

Questions

1. What is the GI Bill?
2. How did the GI Bill increase demand?
3. What happened to labor unions after the war?
4. What happened to racial minorities after the war?

Answers

1. The GI Bill, also known as the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, helped veterans after World War II. It gave money for college, job training, and helped arrange loans for those wishing to buy a house, farm, or business. It also helped in job training, and with unemployment.
2. The GI Bill helped increase demand when veterans were able to spend money on consumer goods, like furniture and appliances for their new houses. Furthermore, many families began having babies, which increased the demand for baby products. This was called the baby boom, and took place in the two decades following WWII.
3. Labor unions began seeking the wage increases they had wanted during the war. Strikes went up. Congress passed an act, Taft-Hartley Act, to limit the power by the unions. President could now stop a strike if national interest was at stake.
4. Efforts continued to afford equal opportunity for African-Americans in industry jobs. Truman ended segregation in the Armed Services with Executive Order 9981 in 1948. Hispanics set up the GI Forum to help with minority issues. Brought minority issues to mainstream discussion.

Summary

The GI Bill helped WWII veterans readjust to daily life, providing money for school, job training, etc. Veterans started buying consumer goods, had lots of babies (baby boom), all which increased overall demand. Labor unions began making more demands from business owners. Segregation was ended in the Armed Services.

<i>veteran</i>	<i>a person that has served in a war, with the U.S. Armed Forces</i>
<i>consumer goods</i>	<i>any good (item) that is bought, and used, like a car, fridge, food</i>
<i>baby boom</i>	<i>sharp increase in babies born in the two decades following WWII...</i>
<i>union</i>	<i>a group of people banded together to seek worker's rights, like less hours, more pay, benefits, etc. Common in the car industry today.</i>
<i>strike</i>	<i>unions strike (stop working) to get their message across, or to demand benefits, etc.</i>
<i>Congress</i>	<i>the elected representatives meet and work on legislation in Congress, which is made up of the House of Representatives, and the Senate (located in Washington D.C.)</i>
<i>Taft-Hartley Act</i>	<i>act passed by Congress that limits the power of unions</i>
<i>segregation</i>	<i>legally keeping races separated, like blacks and whites only drinking fountain, but on a much larger scale, and supported by law</i>
<i>Hispanic</i>	<i>a person of Spanish descent (origin)</i>
<i>minority</i>	<i>any group or people that is less than another. Often used in connection with segregation and race, or with political parties. Example would be there are less girls than boys at NHS, hence girls are the in the minority.</i>