

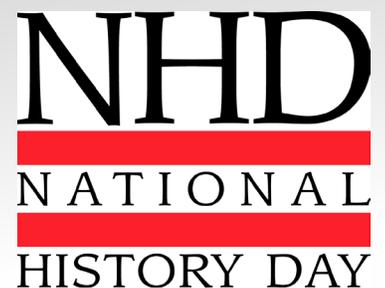
National History Day 2015

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY 2015

LEADERSHIP & LEGACY
in history

Topic Ideas

**Prepared by the Archival and Education
Staff at the Herbert Hoover Presidential
Library and Museum**



Saved from Starvation: The Leadership and Legacy of Herbert Hoover's Food Relief in Belgium, 1914-1917

Herbert Hoover worked to feed the country of Belgium, whose citizens were heavily dependent on food imports, at the beginning of World War I. Belgium was blockaded by the British navy on one side, and the German army on the other, and soon began to starve. Hoover organized a neutral program in order to feed millions of civilians. Through his skillful leadership Hoover established the Commission for Relief in Belgium. Millions of people were saved because of Hoover's food relief efforts.

Hoover Library primary sources:

Gay, George I., *Statistical Review of Relief Operations*, Stanford University Press, 1924. Herbert Hoover Pre-Commerce Papers Subject files, boxes 31-32, CRB.

Prentiss Grey Papers, box 1, Commission for Relief in Belgium.

Online primary sources:

Gay, George I. and H. H. Fisher, *Public Relations of the Commission for Relief in Belgium*, Stanford University Press, 1929. <http://net.lib.byu.edu/~rdh7/wwi/comment/CRB/CRB1-TC.htm>.

Lochner, Louis P, *Herbert Hoover and Germany*, Macmillan, New York, 1960. http://openlibrary.org/books/OL5796429M/Herbert_Hoover_and_Germany.

Secondary sources:

Hoover, Herbert, *An American Epic, Vol. 1: The Relief of Belgium and Northern France, 1914-1930* [Chicago: Regnery, 1959] <http://archive.org/stream/americanepicintr001380mbp#page/n5/mode/2up>.

Nash, George H., *The Life of Herbert Hoover: The Humanitarian, 1914-1917* [New York: W. W. Norton, 1988].

Leading the Charge for Women's Equality in Sports: The National Amateur Athletic Federation and Lou Henry Hoover

Lou Henry Hoover served as President of the Women's Division of the National Amateur Athletic Federation from its inception in 1923. The Women's Division promoted "a girl in every sport." The ways to achieve that were hotly contested by members of the Women's Division, especially considering the NAAF opposed women's participation in the Olympics. Mrs. Hoover's leadership brought consensus in the creation of a model program for women and girls to allow maximum participation and avoid the development of a small group of elite women athletes.

Primary Sources at the Hoover Library:

Lou Henry Hoover Papers: Girl Scouts and Other Organizations - National Amateur Athletic Federation

Secondary Sources:

Guttmann, Allen, *Women's Sports*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1991.

Sefton, Alice Allene, *The Women's Division, National Amateur Athletic Federation: Sixteen Years of Progress in Athletics for Girls and Women, 1923-1939*. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 1941.

Online Secondary Sources:

Bell, Richard C., Ed.D., J.D., "A History of Women in Sport Prior to Title IX." <http://thesportjournal.org/article/a-history-of-women-in-sport-prior-to-title-ix/>.

Daulton, Juli (2013) "The Evolution of Gender Equality in Intercollegiate Sports," *Skyline - The Big Sky Undergraduate Journal*: Vol. 1: Iss. 1, Article 7. <http://skyline.bigskyconf.com/journal/vol1/iss1/7>.

Standardization and Simplification – Reforming American Industry in the 1920s

One of Herbert Hoover's prime goals as Secretary of Commerce was the elimination of waste in American industry. Hoover felt that by simplifying practices and improving efficiencies that American industries could realize tremendous increases in productivity. He used every tool available to him as Secretary of Commerce to insure that industries voluntarily cooperated in improving our national progress and improving Americans' standards of living. There were no products or industries too mundane to be reformed: flash light cases, bricks, lumber, chinaware, and mattresses all merited primers on elimination of waste. Many industries use the standards set by Hoover to the present day.

Primary Sources at the Hoover Library:

Herbert Hoover Commerce Papers. box 145 – Commerce Simplified Commercial Practice and
Boxes 190-191 – Elimination of Waste in Industry

Priest, Ernest L., A Primer of Simplified Practice, Washington, GPO, 1926

Secretary of Commerce, Twelfth Annual Report, Washington, GPO, 1924

Online Primary Sources:

Volume 2 of Hoover's memoirs, especially chapters 6 and 10

<http://www.ecommcode.com/hoover/ebooks/displayPage.cfm?BookID=B1&VolumeID=B1V2>

Library of Congress' American Memory website has a copy of Hoover's January 1925 address to the Chamber of Commerce on 'The Problem of Distribution' accessible via:

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/coolhtml/coolhome.html>

Secondary Sources:

Clements, Kendrick, Hoover, Conservation and Consumerism: Engineering the Good Life. University Press of Kansas, 2004.
The Standardization of America, 1904.

Desegregating the White House: Lou Henry Hoover and the DePriest Tea Incident

In June 1929, First Lady Lou Hoover hosted a series of formal teas for Congressional wives. The first four went without incident, but the last tea party sparked a nation-wide uproar because Mrs. Hoover invited Jesse DePriest, African-American wife of Chicago Congressman Oscar DePriest. Mrs. DePriest was the first African-American woman ever invited to a White House social function. Lou Henry Hoover used her position as First Lady to ensure the good and equal treatment of Jessie DePriest, something never done before. The White House was permanently de-segregated because of Lou's leadership.

Primary sources at the Hoover Library:

Herbert Hoover Papers – Presidential Subject File

DePriest Incident, 10 folders.

Herbert Hoover Papers – Presidential Secretary's File

DePriest, Oscar, 1929-1933.

Lou Henry Hoover Papers – Subject File

Clippings – DePriest Affair, June-July 1929, 2 folders.

DePriest Incident, 8 folders.

Lou Henry Hoover Papers – White House Social Files

1929 Events – June 12 Tea – Ladies of House and Senate (DePriest)

Secondary sources:

David S. Day, "Herbert Hoover and Racial Politics: The DePriest Incident," *Journal of Negro History* 65 (Winter 1980): 6-17.

David S. Day, "A New Perspective on the 'DePriest Tea' Historiographic Controversy," *Journal of Negro History* 75 (Summer/Fall 1990): 120–124.

Donald J. Lisio, *Hoover, Blacks, and Lily-Whites: A Study of Southern Strategies* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985): 134–140, 173.

Online secondary sources:

White House Historical Association website – "A Tempest in a Teapot"

http://www.whitehousehistory.org/whha_shows/depriest-tea-incident/.

Hoover and Radio: Management of America's Airwaves

Radio emerged as a viable mass medium shortly after World War I. This innovative technology took shape unbounded by laws, consensus on best practices, or clear idea on where the technology was headed. Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover convened four voluntary conferences to hammer out the development of national radio policy. His leadership as Secretary of Commerce laid the groundwork for the Radio Act of 1927, legislation that shaped American airwaves for decades.

Primary Sources at the Hoover Library:

Herbert Hoover Commerce Papers--Subject Files: National Radio Conferences (boxes 491-496)

Secondary Sources:

Erik Barnouw, *Tower of Babel*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1966

Robert MacChesney, *Battle for Control of the United States Broadcasting, 1928-1935*.
New York: Oxford University Press, 1990.

Philip Rosen. *Modern Stentors: Radio Broadcasting and the Federal Government, 1920-1934*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1980.

Online Secondary Sources:

Radio history timeline: <http://history.sandiego.edu/GEN/recording/radio.html>

Radio history facts and sources: <http://earlyradiohistory.us/>

All topics can be researched at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum

Research Room Procedures

The reading room is open to researchers Monday through Friday, 8:45 a.m.-noon and 12:30-4:45 p.m. It is closed all federal holidays and weekends. Archivists are happy to assist NHD students, teachers, and families. Appointments are suggested by calling 319-643-5301.



The archivists and education staff at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum are available to help all NHD students, regardless of topic choice. Please e mail elizabeth.dinschel@nara.gov or call 319-643-5301 for additional assistance.