

QUESTION #1

COMPARE AND CONTRAST TRUMAN'S FAIR DEAL WITH
ROOSEVELT'S NEW DEAL.

SUMMARIES

THE NEW DEAL:

The new deal was the plan by FDR to get the country out of the Great Depression. He used the three R's: Relief, Recovery, and Reform, to try to bring back a period of prosperity. During this time period, many new agencies were created and many laws passed trying to help the economy.

THE FAIR DEAL:

Truman's Fair Deal is characterized by the passing of few bills and the creation of few new agencies. Although Truman's goals were quite ambitious, Congress prevented most bills from passing. Truman's Fair Deal had to then focus on the expansion of social security and other programs created by FDR in the New Deal.

COMPARE

Building on Roosevelt's New Deal, Truman believed that the federal government should guarantee economic opportunity and social stability, and he struggled to achieve those ends in the face of fierce political opposition from conservative legislators determined to reduce the role of government. The Fair Deal was a plan to continue the social benefits found in the New Deal, such as social security, conservation, implementing rent controls, and providing housing to low-income families.

CONTRAST

While the New Deal had focused on the economy, the Fair deal focused on social issues such as universal health care and civil rights, most of which would not pass through the Republican legislature. Some of the most important Fair Deal laws to pass were the Employment Act of 1946 and 1949 National Housing Act. Under Truman the minimum wage was raised from 40 to 75 cents an hour. The New Deal succeeded in getting America back to work while the Fair Deal created better working conditions and pay.

FAIR DEAL SUCCESS

The Fair Deal, despite mixed legislative support and success, was a definite marker for a new stage in the history of modern liberalism in the United States. Although not much of it was passed and made law, the Fair Deal established the call for universal healthcare that would be heard around the world for years to come.