

US History

World War I

Learning Target:

I can examine the mobilization of the home front during World War I by identifying how the war was paid for and the role of federal war boards.

6. Mobilizing The Nation: Financing The War

Paying For World War I –

- Wilson had to reorganize the economy to support the war effort
- Money would have to be raised to pay for the war
- World War I would eventually cost the United States \$35 billion
- Federal government never took complete control of the economy but did regulate it

Methods of Paying for the War –

War Bonds –

- Four issues of Liberty Bonds during the war
- One issue of Victory Bonds after fighting ended

Taxes –

- Increased taxes on business and large personal income
- Raised about \$10 billion for the war

Volunteerism –

- Americans voluntarily saved energy, food, recycled, planted victory gardens, and purchased Liberty Bonds to pay for the war

Administration of the War –

War Boards –

- Government organizations that were created to administer the war at home
- Coordinated the actions of government, business, & industry to pay for the war
- Boards regulated resources, directed industry, & managed labor

Resource Regulation –

- Food Administration – Increased production and conservation of food
- Fuel Administration – Organized conservation of fuel

Industry –

- War Industries Board – Regulated industrial production & distribution
 - Allocated scarce materials
 - Established production priorities
 - Set prices on goods

Labor –

- National War Labor Board – Created to give labor a voice without strikes

Women & Minorities During The War –

Women –

- Helped with labor shortages on the home front
- Women's war effort credited with helping to pass the 19th amendment

Minorities –

- The Great Migration (1915-1930)
 - Blacks migrated north looking for good jobs and to escape discrimination
 - Found better jobs but still faced discrimination