

Ending the "War to End All Wars"

...and setting the stage for WWII

A Plan for Peace: Wilson's Fourteen Points

- ▶ **Outlined a plan for creating a "just and lasting peace"**
- ▶ **Points 1-4:** Ending secret treaties, freedom of the seas, free trade, and reducing national armies and navies
- ▶ **Point 5:** Adjustment of colonial claims with fairness toward colonial peoples
- ▶ **Point 6-13:** Specific suggestions for changing borders and creating new nations
- ▶ **Point 14:** Proposed a "general association of nations" that would protect "great and small states alike"

The Treaty of Versailles

The world's German to pay for what they did to Europe

"Reparations"

- ▶ The other Allied governments saw Wilson's plan as too lenient towards the "aggressor" nations.
- ▶ **Losses for Germany:**
 - ▶ Officially blamed for the war
 - ▶ Stripped of its military
 - ▶ Its territories were split up
 - ▶ Were required to pay "reparations" to the Allied countries to a total of...

33 Billion Dollars!

Effects for Germany

Germany experiences "hyper-inflation": Inflation is the general rising of prices over time; hyper-inflation is an extreme increase in prices over a short period of time.

Children play with virtually worthless German money
(reidunmarks)

American Reaction to the Treaty of Versailles

- ▶ **Senate adds amendments to keep their power**
 - ▶ Wilson ends up asking the people to vote *against* the Treaty
- ▶ Treaty isn't ratified and America doesn't join the League of Nations
- ▶ America retreated into isolationism.