

The Civil War**Section 3****Life During Wartime****Terms and Names**

Fort Pillow Site of Confederate massacre of more than 200 African American war prisoners

income tax Tax that takes a percentage of an individual's income

Clara Barton Union nurse

Andersonville Confederate war camp

Before You Read

In the last section, you read about the political issues that existed during the Civil War. In this section, you will learn about how the war affected American society.

As You Read

Use a chart to take notes about economic changes during the Civil War and their effects.

AFRICAN AMERICANS FIGHT FOR FREEDOM (Pages 351–352)
What discrimination did African Americans face?

In 1862, Congress allowed African Americans to serve in the Union army. After the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, many African Americans enlisted. By the end of the war, they made up 10 percent of the Union army. African-American soldiers served in separate regiments. They were usually paid less than whites and suffered other kinds of discrimination.

African-American soldiers who were captured by the Confederacy were returned to slavery or executed on the spot. At **Fort Pillow**, Tennessee, Confederate troops murdered more than 200 captured African Americans.

Ironically, the Confederacy considered drafting slaves and free blacks to fight in

1863 and again in 1864. One planter argued that since slaves “*caused* the fight,” they should have to help fight it. The South ended up arming some slaves in the spring of 1865 as the war drew to a close and the Confederate army was desperate for men.

Meanwhile, as the war dragged on, slaves in the South resisted their condition. Some refused to work or destroyed property. Others ran away to Union armies. By 1864, the plantation system and the institution of slavery were crumbling.

1. What kind of discrimination did African-American soldiers in the Union army face?

Section 3, *continued***THE WAR AFFECTS REGIONAL ECONOMIES** (Pages 353–354)**How did the war affect the Northern and Southern economies?**

As Union forces pushed deeper into the South, many slaves ran away. This led to a decline in the South’s workforce. As a result, the South’s economy suffered. Food became scarce. Prices rose. In 1863, food riots broke out in some Southern cities.

The Union blockade of Southern ports created shortages of other items. They included salt, sugar, coffee, nails, needles, and medicines. As a result, many Confederates smuggled cotton into the North in exchange for gold, food, and other goods.

In the North, the war caused the economy to grow rapidly. Factories produced supplies needed by the army. But wages for factory workers did not keep up with prices. Some workers went on strike for higher wages.

The economies of both sides changed in another significant way: a greater involvement by women. In both the North and the South, women replaced men in the factories and on the farms. In the North, women also obtained government jobs for the first time. They worked mostly as clerks.

Due to the booming economy and rising prices, many businesses in the North made immense profits. This led to corrupt practices—especially by businesses with government contracts. For example, they made uniforms and blankets made of poor material that came apart in the rain. Others passed off spoiled meat as fresh and demanded twice the usual price for guns.

To help pay for the war, Congress decided to collect the nation’s first **income tax**. This tax took a part of an individual’s earned income.

2. How did the economies of the North and South differ during the war?

SOLDIERS SUFFER ON BOTH SIDES (Pages 354–356)**What conditions did soldiers face?**

Life for soldiers on both sides was difficult. Many soldiers suffered and died from wounds they received in battles. They also suffered from poor army food, filthy conditions, and disease.

Early in the war, some Northern women and doctors founded the United States Sanitary Commission to improve sanitary conditions for soldiers. They set up hospital trains and ships to move wounded soldiers from the battlefield.

More than 3,000 Northern women served as nurses during the war. Some, like **Clara Barton**, worked on the front lines. The Confederacy had many volunteer nurses, too.

Conditions for soldiers in war prisons were even worse. The worst Confederate camp was at **Andersonville**, Georgia. The camp was terribly overcrowded. Prisoners were not provided with any shelter.

Prison camps in the North were not much better. Northern prisons provided about five times as much space per man. However, they provided little or no heat to the Confederate prisoners unaccustomed to the cold winters. As a result, thousands of Southern prisoners contracted pneumonia and died.

3. What was the purpose of the U.S. Sanitary Commission?

Section 3, *continued*

As you read, make notes in the boxes to describe the changes caused by the war.

How wartime affected . . .	
1. Southern slaves	2. Southern economy
3. Northern economy	4. Soldiers on both sides
5. African-American soldiers in the North	6. White women in the North and in the South
7. Taxation in the North	8. Health care