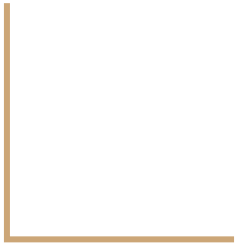


Careers in the Roaring 20's:



The 20's was a new age of dramatic social and political change. For the first time in American history, more Americans were living in the city than on farms. And by 1929 the Nation's total wealth doubled. America was a new country no one had experienced before.



Women's Careers

The 1920's was the first decade where women were allowed to vote, which made women's jobs vary. World War I caused lots more job availability that were usually taken by men, but now left empty due to so many at war. Unfortunately, Jobs that were available, were much more segregated for women with there being only a few acceptable working places that allowed women to work.



Department Store Sales Clerks

Many Women found Department jobs very suitable as the hours were flexible and was a safe workplace. With the beauty market expanding, there were lots more sales coming through and a high demand for dresses, gloves and hats.



Telephone Switchboard Operators

As the switchboard become more and more sophisticated and more people began to use telephones, this caused more women being hired. Men were employed as operators until a Boston entrepreneur came to face the fact that women's voices were more soothing and calm on the phone. Emma Nutt was the first women to be hired as an Operator and filled the job exceptionally well setting high standards for the rest. All hired Women continued to meet the standards which led to a breakthrough of job roles in the 1920s.



Jobs in Medicine

With World War I happening, this unfortunately meant many injuries. Women were in need of being hired to fulfill this role. Having Women Doctors were incredibly rare, which meant there were lots of Women Nurses available. The Red Cross came through by hiring thousands of young Women to help at the battlefronts.



Flapper style dressmaker:

The 1920's was a new era for fashion and how women presented themselves they called themselves flappers. As a new fashion was arising the call for more and more dressmakers was a huge demand. The most familiar symbol of a flapper would be a young woman with bobbed hair and short skirts who drank, smoked and said what might be termed "unladylike" things compared to past generations.



Secretarial and office work:

Before the 1920's jobs in the office were overruled by men. This was mainly because men were traditionally more educated to read and write, but after WW1 the demand for woman to go in office and secretarial jobs. Secretary work was the most common job for women in the 1920s. Those who chose to work rather than remain as the household wife or mother most oftentimes found themselves working in offices or as a secretary.



Men's Careers

Men had a wide variety of jobs that were available for them, they worked in factories, farms, construction and even some managing jobs that was applicable for men. In fact, if Men wanted to work somewhere, they were most likely allowed to, there weren't many jobs that were closed off for men, Unlike women.



Men usually worked as farmers, doctors, lawyers and bankers, while women commonly had roles as teachers, nurses, librarians and maids. Luckily for us women, there are many more job opportunities today than there was in the 1920s. Yet the work and influence the Women had in the 20s are still remembered and appreciated. If Women hadn't dug out the pathway, many careers wouldn't have fully extended like they do now today, and no one would know that women can work just as hard, if not harder, as any men can.

