

It's in the "Scrip"

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Materials needed:

- Pencil

The Stock Market Crash of 1929 caused thousands of people to lose their investments and billions of dollars. This period of time is known as the Great Depression. Many people were unemployed and had little confidence in financial institutions. Banks closed, causing a shortage of cash. Because of the shortage of cash, businesses such as Sea Island Company paid their employees in "scrip." Scrip was a type of currency that could only be used at local stores. People used scrip to buy things they needed.



Activity 1

- Using the photographs above from the timeline at the World War II Home Front Museum, create a drawing and/or write a paragraph to describe scrip and what it is used for.
- What are some ways you think you might get food and other supplies without money?

Activity 2

- Imagine that you owned a business during World War II and had to pay your employees in scrip. Write a few sentences about your business, and then design a unique type of scrip for your business.
- What would you name the scrip you designed? (Use any term except scrip.)

Activity 3

- Write a letter to a friend or family member describing your business, and your decision to pay your employees using scrip. Include in your letter why you were unable to pay your employees the regular way, the purpose of the scrip, and what it could be used for.