

## Unit 3 – From Jazz to Depression

**DAY 4**

# **FDR AND THE NEW DEAL**

**BECAUSE A PRESIDENT IN A  
WHEELCHAIR UNDERSTANDS  
CHALLENGE**



# OBJECTIVES

- Discuss the reasons for FDR's New Deal policies and criticisms
- Identify 3 Key Areas of Focus of The New Deal
- Understand the importance of FDR (and 6 themes)
- *Terms:*
  - Fireside Chats
  - The New Deal
  - Social Security
  - Minimum Wage
  - Securities and Exchange Commission
  - Glass-Steagall Act
  - Socialism

# REMIND ME...

- *What were the primary causes of The Great Depression?*
- *What might be ways that someone could prevent another “Great Depression”?*
- *Today we look at one of the most Liberal Presidents in modern history, but also the reasons for his policies.*

# OVERCOMING DEPRESSION

- *As is often the case, when the economy is doing poorly, and people are either jobless, hungry, or feeling ignored, they tend to blame their leaders*
  - ...*Make America Great Again?*
- *As we look at the man elected, it's important to remember WHY the people chose him, and why they'd choose him time and time again*
  - *Four terms, in fact*

# OVERCOMING DEPRESSION

- *While the nation was reeling from the effects of Depression, they looked for new leadership*
- *In particular, they saw the Governor of New York as experienced for this*
  - *Why might that be?*
- *His name was familiar to Americans, although not closely related to Teddy*
  - *His wife, however, was Teddy's niece*
- *His name, Franklin Delano Roosevelt*
  - *Though most just called him FDR*



# WE DIDN'T START THE FIRESIDE

- In addition to his policies, FDR promised “transparency” to his Presidency
  - (i.e. making politicians actions visible and answerable)
- One way he did this was through what he called Fireside Chats
  - FDR’s weekly radio broadcasts to the American People
  - Helped him win support for New Deal policies but also favor with the people who saw him as approachable

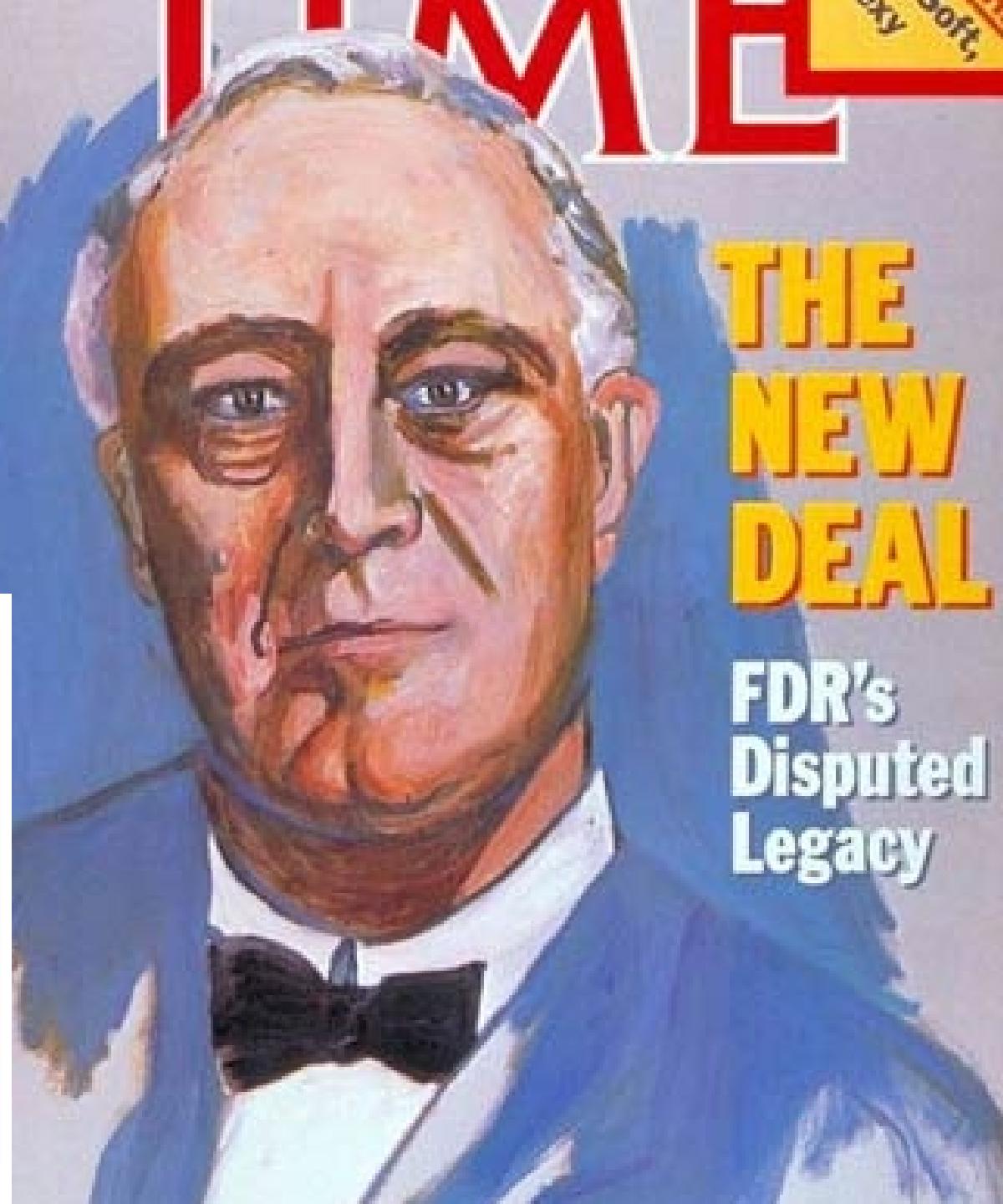


**The only thing we have to  
fear is fear itself.**

Franklin D. Roosevelt

# DEAL OR NEW DEAL

- FDR's whole campaign was focused on helping the Nation recover from the Great Depression
- His slogan promised "a new deal" for the American people
- He tried to get some of the greatest minds to help him plan (*Brain Trust*)
- The New Deal
  - FDR's program for recovering from the Great Depression AND preventing a future one from happening again



# LET'S MAKE A DEAL

- FDR's "New Deal" focused on Three Key Areas

## -1) Relief

- Helping those suffering the effects of the Depression

## -2) Recovery

- Help rebuild the economy and get it going again

## -3) Reform

- Prevent similar problems in the future

# 1) RELIEF

- FDR's New Deal created Direct Assistance programs to include Unemployment, Disability, and a **Federal Retirement Program**, known as Social Security
  - Federal Retirement Program
  - Mandatory for legal workers in the U.S.
  - Current workers are paying current retirees
  - Age set at 65

*FDR said, “We put those pay roll contributions there so as to give the contributors a legal, moral, and political right to collect their pensions and their unemployment benefits. With those taxes in there, no damn politician can ever scrap my social security program.”*



# 2) RECOVERY

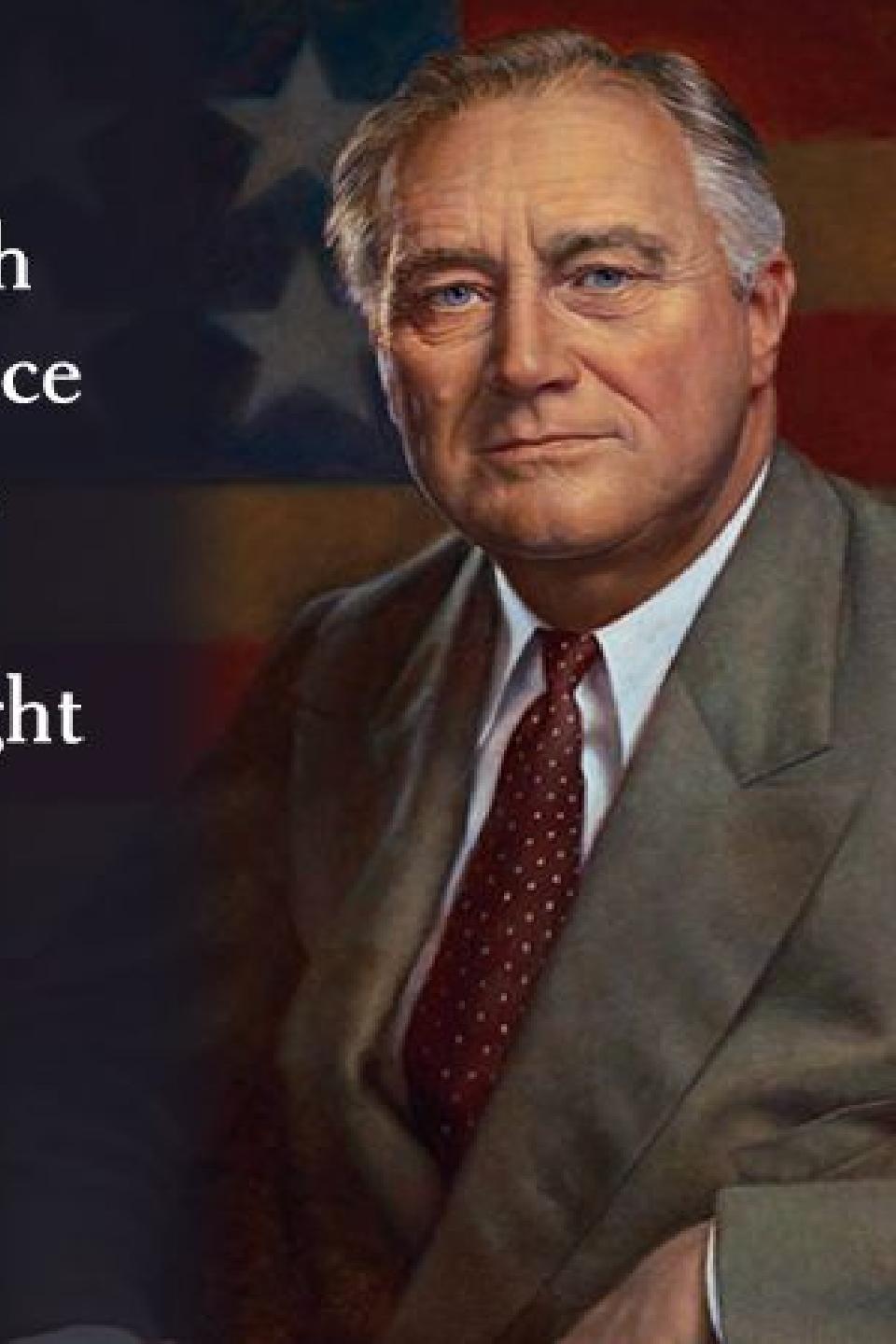
- To help “rebuild” the economy FDR created many public works programs (they even built the Hoover Dam), but one small change that affects us all is setting a

## Federal Minimum Wage

- Minimum pay for hourly workers in the U.S.
- Began at 25¢ and is currently \$7.25
- *There ARE exceptions*

“No business which depends for existence on paying less than living wages to its workers has any right to continue in this country.”

– Franklin D. Roosevelt



# 3) REFORM

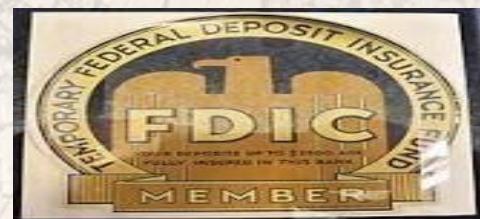
- When looking at the causes of the Great Depression, which two were preventable?
- Thus, under reform FDR's policies targeted Wall Street AND the Banking Industry



# 3) REFORM



- **Wall Street**
  - FDR created The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
    - Federal oversight of Investment, Brokers, and Wall Street
    - *Later would lead to actual business oversight*
- **Banking Industry**
  - Congress passed the Glass-Steagall Act
    - *Named for Congressmen who sponsored it, and part of U.S. Banking Act of 1933*
    - **Regulated banks, limited margin buying, and insured deposits in banks**





LEGITIMATE  
INVESTMENT



**GLASS-STEAGALL**

# BEING ANTI-SOCIALISM

- *What seems good about FDR's reforms?*
- *Any negative aspects?*
- Many would see FDR's policies as gross Government oversight and intrusion
- At the height of a time when Americans were worried about Communist influences, many saw FDR's changes as Socialism
  - Governmental control of production
  - *Also* government control of formerly private industries
  - *Examples?*

Step by Step



# AND SO...

- **Taking office at one of the worst times in our nation's history, economically, FDR sought to help the nation recover and reform**
- **Some policies would work well, others would not**
- **TRUE recovery, in part, would also be “thanks” to a World-Wide concern... WWII**
- ***In the meantime... it was funky ☺***



# OBJECTIVES

- Discuss the reasons for FDR's New Deal policies and criticisms
- Identify 3 Key Areas of Focus of The New Deal
- Understand the importance of FDR (and 6 themes)
- *Terms:*
  - Fireside Chats
  - The New Deal
  - Social Security
  - Minimum Wage
  - Securities and Exchange Commission
  - Glass-Steagall Act
  - Socialism