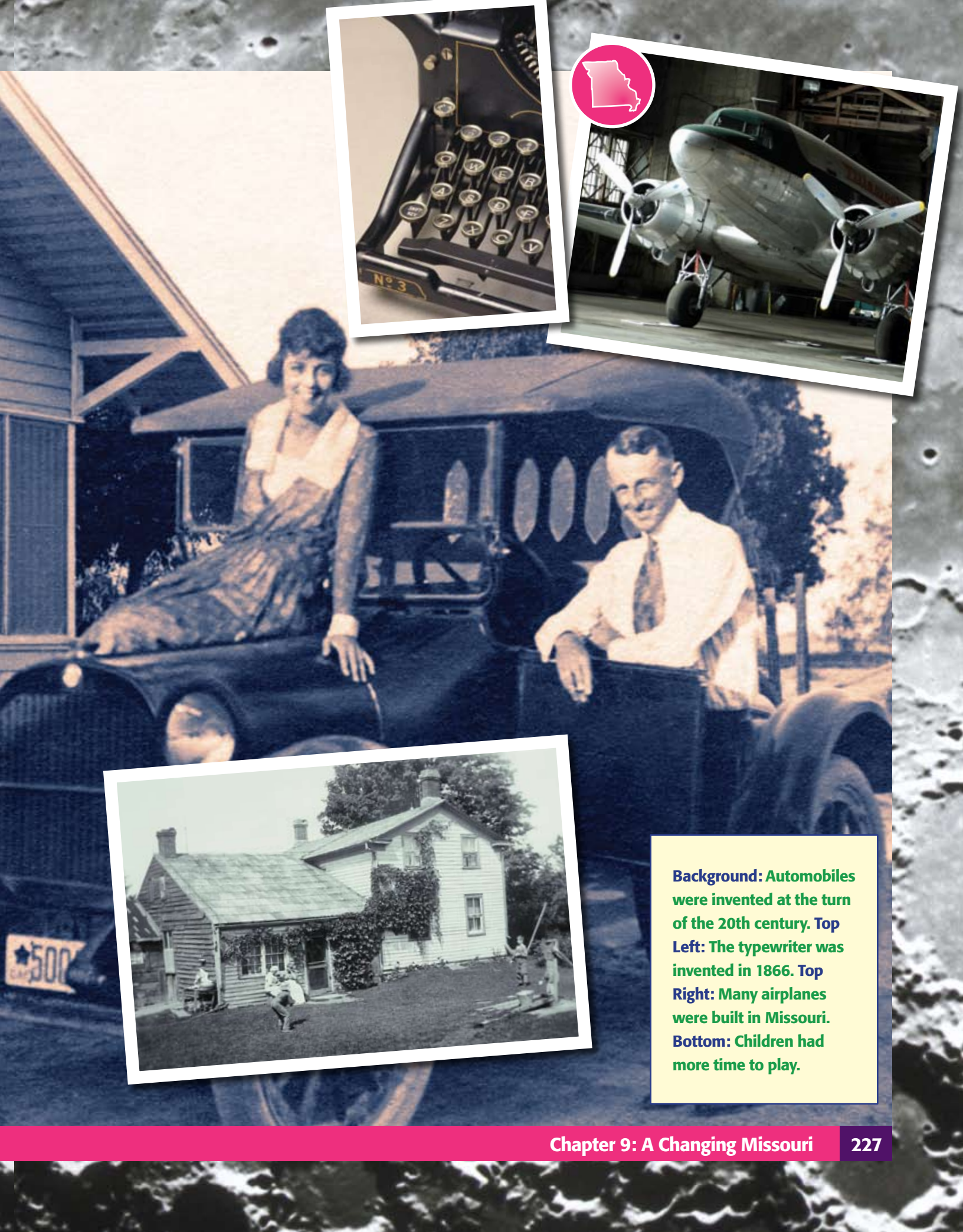
# Chapter 9

## A Changing Missouri



**A** person born in the year Missouri applied for statehood—1820—would have traveled his or her whole life by horse or train and probably would have died 70 years later without ever having seen an automobile. But a person born that year—1890—would have lived to see automobiles, airplanes, spaceships to the moon, television, and computers.





**Background: Automobiles were invented at the turn of the 20th century. Top Left: The typewriter was invented in 1866. Top Right: Many airplanes were built in Missouri. Bottom: Children had more time to play.**

# Missouri Close Up

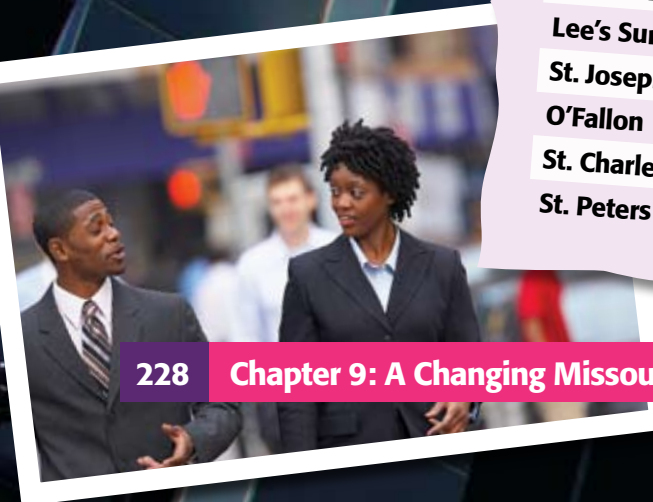
## Missouri's 10 Largest Cities—1900 (2006 population in parenthesis)

St. Louis	575,238	(347,181)
Kansas City	163,752	(447,306)
St. Joseph	102,979	(72,651)
Springfield	23,267	(150,797)
Sedalia	15,231	(20,669)
Hannibal	12,780	(17,637)
Jefferson City	9,664	(39,272)
Carthage	9,416	(13,343)
Webb City	9,201	(10,982)



## Missouri's 10 Largest Cities—2006 (1900 population in parenthesis)

Kansas City	447,306	(163,752)
St. Louis	347,181	(575,238)
Springfield	150,797	(23,267)
Independence	109,400	(6,974)
Columbia	94,428	(5,651)
Lee's Summit	81,913	(1,453)
St. Joseph	72,651	(102,979)
O'Fallon	72,477	(unincorporated)
St. Charles	63,009	(7,982)
St. Peters	54,839	(unincorporated)





**Figure 18**  
**Timeline: 1915-1945**

**1917**

Missouri Farmers Association started; U.S. entered World War I

**1918**

World War I ended

**1920**

Lift Missouri Out of the Mud campaign

**1921**

WEW was Missouri's first radio station

**1927**

Charles Lindbergh flew solo across Atlantic Ocean

**1929**

Stock market crash; Great Depression began

**1931**

State Highway Patrol Founded

**1944**

St. Louis Cardinals beat St. Louis Browns in the World Series

**1941**

Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor; U.S. entered World War II

**1915**

**1920**

**1925**

**1930**

**1935**

**1940**

**1945**

# Section 1

## The Beginnings of an Urban Society

Below: By 1900, automobiles were mass produced but roads were still mainly dirt. Opposite Page, Top Right: Cars made it easier for people to travel. Bottom Right: People traveled more and needed places to stay.

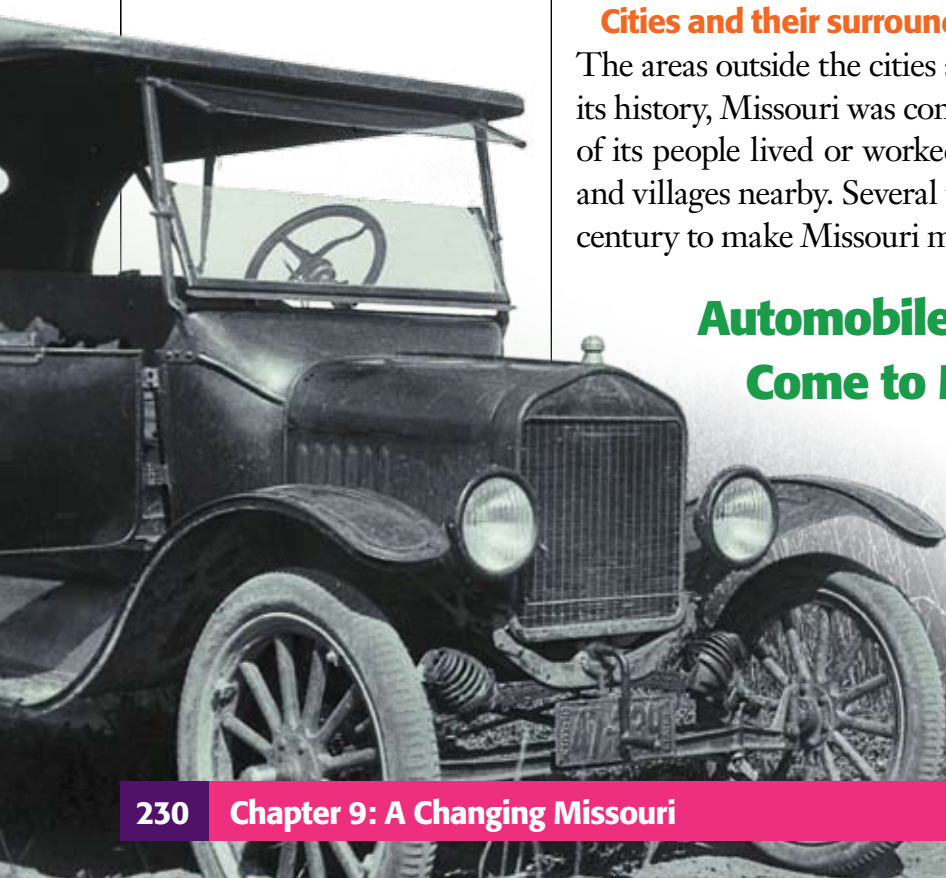
As you read, look for the following:

- the reasons why Missouri became a more urban state
- the effect the automobile had on people's lives
- the way government responded to modern times
- vocabulary terms **urban, rural, air pollution, aviation, exodus, census, cooperative, Progressive**

**Cities and their surrounding areas** are called **urban** areas. The areas outside the cities are called **rural** areas. For most of its history, Missouri was considered a rural state because most of its people lived or worked on farms or in the small towns and villages nearby. Several things happened in the early 20th century to make Missouri more of an urban state.

### Automobiles and Airplanes Come to Missouri

Try to imagine your family not having an automobile. You would probably stay home more and maybe never leave



your town except for special trips. Well, before 1890, there were no automobiles in Missouri! Most people traveled by horse, horse-drawn wagon, or street-car. Long trips often meant a ride on a train or a riverboat.

Because travel was so hard and slow, most people did not go far from home. The automobile changed all that. In the early days, however, travel by “horseless carriage” was not very easy. One reason is that the roads outside of the cities were still mostly dirt or gravel—even the main streets of most small towns. These dirt and gravel roads turned to mud whenever it rained or snowed. An automobile driver could spend most of a trip pushing the car out of the mud. Sometimes the driver needed the help of a farmer and a mule!

As cars became more common, more and more people complained about the bad roads. In 1920, a campaign called “Lift Missouri Out of the Mud” was started. The state took over the building and repairing of most roads. New taxes paid for the new paved roads and better bridges.

The automobile and better roads brought a lot of changes to Missouri. Places to eat, places to stay for the night, tourist attractions, and gasoline stations were among the new businesses.

A number of companies that manufactured automobiles or produced parts for automobiles built factories in Missouri, and the state became a leading producer of automobiles and trucks. Going to town was faster and easier. It was also easier for a doctor to make house calls and for the mail carrier to deliver the mail.



### Did you know?

Cities began issuing their own license plates for cars in 1910, a year before the state issued its first official license plate.



The automobile also changed the way people lived. People did not stay home or do things together as a family as much as they used to do. Instead of going to the small general store in their village, people could now go to the big department stores in the nearby cities. Many of the smaller stores closed, and with them some of the small towns disappeared. Fewer people took the train, and passenger train service to some towns was stopped. Automobiles also added to the **air pollution** in the cities, where the skies were already dirty from the smoke of factories and coal-burning furnaces in homes. Faster cars also meant more accidents and the need for traffic laws. To enforce safe driving laws, the State Highway Patrol was started in 1931.

Just as startling as the sight of a “horseless carriage” to Missourians in the early 1900s was the sight of “flying machines.” Missouri played an important role in the growth of **aviation** (the

manufacture and use of aircraft). Factories making airplanes were started in Kansas City and St. Louis, but they weren't the only ones making airplanes. In Audrain County, a group of men interested in flying started the Aero Club in 1908 and built their own airplane. Many towns had airports, even if they were sometimes only a farmer's field on the edge of town.

Airplanes began carrying passengers. Airplanes were also used to

spray chemicals on farm fields to fight weeds and insects. There were airplane races and air shows. The shows, which moved from town to town, often featured daredevils doing stunts and tricks in the air. The pilots were called *barnstormers* because the shows were often held at farms where the planes could take off and land and crowds could watch.



**Top: Air shows became popular. Above: Airplanes are used to spray chemicals on fields.**



One of the most important uses of airplanes in the early days of aviation was to carry the mail. Airmail pilots had to be brave and to fly in all types of weather. One such pilot was Charles Lindbergh, a member of the Missouri Air National Guard (a branch of the military that uses airplanes). He flew the mail route between St. Louis and Chicago. When a contest was announced for the first pilot to fly solo (alone) across the Atlantic Ocean, Lindbergh was picked to make an attempt. He made the flight in May 1927, flying from New York to Paris. The flight made Lindbergh a hero. His airplane

was called *The Spirit of St. Louis* because many of those who helped pay for the airplane were from St. Louis.

## Changes on the Farm

In the early 1900s, new machinery was bringing changes to the farm. Gasoline-powered tractors began replacing steam-driven tractors, mules, and horses. The new tractors meant a farmer could do more work with fewer workers and farm more land. Many people who would have worked on a farm, including the sons and daughters of some farmers, instead went to work in the cities.

Despite the new machinery and other improvements in seeds, fertilizers, and farm methods, times were not good for farmers. The more food they produced, the lower the prices they received for their crops and livestock. In the meantime, the cost of the new machinery kept rising. Many farmers went into debt. Others gave up and moved to the cities.

**Left: Airplanes became important for carrying mail. Right and Bottom: Gasoline powered tractors made farming more efficient.**





**Below: Cooperatives built grain elevators to store farmers' harvests. Bottom: Missouri State University in 1910. Opposite Page, Top: A college was built in Maryville to help educate teachers. Below: Education became an important part of children's lives and our state's progress.**

This **exodus** (a movement of people from one area to another) of farmers, farm children, and farm workers to the urban areas shifted Missouri's population from mostly rural to mostly urban. In 1920, the federal **census** (an official counting of the population) showed that 53 percent of Missourians still lived in rural communities. By 1930, only 49 percent did.

## Political Changes

The farmers' troubles led many of them to band together in **cooperatives**, or groups that shared profits and costs. One such cooperative was the Missouri Farmers Association (MFA), which started in 1917. The cooperatives built grain elevators to store the harvests until prices paid for the grains were higher. The cooperatives also sold seed and other supplies at prices farmers could better afford.

Other farmers looked to the government for help and change. Some joined with others to form a new political party. Members of this party were called *Populists* because they considered their ideas to be those of the common people. The Populists won few elections. But politicians in the Democratic and Republican parties listened to their ideas, and many of those ideas became laws. For example, a law was passed to keep railroads from charging farmers too much to haul grain to market. Another

made it illegal for children under age 14 to work in dangerous factory and mine jobs.



The **Progressives**, who believed that government should make life better for everyone, followed the Populists. The Progressives were more successful at winning elections and making changes. They passed laws to help the poor, to protect children, to make sure that food sold in stores was safe, to regulate utility companies (telephone and electric companies, for example), and to force businesses to treat people more fairly. The Progressives believed education for everyone was important, and they started teachers' colleges in Springfield (now Missouri State University) and Maryville (now Northwest Missouri State University) in 1905.



### *Do You Remember?*

1. Is Missouri an urban state or a rural state?
2. Who was Charles Lindbergh?



### *Did you know?*

In 1906, the General Assembly passed a law that required all Missouri children between the ages of 8 and 14 to go to school. Before then, parents could choose not to send their children to school. The law was later amended to make school required for children ages 6 to 18.

# Section 2

## World War I and the 1920s

Below: World War I soldiers protected themselves against gas attacks by wearing masks and staying in trenches.

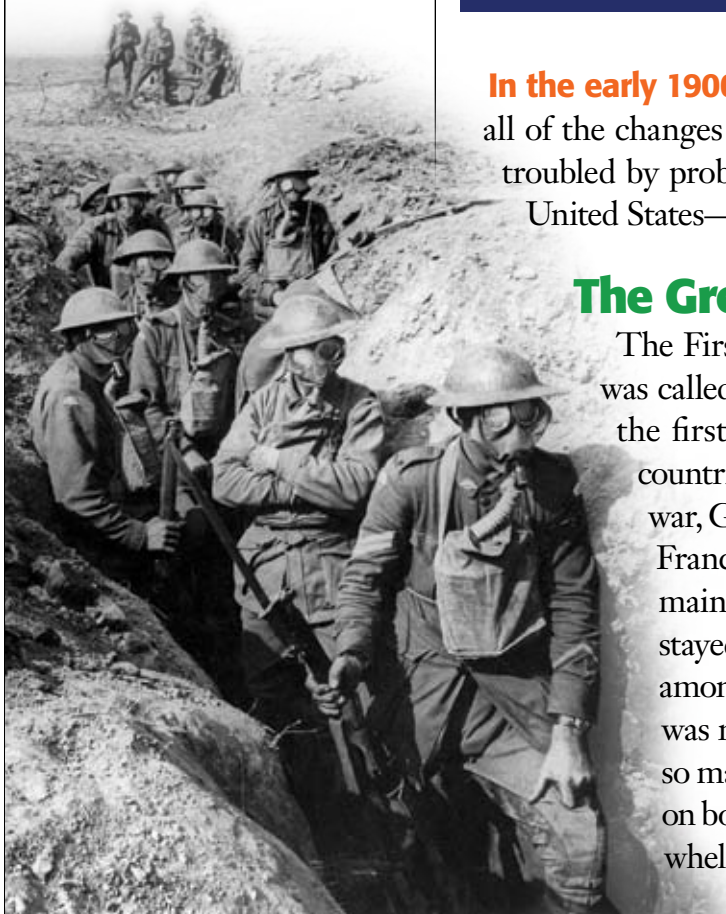
As you read, look for the following:

- United States participation in the first world war
- why the period after the war is sometimes called the “Roaring Twenties”
- the problems facing farmers and factories
- vocabulary terms **neutral, ratify, Prohibition, gangsters**

In the early 1900s, Americans were busy working with all of the changes in their lives. Europeans, however, were troubled by problems that eventually led them—and the United States—into war.

### The Great War

The First World War—or the “Great War” as it was called at the time—began in August 1914. For the first three years, it involved only European countries and was fought mostly in Europe. In the war, Germany and its allies fought Great Britain, France, and their allies. The United States remained **neutral**; that is, it took neither side and stayed out of the war. There was a strong feeling among Americans that the fighting in Europe was none of this country’s business. And, with so many recent immigrants from the countries on both sides of the fighting, there was not overwhelming support for one side or the other.



However, the United States sent supplies to Great Britain. Germany tried to stop that by sinking the supply ships. When Americans sailing or working on those ships were killed, people turned against Germany. The United States declared war on Germany and its allies in April 1917.

It was a hard time for Missourians whose families had come from Germany—as a large number of Missouri families did. In some towns, German street names were changed to American names or translated into English. People stopped speaking German in public, and schools stopped teaching it. Many German-language newspapers went out of business or started publishing in English.

Some people refused to eat sauerkraut, or they called it “liberty cabbage.”

The war ended on November 11, 1918. We now celebrate Veterans’ Day on that date. With the help of American soldiers, the British and French were able to defeat Germany and its allies. More than 156,000 Missourians served in the military during the war, including many black soldiers and a future U.S. senator and president from Missouri, Captain Harry Truman.



**Top: WWI telegraph station. Left: US Army Signal Corps. Bottom: Crowd gathered in front of Union Square for the dedication of the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City.**



### Did you know?

The Liberty Memorial in Kansas City was dedicated in 1926 to honor those who had fought and to remember those who died in the First World War. Today it is home to the National World War I Museum.



General John Pershing, a Missourian, led the American troops in Europe. His soldiers called General Pershing “Black Jack” because he had once commanded a regiment of black troops. General Pershing was born and grew up in Laclede in northwest Missouri. His house there is now a state historic site.

Missourians helped win the war in many ways. Along with sending soldiers, Missouri also sent food, weapons, and other supplies. Missouri even sent more than 6,000 mules to Europe to help carry all those supplies.

## The Roaring Twenties

For many people, life after the war was exciting. There were more and faster cars. There were airplanes, radios, phonographs, and motion pictures. (These were “silent movies” because they did not have sound until 1927.) There were new inventions and new electrical appliances for the home. Things seemed to move faster, happen faster, and change faster. As a result, this period in our history is sometimes called the “Roaring Twenties.”

One of the changes was the right of women to vote in national and state elections. Women had been fighting for suffrage since the beginning of the nation’s history. When the Democratic Party held its convention in St. Louis in 1916, women from all over the country came to march around the convention’s meeting place to demand the right to vote. Congress listened and passed the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. It was **ratified** (approved) by the states in 1920. In 1922, the first women were elected to the Missouri General Assembly.

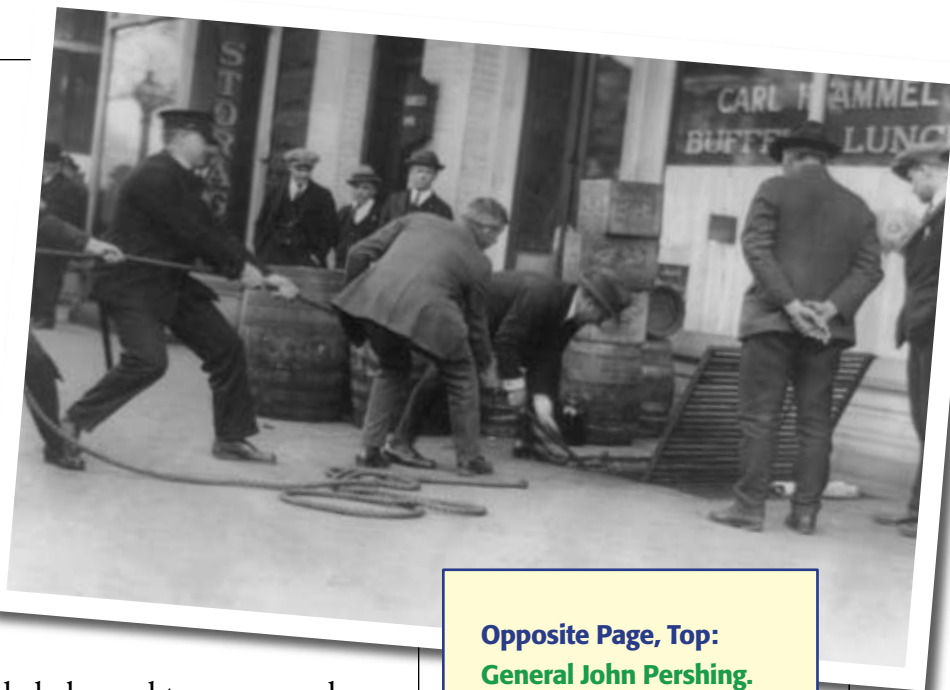


But not everything was well. Also in 1920, Congress had passed and the states had ratified the 18th Amendment banning the manufacture, sale, and possession of alcoholic beverages. **Prohibition**, as it was called, was supposed to prevent the problems caused by people drinking too much alcohol. It did solve some of those problems, but it also led to a rise in crime by people who broke the laws by making and selling alcohol. Some of these people belonged to gangs and were called **gangsters**. Prohibition ended in 1933 when the states ratified the 21st Amendment.

Farmers continued to struggle. Their troubles were caused by low prices for their crops and livestock, higher costs for supplies, and growing *debt* (money owed to others). Meanwhile, factories were producing more. But there were not enough customers with money to buy all the new cars, radios, appliances, and other goods manufactured. One reason is that the Great War had left people in Europe too poor to buy American goods. The American economy was like a house built of cards—it did not take much to knock it down.

### Do You Remember?

1. Why did the United States enter the First World War?
2. Why were the 1920s called the “Roaring Twenties”?



**Opposite Page, Top:** General John Pershing.  
**Middle:** Faster cars.  
**Bottom Left:** A phonograph.  
**Bottom Right:** Women marched for the right to vote.  
**This Page, Top:** Police raid during prohibition.  
**Bottom:** Farmers continued to struggle.

### Did you know?

Before Prohibition, Missouri was the second-largest winemaking state in the nation. The 18th Amendment ruined that industry as vineyards were pulled up, used for other purposes, or left untended.



# Section 3

## The Great Depression

As you read, look for the following:

- the reasons why the country plunged into the Great Depression
- how the government tried to help
- how people lived their lives in those difficult times
- vocabulary terms **stock market, stock, profit, law of supply and demand, credit, interest, depression, Dust Bowl, New Deal, ragtime, blues, jazz**

**One way the health of the economy is measured** is by how well the stock market is doing. (The **stock market** is where shares of ownership in corporations are bought and sold.) In 1929, the stock market appeared to be doing very well, but these seemingly good times were hiding serious problems in the economy.

## The Start of the Depression

Corporations sell **stock**, which gives buyers a share of ownership in the company. When a corporation does well, the price of its stock goes up, increasing its value. Stockholders can sell the stocks and make a **profit**. That is, they can sell it for a higher price than what they paid for it.

During the 1920s, the prices of stocks kept going up and up, even if the companies were not doing well. This is because so many people wanted to buy stocks, creating a demand for them. In our economy, if the demand for something that has a limited supply increases, the price also usually increases. (On the other hand, the more of a supply of a good there is, the lower the price.) This is called the **law of supply and demand**.

Many people were buying stock on **credit**. That is, they borrowed money to buy the stock. They hoped that the price would go up so they could use part of the profit to pay back the borrowed money. This worked as long as stock prices kept rising.

But in the fall of 1929 the American economy grew weaker as companies found they could no longer sell their goods. The value of the companies went down. This meant that the price of the shares of their stock also went down. In late October, stock prices plunged (went down steeply). People rushed to sell their stocks before the price went down too far. But the large number of people suddenly selling stocks (which increased the supply) made the prices fall even faster and farther, like a falling plane. That is why we say the stock market “crashed.”

People owning stocks either had to sell them at prices too low to make a profit or could find no buyers at all. Many of their stocks were worthless, as the companies they had stock in were broke or went out of business. The people who had borrowed money to buy their stocks could not pay the money back.

Banks are businesses that make a profit by lending money and charging interest. (**Interest** is a fee for the use of money, usually set as a percentage of the amount borrowed.) When people cannot pay back their loans, the banks lose money. If they lose too much, the banks are said to *fail*.



**Opposite Page: The New York Stock Exchange.**  
**This Page, Top: The stock market fell and the banks lost money.**



## Did you know?

In the summer of 1936, the temperature in Missouri was above 100 degrees on 40 different days.

In 1929 and 1930, this happened a lot. People who had kept their money in the banks lost everything. Today, the federal government promises that people will get their money back if a bank fails. In 1930, there was no such promise.

As banks and businesses went out of business, many people lost their jobs. As more and more people were out of work or lost their money in failed banks, fewer people could afford to buy the goods made by American factories. Still more companies went out of business, and still more people lost their jobs.

When all of these bad things happen in an economy, economists (people who study the economy) say we are in a **depression**, like a balloon that is losing its air. There have been other depressions in our nation's history. But never were so many people and so many businesses affected so severely for so long. That is why the period from 1929 to 1941 is called the Great Depression.

At the same time, farmers in the Great Plains were suffering through a long drought that turned their fields to dust. Sometimes the dust was blown by the wind into large dust storms that blackened the skies. People came to call the Great Plains the **Dust Bowl**. Many farmers migrated west to California and other western states to find work.



## The New Deal

More than one-fourth of working Missourians lost their jobs in the Great Depression. Those who still had jobs were often only making half of what they used to make. People found themselves standing in long lines waiting for handouts of food. Others lost their homes and had to live in tents or shacks. Something had to be done.

In 1932, Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected president of the United States. He had a number of ideas about how to help people and help the country get out of the Depression. He called his ideas the **New Deal**.

Many New Deal programs put people to work building roads, parks, and public buildings. Drive around Missouri today and you will see many county courthouses, schools, parks, swimming pools, and roads built by these workers. Other workers planted forests and worked on projects to stop soil and water erosion. Still others were hired by the government to write or take photographs or paint pictures about the country and its people and how they were coping with the Depression.

Some of the farmers who lost their land became tenant farmers or moved to the cities to look for work. But some New Deal programs helped farmers too. When the Depression began, most farmers did not have electricity. A New Deal program brought electricity to rural Missouri, making the lives of farm families easier and brighter.



**Opposite Page: Many in Missouri suffered through the long drought. People referred to the Great Plains as the “Dust Bowl.” This Page, Top: Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected president in 1932. Bottom: Many lived in homeless shelters.**

# Spotlight

## Sharecroppers Rebellion



Perhaps the hardest hit of all by the Depression were black farm workers. Many were tenant farmers or sharecroppers who worked for a share of the crops they grew for the landowners. The sharecroppers, both black and white, were very poor. The amount of money a sharecropper made in one year would not even buy a pair of basketball shoes today.

Sharecropper families lived in shacks and had few new clothes. Some sharecropper children went without shoes or without coats in winter. Few went to school. Many died at a young age from disease and malnutrition (not having enough healthy food).

As the Depression became worse, conditions for farmers grew worse. Owen Whitfield was an African American minister from the Bootheel. He organized efforts to draw attention to the plight of the sharecroppers and to try to get help for them. He encouraged the sharecroppers to ask for higher wages and better living conditions. Some refused to work

until the conditions improved. In response, on January 1, 1939, landowners in the Bootheel evicted their sharecroppers. (To *evict* is to force a person off the land.) The evicted families were left without shelter in winter and little food.

The sharecroppers and their families carried their few possessions on their backs or in carts. They set up tents and other makeshift shelters along two highways.

For weeks, the newspapers carried stories about the sharecroppers and their “rebellion.” One of the newspapers called the sharecroppers “Missouri’s refugees.”

The late Dr. Lorenzo J. Greene was a professor of history at Lincoln University and a civil rights leader in Missouri for many years. He spent a weekend with sharecroppers camped along the highway near Charleston. He described what he saw.

What I saw shocked me: little children with their bellies swollen from lack of food; men, women, and children barefoot in the slush and snow; girls and women scantily clothed, wearing anything to keep warm; shelters made of cardboard, tin, pieces of wood, twigs . . . girls and women cooking out-of-doors with snow and sleet falling into their kettles.

Dr. Greene returned to Lincoln Univer-

sity and told his students what he had found. The students, who had been busy planning a spring dance, instead donated the money for food and clothing and medicine. The students took a truckload of supplies to the sharecroppers, returning several times as the protest continued.

Largely because of the attention Dr. Greene and others drew to the sharecroppers through

writings and letters, the state eventually provided some assistance. The nonviolent Sharecroppers Rebellion also led the federal government to step in and help. The government relocated some to places where workers were needed. Most, though, were moved to new communities near Poplar Bluff and Lilbourn with low-cost housing built just for the sharecropper families. Food and clothing cooperatives were formed. The community and the cooperative still exist today in Lilbourn



**Opposite Page: A tenant farmer. This Page, Top: Sharecroppers load their belongings after being evicted. Bottom: A portrait of Dr. Lorenzo J. Greene.**

## Life Goes On

Even though times were hard and people were poor, there was still much to do that was fun. One popular activity was listening to the radio. Missouri's first radio station was WEW in St. Louis. It was only the second station in the country when it went on the air in 1921. People listened to soap operas, cooking shows, comedies and crime dramas, mystery and adventure shows, music, news, and sports. There were even after-school programs for children.

Movies were also popular during the Depression. They were a way for people to forget about their

troubles for a couple of hours. On Saturday afternoons, kids could pay a nickel and see cartoons, a western movie, and an adventure serial (a story that continued each week). In many towns, the movie theater was the only public building with air-conditioning, which made it very popular in the summertime. Movie theaters also doubled as stages where traveling entertainers performed skits and played music. This type of entertainment was called *vaudeville*.

Among the cartoons seen at the movies were those featuring a mouse named Mickey. He was the creation of

an artist named Walt Disney. Disney had lived for a while in Marceline in northwest Missouri and had gone to art school in Kansas City. He later moved to California and started a studio to create cartoons and animated features such as *Snow White*. He later built a theme park called Disneyland. Disney's cartoon characters are now famous around the world. The company he started is one of the biggest and most successful entertainment businesses in the world.



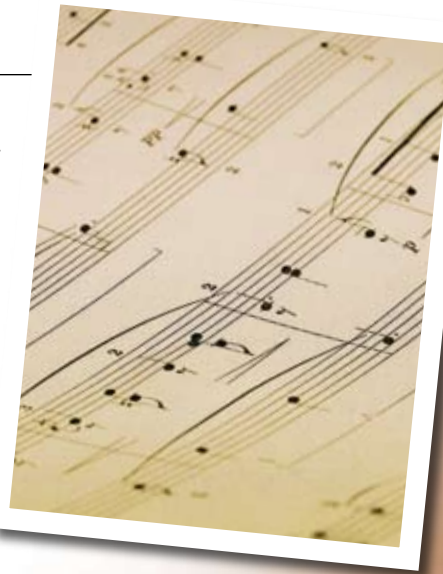
### Did you know?

During World War I, Walt Disney drove an ambulance in France for the Red Cross.



## Music

Missouri is famous for three types of music that developed in the early 1900s. The first is **ragtime**, a blend of Negro spirituals, marching music, and popular tunes played with a quick beat, usually on a piano. One of the most famous ragtime composers was Scott Joplin, who lived in Sedalia for a short time and later in St. Louis. He wrote several well-known ragtime compositions. Perhaps the most famous, “The Maple Leaf Rag,” was named after a tavern in Sedalia where Joplin played the piano when not working for the railroad. His house in St. Louis is now a state historic site.

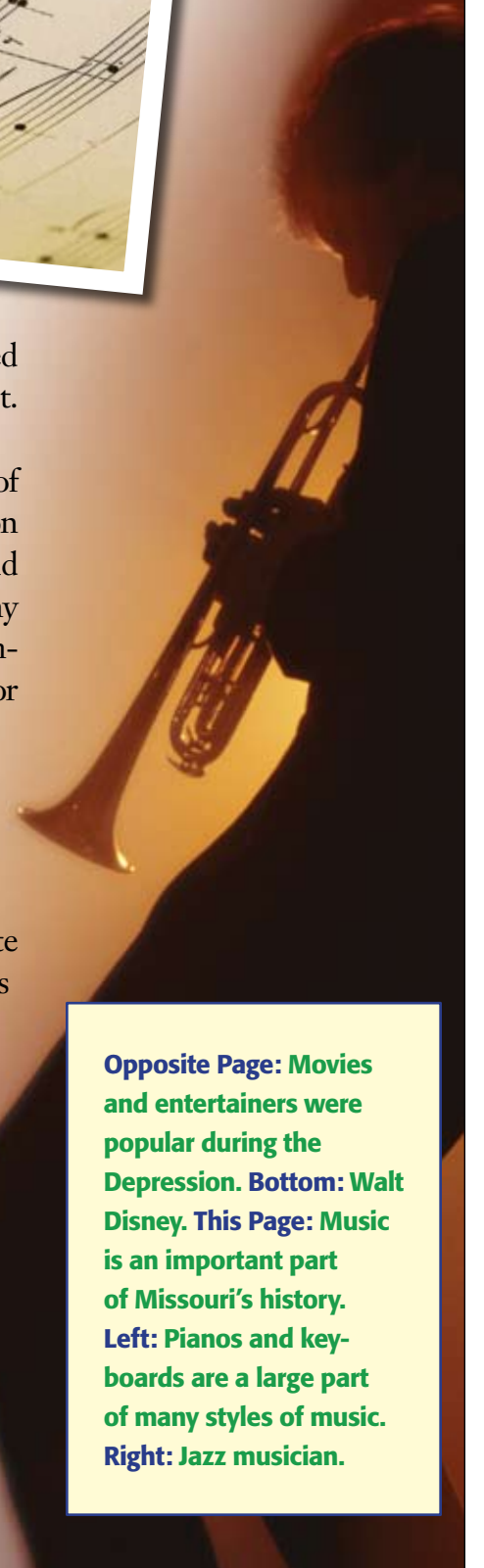


Ragtime was an early version of the **blues**, a musical style based on black folk music. The blues did not begin in Missouri, but many famous blues singers, performers, and composers were from or lived in Missouri. One of them was W. C. Handy, who spent some time in St. Louis and later wrote the very popular tune “The St. Louis Blues.”

Missouri was also a favorite stopping place for musicians

who played jazz, a music style that is more upbeat than the blues and depends a lot on the skill of the musicians. Some of the most famous jazz musicians, people like Count Basie and Bennie Moten, called Kansas City home and became famous for their “Kansas City Sound.”

At the same time ragtime, the blues, and jazz were becoming popular, phonograph records and radio stations were featuring what was called “old time music” or “hillbilly music.” Today it is called bluegrass music. Played on fiddle, banjo, and sometimes guitar, this music with roots in the Appalachian and Ozark Mountains was the beginnings of country and western music.



**Opposite Page: Movies and entertainers were popular during the Depression. Bottom: Walt Disney. This Page: Music is an important part of Missouri’s history. Left: Pianos and keyboards are a large part of many styles of music. Right: Jazz musician.**

Music in the home was also popular. Many homes had phonographs (also called record players or Victrolas), and a lot of families had pianos. Most towns had a band that performed on a bandstand in the middle of the town park each Sunday afternoon and on holidays.



## Literature

Reading remained a favorite pastime for many people. One of the most-read books during this time was *Shepherd of the Hills* by Harold Bell Wright. He used his experiences as a city-born minister working in the Ozarks to create his stories.

Missouri was the birthplace of three famous poets from this time. Sara Teasdale wrote poems about nature and love in poems like “Spring Night.” She was born in St. Louis. Marianne Moore often wrote about nature in such poems as “O To Be A Dragon”; later she won the Pulitzer Prize. She was born in Kirkwood. T. S.

Eliot wrote most of his poetry after moving from his native St. Louis to England. Some of his poems were the basis for the musical *Cats*.



## Baseball

Missourians enjoyed many sports in the first half of the 20th century. Golf and miniature golf, badminton and tennis, football, and softball all became popular during this time. But far and wide, the most popular sport was baseball. Most towns had a team that played teams from neighboring towns, usually on Sunday afternoons. (The players worked at their “real” jobs the other six days of the week.) Children of all ages played baseball on empty lots and playgrounds and even in the streets of the cities, in parks and on ball diamonds in the towns, and in pastures on the farms.



St. Louis had two major league teams—the Cardinals and the Browns. The Cardinals won the National League pennant six times between 1926 and 1944 and won the World Series four times. In 1944, the Cardinals won the World Series by beating the Browns, the American League champions (the first and only time the Browns were champions). The Cardinal teams in the 1930s were called “The Gas House Gang” for their rough and exciting style of play. The team was led by two pitchers, brothers Dizzy (Jerome) and Daffy (Paul) Dean.

The Cardinals and Browns were not the only professional teams in Missouri. Only white players were allowed on major league teams. So black players formed their own leagues, which were called the Negro Leagues. Two of the best Negro League players were pitchers Satchel Paige of the Kansas City Monarchs and Cool Papa Bell of the St. Louis Stars. Bell was said to be so fast that he could turn off the bedroom light and be back in bed before the room was dark! You can learn more about the Negro Leagues at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City.

### Did you know?

One of Satchel Paige’s memorable quotes was: “Don’t look back. Something might be gaining on you.”

### Do You Remember?

1. Why did the stock market crash?
2. For what three types of music was Missouri known?
3. Name five ways people had fun or enjoyed themselves in the 1930s.

**Opposite Page, Top:** Reading was a favorite pastime. **Middle:** Most towns had a baseball team that would play neighboring towns. **Bottom:** Kids of all ages enjoyed playing baseball. **This Page:** Black players formed their own teams.





# Missouri Places

## Negro Leagues Baseball and American Jazz Museums

These days, walking in the neighborhood of 18th and Vine Streets just east of downtown Kansas City, it is hard to imagine that there was a time when the air was filled with music, the streets were crowded with people, and you could run into famous jazz musicians and baseball stars. But walk through the doors of the snazzy building at 1616 East 18th Street, and you'll hear echoes of that exciting past.

The building is the home of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum (NLBM) and the American Jazz Museum. It is in the heart of the neighborhood where the “Kansas City sound” of jazz was born and just a short walk from where the Negro National League was born.

African Americans had been playing baseball as long as the game has been played. In

the beginning, they played alongside white players. But laws segregating blacks from whites and major league baseball's own rules forced most black players from the professional teams by 1900. Instead, the black players formed their own teams and leagues. In 1920, organizers met at the Paseo YMCA in Kansas City to form the Negro National League. Kansas City was home to several Negro League baseball teams over the years, but the most famous of them was the Monarchs. The most famous Monarch was Jackie Robinson. Robinson later became the first black player in the modern major leagues in 1946.

As more and more black players joined major league teams, there was no longer a need for the Negro League teams, and they disap-



peared in the 1960s. But the Negro League lives on at the NLBM. Inside you will see hundreds of artifacts, including uniforms and equipment used by Negro League stars. You'll see photos of the players, games, and ballparks. You'll read newspaper accounts of famous moments in league history. You'll also see the signs and other artifacts that remind us that black players and black fans were once unwelcome. At the end of your tour, you can stand on a baseball diamond alongside life-size statues of some of black baseball's greatest stars, men like Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson, Buck O'Neil, and Cool Papa Bell.

Just across the lobby from the baseball museum is the American Jazz Museum (AJM). Here you can see photos and memorabilia of jazz artists such as Ella Fitzgerald, Charlie Parker, and Count Basie. Best of all, you can hear recordings of



the greatest jazz performances by them and more than one hundred other artists.

The AJM also has an interactive feature. Visitors can play along with great jazz artists, challenging them to choose from different drum beats, guitar riffs, or piano accompaniments to see if they can match the choices made by the original artists.

The Gem Theater in the museum hosts concerts, festivals, and other community events. The museum also has a working club, The Blue Room, where musicians appear almost nightly to perform jazz before live audiences. The Blue Room recreates a scene that was repeated

in dozens of similar clubs in the 18th and Vine neighborhood during the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s, when Kansas City was the place to go to hear the latest jazz compositions and to see the greatest jazz musicians.



**Above Right: The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and the American Jazz Museum share the same building in Kansas City. Center: Before joining the Brooklyn Dodgers, Jackie Robinson played for the Kansas City Monarchs. Bottom: The 1924 Negro League World Series in Kansas City.**

# Section 4

## World War II

This Page, Bottom:  
Dictator Adolf Hitler.  
Opposite Page, Top  
Right: Jewish prisoners  
during the Holocaust.  
Bottom: Adolf Hitler  
and Mussolini march-  
ing in Venice in 1934.

### As you read, look for the following:

- why World War II started and why the United States entered the war
- how Missouri helped the war effort
- vocabulary terms **dictator**, **Holocaust**, **ration**

**The Great Depression that started in the United States** at the beginning of the 1930s had been going on for more than a decade in Europe and the rest of the world, and it was much worse in those places. Without jobs, without food or homes, and with little hope, people in countries like Germany, Italy, the Soviet Union, and Japan were willing to let **dictators** take over their governments. Dictators promised to make things better for the people in exchange for unlimited power. The dictators soon did away with many of the people's freedoms and rights and did not let their people have a say in how they were governed. Their people who disagreed with the dictators were often sent to prison or killed.

When things did not get better in their countries as they had promised, the dictators then blamed other countries or other groups of people for their country's problems. They convinced their people that the only way to better times was to attack these groups of people or other countries as "their enemies."



## The Holocaust

In Germany, the dictator Adolf Hitler blamed his country's problems on people whose religion was Judaism (they were called *Jews*), who were from different races, or whose ancestors were not German. Many of these people's families had lived and worked in Germany for centuries and had contributed to its society. That did not matter to Hitler and his followers (called *Nazis*). They took away the Jews' property, forbade them to work in many jobs, and eventually had them thrown into prisons called *concentration camps*. There, the Jewish prisoners were forced to work. Those who were too young, too old, or too weak were killed. Many others died of starvation and illness or were tortured to death. Between 1933 and 1945, it is estimated that the Nazis and their followers in Germany and other countries killed six million Jews. This came to be known as the **Holocaust**.



## The War Begins

After the First World War, Germany had been punished by the winning countries. Land had been taken away from Germany, and it was forced to pay other countries large sums of money to repair the damage from the war. Germany was also forbidden to have a large army or navy or air force. Little by little, though, Germany had taken back the lands and had built up a large military. The other countries in Europe allowed this to happen because they thought it was the way to avoid another war.



## Did you know?

Whiteman Air Force Base near Knob Knoster is named for Lt. George A. Whiteman, a native of Sedalia who died when his plane was shot down during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

But in September 1939, Germany and its then ally, the Soviet Union, invaded Poland. Great Britain and France and their allies declared war against Germany and the Soviet Union and their ally, Italy. As it had at the beginning of World War I, the United States remained neutral.

## The United States Enters the War

Meanwhile, in Asia, the dictator who ruled Japan believed the only way his country could be rich and powerful was if it could control the natural resources in other Asian countries. (Japan had few natural resources of its own.) Japan invaded China in 1937 and made plans to conquer other countries in the region. The Japanese dictator realized that the United States might prevent this with its navy, so plans were made to attack and destroy the American navy.

The attack happened on December 7, 1941. The Japanese air force attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, killing thousands. The United States declared war on Japan the next day. Germany, an ally of Japan, then declared war on the United States. Now Americans were once again at war, not just in Europe, but around the globe.

## Missourians at War Again

Missourians, including Missouri women, responded by enlisting in the armed forces. Others went to work in factories making planes, tanks, guns, and other supplies needed for the war. Factories that used to make shoes for boys and girls started making boots for soldiers. Factories that made cars started making airplanes. Tractor factories made tanks. Fertilizer plants made explosives.

So many materials were needed to fight the war that the government had to **ration**, or limit the use of, many things. The government rationed cars, tires, food, gasoline, paper, and a long list of other things. People had to drive less to conserve tires and fuel, and they had to learn to eat less meat and to cook sometimes without butter or sugar.





Communities held scrap drives to collect used materials to be recycled (or reused) into new materials. Old tires were cut up and made into new tires. Old pots and pans, cars, and other scrap metals were melted down to make bullets and shells and steel for ships and tanks. Cooking grease was saved and used to make explosives. Schoolchildren collected scrap paper and rags. They also collected pennies, and their parents saved their dollars to buy war bonds. The bonds helped the government pay for the war.

Because so many men were away fighting the war, more women began working in factories and on the railroads. They did jobs that only men had done before the war.

Among the many men and women from Missouri fighting in the war was General Omar Bradley. He was born in Clark and had gone to school in nearby Moberly in north-central Missouri. General Bradley worked closely with General Dwight Eisenhower, the commander of the Allied troops in Europe.



### Do You Remember?

1. Why did some countries allow dictators to gain power?
2. Which country attacked the American naval base in Hawaii?

**Opposite Page:** Women enlisted in the armed forces. **This Page, Top Left and Center:** The war effort was supported at home by rationing. **Top Right:** Many women worked in factories while men were away fighting. **Left:** Major General L. Lawton Collins talks to Lt. General Omar Bradley (on the right).

# Chapter Review

## Summary



In this chapter, you learned that Missouri changed a lot in the first half of the 20th century. New technologies changed the way Missourians lived, worked, and had fun; how they traveled, how their food was grown, and how they communicated.

You also learned that there were difficult times during this half-century. Twice the United States found it necessary to enter a world war. Missourians played important roles in helping to win those wars.

Another difficulty was the Great Depression, in which many people were thrown into poverty and times were hard. But you read that, despite the hard times, life for Missourians went on with pastimes such as reading, the movies, radio, and baseball.

## Remember



Create a crossword puzzle with the following words. Give a clue for each word. Exchange your puzzle with a partner and solve.

census

cooperative

credit

depression

dictator

exodus

neutral

profit

ratify

ration

stocks

supply-and-demand

## Understand



Answer the following questions with complete sentences.

1. Why didn't people travel far from home in Missouri in the 19th century?
2. What was the "Lift Missouri Out of the Mud" campaign?
3. What was one of the most important uses of airplanes in the early days of aviation?
4. What did new farm machinery mean to farmers?
5. What did the Progressives believe the government should do? Give an example of a law they helped to pass.
6. Why did the United States stay neutral for the first three years of World War I?
7. What does the federal government do to protect people and their money?
8. What fraction of Missourians lost their jobs during the Great Depression?
9. What programs did the New Deal put into place to help people during the Great Depression?
10. How did Missourians respond to the United States's declaration of war after Pearl Harbor?

## Think About It



1. Why is 1890 considered a turning point in Missouri history?
2. Think about how life would change if there were no cars. Describe in a sentence or two how life would be different.
3. Explain why many people consider the 1920s an exciting time in our history.

## Write About It



1. Compare and contrast the effects of the 18th Amendment. What problems did it solve? What problems did it lead to?
2. Identify the causes of the Dust Bowl. How did these causes affect farming?

## Use The Internet



1. Learn more about the Negro Baseball Leagues by visiting [www.blackbaseball.com](http://www.blackbaseball.com) or [www.negroleaguebaseball.com/](http://www.negroleaguebaseball.com/). When was the Negro National League founded?
2. Share with your classmates five facts you learned by visiting the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum website at [www.ushmm.org](http://www.ushmm.org).

## Work Together



1. With a partner or in a small group, make a list of all the things for which you depend upon having a car for transportation. Share your lists with the class.
2. With a partner or in a small group, research the types of music for which Missouri is famous. Put together a presentation about Missouri music. Bring in examples of the various types of music to play for the class.