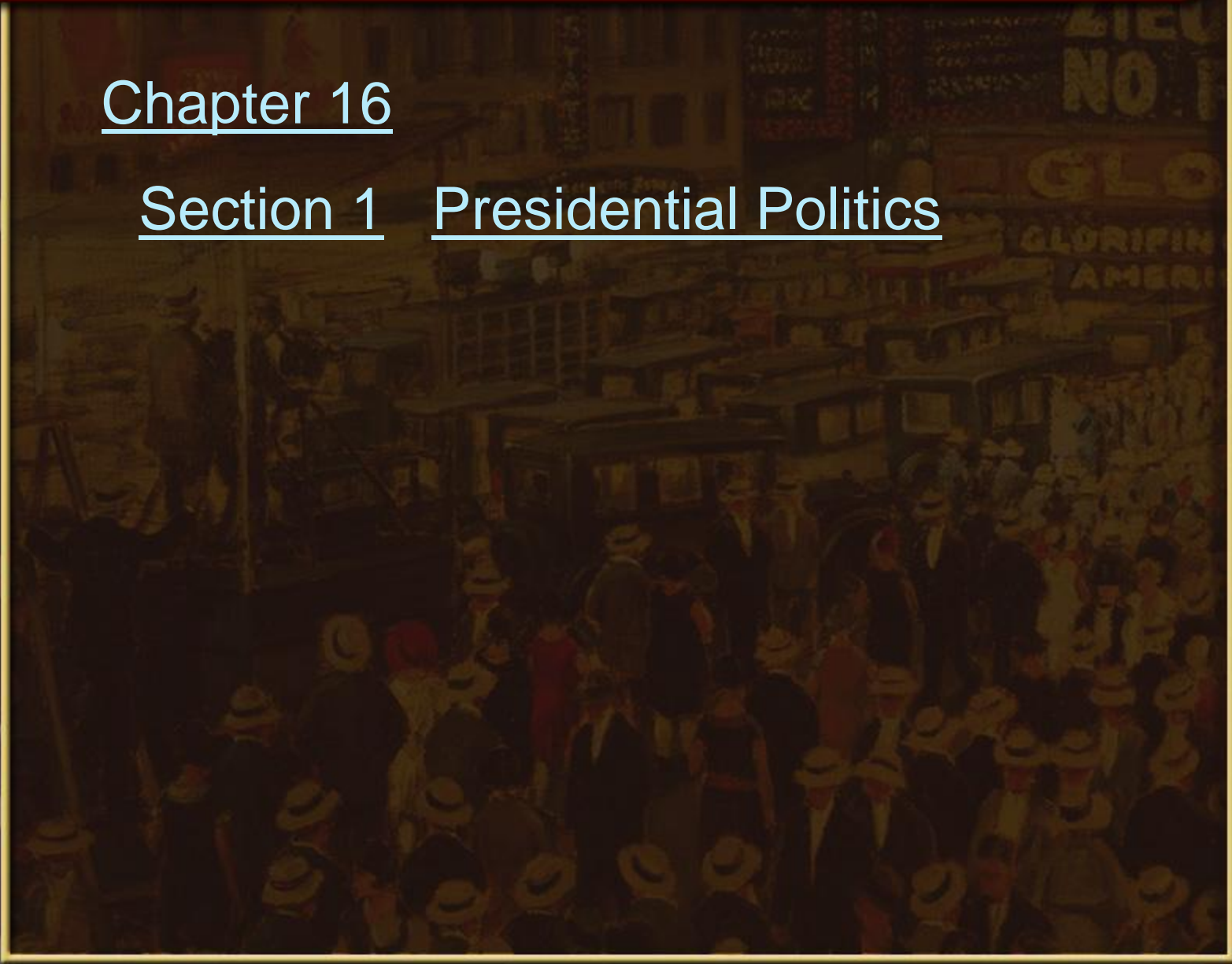




Chapter 16

Section 1 Presidential Politics



Click on a hyperlink to view the corresponding slides.





Guide to Reading

Main Idea

Warren Harding's administration suffered from several scandals. His successor, Calvin Coolidge, promised to support business. ↓

Key Terms and Names

- normalcy ↓
- Ohio Gang ↓
- Albert B. Fall ↓
- Teapot Dome Scandal ↓
- immunity ↓
- Progressive Party ↓
- Robert M. La Follette

Click the mouse button or press the Space Bar to display the information.



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The Harding Administration

- In 1920, when Warren G. Harding ran for president, most Americans wanted to return to simpler times. ↓
- His campaign slogan to return to **normalcy**, or a “normal” life after the war, made him very popular and he won the presidency. ↓
- Harding made a few distinguished appointments to the cabinet, but most appointments were given to friends. ↓
- His old poker-playing friends became known as the **Ohio Gang**.

(pages 510–512)

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The Harding Administration (cont.)

- Some members used their government positions to sell jobs, pardons, and immunity from prosecution. ↓
- Before most of the scandals became public knowledge, Harding fell ill and died in 1923. ↓
- Harding's secretary of the interior, **Albert B. Fall**, secretly allowed private interests to lease lands containing U.S. Navy oil reserves at Teapot Dome, Wyoming. ↓
- He received bribes totaling over \$300,000.

(pages 510–512)

Click the mouse button or press the
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The Harding Administration (cont.)

- The **Teapot Dome scandal** ended with Fall being the first cabinet officer in history to be sent to prison. ↓
- Another Harding administration scandal involved Attorney General Harry Daugherty. ↓
- He refused to turn over files and bank records for a German-owned American company. ↓
- Bribe money ended up in a bank account controlled by Daugherty.

(pages 510–512)

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The Harding Administration (cont.)

- He refused to testify under oath, claiming **immunity**, or freedom from prosecution, on the grounds that he had confidential dealings with the president. ↓
- The new president, Calvin Coolidge, demanded Daugherty's resignation.

(pages 510–512)

Click the mouse button or press the
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The Harding Administration (cont.)

Discussion Question

What problems faced President Harding during his administration?

(pages 510–512)

Click the mouse button or press the Space Bar to display the answer.



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The Harding Administration (cont.)

Discussion Question

Harding's administration was plagued with scandals by cabinet members and other government officials appointed by Harding. Some members of the Ohio Gang used their government positions to sell jobs, pardons, and immunity from prosecution. Colonel Charles R. Forbes, head of the Veteran's Bureau, sold scarce medical supplies from veteran's hospitals and kept the money, which cost the taxpayers over \$200 million. Secretary of the interior, Albert B. Fall, secretly allowed private interests to lease lands containing U.S. Navy oil reserves at Teapot Dome, Wyoming. Attorney General Harry Daugherty refused to turn over files and bank records for a German-owned American company. Bribe money ended up in a bank account controlled by Daugherty.

(pages 510–512)





The Coolidge Administration

- Vice President Calvin Coolidge became president after Harding's death. ↓
- Coolidge distanced himself from the Harding administration. ↓
- His focus was on prosperity through business leadership with little government intervention. ↓
- He easily won the Republican Party's nomination for president in 1924.

(pages 512–513)

Click the mouse button or press the Space Bar to display the information.





The Coolidge Administration (cont.)

- The Democratic Party's candidate was John W. Davis. ↓
- Those not wanting to choose between the Republican and Democratic Parties formed a new Progressive Party with **Robert M. La Follette** as their candidate. ↓
- Coolidge won the 1924 election with more than half the popular vote. ↓
- Coolidge promised to give the United States the normalcy that Harding had not.

(pages 512–513)

Click the mouse button or press the Space Bar to display the information.





The Coolidge Administration (cont.)

★ Discussion Question

How did Coolidge feel about business and government?

Coolidge felt that business led to prosperity and that the government should not interfere.

(pages 512–513)

Click the mouse button or press the Space Bar to display the answer.



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Checking for Understanding

Define Match the terms on the right with their definitions on the left.

A 1. the state of fact of being normal

A. normalcy

B. immunity

B 2. freedom from persecution

Click the mouse button or press the Space Bar to display the answers.

