

THOMASVILLE
HISTORY CENTER

Thomasville Treasures



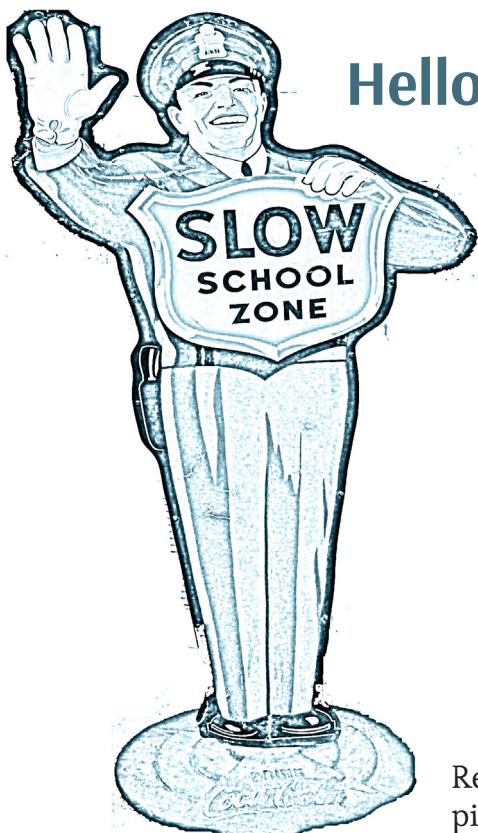
OUR HISTORY BEGINS HERE. LET US START YOU ON THE JOURNEY.

Share your completed coloring pages with us!

Tag @thomasvillehistory on Facebook and Instagram and use #ourhistorybeginshere!

THOMASVILLE HISTORY CENTER

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Coca-Cola Sign, c. 1955


Hello, from Thomasville History Center!


Pleased to meet you, friends! This is your guide to discovering all of Thomasville's treasures at home and across the community.

When you see a  that means there's something you can find!

When you see a  that means there's something you can color, a question you can answer, or an activity you can complete!

When you see a  that means you're about to learn something new!

When you see a  that means there is something you can make!

Remember, some items with a  don't have to look exactly like the picture. Use it as inspiration to explore something new, find things that are alike, and things that are different.



Thomasville History Center Word Search

Can you find all of the words that describe the History Center? Words may be horizontal (left to right), vertical (top to bottom), or diagonal (across).

Thomasville
History
Center
Museum
Dawson Street
Fountain
Bowling Alley
Courthouse
Log House
Story
Explore
Discover
Community
Preservation
Historic District

D	H	M	X	U	M	G	L	U	H	D	T	D	I	S	C	O	V	E	R
B	Y	I	O	A	R	X	Q	Z	O	I	A	H	O	O	X	Y	C	M	B
C	V	T	S	N	G	O	P	F	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	C	E	M	P
V	O	V	D	T	Q	G	K	H	V	W	F	U	Q	A	U	X	N	I	R
I	Z	U	A	A	O	G	U	C	S	S	L	A	C	H	S	P	T	Z	E
J	E	L	R	V	E	R	Z	I	G	R	V	T	W	R	Q	N	E	G	S
X	D	D	W	T	M	X	I	V	J	Z	F	T	B	V	M	E	R	K	E
J	L	R	P	O	H	A	B	C	M	E	D	A	G	J	U	X	S	B	R
F	Y	D	W	K	E	O	I	F	D	E	A	A	Z	Q	S	P	C	O	V
B	L	L	Y	B	T	J	U	V	U	I	W	I	S	E	E	L	O	W	A
D	L	C	X	H	H	E	P	S	U	R	S	O	I	N	U	O	M	L	T
S	O	A	C	I	O	Z	Z	T	E	C	O	T	I	A	M	R	M	I	I
T	G	H	S	X	M	U	T	Y	B	P	N	Z	R	O	E	E	U	N	O
O	H	Q	Z	Z	A	B	H	N	Q	Z	S	W	Q	I	S	T	N	G	N
R	O	J	L	K	S	Q	X	H	I	S	T	O	R	Y	C	H	I	A	X
Y	U	P	K	H	V	S	S	W	A	H	R	L	B	L	M	T	T	L	M
L	S	Q	Y	I	I	E	G	X	V	B	E	F	Y	E	N	M	Y	L	I
K	E	T	O	Q	L	A	P	S	C	H	E	A	K	G	R	N	P	E	M
Z	G	F	G	Z	L	L	J	H	J	D	T	W	B	A	P	J	H	Y	M
P	X	D	A	Z	E	Y	Z	M	E	A	A	R	P	N	W	F	E	T	R

The Great Depression 1929 - 1939

The Great Depression was a severe worldwide economic depression. There were three main causes to the Great Depression including the stock market crash in 1929, bank failures, and over-production of goods. The situation was made worse by the 1930s Dustbowl. President Franklin D. Roosevelt responded to the economic hardship with federal programs known as the New Deal.



No Jobs and No Money

The Great Depression was one of the worst economic crises in American history. Many people in Thomasville lost their jobs and had little money to spend. Over the next several years, spending and investment dropped. Without people buying goods and services, factories and other industries laid workers off. By 1933, 15 million Americans were unemployed or without a job, and almost half of the country's banks had failed.

Soup Kitchens

Many Americans relied on soup kitchens and other meal programs to be able to feed their families during the Great Depression. What do you think the men in this soup kitchen line are thinking about. Use the thought bubble.



Men stand in line outside a depression soup kitchen, 1931. NARA.

The Stock Market Crash of 1929

Black Tuesday Cause & Effects

On October 29, 1929, Black Tuesday hit Wall Street. Investors, the people who buy stocks, traded nearly 16 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange in a single day! As a result, billions of dollars were lost. After Black Tuesday, America entered the Great Depression.



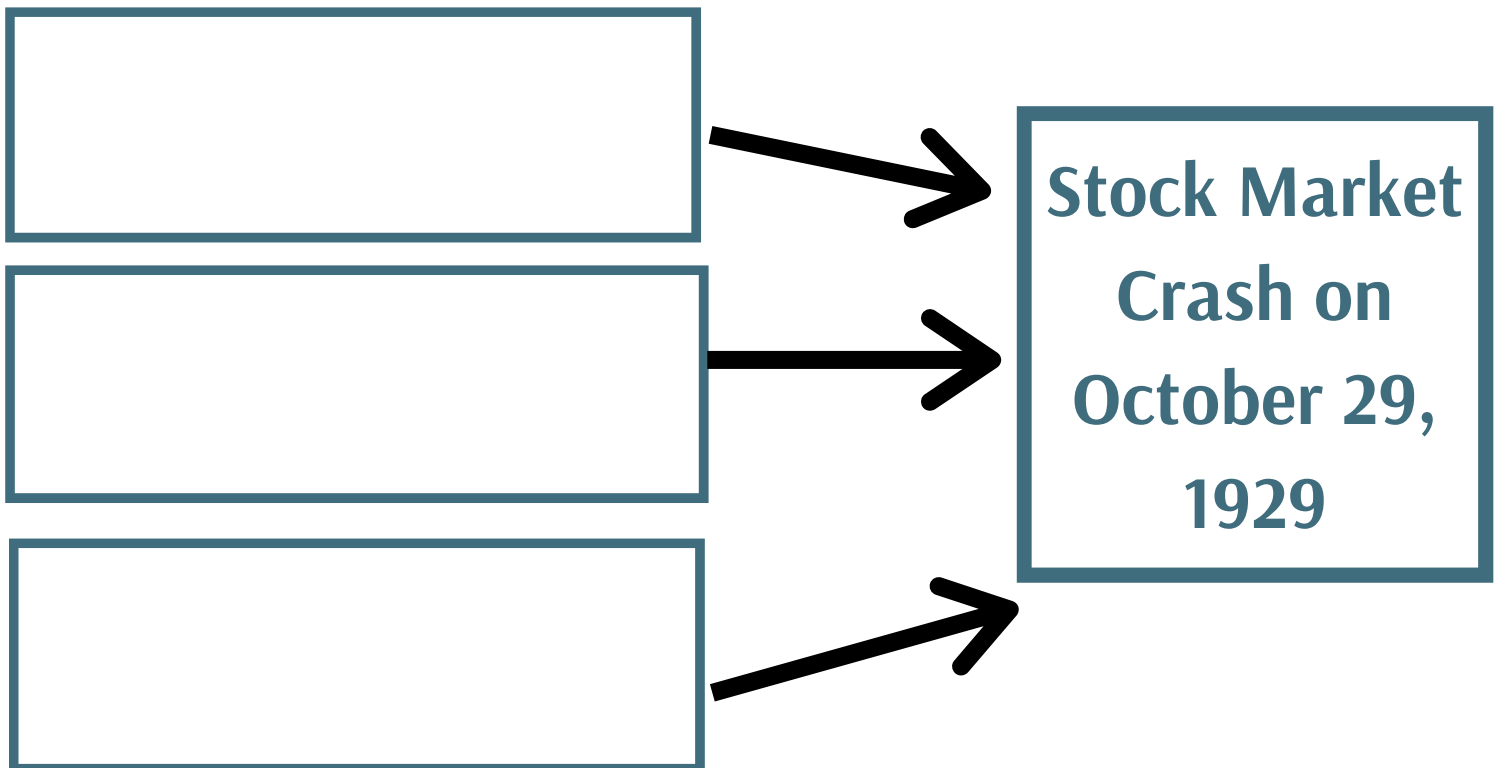
What' is the date that the Stock Market crashed? _____

What caused the Stock Market to Crash?

During the 1920s, the U.S. stock market expanded quickly. As a result, stock prices were inflated. This means that stocks were being sold for more than they were worth. Americans were also acquiring more debt while their wages earned on the job decreased. Approximately 16,410,030 shares were traded on the New York Stock Exchange on Black Tuesday.



Fill in the cause and effect map of the Stock Market crashing.



Bank Failures

Panic at the Bank

When everyone rushes to get something, like money or toilet paper, we create what's called a panic. Panics create shortages or instances when there aren't enough of something. In 1929, the citizens of the United States panicked. Fearing that their money would disappear if they left it in the bank, many Americans rushed to the bank. This was called a bank run. Everyone attempted to withdraw their money from the bank which created a money shortage. Because of this, many banks in the country failed and had to close, and many people went without money.



Draw a scene showing Americans making a bank run.

A large, empty rectangular box with a dark border, intended for a drawing. It occupies the lower half of the page.

The Dustbowl

The Dust Bowl was a period of severe dust storms that greatly damaged the agricultural industry and ecology of the American prairies during the 1930s. Severe drought and overuse of land for farming caused the Dust Bowl.



What were the causes of the Dust Bowl?

1. _____ 2. _____



Watch this video on the Dust Bowl from Studies Weekly, "The Dust Bowl":
<https://tinyurl.com/yclldth7c>



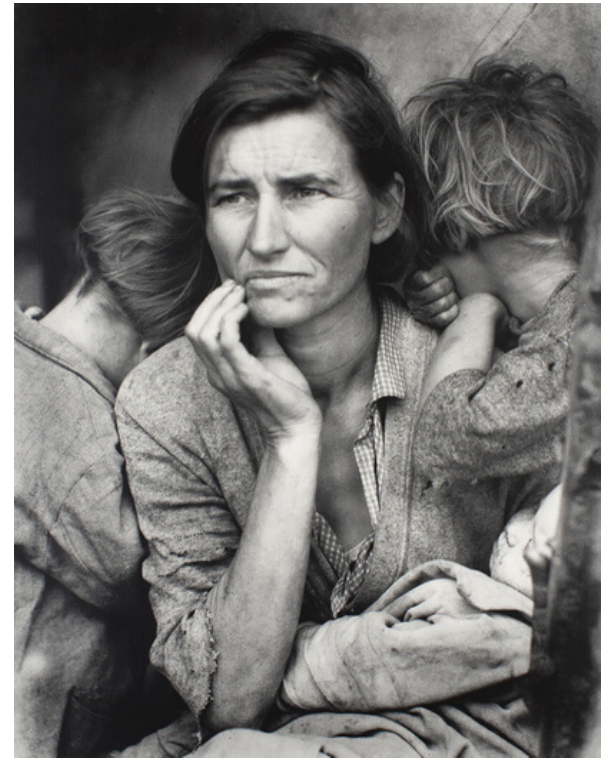
Based on what you saw in the video, draw a picture of the Dust Bowl.

A large, empty rectangular box with a dark teal border, intended for drawing a picture of the Dust Bowl.

Hard Times in Farming

Dorothea Lange's photograph of Florence Owens Thompson and her children in March of 1936 in Nipomo California is one of the most famous photos taken during the Great Depression. Lange said this of her experience with Thompson:

I saw and approached the hungry and desperate mother, as if drawn by a magnet. I do not remember how I explained my presence or my camera to her, but I do remember she asked me no questions... She said that they had been living on frozen vegetables from the surrounding fields, and birds that the children killed. She had just sold the tires from her car to buy food. (From: Lange's "The Assignment I'll Never Forget: Migrant Mother," Popular Photography, Feb. 1960).



Dorothea Lange, photographer. Destitute pea pickers in California. Mother of seven children. Age thirty-two. Nipomo, California. 1936. U.S. Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information. Prints & Photographs Division.



Paint the World. Super Coloring. Artist: Nata Silina.

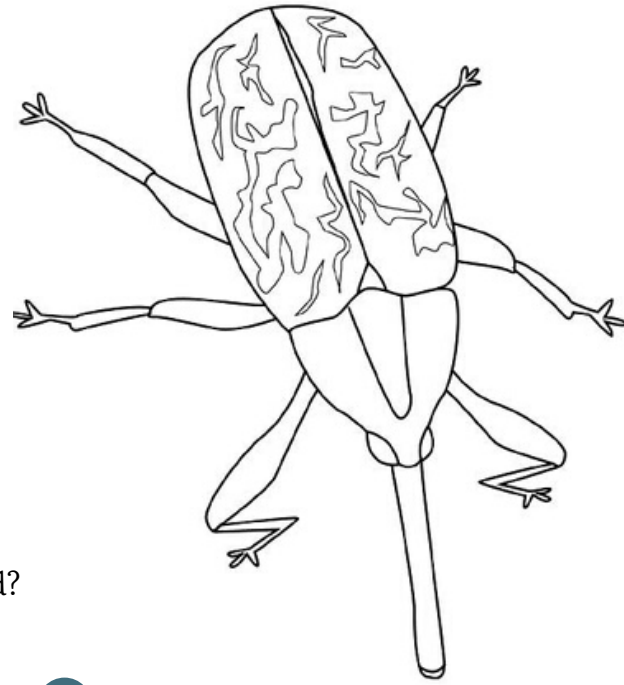
As you color the photograph of "Migrant Mother," think about how the mother in the photo must have felt.

What words would you use to describe her feelings?

The Boll Weevil

The boll weevil beetle decimated crops in the South, including Thomasville in the early 1900s.

The boll weevil is a beetle which feeds on cotton buds and flowers. It migrated into the United States from Mexico in the late 1800s. By 1920, the boll weevil had infested all U.S. cotton-growing areas. This devastated the industry and the people working in the American South including Thomsaville.



Can you find the 10 boll weevils hidden in the cotton field?



DID YOU KNOW

- Boll Weevils eat cotton buds
- Boll Weevils hibernate in winter
- Boll weevils produce several generations of young each year
- After 1930, boll weevil resistant cotton was created
- Boll Weevils cause about \$200 million of damage to cotton crops every year
- About \$70 million is spent each year to fight the boll weevil
- The Thomasville History Center has a small cotton patch that we have checked for boll weevils every year.

Write a letter to a farmer in Thomasville during the early 1900s. Warn her about the potential danger of the boll weevil.

Public Works Administration

New Municipal Building

In 1939, with help from the Public Works Administration, Thomasville built a new Municipal Building to replace City Hall.

The first cornerstone was laid at the intersection of East Jackson and South Crawford by the Freemasons on May 26, 1939

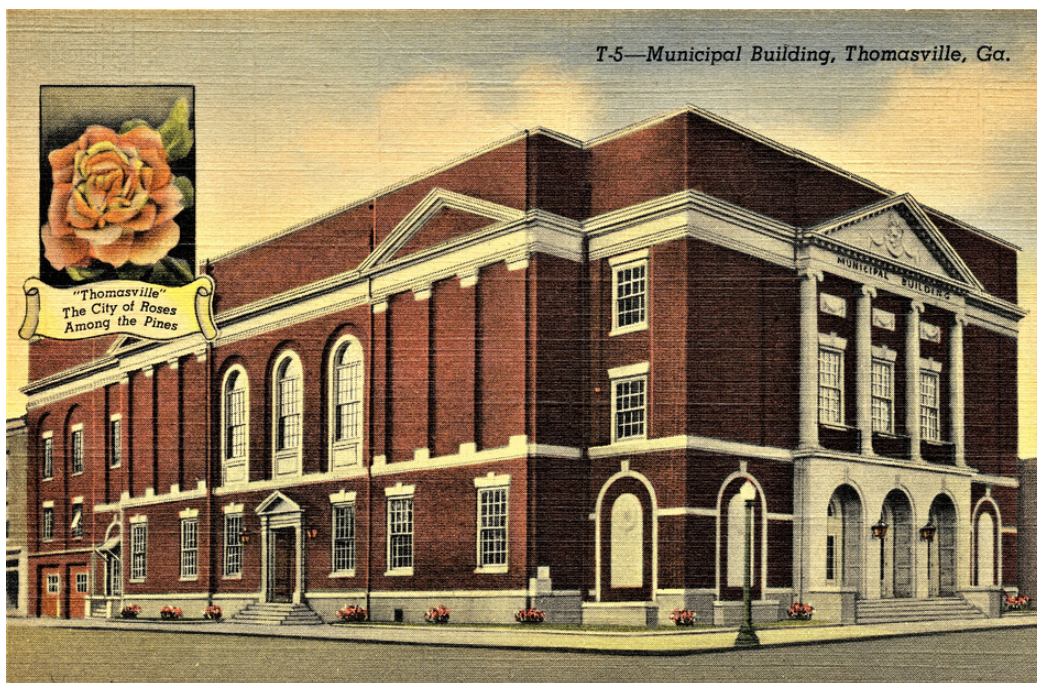
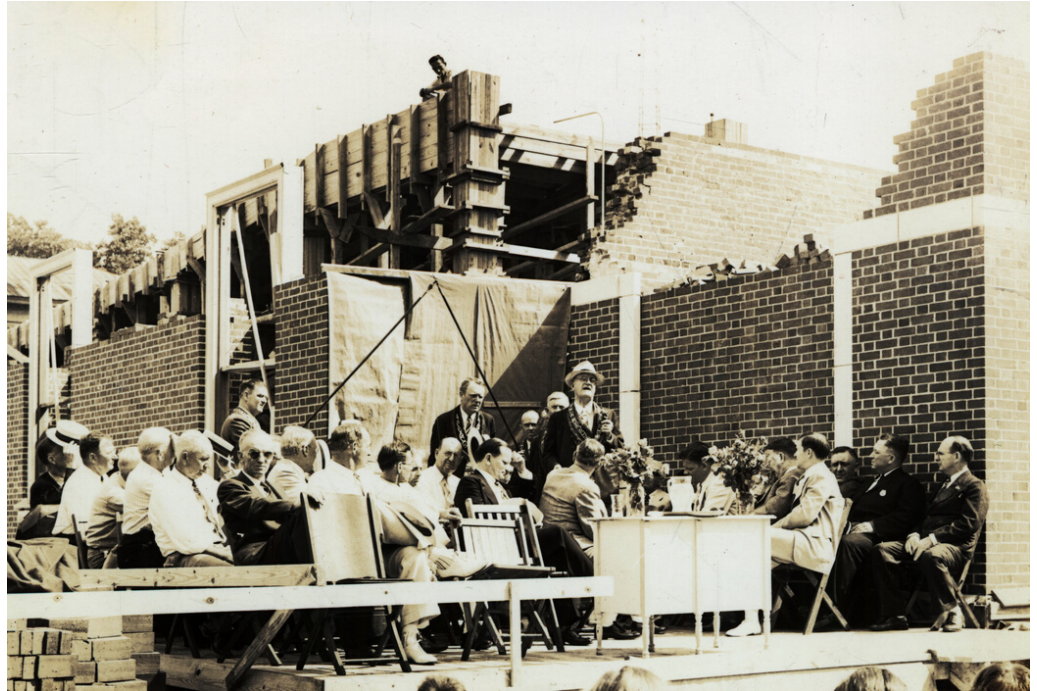


DID YOU KNOW

As part of his efforts to help the country, President Roosevelt helped create the Public Works Administration in 1933.

The PWA was a large-scale public works construction agency that was led by Harold L. Ickes, the Secretary of the Interior. The PWA funded over 34,000 projects with \$6 billion from 1933 to 1944.

NEW \$200,000 MUNICIPAL BUILDING WILL
HOUSE CITY OFFICES AND AUDITORIUM,
REPLACING ANTIQUATED CITY HALL



Postcard of the Municipal Building in 1940.



1. When was the Municipal Building Built?

2. What government program created by FDR helped build the Municipal Building?

Municipal Building Floor Plan

You be the Architect

Using this article from the "Thomasville Times Enterprise" on November 29, 1939, reconstruct the original floor plan of the Municipal building.

The municipal building is planned with an idea of utilizing every foot of space for a variety of purposes, and with a maximum of efficiency in each one. The building faces on Jackson street with a wide entrance into an enclosed lobby. This leads to the interior which had been admirably divided to accommodate all of the calls made upon it.

On the left of the entrance are the offices of the city clerk, city treasurer and the water and light department collections. There are ample quarters for the storage of the city records and safety deposit of all monies. At the rear is the mayor's office with a council chamber adjacent and at the rear of this a police court room, sufficiently large to accommodate the matinees of the recorder and such other purposes as may be necessary. A corridor extends through the building to connect with one

from Crawford street.

On the right of the entrance is the library with all modern equipment, but the entrance to this has been arranged from the side of the building so that while connected and adjoining it will have a separate entrance and can be operated independent of the remainder of the building if that should become either necessary or desirable. There is a room for the Study Class and offices for the Chamber of Commerce in this section of the building. The Chamber of Commerce has an entrance from the corridor.

At the rear is the fire department, facing Crawford street and at the rear of that an annex of two stories over the building basement, in which the police will have offices, cells and such other equipment and facilities as are usual and necessary to that department. The cells

have been arranged so as to facilitate their use and to provide all of the conveniences for white and colored prisoners and for women as well as men. In the basement are the heating equipment and coal storage as well as other conveniences that are considered necessary. There is an entry from the building corridor and from the outside. An alley twenty feet wide runs the entire length of the building and makes it easy for traffic to proceed into the backyard, where a rear entrance to the stores in that block is provided.

The architecture of the building is most attractive and its construction as near fireproof as possible. It is built of brick with stone trim and concrete and built up roof.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the New Deal

A New President



DID YOU KNOW

In the middle of the Great Depression on March 4, 1933, newly elected President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered his first address before 100,000 people on Washington's Capitol Plaza.

He said, **"the only thing we have to fear is fear itself."**

FDR promised that he would act quickly to help Americans. His speech gave many people confidence.

Federal Programs to Help Americans

S O C I A L S E C U R I T Y S W H X O G R K F D O
C I V I L I A N C O N S E R V A T I O N C O R P S
Y T I R O H T U A Y E L L A V E E S S E N N E T J
R T E O D I L X C T T Q G U L H B D G L H N Y E B
W N B S Y I O M G U E Y C W L Z U I P A J X C E K
V U B Y O T U A X I V D C B O D N P L A E O M N F
A P A M D X L I Q S H G S C O K W E A V Y K H T A
Q H R U A M L S V M P G P D S O R D W G Q W P C Q
M B Z L S Q V O Y O F A U V O X T E Y D V X F T U
A A E G P R F L T J P W P N N K O F X B E J Y Q L
W O K J N N H S Q E L G K S R K S W Y J P A J Q G
M D A B H F L Z F P F B Z M E X P O G V W C L H F
K L I A F N Y S U G V E D C U F T E S A X M D B Y
C X B L G U N W Z Z B Z L G M L L R P K X L U P F
D L S Y Z V S R R E T Q A Z C L G Q M O I E N P T

FDR created a lot of programs to help Americans during the Great Depression. Can you find these programs in the word search?



Social Security

New Deal

Civilian Conservation Corps

Tennessee Valley Authority

Fireside Chats

Three days later, Roosevelt held his first Fireside Chat. In these chats, FDR was calm and reassuring. Many Americans tuned in over the radio to hear him speak. His words brought them courage. FDR urged Americans to put their savings back in the banks. Americans listened and followed his advice and by the end of March, almost 75% of banks in the U.S. had reopened.



What is the president saying to the country? How is he reassuring them and calming their fears?

Use the speech bubble.



FDR [Franklin Delano Roosevelt] FIRESIDE CHAT. Harris & Ewing, photographer. 1936 September 6.