

Automobiles

Part II

2. Henry Ford (1863-1947)
 - i. Born in Dearborn, Michigan
 - ii. Became a machinist, began experimenting with engines about 1890, and completed his first gasoline engine in 1893
 - iii. 1896 built his first handmade car – quadricycle – small, crud wooden box with a single seat, a steering tiller and bicycle wheels
 - iv. 1903 organized the Ford Motor Company – that year he produced his first Model A – two-cylinder motor mounted under the body of the car
 - v. 1906-1907 the Model K – sold for \$2750 – only could be afforded by the rich – Henry believed that every one should be able to own an automobile
 - vi. 1908 Model T – sold for \$850
1913 Ford invented the assembly line enabling the car to be built in about 1.5 hours and sold for \$260 – nicknamed the “Tin Lizzie”
 - vii. Model T was a four passenger vehicle, with a four-cylinder engine that produced 20 horsepower and ran close to 30 miles on a gallon – first car with a steering wheel on the left side of the car.
 - viii. January 5, 1914, due to the prophets from the assembly line, Ford announced shares of the prophets would go to the workers, increased wages to \$5 a day, and in 1916 he gave equal pay to the ladies.
 - ix. 1927 Model A
 - x. 1932 V-8 engine

3. General Motors
Organized in 1908 by William C. Durant, a carriage maker. He bought Buick, Cadillac, Oakland (Pontiac), Oldsmobile and later Chevrolet

4. World War I (1914-1918)
Auto makers supported the military effort.
Auto industry was about 20 years old and was the third largest industry in the U.S.
5. Chrysler Corporation
Founded by Walter P. Chrysler – first Chrysler was made in 1924, later built Plymouth and De Soto and bought Dodge
6. The Great Depression (1930's)
7. World War II
8. Other Facts
 - i. 1948 Tucker Auto – 51 cars built and never sold
 - ii. 1955 V-8 for Chevrolet and Plymouth
 - iii. 1953 Corvette
 - iv. 1955 Ford Thunderbird
 - v. 1958-60 Ford Edsel
 - vi. 1960-69 Chevrolet Corvair
 - vii. 1965 Ford Mustang
 - viii. mid 1970's gasoline shortage – imports
 - ix. 1976 Chrysler introduced computer parts in its engine