**America and the Great War, 1914-1920**

**Lecture-Reading Notes 1 (p.191-197)**

**I. Waging Neutrality**

1. **The Origins of Conflict**

* Since the 1870s, the competing imperial ambitions of the great European powers had led to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* On June 28, a Serbian terrorist assassinated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne.
* Mass slaughter enveloped Europe as huge armies \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. **American Attitudes**

* Most people believed that the United States had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the war and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* However, ethnic, cultural, and economic ties bound most Americans to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Politically, too, most Americans felt a greater affinity for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Wilson himself admired Britain’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and distrusted Germany’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Like other influential Americans, Wilson believed that a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ America’s economic, political and perhaps even strategic interests.
* Sympathy for the Allies, however, did not mean that Americans favored \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Wilson was determined to pursue peace as long as his view of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. **The Economy of War**

* International law \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to sell or ship war material to all belligerents, and with the economy mired in a recession when the war began, many Americans looked to the war orders to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The British navy prevented trade with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Only the Allies could \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Their orders for steel, explosives, uniforms wheat, and other products \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Americans worried that this one-sided war trade \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* A second economic issue complicated matters. To finance their war purchases, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. **The Diplomacy of Neutrality**

* The same imbalance characterized American diplomacy. Wilson acquiesced in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ while sternly refusing to yield on German actions.
* When the war began, the United States asked belligerents to respect the 1909 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on neutral rights. Germany agreed to do so; the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* In January 1915, Wilson yielded further by observing that “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” were involved in the Anglo-American quarrels over ship seizures and they could be resolved after the war.
* This policy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the British war effort and provoked a German response. Germany decided in February 1915 to use its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in a war zone around the British Isles.
* In May 1915, a German submarine sank a British passenger liner, the *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*. It had been carrying arms, and the German embassy had warned Americans against traveling on the ship, but the loss of life – 1, 198 people, including \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – caused Americans to condemn Germany.
* Wilson demanded that Germany \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* In April 1916, a German submarine torpedoed the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, injuring four Americans. Wilson threatened to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ if Germany did not abandon \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ against all merchant vessels.

1. **The Battle over Preparedness**

* The threat of war sparked a debate over military policy. Theodore Roosevelt and a handful of other politicians advocated what they called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a program to expand the armed forces and establish universal military training.
* Most Americans opposed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Wilson also opposed preparedness initially, but he reversed his position when the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* In early 1916, an election year, he made a speaking tour to generate public support for expanding the armed forces. Congress soon passed the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, increasing the strength of the army and authorizing a naval construction plan.

1. **The Election of 1916**

* The Republicans had hoped to regain the support of their progressive members after Roosevelt urged the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to follow him back to the GOP. But many joined the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ instead.
* The GOP nominated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a Supreme Court justice and former New York governor.
* The election was the closest in decades. When California narrowly went for Wilson, it decided the contest. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, all observers concluded, had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. **Decent into War**

* In January 1917, Wilson sketched out the terms of what he called a “\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” The new world order should be based on national equity and self-determination, arms reductions, freedom of the seas, and an international organization to ensure peace.
* But both the Allies and the Central Powers had \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to settle for anything short of outright victory.
* Germany moved to win the war by cutting the Allies off from U.S. supplies. On January 31, Germany \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in a broad war zone.
* Wilson was now \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ many Americans opposed. He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with Germany and asked Congress to arm American merchant vessels.
* On March 1, Wilson released an intercepted message from the German foreign minister, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to the German minister in Mexico. It proposed that in the event of war between the United States and Germany, Mexico should ally itself with Germany; in exchange, Mexico would recover its “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
* On April 2, 1917, Wilson delivered his war message, declaring that neutrality was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, given Germany’s submarine “\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
* To build support for joining a war that most people had long regarded with revulsion and as alien to American interests, Wilson set forth the nation’s war goals as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* After vigorous debate, the Senate passed the war resolution \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the House \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. On \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the United States officially entered the Great War.