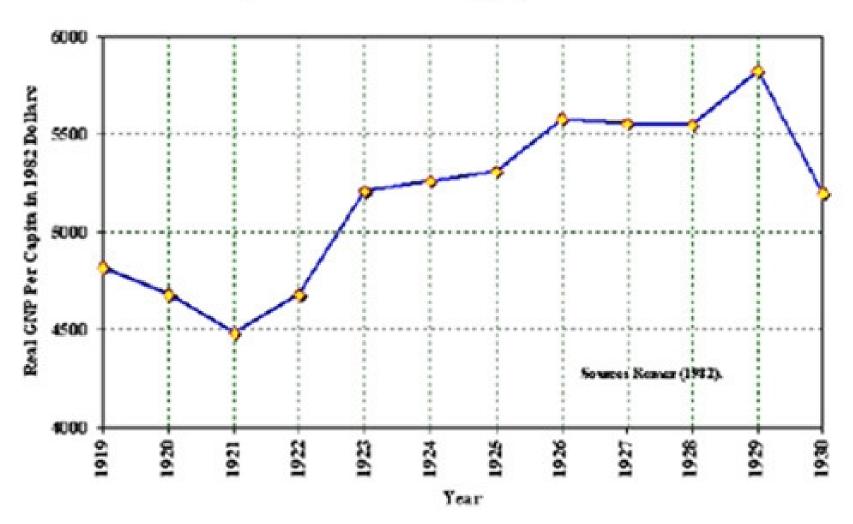
PPT: THE PROSPERITY OF THE 1920S

Figure 1: Real GNP Per Capita, 1919-1930





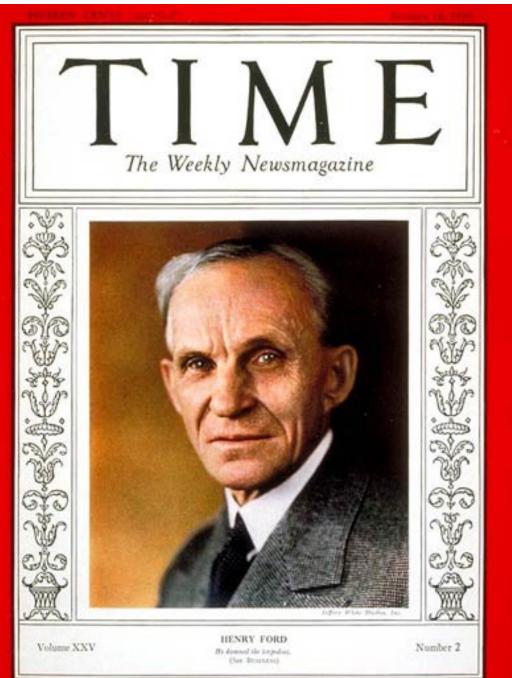


- The 20s will be characterized by economic success, general prosperity, and changing cultural values
- At the end of the 1920s the US was producing 40% of the world's manufactured goods

<u>DVD</u>: 20th Century: Turning Points in U.S. History 1909-Ford Introduces the Model T



https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=VGWeQ2kIPKY



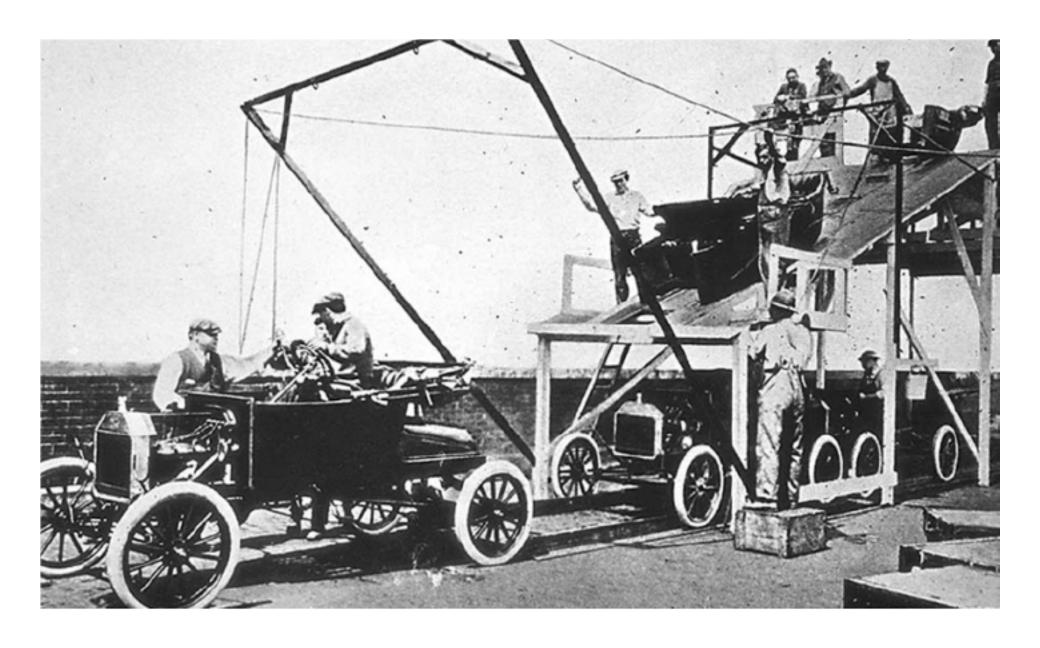


Henry Ford

- introduced the moving production line, an innovation that made it possible to assemble his car in 93 minutes stead of the 14 hours it had taken before.
- By 1925, an auto rolled off the Ford assembly line every 10 seconds.

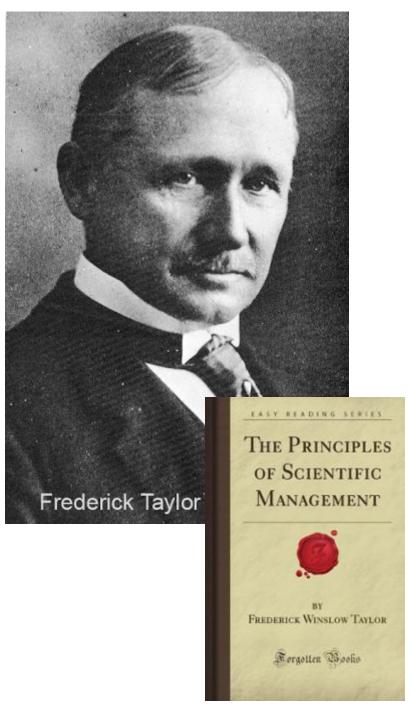


• Mass production meant skilled jobs go broken down into their most basic operations. The assembly line increased production and profits, raised the wages of laborers, and provided jobs for thousands of people in need of work, but it also threatened to turn workers into machines.



Source J: Ford factory, first moving assembly line, 1913, Highland Avenue, Detroit, MI Courtesy of the Frances Loeb Library, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University





Taylor's four principles are as follows:

- 1. Use the scientific method to study work and determine the most efficient way to perform specific tasks.
- 2. Rather than simply assign workers to just any job, match workers to their jobs based on capability and motivation, and train them to work at maximum efficiency.
- 3. Monitor worker performance, and provide instructions and supervision to ensure that they're using the most efficient ways of working.
- 4. Allocate the work between managers and workers so that the managers spend their time planning and training, allowing the workers to perform their tasks efficiently.

• The price of the Model T drops from \$850 in 1909 to \$260 in the 1920s





P. S. D. DETROIT

OF all the times of the year when you need a Ford car, that time is NOW!

Wherever you live—in town or country—owning a Ford car helps you to get the most out of life.

Every day without a Ford means lost hours of healthy motoring pleasure.

The Ford gives you unlimited chance to get away into new surroundings every day—a picnic supper or a cool spin in the evening to enjoy the countryside or a visit with friends.

These advantages make for greater enjoyment of life—bring you rest and relaxation at a cost so low that it will surprise you.

By stimulating good health and efficiency, owning a Ford increases your earning power.

Buy your Ford now or start weekly payments on it.





AUTOMOBILE

Two popularity factors:

 1) Cost—low price, very affordable: Model T \$290;

2) Consumer
 Credit—75% of all automobile
 purchases were on installment plan

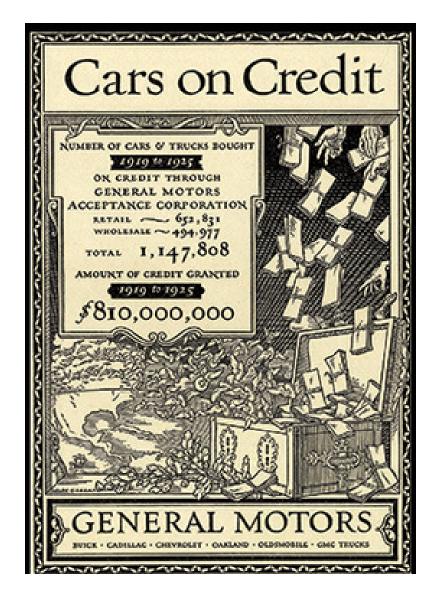






- Items such as: radios, refrigerators, telephones, vacuums, and toasters all became cheaper & made life easier
- Plastics & synthetic materials (both of which had been developed during the war) also became prominate in society and made life easier
- It was this extra time that allowed many people to enjoy leisure activities such as listening to the radio, seeing a movie, going to sporting events, listening to new music, or maybe visiting a speak easy

- The availability and cheap prices of almost everything led to advertising.
- This becomes the rise of a consumer culture in the USA
- For the first time people had the ability to buy on *credit* or on an *installment plan*





CONSUMER GOODS, ADVERTISING, & CREDIT

The Age of Credit Buying Begins in the 1920s

Vacuum Cleaner \$28.95

\$2 down, \$4 a month

Refrigerator \$87.50

\$5 down, \$10 a month

Washing Machine \$97.50

\$5 down, \$8 a month

Perf

Bedroom Suite \$228.00

\$15 down, \$15 a month

Easy Chair \$38.50

\$5 down, \$5 a month

Sofa \$74.50

\$5 down, \$8 a month

Piano \$445.00

\$15 down, \$12 a month

Phonograph \$43.50

\$5 down, \$5 a month

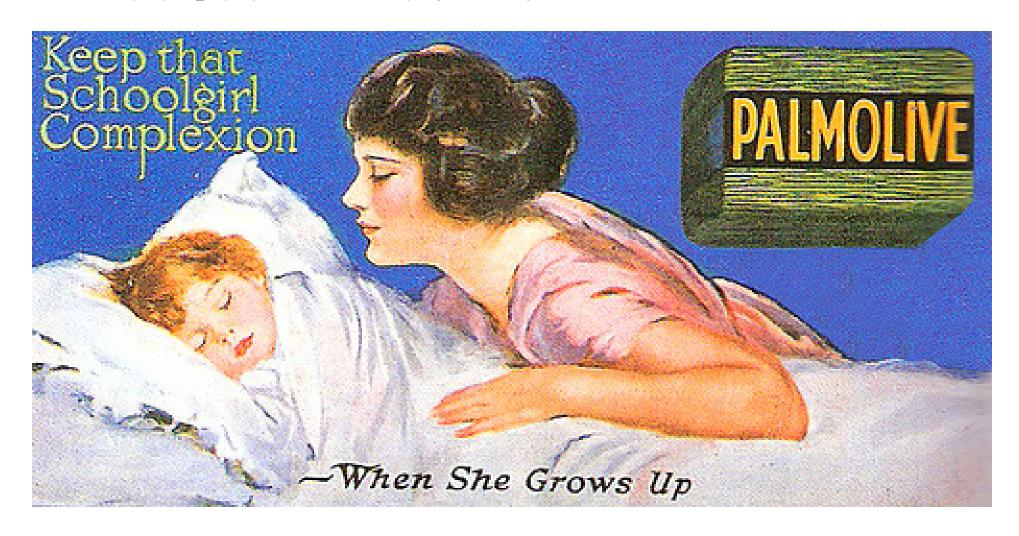
Large Rug \$148.50

\$10 down, \$15 a month

Corner Cabinet \$37.95

\$5 down, \$5 a month

CONSUMER CULTURE





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