

**CHAPTER**  
**21**

**GUIDED READING** *Changing Ways of Life*

**Section 1**

As you read about how the 1920s reflected conflicts and tensions in American culture, take notes to answer the questions below.

**In January 1920, prohibition went into effect.**

<p>1. a. Who tended to be supporters of prohibition at this time?</p>  <p>b. Why did they support it?</p>	<p>2. a. Who tended to be opponents of prohibition at this time?</p>  <p>b. Why did they oppose it?</p>
<p>3. Why was prohibition repealed?</p>	

**In July 1925, Clarence Darrow and William Jennings Bryan faced each other in the Scopes trial.**

<p>4. a. Who were Darrow's main supporters?</p>  <p>b. Why did they support him?</p>	<p>5. a. Who were Bryan's main supporters?</p>  <p>b. Why did they support him?</p>
<p>6. What was the outcome of the case?</p>	

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**RETEACHING ACTIVITY** *Changing Ways of Life*

**Section 1**

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**Finding Main Ideas**

The following questions deal with the changing ways of life in America during the 1920s. Answer them in the space provided.

1. What were some pros and cons of life in the nation's cities?

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2. For what reasons did some Americans promote Prohibition?

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3. Why was the enforcement of Prohibition so difficult?

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4. How did Prohibition help lead to the rise of organized crime?

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5. Why did fundamentalists believe in a literal interpretation of the Bible?

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6. What was the outcome of the Scopes trial?

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PRIMARY SOURCE **Political Cartoon**

*The hotly debated 18th Amendment, which prohibited the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages, went into effect in January 1920. According to this political cartoon, what was the impact of prohibition?*



The Heritage of Prohibition, Herbert Johnson. Library of Congress

**Discussion Questions**

1. What effect of Prohibition does this cartoon illustrate?
2. According to the cartoon, what led to the growth of organized crime during Prohibition?
3. In the cartoonist's view, was Prohibition helpful or harmful? Explain your answer.

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**PRIMARY SOURCE** *from* **The Scopes Trial**

*The 1925 Scopes trial pitted defense attorney Clarence Darrow against special prosecutor William Jennings Bryan. Called as a defense witness, Bryan answered a blistering volley of questions fired at him by Darrow. As you read this transcript from the trial, think about which side—the fundamentalists or the evolutionists—prevailed.*

DARROW: Mr. Bryan, could you tell me how old the earth is?  
 BRYAN: No, sir; I couldn't.  
 DARROW: Could you come anywhere near it?  
 BRYAN: I wouldn't attempt to. I could possibly come as near as the scientists do, but I had rather be more accurate before I give a guess. . . .  
 DARROW: Have you any idea how far back the last glacial age was?  
 BRYAN: No, sir.  
 DARROW: Do you know whether it was more than six thousand years ago?  
 BRYAN: I think it was more than six thousand years.  
 DARROW: Have you any idea how old the earth is?  
 BRYAN: No.  
 DARROW: The book you have introduced in evidence tells you, doesn't it? (*Darrow held up a copy of the Bible.*)  
 BRYAN: I don't think it does, Mr. Darrow.  
 DARROW: Let's see whether it does. Is this the one?  
 BRYAN: That is the one, I think.  
 DARROW: It says, B.C. 4004?  
 BRYAN: That is Bishop Usher's calculation.  
 DARROW: That is printed in the Bible you introduced?  
 BRYAN: Yes, sir. . . .  
 DARROW: Would you say the earth was only four thousand years old?  
 BRYAN: Oh, no; I think it is much older than that.  
 DARROW: How much?  
 BRYAN: I couldn't say.  
 DARROW: Do you say whether the Bible itself says it is older than that?  
 DARROW: I don't think the Bible says itself whether it is older or not.  
 (*a long pause*)  
 DARROW: Do you think the earth was made in six days?

BRYAN: Not six days of twenty-four hours.  
 DARROW: Doesn't it [the Bible] say so?  
 BRYAN: No, sir.  
 ATTORNEY GENERAL STEWART: I want to interpose another objection. What is the purpose of this examination?  
 BRYAN (*Pale and trembling, he rose, shaking his fist above his head.*): The purpose is to cast ridicule on everybody who believes in the Bible, and I am perfectly willing that the world shall know that these gentlemen have no other purpose than ridiculing every person who believes in the Bible!  
 DARROW: We have the purpose of preventing bigots and ignoramuses from controlling the education of the United States, and you know it, and that is all.

*from* L. Sprague de Camp, *The Great Monkey Trial* (New York: Doubleday, 1968), 401–404.

**Activity Options**

1. Re-create Darrow's cross-examination of Bryan. Have classmates take the following roles: Darrow, Bryan, Stewart, other members of the defense team, other members of the prosecution team, newspaper reporters who are covering the trial, and spectators who either support Bryan and the fundamentalists or Scopes, Darrow, and the evolutionists.
2. The Scopes trial highlighted the clash between evolutionists and fundamentalists. With a group of classmates, discuss some contemporary examples of the clash between science and religious beliefs.