

Chapter 11 – Sect. 5

Cultural Conflicts



Prohibition

- **Banning of all alcoholic beverages**
- **18th amendment - 1920**



Volstead Act

- Law that enforced prohibition
- Rural areas obeyed – cities did not



Bootlegger

- **Someone who illegally supplied alcohol**



How'd they get their whiskey?

- Import from **Canada**
- **Operate own stills**



Speakeasies

- **Illegal bars** in the cities
- Had to know **password** or show card **to get in**



Organized Crime

- Large underground organizations which **distributed alcohol and other illegal activities** like gambling and prostitution
- On outside **fronted as a legitimate business**



City Streets = Battlegrounds

- Rival gangsters competed with machine guns



Racketeering

- Forced local businesses to pay a **fee for “protection”**
- **If you refused** you would **be gunned down** or business blown up



Al Capone – a.k.a. “Scarface”

- Ruthless leader of Chicago’s organized crime network
- Made millions bootlegging
- “ran” the city by bribing or threatening police and judges



St. Valentine's Day Massacre

- Valentine's Day 1929
- **Capone's thugs** disguised as cops pretended to arrest and then **gunned down rival gang**
- Changed public perception – *no longer Robin Hoods, but cold-blooded killers*



How did they stop them?

- Created the FBI
- J. Edgar Hoover was director
- Elliott Ness assigned to bring down Capone
- Finally convicted for **tax evasion**



Wanted Poster



- You have been hired by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to **create a “Wanted Poster”**
- Your poster should be tied to **Al Capone** and/or the **St. Valentine’s Day Massacre**
- Be sure to include some of the **charges** that they are being sought for (racketeering, gambling, selling illegal alcohol, etc.)
- You can offer a cash reward if you so choose

Notebook Check

- Chapter 11
- Section 1
- Section 2
- Section 3
- Section 4
- Section 5
- Section 5 part 2
- Work on Crossword Puzzle Review Sheet