

UNIT III: THE DEPRESSION (1919 - 1940)

Topic: Industry

Lesson 23: The Urban Depression

Objective:

Students will become familiar with the feelings and attitudes of displaced industrial workers during the depression.

Materials:

Iowa Road Map

Student Access to *Five Families in Dubuque: The Urban Depression*

Transparency: *Comparing Points of View*

Activities:

1. Review the dates and conditions associated with the depression in Iowa.
2. Locate Dubuque on the Iowa road map and review the association Dubuque had with the lumber milling industry during the late 1800s.
3. Review the following concepts prior to the reading of the interview summaries:
 - a. Labor Union
 - b. Management
 - c. Government ReliefThe three programs mentioned in the interview summaries are the:
CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps)
WPA (Works Progress Administration)
CWA (Civil Works Administration)
4. Introduce students *Five Families in Dubuque: The Urban Depression*. Provide the following questions to guide the reading of the interviews:
 - a. How did the person feel about receiving government relief?
 - b. How did the person feel about labor organizations?
 - c. Did the person support the government's method of fighting the depression?
 - d. How did the person cope with the financial problems?
5. Divide the class into small groups. Have each group focus on a different interview.
6. To guide follow-up discussion, project the transparency *Comparing Points of View*. Have the groups provide information to complete the table and supply additional points of view which may be added to the table. Draw conclusions from this information.
7. Plan a field trip into the community to locate and observe visible results of depression programs like the WPA, CCC and CWA. On some projects a plaque was placed to identify the particular program responsible for the project. A crayon on paper rubbing could be made of these plaques which could then be displayed in the classroom.

COMPARING POINTS OF VIEW

Place a check in each blank where the numbered statements represents the point of view of the person interviewed.

	BEUSCHER	CRUMBAUGH	PARK	ROER	WATSON
1. Was ashamed to be on government relief.					
2. Perferred work in private industry over government relief.					
3. Was supportive of the Roosevelt administration.					
4. Supported union organization of labor.					