Document 6:

	1949	1951	1953	1955	1957	1959
Life expectancy at birth, in years	68.0	68.4	68.8	69.6	69.5	69.6
GNP per capita, in 1958 dollars	$2,172	$2,495	$2,507	$2,650	$2,642	$2,688
Total government spending, in billions of dollars	$40.6	$45.8	$76.8	$68.5	$76.7	$92.1
Surplus or (deficit), in billions of dollars	$1.0	$7.6	($5.3)	($3.0)	$3.2	($12.9)
Defense spending as percent of government spending	32.7%	51.1%	68.1%	63.2%	62.9%	57.9%

Source: *Historical Statistics of the United States*, Statistical Abstract of the United States, Department of Commerce.

1- Identify two significant changes in the United States in the years 1949 to 1959?

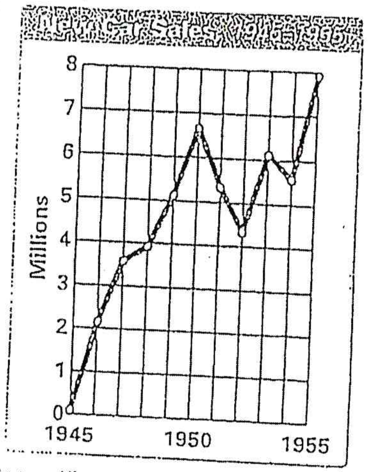
2- What accounts for these changes?

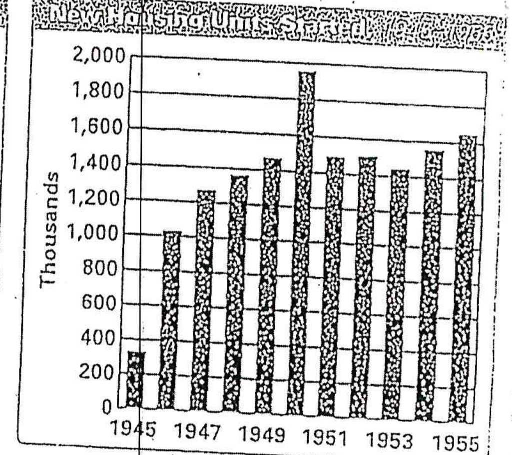
3. Which change do you find most interesting? Why?

GRAPH

Two Graphs—Multiple Choice

Directions: *Use the information in the graphs and your knowledge of U.S. history to answer the questions.*





Source: *Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1970*

1. What was a peak year for both new car sales and housing starts?
   A 1947
   B 1950
   C 1953
   D 1955

2. In what year did new car sales approximately equal the housing starts of 1950?
   A 1946
   B 1948
   C 1950
   D 1955

3. What was the average number of annual housing starts during the decade shown?
   A about 1 million
   B about 1.2 million
   C about 1.4 million
   D about 1.8 million

4. The year with the greatest increase in car sales compared to the previous year was
   A 1946.
   B 1948.
   C 1950.
   D 1955.

5. What do these charts explain about the U.S. economy from 1945-1955?