

New Deal Critics

Roosevelt and his New Deal mobilized the government and the nation to fight the effects of the Great Depression. His program for relief, recovery, and reform provoked controversy. Criticisms came from individuals and groups who felt it was too radical or went too far as well as from those who felt its programs were too conservative or did not go far enough.

Groups

Women and African Americans

◆ They believed that New Deal programs offered more opportunities to _____ than to women and minorities. Women and African Americans were frequently _____ for the same work.

Republicans and other political opponents

◆ They believed the government was becoming _____ and that the Constitution was _____. They also believed that FDR was like a _____. Further, they argued that New Deal taxes on the wealthy are unfair and that New Deal programs were too much like socialism.

Communists

◆ Offered alternatives, but _____ to gain any major public support. In 1938, the party had only 55,000 members, and in the election of 1936 won just 80,000 votes.

Socialists and Progressives

◆ Led by _____ and _____ (the party's presidential candidate). Socialists believed in use of democratic means to make changes to the American economic structure. However, some members voted for FDR anyway. They believed that New Deal programs were _____ to solve the nation's problems and more should be done to distribute the nation's wealth among all Americans.

Individuals

Francis Townsend

◆ created a _____ to provide government _____ for the elderly.

Father Charles Coughlin

◆ a Catholic priest who blamed _____, especially Jewish ones, for the economic crisis.

Huey Long

◆ a powerful U.S. _____ from Louisiana who proposed income and inheritance taxes on the wealthy to be used to give each American a \$2,500 income, a car, and college education. Long was assassinated in 1935.