

The New Deal

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.

The New Deal

SECTION 1 A New Deal Fights the Depression

SECTION 2 The Second New Deal Takes Hold

SECTION 3 The New Deal Affects Many Groups

SECTION 4 Culture in the 1930s

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Section 1

A New Deal Fights the Depression

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

SECTION

1 A New Deal Fights the Depression

Americans Get a New Deal

Electing Franklin Delano Roosevelt

- Democrats nominate NY 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

Continued . . .



SECTION

1

continued **Americans Get a New Deal****The Hundred Days**

- FDR launches Hundred Days; passes over 15 major New Deal laws
- Emergency Banking Relief Act permits Treasury Dept. 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

Continued . . .

SECTION

1

continued **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



SECTION

1

Helping the American People

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

Continued . . .



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continued **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

SECTION

1

The New Deal Comes Under Attack

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

Continued . . .



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1

continued **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 2

The Second New Deal Takes Hold

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

SECTION

2 The Second New Deal Takes Hold

The Second Hundred Days

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

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

SECTION

2

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



SECTION

2

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



SECTION

2

Improving Labor and Other Reforms

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

Continued . . .



SECTION

2

continued 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 3

The New Deal Affects Many Groups

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

SECTION

3 The New Deal Affects Many Groups

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 % of women working for wages

SECTION

3

African-American Activism

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

Continued . . .



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SECTION

3

continued African-American Activism**The President Fails to Support Civil Rights**

- FDR afraid of upsetting white Southern Democratic voters
- Refuses to approve antilynching 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

SECTION

3

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

SECTION

3

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

SECTION

3

FDR Creates the New Deal Coalition

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)**

Continued . . .



NEXT

SECTION

3

continued **FDR Creates the New Deal Coalition****Labor Disputes**

- Sit-down strike important bargaining tactic of 1930s
 - prevents owners from hiring strikebreakers
- 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 4

Culture in the 1930s

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

SECTION

4 Culture in the 1930s

The Lure of Motion Pictures and Radio

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

Continued . . .



SECTION

4

continued 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

SECTION

4

The Arts in Depression America

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

Continued . . .



NEXT

SECTION

4

continued 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 5

The Impact of the New Deal

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

SECTION

5 The Impact of the New Deal

New Deal Reforms Endure

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

Continued . . .



NEXT

SECTION

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continued **New Deal Reforms Endure****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

Continued . . .

NEXT

SECTION

5

continued **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



SECTION

5

Social and Environmental Effects

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

Continued . . .



SECTION

5

continued **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



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