



0. WE DON'T APPROVE! - Story Preface

1. FDR: YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR!

2. ENGLAND: WE'VE HAD IT!

3. SURE YOU WANT TO BE PRESIDENT?

4. WE DON'T APPROVE!

5. THE PRICE WE PAY

6. WHAT A COUNTRY!

Edward Sorel skewers Spiro Agnew in a parody of a World War I poster, published in *Harper's*, during 1973. The image is maintained at the Library of Congress, courtesy of Edward Sorel.

When Spiro Agnew was Richard Nixon's vice president, people throughout the country were upset with him. Questioning Agnew's financial dealings, Harper's (in 1973) published a parody of Agnew in a World War I poster. Not long after, Agnew was forced to resign.

As Grover Cleveland left office, in 1888, the government had a huge budget surplus. Near the end of Benjamin Harrison's first term, Cleveland's successor had spent it all. The people didn't approve, and Harrison did not get a second term.

Becoming President in 1913, Woodrow Wilson did not like the political situation in (or the President of) Mexico. Drawing attention to those concerns - in his 1913 State of the Union Address - Wilson said:

We are the friends of constitutional government in America; we are more than its friends, we are its champions...As friends, therefore, we shall prefer those who act in the interest of peace and honor, who protect private rights and respect the restraints of constitutional provision.

Many Americans thought Wilson was out-of-line when he intimated the President of Mexico had to go. Verbalizing the people's concerns, a Republican journalist (George Harvey) observed:

What legal or moral right has a President of the United States to say who shall or shall not be President of Mexico?

After World War I, Woodrow Wilson tried to turn his idea for a League of Nations into American law. Even though it was his brain-child, and many other countries agreed with the concept, Wilson could never persuade the U.S. Senate to pass the bill.

, of course, Congress approved membership in the United Nations, but in the early years the public, as well as the Senate, were strongly against the League.

In America, the U.S. Constitution requires that the people are "the boss." That fact would have posed difficulties had the League of Nations actually materialized. How could it enforce unpopular decisions on a disagreeing American public? (Indeed, the same situation exists today with respect to the United Nations and its various resolutions.)

Sometimes the people are wrong - no matter how deeply held their feelings or how loud their collective voices. When Lincoln freed the slaves, some folks didn't think much of the president or his Emancipation Proclamation. Despite what people thought, however, Lincoln did what he thought was right ... and paid the price with his life.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/WE-DON-T-APPROVE-People-Rule>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/WE-DON-T-APPROVE-People-Rule>



Spiro Agnew

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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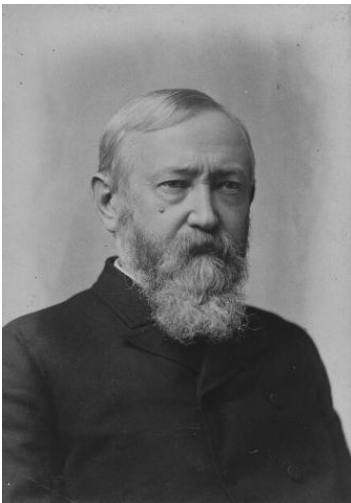


Grover Cleveland

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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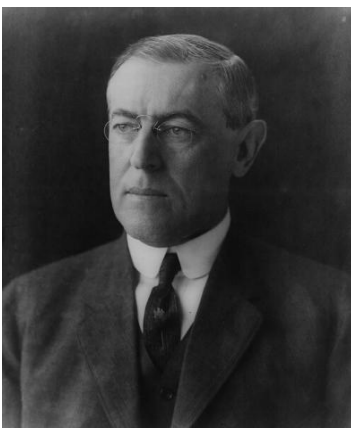


Benjamin Harrison

Image online, courtesy the U.S. Library of Congress.

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Woodrow Wilson

Image online, courtesy the U.S. Library of Congress.

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Thorny Problems in Mexico President Huerta clung to power for more than a year in 1913–1914, despite Woodrow Wilson's strong disapproval of his regime. (New York Public Library.)



Thorny Problems in Mexico - Political Cartoon

Image online, courtesy the authentichistory.com website.

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Thorny-Problems-in-Mexico-Political-Cartoon>

Uncle Sam Refuses Huerta's Blood-Drenched Hand Republican journalist George Harvey wrote: "What legal or moral right has a President of the United States to say who shall or shall not be President of Mexico?" (New York Daily Tribune, 1913.)



Uncle Sam Refuses Huerta's Blood-Drenched Hand

Image online, courtesy authentichistory.com website.

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The League of Nations - Political Cartoon

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One Animal That Wouldn't Go Into The Ark

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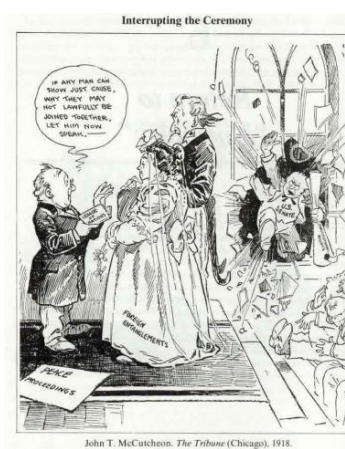


Going to Talk to the Boss

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Interrupting the Ceremony - Political Cartoon

Image online, courtesy Ohio State University, [Cartoon Research Library](#).

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Public Sentiment

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