The rise of Fascism

Notes page 16-42

Italy at war

- Austria broke the terms of the treaty by attacking Serbia without consulting Italy and by seeking to expand their empire into the Balkans
- Most Italians wanted neutrality, they feared that victory for the Triple Alliance would strengthen Austrian resistance to revision of its borders with Italy
- If Entente powers had won they wouldn't be sympathetic to Italian ambitions
- The Entente promised the Italians that they would have Austrian lands
- Italian went in war and some went to war with the soldiers. 5M Men
- Giolitti attacked the decision to go to war
- The Italian army found itself in a murderous war of attrition
- Italy got attacked by Austro-German
- Austria collapsed and Italian forces possessed 500,000 prisoners of war
- Armistice: Agreement to cease fighting

The Economic legacy of the 1st WW

- 650,000 men died, one million seriously wounded
- National debt increase to 85 billion lira in 1919
- They raised prices of their products to supply the army
- Pirelli and Fiat became the greatest of Europe
- Wages fell down, real wages caused by inflation and the ban on industrial action vented their frustration
- Two million people were unemployed

The socialist ‘threat’

- 150,000 people joined the Socialist party
- The goal was a Socialist republic and the dictatorship of proletariat Industrial working class