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The New Era for Blacks

The 1920s was called the roaring 20s because of many things, World War One just finished and the soldiers were coming home. Cities like Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit population grew because of factory work and schools systems were improving as well. Yes , this decade was part of “The Great Depression”. This decade had “The Great Migration” and “The Harlem Renaissance “. The migration and renaissance, is what change the southern negro to the “New Negro” that we saw in the 1920s. The “New Negro” ties into the Harlem Renaissance and the Great Migration. They changed pop culture , with music , style and even expand on political thoughts and a voice to their opinion.

The Great Migration was a turning point in our nation's history, blacks from the south moved to northern states , such as New York , Ohio, Illinois and Michigan. The north had blacks but not as much as the south. The south had a bigger population than the north because of slavery. The southern blacks wanted to leave the horrible conditions that they lived in for almost for 400 years . In addition to that, the Jim Crow laws were being used as well. These laws came in play in the late 1800s in to the mid 1900s.Therefore, Jim Crow laws forced segregated sections in southern states, meaning blacks had to bow down to white counterparts . If a white man walked on the same side as the black man , the black man had to walk on mud or walk across the street because a white man walked on the same side as he did! These laws crippled blacks in the south. Blacks could not vote, could not have the same education as whites. Blacks had no room for growth , that's why millions of blacks moved north.

With that being said, major cities had work established for them. Some of the work that was given to them to do was factory work. Chicago had the meat industry, while Pittsburgh and Cleveland has steel mills. These jobs were horrible as in safety, sanitation and still had racism that came along with that, but factory owners did not care they wanted employes to get their product out.

While the great migration was happening , the “New Negro” was born. The New Negro came about during the war and started to boom after the war. World War One showed patriotism to their country.