



Chapters 20 & 21

# “The Roaring ‘20s”

- Brief economic downturn, then “boom times”
- As Europe recovers from war, US in strong shape
  - Exports of goods and food to Europe
- Consumer culture
  - Money spent on leisure activities & entertainment
  - People become more comfortable with debt
  - Newly “necessary” items (cars, radios)



# Economic Crash

- Oct. 29, 1929—Stock market crash—Black Tuesday
  - \$10 million in market value lost
  - *But* a strong economy can bounce back from a crash
- Weaknesses in the economy prior to crash
  - Real estate speculation and busts
  - Speculation in stock market—stocks bought on margin
  - Rural depression—farms in debt & growing too much produce—can't make profit
  - Stagnating American sales of consumer goods & cars
  - European demand for American goods slows
  - “Deindustrialization” as demand slows in some industries, such as coal & textiles (in the North).
  - Income inequality—corporate profits growing twice as fast as workers' wages

# Great Depression

- Loss of confidence in businesses and banks
  - Underhanded dealings came to light
    - Selling worthless bonds & inflating stock prices
    - Bankers & business men protected themselves
- Banks uninsured—people lost life savings
- Depression extends to Europe
  - Germany defaults on France & England
  - France & England can't pay debts to American banks
- Deflationary Spiral



# Great Depression--Hoover

- President Herbert Hoover
  - Did not believe in government regulation of the economy or government assistance to the people
  - Urged voluntary action on the part of businesses and believed charities would help the poor
- By 1932, Hoover does use government to intervene—but too little too late
  - Reconstruction Finance Cooperation-Government lends money to businesses & banks
  - Federal Home Loan Bank System—Government lends money to people who might lose homes
  - Approves 2 billion dollars for public works projects & to funnel money into local relief organizations

# FDR & New Deal

- Franklin D. Roosevelt—  
Democrat
  - Elected Nov. 1932,  
Inaugurated March 1933.
- “New Deal” promises vague  
during the election
  - “An alternative to  
socialism on the left,  
Nazism on the right, and  
the inaction of upholders  
of unregulated  
capitalism.” (Foner, 640).





# 1<sup>st</sup> New Deal/Hundred Days

- Banking
  - Emergency Banking Act—March 1933
  - Glass-Steagall Act
    - Repealed in the 1990s
  - Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
- National Recovery Industrial Act/National Recovery Agency
  - NRA set standards with business leaders
  - Workers had the right to organize
  - Supreme Court rule it unconstitutional in 1935
- Federal Emergency Relief Organization
  - Funds to local relief organizations

# 1<sup>st</sup> New Deal/Hundred Days

## Public Works/Job Creation

- Civilian Conservation Corps
  - Forest preservation, work in National Parks
- Public Works Administration (part of NRA)
  - Schools, hospitals, bridges (including Triborough)
- Civil Works Administration
  - Highways, tunnels, airports
- Tennessee Valley Authority
  - Dams along Tennessee River
- Agriculture Adjustment Act
  - Set production limits, paid farmers not to grow crops







# 2<sup>nd</sup> New Deal-1935

- Economic Security
- Works Progress Administration~1935
  - Roads, schools
  - Public murals
  - Local histories and guidebooks, oral histories of former slaves





# 2<sup>nd</sup> New Deal—1935

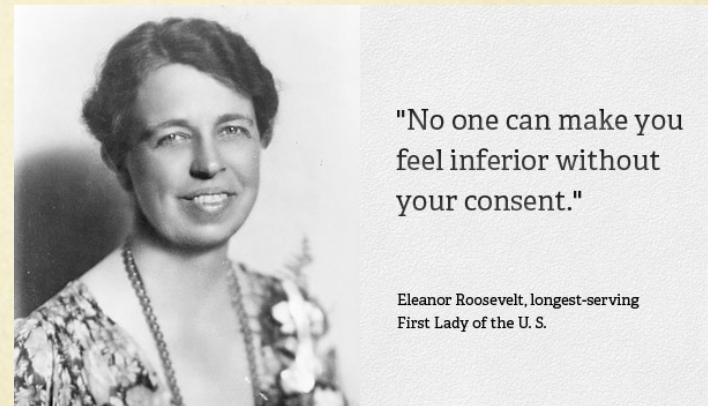
## Social Security

- Funds for unemployed, elderly, disabled, children
- Limited—agricultural and domestic workers not included
- Changed American government's relationships with the people



# How did the New Deal Apply to Women and Minorities?

- Women
  - Women had more prominent role in government
    - Francis Perkins-Secretary of Labor
    - Eleanor Roosevelt—power, activist First Lady
  - Women often had to give up paid work for men
  - Women who did not work or who were domestic workers not eligible for Social Security





# How did the New Deal Apply to Women and Minorities?

- Minorities
  - Depression hit the economically vulnerable the hardest
  - Jobs disproportionately held by minorities left out of Social Security
  - “Moral” requirements for government assistance open door for discrimination
  - “Indian New Deal”
    - Ended forced assimilation programs
    - Indian Reorganization Act–1934
    - Housing funded by Federal Housing Funding segregated

# War Abroad, Isolation at Home

- 1931—Japan invades Manchuria, 1937 Japan moves further into China
- 1939—War breaks out in Europe
- US Congress committed to isolationism
- 1940—Roosevelt wins 3<sup>rd</sup> term
- Jan. 1941— FDR's "Four Freedoms" speech
- 1941—Lend-Lease Act



# U.S. & World War II

- Dec. 7, 1941—Pearl Harbor attacked by Japanese
- Dec. 8, 1941—US declares war on Japan
- Dec. 9, 1941—Germany declares war on US
- Nov. 1942—State Department has confirmation of “Final Solution”
- Industry ramps up to meet demands of war

*How did American minorities face threats to their freedom at home and abroad during World War II?*

- Mexican-Americans and Native Americans
  - Opportunities, despite ongoing prejudice
- Japanese-Americans
  - Executive Order 9066—Feb. 1942
  - 110, 000 Japanese Americans moved to internment camps
  - Korematsu vs. United States—1944—internment constitutional
  - 1988—apology from Congress & \$20,000 compensation
  - 33,000 Japanese Americans fought in the war



## *How did American minorities face threats to their freedom at home and abroad during World War II?*

- African Americans
  - 1 million African-Americans served in segregated military
    - GI Bill benefits not applied equally by local officials
  - Double V Strategy
    - NAACP membership grew from 50,000 to 500,000
  - Executive Order 8802
    - Banned discrimination in defense jobs
    - Established Fair Employment Practices **Commission**
  - Massive migration from South to North

# End of the War

- May 8, 1945 V-E day (Victory in Europe)
- FDR to Truman
  - November, 1944-FDR wins 4<sup>th</sup> term
  - April 1945—Roosevelt Dies, Harry Truman becomes president
- End of the war in Japan
  - July 1945-Pottdam Declaration
  - August 6, 1945—Hiroshima bombed
  - August 9, 1945—Nagasaki bombed