

# MR. LIPMAN'S APUS POWERPOINT CHAPTER 29

Woodrow Wilson

Progressive Movement at home and  
abroad

# Keys to the Chapter

- Election of 1912 is a three way race
- Progressive reforms instituted
- Problems with Mexico
- War breaks out in Europe but America tries to remain neutral

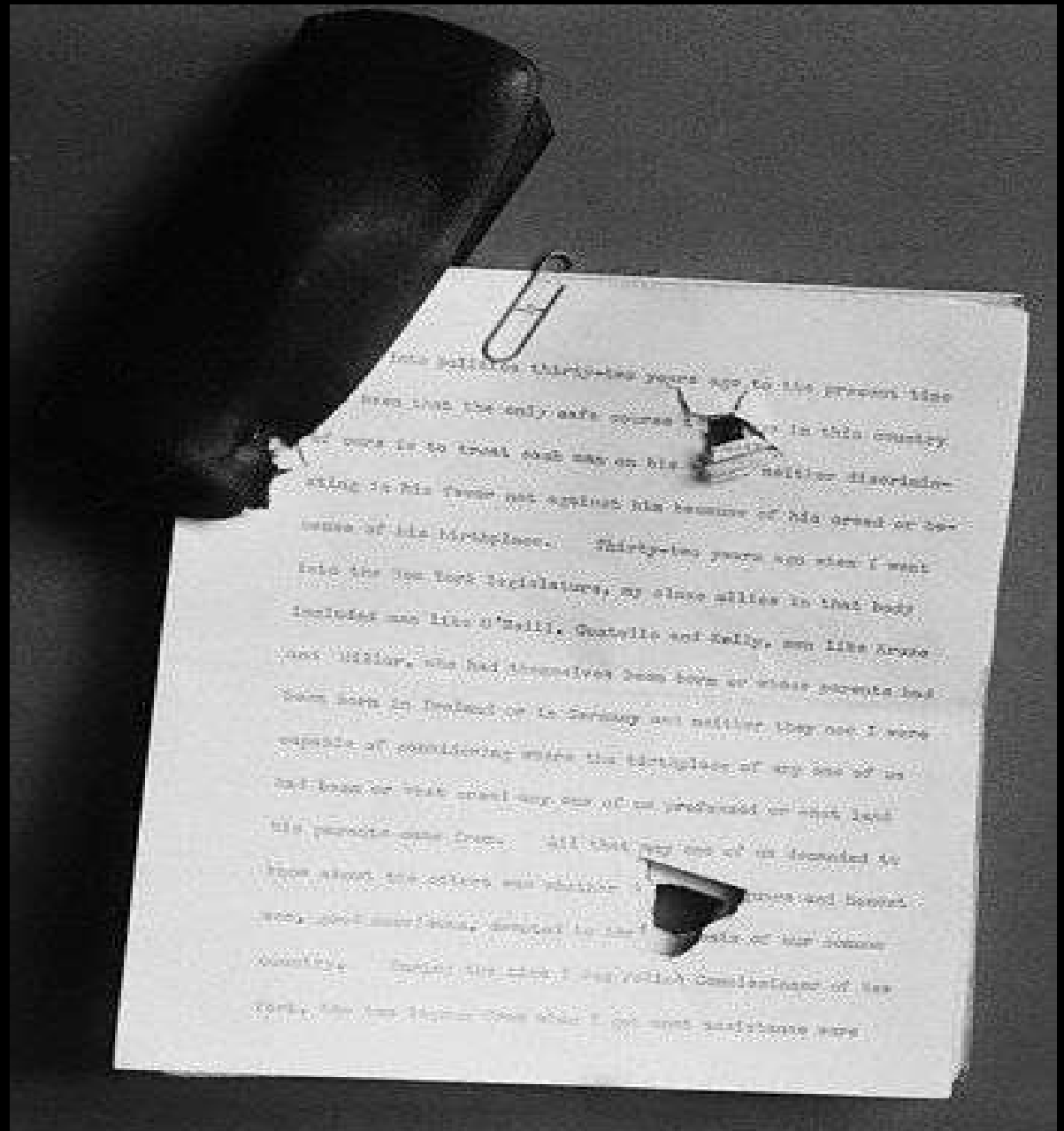
- Wilson a professor then President of Princeton
- In 1910, he became governor of New Jersey
- As governor championed many progressive reforms in a conservative state
- The Democratic convention in 1912
  - Wilson nominated with support from Bryan
  - Wilson ran on the “New Freedom” platform, including stronger antitrust legislation, banking reform, and tariff reductions

- The Progressive Republican convention in 1912
  - Roosevelt rejected by the Republicans and starts the Bull Moose Party {named because he felt “strong as a moose”
  - During the campaign, Taft and Roosevelt split Republican Party voters
- The real conflict was between which type of progressivism would win - Roosevelt’s New Nationalism or Wilson’s New Freedom
  - Both favored a stronger government active in economic affairs, but strongly disagreed on specifics

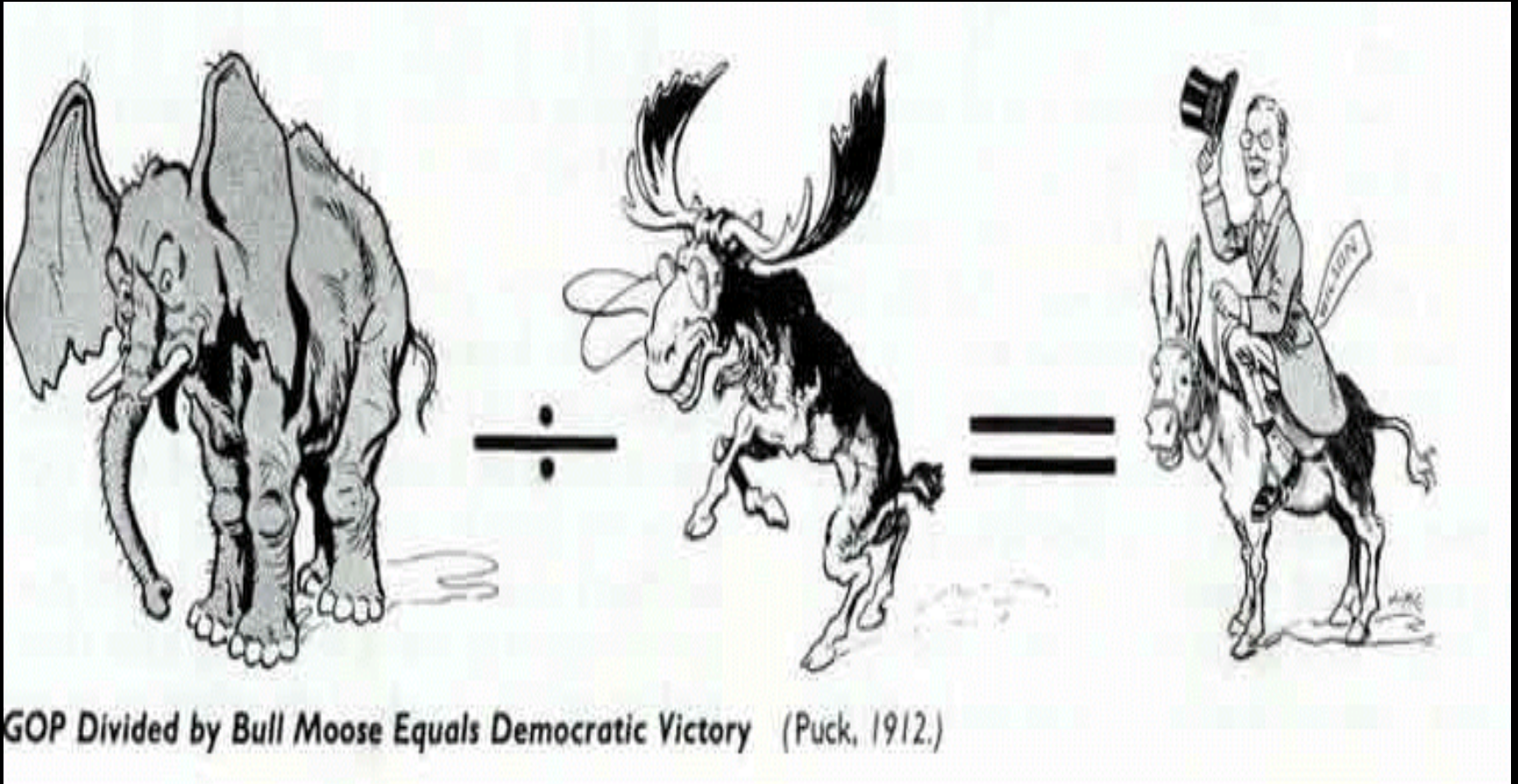
# Roosevelt's Speech and Spectacle Case, both with Bullet Holes from His Shooting

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He kept  
speaking



# GOP Divided by T.R. and Taft and this leads to Wilson Victory as Democrat



- Wilson's political philosophy
  - President should play a strong role in the US; Congress needs President to be leader
  - Appeals directly to people over Congress
  - Problem is individual relationships
    - He was stubborn and arrogant at times
  - He would rather be defeated than compromise

- Wilson agenda: to attack the “triple wall of privilege”: *the tariff*, *the banks*, and *the trusts*

## *Underwood Tariff*

- Substantially reduced import tariffs (from about 41% to 27%) with \$ made up from new progress income tax

## Banking

The US system needed ability to move \$ around quickly in times of a panic

In 1911 special commission recommended a huge bank with many branches (in effect a third Bank of the United States)



- 1913 - the ***Federal Reserve Act*** was passed
  - Set up a decentralized bank in government hands
  - The president appointed Federal Reserve Board to oversee the 12 regional reserve districts
  - The board could also issue paper money (“Federal Reserve Notes”); thus amount of money in circulation could be quickly increased in case of financial panic
  - it allowed the US to modernize and industrialize much more quickly and efficiently

# A Federal Reserve Note



# THE TRUSTS BECOME REGULATED

- **1914 Federal Trade Commission Act**
  - Appointed by president to investigate companies involved in interstate commerce
    - job was to break up monopolies using investigating unfair trade practices

**Clayton Anti-Trust Act of 1914** also passed, strengthening the Sherman Anti-Trust Act

It outlawed interlocking directorates and price agreements by large trusts

- Clayton reversed court trend using Sherman Act against unions:
  - Exempted unions from the Sherman Act and specifically allowed strikes and peaceful picketing
  - Although an important law for labor, conservative judges would restrict its application for several more decades (until the 1930s)

During his first 18 months in office, Wilson had completed his attack on the “triple wall of privilege” {Tariff; Trusts and Banking}

# Other Wilson Progressive Steps

- Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916
  - Made credit available to farmers at low interest rates
- Warehouse Act of 1916
  - Authorized loans to farmers using crops as collateral
- Paying for highway construction and agricultural classes
- Workingmen's Compensation Act of 1916
  - Assistance to federal civil-service employees if injured

8-hour day for all employees on trains in interstate commerce, with extra pay for overtime

- Louis D. Brandies first Jewish Supreme Court justice but Wilson was also a racist against blacks
- He hated imperialism and rejected an aggressive foreign policy, both Roosevelt's "big stick" policy and Taft's dollar diplomacy
- Jones Act of 1916
  - Gave Philippines territorial status and promised independence once "stable government" found

# New Directions in Foreign Policy

- Haiti
  - In 1915 people overthrew the Haitian president
  - Wilson sent marines to protect US lives and property
  - 1916 - a US-Haitian treaty gave the US the right to supervise Haitian finances and police
  - The Marines then stayed for the next 19 years, making Haiti a US protectorate

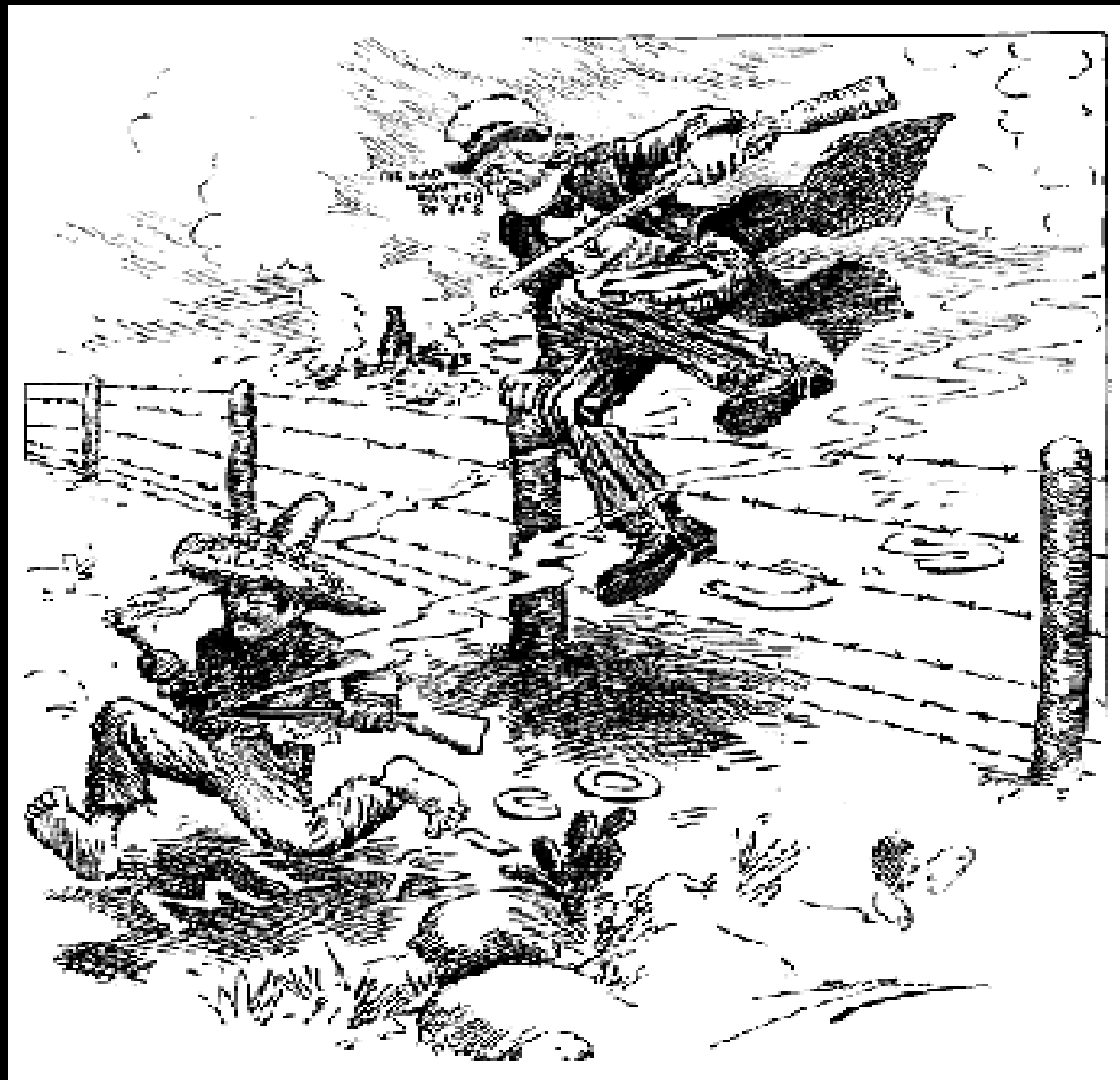
- The Dominican Republic
  - 1916 - Marines put down rioting & stayed 8 years
- The Virgin Islands
  - 1917 - Wilson bought the islands from Denmark
  - This purchase increased US power in Caribbean
- Exploitation in Mexico
  - US investors put over \$1B into the country's oil, railroads, and mines – This made for a few wealthy people and many poor peasants who sought to revolt against the government



- Upheavals in Mexico impacted the US:
  - A massive migration into the US occurred
  - American lives and property were endangered
  - Hearst used newspapers to push for war; his views were probably influenced by the huge ranch he owned in Mexico
  - Wilson refused to send troops but did allow arms to opposition to the government
  - Used Navy to seize fort at Vera Cruz. War is avoided because of peace efforts by other S.A. countries.

- **“Pancho” Villa** emerged as leader of opposition to new Mexican government:
  - Villa hoped to provoke a war between the US and Mexico (to weaken Gov’t & to take revenge on the US)
  - In January 1916, Villa took 16 mining engineers off a train in northern Mexico and killed them
  - In February 1916, Villa rode into Columbus, New Mexico and killed another 19 Americans
  - **General John J. “Black Jack” Pershing** ordered to hunt down Villa and break up his gang. Spends over a year but never catches him and then ordered out of Mexico to help with WWI.

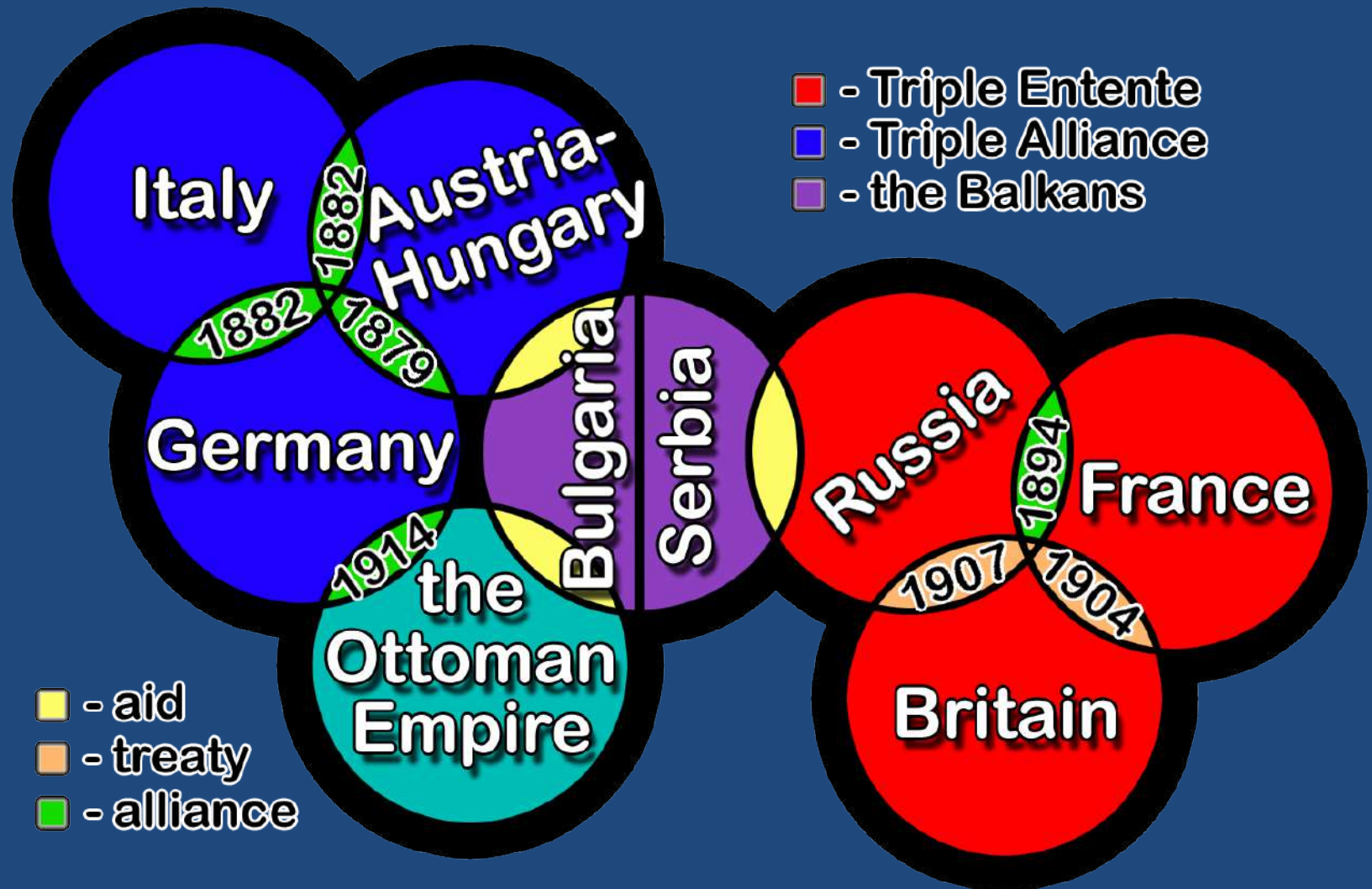
Uncle  
Sam's  
Chasing a  
Mexican  
Bandit  
into  
Mexico  
in 1916



# Assassination of Archduke Ferdinand in the summer of 1914 starts WWI



# World War I Alliances Chart



# The Schlieffen Plan



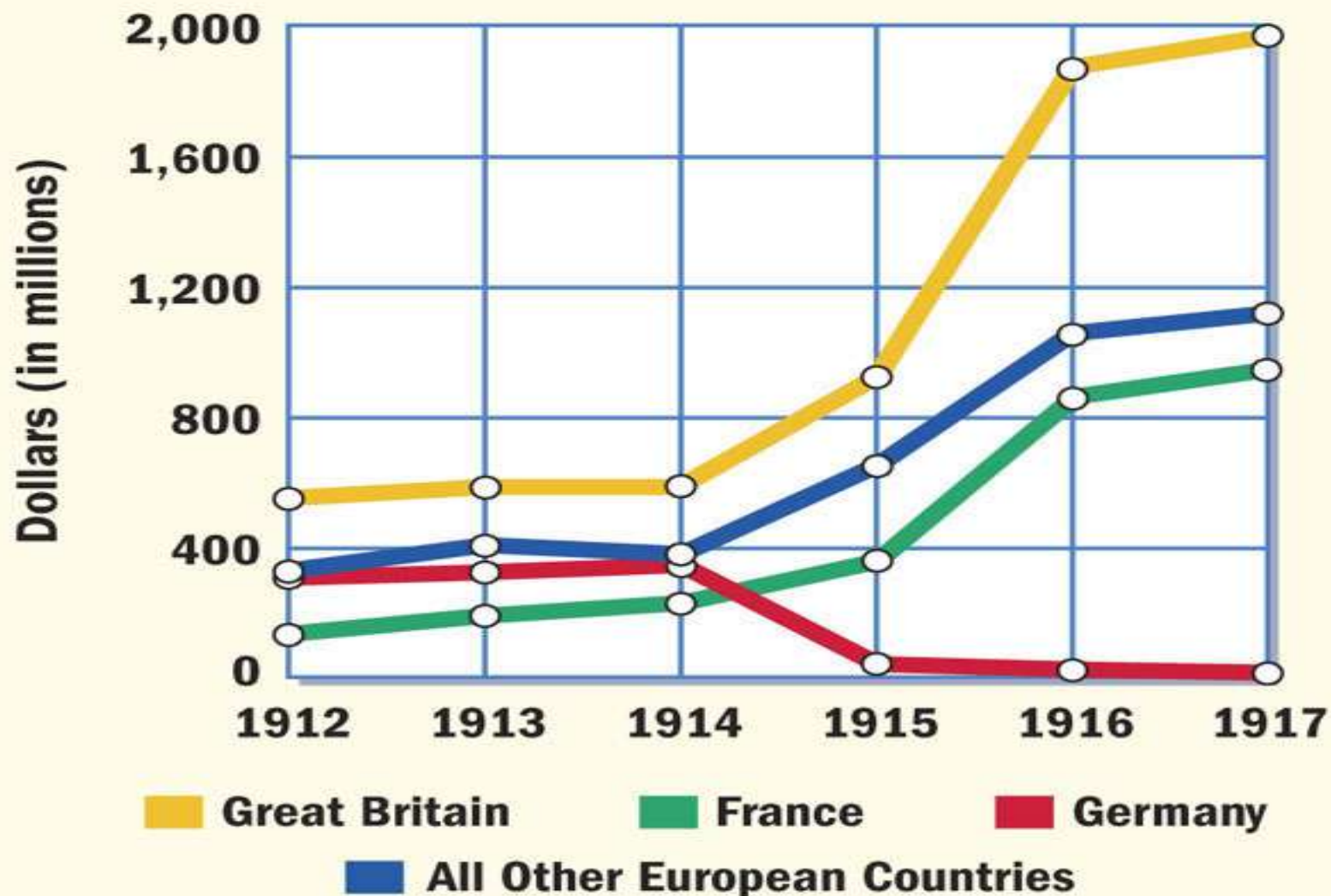
- President Wilson issued proclamation of neutrality and confident Atlantic Ocean will help to keep America out of the war.
  - Staying neutral proved to be difficult as both sides tried to get the US on their side
  - Britain controlled most of the transatlantic cables, controlling the news
    - The US was flooded with news of German atrocities (many of which were false), while stories that were harmful to the Allies were censored

- Most Americans were strongly anti-German
  - Kaiser Wilhelm seen as symbol of autocracy
  - Germany's attack on Belgium, a neutral country, was condemned in the US
  - German and Austrian spies planned violence in US factories
    - The plan was stopped when a German briefcase was found with the plans in it
  - Even though they opposed Germany, most Americans wanted to stay out of the war



- British and French war orders pulled the economy up and out of the recession
  - To pay for purchases Allies borrowed over \$2.3B from US bankers
  - Germany protested, but such trade did not violate international neutrality laws
  - British controlled sea lanes and set up a blockade so neutral ships could not sail to Germany
  - Britain forced US ships to their ports, blocking almost all trade between the US and Germany

## U.S. Exports to Europe, 1912–1917



- February 1915 Germany announced a policy of submarine warfare
- Germany promised to try not to attack neutral shipping, but warned of possible mistakes
  - Wilson also warned that Germany would be held to “strict accountability” if US ships were attacked or citizens killed
- May 7, **1915**, a British passenger liner called the **Lusitania** was sunk
  - 1,198 people, including 128 Americans were killed
  - Ship had 4,200 cases of ammunition on board

## LUSITANIA SUNK BY A SUBMARINE, PROBABLY 1,260 DEAD; TWICE TORPEDOED OFF IRISH COAST; SINKS IN 15 MINUTES; CAPT. TURNER SAVED, FROHMAN AND VANDERBILT MISSING; WASHINGTON BELIEVES THAT A GRAVE CRISIS IS AT HAND

### SHOCKS THE PRESIDENT

Washington Deeply Stirred by the Loss of American Lives.

### BULLETIN AT WHITE HOUSE

Wilson Reads Them Closely, but is Silent on the Nation's Course.

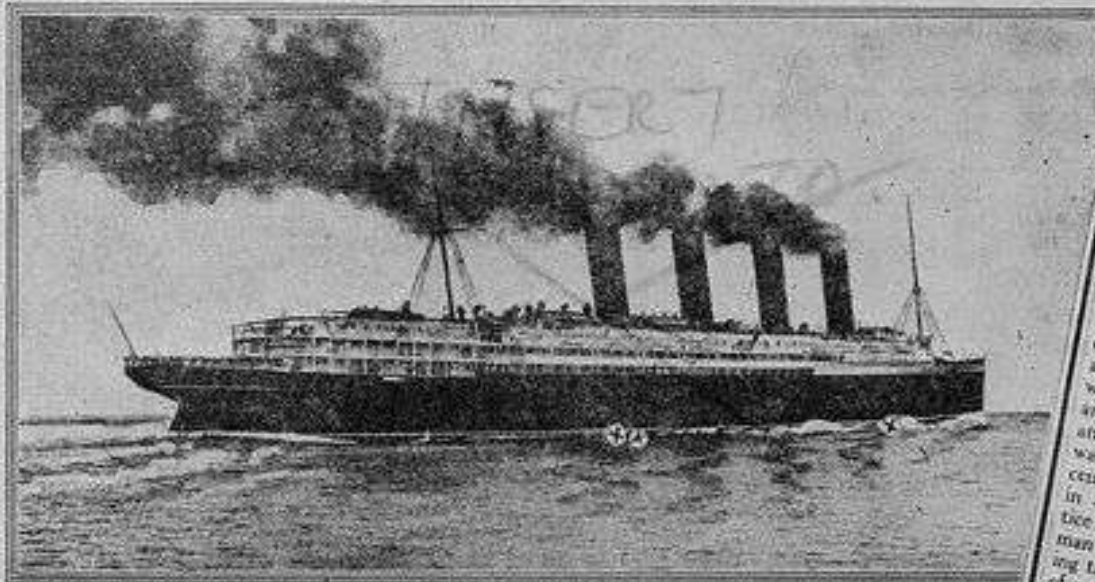
### HINTS OF CONGRESS CALL

Loss of Lusitania Revives Firm Tone of Our First Warning to Germany.

### CAPITAL FULL OF HUMORS

Reports That Lines Were to Be Sent Were Heard Before Advice Was Given.

Washington, May 1.—The news that the Lusitania had been sunk by a submarine, with the loss of 1,260 lives, including 128 Americans, has caused a deep shock in the capital. President Wilson, who was reading the bulletin at the White House, was deeply affected. The news of the sinking of the Lusitania, which was the first American liner to be sunk by a submarine, has revived the firm tone of our first warning to Germany. The capital is full of humors, and reports that lines were to be sent were heard before advice was given.



The Lost Great Steamship Lusitania.

### Canard Office Here Designed for News; Fate of 1,918 on Lusitania Long in Doubt

Nothing Heard from the Well-Known Passenger on Board—Story of Disaster Long Unconfirmed While Aboard Crews Took Details.

The Lusitania was a well-known passenger liner, and the news of her sinking has caused a deep shock in the capital. The fate of the 1,918 passengers on board is long in doubt. Nothing has been heard from the well-known passenger on board. The story of the disaster has been long unconfirmed, and while the crews took details, the passengers were in a state of panic.

### List of Saved Includes Capt. Turner; Vanderbilt and Frohman Reported Lost

The list of saved includes Capt. Turner, who was rescued by a lifeboat. Vanderbilt and Frohman are reported lost. The news of the sinking of the Lusitania has caused a deep shock in the capital, and the fate of the passengers is long in doubt.

### Saw the Submarine 100 Yds and Watched Torpedo as

Ernest Cramer, a Toronto Newspaper Man, Saw the Submarine 100 Yds and Watched Torpedo as it Approached the Lusitania. The news of the sinking of the Lusitania has caused a deep shock in the capital, and the fate of the passengers is long in doubt.

### SOME DEAD TAKEN ASHORE

Several Hundred Survivors at Queenstown and Kinsale.

### STEWARD TELLS OF DISASTER

—and Gives Last News.

### ADVERTISEMENT

### NOTICE!

TRAVELLERS intending to embark on the Atlantic voyage are reminded that a state of war exists between Germany and her allies, that the zone of war includes the waters adjacent to the British Isles; that, in accordance with formal notice given by the Imperial German Government, vessels flying the flag of Great Britain, or of any of her allies, are liable to destruction in those waters and that travellers sailing in the war zone on ships of Great Britain or her allies do so at their own risk.

IMPERIAL GERMAN EMBASSY  
WASHINGTON, D. C. — APRIL 22, 1915.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF., May 1.—The Lusitania, which sailed on May 1, was sunk by a submarine.

- While some called for war, most Americans did not want to enter war and Wilson instead issued a strong statement
- Some Americans thought Wilson went to far, even in the moderate approach that he took
  - Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan resigned rather than sign a document that might lead to war with Germany
- However, many Americans, including T.R. viciously criticized Wilson for refusing to fight
  - Roosevelt called Wilson a coward and a “weasel”

- The **Sussex** pledge
  - March **1916** Germans sunk a French passenger liner violating 1915 promise not to sink a passenger ship without warning
  - Wilson threatened to cut off diplomatic relations unless Germans stopped sinking unarmed ships without warning
  - The Germans pledged to do this, but wanted the US to get the Allies to lift the blockade
  - Wilson accepted the pledge without accepting the condition

- Election of 1916 pits Wilson against the Republican Hughes from New York
- Hughes was disliked by T.R. who would not openly support him
- Wilson ran on the slogan,  
“He Kept Us Out of War”
- Wilson barely wins but the Mid-West progressive voters unite behind him to give him the victory
- Wilson careful to proclaim that he had kept us out of the war, not that he would keep us out.