



Life During the Depression

Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?

They used to tell me
I was building a dream.
And so I followed the mob
When there was earth to plow
Or guns to bear
I was always there
Right on the job.
They used to tell me I was building a dream
With peace and glory ahead.
Why should I be standing in line
Just waiting for bread?
Once I built a railroad
I made it run
Made it race against time.
Once I built a railroad
Now it's done.
Brother, can you spare a dime?

Once I built a tower up to the sun
Brick and rivet and lime
Once I built a tower
Now it's done.
Brother, can you spare a dime?
Once in khaki suits
Gee we looked swell
Full of that yankee doodly dum.
Half a million boots went slogging through hell
And I was the kid with the drum!
Say don't you remember?
They called me Al.
It was Al all the time.
Why don't you remember?
I'm your pal.
Say buddy, can you spare a dime?

What did the singer do before the Great Depression? What is he doing now?



1929
1933

HERBERT HOOVER



Economic depression can not be cured by legislative action or executive pronouncement.

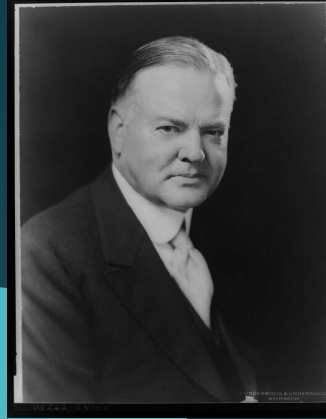
The basis of successful relief in national distress is to mobilize and organize the infinite number of agencies of self help in the community. That has been the American way.

—Herbert Hoover

Hatred for President Hoover

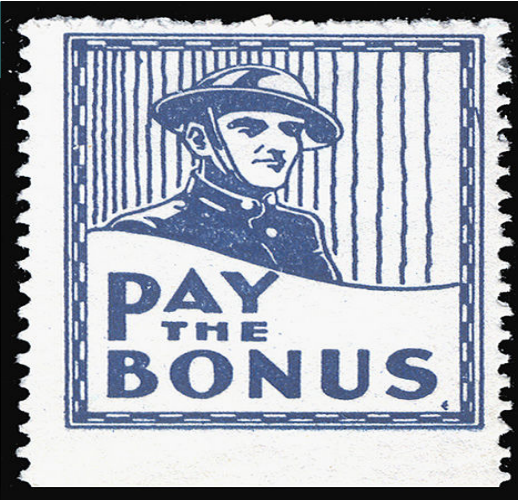
1. Say's it is NOT Government's job to fix the Poor
 - a. Say Churches and other groups should help
 - b. PROBLEM: People too poor to help churches so churches can't help as much!!!

2. People name Poor Places after Hoover
 - Hooverville- Shanty towns





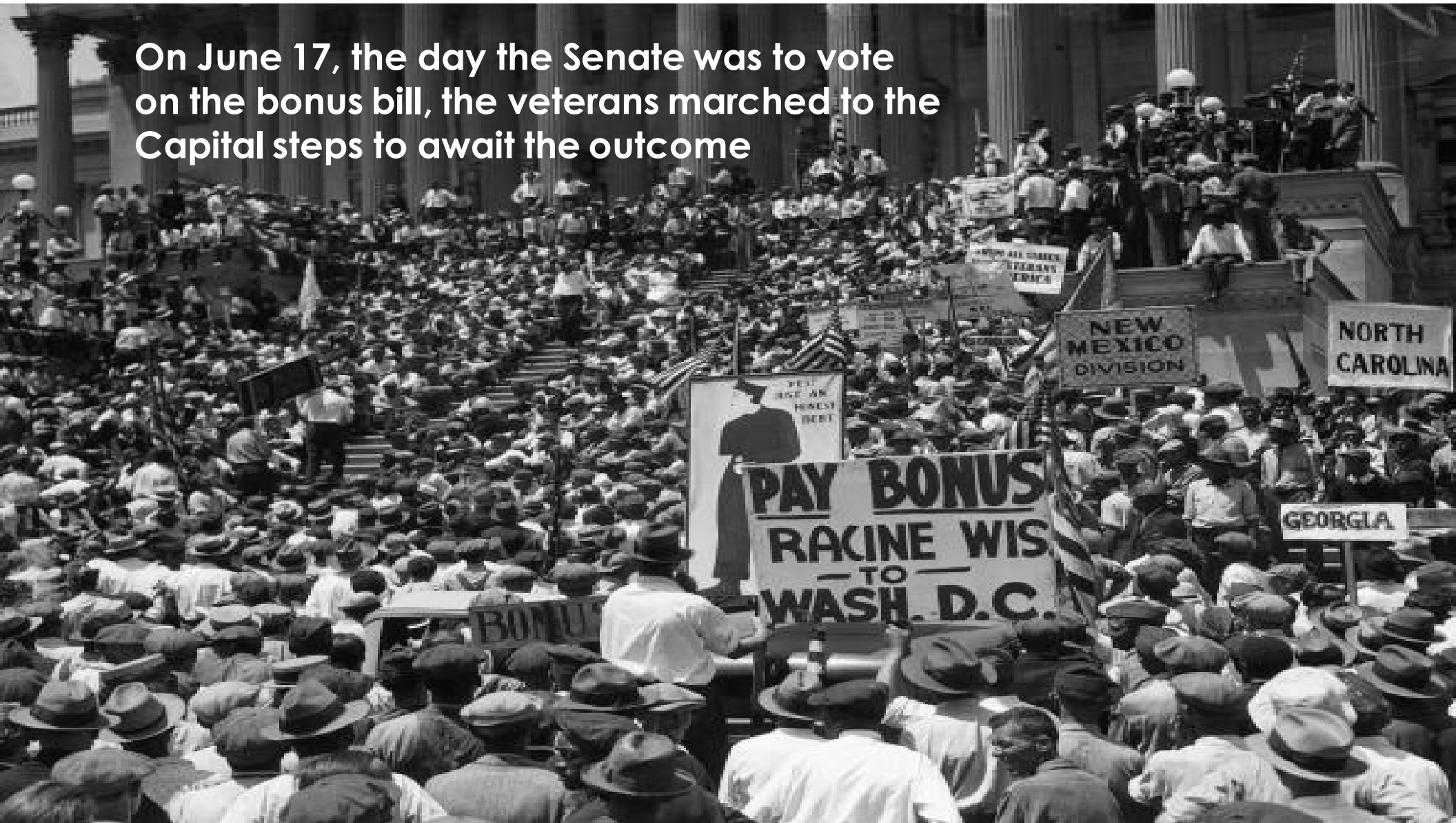




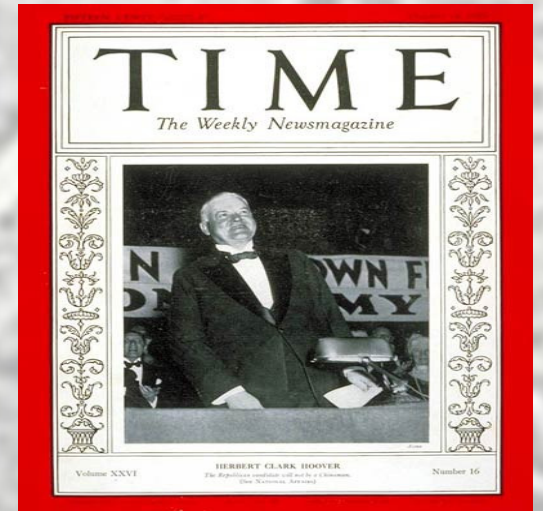
In 1932, an unemployed WWI veteran, Walter Waters persuaded a group of former soldiers to protest for a payment of a long-promised bonus to WWI veterans.

Congress had promised to pay \$1 for every day they served, plus \$0.25 for every day spent overseas but the catch was they would not be paid until 1945.

On June 17, the day the Senate was to vote on the bonus bill, the veterans marched to the Capital steps to await the outcome







How did
President Hoover
respond to the
Bonus Army?

He used force to disband the Bonus Army. 2 died, one
an infant and hundreds injured.


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNOsIB5VMSQ>

Bonus Army: US military attacks demonstrating American War Veterans



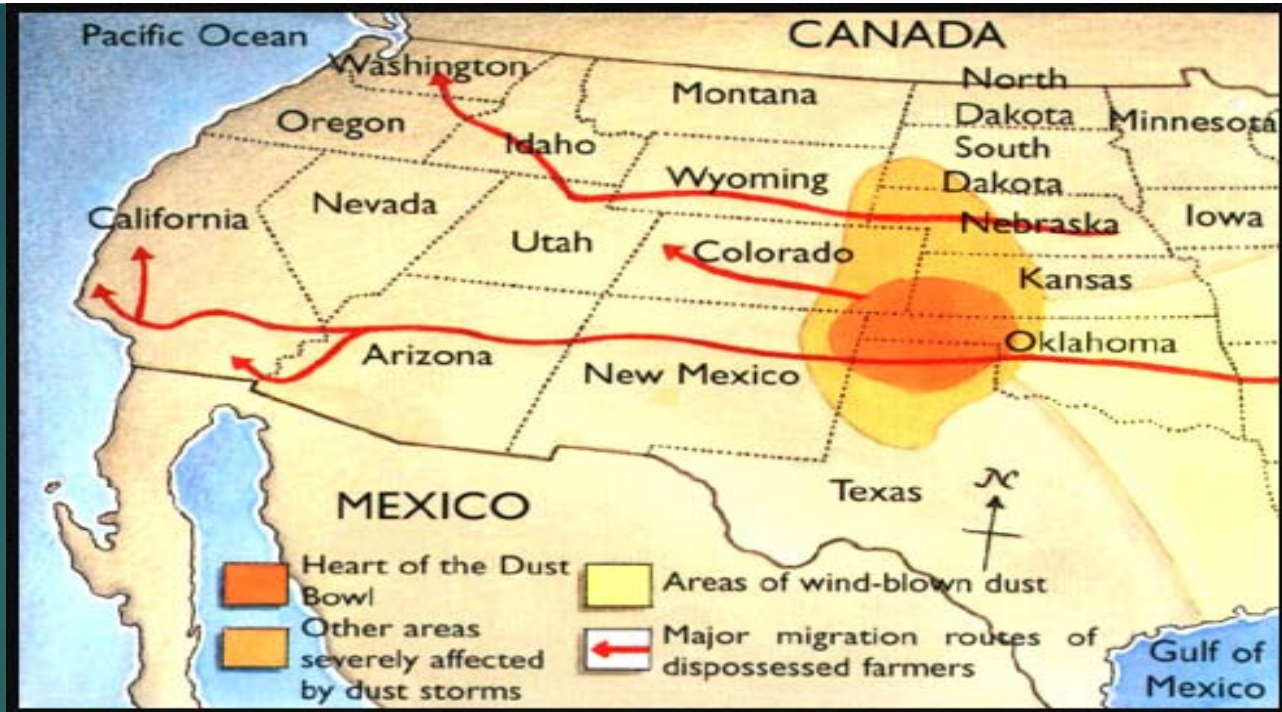
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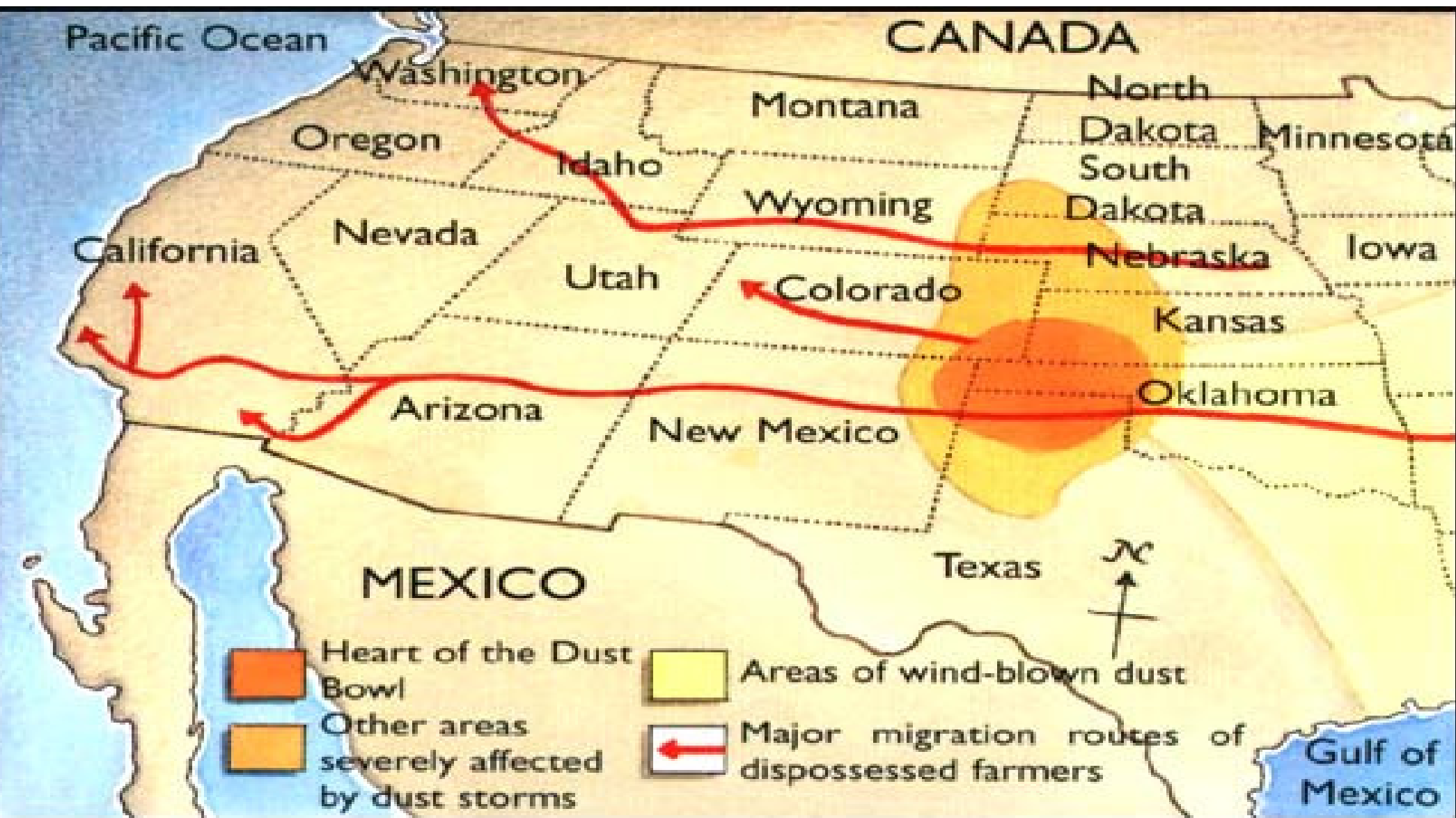


The Dust Bowl

The Dust Bowl



- ▶ In 1932, a terrible drought hit the Great Plains (the Dakotas to Texas) and the soil dried to dust. Winds picked up this dust and when it settled, it buried crops, livestock, and farmhouses like snow
- ▶ Many farmers, unable to harvest anything, were forced to turn their land over to the bank







New Dust Storms Threaten to Turn Land Into Desert

KANSAS CITY, March 26 (UP) — A second dust storm blasted the region today under conditions that are more threatening than those of the first storm.

DUST DAMAGE SENDS FARMERS FIGHTING TO STOP LOSSES BY DUST STORMS

RAIN IN TWO WEEKS, OR CROP IN DUST BOWL WILL BE TOTAL LOSS, FARM EXPERTS ASSERT

DUST STORMS RAGE FROM KANSAS WEST FAR AS CALIFORNIA

Worst of Year in 'Nation's Bread Basket' Church Services Halted; Second in Two Days Blackens Skies at Guymon, Okla.

Sun Blotted Out at Ponca City; Haze Spreads

BLACK GALE AGAIN HOWLS IN SOUTHWEST

Storm Brings Suffering to Hard-Stricken Section

Man and Beast Forced to Refuge in Built-Up Area

LEGISLATION NECESSARY IN FIGHTING DUST

This storm is the worst yet seen in the region.

FLYING THRU DUST BOWL WORSE THAN BUCKING BLIZZARDS, SAYS MERNDON, FAMOUS PILOT

Black Blizzard Sweeping East

Kansas, Oklahoma Panhandle and Northwest Tip of Are Hit

Two Planes Make Forced Landings As Black Blizzard Hides Airport

Two airplanes were forced to land at an emergency field eight miles south of the municipal airport Tuesday afternoon when they were caught in a sudden dust storm that reduced the visibility at the airport to "zero."

THREE YEAR OLD BENSON BOY SURVIVES ALMOST 20 HOURS IN RAGING DUST STORM AND COLD

Little three year old boy of Two Butte survives almost 20 hours in the dust storm today, after he had been in the storm of Sunday afternoon and Monday morning.

Little Steven Benson Jr., walked home Monday morning after he had been in the storm Sunday afternoon.

PRAIRIE CENTER TO PRAY FOR MOISTURE


Dust-Bowl Community Says Plea Was Answered Last Year, to Try Again

VICTIM OF DUST STORM RELEASED FROM HOSPITAL

The reasons are: wife, year-old son, daughter, N.

The Dust Storm Halts Colorado Traffic

make weather regulatory to its regular flight Denver, Ed Nollen, manager

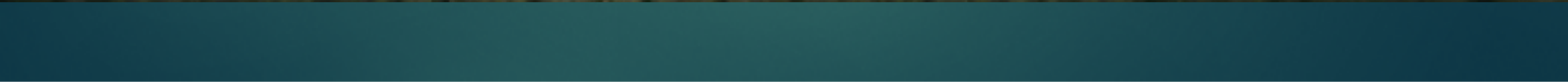


On the fourteenth day of April of nineteen thirty five,
There struck the worst of dust storms that ever filled the sky:
You could see that dust storm coming, the cloud looked deathlike black,
And through our mighty nation, it left a dreadful track...
This storm took place at sundown and lasted through the night,
When we looked out this morning we saw a terrible sight:
We saw outside our windows where wheat fields they had grown
Was now a rippling ocean of dust the wind had blown.
It covered up our fences, it covered up our barns,
It covered up our tractors in this wild and windy storm.
We loaded our jalopies and piled our families in,
We rattled down the highway to never come back again.

(Woody Guthrie, from "Dust Storm Disaster")

Dust storm, downtown Alma, Nebraska. *Nebraska State Historical Society*









<http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/dustbowl/educators/lesson-plans/>

Bonus Army: US military at x The Century: America's Tr... Lesson Plans | THE DUS Aeries.Net

← → ↻ www.pbs.org/kenburns/dustbowl/educators/lesson-plans/ 🔍 ☆ ☰

 [Lesson Plan pdf](#)

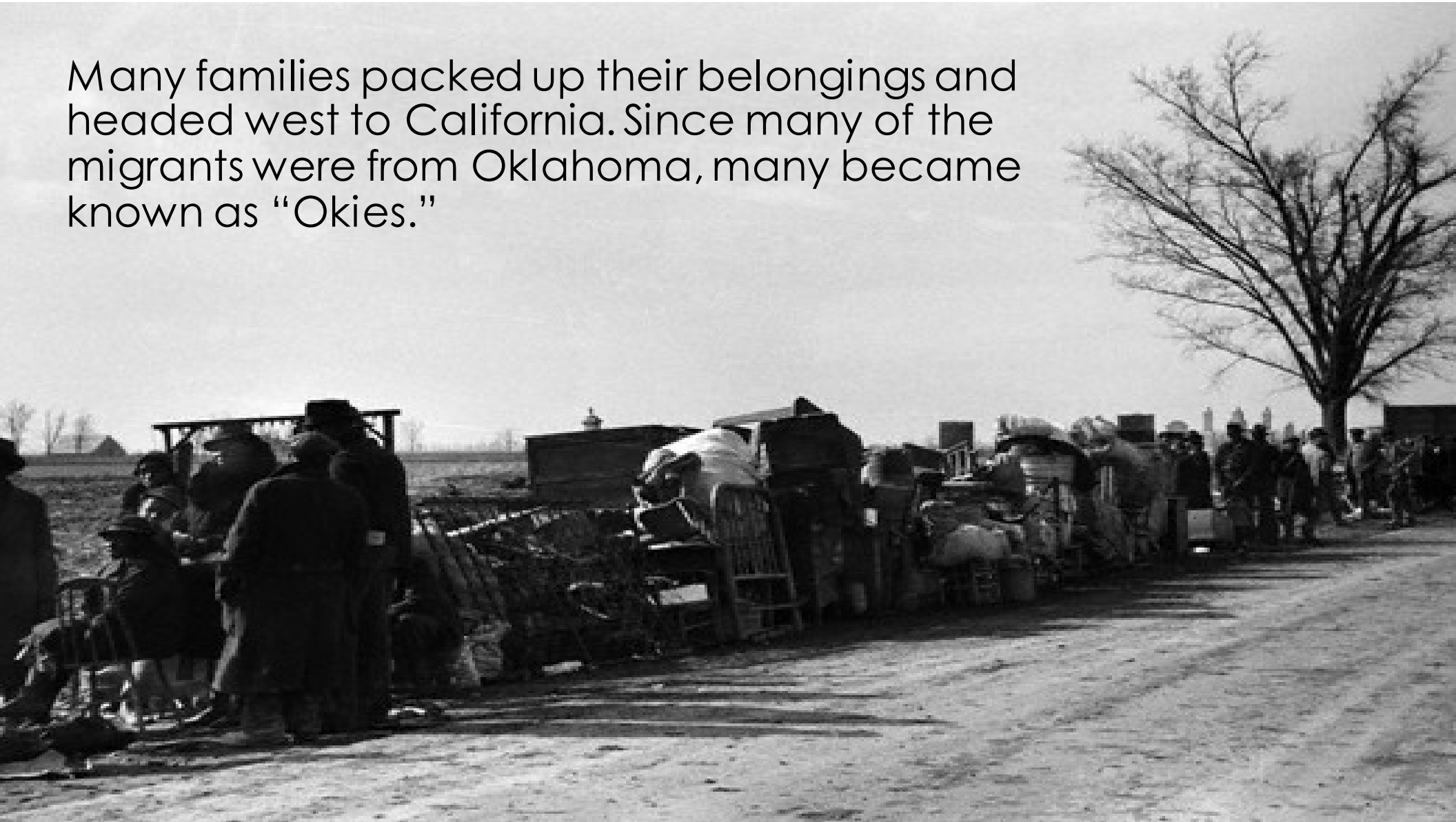


Videos:

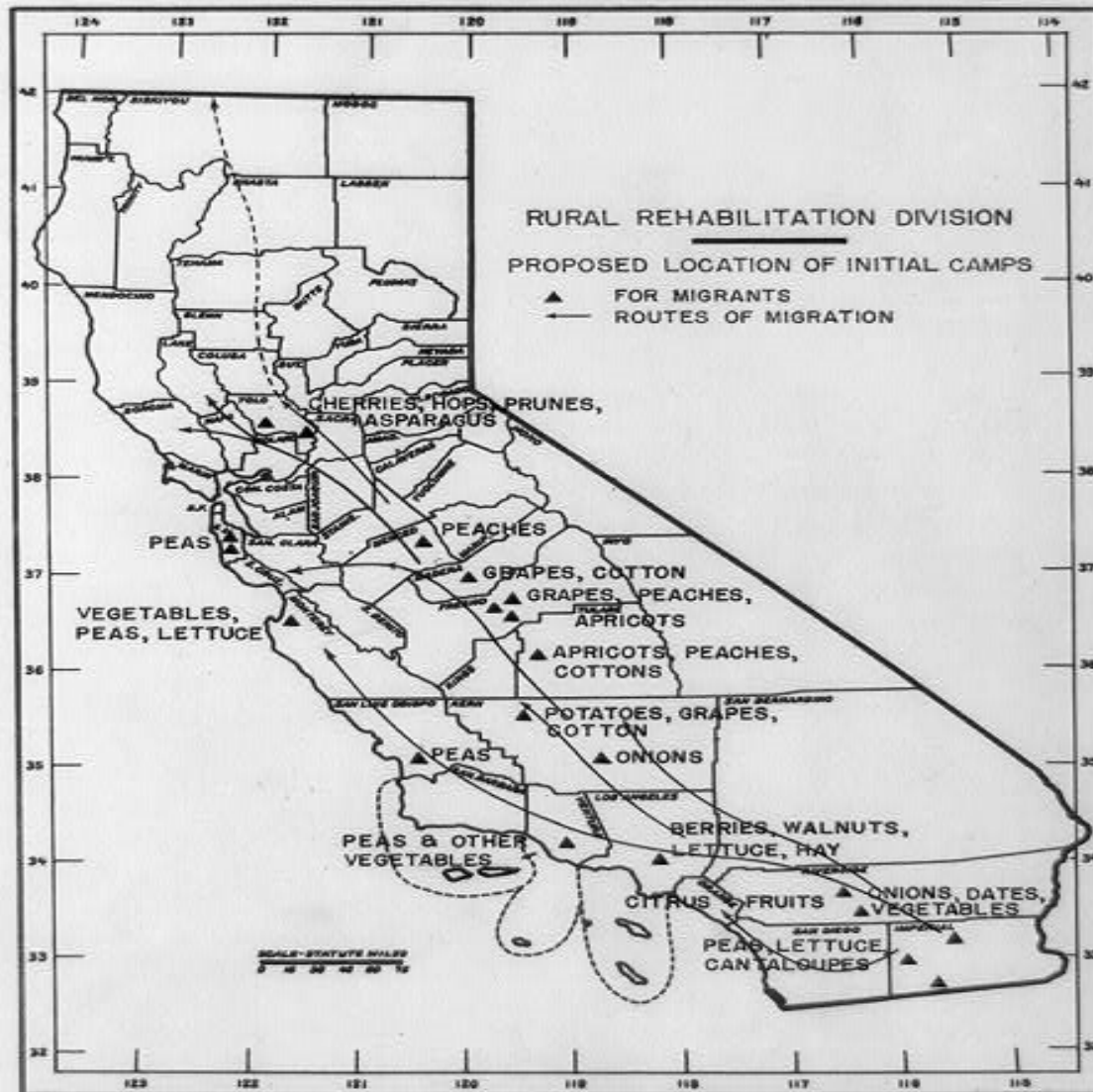
- Intro
- Recollections
- Boom Time
- Modern Machinery
- Environmental Catastrophe

Windows taskbar: File Explorer, Word, PowerPoint, Music, Chrome. System tray: 09:41 AM, 1/27/2016.

Many families packed up their belongings and headed west to California. Since many of the migrants were from Oklahoma, many became known as "Okies."



CALIFORNIA



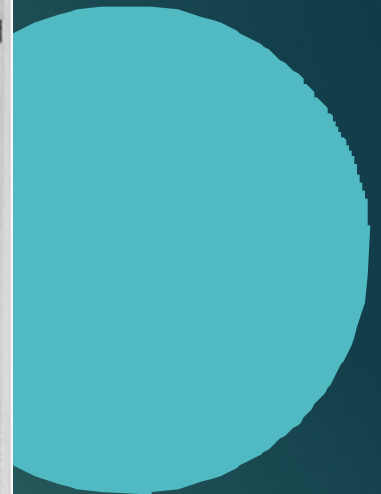
RURAL REHABILITATION DIVISION

PROPOSED LOCATION OF INITIAL CAMPS

- ▲ FOR MIGRANTS
- ROUTES OF MIGRATION



More Oklahomans reach Calif. via the cotton fields of Ariz.



Okies



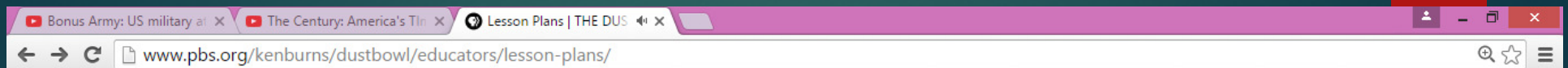


**JOBLESS MEN
KEEP GOING
WE CAN'T TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE**

ME
41100



<http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/dustbowl/educators/lesson-plans/>



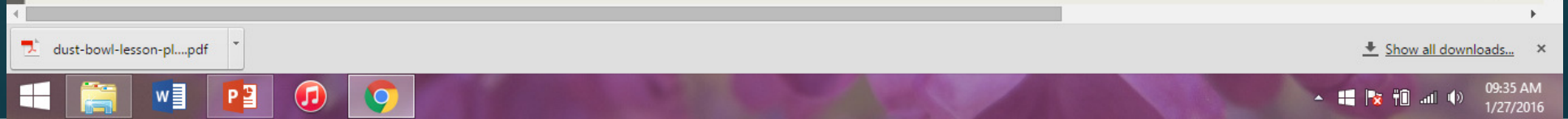
For more on Woody Guthrie please visit the [Grammy Museum's online teacher resources](#).



Videos:

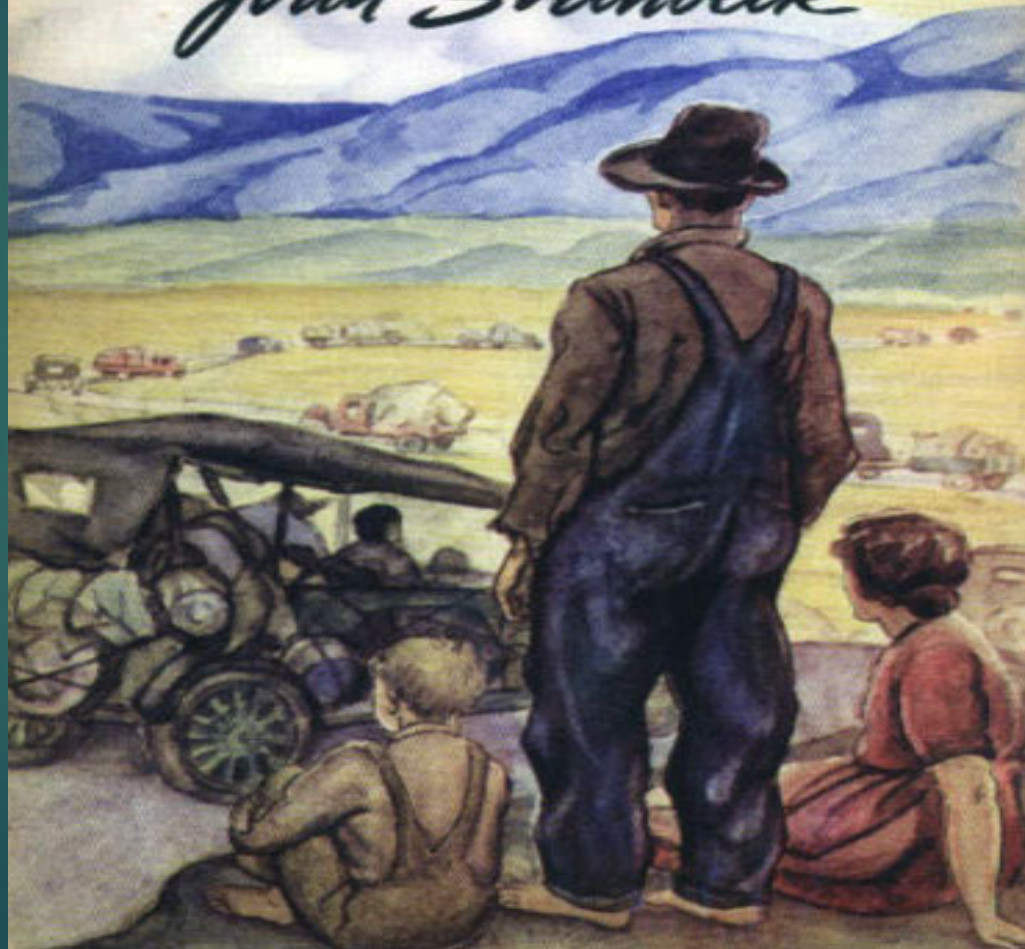
Okies

Woody Guthrie



THE
GRAPES of WRATH

John Steinbeck





How did ordinary Americans endure the hardships of the Great Depression?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSfzFWU5LbY> @ 12:00

The Century: America's Time - 1929-1936: Stormy Weather



13:51 / 44:59

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ENTERTAINMENT

Escape Through Entertainment

- during an average week, between 60 million and 90 million people flocked to the movies

Gone with the Wind became an instant success and held the record of highest-grossing film for twenty-five years and, adjusted for inflation, has earned more than any other film.



The Golden Age of Radio

- More than 10 million households owned radios in 1929; that number tripled in the next decade.
- Daytime radio included soap operas, panel discussions, and quiz shows. In the afternoons, children's programs came on.



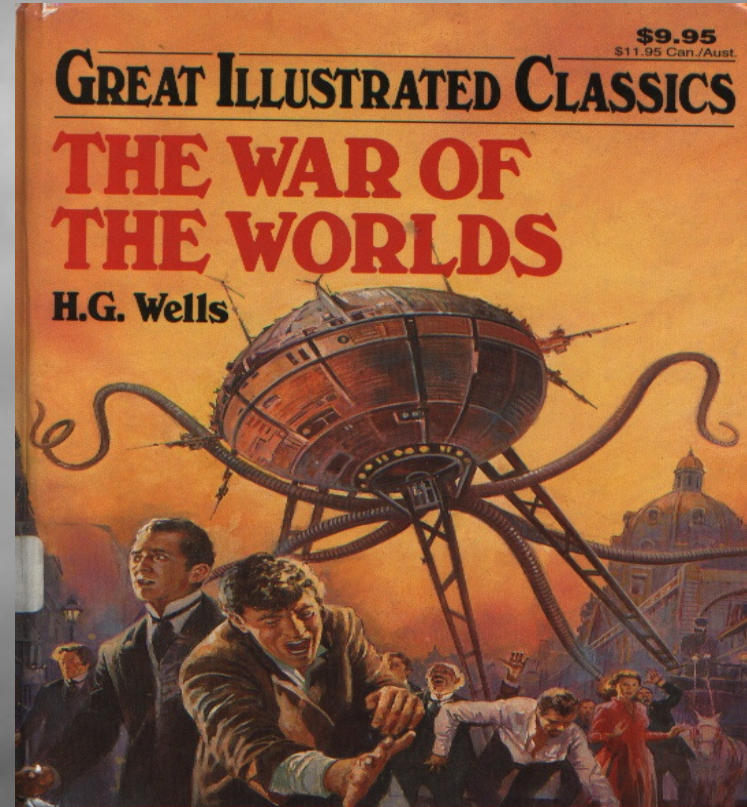
Orson Welles



The show began on Sunday, October 30, at 8 p.m

Sunday evening in 1938 was prime-time in the golden age of radio, and millions of Americans had their radios turned on. But most of these Americans were listening to ventriloquist Edgar Bergen and his dummy "Charlie McCarthy" on NBC and only turned to CBS at 8:12 p.m. after the comedy sketch ended

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CireKtEi4dM>





























FINAL Herald Examiner
MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1938
2 CENTS

RADIO FAKE SCARES NATION



The original broadcast that panicked the nation!

ORSON WELLES'

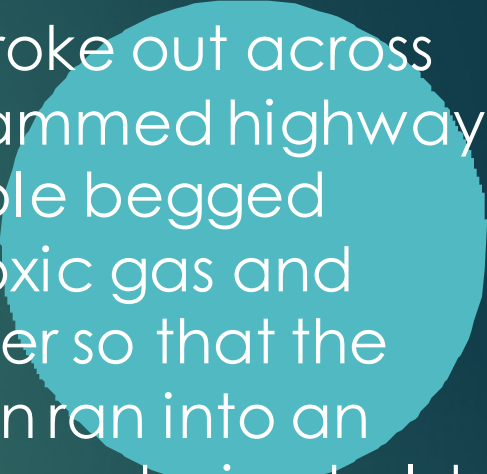

WAR OF THE WORLDS

The Actual Broadcast by The Mercury Theatre on the Air as heard over the Columbia Broadcasting System, October 30, 1938.

The most thrilling drama ever broadcast from the famed HOWARD KOCH script!

FAKE RADIO 'WAR STIRS TERROR THROUGH U.S.'

An authentic first edition... never before released! Critics praise a dramatic word cast Script by Howard Koch from the famous H. G. Wells novel... featuring the most famous performance from The Mercury Theatre On The Air!



Perhaps as many as a million radio listeners believed that a real Martian invasion was underway. Panic broke out across the country. In New Jersey, terrified civilians jammed highways seeking to escape the alien marauders. People begged police for gas masks to save them from the toxic gas and asked electric companies to turn off the power so that the Martians wouldn't see their lights. One woman ran into an Indianapolis church where evening services were being held and yelled, "New York has been destroyed! It's the end of the world! Go home and prepare to die!"





Orson Welles



UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL

NEW YORK, N. Y.

**RADIO STATION'S
"ATTACK BY MARS"
PANICS THOUSANDS**

— Graham McNamee —