



Congressman Albert Thomas, 1940.

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Hard At Work

Once elected, the freshman congressman found a hefty job before him. The Great Depression had weakened the American economy and wrecked the global one. To combat rising joblessness President Franklin D. Roosevelt had created several New Deal programs to put Americans back to work and money in their pocket such as the Works Progress Administration, the Public Works Administration, and the Civilian Conservation Corps.

The newly elected congressman's efforts revolved around procuring federal projects and funding to reinvigorate the local economy. Thomas found his mailbox filled with mail from Houston and Harris County Officials proclaiming their need for funding or his assistance in dealing with federal officials.