PROGRESSIVE ERA

1890s-1920

A21w
9.2.13
ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Who were the Progressives, and in what ways did they seek to reform US society from 1890-1920?

Consider: political change, social change (industrial conditions, urban life, women, prohibition)
Content Standard 1: The student will analyze the transformation of the United States through its civil rights struggles, immigrant experiences, settlement of the American West, and the industrialization of American society in the Post-Reconstruction through the Progressive Eras, 1865 to 1900.

- Evaluate the impact of industrialization on the transformation of American society, economy, and politics.
- C. Evaluate the contributions of muckrakers including Ida Tarbell and Upton Sinclair that changed government policies regarding child labor, working conditions, and the Sherman Antitrust Act.
- D. Analyze major social reform movements including the Women’s Suffrage and Temperance Movement and their significant leaders including Susan B. Anthony, Alice Paul, and Jane Addams.
- E. Evaluate the significance of the Labor Movement on the organization of workers including the impact of the Pullman strikes, the Haymarket Riot, and the leadership of Eugene V. Debs.
- F. Evaluate the rise and reforms of the Progressive Movement including the
  - 1. Direct primary, initiative petition, referendum, and recall,
  - 2. Impact of William Jennings Bryan and his Cross of Gold speech on the political landscape, and
  - 3. Conservation of the environment under the leadership of Theodore Roosevelt.
- 4. Analyze the series of events leading to and the effects of the 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, and 21st Amendments to the United States Constitution.
ORIGINS OF PROGRESSIVE REFORM
Progressivism

WHEN? “Progressive Reform Era”

1890s 1901 1917 1920s

WHO? “Progressives”

- urban middle-class: managers & professionals; women
- Wanted to solve society’s problems by using government

WHY? Address the problems arising from:

- industrialization (big business, labor strife)
- urbanization (slums, political machines, corruption)
- immigration (ethnic diversity)
- inequality & social injustice (women & racism)
Progressivism

WHAT are their goals?

► Democracy - government accountable to the people
► Regulation of corporations & monopolies
► Social justice - workers, poor, minorities
► Environmental protection

HOW?

► Government (laws, regulations, programs)
► Efficiency
  - value experts, use of scientific study to determine the best solution
  - Pragmatism - William James, John Dewey (↔ Darwinism)
  - (Cf. scientific management/Taylor)

HOW MUCH????
Origins of Progressivism

- “Muckrakers”
- Jacob Riis - *How the Other Half Lives* (1890)
- Ida Tarbell - “The History of the Standard Oil Co.” (1902)
- Lincoln Steffens - *The Shame of the Cities* (1904)
- Upton Sinclair - *The Jungle* (1906)
MUNICIPAL REFORM

► municipal reform
► utilities - water, gas, electricity, trolleys
► council-manager plan (Dayton, 1913)

Shoe line - Bowery men with gifts from ward boss Tim Sullivan, February, 1910
MUNICIPAL REFORM

strong mayor system

COUNCIL MEMBER
COUNCIL MEMBER
COUNCIL MEMBER
COUNCIL MEMBER
COUNCIL MEMBER

MAYOR

CITY SERVICES

COUNCIL-.manager plan (Dayton, 1913)

COUNCIL MEMBER
COUNCIL MEMBER
COUNCIL MEMBER
COUNCIL MEMBER
COUNCIL MEMBER

CITY MANAGER

CITY SERVICES
STATE POLITICAL REFORM

- secret ballots
- direct primary
- Robert M. LaFollette
- Seventeenth Amendment (1913) - direct election of Senators
- initiative
- referendum
- recall

Robert M. LaFollette, Wisconsin Governor 1900-06
Voter Participation in Presidential Elections, 1876-1920
STATE SOCIAL REFORMS

► professional social workers
► settlement houses - education, culture, day care
► child labor laws
  - Enable education & advancement for working class children
STATE SOCIAL REFORMS

- workplace & labor reforms
  - eight-hour work day
  - improved safety & health conditions in factories
  - workers compensation laws
  - minimum wage laws
  - unionization
  - child labor laws

Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire, 1913
State Social Reform: Child Labor

Child Laborers in Indiana Glass Works, Midnight, Indiana. 1908

“Breaker Boys” Pennsylvania. 1911

Child Laborer, Newberry, S.C. 1908

Shrimp pickers in Peerless Oyster Co. Bay St. Louis, Miss., March 3, 1911
Settlement Houses

- Settlement Houses
- Hull-House - Jane Addams

Jane Addams (1905)

Hull-House Complex in 1906
TEMPERANCE

- Temperance Crusade
- Women’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU)
- Anti-Saloon League

Frances Willard (1838-98), leader of the WCTU

Anti-Saloon League Campaign, Dayton
TEMPERANCE & PROHIBITION

► Eighteenth Amendment

Prohibition on the Eve of the 18th Amendment, 1919

Statewide Prohibition
- Before 1900
- 1900–1910
- 1911–1919
- Local options
SOCIALISM

► Socialist Party
► Eugene V. Debs
► Industrial Workers of the World (IWW or “Wobblies”)

Socialists parade, May Day, 1910

Eugene V. Debs
NATIONAL REFORM
Roosevelt, Taft & Wilson as Progressive presidents
ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How effective were Progressive Era reformers and the federal government in bringing about reform at the national level in the period 1900-1920?
Assassination of President McKinley, Sept 6, 1901
Theodore Roosevelt:  
the "accidental President"  
Republican (1901-1909)  
(The New-York Historical Society)
Roosevelt’s “Square Deal”

► 1902 Anthracite Coal Miners Strike
► “Square Deal”

Anthracite miners at Scranton, Pennsylvania, 1900
Roosevelt the “trust-buster”

► Northern Securities Company (1904)
► “good trusts” and “bad trusts”
► Hepburn Railroad Regulation Act (1906)
Consumer Protection

- Upton Sinclair’s *The Jungle*
- Pure Food and Drug Act (1906)
- Meat Inspection Act (1906)

Chicago Meatpacking Workers, 1905

“A nauseating job, but it must be done”
Roosevelt & Conservation

- Used the Forest Reserve Act of 1891
- U.S. Forest Service (1906)
- Gifford Pinchot - Sec. of Interior
- John Muir - Naturalist/Conservationist
CONSERVATION:
National Parks and Forests
William Howard Taft
President 1909-13
Republican

Postcard with Taft cartoon
Taft Birthplace today, Mt. Auburn
Taft’s Progressive Accomplishments

- trust-busting (2x TR)
- forest and oil reserves
- 16th Amendment - Income Tax

BUT: Caused split in Republican Party
- Payne-Aldrich Tariff (1909)
- Pinchot-Ballinger Controversy

(Taft has) “...completely twisted around the policies I advocated and acted upon.”

- Theodore Roosevelt
Election of 1912

- Woodrow Wilson
- Progressive Party ("Bull Moose party")
- "New Nationalism"
- significance

Theodore Roosevelt cartoon, March 1912

Woodrow Wilson
1912 Presidential Election

Electoral Vote

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<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wilson (Democrat)</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>82.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taft (Republican)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roosevelt (Progressive)</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>16.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debs (Socialist)</td>
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Popular Vote

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<th>Party</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wilson (Democrat)</td>
<td>6,296,547</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taft (Republican)</td>
<td>3,486,720</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roosevelt (Progressive)</td>
<td>4,118,571</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debs (Socialist)</td>
<td>900,672</td>
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Wilson

- Woodrow Wilson
- “New Freedom”
- Underwood Simmons Tariff (1913)
- Sixteenth Amendment (1913)
- Federal Reserve Act (1913)
- Federal Trade Commission Act (1914)
- Clayton Anti-Trust Act (1914)
- Keating-Owen Act (1916)
Federal Reserve System

Federal Reserve Act
WOMEN & SUFFRAGE
ESSENTIAL QUESTION

To what extent did economic and political developments as well as the assumptions about the nature of women affect the position of American women during the period 1890-1925?
The Women’s Club of Madison, Wisconsin conducted classes in food, nutrition, and sewing for recent immigrants. (Photo courtesy of the Women’s History and Resource Center, General Federation of Women’s Clubs.)

A local club for nurses was formed in New York City in 1894. Here the club members are pictured in their clubhouse reception area. (Photo courtesy of the Women’s History and Resource Center, General Federation of Women’s Clubs.)
Women’s Suffrage

► National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA)

► Carrie Chapman Catt

Ohio Woman Suffrage Headquarters, Cleveland, 1912
Women’s Suffrage

► Alice Paul
► National Woman’s Party
► 19th Amendment - Women’s Suffrage
► Equal Rights Amendment

National Woman’s Party members picketing in front of the White House, 1917

19th Amendment

Suffragette Banner 1918

(All: Library of Congress)
RACE
RELATIONS
ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. Du Bois offered different strategies for dealing with the problems of poverty and discrimination faced by black Americans at the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth centuries. How appropriate were each of these strategies (considering the context in which each was developed)?
Black Population, 1920

Map showing the distribution of the black population in the United States in 1920. The map uses color coding to indicate the percentage of the population that is black in different states. The legend indicates:
- Under 10 percent black population
- 10 to 29 percent
- 30 to 49 percent
- 50 percent and over
- Over 50,000 black people

Key cities: Baltimore, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., St. Louis, Memphis, New Orleans, Atlanta, Birmingham.
African-Americans

► Booker T. Washington
► W.E.B. Du Bois
► Niagara Movement
► “talented tenth”
► NAACP