

The Americans

Chapter 23: The New Deal, 1933–1940

The New Deal, 1933–1940

Chapter Opener: The New Deal, 1933–1940

President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs stimulate the economy and the arts. The New Deal leaves a lasting, yet controversial mark on American government.

Section 0: A New Deal Fights the Depression

Section Opener: A New Deal Fights the Depression

After becoming president, Franklin Delano Roosevelt uses government programs to combat the Depression.

Slide 3: Americans Get a New Deal [continued]

Electing Franklin Delano Roosevelt

- * Democrats nominate New York governor Franklin Delano Roosevelt
- reform-minded; projects friendliness, confidence
- * Democrats overwhelmingly win presidency, Senate, House

Waiting for Roosevelt to Take Over

- * With "Brain Trust," FDR formulates policies to alleviate problems
 - * New Deal—relief for needy, economic recovery, financial reform
-

Slide 4: Americans Get a New Deal [continued]

The Hundred Days

- * FDR launches Hundred Days; passes over 15 major New Deal laws
- * Emergency Banking Relief Act permits Treasury Department to inspect banks
- decides which are insolvent, sound, or need loans
- public confidence in banks revived

An Important Fireside Chat

- * FDR gives fireside chats—radio talks explaining New Deal measures
 - * First chat discusses need for public support of government, banks
-

Slide 5: Americans Get a New Deal

Regulating Banking and Finance

- * Glass-Steagall Act establishes Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
 - insures individual bank accounts, regulates banking practices
 - * Federal Securities Act—companies must give all information on stocks
 - * Securities and Exchange Commission created to regulate stock market
 - * FDR gets law allowing production of some alcoholic beverages
 - * 21st Amendment repeals prohibition by end of 1933
-

Slide 6: Helping the American People [continued]

Rural Assistance

- * Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) raises food prices, lowers supply
- * Tennessee Valley Authority creates jobs renovating, building dams

Providing Work Projects

- * Civilian Conservation Corps—public works jobs for young men
 - * Public Works Administration—money to states to create jobs
 - * Civil Works Administration builds rural schools, pays teachers
-

Slide 7: Helping the American People

Promoting Fair Practices

- * NIRA establishes codes of fair practice for industries
- creates National Recovery Administration (NRA)
- * NRA sets standards, prices, limits production

Food, Clothing, and Shelter

- * Home Owners Loan Corporation gives loans to prevent foreclosures
 - * Federal Housing Administration gives loans for mortgages, repairs
 - * Federal Emergency Relief Administration—direct relief to needy
-

Slide 8: The New Deal Comes Under Attack [continued]

Opposition to the New Deal

- * Deficit spending—spending more money than government takes in
- funds New Deal
- * Liberals: New Deal does not do enough to help poor, fix economy
- * Conservatives: New Deal used to control business, socialize economy

The Supreme Court Reacts

- * Supreme Court strikes down NIRA, AAA as unconstitutional
 - * FDR proposes "Court-packing bill"; Congress, press protest
 - * Starting in 1937, justices retire; FDR appoints seven new ones
-

Slide 9: The New Deal Comes Under Attack

Three Fiery Critics

- * Some conservative opponents form American Liberty League
- * Think measures violate respect for personal rights, property
- * Father Charles Coughlin withdraws initial support of New Deal
 - wants guaranteed income, banks nationalized
- * Dr. Francis Townsend devises pension plan for elderly
- * Presidential hopeful, Senator Huey Long has popular social program

Section 1: The Second New Deal Takes Hold

***Section Opener:* The Second New Deal Takes Hold**

The Second New Deal includes new programs to extend federal aid and stimulate the nation's economy.

Slide 11: The Second Hundred Days [continued]

Furthering the New Deal

- * By 1935, economic recovery not as great as FDR had expected
- * FDR launches second phase: more relief for farmers, workers
- * First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, a social reformer, prods president

Slide 12: The Second Hundred Days

Reelecting FDR

- * 1936, Democrats win presidency, large majorities in both houses
- * First time most African Americans vote Democratic
- * First time labor unions support presidential candidate

Slide 13: Helping Farmers

Focusing on Farms

- * 1936 Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act replaces AAA
 - rewards farmers for practicing soil conservation
 - * New Agricultural Adjustment Act avoids unconstitutional provision
 - * Resettlement Administration gives loans to small farmers to buy land
 - * Farm Security Administration—loans to tenant farmers to buy land
 - * FSA hires photographers to shoot rural towns, farms, farmers
-

Slide 14: Roosevelt Extends Relief

Programs for Urban Workers

- * Works Progress Administration(WPA)—creates jobs
 - * WPA workers build airports, roads, public buildings
 - * Women workers sew clothes for the needy
 - * WPA employs professional writers, artists, performers
 - * National Youth Administration (NYA)—education, jobs, counseling
 - * Gives aid to students in exchange for part-time work
-

Slide 15: Improving Labor and Other Reforms [continued]

Improving Labor Conditions

- * National Labor Relations Act, or Wagner Act, replaces NIRA:
 - protects right to join unions, collective bargaining
 - prohibits unfair labor practices
 - * National Labor Relations Board hears testimony about labor practices
 - * Holds elections to determine if workers want unions
 - * Fair Labor Standards Act sets maximum hours, minimum wage
-

Slide 16: Improving Labor and Other Reforms

The Social Security Act

- * 1935, Social Security Act creates Social Security system; provides:
 - insurance for retirees 65 or older
 - unemployment compensation
 - aid to disabled, families with children

Expanding and Regulating Utilities

- * Rural Electrification Administration brings electricity to farms
 - * Public Utility Holding Company Act aims to stop financial corruption
-

Section 2: The New Deal Affects Many Groups

Section Opener: The New Deal Affects Many Groups

New Deal policies and actions affect various social and ethnic groups.

Slide 18: The New Deal Brings New Opportunities

Women Make their Mark

- * Frances Perkins, secretary of labor, is first female cabinet member
 - * FDR also appoints 2 women as diplomats, 1 as federal judge
 - * Women still face discrimination in workplace from male workers
 - * NRA sets some lower minimum wages for women
 - * Federal work programs hire far fewer women than men
 - * Only slight increase in overall percentage of women working for wages
-

Slide 19: African-American Activism [continued]

African Americans Take Leadership Roles

- * FDR appoints more than 100 African Americans to government
 - Mrs. Roosevelt plays key role
 - * Educator Mary McLeod Bethune heads Division of Negro Affairs of NYA
 - * Helps organize "Black Cabinet" of African-American advisers
 - * Daughters of American Revolution refuse Marian Anderson concert
 - * Mrs. Roosevelt resigns; arranges for Lincoln Memorial concert
-

Slide 20: African-American Activism

The President Fails to Support Civil Rights

- * FDR afraid of upsetting white Southern Democratic voters
 - * Refuses to approve anti-lynching law, end to poll tax
 - * New Deal agencies discriminate against African Americans
 - pay them lower wages, favor whites
 - * African Americans help organize Southern Tenant Farmers Union
 - * Generally support Roosevelt administration, New Deal
-

Slide 21: Mexican-American Fortunes

Mexican Americans Under FDR

- * Mexican Americans generally support New Deal
 - * Many come to U.S. in 1920s, settle mainly in Southwest
 - work on farms
 - * CCC, WPA help some Mexican Americans
 - * Disqualify migrant workers with no permanent address
-

Slide 22: Native Americans Gain Support

Native Americans and the New Deal

- * 1924, Native Americans receive full citizenship
 - * John Collier, commissioner of Indian affairs, changes policies
 - * Indian Reorganization Act favors native autonomy, mandates changes:
 - lands belong to entire tribe; government can't sell unclaimed areas
 - children can attend schools on reservations
 - tribes elect tribal councils to govern reservations
-

Slide 23: FDR Creates the New Deal Coalition [continued]

The New Deal Coalition

- * New Deal Coalition—different groups that support Democratic Party

Labor Unions Flourish

- * Pro-labor legislation leads unions to donate money for FDR reelection
 - * 1933–1941, union membership grows from 3 million to over 10 million
 - * American Federation of Labor traditionally craft unions only
 - * Committee for Industrial Organization organizes industrial unions
 - * Expelled by AFL, becomes Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO)
-

Slide 24: FDR Creates the New Deal Coalition

Labor Disputes

- * Sit-down strike important bargaining tactic of 1930s
- prevents owners from hiring strikebreakers
- * Some labor disputes violent
- * NLRB forces Republic Steel to negotiate after clash with strikers

FDR Wins in 1936

- * Political organizations in large Northern cities support FDR
- * Urban, religious, ethnic groups also support FDR
- FDR appoints officials of urban-immigrant background

Section 3: Culture in the 1930s

Section Opener: Culture in the 1930s

Motion pictures, radio, art, and literature blossom during the New Deal.

Slide 26: The Lure of Motion Pictures and Radio [continued]

Movies are a Hit

- * About 65% of population goes to movies once a week
 - * Films offer escape from reality; show wealth, romance, fun
 - * Gone With the Wind—perhaps most famous film of era
 - * Musicals—live action or animated—way to forget problems
 - * Comedies, realistic gangster movies especially popular
 - * Several films present New Deal policies in positive light
-

Slide 27: The Lure of Motion Pictures and Radio

Radio Entertains

- * 90% of households have a radio; families listen together every day
 - * Dramas, variety shows play in evening
 - * Orson Welles—actor, director, producer, writer
 - * Soap operas for homemakers broadcast in middle of day
 - * Children's shows after school hours
 - * Immediate news coverage becomes customary
-

Slide 28: The Arts in Depression America [continued]

Artists Decorate America

- * Federal Art Project pays artists to make art, teach in schools
- * Aim to promote art appreciation, positive image of America
- * Murals typically portray dignity of ordinary people at work
- * Many outstanding works painted by artists, including Grant Wood
- * Federal Theater Project hires actors, artists

Woody Guthrie Sings of America

- * Singer, songwriter Woody Guthrie sings of plight of poor
-

Slide 29: The Arts in Depression America

Diverse Writers Depict American Life

- * Federal Writers' Project supports many who become major writers
 - * Richard Wright, African-American author, writes *Native Son*
 - * John Steinbeck writes *The Grapes of Wrath* about Dust Bowl migrants
 - * Some writers examine difficulty of life in 1930s
 - * Others show dignity of ordinary people, values of small-town life
-

Section 4: The Impact of the New Deal

Section Opener: The Impact of the New Deal

The New Deal affects American society not only in the 1930s but also in the decades that follow.

Slide 31: New Deal Reforms Endure [continued]

The New Deal Ends

- * By 1937, economic improvement convinces many Depression is ending
- * Congress wants to cut back programs; by 1939, New Deal over

Supporters and Critics of the New Deal

- * Conservatives think FDR made federal government too large
 - stifled free enterprise, individual initiative
 - * Liberals: didn't do enough to socialize economy, end inequalities
 - * Supporters: did help country recover from economic difficulties
-

Slide 32: New Deal Reforms Endure [continued]

Expanding Government's Role in the Economy

- * FDR expands power of federal government, president
 - * Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) regulates banking
 - * Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulates investment
 - * New Deal does not end Depression; does reduce suffering, give hope
 - * Federal government goes deeply into debt to create jobs, give aid
 - * Massive spending on equipment, supplies for WW II end Depression
-

Slide 33: New Deal Reforms Endure

Protecting Workers' Rights

- * New Deal laws set standards, ban child labor, permit unions
 - establish policies followed today
- * National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) still mediates labor disputes

Banking and Finance

- * SEC still monitors stock market, enforces laws on stock, bond sales
 - * FDIC still protects individual investors in case of bank failure
-

Slide 34: Social and Environmental Effects [continued]

Social Security

- * Federal government takes responsibility for citizens' welfare
- * Provides for aged, disabled, needy

The Rural Scene

- * Commodity Credit Corporation makes loans to farmers
 - based on amount of farmer's surplus, parity price
- * Parity price—price intended to keep farmers' income steady
- * Agricultural price supports set precedent of federal aid to farmers

Slide 35: Social and Environmental Effects

The Environment

- * CCC plants trees, builds hiking trails, fire lookout towers
- * Soil Conservation Service teaches methods to preserve soil
- * Taylor Grazing Act reduces grazing on public lands
- * Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) creates electricity, prevents floods
- * Government adds national parks, wildlife refuges, wilderness areas
- * Government-sponsored stripmining, coal burning cause pollution

Slide 36: Let the Games Begin!

Play the Review Game

Compete with your classmates in this show-what-you-know game. Rack up points, reveal an image, and earn more points in a bonus round.
