

UNIT 6 – THE PROGRESSIVE ERA AND WORLD WAR I

1. **Progressive Era** – In response to the social problems created by industrialization, Progressives worked **reform society** by calling for **govt regulation of business, more political power for people, and support for the poor** (ex: Jane Addams’ settlement house for the poor).
2. **Muckrakers** – Muckrakers **used writing to expose problems in society**. **Jacob Riis** – urban poverty, **Upton Sinclair** – conditions in meatpacking factories, **Ida Tarbell** – Standard Oil Co.’s monopoly, **Lincoln Steffens** – political corruption.
3. **Jacob Riis’ *How the Other Half Lives*** – In cities, **poor workers often lived in cramped tenement apartments**. Jacob Riis, an early muckraker, **exposed the horrible conditions through writing and photography**, and worked for better housing and city regulations.
4. **Upton Sinclair / *The Jungle*** – Sinclair’s book **exposed horrible conditions in meatpacking factories**. His efforts resulted in President Theodore Roosevelt signing the **Meat Inspection Act** and the **Pure Food and Drug Act** to regulate the production of food and medicine.
5. **Progressive Presidents** – Theodore Roosevelt **used his power to regulate businesses** and to **break-up “bad” trusts**. He also focused on **conservation of America’s natural resources** through the creation of national parks. **Taft** and **Wilson** were also “progressive” presidents.
6. **Antitrust Acts** – The **Sherman Antitrust Act** (1890) and the **Clayton Antitrust Act** (1914) were enacted by the government to **break-up powerful monopolies** and to **keep big businesses from abusing their power** and eliminating competition.
7. **16th Amendment** – This “progressive” amendment gave the federal government the power to collect **income taxes**. The US has a “progressive” income tax, where the **people who make more money pay a higher tax percentage** than the people who make less money.
8. **17th Amendment** – This “progressive” amendment **gave people more control of the govt** by allowing the **direct election of Senators**. Members of the Senate used to be elected by state legislatures, who sometimes had corrupt connections to businesses and other politicians.
9. **Initiative / Referendum / Recall** – Progressives introduced these **voting measures to give people greater control over political decisions**. The initiative and referendum allow people to vote directly on new laws. The recall allows voters to remove an elected official.
10. **Federal Reserve Act** – President Wilson signed the Federal Reserve Act to **regulate the money supply** and to **stabilize the US economy**. The Federal Reserve can **change interest rates to control inflation and to fight against economic recessions**.
11. **Roosevelt Corollary** – Theodore Roosevelt **expanded the Monroe Doctrine** with corollary (addition) that stated that America would **intervene in Latin America** and would **“police” the Western Hemisphere to protect American military and economic interests**.
12. **“Big Stick” Diplomacy** – Roosevelt’s stated that America should **“speak softly and carry a big stick”** in foreign policy interactions. Roosevelt **expanded the military** (the “big stick”) and sent the Great White Fleet of warships around the world to display US power.
13. **Panama Canal** – Roosevelt **used the military to intimidate Colombia** and secure Panama’s independence so that America could build a canal through Panama to **link the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans**. This canal **helped the US move military and merchant ships quickly**.
14. **Dollar Diplomacy** – President Taft and President Wilson **followed Roosevelt’s policy of intervention in Latin America and the Caribbean**, but they favored the **use of American financial power** rather than military strength to accomplish their goals.
15. **World War I Neutrality** – At the start of WWI in Europe, **Wilson followed the traditional US policy of neutrality** (not getting involved). As the war continued, the US supplied the Allied Powers (Great Britain, France) with weapons, which caused Germany to attack US ships.
16. **Freedom of the Seas** – Germany violated the “freedom of the seas” by **attacking “neutral” US ships** with U-boats (submarines). These attacks eventually **led the US to declare war against Germany** and enter WWI on the side of the Allied Powers.
17. **Zimmerman Note** – Germany sent a **message to Mexico promising to return Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona to Mexico** in exchange for an **alliance against the US**. The US found out about the message, which **helped push the US into WWI against Germany**.
18. ***Schenck v. United States*** – WWI was not popular with everyone in the US. **Schenck spoke out against the draft for the war**, but was arrested, and the **Supreme Court said that the govt could limit civil liberties** (like freedom of speech) during wartime.
19. **Wilson’s 14 Points** – Wilson developed a **plan for post-WWI peace** called the 14 Points. In this plan, Wilson proposed the creation of a **League of Nations**, which would bind member countries together in collective security agreement (each member would defend the other).
20. **Treaty of Versailles / League of Nations** – The treaty that ended WWI required membership in the League of Nations. The **US rejected the treaty** because they thought **membership in the League would tie America to foreign countries and involve the US in more wars**.
21. **Seneca Falls Convention** – In 1848, hundreds of women (and many male allies) met in Seneca Falls, NY to organize a **movement for women’s rights**. They drafted the **Declaration of Sentiments**, which called for greater legal and political rights for women (voting rights).
22. **Women’s Suffrage Movement** – The fight for voting rights (suffrage) had **started at the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848**. Women gained voting rights in western states first (**Wyoming!**), but during WWI, women **used the war to protest for voting rights** for all states.
23. **19th Amendment** – After continued protests (**Alice Paul** protested at the White House, was arrested, and went on a hunger strike in prison), **women finally gained national suffrage with the passage of the 19th Amendment**, which went into effect in 1920.
24. **Booker T. Washington / W.E.B. Du Bois Debate** – They disagreed about the best path forward for African Americans. **Washington focused on jobs** (and not open confrontation of segregation), while **Du Bois focused on higher education** and demanded full civil rights.
25. **Great Migration** – **During and after WWI, many African Americans migrated from the South to Northern states to take jobs in factories** and to **escape segregation** (although they often continued to face discrimination and violence in the North).

Directions: After reviewing the key terms, use the spaces below to record a definition **in your own words** for each term.

1. Progressive Era

2. Muckrakers

3. Jacob Riis' *How the Other Half Lives*

4. Upton Sinclair / *The Jungle*

5. Progressive Presidents

6. Antitrust Acts

7. Initiative / Referendum / Recall

8. 16th Amendment

9. 17th Amendment

10. Federal Reserve Act

11. Roosevelt Corollary

12. "Big Stick" Diplomacy

13. Panama Canal

14. Dollar Diplomacy

15. World War I Neutrality

16. Freedom of the Seas

17. Zimmerman Note

18. *Schenck v. United States*

19. Wilson's 14 Points

20. Treaty of Versailles / League of Nations

21. Seneca Falls Convention

22. Women's Suffrage Movement

23. 19th Amendment

24. Booker T. Washington / W.E.B. Du Bois Debate

25. Great Migration – During and after WWI