1. What is progressivism?
	1. The root word is **progress**. Progressivism was a reform movement in the early 1900’s that attempted to return control of the government to the people, give more people economic opportunities, and correct injustices (bad things) in society.
	2. This was a direct response to the **industrial (gilded) age**. Think back to all the problems that we talked about last unit. What are progressives trying to fix?
	3. There were four broad goals of the Progressive movement:
		1. **Foster efficiency** – make the government run better. They wanted less corruption and more democracy (power to the people). Which group wanted this earlier?
		2. **Promote Moral Improvement** - They wanted people to act right. They wanted to lower the crime rate, enact **prohibition**, and get people to start living a “good” life.
		3. **Protect Social Welfare** – They wanted to protect children, the poor, and the most vulnerable of society.
		4. **Create Economic Reform** – They wanted to prevent future depressions, decrease the **disparity of wealth**, and protect consumers from Monopolies.
	4. Unlike the **populist** movement before them, the progressives included all parts of American society: businessmen, southerners, northerners, farmers, lower class, middle class, etc…
	5. They dealt with many of the same issues as the **populist** party (except **bimetallism**). These included immigration, **prohibition**, **women’s suffrage**, working conditions, pure food and drugs, environment, **trusts and corporations**, power of the Railroads, political corruption, etc…
2. Fostering efficiency
	1. In the early 1900’s, **Henry Ford** began using the **assembly line** to mass produce his cars. The **assembly line** helped by giving each person a one specific job they were responsible for. This made the production of cars much faster and cheaper. This was soon used by other companies and greatly increased industrial output.
	2. Progressives wanted to take the business model of Henry Ford and apply it to politics and the government by giving power directly to the people and stopping corruption.
	3. One way they did this was through a **direct primary**. This is when the people get to choose the person they want to run for office.
	4. **Robert Lafollette** (the governor of Wisconsin) pushed for this reform because it gave power directly to the people and helped bring an end to the power of **political machines**.
	5. The success of the direct primary led to three other election reforms:
		1. **Initiative** – when people create a law themselves by signing a petition
		2. **Referendum** – the people vote on the **initiative** to see if it will pass
		3. **Recall** – allows the people to vote bad politicians out of office and make them run against someone else.
	6. There were also many **amendments** passed during the progressive era to foster political efficiency and solve other societal problems.
		1. **16th – Graduated Income Tax**
		2. **17th – Direct election of senators**
		3. **18th – Prohibition**
		4. **19th – Women’s suffrage**
	7. The **19th amendment** was a huge step because women had been fighting to vote for a long time.
		1. **Lucy Stone and Susan B Anthony** were two **suffragists** who headed up this fight.
3. Promoting Moral Improvement
	1. The biggest step taken by the progressives to promote moral improvement was the banning of buying and consuming alcohol. This was called **prohibition**.
	2. The progressives believed that alcohol was ruining the family, making workers lazy, and contributing to the moral decline of the country.
	3. They passed the **18th amendment** in 1920 to achieve this. However, prohibition did not work and actually caused more problems. Therefore, the **21st amendment** was passed in 1933 to **repeal** prohibition.
4. Protecting Social Welfare
	1. One of the biggest goals of the progressive era was to solve the terrible problems brought on by industrialization, including child labor.
	2. In 1893, **Florence Kelley** helped win passage of the **Illinois Factory Act** which banned child labor, shortened women’s working hours, and served as a model for later laws in other states.
	3. Progressives worked on a state by state basis to ban child labor and by 1920, most states did not allow children under the age of 16 to work in factories.
	4. They also passed laws requiring all children to go to school.
	5. Furthermore, organizations like the **YMCA** and the **Salvation Army** emerged to take care of poor men, women, and children by providing them with clothes, shelter, and recreational activities to keep them off the street.
	6. Remember the **Social Gospel Movement and Jane Addams.** This was part of the progressive movement.
5. Creating Economic Reform
	1. Another group that emerged during the progressive era was the **muckrakers**. These were journalists who looked to expose the “muck” of life in America like working conditions, child labor, food conditions, and monopolies/trusts.
		1. **Ida Tarbell** – exposed **John D. Rockefeller’s** Standard Oil Trust and how it was hurting Americans.
		2. **Jacob Riis** – journalist who wrote ***How the Other Half Lives***and showed the terrible conditions in the factories and the cities.
		3. **Thomas Nast** – created political cartoons exposing political corruption in America like **Boss Tweed and Tammany Hall**.
		4. **Upton Sinclair** – wrote ***The Jungle*** which exposed the awful conditions in the meat-packing industry. This lead to the passage of the **Meat Inspection Act** and the **Pure Food and Drug Act**.
6. Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft
	1. Remember, William McKinley defeated William Jennings Bryan in the 1896 and 1900 election. Who did William McKinley support, business or the people?
	2. However, in 1901 McKinley was assassinated allowing **Theodore Roosevelt** to come to office.
	3. “Teddy” Roosevelt was different from McKinley in that he aligned more closely with the people than with big business. He is considered the first progressive president.
	4. Roosevelt wanted to give the people a **square deal** which was the name of his plan to reshape the country and create progressive reforms.
	5. Throughout his administration he did many things to fight big business and support the people:
		1. **Trustbuster –** Roosevelt earned this nickname because of his efforts to break up trusts and monopolies because he felt they hurt competition, thereby hurting the people.
		2. **1902 Coal Strike** – Roosevelt stepped in and helped negotiate a deal between the workers and the factory because he felt the strike was threatening the well-being of the people. This set a new **precedent**.
		3. **Hepburn Act** – This law strengthened the **Interstate Commerce Act** and effectively regulated railroad prices and ended “free railroad passes.”
	6. **Upton Sinclair** – wrote ***The Jungle*** which exposed the awful conditions in the meat-packing industry. Roosevelt and the government responded to this book by passing the **Meat Inspection Act** and the **Pure Food and Drug Act.**
	7. Theodore Roosevelt was also a big advocate (supporter) of **conservation**.
		1. **Conservation** – attempting to preserve and protect nature.
		2. Roosevelt set aside millions of acres of land for national parks, water-power sources, and mineral/water exploration.
	8. At the end of his second term, Roosevelt decided to not run for president again. Instead he chose to support hisvice president, **William Howard Taft**.
	9. However, when **Taft** supported the **Payne-Aldrich Tariff**, this made Roosevelt mad and he turned against Taft.
		1. Remember, a **tariff** is a tax on imports. This helps American businesses but hurts the consumer (the people). The progressives wanted to help the people, so Roosevelt felt like Taft betrayed the people.
		2. The **Payne-Aldrich Tariff** raised many tariffs which pro-business Republicans liked because it helped business. However, progressives, including Roosevelt, did not like tariffs because they hurt the people.
7. Woodrow Wilson
	1. As a result of the **Payne-Aldrich Tariff**, Roosevelt decided to run against William Howard Taft in the election of 1912.
	2. Roosevelt created a third party called the **Bull-Moose Party** which was basically the progressive party. Taft ran as the Republican candidate, and Woodrow Wilson ran as the democratic candidate.
	3. Taft and Roosevelt split their votes allowing the Democrat, **Woodrow Wilson**, to win.
	4. Wilson turned out to be perhaps the most progressive president of all:
		1. **Underwood Tariff** – this law lowered many tariffs including many created by the **Payne-Aldrich Tariff**.
		2. **Federal Reserve System** – an organization created during the Wilson administration to regulate the economy and attempt to prevent future depressions **by regulating the amount of money in circulation**. Created by the **Federal Reserve Act.**
		3. **Federal Trade Commission Act -** an organization established by Woodrow Wilson to monitor and regulate businesses and financial institutions (banks) to make sure they were playing fair.
		4. **Clayton Antitrust Act** – this law strengthened the **Sherman Antitrust Act** which attempted to regulate and prevent the formation of monopolies and trusts.
8. Summary
	1. Remember, the ideas behind much of the progressive party legislation (laws) were similar to that of the **populists**.
	2. Remember, the Progressive Movement did not seek to address Civil Rights issues or racial discrimination because many of them were in fact racists and believed in a racial hierarchy.

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