The 1930s

Depression, and the tallest building on Earth.

The Great Depression cut output by a quarter in the U.S. Yet the Empire State Building rose in 410 days, and the decade gave us the jet engine, nylon and the first antibiotics.

What rose

1931. The Empire State Building opens. Source: Empire State Building

1935. Sulfa drugs, the first broad antibacterials. Radar is demonstrated in Britain. Source: Sulfonamide (medicine)

1936. Alan Turing describes the universal computing machine. Source: Turing machine

1937. The Golden Gate Bridge opens. Source: Golden Gate Bridge

What fell or stalled

The Great Depression, and the rise of totalitarian regimes in Germany, Italy and the Soviet Union. Source: Great Depression

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Version 1, November 16, 2026. Drafted with AI from public sources and checked against the source linked for each entry. Not yet reviewed by Nicholas Niehaus. Corrections are welcome and are logged publicly.
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