Chapter 13 Study Guide

1. **Great Depression**
   1. **Caused by soaring stock prices in the “Roaring 20’s” everyone was making tons of money so people put lots of money in stock market.**
   2. **People started buying cars, vacuum cleaners, dish washers and radios, - Monthly payments AKA INSTALLMENT BUYING.**
      1. Banks gave out tons of loans to nearly everyone, thinking they would get their money back with INTREST
   3. **Stock Market Crashed on October 24, 28 & 29 of 1929** 
      1. October 24, 1929 – BLACK THURSDAY
      2. October 28, 1929 – BLACK MONDAY
      3. October 29, 1929 – BLACK TUESDAY (Greatest Crash)
   4. **People lost thousands of dollars, they rushed to get their money out of their savings out of their banks.** 
      1. People bought all those goods, and now they could not pay them back.
      2. Because people could not pay them back, Banks could not collect money on their loans
      3. As a result, THOUSANDS OF BANKS CLOSED
   5. **Farmers had it the worst of anyone. They had depression first Right after WWI**
      1. Farmers grew tons of crops, even had extra crops called (SURPLUS) because troops were over in WWI needed to be fed.
      2. When the war was over, all those extra goods were not needed. Farmers needed to sell them because taxes were already high, and they needed the money to pay for their farms.
      3. When the farmers could not get enough money for their farms, the banks took their land.
      4. Thousands of farmers packed up and moved to cities to find jobs.
      5. **On top of that they had the Dust Bowl happen**
         1. **Dust Bowl** was a result of **bad farming techniques**, and the cutting down of many trees. **The wind carried off the topsoil into the atmosphere.**
         2. **There was a severe drought** in the Great Plains and Oklahoma that also created the dust storm.
         3. **The Dust Bowl devastated crops, and got dust inside homes and goods ruining them, grasshoppers and locusts were everywhere.**
            1. **This forced people to migrate to California, these people are called “Okies” (300,000)**

**A Book was made by *John Steinbeck about Okies, “The Grapes of Wrath”***

**He won the Pulitzer Prize as a result.**

* + - * 1. **Many people in Eastern Oklahoma grew “cotton”**
        2. **People in Western Oklahoma grew “wheat”**
        3. **For many Oklahoman’s this time is known as “The Dirty Thirties”**
      1. **Woody Guthrie**
         1. He was one of the Okies who migrated to California,
         2. **He became a poet, musical spokesman,** Songs he created*:* ***This Land Is Your Land****,*
  1. **Businesses Close Down**
     1. Places that made goods like cars, vacuum cleaners, and dish washers began to make less and less goods because no one could afford them.
     2. Because they made less goods, they did not need as many workers, MILLIONS WERE FIRED.
     3. Businesses would hire people for one day if they needed them, then let them go the next.
     4. No one was buying any goods, because they lost all their money in the stock market crash.

1. **Oil in Oklahoma**
   1. **In 1929 Oklahoma was producing more than 24% of the nation’s oil.**
   2. **Largest well in Oklahoma was called, “Wild Mary Sudik” 1930**
      1. Located in Oklahoma City, the well busted and SPEWED tons of oil over homes, and fields.
         1. Farmers would plow the fields with oil on top.
      2. Reached national news, Oklahoma started having to much oil, (SURPLUS)
         1. Problem was, many companies wanted to keep pumping oil even though people didn’t buy.
         2. Lowered the economy in Oklahoma as a result of this. Causing oil prices to drop
2. **Governor William H. “Alfalfa” Bill Murray**
   1. Believed in *“agrarian society” (*Keeping up with farmland and crops equal distribution of land)
   2. Ran for governor as the “common man”
   3. **Most controversial governor, used his power more fiercely than other governors.**
   4. He created the **State Tax Commission** – this lowered property taxes in Oklahoma
   5. **Stopped over-production of oil** in Oklahoma after Wild Mary Sudik spewed.
      1. Said were wasting Oklahoma’s natural resources.
      2. When the oil produced again, he made regulations on pumping the oil that we have today.
   6. He passed the **Income Tax law**,
   7. **He pushed for higher education**
      1. **Wanted professors to work longer and harder or they would be replaced at Oklahoma University**
   8. **Stopped the Red River Bridge War**
      1. **Where tolls were put at 3 different crossings between Oklahoma and Texas. Disputed many times**
   9. **During the Great Depression**
      1. Murray helped create the National Council for Relief that gave aid to the people affected by depression.
      2. Pushed farmers to start growing crops again and giving out free grain to them.
      3. Forced banks to close during depression, get their banks in order, and then re-open again.
      4. **Governor during the start of the Great Depression, helped make state financially sound during worst economic crisis in United States History.**
3. **Wiley Post & Will Rodgers**
   1. **Will Rodgers**
      1. **Internationally known humorist, actor, and journalist**
         1. He wrote **a journal in a newspaper daily** in the “New York Times” & “Saturday Evening Post”
      2. He was from the city of Oologah
      3. **His jokes and humor was to ease the pain of the Great Depression even on the radio.** 
         1. **He would joke about social and political situations.**
         2. **He even performed on stage and in movies.**
      4. **Known as Oklahoma’s Favorite Son**
   2. **Wiley Post**
      1. **First man to fly solo around the world.**
      2. **Tried to become a World War I fighter pilot, but the war ended before his training was done.**
      3. Died with his friend Will Rodgers in a plane crash near Alaska.
4. **Governor Ernest W. Marland 1934**
   1. Founded the oil company “Conoco” in Ponca City, OK
   2. **Was a fan of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s plan to get the United States out of the Great Depression called, “The New Deal”**
   3. **He loved it so much, he made New Deal for Oklahoma called, “The Little New Deal”**
      1. **Little New Deal**
         1. Started spending money, to make things happen in Oklahoma. Called “Spending Sixteen”
            1. This was made to give money to people who needed relief from Depression
         2. **He began something that President Roosevelt created called, the Works Progress Administration or (WPA)**
            1. **The WPA was a way for people to get jobs, it had people dig ditches, build roads, build buildings, laid sidewalks.**
   4. Marland started the first Oklahoma Highway Patrol
5. **Governor Leon “Red” Phillips 1938**
   1. **Ran against 2 former governors Jack Walton and William H. Murray**
   2. He played football at Oklahoma University and studied law
   3. Did not like Marland New Deal policy called, “The Little Deal”
   4. He brought the debt under control that the state owed.
   5. He raised taxes on gasoline, automobiles, tabacco & cut funding to education.
   6. He removed the limits on women holding office in Oklahoma, now women could be Governor.