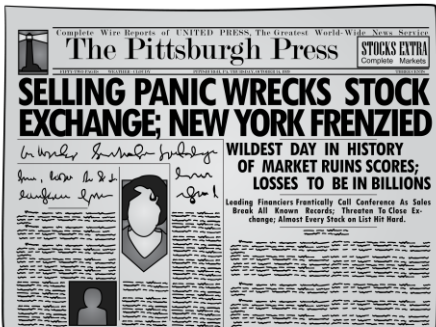


END OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION

The Great Depression was not over in one day. The exact date of its end has been debated over time by historians and economists. The beginning of World War II in 1939 is usually marked as the end of the Great Depression.



CAUSES

Historians argue what caused the Great Depression to end. When World War II began, factories went back to full production building war supplies like tanks, airplanes, ships, guns, and ammunition. Unemployment decreased as young men joined the army and people went to work in factories. Others credit the New Deal programs of the 1930s for ending the depression. There were many factors that helped

get the economy in America going again. World War II, government regulations, a new banking system, and the end of the drought in the Midwest all contributed to the recovery of the economy.

LEGACY

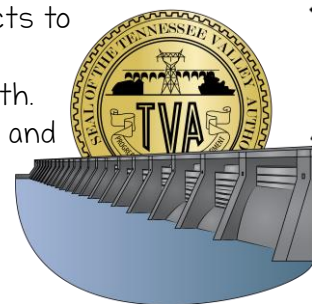
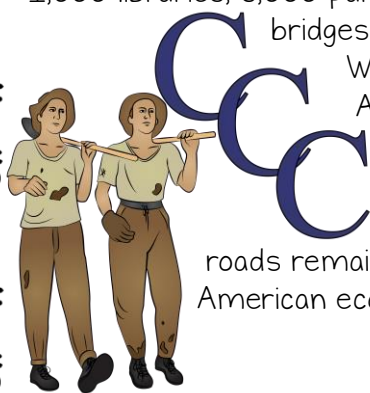
The Great Depression left a lasting legacy on the American people and government. Many who lived through the era distrusted banks and no longer bought goods using credit. Instead, they paid with cash and stored emergency rations in their basement. Others felt the Great Depression made the country stronger by teaching people about hard work and survival.

NEW DEAL

The New Deal and its agencies and laws changed America forever, forcing people to look at the role of the government. The Social Security Act was perhaps one of the most important new laws. A payroll tax provided retirement for the elderly, assistance for the disabled, and unemployment insurance. It remains an important part of the U.S. government today. Some of the other New Deal programs that continue to impact lives today include banking reform (for example: FDIC Insurance to keep money at banks safe), stock market regulations (to prevent companies from lying about their profits), farm programs, housing programs, and laws that protect and regulate unions. Work programs, such as the WPA, PWA, TVA, and CCC, did more than just provide jobs to the unemployed. They left a lasting mark on America. The WPA (Works Progress Administration) alone built over 5,000 new schools,



1,000 libraries, 8,000 parks, over 650,000 miles of new roads, and built or repaired over 124,000 bridges. The CCC planted almost 3 billion trees throughout the country. The WPA installed over 16,000 miles of new water lines. The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) built dams and hydroelectric projects to control flooding and provide electric power to the impoverished Tennessee Valley region of the South. Several of these schools, parks, bridges, libraries, and roads remain in use today. This infrastructure helped the American economy for decades to come.



Name _____

END OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION

CAUSE AND EFFECT: Identify the missing cause or effect from the chart.

CAUSE	EFFECT
1. The United States entered World War II.	
2. Many people who lived through the Great Depression distrusted banks.	
	3. The elderly are provided with money during retirement.
	4. Money is now safe at banks.
5. There were stock market regulations implemented.	
	6. Schools, libraries, parks, roads, and bridges were built.
7. The Tennessee Valley Authority was created.	
	8. The infrastructure helped the American economy for decades.

