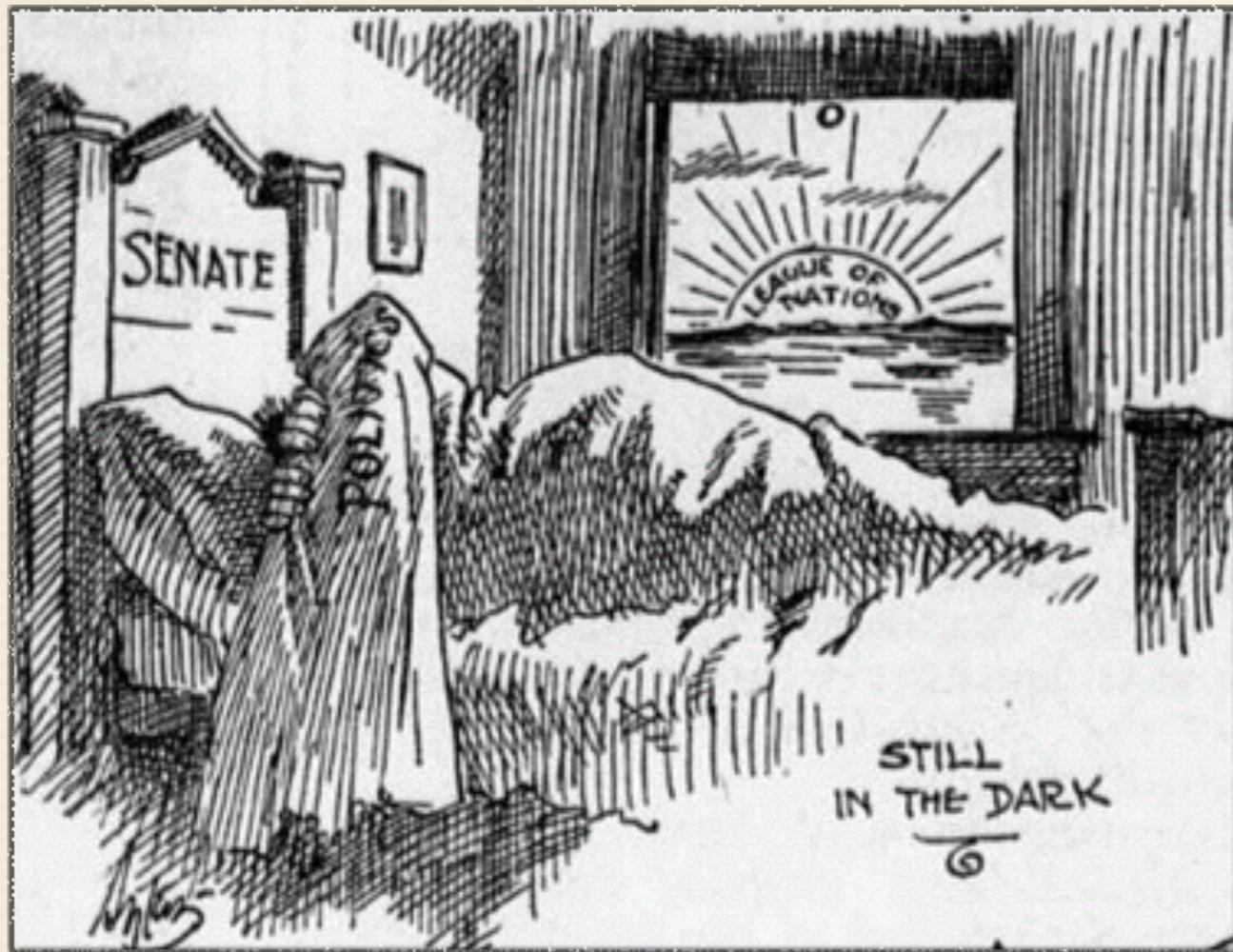


Politics of the Twenties



Americans Struggle with Post-War Issues

Post-War Trends

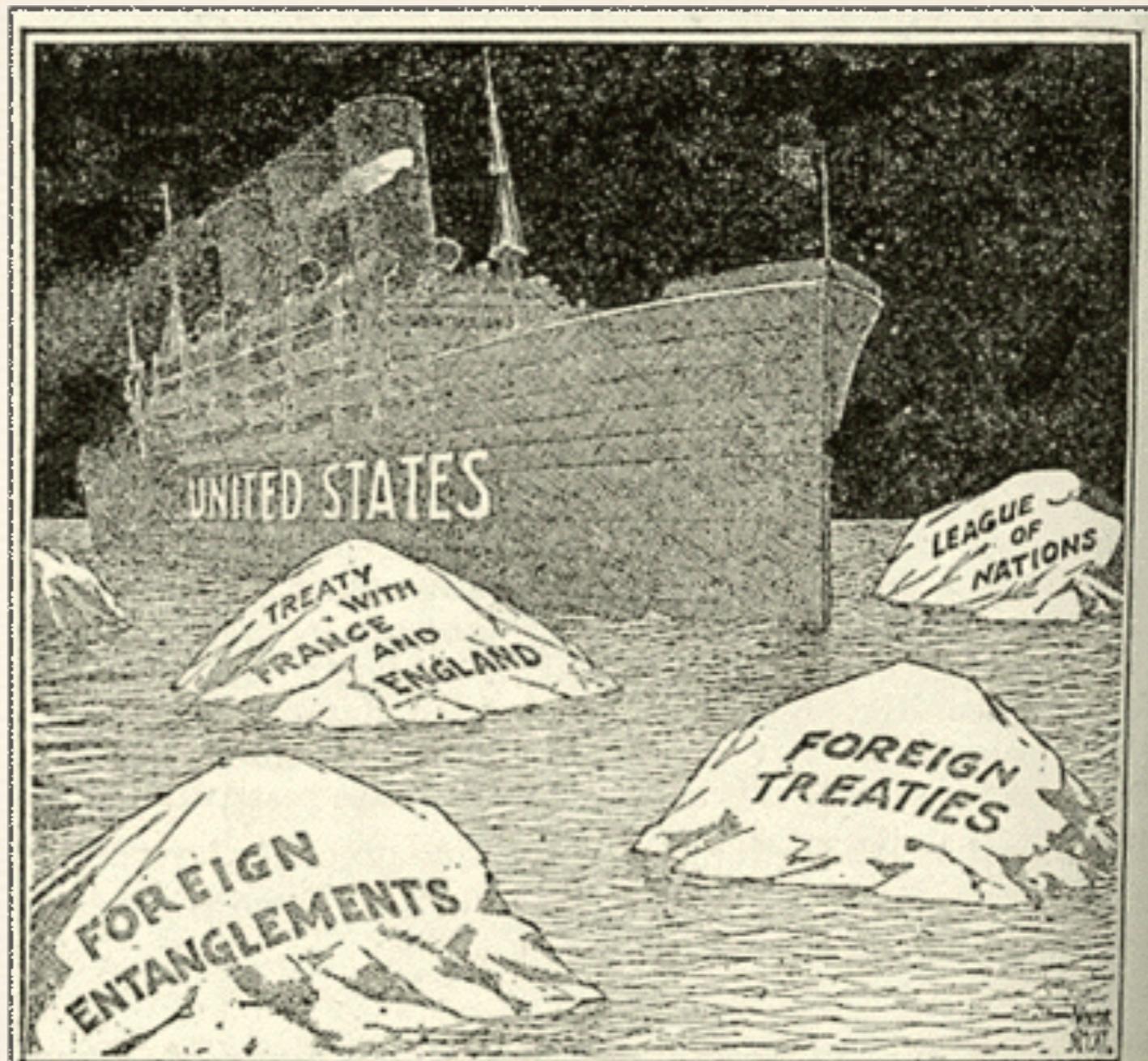


- ❖ American public exhausted from World War I
- ❖ Public debate over the League of Nations
- ❖ Economic downturn means many face unemployment
- ❖ Wave of nativism swept the nation

Isolationism



Pulling away
from involvement
in world affairs



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BETTER KEEP TO THE OLD CHANNEL.

—McCay in the *New York American*.

Fear of Communism

- ❖ Communism as a perceived threat to American life
- ❖ Communism is an economic and political system based on a single-governmental party, equal distribution of resources, no private property and rule by dictatorship
- ❖ Palmer raids



Communism in the Soviet Union

- ❖ Russia officially became a communist state in 1917; the Soviet Union
- ❖ Vladimir Lenin led the Bolsheviks to overthrow the Tsar of Russia (monarchy)
- ❖ Follower of Marxist doctrine and social equality
- ❖ A communist party was formed in the United States





Communist Party of America (CPA)

Founding
Convention held in
Chicago, 1919

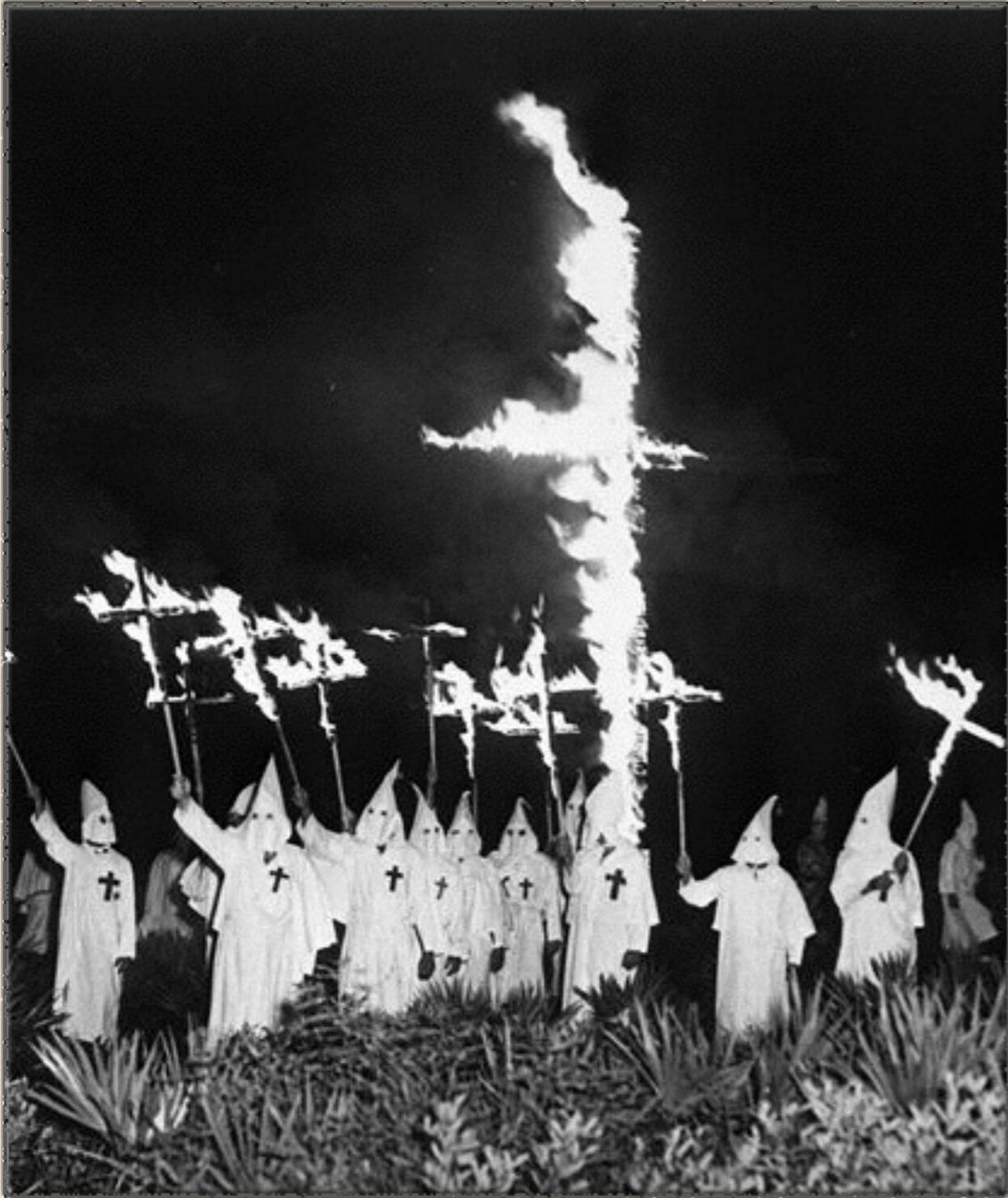


Sacco and Vanzetti

- ❖ The **Red Scare** fed nativism in the United States
- ❖ Italian anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti were a shoemaker and a fish peddler
- ❖ Convicted of robbery and murder despite flimsy evidence, their execution was symbolic of discrimination against radical beliefs during the **Red Scare**.



The Klan Rises Again



- ❖ Ku Klux Klan
- ❖ As the **Red Scare** and anti-immigrant attitudes reached a peak, the KKK was more popular than ever before
- ❖ By 1924, the KKK had 4.5 million members

Congress Limits Immigration

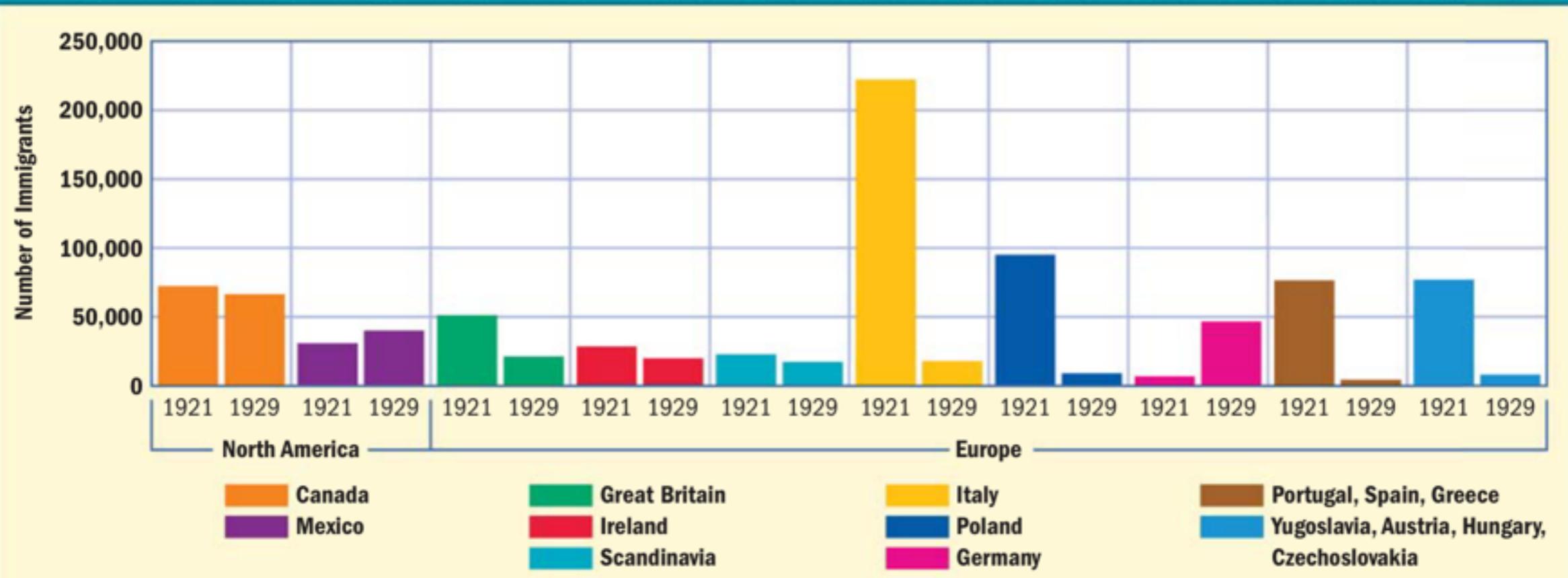
- ❖ Congress, in response to nativist pressure, decided to limit immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe
- ❖ **The Emergency Quota Act of 1921** set up a quota system to control and restrict immigration



Ellis Island in Upper New York Harbor was the port of entry for most European immigrants.



Immigration to the United States, 1921 and 1929



Source: Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970

Breaking Gentleman's Agreement

Day
the Paid Circulation of Any Other New London Paper.
AFTERNOON, MAY 26, 1924
FOURTEEN PAGES
CIRCULATION BOOKS OPEN TO ALL
PRICE THREE CENTS

IMMIGRATION BILL IS SIGNED BY PRESIDENT; JAPANESE BAN BECOMES EFFECTIVE ON JULY 1

40 OSTRICHES WILL RACE WITH HORSES
BERLIN, May 25.—Horses are apparently not fast enough for Berlin sporting circles. Therefore, as an extra thrill, an organizing manager has announced that 40 ostriches with their jockeys, mostly Italians, are coming here in the near future for races with horses in which, on a distance of 5,000 meters for example, the horses are to be given 1,000 meters handicap. The races will be held on the fashionable Greenwald race course.

READY FOR BONUS PAYMENT



President, However, Issue Statement in Which He Expresses Disapproval of Action of Congress

GIVES REASONS FOR SIGNING THE BILL

If Exclusion Provision Stood Alone, Says President, He Would Have Disapproved

WASHINGTON, May 25.—The immigration bill was signed by President Woodrow Wilson.

Despite the provision which allows exclusion effective July 1, and into the measure after a three-month period, the president said in signing the bill and other considerations.

It was pointed out that if as the present immigration law stands on June 30, a vote had been made it necessary to reach an emergency measure in the house of the session.

Such a step, the president would not be precluded if the tangled legislative situation would be first attempted at amendment and block legislation.

Expresses Disapproval

Waterbury Woman Raises \$1,000 to Give Second Husband.



- ❖ 1907- Japan agrees to limit immigration to United States
- ❖ 1927- United States prohibits all Japanese immigration as part of the Quota System

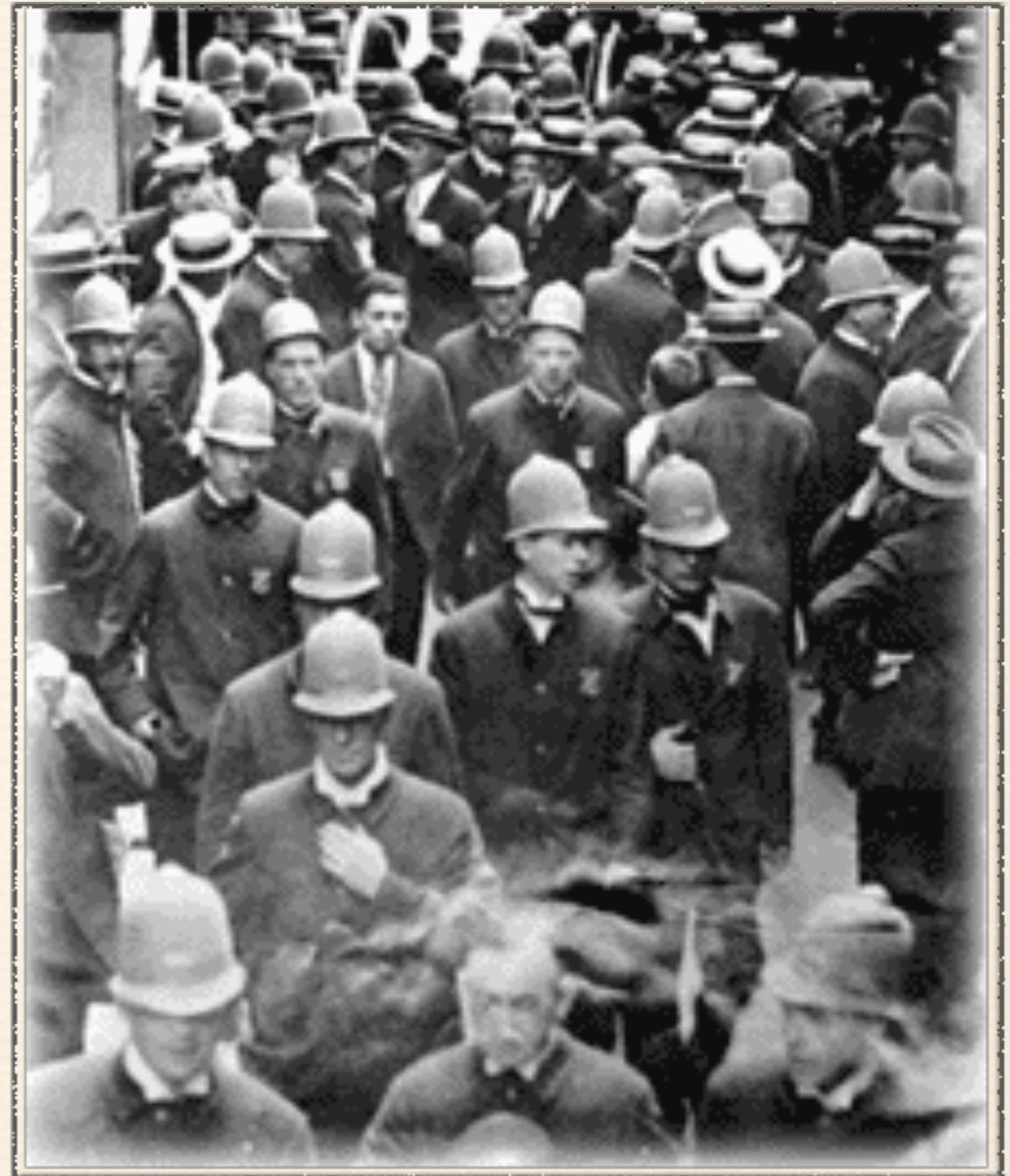
A Time of Labor Unrest

- ❖ Strikes were outlawed during WWI, however, in 1919, there were more than 3,000 strikes involving 4 million workers



Boston Police Strike

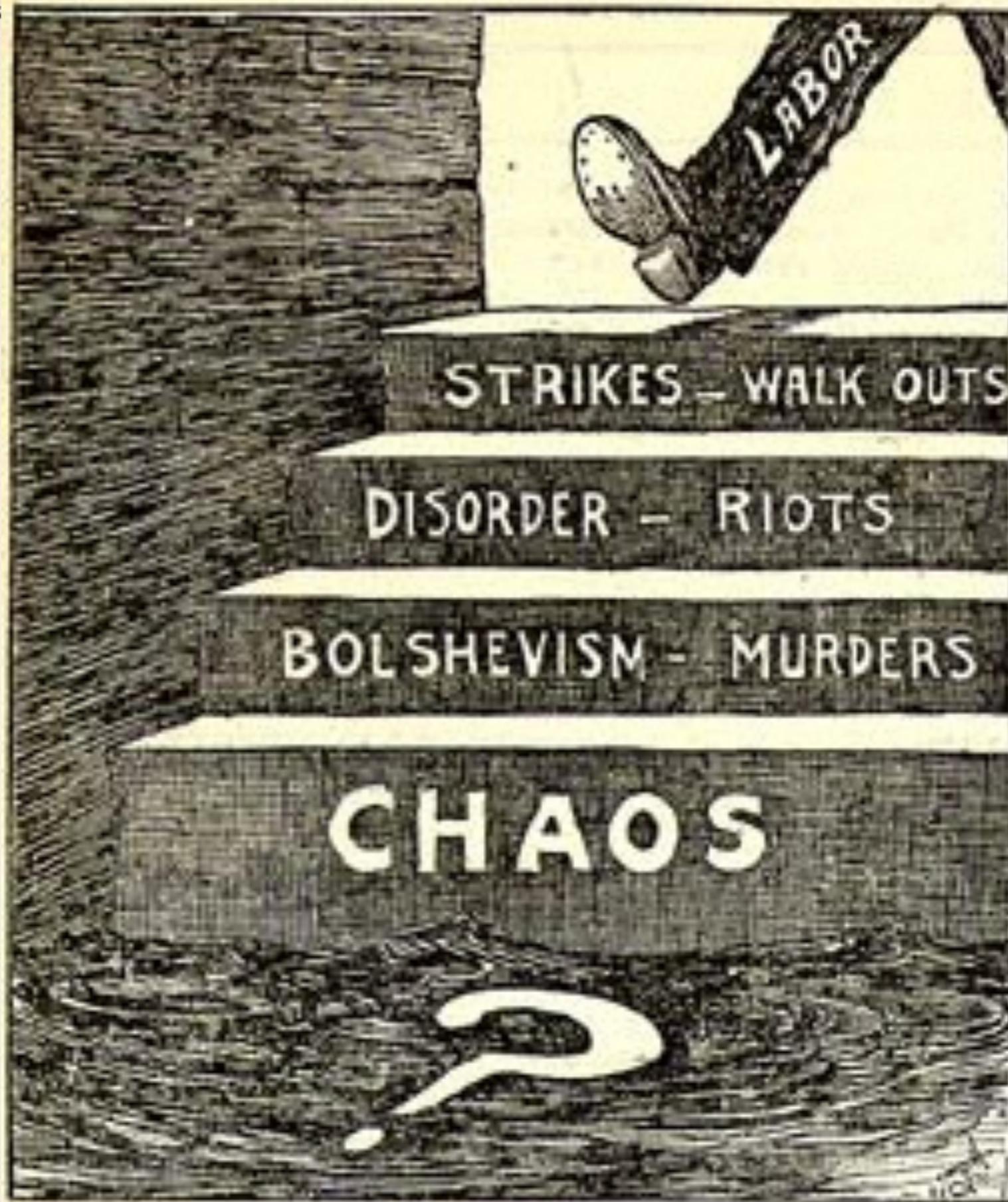
- ❖ Boston police had not received a raise in years and were denied the right to unionize
- ❖ The National Guard was called
- ❖ New cops were hired



Steel Mill Strike

- ❖ In September of 1919, the U.S. Steel Corporation refused to meet with union representatives
- ❖ In response, over 300,000 workers struck
- ❖ Scabs were hired while strikers were beaten by police and federal troops
- ❖ The strike was settled in 1920 with an 8-hour day, but no union





STEP BY STEP

-- Groome in the New York Evening Telegram

Coal Miners' Strike



- ❖ In 1919, United Mine workers led by John L. Lewis called a strike on November 1st
- ❖ Lewis met with an arbitrator appointed by President Wilson
- ❖ Lewis won a 27% pay raise and was hailed a hero

1920s: Tough Times for Unions

- ❖ The 1920s hurt the labor movement
- ❖ Union membership dropped from 5 million to 3.5 million
- ❖ Why? African-Americans were excluded from membership and immigrants were willing to work in poor conditions



Ford Foundry workers in 1926; only 1% of black workers were in Unions at the time