

Depression: The Great
Dust
Bowl

Objective

- By the end of the lesson, SWBAT describe what affect the stock market had on farmers.
- By the end of the lesson, SWBAT describe how devastating the Dust Bowl was for farmers.

Vocabulary

- Dust Bowl - The area in the southern Midwest where farm land was destroyed by a drought and the depression.
- Drought - A period of time without rain.
- Migration - The movement of people from one place to another place

Review

- What caused the Great Depression?
- What happened to people during the Great Depression?
- What are soup kitchens?
- What are Hoovervilles?

Great Depression in the Cities

- As we discussed, the Great Depression in the cities was horrible because many factories and businesses closed leaving people unemployed.



The Great Depression for Farmers.

- The Great Depression didn't just hurt people in the big cities, it also hurt farmers.
- Why would the Great Depression hurt farmers?

The Great Depression and Farmers

- Farmers were hurt by the Great Depression because they were not able to sell as many crops because there weren't as many people to buy them.
- Before the Great Depression farmers were rich because they grew crops for people in America and also extra crops for the soldiers fighting in World War I.
 - The Farmers lost a lot of money because the **demand** for their crop was lower and no one could afford food!

Farmers and the G.D.

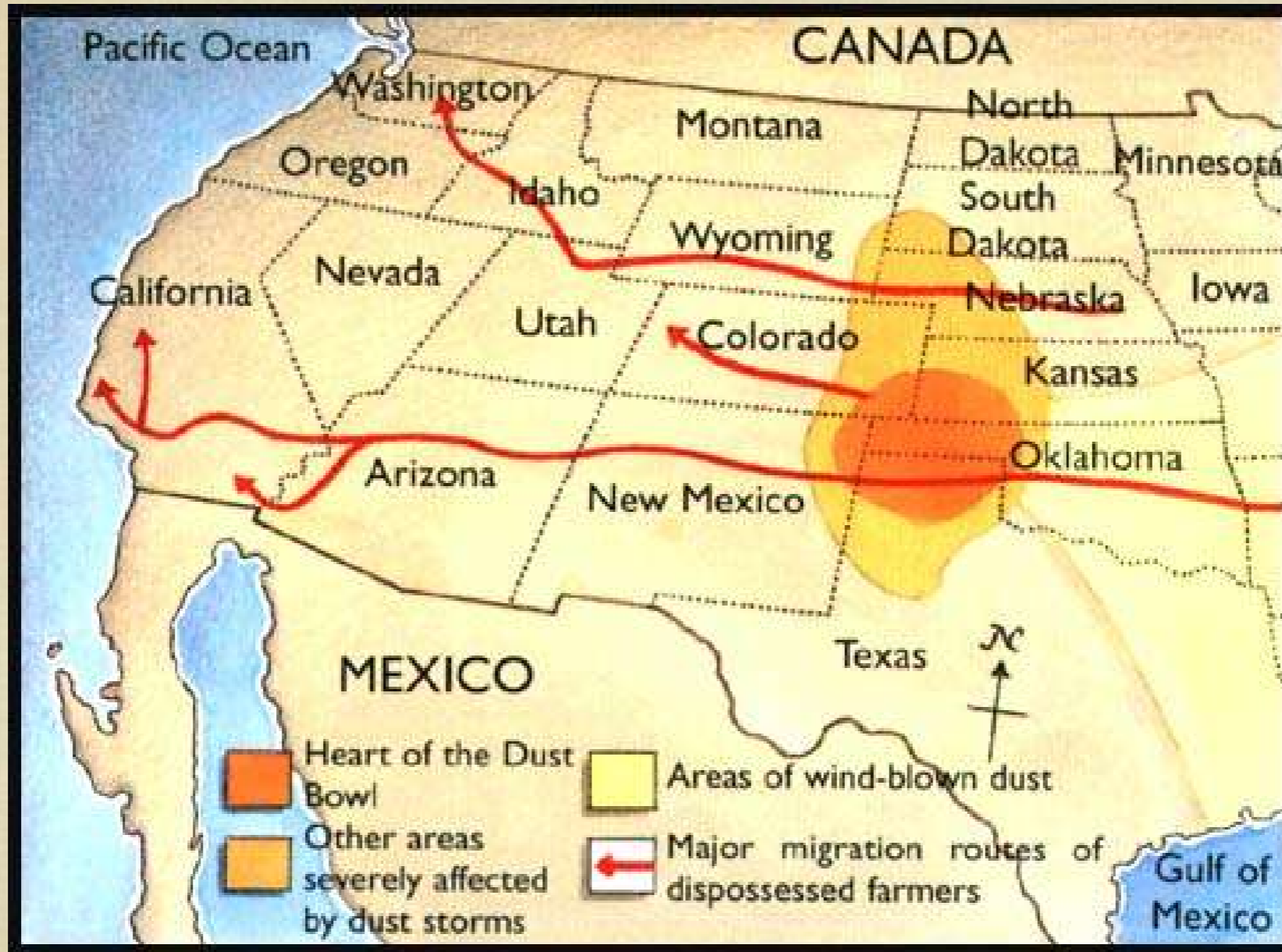
- Many farmers could not sell enough food to support their families.
- Farmers suffered during the Great Depression.
- Many farmers had to abandon their farms to look for a better life.



Great Depression and Farms

- On top of the demand for their crops going down, Farmers in the Southern Midwest also had to deal with a drought.
- With no rain, crops were not able to grow.
- The soil (dirt) turned to dust. Nothing grew.
- Without Crops what happens to the farmers that live there?

Dust Bowl Location



Dust Bowl

- The Dust Bowl was also really bad because of the way the farmers had treated the land throughout the years.
- It had been farmed over and over again, and pretty soon the top soil disappeared.
- Without that top soil, there was nothing to stop the dirt from kicking up and blowing everywhere!

Dust Bowl - Black Blizzard



Sunday April 14, 1935

Dust Clouds Rolling Over The Prairies
Storall Studio Dodge City, Kansas # 5

Dust Bowl



Is this farmer going to have success? Why or why not?

Dust Bowl



How do these people look healthy?

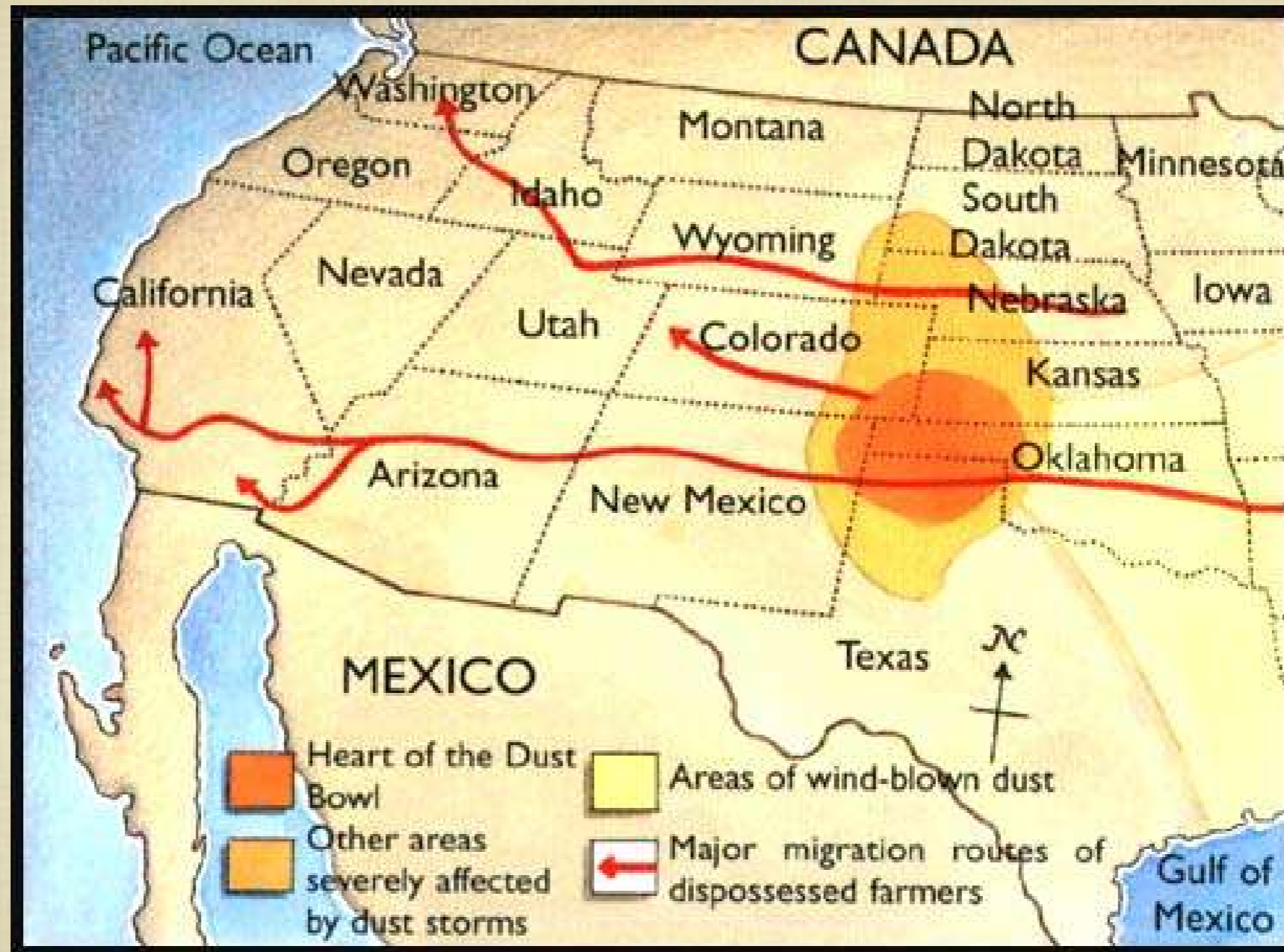
Dust Bowl

- People that lived in the Dust Bowl had no food, and had no way to make money.
- If you were a farmer in the dust bowl what would you do to help your family?

Dust Bowl

- Many families migrated to California where they hoped they would be able to pick fruit and work on California's fertile fields.
- Families packed up everything; hoping for a better life.

Migration Route



Pack 'em Up!



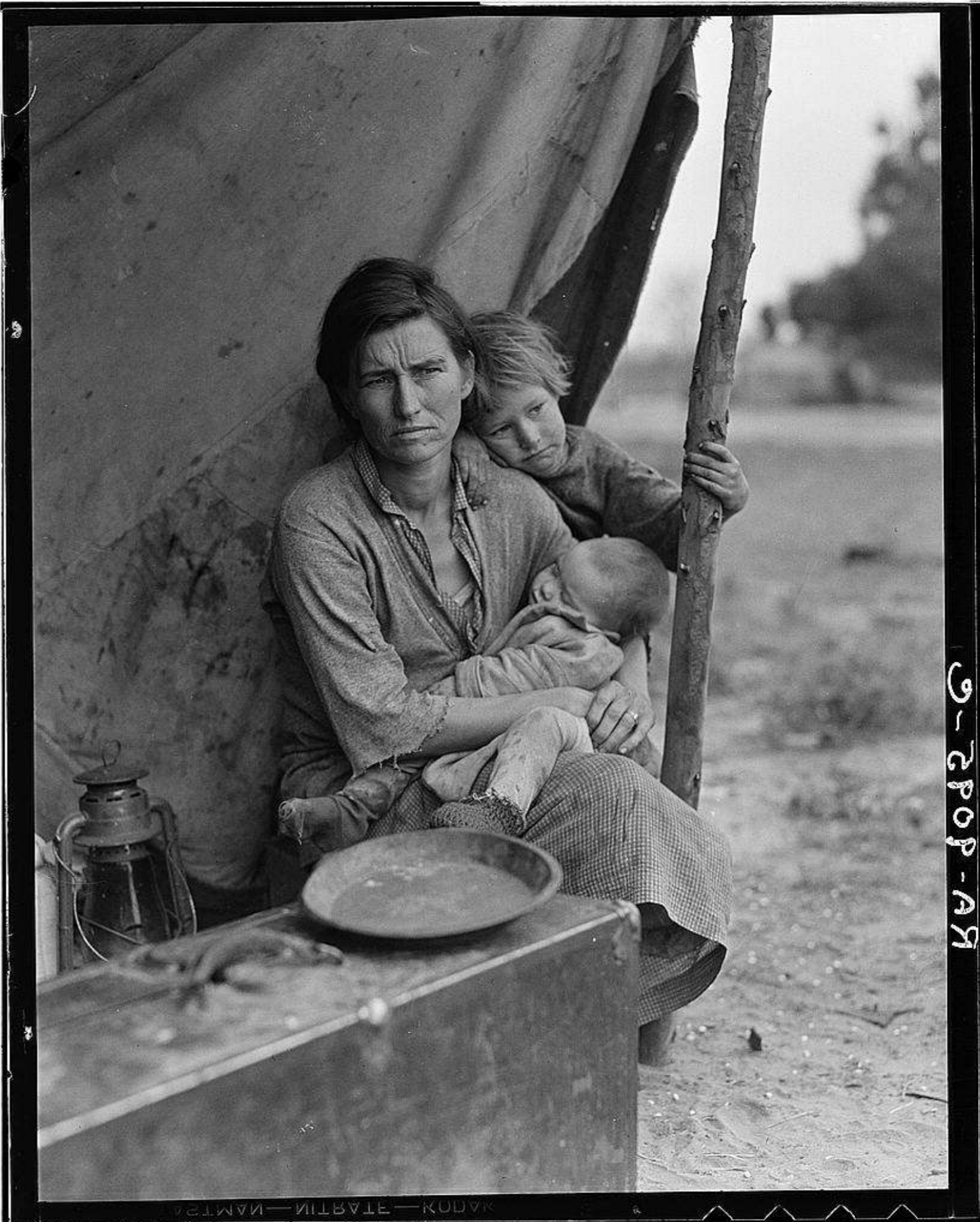
Mexican Oklahomans reach Calif. via the cotton fields of Ariz.

Life in California

- When the migrants got to California, they quickly realized life was not any better there.
- The cities were suffering from the Great Depression.
- The farms were owned by big companies and no one wanted to hire the migrant farmers that came from the Dust Bowl.



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Conclusion

- The Great Depression hit farmers really hard
- The dust bowl and the Great Depression together created the perfect storm of destruction and poverty
- People living in the Dust Bowl migrated to California hoping for a better life that did not come true.