



YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

US History and Government
Regents Review

FDR's Court Packing

FDR's Court-Packing Plan

Supreme Court opposition to FDR's programs continued with the Court consistently vetoing New Deal legislation. Franklin Roosevelt asked Congress to approve a law that would permit the President to increase the number of judges from nine to fifteen if the judges refused to retire at the age of 70.

The Judicial Reorganization Bill—or the “court-packing” plan, as its opponents called it—was intended to make the Supreme Court approve the New Deal laws. It never became law because it was a threat to the separation of powers.



Name: _____

- 1) President Franklin D. Roosevelt's proposal to add additional justices to the Supreme Court was seen by his opponents as a threat to the
 - 1) system of checks and balances
 - 2) two-party political system
 - 3) power of the executive branch
 - 4) principle of federalism

- 2) President Franklin D. Roosevelt's response to Supreme Court decisions that declared several New Deal laws unconstitutional was to
 - 1) propose legislation to increase the size of the Court
 - 2) ignore the Court's rulings
 - 3) demand the resignation of several justices
 - 4) ask Congress to limit the Court's jurisdiction

- 3) President Franklin D. Roosevelt's plan to increase the size of the Supreme Court reflected his desire to make the Court
 - 1) sympathetic to New Deal programs
 - 2) committed to African-American rights
 - 3) independent of Congress
 - 4) responsive to business

- 4) During the New Deal period, Congress blocked President Franklin D. Roosevelt's attempt to
 - 1) regulate the banking industry
 - 2) decrease Federal spending
 - 3) appoint additional justices to the Supreme Court
 - 4) pay farmers not to produce crops

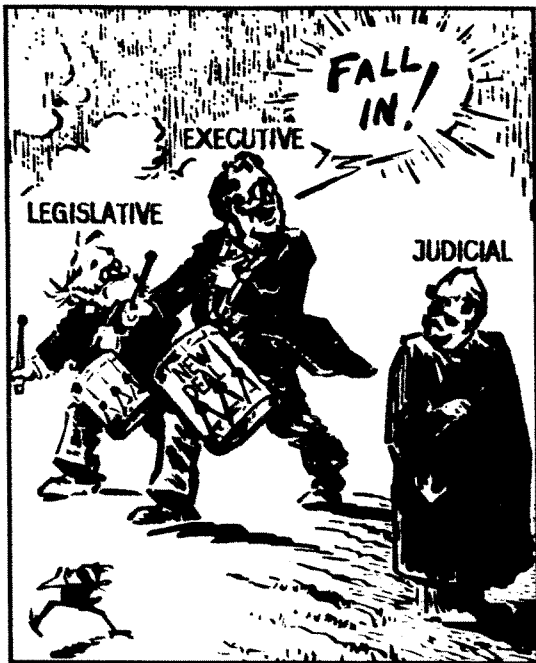
5)



How was the situation illustrated in the cartoon above resolved?

- 1) Congress rejected the president's plan to pack the Supreme Court.
- 2) The United States entered World War II after the attack on Pearl Harbor.
- 3) The president vetoed Congress's attempt to reform the judiciary system.
- 4) The Supreme Court used its power of judicial review.

Questions 6 and 7 refer to the following:



Seibel Richmond Times Dispatch

- 6) To try to correct the problem shown in the cartoon above, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proposed
- 1) reducing the Supreme Court's use of judicial review
 - 2) exercising his veto power over Supreme Court decisions
 - 3) increasing the number of justices on the Supreme Court
 - 4) raising the salaries of federal judges
- 7) President Roosevelt's attempt to correct the problem shown in the cartoon above resulted in
- 1) the quick end of New Deal reforms
 - 2) congressional rejection of the president's proposal
 - 3) resignations of several federal judges
 - 4) a decrease in the authority of the Supreme Court
- 8) During President Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration, which situation was viewed by critics as a threat to the principle of separation of powers?
- 1) passage of Social Security legislation
 - 2) changing the date of the Presidential inauguration
 - 3) proposing the expansion of Supreme Court membership
 - 4) congressional support of banking legislation
- 9) The *main* reason President Franklin D. Roosevelt attempted to increase the number of Justices on the United States Supreme Court was to
- 1) speed up the Court's review of cases
 - 2) force the Court to hear cases involving the rights of minorities and women
 - 3) increase the independence of the Court
 - 4) make the Court more supportive of New Deal programs
- 10) President Franklin D. Roosevelt's controversy with the Supreme Court was a result of
- 1) the Court's unwillingness to accept difficult cases
 - 2) his belief that the Court was too liberal in its interpretations
 - 3) the requirement that all judges must retire at age 70
 - 4) the Court's opposition to several New Deal laws

Questions 11 and 12 refer to the following:



Seibel Richmond Times Dispatch

11) Based on the cartoon, which conclusion is valid?

- 1) The judiciary of the 1930's was controlled by the executive.
- 2) The New Deal was a military as well as a political force.
- 3) President Franklin D. Roosevelt strictly followed the concept of checks and balances.
- 4) Congress accepted most of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's plans for dealing with the Depression.

12) President Franklin D. Roosevelt's unhappiness with the governmental situation suggested in the cartoon led him to

- 1) turn over the responsibility for economic recovery to the states
- 2) refuse to be nominated for a third Presidential term
- 3) abandon many of his New Deal economic reforms
- 4) attempt to increase the number of United States Supreme Court justices

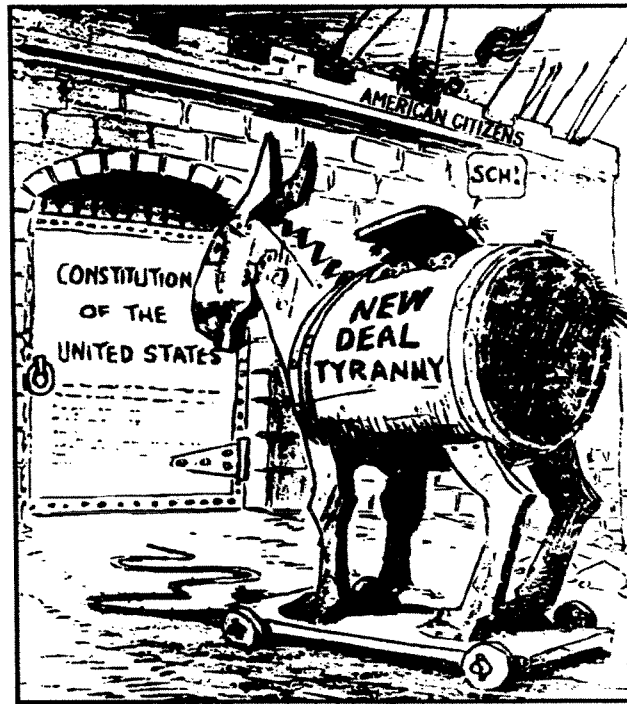
13) During President Franklin D. Roosevelt's first term, what was the *greatest* obstacle to his New Deal programs?

- 1) refusal of Congress to pass most of the bills favored by the President
- 2) decisions of the United States Supreme Court, declaring some legislation unconstitutional
- 3) lack of support from the American voters
- 4) opposition of labor unions

14) An immediate result of the Supreme Court decisions in *Schechter Poultry Corporation v. United States* (1935) and *United States v. Butler* (1936) was that

- 1) Congress was forced to abandon efforts to improve the economy
- 2) some aspects of the New Deal were declared unconstitutional
- 3) the constitutional authority of the President was greatly expanded
- 4) State governments took over relief agencies

15)



Which action by President Franklin D. Roosevelt *best* supports the cartoon's viewpoint?

- 1) proposal of Social Security legislation
- 2) creation of the Tennessee Valley Authority
- 3) entrance into World War II
- 4) proposal to "pack" the Supreme Court