

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

BIG IDEA

• Franklin Delano Roosevelt tried to fulfill promises of a new deal for the American people through a period of intense legislative activity known as the Hundred Days

What were some reasons Hoover was not reelected in 1932?

- His handling of the Bonus Army
- His policies of supporting Big Business during the Depression
- Booed on the campaign trail / Stink bombs were thrown at his car on election day
- Would not institute direct relief measures and projected a grim attitude

F.D.R. Inaugural Address

• This great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself—nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance

—March 4, 1933

Who is F.D.R.?

- Married his distant cousin Eleanor Roosevelt
- Distant cousin of Teddy Roosevelt
- Eleanor very involved with volunteer activities, settlement houses, and working with minorities
- Expanded FDR awareness of social issues

Who is F.D.R.?

- Suffered an attack of poliomyelitis that left his legs paralyzed
- Experience increased his ability to empathize with others: *"If you spend two years trying to wiggle your big toe, everything else seems easy"*-FDR
- Governor of New York

Who is F.D.R.?

- Projected a buoyant spirit and a warm smile and promised direct action
- Open to all ideas and was an experimenter at heart
- He employed Republicans, Democrats, liberals, conservatives, university intellectuals, and experienced politicians

THE HUNDRED DAYS

- A time of intensive legislation and policy setting
- Designed to help to provide direct programs to the nation

First New Deal

- Roosevelt proposed and passed 15 new bills
- Democratic majority helped to push legislation through congress

A NEW DEAL

- FDR pledged "a new deal for the American people"
- Introduced legislation that addressed the 3 R's
- Relief for Unemployed
- Recovery measures to stimulate the economy
- Reform laws to help lessen the threat of another economic disaster

Women

- Roosevelt promoted and recognized women.
 - Frances Perkins – Secretary of Labor – was the first woman to head an executive office.**
 - Ruth Bryan Owen served as minister to Denmark.
 - Roosevelt appointed women to such posts as director of the U.S. Mint and assistant secretary of the Treasury.
 - Women served as leaders in several New Deal agencies.
 - Still, women faced challenges and discrimination.
 - Lower wages
 - Less opportunities
 - Hostility in the workplace
- New Roles for African Americans

African Americans

- Roosevelt's administration also appointed many African Americans.
 - William Hastie became the first black federal judge.
 - A group of African Americans hired to fill government posts were known as the **Black Cabinet**, and they served as unofficial advisors to the president.
 - The Black Cabinet met under the leadership of **Mary McLeod Bethune**, director of Negro Affairs in the National Youth Administration.
- Still, African Americans continued to face tremendous hardships during the 1930s.
 - Severe discrimination
 - Thousands of African American sharecroppers and tenant farmers were not helped by New Deal programs.
 - Southern Democrats in Congress opposed efforts to aid African Americans.
- Many African American switch from the Republican Party to the Democratic Party during the 1930s.