

Understanding Postwar Tensions

What effects did postwar tensions have on America's founding ideals?

Key Content Terms

As you complete the Reading Notes, use these Key Content Terms in your answers:

Sacco and Vanzetti trial	American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
Red Scare	Back-to-Africa movement
Palmer Raids	Anti-Defamation League (ADL)
quota system	

PREVIEW

The governor of Massachusetts has summoned you to testify in a clemency hearing for two convicted death-row murderers. Governors convene these hearings when they are considering granting clemency, a pardon or lessening of a penalty. You will learn more about the facts of the case and the clemency hearing throughout the lesson.

1. Read about the upcoming clemency hearing in Section 1 and write three important facts about the Sacco and Vanzetti case in your notebook.
2. Examine the following additional facts.
3. Determine which two facts should most influence the clemency hearing. Write a paragraph explaining your choices.

Additional Facts

- At the time of the murder, Sacco was 29, and Vanzetti was 32.
- Sacco and Vanzetti were both carrying guns at the time of their arrest.

- At the time of his arrest, Vanzetti had a flyer in his pocket advertising an anarchist meeting that evening.
- Both men had been involved in labor strikes.
- The judge in the case, Judge Webster Thayer, was 64 years old and had recently disagreed with a jury for acquitting an anarchist.

READING NOTES

Sections 2 to 6

1. Set up your notebook as shown below. For each section, write a cause of the postwar tension in the oval. List three effects of the postwar tension in the corresponding rectangle.
2. In the T-chart, add at least one fact from each section that could help or hurt Sacco's and Vanzetti's chances for clemency.

<p>2 Emerging Economic Tensions</p> <p>Causes Effects</p>	<p>5 Increasing Social Tensions</p> <p>Causes Effects</p>				
<p>3 Rising Labor Tensions</p> <p>Causes Effects</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td style="font-size: small;">Facts That Help Sacco's and Vanzetti's Chances for Clemency</td> <td style="font-size: small;">Facts That Hurt Sacco's and Vanzetti's Chances for Clemency</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 100px;"></td> <td style="height: 100px;"></td> </tr> </table>	Facts That Help Sacco's and Vanzetti's Chances for Clemency	Facts That Hurt Sacco's and Vanzetti's Chances for Clemency		
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<p>4 Growing Political Tensions</p> <p>Causes Effects</p>	<p>6 Enduring Racial and Religious Tensions</p> <p>Causes Effects</p>				

PROCESSING

Although historians continue to debate the verdict of the Sacco and Vanzetti case, most agree that it raised fundamental questions about America's founding ideals during the postwar period, including, *What are the rights of immigrants? Is there equality before the law? Should liberty be denied to people who have unpopular political views?*

Write a paragraph to submit to Governor Alvan Fuller and the Lowell Committee. Choose one founding ideal and describe whether it was advanced or restricted during the postwar period. Explain how the advancement or restriction of this ideal may have helped or hurt Sacco and Vanzetti in their trial.

Your paragraph should include

- a clear thesis that states your position.
- two pieces of evidence that support your topic sentence.
- an explanation of how each piece of evidence supports your topic sentence.

America's Founding Ideals

equality, rights, liberty, opportunity, democracy