

The Progressives Lesson 16 Notes

Who Were the Progressives?

- mainly middle class residents of big cities
- believed that the problems society could be fixed by providing good education, a safe environment, and an efficient workplace
- strove for labor reform, social reform, business reform, government reform

What Were Progressive Reforms?

- **social reforms** - improvements in education, living conditions, public health, and ending violence, discrimination, racism, and class warfare.
- **government reforms** - reforms that ended corruption in the government were
- **labor reform (workplace reform)** - reform to improve the lives of workers.
- **Business reform** - changes made in the way businesses were run to ensure that businesses were fair to each other and the public.
- **foreign policy** under **Theodore Roosevelt** was considered a progressive
 - enforced the **Monroe Doctrine** - the United States was the police for the **Western Hemisphere**

When Were Progressive Reforms Accomplished?

- existed before the **Progressive Era**
- exist today
- The Progressive Era - time when the majority of America wanted to change and reform the problems and issues of the Gilded Age
- **the turn of the century**
- 1890s until the 1920s

Where Were Progressive Reform Accomplished?

- **World - Level Progressive Era Reforms**
- **W.E.B. DuBois** - Vice President of the **Pan-African Congress** - concerned with the conditions of people of African descent wherever they lived.
- **Andrew Carnegie** - offered the **Philippines** \$20 million to purchase their independence from **Spain**
- **Teddy Roosevelt** and **Rough Riders** - helped **Cuba** fight Spain for their Independence
- **Industrial Workers of the World** - was and still is a labor union that takes care of industrial workers all over the world

National - Level Progressive Era Reforms

- **Newlands Reclamation Act** - allowed building of dams and irrigations systems using money from the sale of public lands - land **conservation**
- **Pure Food and Drug Act** - required that companies label the ingredients in processed food items
- **Federal Reserve Act** - created a Federal Reserve Board and twelve district Federal Reserve Banks to issue new currency and loan member banks funds at a special interest rate
- **Clayton Anti-Trust Act** - **outlawed** monopolies.
- **16th Amendment** granted Congress the power to tax people's **income**
- **17th Amendment** made the election of U.S. Senators a **direct election**
- **18th Amendment** made it illegal to make, sell, or transport alcohol - it was **repealed** by **21st Amendment**
- **19th Amendment** gave women the right to vote.

State - Level Progressive Era Reforms

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- **secret ballot** - which meant people could cast votes in secret without party bosses knowing how they voted
- **initiatives** - allow voters to petition state legislatures and force them to consider a bill that is wanted by a large number of citizens
- **referendums** - allow voters to decide if a bill or proposed amendment should be passed.
- **recalls** - allowed voters to petition to have an elected representative removed from office
- **Direct Primary** - ensures that voters select candidates to run for office, rather than party bosses.

Local - Level Progressive Era Reforms

- **City Commissioner Plan** - allowed cities to hire experts in different fields to run a single area of city government
- **City Manager Plan** - where a professional city manager is hired to run each department of the city and report directly to the city council.
- **Settlement houses** - homes or institutions in an inner-city area that provided education, recreation, and other social services to the community

Why Were Progressive Reforms Accomplished?

- reaction to the **Gilded Age**
- worked to improve American life

How Did Progressives Reform?

Awareness

- **organization** - a club of Progressives with similar interests
- **cause** - the main interest or issue that the group worked for
- **awareness campaign** - a way to bring attention to a cause - methods: public speaking; passing out information; holding rallies and educational seminars; writing books; and publishing articles in newspapers magazines, and journals.
- **movement** - a club or organization that actively seeks members to help with a cause

Support

- worked to get support from politicians and people in the public eye
- registered people to vote
- **lobbied** congress - people would contact representatives anyway they could. They would write letters, arrange meetings, and find opportunities at social events to talk to congressmen and senators about their cause
- held rallies
- **rally** - public meeting where a group would announce a cause or express their anger about an issue

Peaceful Approaches

- **Jane Addams - settlement house** - a house in a large city designed to help immigrants and the urban poor rise out of poverty and gain a better quality of life.
- **Educational institutions - Booker T. Washington - Tuskegee Institute** - teach the African Americans basic skills, farming techniques, and **trades** to help people bring themselves out of poverty
- **John Dewey** - created grade levels to replace the one room school house and introduced hands on learning to replace **rote memorization**.
- **Muckrakers** - first investigative reporters - investigated businesses, factories, the government, and other organizations - exposed corruption
- **Lewis Hines - National Child Labor Committee** - filming and photographing children at work - published in newspapers - led to Child Labor Laws.

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Aggressive Approaches

- **civil disobedience**
 - when a person refuses to obey a law as a way of forcing the government to do or change something
 - used by **Susan B. Anthony** - she voted even though it was against the law for women to vote - was arrested
- **social influence**
 - when a person or group changes the way they think or do things because of an action by another person or group
 - used by the **National Consumers League** - created the **White Label** - gave to stores that met their standards for minimum wages, maximum working hours, and decent working conditions
- **picketing**
 - when a group of people stand or march near a place to protest something
 - Used by the **National Women's League** - picketed the White House in order to gain President Woodrow Wilson's attention for women's **suffrage**.
- **strikes**
 - when workers stop working in order to force an employer to agree to their demands
 - used by the **Knights of Labor**
- **demonstrations**
 - events in which people gather together in order to show that they support or oppose something or someone.
 - used by Native Americans - **Ghost Dance** as a demonstration to support their traditional ways opposed to **assimilation**
 - **protests** - type of demonstration when a group of people gather at a public event only to express their dislike of something.

Violent Approaches

- **Molly Maguires** - used violent methods to fight for better working conditions
 - **intimidation**
 - beatings
 - **arson**
 - murder
- **Riots** - situations in which a large group of people behave in a violent and uncontrolled way
- **Terrorism**
 - method used by few
 - not considered Progressives
 - **Haymarket Square Bombing**- rally until the police attempted to break it up - one rally member - threw a bomb into the police ranks - killing seven officers and wounded sixty more.

Who Cares About the Progressive Era Anyway?

- You should
- why we have fair and equal treatment today