

# Dealing with the great depression



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Roosevelt "New Deal" is what reformed America's worst problem, unemployment. The New Deal modernized the American government and introduced the idea of the government caring for the citizens. As seen in the Unemployment of nonfat workers by percentage and number (Doc J) funded projects like city beautification helped lower the percentage of people unemployed. In 1935, Roosevelt administration created the Works Progress Administration (WPA), which brought America closer to ending the unemployment problem.

The government was now stronger and had a bond with the public necessary for any government as seen in "The New Deal in Review" editorial in The New Republic, May 20, 1940 (Doc H).

The New Deal strengthened the government by creating reform boards like the NEAR. Emerging from this, was a boost of confidence from the public that the government was trying to help them. From this confidence came the concept of social security. He also established a social security in 1935.

After implementing the Social Security Act, social security became insurance for the elderly and the unemployed and supplied them a monthly payment. It was similarly advertised like print and Photograph Davis on, Library of Congress, 1935 (Doc E).

Social security was another attempt of the government to aid the poor. But, the enactment of social security was considered very risky and extra expense of the government. Some even said that "the administration at Washington is cackling its pace towards socialism and communism" as

we see in a Letter to Senator Robert Wagner, March 7, 1934. Doc B). Still today, social security is an active policy that still from time to time stirs up a debate. Lastly, Roosevelt implemented a “blanket code” for workers to boost the welfare of the common people.

Backed by the National Recovery Association, they held the first American minimum wage and required a limitation of the number hours an employee was required to work as seen in Charles Evans Hughes, majority opinion, *Stretcher v. United States*, 1935 (Doc F).

This made sure that no company would lower prices and wages for competitive advantage and gave the suffering common people a fair deal, proved in an NBC radio broadcast, John L. Lewis, December 13, 1936 (Doc G). “Blanket codes were the most revolutionary of all of Roosevelt actions. Before this, the federal government would ignore the welfare and rights of workers.

The blanket codes limited the tyrannical power of the companies and gave support to the welfare of workers, thus reversing the role of the federal government.