

# Hoover's Philosophy

- “A temporary halt in the prosperity of a great people” He remained optimistic
- Believed the way to recovery was through individual effort and not government assistance



# Hoover's Philosophy

- Direct Relief-as depression wore on many Americans demanded food, clothing, shelter, and money.
- Hoover rejected the idea of direct government aid.



# Hoover's Philosophy

- Feared it would create large government and large budget.
- Feared would reduce self respect of people receiving aid.
- Individualism-lift themselves up through hard work and strength of character.



# Hoover's Philosophy

- Believed private charities and local governments could best provide for needy



# Hoover's Philosophy

- Encouraging volunteerism-many Americans agreed but became clear that volunteerism alone wouldn't work
  - Communities and charities lacked resources to cope with mounting depression



# Hoover's Philosophy

–PCUR-Hoover created a board to organize and encourage donations to private relief organizations. Community Chest, Red Cross, Salvation Army, and YMCA.



# Boosting Economy

- While Hoover opposed direct relief he did try to improve the economy
  - Public Works Programs-  
Congress and state government funded several of these in hopes that they would stimulate business and reduce unemployment.

# Boosting Economy

- Hoover Dam, 800 public buildings, 37,000 miles of highway. \$800 million in public works money.



# Helping the Farm Crisis

- Federal Farm Board-created by Congress with a budget of \$500 million
  - Hoover instructed them to find ways to help farmers help themselves
    - FFB offered loans



# Helping the Farm Crisis

- Financed cooperatives-  
reduced farmers expenses by  
allowing them to purchase  
necessary materials in bulk.  
Equipment, fertilizers,  
pesticides.
- Crop storage facilities-helped  
maintain higher prices as  
crops could be stored until  
prices raised

# Reconstruction Finance Corporation

- Created by Congress in 1932
- Authorized to loan up to \$2 billion to stabilize troubled banks, insurance companies, railroad companies, and other institutions.
  - By strengthening key businesses, he hoped to reduce business failures and create more jobs.



# Bonus Army

- Biggest protest during Depression.
  - 10,000 WWI vets and families came to D.C. to support a bill before Congress giving veterans early payment on their bonuses.



# Bonus Army

- Congress rejected bill and some veterans remained and clashed with authorities.
- Hoover ordered army into clear them out and killed 3 people including an 11 week old baby.

