

# Post WWII

Changes in Georgia and America

# I. CHANGES AFTER WWII

- Georgia and most of America changed after WWII in two distinct ways
  1. Growth of cities
  2. Transformation of Agriculture



When electric lines reached their farm in Vermont, Conrad Ormsbee's dad bought automatic milkers. FSA.

# Economy of Georgia

- As men returned from WWII they began to marry, buy a home, and start a family
- Because of the G.I. bill, many of veterans will go to college and earn a degree.
- Many of these veterans will move to the cities and start their jobs.
- The increase in the number of houses needed for new families will result in the idea of suburbs.
- Suburbs are neighborhoods found outside the city.
- Suburbs, along with growth of jobs from war time industries such as the Bell Aircraft plant becoming Lockheed Martin will cause Georgia's economy to boom and be diverse.



# Transformation of Agriculture

- When soldiers and sailors returned home after the war, Georgia had changed
- **Agriculture was no longer as dominant - why?**
  1. During the war, many people moved away from farms to work in wartime industries.
  2. New Technology reduced the number of workers needed on the farm. For example, bigger tractors required less farm hands
  3. **Man-made fabrics** such as **rayon** and **nylon** caused the need for cotton to fall



# Agriculture Changes Continued

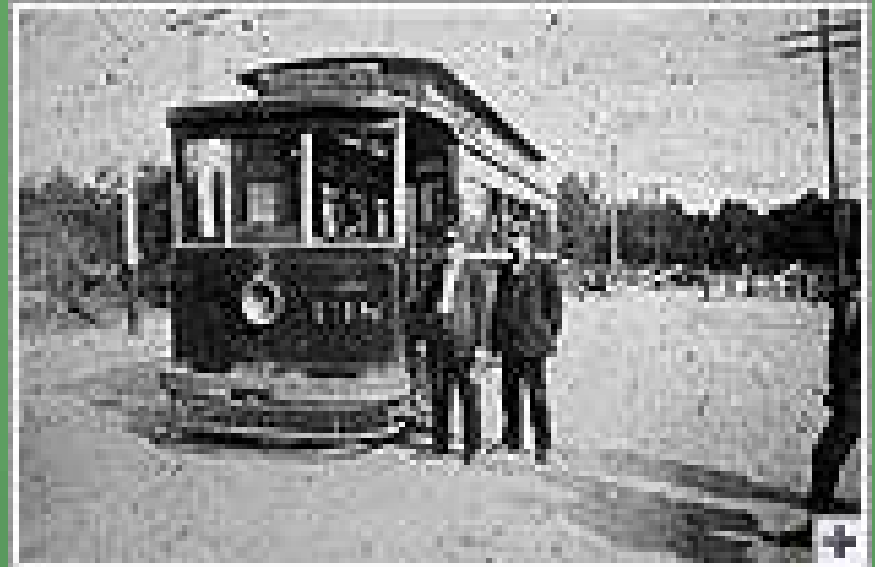
4. **Trees** and row crops such as **peanuts**, **soybeans**, and **corn** replaced cotton
5. **Poultry** and dairy cows became an important source of income
  - In 1940: 66% of the population was rural
  - By 1970 34% was rural

# Growth of Atlanta

- Jobs that started with war time industries will more than double in post WWII Atlanta.
- By 1954, within ten years after World War II ended, eight hundred new industries existed in Atlanta as well as offices for almost 1,200 national corporations.
- As a result of the growing population growth, new freeways and highways were built in the city.
- Industries, as well as the airport, will bring the population of Atlanta to the highest point it had ever been.

# III. The Development of Atlanta

1. William B. Hartsfield
2. Ivan Allen, Jr.
3. Professional Sports





# THE DEVELOPMENT OF ATLANTA

## William B. Hartsfield

1. In 1925 he convinced the city to buy Candler Field for an airport.
2. Elected Mayor of Atlanta six times.  
1937 – 1962 (except 1940 – 1942)  
longest serving Mayor
3. Promoted peace between blacks and whites by encouraging factories such as Lockheed to hire minorities. He claimed that Atlanta was “too busy to hate” and it became a city slogan.
4. Supported growth such as the interstate highway system, skyscrapers, and the south’s first large mall Lenox Square



# THE DEVELOPMENT OF ATLANTA

## Ivan Allen Jr.

1. Became mayor after Hartsfield decided not to run again.
2. Created new slogan, “Forward Atlanta”
  - Focused on creating new business, jobs, and growing Atlanta into a major city
3. Worked toward racial peace – How?
  - 1 Took down “White” and “Colored” signs at city hall.
  - 2 Hired the city’s first black firemen.
  - 3 Was personal friends with both MLK and Coretta Scott King
  - During his term, 50 large buildings were completed, Six Flags opened, I-285 was begun, and MARTA was planned.

# THE DEVELOPMENT OF ATLANTA

## Professional Sports

- It was under Ivan Allen Jr. Atlanta became home to 3 major league sports
- Mayor Allen persuaded business leaders to build a baseball field without a team
- **Braves** – moved from Milwaukee in 1964, played the first game in 1965, won the pennant in 1969.
- **Falcons** – played the first game in 1966
- **Hawks** – began in 1968

# HOW DID THESE CHANGES AFFECT GEORGIA?

1. Tourism
2. Government became more focused on business than fighting and corruption – they had to cooperate
3. Better image to the rest of the country and world
4. Increase in business and growth: MARTA first subway in the South, Hartsfield – busiest airport in the world

## II. ELLIS ARNALL



- GA governor. from 1943-1947
- From Coweta Co. elected at 35, the youngest ever
- Considered one of the best GA governors: Why?
  1. Changed GA's prison system and got rid of chain gangs

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsF0mYWMw1M>
- 2. Got rid of the poll tax
- 3. Lowered voting age from 21 to 18
  - Led the legislature to revise the state constitution

## II. ELLIS ARNALL

- ⑩ Started teacher's retirement system
- ⑩ Got rid of the state's large debt
- 4. Reduced governor's power
- 5. Created state port authority Which is part of the deepwater ports.
- 6. These allow ships from around the world to trade with Georgia



# Three Governors Controversy of 1946

- Eugene Talmadge decided to run for Governor again because he did not like the direction the state of Georgia was heading.
- He won in the November election but died before taking office in January of 1947.
- His supporters convinced the Georgia legislature to put his son, Herman Talmadge into the governor's office.
- Sitting governor, Ellis Arnall refused to leave office.
- Herman Talmadge grabbed a .38 caliber Smith and Wesson and seized control of the office.
- Not so easily dismissed, Arnall set up his office in an information booth in the capitol.
- Meanwhile, the 1946 election had added the new position of lieutenant governor which was filled by Melvin Thompson.

## Three Governors Controversy continued

- Thompson said he held the rightful claim to the governor's office and set up his office down the street.
- All three men claimed to be governor of Georgia at the same time.
- Finally, in March 1947, the Georgia Supreme Court ruled in favor of Thompson.
- He will serve as governor until a special election could be held in 1948.
- Herman Talmadge will be elected governor in that election.
- This event caught the attention of the entire country. Watch the video and see how it was portrayed. To many Georgian's it was an embarrassment.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHPZBXYHmyg>



# The Three Governors Controversy

The death of Georgia governor-elect Eugene Talmadge in December 1946 set the stage for an infamous political scandal. Talmadge had won a fourth term as governor in November 1946, but died on December 21. The public mourned while debate raged over who his successor would be. Three men claimed the office.

The new 1945 state constitution had created the position of lieutenant governor to succeed the governor if he died in office. But Talmadge had not been inaugurated. Talmadge supporters believed that the General Assembly would select his son Herman, a write-in candidate. M. E. Thompson, the newly elected lieutenant governor, claimed the office. Gov. Ellis Arnall said that he would remain until a legitimate successor was chosen.

Sign in the museum in the Georgia capital

# Herman Talmadge

- Will become governor of Georgia in a special election in 1948 and serve until 1955.
- Like his father, Herman was a racist who tried to block progressive ideas.
- He wanted to bring back the white primaries which did not allow blacks to vote in elections.
- He blocked all attempts to integrate schools and did not support civil rights.
- He expanded the school year to 9 months.
- He did increase the state health department and created the Georgia Forestry Commission.

# GEORGIA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM



Savannah  
Shipyard  
1943

1. HARTSFIELD-JACKSON  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
2. INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM
3. DEEP WATER PORTS



# GEORGIA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

- Georgia has been centered on transportation since its creation.
  1. First, with the **port** of Savannah
  2. The **railway system** centered in Atlanta
  3. **Airport** started in the 1920's
  4. Finally, the **interstate Highways** connecting GA to the rest of the country in the 1950's
  5. Today, GA is still dependent on its transportation systems for growth



# GEORGIA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

These systems allow:

1. Goods produced in GA to be easily shipped by truck, plane, and boat to the rest of the US and the world. This improves industry and the economy in GA.
2. Goods produced in other parts of the US to be shipped through GA to the world.
3. International imports to be brought to GA and the rest of the US.
4. Travelers to drive and fly through GA



# GEORGIA'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

5. Each time goods or people pass into or through GA, it creates income for the state
6. The more business is created, the more jobs are available for Georgians.
7. With more Georgians working and businesses gaining profits, Georgia's economy grows
8. Over 122,000 Georgians are employed in the transportation business such as airport employees, truckers, shipping industry, messenger services, etc.

