

The Progressive Presidents

Presidents	Dates	Administration
<p>Theodore Roosevelt (Republican) Civil Service Commissioner, Ass't Sec. of Navy, NY Governor, VP in 1900</p>	<p>1901-1908</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Expanded Pres. Power + gov't . Involvement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sent 400 policy goals to Congress 2.Reorganized ex. Branch with commissions, bureaus 3.Played to media ◆ Reform package = strong gov't., economic/social order, gov't. controlled big business = NEW NATIONALISM ◆ Labor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1902 United Mine Workers' strike vs. coal companies (8 hr. workday, higher wages, recognition of labor union) ▪ TR arbitrated strike by threatening to seize & operate mines (owners wanted Cleveland's response to Pullman strike) ▪ Result: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 9 hr. workday, 10% pay raise, 10% cost of living increase, NO union recognition ◆ Set standard for intervention in labor disputes ◆ Conservation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Began land management (speculators, corporations had abused) ▪ Result: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Increased forest reserves 3X to 150 million acres ◆ Set aside 80 million for minerals, petroleum ◆ Established wildlife reserves ◆ Created Nat'l. Conservation Commission (1908) ▪ Opposition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Western Farmers, Ranchers resented "eastern involvement" ◆ Supported the est. of Bureau of Reclamation (1902) for dams, reservoirs, irrigation canals = to sell 160 acre tracts (never enforced = corporations got land) ◆ Corporations ("Trust-buster" vs. "Robber Barons") <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Favored gov't. regulation to defend public interest = orderly, scientific gov't. ▪ Filed anti-trust suit vs. No. Securities Co. (1902) & J.P. Morgan's control of RR network in the NW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ TR won = 1902 Supreme Court dissolved No. Securities ◆ 1906 Hepburn Act: est. ICC (Interstate Commerce Commission): set max. rates [1st time federal gov't. had power to set rules for private enterprise] ▪ 1906 Pure Food & Drug Act & Meat Inspection Act

<p>William Howard Taft (Republican) Federal judge, Governor of the Philippines, Sec. of War = after Presidency became Supreme Court Justice</p>	<p>1908-1912</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Supported Mann-Elkins Act (1910) extended ICC regulations to communications with reg. of telephone and telegraph ◆ Extended forest and oil reserves ◆ Supported 16th Amendment (1913) est. federal income tax (expansion of gov't. involvement) ◆ Problems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rep. Party split between “La Follette” moderates and conservatives • Rep. Party split, TR refused to support La Follette for nomination and formed Progressive Party • Guaranteed Democratic victory • Taft supported several “Old Guard” ideas = when Split Rep. Party TR refused to support La Follette for nomination = formed Progressive Party: guaranteed Democratic victory
<p>Woodrow Wilson (Democrat) Grew up in Savannah, GA Gov. of N.J. Pres. Of Princeton</p>	<p>1912-1920</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born conservative = became Progressive • Strong reform program, expanded power of executive branch: put President at center of national politics • Reform Program = NEW FREEDOM (vs. TR’s New Nationalism: saw as “regulated monopoly”) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited gov’t. role to breaking up trusts with anti-trust legislation & preventing tariffs (saw as artificial controls on Free Trade) • Opposed social legislation as paternalistic Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication with Congress (1st Pres. Since J. Adams to address Congress in person) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underwood-Simmons Tariff Act (1913) 1st tariff reduction since Civil War • Federal Reserve Act (1913) compromise between agrarian progressives and bankers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Reserve System: 12 regional banks with private control but federally regulated by Federal Reserve Board (head app’t. by Pres) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved credit access, flexible national currency • Breakup of Monopolies = Federal Trade Commission (FTC): oversaw business activity, prevented illegal restrictions on competition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refused to support women’s suffrage, expansion of credit to farmers, restrictions on child labor, desegregation • Reversed policies for Election of 1916 (TR returned to GOP as a result) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Farm Loan Act • Warehouse Act • Highway Act • Keating-Owen Act: prohibited interstate shipment of products made by child labor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adamson Act : 8 hr. workday for RR workers • Kern-McGillicuddy Act: worker’s compensation for federal employees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominated Louis Brandeis as Supreme Court Justice (“people’s lawyer”) and first Jew on court

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