

32

Franklin D. Roosevelt 1933-1945



The Great Depression

Outcome: Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

1. Background

a. Youth and Personal Life

- i. Born into wealthy New York family
- ii. Spoiled; only child, “doted on”
- iii. Harvard Educated ---> history & law (athlete)
- iv. Married Eleanor Roosevelt (influential 1st Lady); 6 kids
- v. 1921 – age 39 ---> stricken w/polio (changed his life)



Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

b. Long Political Career

- i. 1910 – NY Senate; 1912 – Asst. Sec. Of U.S. Navy
- ii. 1920 – Vice Presidential candidate --> lost to Harding/Coolidge
- iii. 1928-1932 ---> served as Governor of NY
- iv. 1932 ---> defeats Herbert Hoover for Presidency

Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

2. Presidency

- a. Character: ---> energetic, compassionate, confident, feared no one
- b. Broke Traditions
 - i. Created a "Brain Trust" of experts to advise him (beyond his cabinet)
 - ii. Appointed 1st woman to his cabinet: Frances Perkins
 - iii. Called Congress into Emergency Special Session
 - iv. Ordered a Nation Bank Holiday (goal: to inspect the banks)
 - v. Elected President 4 times
 - vi. Used media to fullest ---> "Fireside Chats"



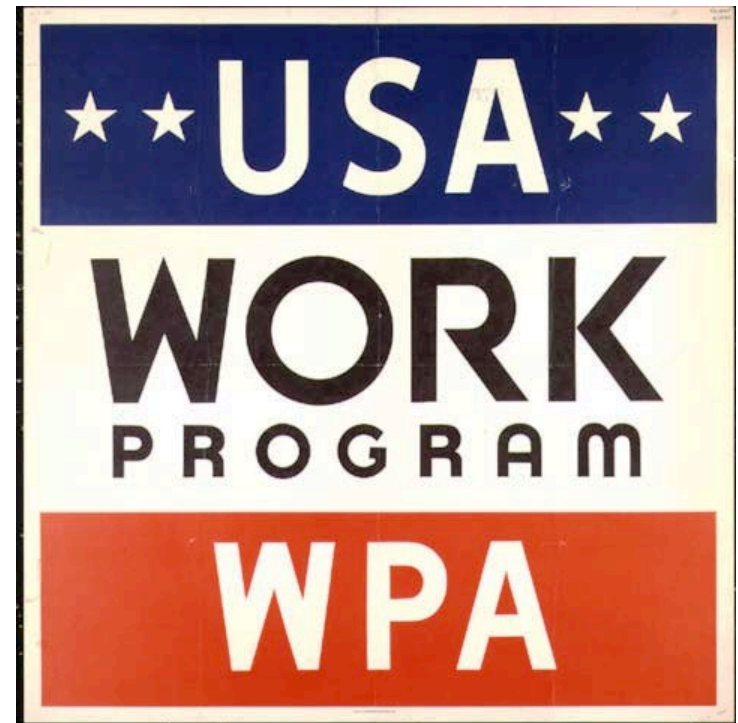
Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

- c. **Personal Attitude Toward Depression and The Role of Government**
 - i. Federal Government has a responsibility to help ---> directly if need be
 - ii. Ignored Traditional Conservative Approach of:
 1. Maintaining a balanced budget
 2. Cutting taxes & waiting for recovery

Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

- iii. Adopts theory of economist John Maynard Keynes who suggested:
 1. Increasing government spending; deficit spend if necessary
 2. Cutting taxes
 3. Creating government job programs
 4. If workers have \$, they will spend it, priming the economic pump

The New Deal



Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

- d. Actions & Policies ---> **New Deal Program** (3 part **Public Assistance**)
 - i. **Relief** (\$, food, shelter; temporary **charity**)
 - 1. Ex. **CCC**, FERA, **WPA**
 - ii. **Recovery** (programs aimed at industrial & agricultural recovery, jobs)
 - 1. Ex. **AAA**, **NRIA**, PWA
 - iii. **Reform** (lasting changes; built in safeguards)
 - 1. Ex. **FDIC**, NLRB, **SEC**, Social Security

- e. **1933 – 21st Amendment** ---> **repealed** prohibition

Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

3. FDR's Critics

a. Some said he was too liberal

- i. Conservatives called him a radical socialist
- ii. Gave government too much control of the economy (TVA, jobs, etc)

Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

b. Demagogues

i. Huey P. Long

1. Louisiana
2. Guardian of the Gulf
3. Gov't of the People
4. Assassinated



ome
er \$50M
nt

Charles Coughlin



Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

ii. Charles Coughlin "Radio Priest"

1. Supported FDR at first and then grew impatient with New Deal
2. Offered an annual living wage; wanted banks nationalized
3. Blamed the Jews ---> BAD!

Dr. Francis Townsend



Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

- iii. Dr. Francis Townsend ---> focused on program for the elderly
 - 1. Plan would give people 60 and older \$200 a month; could not save
 - 2. Ideas led to Social Security

Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

- c. Supreme Court said he abused power
 - i. Declared many “Recovery” programs unconstitutional
 - ii. Conservative Group (1930-36); FDR called them “The 9 Old Men”
 - iii. Court Packing Affair --> FDR’s attempt to liberalize the Court (1937)
 - iv. FDR loses the battle, but wins the war – retirements occur

Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

4. FDR's Long-Term Impact

- a. Deficit Spending became normal procedure at Federal level (debt today?)
- b. Government's role in regulating the economy remains strong
- c. Reform programs still exist (ex. FDIC, SEC, Social Security)
- d. Federal government remains a big and growing employer
- e. 22nd Amendment (1951) ---> 2 term limit for presidency
- f. Democratic party membership increased

Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

5. World Solutions to the Depression

a. Dictators offered prosperity in exchange for power

- i. Germany: Hitler ---> Nazism
- ii. Italy: Mussolini ---> Fascism
- iii. Soviet Union ---> Stalin ---> communism

Franklin Roosevelt & The New Deal

b. The Stage is Set for World War II

