

## Roosevelt and Progressivism

### Before You Read

In the last chapter, you read about the numerous changes in American life around the turn of the twentieth century.

In this section, you will learn about the reformers who worked to solve various problems in society.

### As You Read

Use this diagram to take notes on political reforms sought by progressives.

Reform	Description

### The Rise of Progressivism (pages 639–640)

#### Who were the progressives and muckrakers?

The quick growth of cities and industries in the United States caused many problems. These included poverty, the spread of slums, poor conditions in factories, and corruption. To attack these problems, citizens organized a number of reform movements. These reformers were mostly native born and middle class. They could be found in either political party. Their reform movements came to be grouped under the label **progressivism**.

About 1900, a new group of writers began to talk about corruption in American society. They were called **muckrakers**. They created a public demand for reform. One muckraker accused Standard Oil of using unfair tactics against smaller companies.

Progressive reformers shared three basic goals. First, they wanted to reform government and expand democracy. Second, they wanted to promote social welfare. Third, they wanted to bring about economic reform.

### TERMS & NAMES

**progressivism** Name given to nation's reform movement

**muckrakers** Writers who exposed social problems

**direct primary** Election in which voters rather than party conventions choose candidates

**initiative** Measure that allows voters to propose a law directly

**referendum** A proposed law submitted to the vote of the people

**recall** Measure allowing citizens to vote an official out of office before an election

**Sherman Antitrust Act** Law that regulated trusts

**Theodore Roosevelt** 26th U.S. President

### 1. What were the three goals of progressivism?

### Reforming Government and Expanding Democracy (page 640)

#### What were some of the political reforms of the progressives?

In the late 1800s, elected officials often handed out government jobs and contracts. This practice was called patronage. Congress passed the Pendleton Civil Service Act, which required people to take civil service exams for government jobs.

In the 1890s and 1900s, progressive leaders sought to expand democracy. They proposed a number of reforms. First, they proposed a **direct primary**, in which voters rather than conventions choose candidates for public office. Next, they proposed the **initiative**, which allows voters to propose a law directly. They also proposed the **referendum**, in which a proposed law is submitted to the vote of the people.

Finally, progressive reformers proposed the **recall**, which allowed people to vote an official out of office.

## 2. What four reforms did progressive reformers propose around the turn of the century?

### Promoting Social Welfare; Creating Economic Reform (pages 640–641)

*What were some of the issues involved in social welfare and economic reform?*

Poverty, unemployment, and poor working conditions were among the big issues that had to be addressed in achieving the second progressive goal of social welfare. Leaders in the social gospel and settlement house movements promoted social-welfare reforms. Jane Addams and Florence Kelley worked at Hull House in Chicago to provide social services for the poor. Prohibitionists were another group of reformers who worked to improve people's lives.

The third progressive goal was economic reform. This involved limiting the power of big business. By the late 1800s, business leaders had formed trusts—combinations of businesses that worked together to cut prices and squeeze out competitors. Then the trust would raise prices and make bigger profits. The **Sherman Antitrust Act** of 1890 made it illegal for businesses to form trusts. However, enforcement remained a problem.

## 3. How did a trust work?

### Roosevelt and the Square Deal

(pages 641–642)

*What was the Square Deal?*

**Theodore Roosevelt** provided the leadership to enforce the Sherman Antitrust Act. As a war hero of the Spanish American War (1898), he had been elected governor of New York. In 1900, he was elected vice president along with President McKinley. When an assassin shot and killed McKinley, Roosevelt became president. At age 42, he was the youngest person ever to become president. He brought youthful energy to the White House.

Roosevelt gained the public's support for reform.

He began his reform by attacking corporate trusts. He saw government as an umpire whose purpose was to provide fairness, or a "square deal," for everybody. Roosevelt used the Sherman Antitrust Act to regulate trusts. The law had been passed in 1890, but no one until Roosevelt had enforced it. The president used the act to break up the railroad trusts.

Roosevelt was not against big business. But he opposed any trust that worked against the national interest. In addition to the railroad trust, Roosevelt broke up the Standard Oil trust and a tobacco trust. Roosevelt's administration filed suit against 44 corporations.

## 4. Why was the Sherman Antitrust Act not effective after its passage in 1890?

### Roosevelt Leads Progressive Reforms; Conservation (pages 642–643)

*What were some of Roosevelt's achievements in the meat-packing industry and conservation?*

Roosevelt and Congress worked together to pass laws that helped change American society. Another of Roosevelt's targets was the meat-packing industry. He took on this industry after reading Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*. The novel describes meat-packing plants as dangerous and *unsanitary*. In 1906, Roosevelt signed the Meat Inspection Act. This act created a government meat inspection program. The president also signed the Pure Food and Drug Act. This law banned the sale of tainted foods and medicines.

In the area of civil rights, Roosevelt did not push for reform. He believed that discrimination against African Americans was wrong. But he did not take the political risk of leading a fight for civil rights.

Roosevelt also supported conservation—the controlled use of natural resources. He loved nature and wanted to save it for the future. Roosevelt preserved more than 200 million acres of public lands. He also established the first wildlife refuge and doubled the number of national parks. Roosevelt used the Antiquities Act to get around Congress and establish more national parks.

## 5. What two laws did Roosevelt sign that improved food conditions?

# Taft and Wilson as Progressives

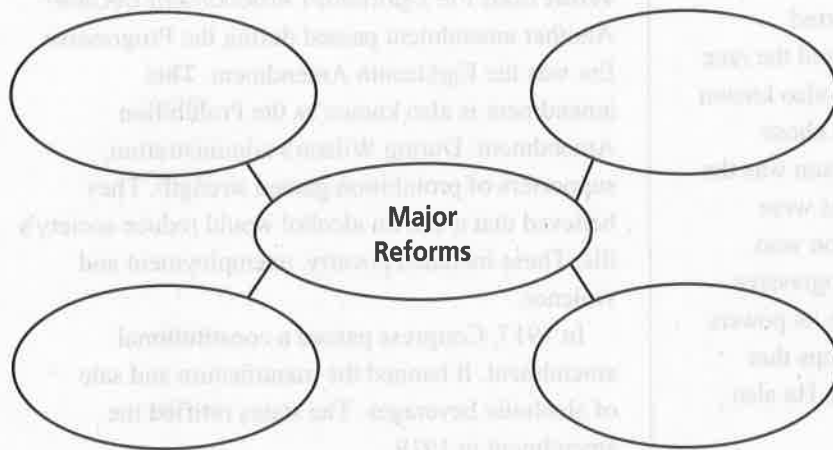
## Before You Read

In the last section you read about the Progressive movement and President Roosevelt's reforms.

In this section, you will learn about the progressive reforms that occurred during the Taft and Wilson administrations.

## As You Read

Use this diagram to take notes on the major reforms of the Taft and Wilson administrations.



## TERMS & NAMES

**William Howard Taft** President who succeeded Roosevelt

**Sixteenth Amendment** Amendment gave Congress the power to create income taxes

**Seventeenth Amendment** Amendment provided for the direct election of U.S. senators

**Clayton Antitrust Act** Pro-labor law regulated trusts and protected competition

**Federal Reserve Act** Law created the modern banking system

## Taft and Progressivism (pages 646–647)

*Who won the 1908 election?*

In the election of 1908, the Republicans nominated **William Howard Taft**. Taft was Theodore Roosevelt's hand-picked *successor*. Roosevelt's popularity swayed many people to vote for Taft. Taft won the election. He promised to follow Roosevelt's progressive policies.

Taft continued Roosevelt's attacks on trusts. During his four years in office, Taft pursued almost twice as many antitrust suits as Roosevelt had. But Taft became allied with conservative Republicans. As a result, he received less credit for his progressivism.

**1. Why didn't Taft get as much credit as Roosevelt for his actions?**

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## Two Progressive Amendments

(pages 647–648)

*What two amendments passed under Taft?*

Two of Taft's progressive achievements were constitutional amendments. The **Sixteenth Amendment** was passed in 1909. It gave Congress the power to create income taxes. This amendment was intended to spread the cost of running government among more people. The income tax soon became the government's main way to raise money.

The **Seventeenth Amendment** was ratified in 1913. It allowed for the direct election of U.S. senators by voters in each state. Formerly, state legislatures had chosen senators. Under this system, many senators were elected through corrupt deals. The Seventeenth Amendment gave people a more direct voice in the government.

## 2. What did the Sixteenth and Seventeenth amendments provide for?

### The Election of 1912; The Wilson Presidency (pages 648–649)

*How was Wilson a progressive?*

During Taft's presidency, a split developed between Taft and progressives in the Republican Party. But Taft had enough support from conservative Republicans to win the party's nomination for the 1912 election.

Many progressive Republicans supported Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt had entered the race and formed the Progressive Party. It was also known as the Bull Moose Party. The Democrats chose Woodrow Wilson as their candidate. Wilson was the governor of New Jersey. The Republicans were divided in the election. As a result, Wilson won.

As president, Wilson established a progressive record. He wanted the government to use its powers to break up monopolies. These were groups that sought complete control over an industry. He also wanted the government to help workers.

Under pressure from Wilson, Congress passed the **Clayton Antitrust Act** of 1914. The new law prevented business practices that lessened competition. The act gave the government more power to regulate trusts. The act also was pro-labor. It allowed labor unions to merge and expand. It also legalized strikes and boycotts.

President Wilson also pushed through financial reforms. In 1913, the **Federal Reserve Act** was

passed. The act created a more *flexible* currency system by allowing banks to control the money supply.

Like Roosevelt, Wilson did little to advance civil rights for African Americans. For example, Wilson approved the separation of black and white employees of the federal government.

### 3. List two reform measures passed during Wilson's presidency.

### The Eighteenth Amendment (page 649)

*What does the Eighteenth Amendment declare?*

Another amendment passed during the Progressive Era was the Eighteenth Amendment. This amendment is also known as the Prohibition Amendment. During Wilson's administration, supporters of prohibition gained strength. They believed that a ban on alcohol would reduce society's ills. These included poverty, unemployment and violence.

In 1917, Congress passed a constitutional amendment. It banned the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages. The states ratified the amendment in 1919.

### 4. What societal ills did reformers think alcohol promoted?

# Women Win New Rights

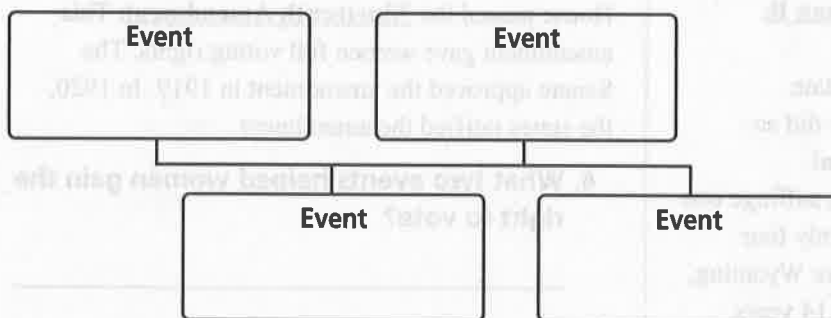
## Before You Read

In the last section, you read about reforms that occurred during the Taft and Wilson administrations.

In this section, you will learn how this spirit of reform prompted American women to push for greater rights in society.

## As You Read

Use this diagram to take notes on the events that led to the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment.



## TERMS & NAMES

**Susan B. Anthony** Activist for women's suffrage

**Carrie Chapman Catt** President of NAWSA when the Nineteenth Amendment passed

**Nineteenth Amendment** Gave women full voting rights

## New Roles for Women (pages 650–651)

**How** did the American home change?

By the turn of the twentieth century, life in many American homes was changing. Numerous homes now had indoor running water and electrical power. In addition, factories produced the goods that women once made in the home. Among these items were soap, clothing, and canned goods. Such technological advances reduced some of the unpleasant work of homemaking for women.

Some women responded to these changes by pursuing a life outside the home. They took jobs in factories, offices and stores. Women who gained a college education could pursue a profession. However, the choices often were limited to such fields as nursing and teaching.

Furthermore, women who could afford to were expected to quit their jobs when they married.

### 1. How did some women respond to the changes in American home life?

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## Women Progressives (pages 651–652)

**Who** was Jane Addams?

Women were among the leaders of the social reform movements of the Progressive Era. They were particularly active in the settlement house and prohibition movements. Settlement houses are homes that provide services for people living in city slums.

Jane Addams was a good example of the progressive female leader. After graduating from college, Addams wanted to do meaningful work. She was financially independent. After visiting a settlement house in London, Addams started a similar program in Chicago.

With help from *donations*, Addams opened Hull House in one of Chicago's poor neighborhoods. Hull House served as an information center for new immigrants. It also helped the unemployed to find jobs.

Another important progressive leader was Carry Nation. She campaigned for prohibition. Nation often used dramatic methods to deliver her message. In the 1890s, she smashed saloons with a hatchet. While some criticized her style, Nation helped bring about passage of the Eighteenth Amendment.

**2. In what ways did Hull House help the poor?**

**Suffrage for Women** (page 652)

*What is suffrage?*

Many women progressives were active in the struggle for woman suffrage, or the right to vote. In 1890, two separate woman suffrage groups merged. They formed the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Elizabeth Cady Stanton served as its first president. In 1892, **Susan B. Anthony** became president.

The organization at first focused on state campaigns to win the right to vote. They did so because earlier efforts at passing a federal amendment had failed. The effort to win suffrage one state at a time moved slowly. By 1896, only four states allowed women to vote. These were Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, and Colorado. For the next 14 years, women did not gain the right to vote in a single state. Then, between 1910 and 1914, seven more states approved full suffrage for women.

**3. Why did NAWSA focus on state campaigns to win the right to vote?**

**The Nineteenth Amendment** (page 653)

*What did the Nineteenth Amendment give women?*

The state successes turned the tide in favor of woman suffrage. American participation in World War I also helped. During the war, membership in NAWSA reached 2 million. **Carrie Chapman Catt** served as president during this time. She argued that many women were supporting the war effort. They sold bonds and organized benefits. As a result, the nation no longer could deny them the right to vote.

President Wilson agreed. He urged Congress to pass a woman suffrage amendment. In 1918, the House passed the **Nineteenth Amendment**. This amendment gave women full voting rights. The Senate approved the amendment in 1919. In 1920, the states ratified the amendment.

**4. What two events helped women gain the right to vote?**

**Glossary/After You Read****donation** a gift or contribution**successor** one that takes the place of another**flexible** responsive to change; adaptable**unsanitary** unhealthy, dirty**Terms & Names****A.** Fill in the blanks with the letter of the term that best completes the sentence.

- a. recall  
 b. Sixteenth Amendment  
 c. Susan B. Anthony
- d. progressivism  
 e. Theodore Roosevelt

- The goals of \_\_\_\_\_ are to reform government and expand democracy, to protect social welfare, and to create economic reform.
- The Meat Inspection Act passed when \_\_\_\_\_ was president.
- The progressive measure known as the \_\_\_\_\_ allowed citizens to vote a politician out of office before an election.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ gave Congress the power to create income taxes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was a well known suffragist and president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

**B.** Write the letter of the name or term next to the description that explains it best.

- a. muckrakers  
 b. Theodore Roosevelt  
 c. William Howard Taft
- d. Clayton Antitrust Act  
 e. Carrie Chapman Catt

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Continued Roosevelt's attack on big business
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Wrote articles to expose corruption and social problems
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Gave government more power to regulate trusts
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The first progressive president

## Main Ideas

1. What were the progressives' main goals?

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2. What were Roosevelt's achievements in the field of conservation?

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3. Why did Taft get little credit for his progressive reforms?

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4. Why was Jane Addams considered a leader of the settlement house movement?

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5. What role did World War I play in helping women win the right to vote?

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## Thinking Critically

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. How did Theodore Roosevelt expand the role of the federal government?
2. Why might African Americans disagree that the Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson administrations marked an era of progressivism in America?