



Taft, Wilson, & Progressivism

Chapter 6 Sections 2-3

USH Honors

Learning Objectives

1

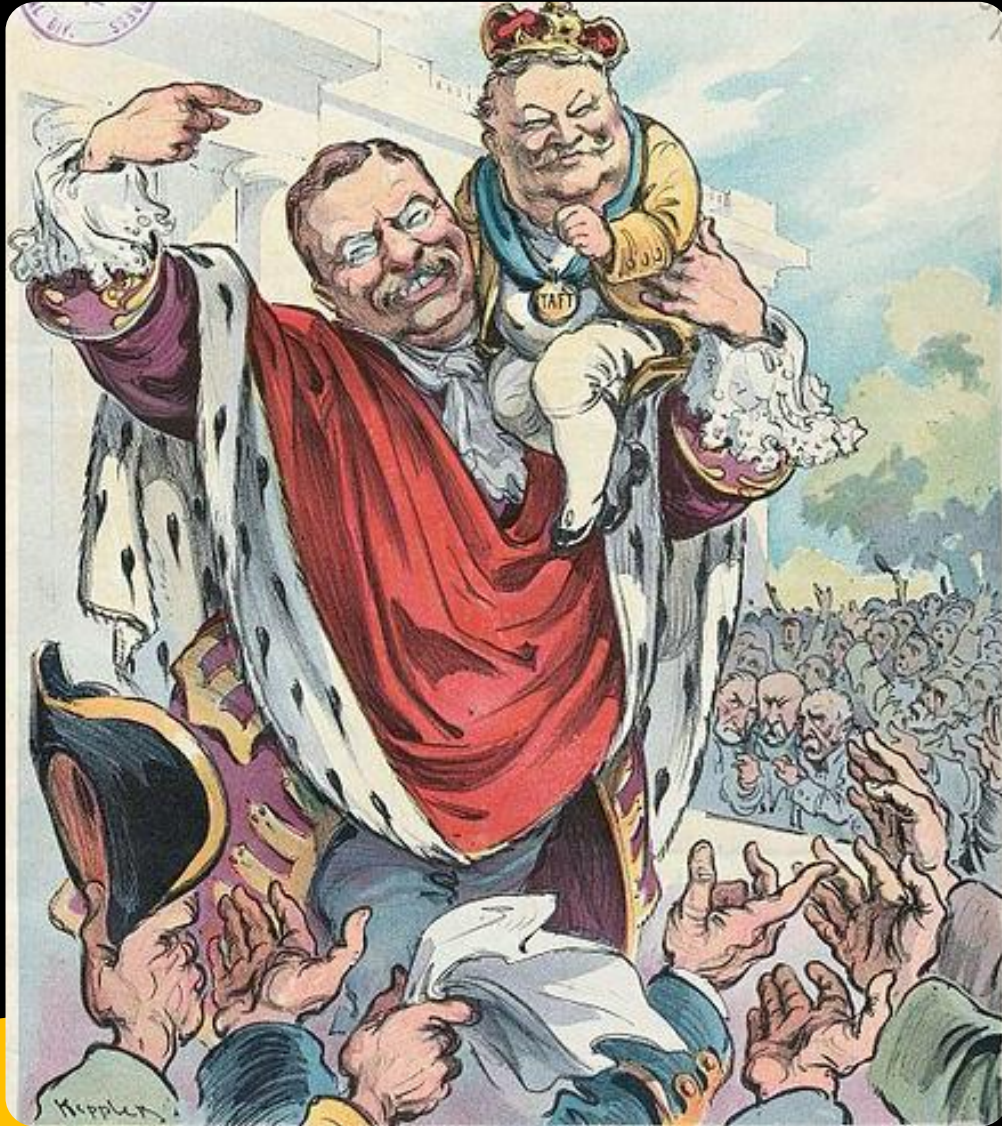
Students will be able to explain the four goals of progressivism.

2

Students will be able to summarize progressive efforts to clean up government.

3

Students will be able to identify progressive efforts to reform state government, protect workers, and reform elections.

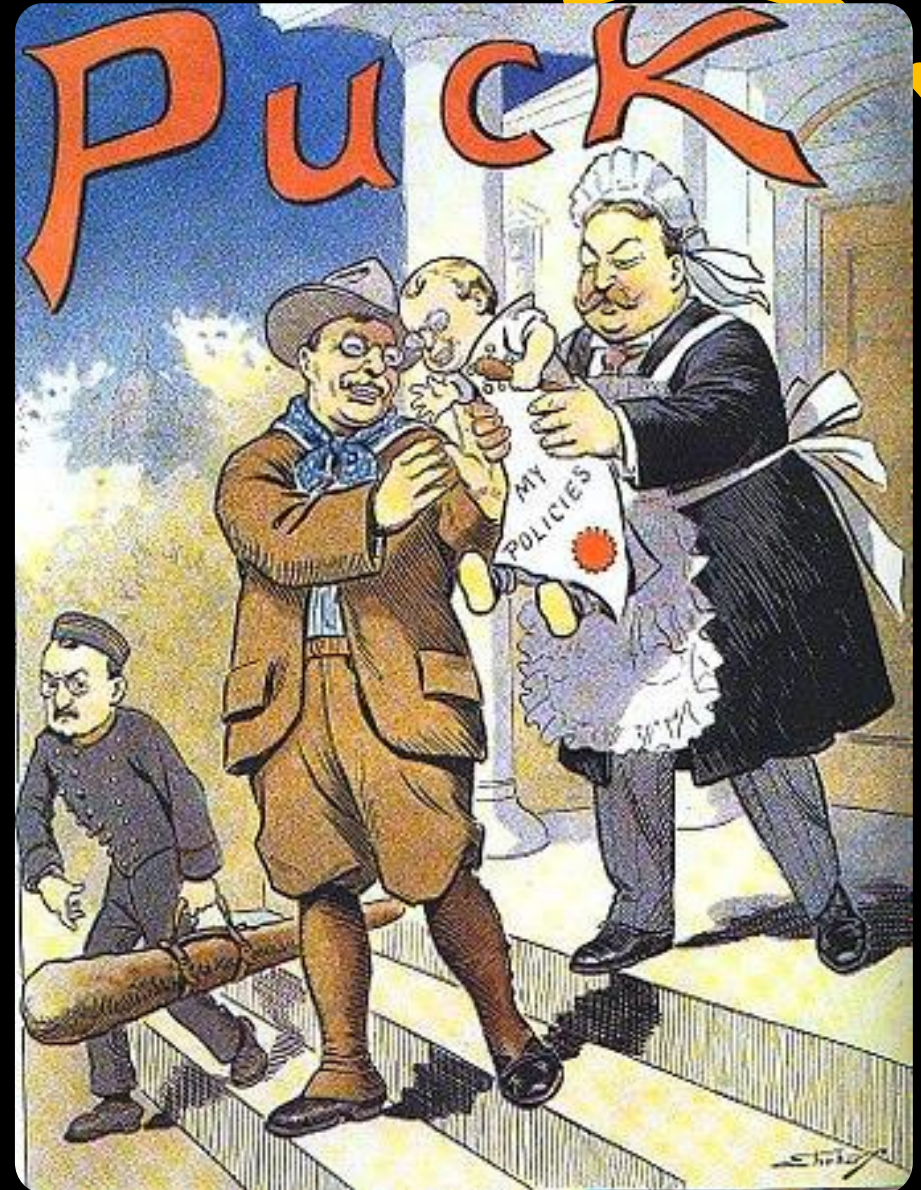


Who is Taft?

- Roosevelt followed the path set up by Pres. Washington...2 terms and out.
- Hand-picked to follow Roosevelt:
 - A judge
 - The governor of the Philippines
 - Roosevelt's Secretary of War
- Roosevelt campaigned for Taft
- Taft never thought of himself as "Mr. President"

Entrusted with the Future

- **What does Taft believe?**
 - High tariffs would HURT America
- **Does Taft avoid tariffs? NO!**
 - This SPLITS the Republican Party
 - Progressives: support tariff reduction
 - Conservatives: maintain HIGH tariffs
- **Payne-Aldrich Tariff**
 - Cut tariffs on very few goods
 - Raised tariffs on other goods
 - Progressives felt betrayed





**Foreign
Policy
and Taft**

Controversies and President Taft



- **Ballinger-Pinchot Controversy**
 - Taft replaced a Roosevelt pick for Secretary of the Interior with a less aggressive conservationist.
 - Ballinger tried to make public lands available for private developers
 - Gifford Pinchot leaked this to the press
 - Taft fired Pinchot... Republicans are outraged
- **Republican progressives stopped trusting Taft...They will look for a new candidate in 1912!**

Taft's Achievements

- **What went well in the Taft administration?**
 - **Antitrust Activities**: Taft busted 90 trusts during his single term as president
 - **Protecting Society**: Taft established the Bureau of Mines (monitors mining)
 - **Conservation**: Taft expanded the national forests & protected waterpower



Election of 1912



- **In this election we have**
 - a current president, a former president, & a state governor
- **Roosevelt and Taft split the Republican Party**
 - Progressives = Roosevelt
 - Conservatives = Taft
- **Democrats back Wilson**
- **If you split a party, the unified party will ALWAYS win!**
- **The other party!**
 - Roosevelt and Taft split the Republican Party
 - Wilson Won!
- **This has happened several times in history:**
 - 1992 Presidential Election: Most recent example!

Woodrow Wilson



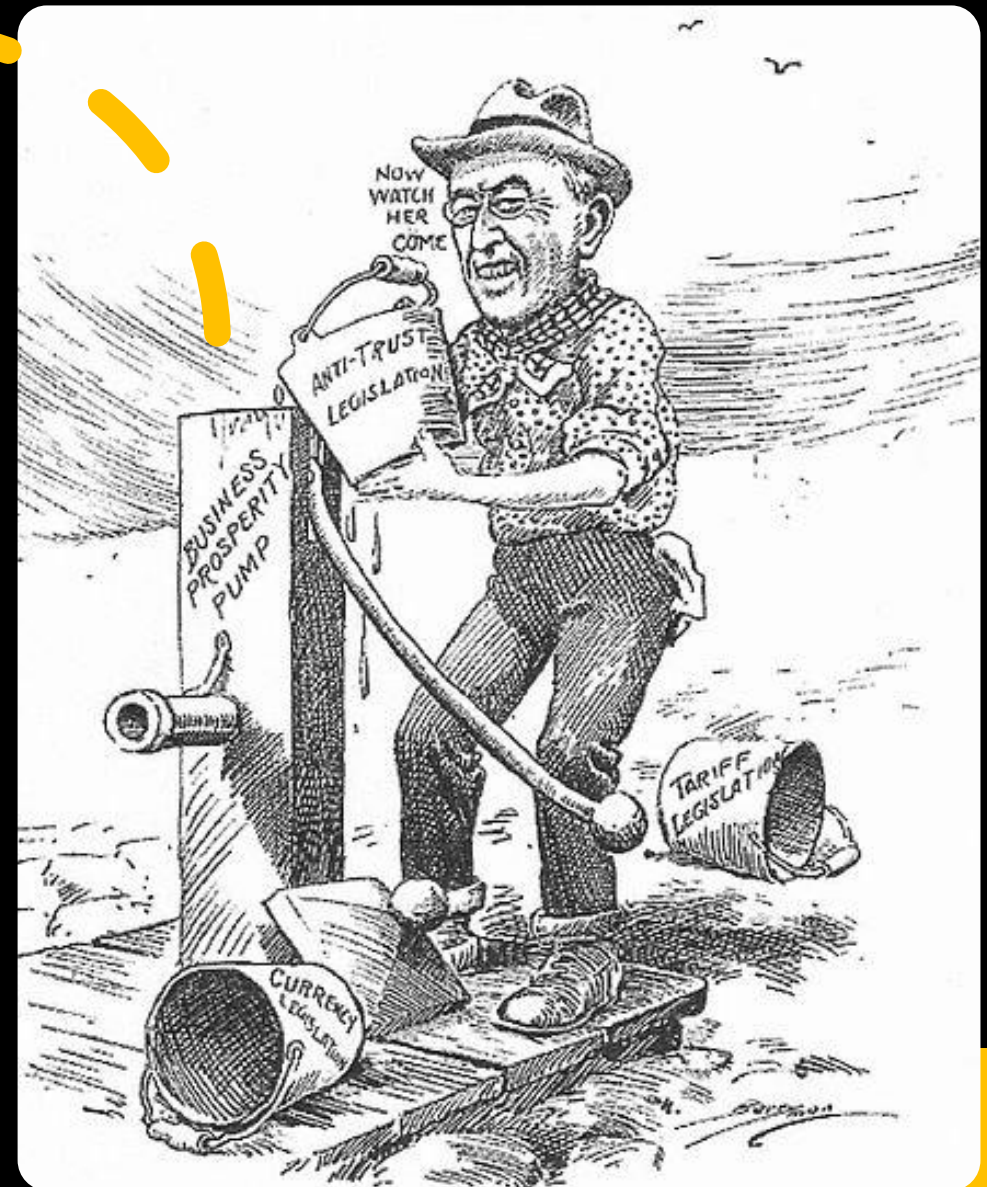
- **Wilson was the grandson of a Presbyterian minister**
- **Spent his youth in the South (Civil War and Reconstruction)**
- **Graduate of the College of New Jersey (Princeton University)**
- **After graduation he held several jobs:**
 - Practiced law
 - Professor of political science
 - President of Princeton University
- **Wilson was a PROGRESSIVE**
- **Just like Roosevelt, he appealed to the people**
 - Willing to stand up to political bosses
 - After becoming governor, he declared himself an Independent!

- **Wilson and Trusts**

- **Clayton Antitrust Act** stops companies buying stock to form monopoly
- Ends injunctions against strikers unless threaten irreparable damage

- **Wilson and Trade**

- **Federal Trade Commission (FTC)** - new “watchdog” agency
- investigates regulatory violations
- ends unfair business practices





- **A New Tax System**

Sets precedent of giving State of the Union message in person
His use of bully pulpit leads to passage

- **Federal Income Tax:** 16th Amendment legalizes graduated federal income tax
- **Federal Reserve System**

Federal Reserve System—private banking system under federal control

Nation divided into 12 districts; central bank in each district