

THE ROOSEVELT YEARS

How did Roosevelt address the challenges of the Great Depression?

Document 1 : A testimony on the consequences of the Great Depression

“During the last three months I have visited [...] some 20 states of this wonderfully rich and beautiful country. In Oregon I saw thousands of bushels¹ of apples rotting in the orchards. At the same time there are millions of children who, on account of the poverty of their parents, will not eat one apple this winter.

... I saw men picking for meat scraps in the garbage cans of the cities of New York and Chicago. One man said that he had killed 3,000 sheep this fall and thrown them down the canyon because it cost \$1.10 to ship a sheep and then he would get less than a dollar for it.

The farmers are being pauperised¹ by the poverty of industrial populations and the industrial populations are being pauperised by the poverty of the farmers. Neither has the money to buy the product of the other; hence we have overproduction and under-consumption at the same time.”

Source : Evidence of Oscar Ameringer to a US government committee in 1932.

¹ bushels : a unit for measuring fruit and grain

² pauperised : made poor

Document 2 : The alphabet agencies of the New Deal



Source: Clifford Berryman, *Washington Star*, January 5, 1934

