

## Overview of Herbert Hoover

Herbert Hoover was the 31st president of the United States from 1929-1933 and as soon as he took office the Great Depression started. The stock market crash, known as black tuesday, signified that the United States economy was headed toward collapse. However, **Herbert Hoover** didn't recognize the seriousness of the **Great Depression**— the worst economic crisis in U.S. history. He believed in **laissez faire** economics, which is no government regulation or involvement in the economy. As businesses closed and people lost their jobs they recognized Hoover was doing little to help their lives. People started to name items and conditions after Hoover as way to show their frustration with him.

“**Hoovervilles**” became the name of the ghettos and shantytowns where people created their own homes that resembled shacks. Newspapers that homeless people that covered themselves with to keep warm at night were named “**Hoover blankets**”. Some people keep their feet warm by putting cardboard in their ripped and holely shoes. The cardboard people put in their ripped and holely shoes was called “**Hoover leather**”. When people couldn't afford to fix their cars they attached horses to the front to pull them— this was called the “**Hoover automobile**”. The country became discontent (upset/not in favor of) with Hoover and showed it through these disrespectful names.

Hoover did try to help citizens during the Depression. He ordered the construction of the **Hoover Dam**, which provided thousands with jobs during construction and brought electricity to western cities, like Las Vegas and Los Angeles; however, Hoover's effort were too little and too late. By 1933, Hoover lost re election overwhelmingly to Franklin D. Roosevelt. Once **Franklin D. Roosevelt** became president he created his most famous work— the **New Deal**, a set of laws and government actions meant to help people get jobs and fix the economy.

Herbert Hoover	Definition
Great Depression	
Laissez Faire	
Hoovervilles	
Hoover blankets	
Hoover automobile	
Hoover Dam	

