

Progressive Era



When you see the pencil appear, fill in the information in red on your info-graphic guided notes page.



A NAUSEATING JOB, BUT IT MUST BE DONE

(President Roosevelt takes hold of the investigating muck-rake himself in the packing-house scandal.)

Prohibition

Problem:

Some progressives felt alcoholism was a growing problem. Husbands would drink away a family's hard earned money could lead to violence. Many people felt the nation's grains shouldn't be used for making alcohol.

Solution:

The temperance movement worked to close saloons and succeeded in getting the 18th Amendment passed to ban the making, sale, and transporting of Alcoholic beverages.

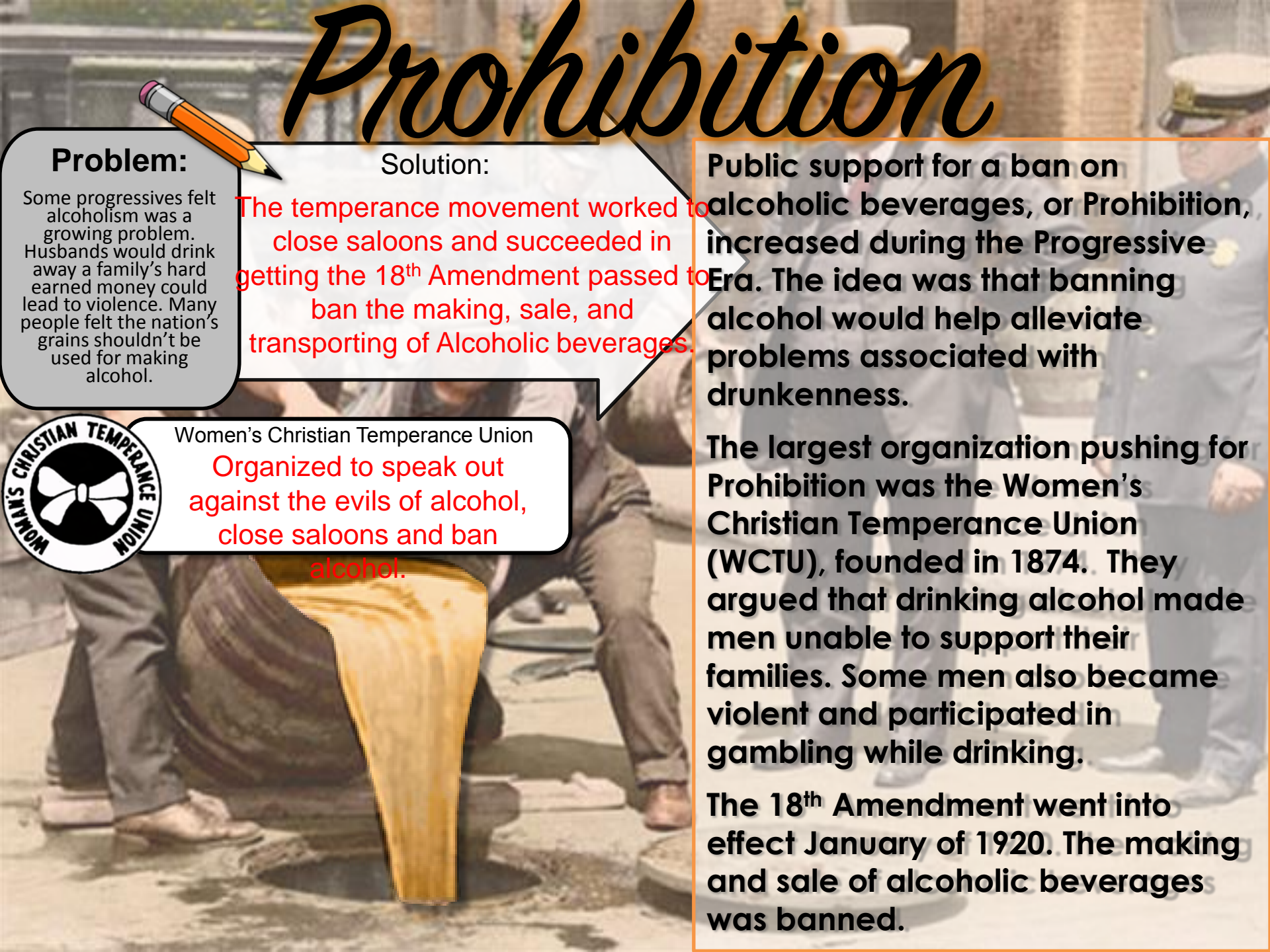
Public support for a ban on alcoholic beverages, or Prohibition, increased during the Progressive Era. The idea was that banning alcohol would help alleviate problems associated with drunkenness.

The largest organization pushing for Prohibition was the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU), founded in 1874. They argued that drinking alcohol made men unable to support their families. Some men also became violent and participated in gambling while drinking.

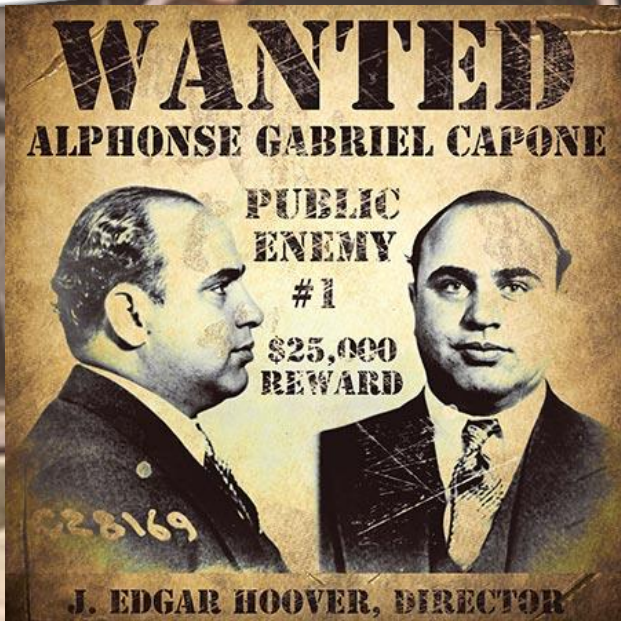
The 18th Amendment went into effect January of 1920. The making and sale of alcoholic beverages was banned.

Women's Christian Temperance Union

Organized to speak out against the evils of alcohol, close saloons and ban alcohol.



Prohibition



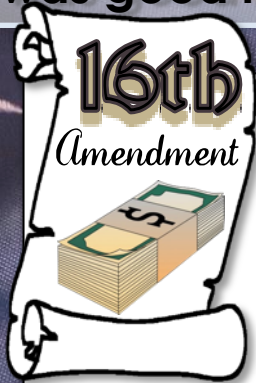
Many Americans did not feel that drinking was harmful. They resented the government interfering and people who wanted alcohol found ways to get it illegally. Illegal nightclubs known as “speakeasies” sold liquor. People called “bootleggers” made money by making and transporting alcohol.

The unintended consequence of the 18th Amendment was that crime increased. The growth of organized crime in nearly every major city brought gangsters who fought to control the flow of alcohol and money. One example was Al Capone who had a private army of over 700 criminals.

By the late 1920's it was evident prohibition was a failure and it was repealed by the 21st Amendment in 1933.

Progressive Era Amendments

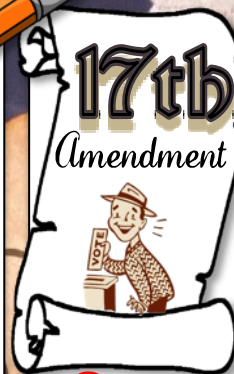
The Progressive Era brought along four new Constitutional Amendments. These amendments were meant to better protect citizens. The 18th Amendment proved that sometimes there are unintended negative consequences to what otherwise was good intentions.



16th
Amendment



1913
Gave power to the Federal Government to set an income tax.



17th
Amendment



1913
Required the direct election of U.S. Senators by popular vote.

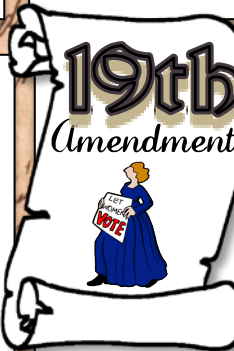


18th
Amendment



1919-1933
Banned the making, sale, transporting of Alcoholic beverages.

Later repealed by the 21st Amendment.



19th
Amendment



1920
Expanded voting rights to Women in all U.S. elections.