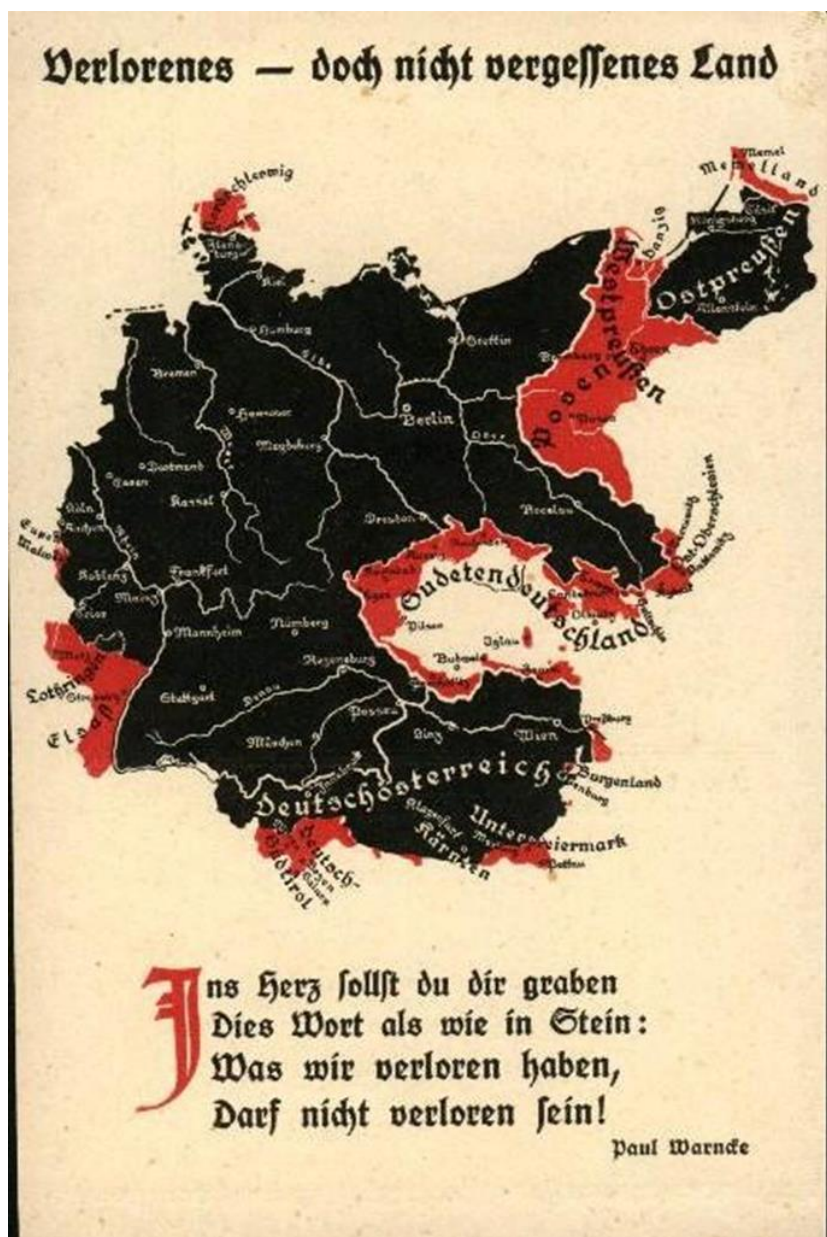


German Mark vs. Dollar

Date	Marks	US Dollars
1918	4.2	1
1921	75	1
1922	400	1
Jan. 1923	7,000	1
Jul. 1923	160,000	1
Aug. 1923	1,000,000	1
Nov. 1, 1923	1,300,000,000	1
Nov. 15, 1923	1,300,000,000,000	1
Nov. 16, 1923	4,200,000,000,000	1

Political Cartoon #1: German postcard about the Treaty of Versailles, published ca. 1919



Lost— but not forgotten
land”

“You must carve into your
heart
These words, as in a stone:
What we have lost,
Should not be lost!”

Political Cartoon #2: German postcard about the Treaty of Versailles, published ca. 1919



“Hands off the German homeland!”

Political Cartoon #3: German political cartoon about the Treaty of Versailles, published ca. 1919



“A Consolation.”

“Just wait. When I have paid 100 million marks, then there will be something to eat again.”

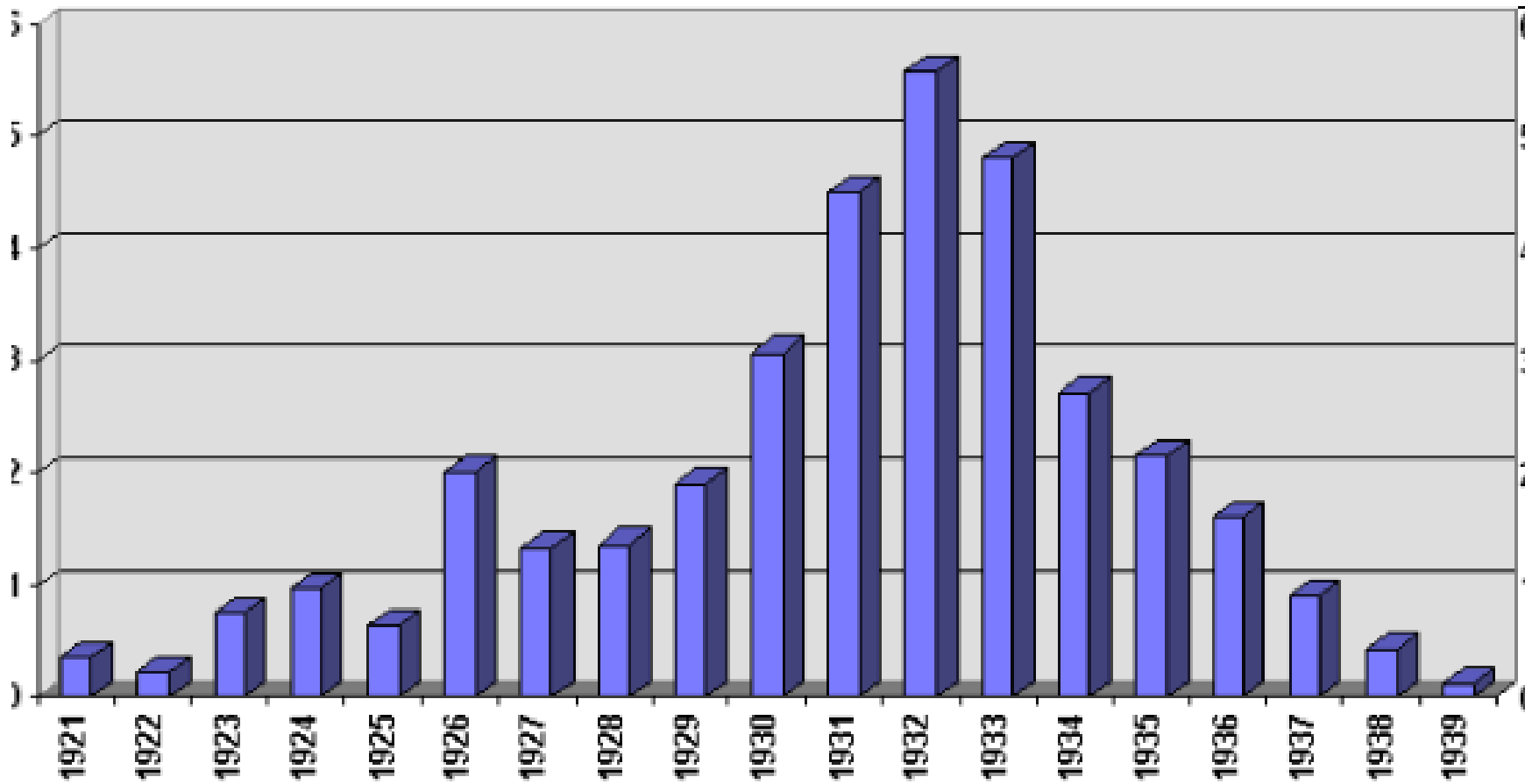
Political Cartoon #4: German political cartoon about the Treaty of Versailles, published ca. 1919



“Coal is bread”

Background: Part of Germany's war reparations from the Treaty of Versailles was that they had to pay Britain with coal.

#5 Graph of German unemployment, in millions, 1921-1939



#6 Photographs of unemployed Germans from the photographs of Ernst Thormann



An unemployed man in his apartment, 1932



"Hello! I need a job! I can type and take dictation..."

#7 Photographs of Germans



A distraught German woman, unable to pay her rent, ca. 1930



Children living in poverty.

#8 German photographs from the hyper-inflation period



1923: children playing with nearly worthless German currency
←

Early 1923: the cost of bread was one billion marks (German currency). The price continued to rise throughout the year.



1923: a woman burning money, which was cheaper than buying wood or coal

Candidate #1:

“In the economic sphere this... has proved to be an immense misfortune. The districts which were most important for the feeding of our people were lost and districts which have been treasonably alienated. And what did the Revolu2on not prophesy for us in the poli2cal sphere? One heard of the right of Self---Determina2on of Peoples, of the League of Na2ons, of Self---Government of the People. And what was the result? A World Peace, but a World Peace over a Germany which was but a field of corpses. Disarmament, but only the disarmament of Germany, with Germany loo2ng its own resources. League of Na2ons, yes: but a League of Na2ons which serves only as the guarantor for the fulfillment of the Peace Treaty, not for a beXer world order which is to come. And government by the people --- for five years past no one has asked the people what it thinks of the act of November of the year 1918: at the head of the [German] na2on there stands a President who is rejected by the overwhelming majority of the people and who has not been chosen by the people. Seventeen million Germans are in misery under foreign rule... We have been rendered defenseless: we are without rights... Germany has been turned into a colony of the outside world.”

- Speech in 1923

Promises:

- Emphasis on patriotism, pride in the past
- Replace weak leadership with new, decisive leaders
- Rebuild the army to protect against enemies
- Regain the land unfairly taken by the Treaty of Versailles
- Make sacrifices to fix the economy
- Put the state’s welfare above that of the individual– when the country is great again, we will all prosper

Candidate #2:

“Here we are now, halfway through 1929. And it is not as bad as it could have been, it is proven by the fact that in the past four weeks, the moments of greatest crisis, the unemployment rate did not climb as high as we had calculated given the world situation. And because of that, I hope that here in Germany it will be possible to work together to find a necessary international solution that will bring peace to the world and create a foundation to rebuild. So I must say that if this is not possible, ladies and gentlemen, the government has decided to protect-- not like they did in the last winter months-- not only to say that until now they have had no successes in foreign affairs or some other areas. Instead they can say that the way is clear and that we will eventually make it through this harsh winter.”

-1929 speech to the Reichstag (German legislative assembly)

Promises:

- We've got to realize that there are no quick solutions to our problems
- Put people back to work— economic progress may still be slow
- Provide care for the poor, sick & elderly
- Avoid reckless spending— be cautious
- Act responsibly to protect democracy
- Be a good neighbor country; honor our obligations to treaties and debts