Guided Notes: Progressive Presidents

**How did Theodore Roosevelt Become President?**

* Appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy by President William McKinley
  + Resigned at the outbreak of the [Spanish-American War](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmamZOAAJ0M) in 1898 to form the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_a nickname given to the 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry)
* Became Vice President for President McKinley’s 2nd term in office in 1900
* **William McKinley was assassinated in September 1901 and Teddy Roosevelt became the POTUS**
* First of the Progressive Presidents
  + **Theodore Roosevelt: Republican (1901-1909)**
  + **William H. Taft: Republican (1909-1913)**
  + **Woodrow Wilson: Democrat (1913-1917)**

**Spanish American War**

* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1898)-** The US blamed a Spanish mine. McKinley gave the OK for war, both the US and Spain had declared war. In order to assure the world that it was fighting only for the good of Cuba and not for colonial gain, the US promised to make Cuba **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**after the war was over.
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_- American battleship that exploded off the coast of Cuba (a Spanish territory)**
* **Yellow Journalism-**

**How was Roosevelt a progressive President?**

* Called his agenda the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
  + **Keep the wealthy and powerful from taking advantage of small business owners and laborers**
* **Railroad Regulation**
  + 1887, Congress created the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (ICC) to oversee railroad charges for shipments traveling through more than one state**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
  + TR was the first president to enforce the Sherman Anti-Trust Act
  + TR made a distinction between “good trusts” and “bad trusts”
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: harmed consumers by raising prices and eliminating competition
    - Good trusts:
* **Consumer protection**
  + Upton Sinclair’s novel *The\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* motivated Roosevelt and Congress to enact two regulatory laws
  + **Meat Inspection Act**
  + **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* Environmental Conservation
  + Nature lover
  + Wanted to continue the conservation effort after the establishment of Yellowstone National Park (1872) and Yosemite National Park (1890)
  + Good friends with California naturalist **John Muir**
  + Unlike Muir, TR thought that **forests should be both conserved and used, as they provided valuable resources**
  + Adopted Gifford Pinchot’s ideas for the use of national forests 🡪 **forests be preserved for public use**
    - **This idea came to dominate American policies toward natural resources**
  + Struggle over who had rights to control the water systems came to a head as mining companies, famers, and private irrigation companies began populating arid lands
  + TR pushed Congress to pass the National Reclamation Act (1902) 🡪 gave federal government the power to decide where and how water would be manages
    - Built and managed dams that would create reservoirs, generate power, and direct water flow
    - Salt Valley Project (AZ), Roosevelt Dam and Hoover Dam on the Colorado River

President William Taft

* TR decided not to run for a third term
  + Still a strong force in the Republican Party
* Backed his Secretary of War, William Taft, to be elected president 1908
  + **TR hoped Taft would continue his Square Deal Policies**
* Taft had his own agenda
  + **Taft** was even more aggressive in “Trust Busting”
    - **No more difference between “bad trusts” and “good trusts”**
    - Twice as many lawsuits against corporations as TR
    - **1911** 🡪 **Standard Oil Company “busted”**
  + Created hypocrisy when he supported SCOTUS’s “rule of reason” 🡪 relaxed the harshness of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act
    - Allowed big monopolies as long as they did not “unreasonably” force out smaller businesses
  + **Pushed Congress to propose an income tax**
    - **Sixteenth Amendment (1913)** 🡪**Authorized the federal government to collect an income tax**
* TR was mad about Taft’s agendas and programs he put in place
* **TR decided to run for a third term** which ended up splitting the Republican Party 🡪 Conservatives and Progressives
  + **TR’s New Nationalism** 🡪 **a program to restore the federal government’s “trust busting” power**
  + Progressives set up the Progressive Party with TR as its nominee
  + Set up a crazy presidential election in 1912

Wilson’s New Freedom

Election of 1912

* The Republican Party fought with itself over reform and eventually split in 1912
* The Republicans who wanted a more involved federal government formed the Progressive Party and nominated TR as their candidate for President
* The traditional Republicans nominated President Taft as their candidate for the Presidential election
* Democrats nominated Woodrow Wilson as their candidate for POTUS
* His campaign platform was called the New Freedom 🡪 very similar to TR’s New Nationalism
  + Wanted strict government control on corporations
  + Wanted more opportunities or “freedom” for small businesses
* Won the Presidential election by a landslide without gaining majority of popular vote

**How Did Wilson regulate the economy?**