

Germany out of WW1

Situation = B A D



Bankrupt - (Almost)

War had ruined the economy

Anger and Revolution

Communist revolt + navy mutinies - Kiel

Division

Gaps between rich / poor + men / women

1918

BAD = Bankrupt

Almost - economically ruined



The cost of war ruined Germany financially.

2 million children without fathers.

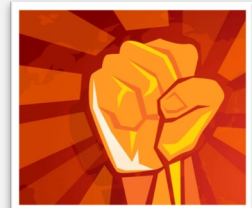
1/3 of GDP spent on welfare payments.

Industrial production fell by 1/3

1918 - 1923

BAD = Anger / Revolts

Communist - Left Wing State - Sailors



After the German surrender - Kaiser fled to Holland. Other groups looked to take control. Bavaria declared a Socialist Republic in 1918.

There was a mutiny amongst German sailors at the port of Kiel - refused to follow orders.

1918 - 19

BAD = Division

Social Problems



The war increased the gap between rich and poor. Many 'fat cat' business owners had profited - while workers were paid little. War had changed role of women - conservatives not happy.

1918

Reactions to Versailles

Stab in the Back - Shock - Humiliation - Anger



The signing of Versailles came as a shock - many Germans had believed they were winning the war. Also been told they would receive a fair peace based on Wilson's 14 Points.

The **stab in the back myth** emerged - German betrayed by weak, cowardly Weimar politicians.

1919

Weimar Constitution 1

The good = Proportional Representation



A new constitution was centre - democratic. Power would be distributed between a president, chancellor, Reichstag and people who had a vote.

PR = ALL parties have a voice.

1918 - 33

Weimar Constitution 2

Weaknesses = Chaotic Coalitions?



The Social Democrats - (Ebert's Party) were not widely popular. To gain enough Reichstag seats, the Social Democrats often merged with other parties.

25 coalition governments = 1918 - 33.

1918 - 1933

Weimar Constitution 3

Article 48 = Strength or Weakness?

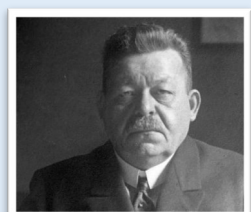


Inserted into the constitution was Article 48. This allowed the president to declare a state of emergency during times of national emergency and take more power - open to abuse?

1918 - 1933

Friedrich Ebert

1st Weimar President - Social Democrat Party



Before WW1 - Germany = right wing - conservative rule. Ebert represented a shift to centre left politics. He would be blamed for betraying Germany and face opposition from left and right.

1918 - 1925

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Spartacist Revolt

Left Wing Uprising - Crushed by Freikorps



Spartacists - led by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg. Uprising in Berlin. Wanted Germany to become communist. Supported by workers and a few ex soldiers. After street fighting - outgunned + crushed by right wing Freikorps.

Jan 1919

Kapp Putsch

Right Wing Revolt - Lacked Popular Support



Led by Wolfgang Kapp. Supported by ex WW1 soldiers - Freikorps. Wanted rule of Kaiser. VERY unhappy with Versailles - loss of army. 5000 men marched on Berlin. But, failed to gain popular support + fizzled out once workers went on strike + shut down city. Kapp arrested.

March 1920

Munich Putsch

Right Wing - Hitler - 1923 Crisis!



Also known as the Beer Hall Putsch. An attempt to takeover Germany starting in Munich, Bavaria. Hitler team up with von Khar and General Ludendorff. But, Khar betrayed him. Regular army suppressed the putsch - 16 Nazis killed. Hitler wounded and arrested.

1923

Ruhr Invasion

1923 Crisis!

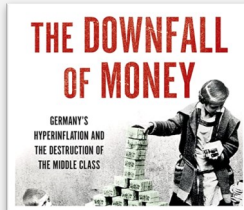


Germany could not pay reparations - 1922. French + Belgian troops enter German Ruhr to take over industry. Ebert told workers to strike - fighting + 100 German workers killed. Led to further economic problems - hyperinflation.

1923

Hyperinflation

1923 Crisis!



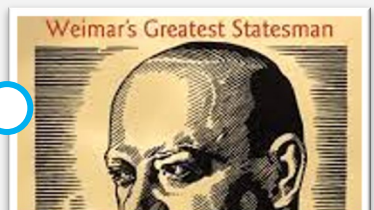
4 causes of hyperinflation in Germany?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

1923

Enter Stresemann

Policy of 'fulfilment' - Erfüllungspolitik



Served as chancellor + foreign minister. Set Germany on a path to political stability, economic and diplomatic recovery. His policy (**fulfilment**) was to work with Br, USA and France.

1923 - 29

Dawes Plan

Stresemann + Charles Dawes (USA)



Old currency burned, new Rentenmark in = ends hyperinflation. Reichsbank reformed. 800 million gold marks in foreign loans- invested in industry = rise in output. By 1926 - industry at pre WW1 levels. Reparation payments reduced.

1924

Young Plan

Stresemann + Owen Young (USA)

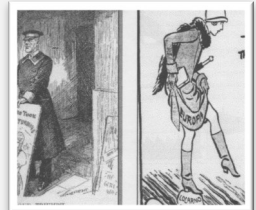


Yearly payment amount reduced - 3/4. Total lowered to - 37 million marks. Extension of payment to 59 years. Payments only needed if NOT harming German economic growth.

1929

Locarno Treaty / Pact

Stresemann + FR + BR + Italy + Belgium



Stresemann / Germany agree to western borders being set. All countries agree not to use invasion to solve disputes. 'The Spirit of Locarno' = Opens door for Germany into League in 1926 - Council.

1925

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Golden Age - Cinema

Metropolis - Marlene Dietrich - Fritz Lang



Germany became the leader in new films and largest film producer in Europe - created silent films such as Metropolis, starring 'smoking' actress Marlene Dietrich - progressive!

1923 - 1933

Golden Age - Art

Censorship Gone - Otto Dix - New Objectivity



An achievement of the Weimar period was the removal of censorship and freedom of expression. Otto Dix - German artists was now free to openly criticise German society, the militarism that led to war, the rich poor divide and grotesque, vain behaviours of the wealthy.

1923 - 1933

Golden Age - Buildings

Architecture - Bauhaus - 'Space and Simplicity'



A new style of design and engineering formed through the Bauhaus movement. Aim was to promote individualism and create works that were simple, efficient and easy to mass produce.

1923 - 1933

Cultural Achievements

Think CAB - Cinema, Art, Buildings



If a question asks ONLY about **cultural achievements** in Weimar Germany, keep answers to ... Cinema + Art + Buildings. **Progressive changes did create divisions with conservatives.**

1923 - 1933

Problems - Economy

'Germany is dancing on a volcano' - G S



Despite the economic improvements under Stresemann - he, himself acknowledged that Germany's economic revival was fragile - due to perilous nature of foreign loans.

1923 - 1933

Problems - Coalitions

25 coalition governments in 10 years



Another weakness or failure under Stresemann = on the whole domestic politics remained chaotic with constant need for reforming and coalition governments = 25.

1923 - 1933

Extremism Squashed

The extreme LW and RW lost support



The Social Democrats were **not** very popular - however, the progress made under Stresemann ensured that extreme LW and RW (Hitler) lacked much support from most Germans.

1924 - 1929

Stresemann - Review 1

Main achievements under Stresemann



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1923 - 1929

Stresemann - Review 2

Main failures under Stresemann



Division = progressive women v conservative.

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1923 - 1929

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