Name:

Date:

School:

Facilitator:

6.02 Notes Outline

**Lesson 6.02 “Brother Can You Spare A Dime?”**

Answer the 6.02 Notes Outline as you review the lesson.

**Explore #2**

Migrant Mother

Describe this woman’s feelings in three words.

How old does she look to you?

What can you learn about her life from this picture?

I. Struggles

A. Homeless in the “Hoovervilles”

By 1931, there were 15,000 people in New York who were homeless in 1931.

People had to make shelters from whatever scrap wood, tin, and even cardboard they could find.

These make-shift shelters built by the homeless created shanty towns that became known as  to mock President Hoover and his lack of policy to help the poor.

B. Dust Bowl

To make matters worse for the nation, environmental disasters combined with harmful farming practices caused serious problems in the Great Plains.

The is the name given to a region in the Great Plains that had a period of drought and devastating dust storms during the 1930s.

Causes of the Dust Bowl included:drought, high winds, dry farming, and over production.

The conditions created by the Dust Bowl caused farmers to give up and leave the plains. In , 440,000 people, nicknamed "**Okies**," were forced to leave. In Kansas, another 300,000 people left their homes during the 1930s.

C. Migratory Workers

Over three million people left the Great Plains during the 1930s in the greatest migratory movement in American history. Many of these people, known as , moved to agricultural regions, especially in , looking for seasonal work during the Dust Bowl.

was a photo journalistwho photographed migrant workers during the Great Depression. Her photographs inspired the book *Grapes of Wrath*by John Steinbeck.

Lange’s most famous work was the picture of the “Migrant Mother” that you analyzed earlier. The image is considered to be the “face” of the depression.

Hollywood films pictured California as the land of plenty and farmers set off on Route 66 in search of a new dream. Though California held hope for Dust Bowl families, as they headed west, they lived in poverty, setting up migrant work camps.

D. Poverty Strains Society

The Depression took a serious physical and psychological toll on the entire nation.

Impact on Health:

Thousands of Americans went hungry during the Depression.  suffered the most, with long-term health effects caused by poor diet and health care.

Impact on Education:

Children still went to school during the Depression, but many schools closed due to lack of funding. Some states went to extreme efforts to keep schools running, cutting back in some areas such as cafeteria workers or sports teams. Sometimes, teachers would have to go without pay for significant periods of time until the community was able to get enough money or just pay in food or gas.

Impact on family structure:

Many families moved in together to keep from living on the streets. , who were typically seen as the heads of households and "bread winners," felt like failures. The women who did manage to find work were often accused of taking jobs from men and were often fired.

E. Discrimination Increased

Societal problems like  often escalate during times of economic hardship. The Depression was no exception.

Black unemployment soared to 56%. It was as high as 75% in some areas like Detroit. Lynching increased and examples of minorities being denied civil rights were everywhere.

Thousands of  and Asian-Americans were deported during the 1930s.

F. Scottsboro Boys

One example of the increased discrimination is the case of the Scottsboro Boys. The were a group of nine African-American teenagers unjustly accused of raping two white women in  in 1931.

The young men would have likely received a harsh and unjust punishment. However, they received assistance from outside sources (lawyers from the communist party) to defend themselves.

II. Surviving the Depression

Americans pulled together in many different ways to help one another during the tough times of the Depression.

Tenant groups formed to protest . Farm communities agreed to keep bids low when foreclosed farms were auctioned and then returned them to the owners.

The "Kind Hearted Woman" symbol could be found on fences, mailboxes, or doors of those who were willing to help a person in need with perhaps shelter for the night, a blanket, or a meal.

With no real social welfare system in place, charities set up  and bread lines to handout food to those in need.

A. Finding Humor

Americans gritted their teeth and waited out the hard times. Jokes, cartoons, and songs kept people laughing through their trouble rather than crying. Many of the jokes were at the expense of Herbert Hoover:

* Hoovervilleswere shanty towns for the homeless.
* were newspapers the homeless used to keep warm.
* Hoover flagswere empty pockets pulled inside-out with no money.

B. Signs of Change

There were several important symbols of hope, such as the building of the .

John J. Raskob was the developer. Construction began in 1930 and it provided jobs for 2,500 to 4,000 workers each day. The total cost for building the 102-story building was $41 million including land.

Also, in 1933, Congress passed the , which repealed prohibition (18th Amendment) to make the sale and production of alcohol legal again.

C. Seeking Political Solutions  
Unlike in , there were no widespread calls for radical political change in America. Most Americans trusted the democratic process to solve problems; however, some did seek political alternatives to democracy.

The Communist Party got 100,000 votes in 1932. The  Party candidate in 1932, Norman Thomas, won 881,951 votes.

Submit your completed **6.02 Notes Outline** to the Dropbox.