

Chapter 18 - Day 3

- Roosevelt responded to criticism by starting the 2nd New Deal hoping to speed recovery. Works Progress Administration (WPA) new gov't agency employer over 8 million, built highways, libraries, parks and airports. It also employed artists and writers.
- 1935 the Supreme Court rules the NIRA unconstitutional. FDR is afraid court might strike down the rest of the New Deal. He pressured Congress to pass the new bills before recess.
- July 1935 Congress passed the National Labor Relations Act (called the Wagner Act) guarantying workers right to organize unions without interference from employers
- This act stimulated a lot of labor activity
- John L. Lewis head of United Mine Workers began organizing workers in industries without unions. They created the CIO (Congress of Industrial Organization) in 1935. They organized skilled and unskilled workers in the steel and auto industries. CIO grew to 9 million members.
- Social Security Act was passed in 1935. Goal was to provide some security for the elderly and unemployed. Workers paid into it to get benefits. Also benefited people with disabilities and dependent children. Provided unemployment insurance.

Section 4 The New Deal Coalition

- Shift in party allegiance in 1936. African Americans switched from Lincoln's Republican part to FDR's Democrats
- Democratic coalition made up of farmers, laborers, African Americans, women, and progressives
- First Lady Eleanor helped bring about the support of African Americans and women
- FDR appointed a number of blacks to important gov't positions and the 1st female cabinet member, Francis Perkins, Sec. of Labor
- Election of 1936—FDR vs. Alfred Landon, Gov. of Kansas, and FDR wins big.
- Popular opinion supported FDR's programs, Supreme Court saw things differently. Struck down NIRA, and the AAA but Congress reworked the AAA and it passed. Court cases were pending on Social Security and Wagner Act.
- FDR took on Supreme Court with a court packing plan. Increase the number of justices for everyone over the age of 70 that did not retire
- Plan did not pass Congress but Supreme Court did back down and the Social Security and Wagner Act were safe
- Early 1937 looked like economy was making a full recovery. FDR cut back on gov't spending to work programs. This was done at the same time Social Security taxes were being taken from paychecks. Economy plummeted