

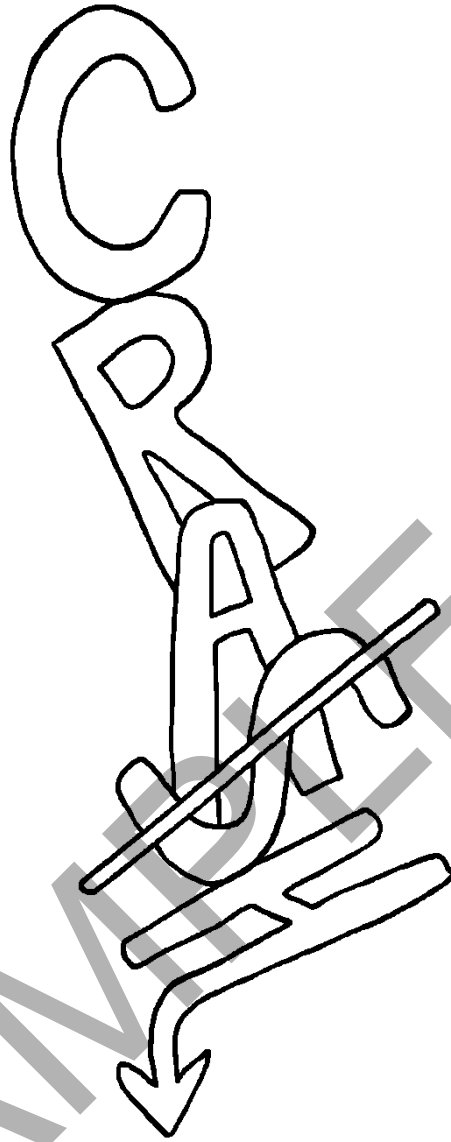
When the 1930s

began, the nation was

hurting. The stock

market had . . . .

STOCK  
MARKET



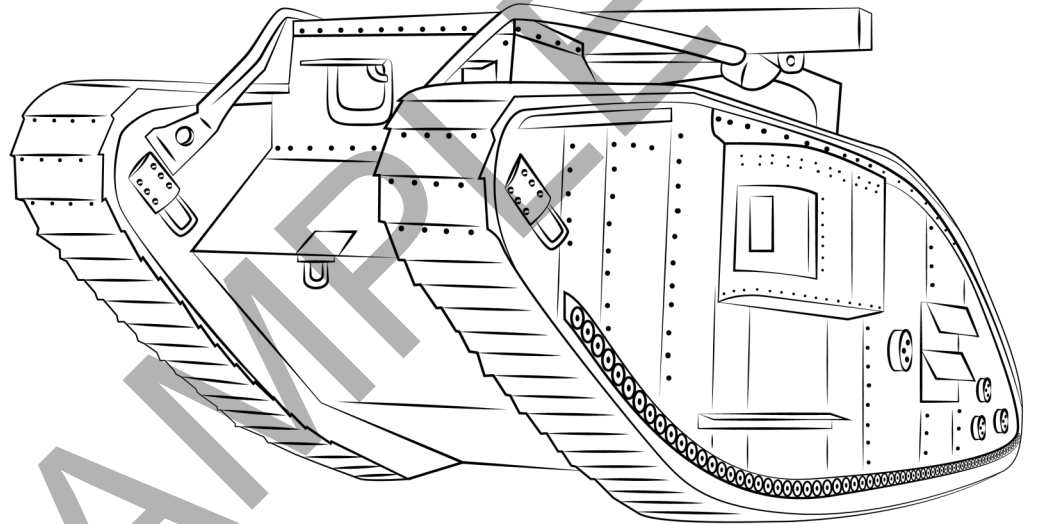
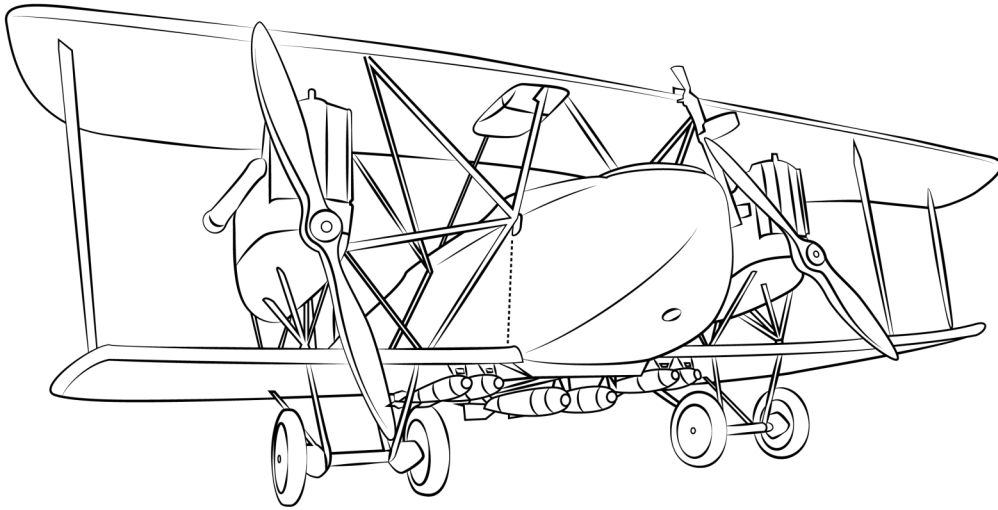
crashed on October

29, 1929, and people

had lost a lot of

money. The Great

Depression had begun.



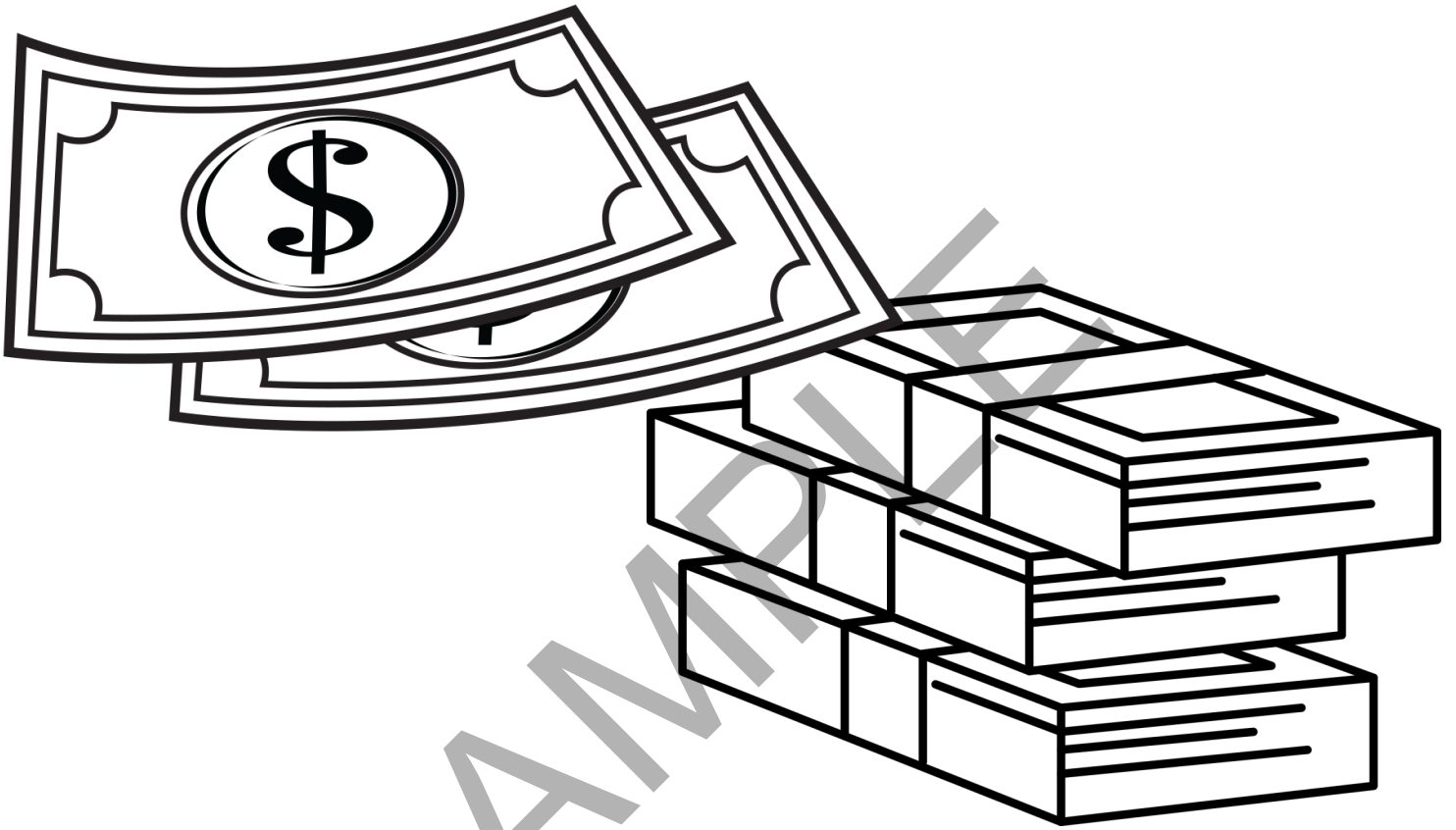
How had it happened?

The country went into

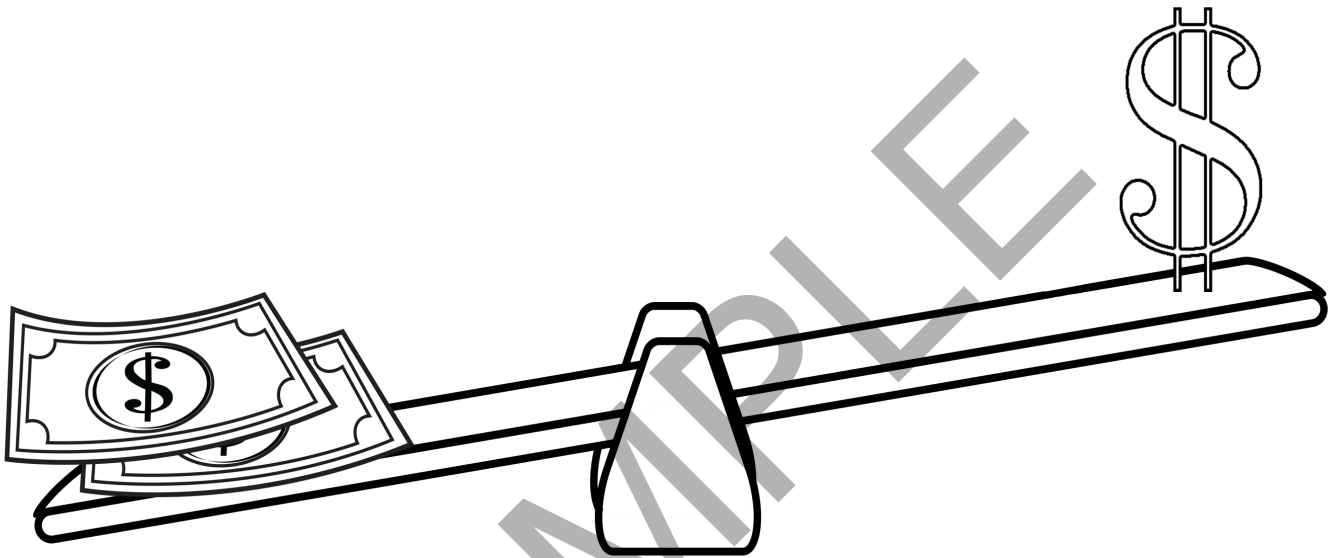
debt fighting World

War I, which had

ended in 1918.



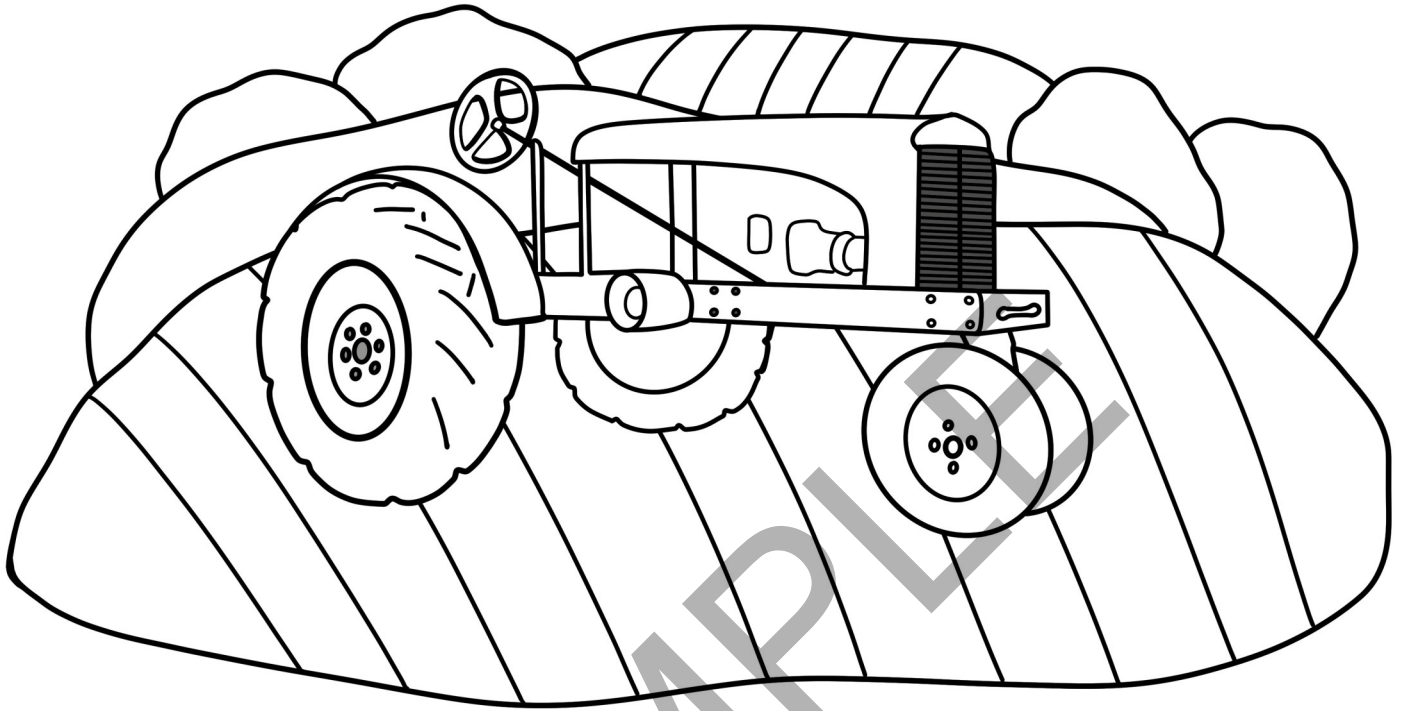
The government raised  
taxes and printed  
money. That made the  
money worth less.



Since it was worth less,  
prices went up. That is  
called inflation.



Some countries made  
money during the war,  
and their businesses  
and farms boomed.  
They had so much . . .



food to sell to the  
U.S. that farmers in  
America didn't get  
as much money for  
their crops.



They had to pay more  
for what they needed  
but made less. When  
they couldn't pay for  
their homes . . . .





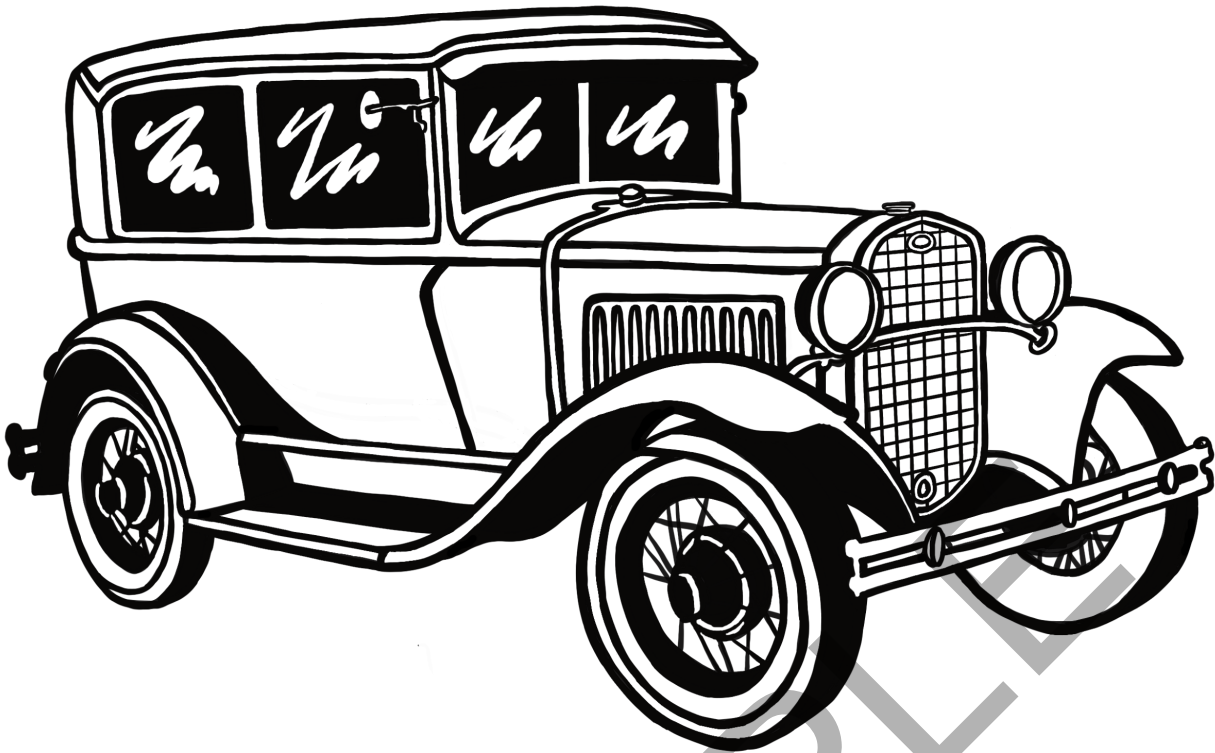
banks lost money and

had to close. Other

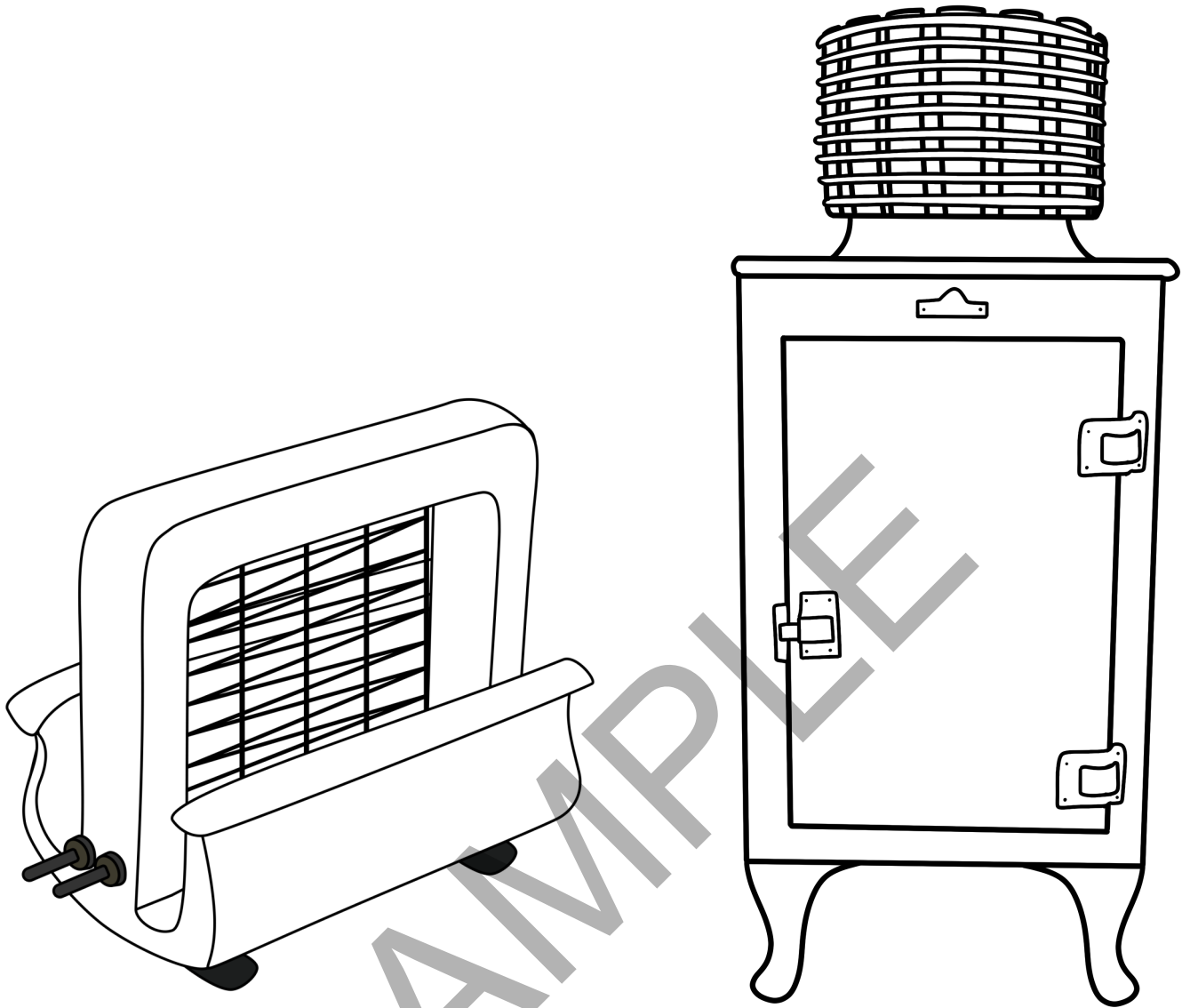
businesses, though, did

well. People bought

lots of . . .



cars, gadgets,  
and . . .



appliances.

People bought on

credit, which

sometimes works.

But it led to . . .



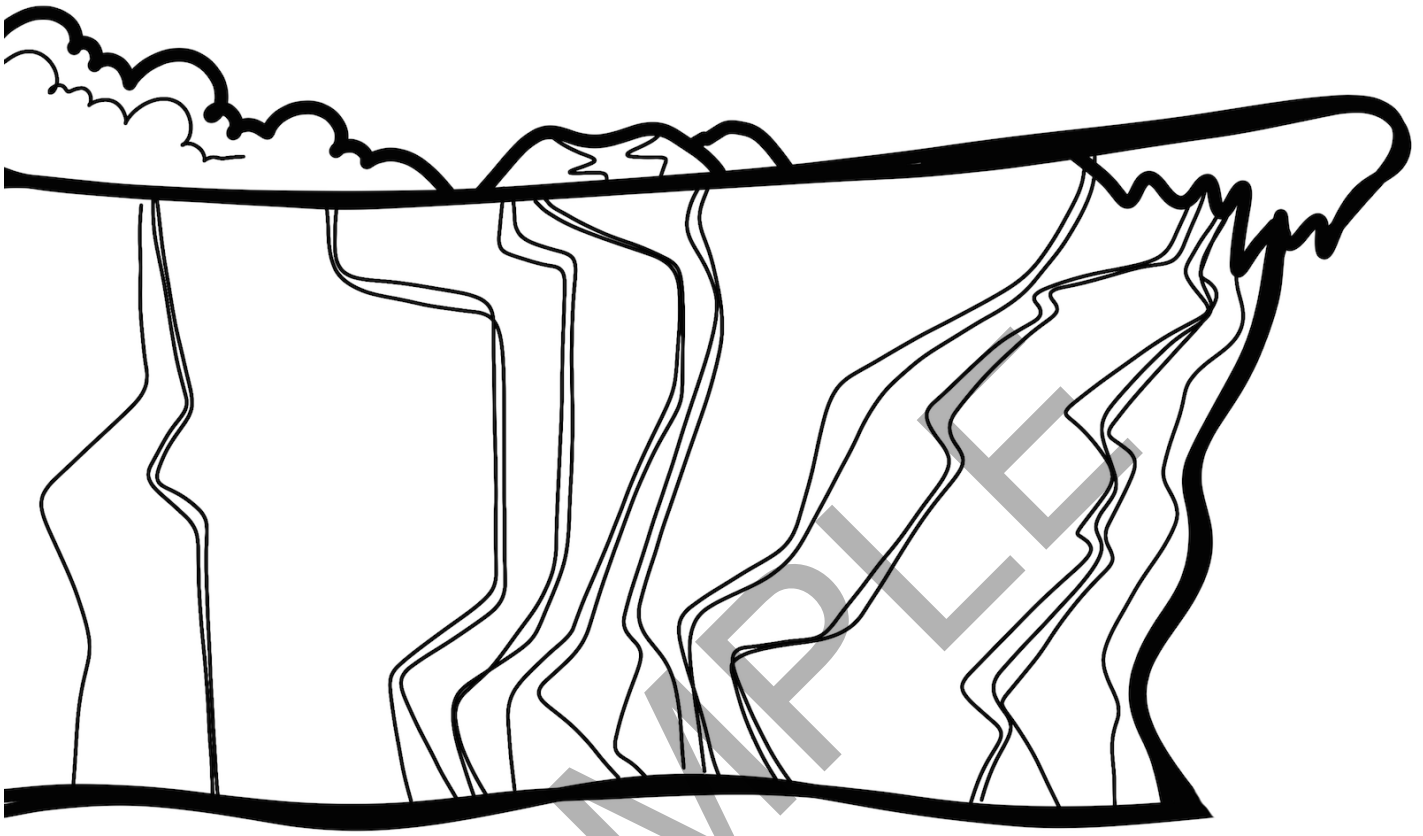
people getting too

confident that

business would always

boom, like it was one

big party. They . . .



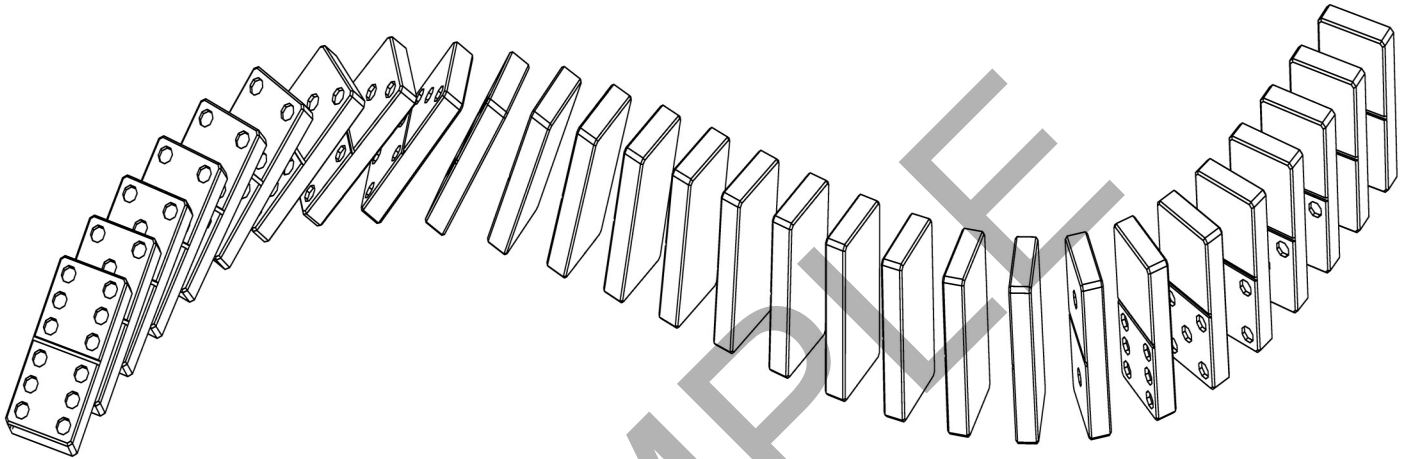
made risky decisions.

The government knew

the economy was

moving toward the

edge of a cliff.



It tried to stop it, but  
then businesses did  
poorly. It was like a  
giant row of  
dominoes.