

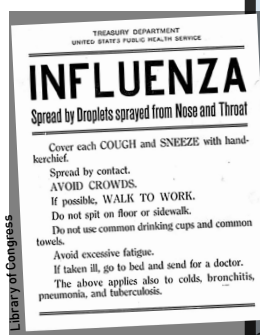


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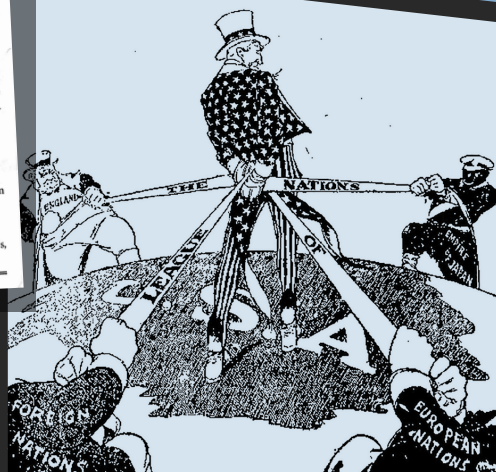
In 1918, Americans rejoiced at the Armistice ending the war. Many sought a return to the "normalcy" of the prewar status quo. And many hoped to isolate the nation from the rest of the world.

"We are citizens of the world. The tragedy of our times is that we do not know this."
—President Woodrow Wilson, 1919

A WORLD TRANSFORMED



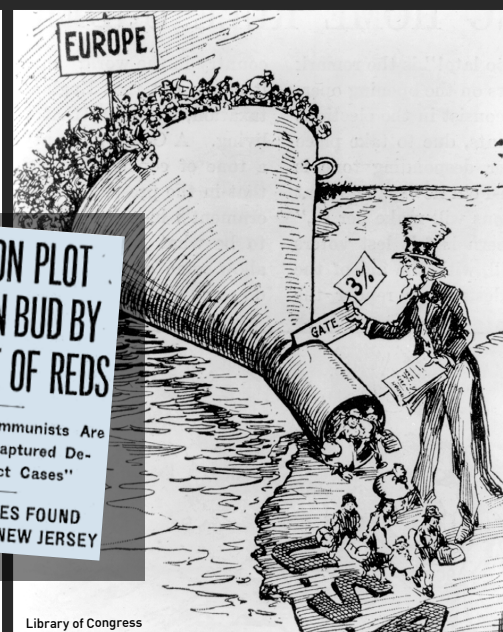
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Americans rejected the Treaty of Versailles and membership in a League of Nations as President Wilson's attempt to entangle the United States in a global tug of war.

Americans' brief foray onto the global stage had exposed them to the horrors of modern warfare and a flu pandemic that killed millions worldwide.

Following the war, the federal government severely restricted immigration. It also launched a campaign against labor and political activists perceived to be foreign-influenced Communists or anarchists.



REVOLUTION PLOT NIPPED IN BUD BY SEIZURE OF REDS
2616 Alleged Communists Are Among Those Captured Declared "Perfect Cases"
BOMBS AND RIFLES FOUND IN NORTHERN NEW JERSEY

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In politics, economics, culture, and beyond, the end of the Great War signaled the dawn of a new modern era. And in spite of its isolationist bent, the United States increasingly found itself a global player.

Smithsonian

100 THE UNITED STATES WORLD WAR ONE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

WORLD WAR I: LESSONS AND LEGACIES

World War I: Lessons and Legacies is organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the National Museum of American History, with funding from The United States World War I Centennial Commission and the Smithsonian Women's Committee. Images courtesy of National Museum of American History unless otherwise indicated.



Missouri History Museum, St. Louis