

Warm-Up 12/1/15

- Explain how all European countries suffered after World War I.
- Why was unemployment so bad after World War I?

After WWI and worldwide depression

- WWI affected the European economy because nations had war debt to repay
- Soldiers came home needing jobs, but there were not enough. Unemployment skyrocketed. (Listen to “Stony Broke in No Man’s Land”)
- In 1929, the stock market crash led to depression in the U.S. but also all over the world
- Countries experienced Inflation (a condition where prices rise and money loses value; therefore, you cannot buy as much as you used to with the same amount of money)

After WWI and worldwide depression

- Industry, shipping, and trade between countries were affected
- Around the world, unrest and nationalism grew, people wanted strong leadership to make their countries rich and powerful again
- However, the Great Depression weakened many countries when they needed to be strong. Why is this significant?

German Political Platform A

We are committed to the overthrow of the presently existing, oppressive Republic and all of its economic and social institutions. The party favors:

- The abolition of private property – when property is not owned publicly, it cannot be distributed to those who are poor, cold, sick or hungry.
- The establishment of land reform programs in which the government will take over the land and distribute it for the common good of all.
- Transfer of all industries to the government so that they can be operated for the benefit of all people.
- A foreign policy that will build friendly relations between Germany and the Soviet Union since we share interests.
- To the German people: the cause of your misery is the fact that French, British, and American capitalists are exploiting German workers to get rich themselves.
- Germans, unite and remove this terrible burden.

German Political Platform B

This party wishes to maintain the Republic and to encourage Germany to take its place among the free governments of Europe.

- We support the present German Republic in which freedom, democracy, and justice live in the hearts of German countrymen.
- We will honor all of Germany's obligations, political and financial, in order that Germany's honor will increase in the eyes of the world.
- We plan to increase jobs through a program of public works.
- We will establish unemployment compensation for up to a six month period.
- We will cut government expenditures to lower taxes.
- We believe in the right of those who disagree with the party to speak and write their opinions freely.

German Political Platform C

We demand:

- A union of all Germans to form a great Germany on the basis of self-determination of peoples.
- Abolition of the Treaty of Versailles.
- Land and territory (colonies) for our surplus population.
- The requirement that all German citizens have German blood.
- Non-citizens will live in Germany as foreigners only, subject to laws governing aliens.
- The vote will be allotted to citizens, only, as will the privilege of holding office. If it becomes impossible for the mother-land to feed the entire population, aliens must be expelled.
- No further immigration of non-Germans will be allowed. Any non-German who arrived after April 2, 1914, shall leave immediately.
- A thorough reconstruction of our education system will ensue, with the science of citizenship taught from grade one.
- All newspapers must be published in German, by German citizen-owners.