

Name: _____

Date: _____

Opposition to the New Deal

Some conservatives felt that the New Deal went too far. They feared and opposed the growth of the federal government and questioned how it would pay for all the new programs. Others felt that the New Deal did not go far enough to help Americans.

One vocal critic of Roosevelt who felt that it did not do enough to help was Louisiana senator Huey Long, nicknamed Kingfish. Long declared, "Unless we provide for the redistribution of wealth in this country, the country is doomed." Long's motives, however, were far from noble. For years, he had ruled his state like a dictator – attacking FDR was a way to increase his own power, as he hoped to one day become president himself.

Long offered a solution more radical than the New Deal – he called it "Share Our Wealth." It guaranteed each family a yearly income, money to buy a home, free education and low cost food. To pay for this plan, the wealthy would be taxed heavily. Many people supported Long's plan and supporters of FDR began to worry as Long stepped up his attacks on the New Deal. In his climb to power, however, Long made one too many enemies and one of his enemies shot and killed him in September 1935.



1. Why did people oppose FDR's New Deal? _____

2. Who was Huey Long? _____

3. What was Long's plan to relieve the US of the Great Depression? _____

4. Why might people support Long's plan over the New Deal? _____
