**(6:41) Great Depression and New Deal**

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| **Great Depression and New Deal: What is the responsibility of government?**  **A. United States Unemployment, 1929-1933**  Year # unemployed % unemployed  1929 1,550,000 3.2%  1930 4,340,000 8.7%  1931 8,020,000 15.9%  1932 12,080,000 23.6%  1933 12,830,000 24.9% B. President Hoover Describes the Role of Government “The American system is founded upon the conception that only through ordered liberty, freedom and equal opportunity to the individual will his initiative and enterprise spur on the march of progress . . . The Republican Party restored the government to its position as an umpire instead of a player in the economic game . . . For these reasons the American people have gone forward in progress while the rest of the world halted.” C. Franklin D. Roosevelt Supports Active Government “I shall ask the Congress for the one remaining instrument to meet the crisis -- broad executive power to wage a war against the enemy -- as great as the power that would be given me if we were in fact invaded by a foreign foe. . . The country needs and demands bold experimentation. It is common sense to take a method and try it. If it fails admit it firmly and try another. But above all try something.” D. Prices: Then and Now  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Women’s Clothes | Then | Now | | Winter Coat | $28.00 |  | | Sweater | $1.00 |  | | Men’s Clothes |  |  | | Dress Shirt | $1.00 |  | | Overcoat | $18.50 |  | | Toys |  |  | | Action Toy | 3 for 59 cents |  | | Doll | $1.95 |  | | Household Items |  |  | | Sewing Machine | $23.95 |  | | Washing Machine | $33.50 |  |  E. Hourly Wages: Then and Now  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Job Category | Hourly Wages, Then | Hourly Wages, Now | | Manufacturing Worker | 42 cents | $12.50 | | Cook | 37 cents | $5.90 | | Doctor | $1.53 | $45.00 | | Accountant | $1.12 | $17.50 |  F. 2,500,000 Veterans Sign Bonus Petition *The New York Times*, March 26, 1932  “2,500,000 ex-service men (World War I veterans) have asked that their adjusted service certificates be paid immediately. This plea will go before Speaker Garner and the House in two weeks. The service men are calling their group, The Disabled American Veterans, The First Reserve Association and other names. The veterans are happy that the bill is gaining sentiment throughout the country. Republicans in both the House and the Senate have said that if the bill gets to the floor, “Nothing on earth can stop its’ passage.” New York Representative Bacon is worried about the bill. “It will simply double the deficit. It is simply another crazy democratic plan!” It was stated by many representatives that this battle between democrats and republicans on the bill issue will probably drag on into the presidential elections, and possibly beyond.” G. Roosevelt Charges Federal Neglect Of “Little Fellow” *The New York Times*, April 8, 1932  Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, in a radio speech, said that, “The little fellow had been beyond the range of vision of the Hoover Administration.” The Governor made this speech to asked American people to think about what the President was really doing to lift the country out of its’ depression. Roosevelt said that this crisis was “more grave” to the nation than entering the Great War in 1917. Comparing Hoover to Napoleon on how both treated the “little people,” Roosevelt said that Washington, “has either forgotten or does not want to remember the infantry of our economy army.” Roosevelt ended his speech by saying that depression relief must go to the “forgotten man” on the bottom of the economic pyramid first and then other problems can then be solved. |