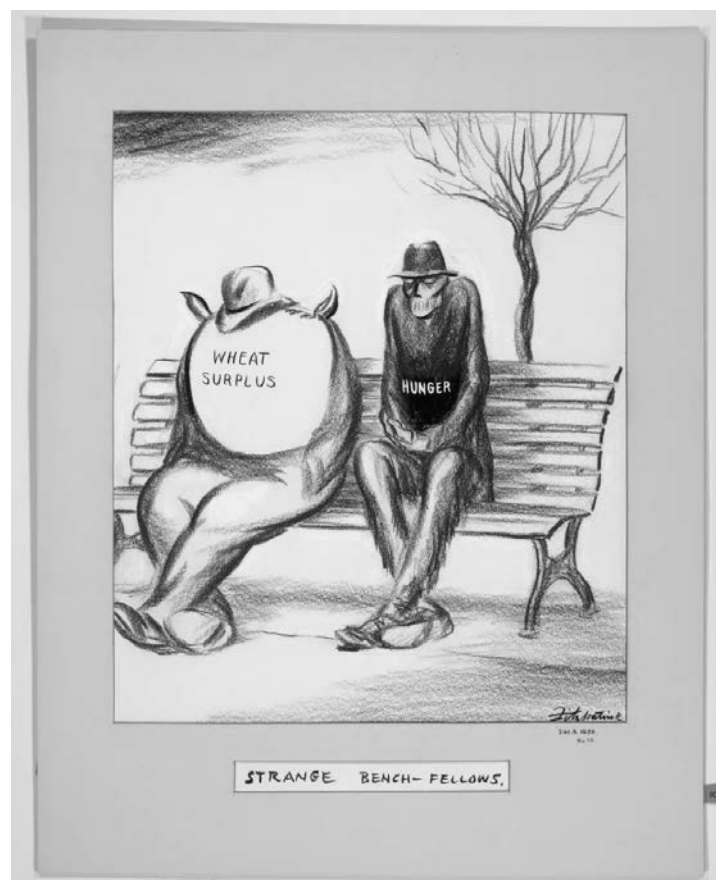


TEACHER'S GUIDE
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MISSION 5: "Up from the Dust"

Wheat Surplus Political Cartoon

In the early years of the Great Depression, wheat farmers in the U.S. generated more wheat than was needed. A greater supply, however, led to lower demand for the crop, and the price of wheat dropped. Fearing an economic collapse in agriculture, the federal government withheld wheat shipments and encouraged farmers to grow less wheat. For those in urban centers who were unemployed and hungry, refusing shipments of food seemed unimaginable. This 1930 cartoon highlights the contrast between a surplus of wheat and an increase in hunger.



Source: Daniel Robert Fitzpatrick, "Strange Bench Fellows," *St. Louis Dispatch*, 1930.
<http://shsmo-tc1.missouri.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/ec/id/11468/rec/35> Fitzpatrick, Daniel Robert, 1891-1969 The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* Editorial Cartoon Collection.
