

Chapter 19: Progressive Politicians

It's been a while since we've been here and talked about this.
Here's some refresher questions.

1. What is a political machine?
2. What does it mean to be a PROGRESSIVE politician?

Section 1: Reforming Government

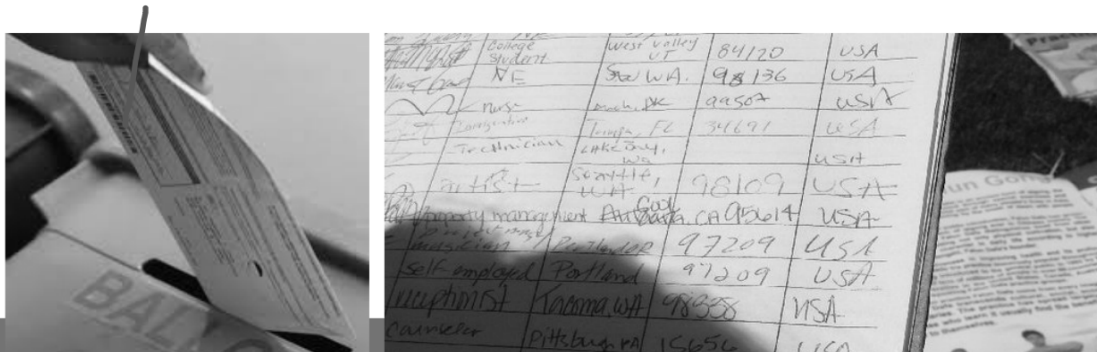
Government Corruption

- Political machines controlled politics
- Cared more for companies or people that helped them out
- Expected big gifts or \$
- US Senate: "Millionaire's Club"; many took bribes for votes



Election Reforms

- Direct Primary: voters choose candidates for office instead of the parties (by 1916 most states used this)
- 17th Amendment to Constitution: voters chose Senators directly; before each state's Congress did it instead
- Secret ballot was created; NO MORE COLORED BALLOTS
- **Initiative:** voters could "initiate" or start laws themselves
- **Referendum:** voters decide whether to keep a law or not
- **Recall:** voters can choose to remove a politician



Reforming City Government

- National push to put "good-government" mayors into office
- 2 most successful:
 - Samuel "Golden Rule" Jones: Toledo, Ohio
 - Created min. wage for city workers, fixed police force, improved city services, and opened kindergartens
 - Tom Johnson: Cleveland, Ohio
 - Fixed police force, released debtors from prison, and created a simple and fair tax system
- Many cities began running their cities w/ **commissions** or city managers instead of mayors; gets the power out of hands of mayors



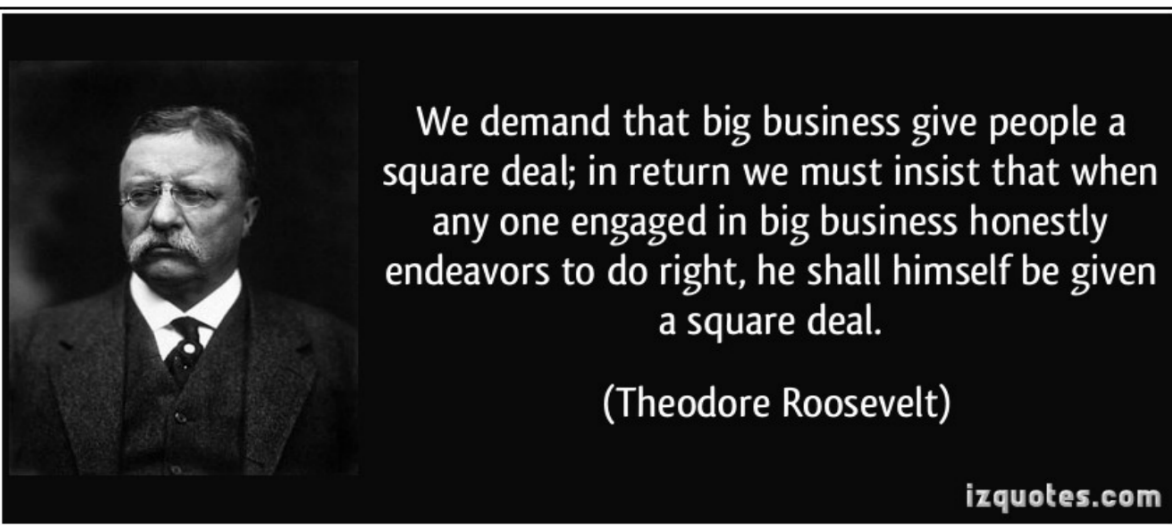
Reforming State Government

■ Robert La Follette

- Wisconsin Governor & US Senator
- Quit Republican party b/c he refused a bribe from a party boss
- Highly popular
- He influenced other states' behaviors
- What did La Follette do?
 - **Wisconsin Idea**
 - Pushed for direct primary
 - Increased taxes on railroads and public utilities (gas, electric, streetcar companies) to decrease their power
 - Pushed laws to stop excessive **lobbying** *
 - Worked to conserve natural resources



Section 2: Roosevelt and the Square Deal



Read the above quote. Summarize what Teddy Roosevelt is saying.

Roosevelt Becomes President

- Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt
- War hero in Spanish-American War
- Republican Governor of New York
- Progressive activist
- Loved by voters...hated by other politicians
- Encouraged by other Republican leaders to run for VP
 - ***"...only one life between this madman and the Presidency."***
- Became VP in 1900 with William McKinley
- Sept. 6, 1901: McKinley is assassinated in Buffalo, NY
- More enthusiasm and energy than past Presidents
- **Bully Pulpit:** speak out on issues he wants to change
- Wanted to fight class discrimination



The United Mine Workers strike

- 1902: 150,000 coal miners went on strike
- Workers wanted more \$ and less hours
- Mine owners wanted the workers' union destroyed
- Roosevelt threatened to send the army in to take over the mine if they didn't agree to **arbitration**
- Both sides were given SOME of what they wanted
- Roosevelt stopped the strike...did what no other President did before him

3rd party
to help solve
a problem



The Square Deal

- "...every man should have a square deal, no less and no more."
- He wanted to balance interests of businesses with workers
- People should EARN what they have and want and not be given it
- Business needs to care about the people
- 1904 election: easily wins reelection against Dem. William Jennings Bryan
 - He ran on the Free Silver idea again...no one cared still



We demand that big b
square deal; in return w
any one engaged in b
endeavors to do right, h
a squar

(Theodore

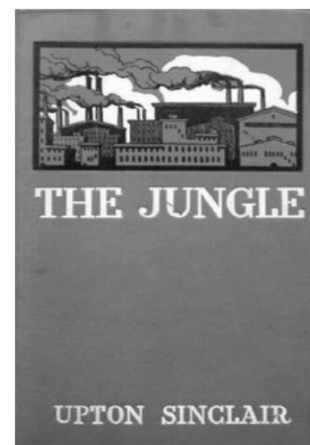
Regulating Business

Trustbusting

- No other President filed as many antitrust lawsuits as Teddy
- Filed 44 total suits against monopolies that hurt customers
- Only hunted "bad" monopolies--ones that sold bad products, raised prices unfairly, or discriminated against others
- "Good" monopolies treated people fairly and would be left alone

Practices of food and drug companies

- Teddy was angry at lies food and drug companies told people
- Chicago meat packing industry
- Drug companies sold miracle "tonics" often laced with cocaine or morphine
- Upton Sinclair's "The Jungle" was the last straw
- Teddy pushed Congress to pass the **Meat Inspection Act** (all meat shipped across state lines had to be inspected) and **Pure Food and Drug Act** (required a list of ingredients on drugs and food)



Protecting the Environment

- Teddy was an outdoorsman...loved to hunt
- Believed we weren't doing enough to protect the environment
- Stopped the sale of millions of acres of public land; created forest reserves
- Newlands Reclamation Act: take "ruined" lands and reclaim them or make them usable once more
- Created the **National Park Service**
 - He created 16 national monuments and 51 wildlife refuges
 - National Parks like Grand Canyon were created



Section 3: Reform Under Taft

Review Question:

Why was Teddy Roosevelt so popular? Give me three reasons.

Taft Takes Office

- 1908: Teddy supported William Howard Taft (Sec. of War) for POTUS
- Teddy thought Taft would be reformer like him
- Democrats nominated William Jennings Bryan (Free Silver guy)
- Taft crushed Bryan (4th loss)
- Taft was very different from Teddy
 - Hated being in public eye
 - Afraid of using power too much
- Continued Teddy's trustbusting, land conservation, mine safety and helped working class
- Pushed the **16th Amendment** to create an income tax; protected the poor--fair tax



Taft Angers the Progressives

— tax on imported goods

- Progressives began to hate Taft
 - Pushed the **Payne-Aldrich Tariff**
 - raised taxes raised prices on goods we bought--hurt poor most
 - Taft could have vetoed it but he was scared to do so
 - **Ballinger-Pinchot affair**
 - 2 members of Taft's gov't argued over whether to sell public land in Alaska--Taft fired one that supported conservation
 - Ran to Africa to tell Teddy on Taft
 - Taft seen to be weak on environment
 - Teddy was angry
 - Teddy refused to support Taft



The Republican Party Divides

- Election of 1912; Teddy runs for President again
- Republican party supported Teddy but Taft's friends ran Republican "**machine**"
- Taft won the Republican nomination
- Republican Party split into 2
- Teddy created the **Progressive Party** (BULL MOOSE PARTY)



A Democratic Victory

- Democrats nominated Woodrow Wilson
 - NJ Governor
 - Former professor
 - Progressive just like Teddy
 - Trustbuster & fought machines
- **New Freedom:** name of Wilson's promises
 - People would be free from being abused by big business and gov't
 - Gov'ts job is to protect freedoms and stay out of the way
- Taft and Teddy split votes
- Wilson crushed both of them (435-88-8)

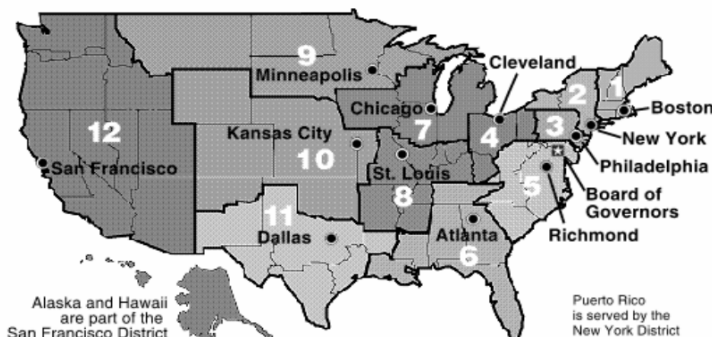


1912		
AL	KY	ND
AK	LA	OH
AZ	ME	OK
AR	MD	OR
CA	MA	PA
CO	MI	RI
CT	MN	SC
DE	MS	SD
DC	MO	TN
FL	MT	TX
GA	NE	UT
HI	NV	VT
ID	NH	VA
IL	NJ	WA

Section 4: Wilson's New Freedom

Reform on Many Fronts

- Wilson created a Progressive platform that lowered tariffs & attacked monopolies--businesses disliked him
- Lowered tariffs to lowest level in 50 years
- Passed **graduated income tax**--higher taxes on rich
- **Federal Reserve Act of 1913**: created the Federal Reserve; national bank that could help give banks \$ when needed
 - Made getting **credit** for many people *easier*
- **Clayton Antitrust Act**: did not allow a company to buy another if it created a monopoly
- **Federal Trade Commission (FTC)**: investigate and punish companies that did bad things



Wilson and Workers

- Federal Farm Loan Act (1916): gave cheap loans to farmers
- Forced through laws that would lower working hours, increase pay, and increase benefits for workers
- Signed law that allowed workers to strike
- **Keating-Owen Child Labor Act (1916)**: banned the interstate sale of goods made by child labor
 - Supreme Court ruled it was unconstitutional...the law was unfair



The Struggle for Women's Suffrage

- **Suffrage:** the right to vote
- Many opposed women voting
 - Alcohol industry worried women would vote for Prohibition
 - Businesses thought they'd demand more \$ if they voted
 - Many thought voting would "rob women of their beauty."
 - Many thought women weren't smart enough
- **National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA)**
- **National Woman's Party**
- Fought for passage of Amendment to Constitution
- Pickets, hunger strikes, chained to rails...got in the face of Americans
- 2 groups quieted down during WWI; played their role during war
- 1918: Woodrow Wilson began to support suffrage
- 1918: vote to create Amendment failed by 2 votes
- 1919: **19th Amendment** passed



