

Presidential Progressivism

American History Honors
(brief overview)

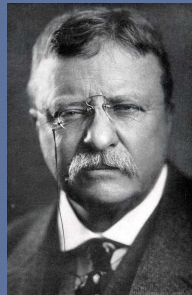


Where are we in history?

- We will skip over President McKinley for now... his presidency will be covered in the 2nd half of the unit on foreign affairs
- The origins of this progressive movement will be covered by our lab activity next class
- Basic Ideas:
 - Address political, social and economic problems using government
 - Finally tackle the "problems of the Gilded Age"

Theodore Roosevelt

- Brief biography
- Political career
- VP nomination in 1900
- McKinley assassinated 1901



Progressive Agenda

- The Square Deal – campaign message in 1904
- The 3 C's:



C # 1: Control of Corporations

- View of trusts
- 1902 Anthracite Coal Mine Strike → settled by arbitration
- Elkins & Hepburn Acts → regulate railroads; finally enforce ICC
- TR the "Trustbuster"
 - Finally enforced Sherman Anti-Trust Act
 - Went against "bad trusts"
 - 1904 *Northern Securities* case began the campaign

C # 2: Consumer Protection

- Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*
- Pure Food and Drug Act
- Meat Inspection Act

C # 3: Conservation

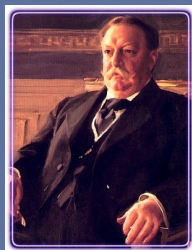
- National Parks
- Newlands Reclamation Act of 1902 (discussed in last unit)

Political Issues

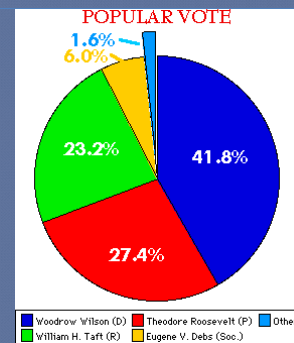
- Brief 1907 “Roosevelt Panic”
- Signs 1908 Alrich-Vreeland Act which allows emergency national currency (forerunner to today’s federal reserve)

William Howard Taft

- TR’s handpicked successor in 1908
- Only progressive legacy: 90 trusts in 4 years
- Splits the Republican Party:
 - Signs a higher tariff (Payne-Aldrich)
 - Fires Gifford Pinchot

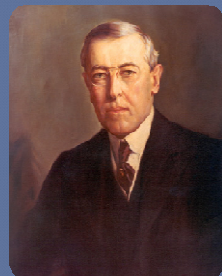


Election of 1912



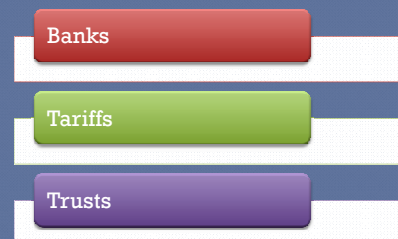
Woodrow Wilson

- The Professor
- More pro-labor and anti-trust
- New style of leadership: goes to the people!



Progressive Agenda

- New Freedom: To end the “Triple wall of privilege”



Wall # 1: Banking Reform

- Federal Reserve System (today's system)
 - 12 Federal Reserve Banks, example:

Wall # 2: Tariffs

- Tariff lowered – Underwood Act
- 16th Amendment allows for a federal income tax (Remember the Populists?)

Wall # 3: Trusts

- Stronger Anti-Trust Law: The Clayton Anti-Trust Act
- Created the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to regulate big business

Civil Rights?

- Already discussed Booker T. Washington vs. W.E.B. Du Bois
- TR allowed African-Americans in civil service, but did not support civil rights
- NAACP formed in 1910 by Du Bois
- Wilson won NAACP support in 1912 campaign, then shied away
- Opposed anti-lynching law
- Why did progressives not effectively address civil rights in this era?

Women's Suffrage

- Movement growing since late 1800s
- Grass roots movement
- Recovered from movement split of Margaret Sanger and Alice Paul
- New NAWSA leader: Carrie Chapman Catt
- Women's participation in World War I → 19th Amendment