



# **The New Deal**

How FDR helped make America great, again!

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- a. Describe Roosevelt's attempts at relief, recovery, and reform reflected in various New Deal programs.
- b. Explain the passage of the Social Security Act as a part of the second New Deal.
- c. Analyze political challenges to Roosevelt's leadership and New Deal programs.
- d. Examine how Eleanor Roosevelt changed the role of the First Lady including development of New Deal programs to aid those in need.

**SSUSH18 Evaluate Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal as a response to the Great Depression and compare how governmental programs aided those in need.**

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**Using the song lyrics, answer the following 3 questions on your handout:**

1. Describe how “This Land Is Your Land” represents America during the Great Depression.
2. Do you think this is an overall positive or negative song & why?
3. Can you apply this song to our society today? Why or why not?

- [This Land is Your Land - 2:45](#)

# **Writing Activity**

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1. Describe each of these visuals.
  2. What themes connect them?
  3. Describe the setting in U.S. history which produced these images.
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# The Election of 1932

- Republican Nominee: Hoover (Incumbent)
- Democratic Nominee: Franklin D. Roosevelt
  - Platform: New Deal, repeal of prohibition, aid for the unemployed, and cuts in government spending.
- Results: Roosevelt wins handily - 60% of the vote, carries all but four states.



# FDR

- 32<sup>nd</sup> POTUS
- Cousin of Teddy Roosevelt (26<sup>th</sup> POTUS)
- NY legislator (Governor & Senate)
- Diagnosed with Polio in 1921
  
- Served 4 terms (22<sup>nd</sup> Amendment)
  
- Eleanor Roosevelt – Fought for social rights and influenced FDR



# FDR's New Deal

- FDR initiated his New Deal, a series of social and economic programs that were designed to fight the depression by offering:
  - Relief: gov't relief checks & jobs to get people back to work
  - Recovery: tried to end the depression by stimulating industry & farming
  - Reform: long-term solutions to America's economic problems

FDR used the radio to sell his New Deal programs to the American people.

These “fireside chats” used simple, clear language to explain his New Deal programs & gain public support for these goals



- Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
- FDR closes all banks in the U.S. for 4 days to get their accounts in order.
- Federal government will insure one's money if lost in banks.
- Insures individual bank deposits.
- In the 1930s, the FDIC insured bank deposits up to \$5000
- Today, it is \$250,000



# The FDIC

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- TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority): created jobs, built dams, controlled floods, & brought electricity to rural areas in the South
- AAA (Agricultural Adjustment Act): Ended overproduction & raised crop prices
- CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps): Provided jobs for more than 2 million men, replanted forests, built trails, dug ditches & fought fires.
- CWA (Civil Works Administration): Created construction jobs for the unemployed.
- FHA (Federal Housing Administration): Regulated mortgages & housing conditions)

# **Alphabet Soup: New Deal Programs**

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- After two years of New Deal programs, the American economy showed little sign of recovery.
- To attempt to speed up the recovery process, Roosevelt launched his second New Deal.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> New Deal – 1933 to 1935
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> New Deal – 1936 to 1940

# **The Second New Deal**

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- Technically known as Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance
- Established a permanent universal retirement pension program
- Established the framework for the U.S. welfare system
- Funded by payroll taxes – FICA (Federal Insurance Contributions Act)

# **Social Security Act**

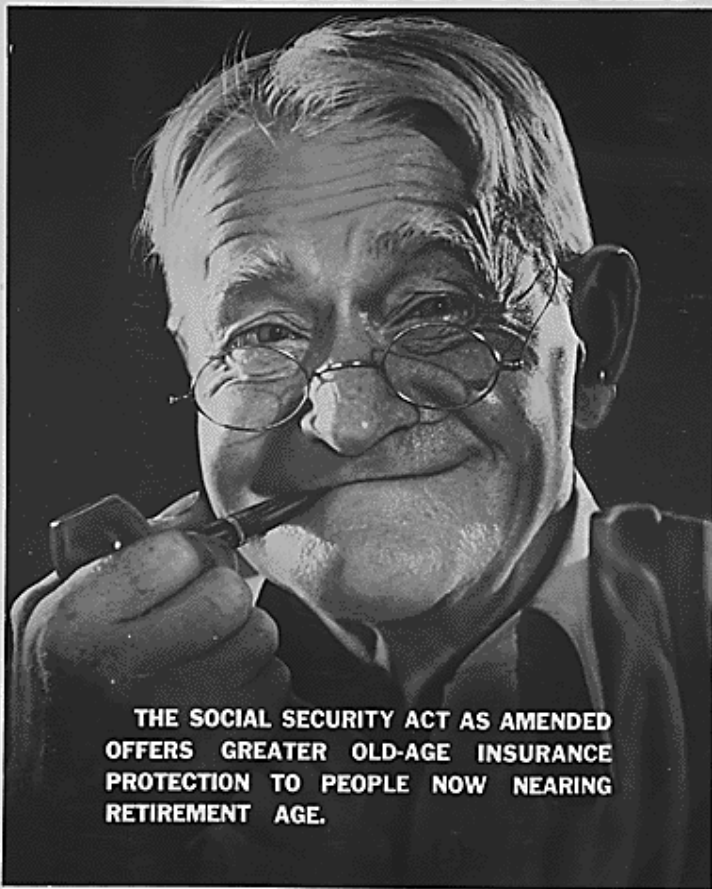
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- Passed in 1935, the SSA provided:
  - Retirement benefits
  - Unemployment insurance
  - Welfare payments to the needy
  - Insurance for victims of work-related accidents

# **Social Security Act**

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## MORE SECURITY FOR THE AMERICAN FAMILY



THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT AS AMENDED  
OFFERS GREATER OLD-AGE INSURANCE  
PROTECTION TO PEOPLE NOW NEARING  
RETIREMENT AGE.

FOR INFORMATION WRITE OR CALL AT THE NEAREST FIELD OFFICE OF THE  
**SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD**

## MORE SECURITY FOR THE AMERICAN FAMILY



WHEN AN INSURED WORKER DIES,  
LEAVING DEPENDENT CHILDREN  
AND A WIDOW, BOTH MOTHER  
AND CHILDREN RECEIVE MONTHLY  
BENEFITS UNTIL THE LATTER  
REACH 18.

FOR INFORMATION WRITE OR CALL AT THE NEAREST FIELD OFFICE OF THE  
**SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD**

- Formed in 1935, the Wagner Act:
  - guaranteed workers the right to unionize
  - allowed for collective bargaining
  - allowed for binding arbitration
  - formed the National Labor Relations Board to monitor labor issues (NLRB)
- The Wagner Act gave workers more power through the right to form unions.

# The Wagner Act

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- Roosevelt's New Deal Programs had opponents on both side of the isle.
- Some conservatives believed that under Roosevelt, the government had too much power. Felt that government was running businesses, spending large sums of money, & creating an even larger national debt
- Some liberals felt that the New Deal benefited big business too much. Roosevelt had not done enough to help the Great Depression end.



# Political Challenges & Opponents

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- Roosevelt's New Deal Programs had opponents including Huey Long, a Senator from Louisiana
- Started "Share the Wealth" clubs believing that the government should take money from the rich and give it to the poor
- Wanted to run for President
- Was assassinated 1935



# Huey Long

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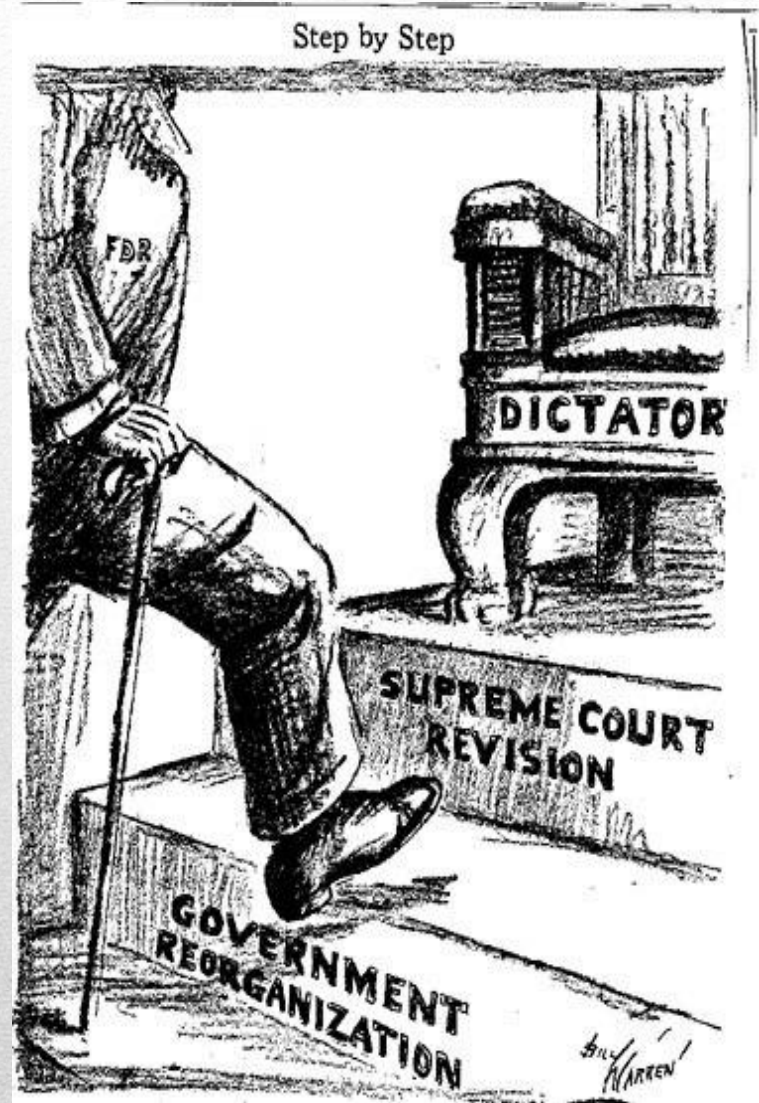
- The Supreme Court had struck down several of Roosevelt's programs declaring them unconstitutional (Judicial Review).
- In an attempt to control the Supreme Court, Roosevelt sent Congress a bill which would allow him to increase the number of supreme court justices from 9 to 15 (6 additional justices).
- This would allow Roosevelt to appoint justices who were "friendly" towards his New Deal policies.

## **Court Packing**

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- After much protest by Congress and many Americans, the bill was killed in the Senate.
- Roosevelt overestimated his power.

# Court Packing



- Changed the role of the First Lady
- Social activist
- Spoke to many women and African American groups and relayed their plight to the President
- Convinced Roosevelt to appoint more women to government positions.
- Helped improve the perception of the Tuskegee airman by flying with one of the program's black pilot

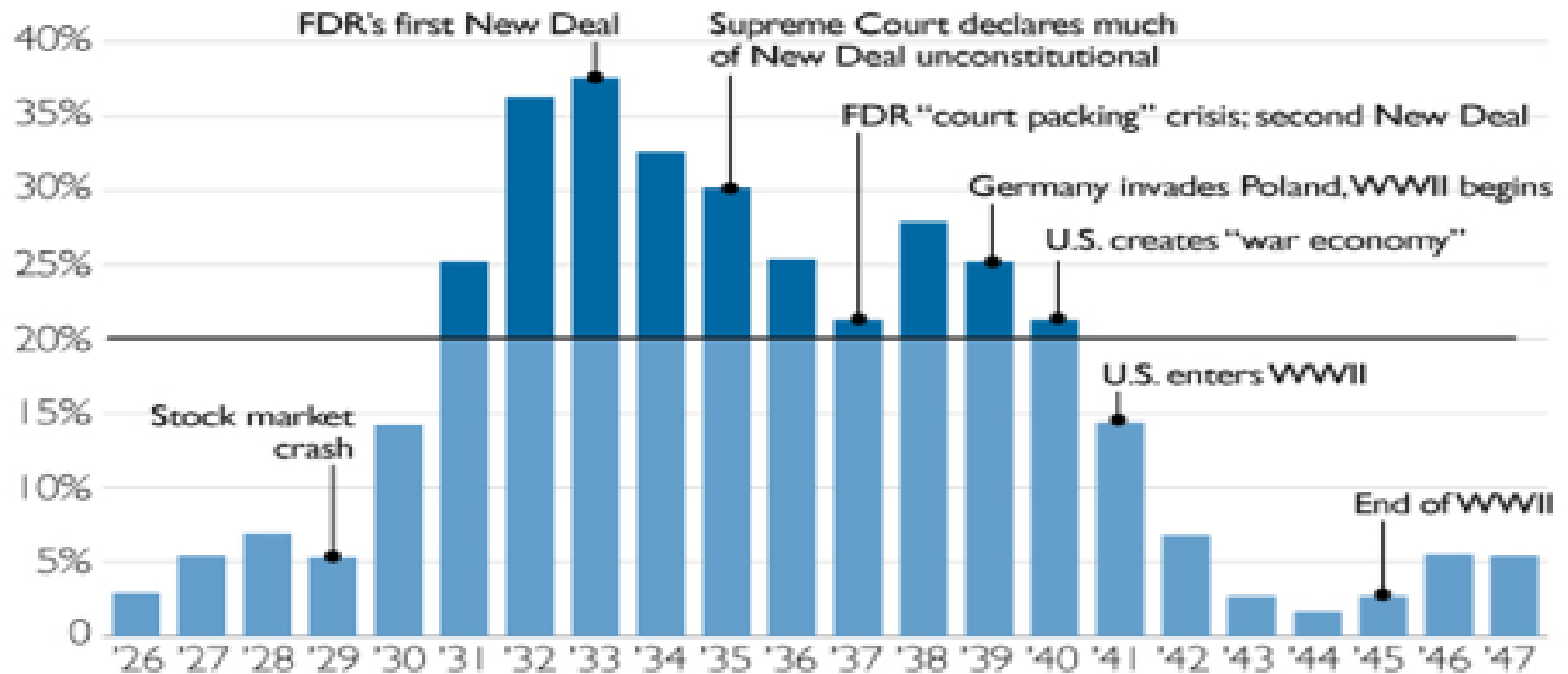


# Eleanor Roosevelt

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# Unemployment Rate During the New Deal

Percentage of Jobless Nonfarm Workers, 1926–1947



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Bicentennial Edition Historical Statistics of the United States Colonial Times to 1970 Part I (1975) Washington D.C., Series D 1-10 "Labor Force and its Components 1900-1947", p.126