

Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Presidency

Franklin Delano Roosevelt has a very strong personality and his understanding of politics definitely caused him to be successful in his life. He has formed strong foreign ties with other countries and he has served the most terms out of all the presidents. FDR was a great president and he really defined the economic image of America. He set up a new system that helped bring America up from its knees and into the glorious image we see today. His presidency was long lived and well known due to his time in office. Roosevelt also dealt with the U.S.'s stance in World War II.

Roosevelt played a huge role in making strong ties with foreign leaders. Winston Churchill, Joseph Stalin, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt made up the "Big three" during the war. America was right next to Russia and England; the political giants of the World War II era. Because of these ties he placed America at a higher standard than it was before and made it into a superpower country. Roosevelt's distinguishing acts upon the economic stature of the U.S. are still looked back on today and are still being scrutinized (i.e. Social Security). Also his multiple terms of presidency further defined his prominence and proved to many as the most favored president.

The main reason I chose to write about Franklin Delano Roosevelt because I believe that he played the most important role in bringing the United States of America out of the worst depression ever. He had a specially designed system or code called the New Deal that not only was used in America to bring itself out of an economic depression but it also helped other foreign countries get out of their own depressions also. The New Deal that he set up included different committees and acts that helped the citizens of America prosper and live a financially secure life. I also chose him because of the image he gave America. He was mostly ill during his presidency but he was never seen as weak or incapable of doing his job. Therefore his strong personality resonated throughout the world and helped define the country of the United States as we see it today.

Literature Review

Presidency

At the dawn of his presidency Franklin Delano Roosevelt already had a lot on his mind and a lot to take care of right from the start. Long before Roosevelt was elected into presidency he was stricken with the illness of polio. The illness had a huge impact on him and unfortunately doctors really didn't know what to prescribe to him for relief due to the fact that the disease was still unknown. "Even though it was a serious disease Roosevelt brushed off his worries and carried on with life." (Freedman) In all honesty the worst part of the disease which included paralysis only held onto him for no more than four months after that he simply supported himself with crutches. Although the crutches aided him in walking during his campaigning they also gave him an almost negative

image to the public. Once the public saw his condition they were skeptical about voting for him due to his illness. But after he conquered the illness the people's morale was boosted and the image of him recovering was soon to be the image of America. "Also before Roosevelt was elected the Great Depression has been brewing ever since 1930."(Conkin) President Hoover; the president before Roosevelt ,tried to pass bills, which in turn failed to do anything for the economy in the United States. Day by day the depression which America was struggling with worsened. "March 4, 1933 came and marked the very beginning of the president's time in office."(Stein) The people of the United States were in desperate need of help and they were looking towards the new president for someone to depend on. At the very start of his presidency President Roosevelt moved as fast as he could to establish the least bit of hope in resolving the economic crisis in which America was stuck in. "The very beginnings of the New Deal were becoming eminent with the start of the "Bank Holiday""(Freedman). The New Deal consisted of three parts and those three parts were: Relief, Recovery, and Reform. Also during the New Deal the President struck a historical moment in history which later on historians would recall it as the "Hundred Days." The hundred days basically noted and established new bills on a daily basis. Those bills which were passed helped give unemployed Americans jobs which in turn started the whole chain of work again. Not only did Roosevelt improve the economy but he also made strong relationships with other countries. Roosevelt was well respected by many countries but the top two that he really held onto were Russia, and England. "Both Russia and England were political giants and both of them had great respect towards FDR".(Cashman) Churchill and Stalin were the heads of these two countries and both were seen as political geniuses. These ties were really important especially during the occurrence of World War II. World War II had a huge impact on not only America but it also had an immense impact on relations with other countries. Japan became associated in the war with America and that caused huge problems. "December 7, 1941 Pearl Harbor happened"(Freedman). This massive attack which was carried out by the Japanese struck the decision that congress made to declare that a state of war existed between the United States and Japan. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Germany and Italy declared War on the U.S. The attack on Pearl harbor led Roosevelt to make one decision that still haunts U.S. history to this day and that decision was to put Executive Order 9066 into play. "Executive Order 9066 was an order which put any person of Japanese ancestry into labor camps."(Conkin) Most of these labor camps stripped innocent people's rights and made them face unfair cruelty. The main reason Executive Order 9066 was put into play was because of speculations made that there were Japanese spies looking for information on the U.S.'s war tactics. The U.S. made sure that was impossible by locking away all the Japanese Americans away. Later on as history plays itself out it is discovered that there were no spies and that the people of Japanese dissent were truly innocent. Franklin Delano Roosevelt's presidency was also well known due to the amount of terms he served. In total he served four terms and he sadly ended his fourth term with a massive cerebral hemorrhage which led to his death on April 12, 1945.

The New Deal

The new deal was a plan created by Roosevelt to bring America out of the great depression. The great Depression could be described as the darkest days America has ever had. The unemployment rate at the time was... and by 1932 twelve million American men and women were without work. It all started with the stock market. The stock market was a new thing back then and people were still experimenting with its capabilities. Most people understood how it worked and therefore it kind of caused an overload so to speak. With the investment of money into stocks becoming popular businesses began to grow and everything seemed fine. Then on October 24 ,1929 "Black Thursday" happened. "The stock market endured its first crash."(Stein) People saw the stock prices beginning to plummet and started to try to sell their stocks as fast as they can but most of the stocks were worth close to nothing. The crash caused a lot of people to lose all their invested money. A lot of people lost everything they had and they were broke. The only way to fix this was with the New Deal. Roosevelt came up with the New Deal and his plan was to activate it right when he came into office. The new deal was made up of three parts. The three parts were sometimes categorized or title as the "Three R's." The "Three R's" consisted of Relief, Recovery, and Reform. All three of these had different acts under them which were stuck in with these categories.

Relief

Relief consisted of Bank Holiday, Emergency Banking Act, Federal Emergency Act, Civil Works Administration, and Civilian conservation Corps. All of these acts and administered plans were created to focus toward the average civilian. "The bank holiday was a four day "holiday" for the banks. The banks were ordered to be closed for four days in order to recuperate."(Stein) The next plan was the emergency banking act. This act made only federal reserve-approved banks operable other banks were closed down until they were able to be fully examined. The federal Emergency Act was next. It was an act that secured jobs for people that had no skill at all. The act gave a grant out to each state weighing at 3.1 billion dollars. This grant was used to give jobs to the poor. The civil Works administration was in charge of short term manual labor jobs for the winter. It was meant to be short term only to make sure everyone has a job for the winter. The last one was civilian conservation act. The civilian conservation corps provided jobs for unemployed and unmarried men. Their job was to work on natural resources.

Recovery

Recovery is made up of the Agricultural adjustment Act, National Recovery Act, Home Loan Corp, works progress administration, Tennessee valley authority. All of these fall under the recover category because they are made to help Recover the economy we had before the great depression. The agricultural adjustment act is the act that enforces farmers not to use a piece of land for farming. This is method is used to raise the value of the crops. Next is the National Recovery Act. It was an act that gave power to the president in the field of business and finance. It promoted monopolies that helped cash flow. After that came Home Loan Corp, which was made to protect families from their

homes being foreclosed on them. Later on we see works progress administration which hired unskilled workers like artists and writers to do manual labor and give them a job. The last one is the Tennessee Valley Authority it was in charge of modernizing the status that we lived in during the depression which in favor got the economy going and the value of the society would go up.

Reform

The next category is reform. Reform was made to set everything in stone and to pretty much change all the old for the new. It consisted of Securities and Exchange Commission, federal deposit insurance Corporation, Social Security Administration, National Labor Relations Act, Soil Conservation act. The Securities and Exchange Commission was in charge of securing the stock market and how it was organized. The Federal deposit insurance corporation guarantees the safety of deposits in banks of up to \$250,000. The Social Security Administration was in charge of distributing monetary help to those who are unable to work and to help out the sick. After that came the national labor relations Act which is the securities of employees and letting them create labor unions which insure satisfaction and health benefits in the work force. Finally was the Soil conservation Act which was to prevent soil erosion and therefore the government gave money to the farmers who agreed not to farm on certain lands.

Research Statement

The presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt was crucial to Americas economy and society. His great leadership skills and understanding of social relations made him very successful. He was not only successful as a person but he was also successful in his output method. The different implementation of his strategies made him successful and well known to many. His ideas and thoughts fueled America's rebirth and helped it become the America we have today

Because of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the way of overtaking the economy and making it work securely, America has been financially well off. But in order for him to have totally revised the economic structure and for us to understand what position he was seated in during his presidency we must inquire:

Was Roosevelt's presidency important to the American people and was he also known for other things other than the creation of the New Deal?

How did the New Deal revolutionize the way we control our economic stature today?

Both of these question help go into detail the importance of having a good leader like Roosevelt was. Some of his qualities are hidden by the fact of people just knowing about him through his sickness and his extensive planning on the New Deal. The overall idea of the New Deal is still unclear and it should be broken up into smaller details. His work during World War II hasn't been closely followed only the events that marked the

war on America are really noticed. The question that we inquired are specific to his presidency and the amount of care he took to make things right are also specified.

Research Findings

To understand and to study the different aspects of his presidency people have to look into the different social and economic problems America was having at the time. America was going through many things at the time and the president of the United States had a lot on his shoulders. "Details of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's presidential life have been unexplained." (Conkin) Some of the details will include his life in office, the great depression, his role in World War II, and the New Deal.

"His Sickness made a huge impact on his image and the image of America at the time." (Freedman) Polio at the time was at large and no one was safe from it, not even the president. The portrayal of the severity of his sickness and how it hindered him as a president was very subtle at times. The president was not only seen as important because of his paralytic illness. But his office life was not only made up of his sickness. His multiple terms and how he managed to work more than two terms have been controversial throughout the years. "He also had a family life which at the time the most prominent figure was Eleanor, his wife who had a crucial role in his presidency." (Badger)

His role in the Great depression which was in many people's opinion the largest economic disaster any country has ever faced. The Great Depression underlined the importance of control in the stock market. Therefore including the subject of the stock market and how it collapsed. "The great depression had a huge toll on America and Franklin Delano Roosevelt knew he had to recover America to its former glory." (Badger) Franklin Delano Roosevelt's reaction to the Great depression and his establishment of the New Deal, which in fact saved America was incomparable to any other persons reaction. His goal was to solve it immediately and not sit on it.

"The inclusion of World War II in American history during FDR's presidency has been tossed around for a while."(Cashman) Because of Franklin Delano Roosevelt World War II was most of the time under control and America had no problems financing it since his New deal had made it possible to do so. The importance of his ties with the other nations including details of Winton Churchill and Joseph Stalin had a lasting effect on America and the plans they had for after the war. The impact of Pearl Harbor and the launch of the executive order 9066 also made a huge impact on the citizens of America and also on the image of the President.

The final thing I will cover would be the inclusion of the New Deal on America's economy at the time. The Great Depression to most was seen as a disaster and some believed that it was going to be impossible to pull out of it. Roosevelt developed the New Deal in order to pull America out of the Great Depression and to put it back on its feet. "The "Three R's" or the basic plan to end the great Depression included the three

words: Relief, Recovery Reform.” (Stein) All three of these helped change the Economy of America and helped it get back up to speed as it was before. The portrayal of the hundred days also is important to the great depression. Roosevelt was passing bills on a daily basis during this period.

The new deal was simply just not one simple thing it had three parts to it as stated before. The three included: relief, recovery and reform. All three of which had more elaborate parts to it. The three parts of the new deal were split up that way because the corporation and acts that have been established help America in the same way.

Relief was the first of the three plans which FDR used to pull Americas economic downfall out of a hole. The Relief stage of the New Deal included the establishment of Bank Holiday Emergency Banking Act, Federal Emergency Act, Civil Works Administration, and Civilian Conservation Corps. I will go into greater detail upon all of these established committees and their roles in the New Deal and the Great Depression.

Recovery was the second of the three plans which FDR established. The Recovery stage consisted of Agricultural adjustment Act, National Recovery Act, Home Owners Loan Corp, Works Progress Administration, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. All of these fall under the recovery stage of the New Deal program because they effectively break down the recovery of the American Economy. The New Deal will definitely included this stage because it was in most people’s opinion the most important or crucial.

“The last stage of the New Deal included the reformation stage.”(Freedman) The stage of reformation solidified the end and the upbringing of the new and improved, economically saved America. The reform stage consisted of Securities and exchange Commission, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Social Security Administration, National Labor Relations Act, and Soil Conservation Act. The inclusion of these topics in my paper will help signify the importance of the last stage and will in the most part end the discussion of the different parts in the New Deal.

The final part of my paper will include the impact the Great Depression had on other countries worldwide. The Great Depression not only affected the economy of America but also the economies of countries. The new deal was taken up by most of these countries therefore leading to their savior. I will in the end restate the importance of the New Deal and the influences it had on other countries. Also I will explain that western influences help shape the rest of the world.

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