



## US in Depression 1929-33: Chapter 3: "OMG I am Depressed!"



### Learning Steps:



- Work in groups to a deadline.
- Research the impact of the Depression on key social groups.
- Present and share your findings.



### Learning Gain:

Will be able to summarise the key effects of the Depression on the American People.



*Reflect and Connect*



What were the causes of the Depression?

A hand-drawn scroll with a black outline and horizontal lines for writing. The scroll is unrolled and has a small figure at the top left and bottom left corners, possibly representing hands holding the scroll.

From The City Journal  
For the introduction see the journal site



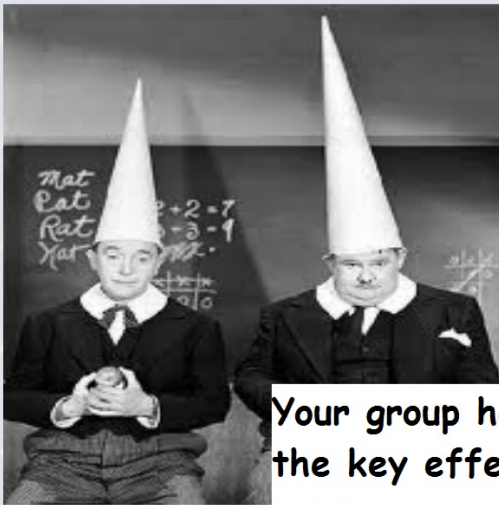
Another fine mess... we are in Stan



We sure are Olly... but how much of a mess?

Your challenge is to research a specific group within the USA and find out how they were effected by the Depression.

**Main**



This challenge is not for Dumbo's

Your group has the remainder of this lesson to research the key effects of the Depression on your selected group.

**Success criteria:**



- The information must be summarised into key facts.
- It must be supported by evidence.
- You must have a reporter ready next lesson to share the information.
- You must create an A4 summary on your group. The completed document should be printed off and shared with the class at the end of the research time.

your information, text,  
diagrams, images

blank

Lesson 2:



Main



You now have three minutes to sort yourselves out and get ready.



3 minutes - oh my!



## Unemployment

Unemployment went from 3% in 1929 to 25% in 1933.

Unemployment estimated to be 14 million in 1933.

That rate was higher in the industrial cities of the North.

Chicago - 50% of the work force unemployed in 1933.

Wages for those in work cut by 25%.

Many Americans travelled around looking for work - they became known as hobos.



The background of the slide is a stylized American flag with a blue field of white stars on the left and red and white horizontal stripes on the right. A vertical black line separates the title area from the text area.

## Homelessness

Homelessness caused by unemployment

No dole to help so people had to sell their possessions.

Could pay loans on their homes so they lost their jobs.

In 1932 250 000 Americans were evicted from their homes.

Homeless ended up on the streets.

Many moved to the edges of towns and built Shanty towns known as Hoovervilles as an insult to the President.



The background of the entire page is a faded American flag. The stars are white on a light blue field, and the stripes are light red and white. A vertical black line is positioned to the right of the word 'Farmers', separating the title from the text.

## Farmers

The Depression made a bad situation worse for farmers.

Unemployment lowered demand  
low demand further lowered prices.

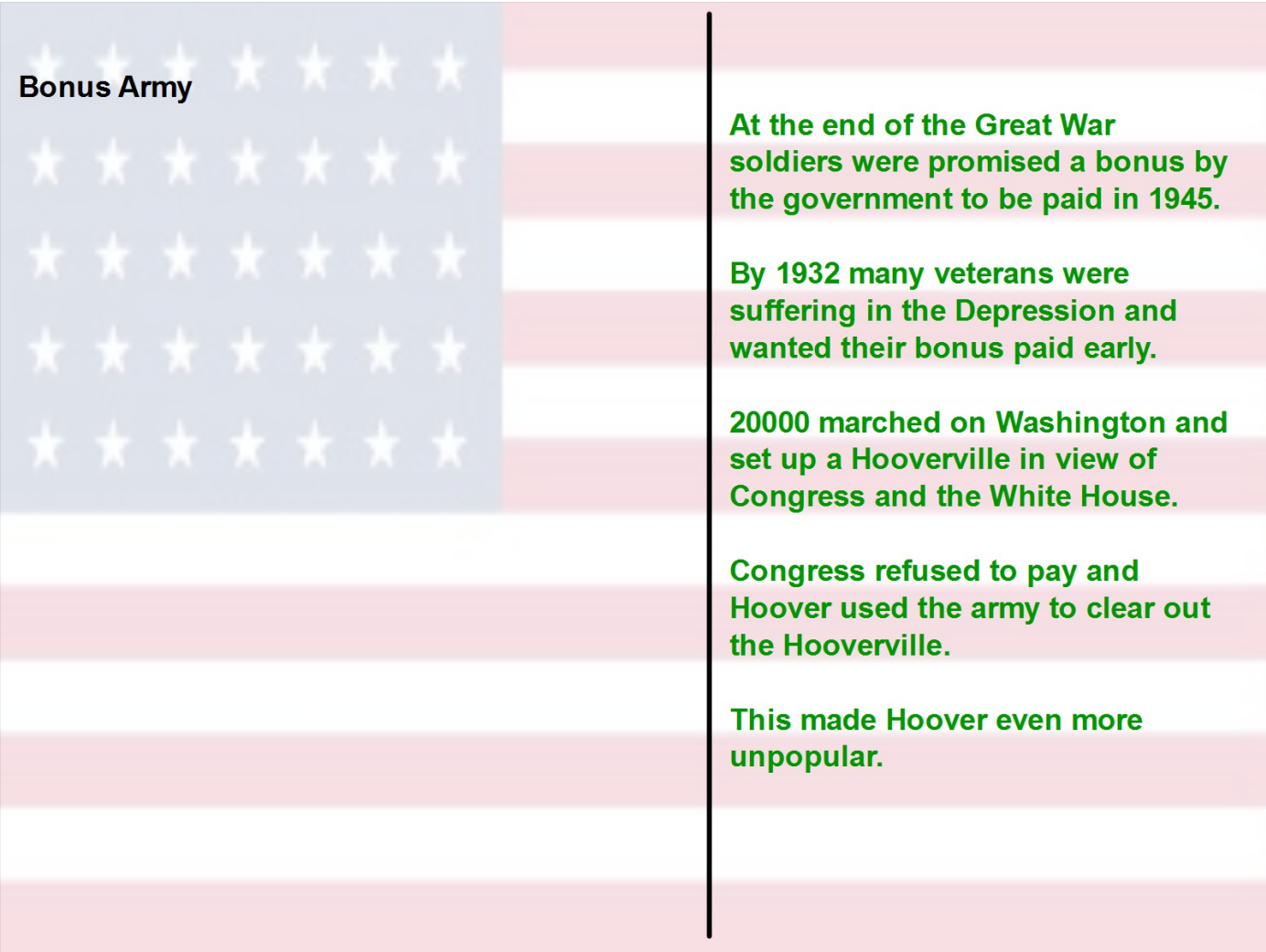
This made it unprofitable to farm  
harvests were left to rot.

In 1932 one in twenty farmers were  
evicted from their farms.

In the Mid West over farming and  
drought combined to create the Dust  
Bowl.

The soil literally dried up and blew away.

Farmers simply gave up and moved  
out West to California.



**Bonus Army**

**At the end of the Great War soldiers were promised a bonus by the government to be paid in 1945.**

**By 1932 many veterans were suffering in the Depression and wanted their bonus paid early.**

**20000 marched on Washington and set up a Hooverville in view of Congress and the White House.**

**Congress refused to pay and Hoover used the army to clear out the Hooverville.**

**This made Hoover even more unpopular.**

### Plenary



Name:

**Source A:** From a history of the Modern World, published in 1996.

Many Americans could not pay their rent or their mortgage and became homeless. Makeshift shanty towns began to appear on the outskirts of many towns and cities. The Americans called these Hoovervilles. There was no unemployment benefit or social security in 1930, so unemployed workers had to raise money for food as best they could. Some turned to petty crime, others were forced to rely on charity. Long queues formed where charity organisations were giving out bread or soup.



What can you learn from Source A about the USA in 1930?  
(4)

