

Major Ideas of Major Parties

I. Federalists and Anti-Federalists

a. Federalists

1. Supporters of new Constitution – Hamilton, Adams, Washington
2. The Federalist – Hamilton, Madison, Jay
3. Hamiltonism in philosophy
 - A. fear of “mob rule” (i.e. – French Revolution)
 - B. strong government and executive the only answer – also judicial review
 - C. elastic Constitution (expansion of the “necessary and proper clause”)
 - D. states subordinate to union
 - E. concerned about national prestige in foreign affairs
 - F. economic stability, national and international monetary policy

b. Anti-Federalists (headed by Jefferson) – by 1800 called “Republicans”

1. Agrarian society – pursuit of happiness ends on the farm
2. Feared an industrial society
3. Feared strong government
4. Laissez-faire economics – liked A. Emigh’s Wealth of Nations
5. Strong fear of power of federal judiciary – fear encroachment of popular will
6. Strong faith in human nature
7. An amalgam of British and French liberals
8. Strict construction of the Constitution
9. States’ rights idea of “nullification” – Virginia and Kentucky Resolution
10. Supported the Articles of Confederation – George Clinton, Patrick Henry

II. Republican Party Split - 1828

a. National Republicans – Adamsites and Clayites

1. remnants of old Federalists
2. internal improvements through national action
3. national bank
4. strong central government
5. high tariffs – Clay’s American System
6. united in hatred of Jackson

b. Democratic Republicans (followers of Jackson) became Democratic Party

1. views of Jackson, plus Calhoun (until embroiled in S.C. Tarhill issue), Crawford and Van Buren
2. opposed internal improvements
3. opposed high tariff duties
4. opposed a national bank
5. opposed a strong central government which would limit the rights of states
6. equality of mankind and exaltation of the common man

III. Rise of Whig Party – 1830’s Webster leader of philosophy

- a. included old National Republicans
- b. some states’ righters
- c. old anti-Masonites
- d. all who hated Jackson
- e. national bank – vetoed by Tyler
- f. tariff bill – vetoed by Tyler

IV. Rise of Sectionalism

- a. development of southern politics
- b. slavery issue splits Democratic party
- c. Free Soil Party organized, 1848
- d. foreign policy also divided Democrats in 1840’s-50’s
- e. Republican Party organized, 1854

V. Reconstruction: Democratic low vs. Republican high

- a. Liberal democracy of Republican Congress turns to complacency
- b. no economic issues

- c. leadership is naïve
- d. no interest in mass politics
- e. Compromise of 1877 as a symptom
- f. Cleveland in 1844 – trend toward reform

VI. Protest Parties (3rd Parties) – 1880's-1890's

- a. Grangers (Oliver Kelley) - 1867
 - 1. Social, cultural, educational cooperatives (also economic)
 - 2. rate regulations
- b. Populism – 1880's – more militant
 - 1. similar purposes to Grange: government ownership of railroads; graduated income tax; free and unlimited coinage of silver

VII. Major Parties – 1880's – 1890's

- a. both parties act in interest of Wall street rather than common people
- b. agree on:
 - 1. passage of Wilson-Gorham Tariff
 - 2. smashing of the Pullman strike
 - 3. outlawing of the income tax by the Supreme Court
 - 4. judicial negation of the Sherman Antitrust Act in the Knight Case
 - 5. the treatment suffered by Coxey's Army
 - 6. Cleveland's repeal of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act

VIII. Progressivism – 1890's-1912

- a. Problem areas: monopolies, concentration of wealth, corruption in politics, breakdown of moral code
- b. Areas concerned: journalists (muckrakers), reformed Darwinism, city reform, statehouse reform, white collar workers
- c. Basic idea: government intervention on behalf of mass (economical and social)
- d. Outstanding leaders: La Follete, T.R. Bryan, Hiram Johnson, W. Wilson
- e. Foreign Policy: nationalism, armament programs, power politics, moralistic diplomacy
- f. Progressivism in the White House: New Nationalism vs. New Freedom

IX. Republican Ascendancy – 1920's

- a. Pro-business as relating to tariff policy, sanction of industrial consolidation, and immigration policy
- b. isolationist in foreign policy
- c. Hard line on war debts
- d. Laissez-faire in economics (Hoover a transition)

X. New Deal and the Democrats – 1930's

- a. Government responsibility for the welfare of the people: relief, recovery, reform
- b. Government pump priming of economy

XI. Fair Deal – Truman (Democrat) – 1940's

- a. Full employment
- b. Public housing
- c. Health insurance
- d. Update New Deal legislation on social security, minimum wage and conservation
- e. Farm price supports

XII. Republicanism in 1950's

- a. Fiscal responsibility – balanced budget
- b. Limit power of President – more to states
- c. Supreme Court and segregation in the schools
- d. Civil Rights – 1957

XIII. New Frontier – Kennedy (Democrat) – 1960's

- a. Continued government involvement on the behalf of the welfare of the people
- b. Research into poverty
- c. New Economics (J.M. Keynes): government can manage rising national prosperity by manipulating federal taxing, spending, interest and currency policy
- d. Civil Rights
- e. Aid to education
- f. Medicare

XIV. Great Society – Johnson (Democrat) – 1960's

- a. All of above
- b. Rent subsidies
- c. Model cities program
- d. Job Corps
- e. VISTA
- f. Head Start
- g. Community Action Programs
- h. Neighborhood Youth Corps

XV. Nixon (Republican) – 1970's

- a. Continuation of above programs
- b. Reorganization of Cabinet and executive departments
- c. Reorganization of Welfare program

XVI. Ford (Republican) – 1970's

- a. Use of veto to shape policy (public housing, federal aid to education, health care) – largely to balance the budget. Against double-digit inflation
- b. Business recovery vs. job programs to recover from the recession
- c. "I am a Ford, not a Lincoln"
- d. Told regulatory agencies – give "maximum freedom to private enterprise; told industrialists he wanted Washington out of your business, out of your lives, out of your pockets and out of your hair

XVII. Carter (Democrat) – 1970's

- a. Continue fiscal policy – deficit spending
- b. Energy legislation