

Relief, Recovery, and Reform ^[1]

President Franklin Roosevelt’s “New Deal” created a variety of new federal programs that aimed to put Americans back to work and to regulate the economy to prevent another Depression. State governments, too, worked to help citizens cope with the effects of the Depression. Governments also took the opportunity to introduce other kinds of reforms — regulating industry to protect workers’ health and safety, for example.

In this chapter you’ll read about some of the programs enacted by the State of North Carolina and by the federal government during the 1930s. These programs were meant to create jobs and improve people’s lives, and many did — but others, intentionally or unintentionally, hurt some of the people who needed the most help.

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[President Franklin Roosevelt's Radio Address Unveiling the Second Half of the New Deal \(1936\)](#) ^[31]

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Artifacts:



Men with shovels and wheelbarrows in a work program in Watauga County, North Carolina.

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