

# Progressive Presidents

## Chapter 21 Section 3



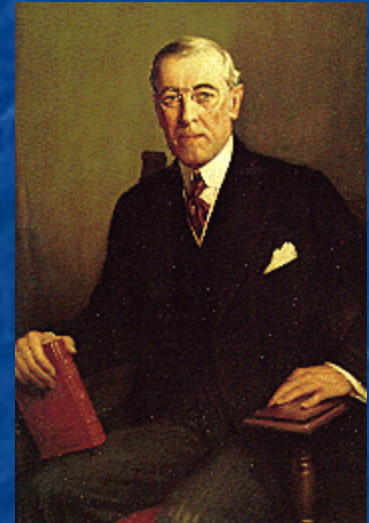
Theodore Roosevelt

1901-1909



William Howard Taft

1909-1913



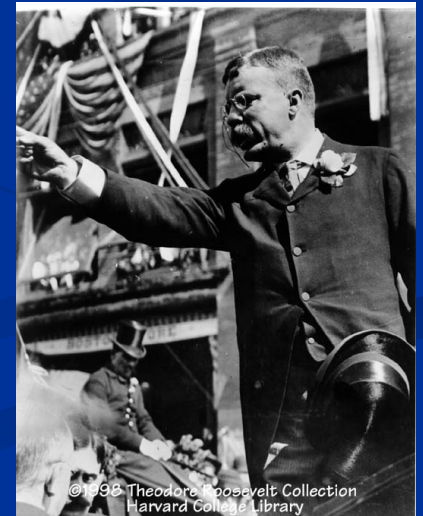
Woodrow Wilson

1913-1921

# Theodore Roosevelt

## 26<sup>th</sup> President-Republican (1901)

- Became President when McKinley was assassinated in 1901.
- Brought progressive ideas to the White House.
- At that time he was the youngest President in history.



# The Trustbuster/Roosevelt

- Roosevelt supported Progressive reforms
- 1902-Ordered Justice Department to take legal action against certain trusts.
- First Target: Northern Securities Company
- NSC railroad monopoly that controlled transportation in the Northwest.
- NSC fought the charges
- 1904 Supreme Court ordered trust taken apart.

# The Trustbuster At Work/Roosevelt

- 25 indictments against trusts in beef, oil and tobacco industry
- Roosevelt felt that not all trusts should be broken up.
- These trusts should be regulated, not destroyed.



# Labor Crisis/Roosevelt

- 1902 Coal miners strike, members of United Mine Workers
- They demanded better pay, 8 hour workday and recognition of union rights. The coal strike lasted for months
- Roosevelt forced mine owners and workers to agree to arbitration.
- Arbitration is the settling of a dispute by agreeing to accept the decision of an impartial outsider.
- Mine workers won better pay and an 8 hour workday.
- They did not gain recognition for the union.

# Square Deal/Roosevelt

- Roosevelt's slogan for reelection in 1904
- Promised Americans equal treatment for all.
- Roosevelt won with 57% of the popular vote.
- Roosevelt called for a considerable amount of government regulation of business.
- This was in contrast with the attitude of government towards business dating back to Thomas Jefferson.
- The term laissez faire, from Jefferson's era, means "let the People do as they choose."
- Roosevelt aimed to change this attitude through government regulation.

# Conserving the Wilderness Roosevelt

- ▶ As president Roosevelt took steps to conserve the country's natural resources, forests, water and mineral deposits.
- ▶ In 1905 he proposed the U.S. Forest Service. He pressured Congress to set aside millions of acres of national forests and created the first wildlife sanctuaries.

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# William Howard Taft

## 27<sup>th</sup> President-Republican (1908)

- Taft defeated William Jennings Bryan in the election of 1908.
- Taft went beyond many of Roosevelt's policies.
- Taft won more anti-trust cases and favored safety standards for mines and railroads.



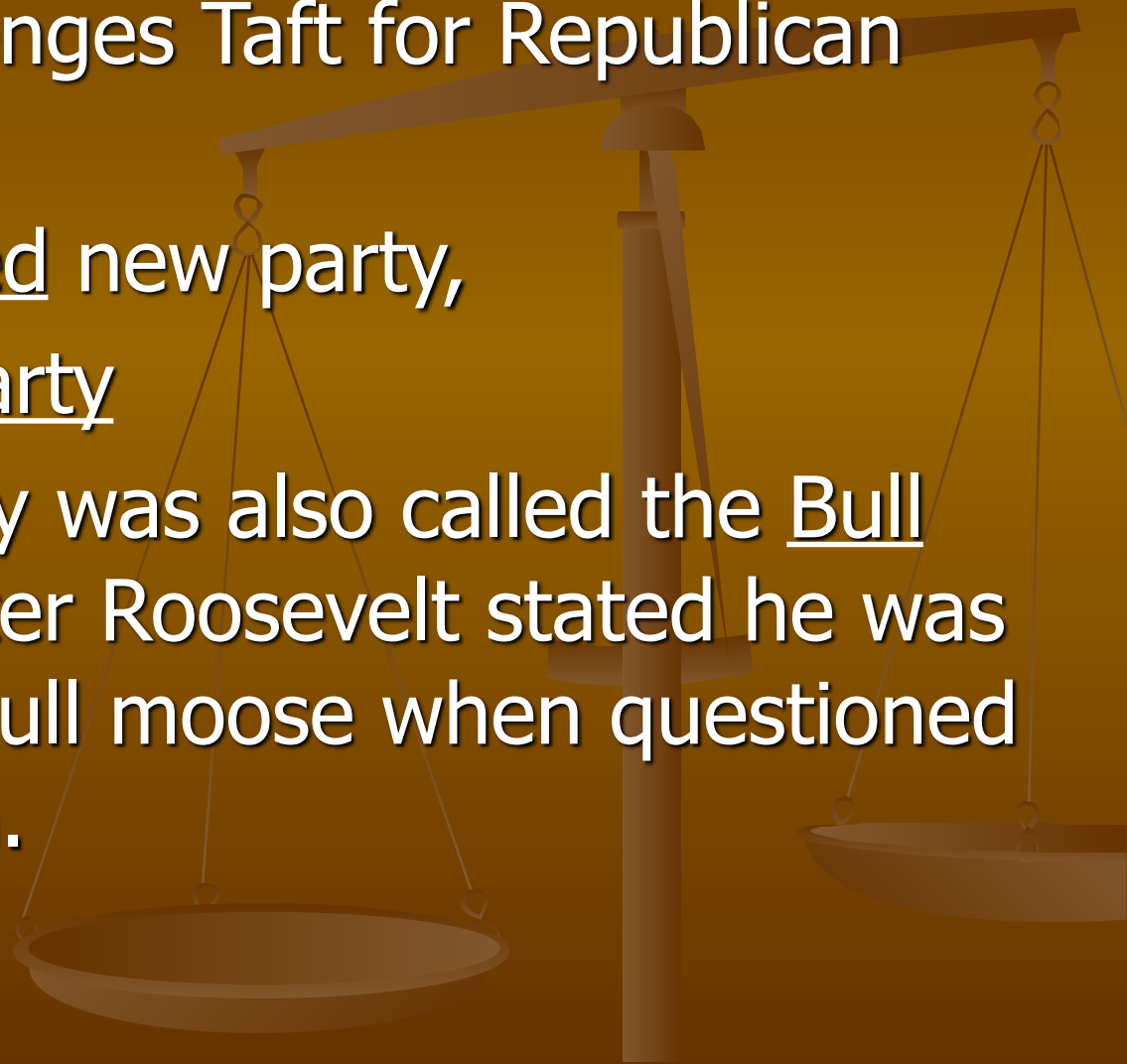


# 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment/Taft

- Taft supported the 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment which gave Congress the power to tax peoples' income.
- The income tax would generate revenue for the federal government.

Election of 1912  
Taft: Republican, Roosevelt: Progressive  
Wilson: Democrat

- Roosevelt challenges Taft for Republican nomination.
- Roosevelt formed new party, the Progressive Party
- Roosevelt's party was also called the Bull Moose Party, after Roosevelt stated he was as strong as a bull moose when questioned about his health.



# Woodrow Wilson

## 28<sup>th</sup> President: Democrat 1912

- Wilson defeated Roosevelt and Taft in the election of 1912
- His plan was called “New Freedom.”
- Lowered tariffs on imported goods.



# Wilson's Accomplishments

- 1913- Federal Reserve Act

Regulated banking

- 1914- Federal Trade Commission-

Investigated corporations for unfair trade practices.

- 1914- Clayton Anti-Trust Act

Weapon against trusts