



From Over Revolution
(the Progressive Age)

History 1: Survey of U.S. History



Challenges Facing Americans in the Late 19th Century

- New wave of immigration - the Ellis Island generation
- Urbanization
- Labor Unrest
- Jim Crow Laws
- Lack of franchise for women and African Americans
- Women played a large role in addressing (though not necessarily solving) many of these problems.

Women in 1900

- Women's lives structured by race, class and marital status, in that order
- Average lifespan was 48.3 years
- Average woman married at age 22
- Women who reached adulthood had an average of 3.6 children

Women's Rights in 1900

- A married woman had no separate legal identity from her husband
- No control over reproduction (even talking about contraception is illegal)
- No property held in her name - jobs available (class restricted), but no careers
- No right to vote, could not serve on juries, could not hold public office
- Not considered “persons” under the 14th amendment (used the word ‘male’)

Middle Class White Women's Roles

- Middle class is overwhelmingly white, urban, Protestant, Anglo-Saxon
- Sacred duty - raise virtuous sons and daughters
- Victorian sexuality



Change Already Underway in 1900

- Literacy - more girls than boys finished high school
- New female-dominated professions
 - nursing
 - social work
 - clerical jobs also becoming women's work
- College Education
 - Women constitute 30% of college students
- Professions limited
 - Only 5% of medical students were women
 - In 1920, only 1.4% of lawyers were women

Women and the Temperance Movement



- How did this poster deploy reigning gender norms? Does it challenge them or uphold them?

Francis Willard



Willard became head of the WCTU in 1879 until her death in 1898. Refocused organization on social *action*.

Jane Addams



Hull House in 1930, near UIC

Addams represented what is known as the “social gospel” reform tradition.

Johnny Powers and the Boodlers

CHICAGO BOODLERS.

The Grand Jury Still at Work—Three Aldermen to Be Arrested.

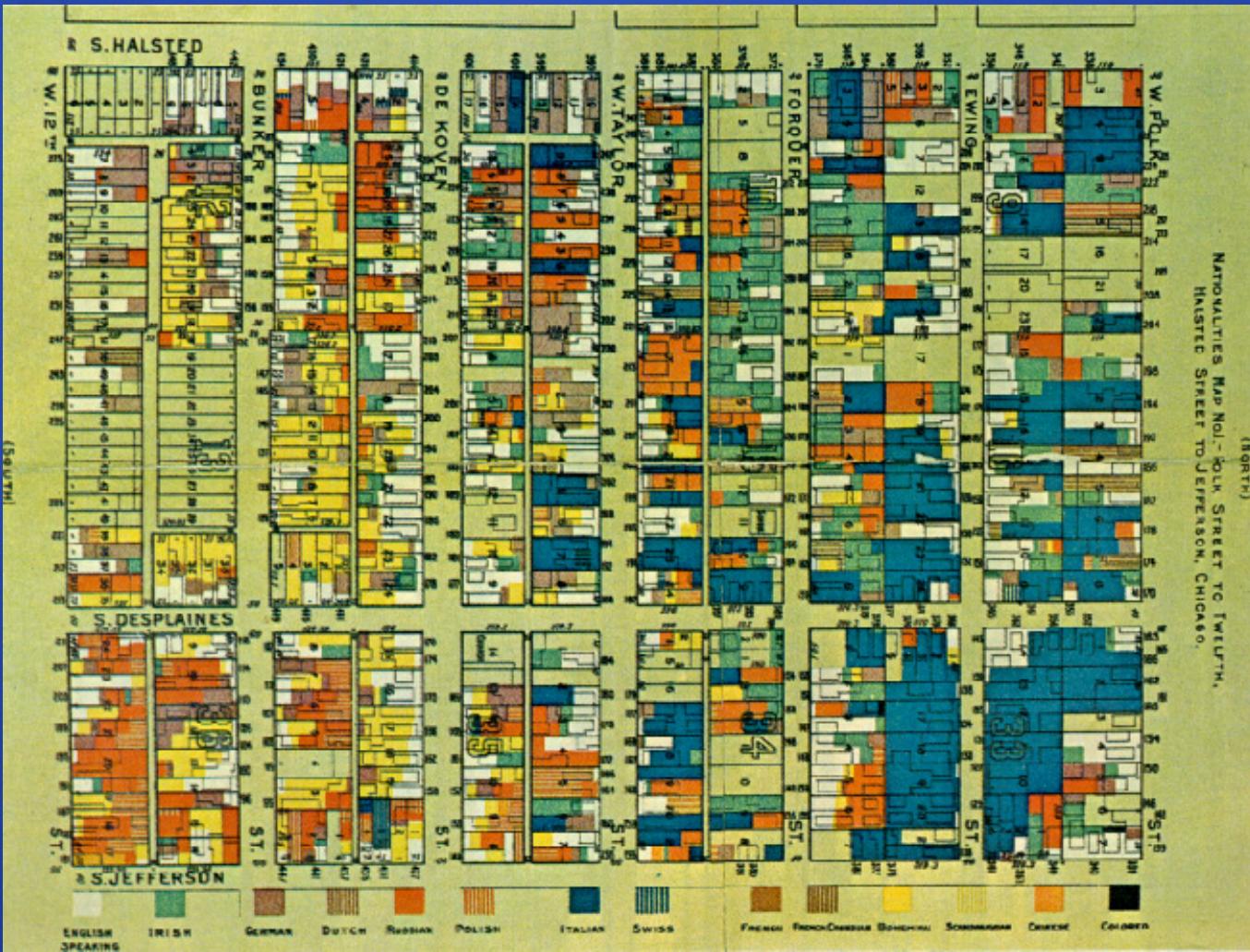
CHICAGO, March 19.—When the grand jury reassembled this morning it decided to enter upon an investigation of the methods whereby the economic gas ordinance was passed by the city council. A score of witnesses had been summoned and were in waiting to be examined. Among them were the officers of the company and several aldermen. City Clerk Van Cleve was first examined and produced the records of the council showing the names of the aldermen that voted for the ordinance, under investigation and the others under-suspicion. Alderman Stanley Kunz was then called in and examined at length.

Report has it that three members of council will be arrested before night. Those mentioned in this connection are Ald. John Powers, of the Nineteenth ward; John A. Cooke, of the Seventh, and "Billy" O'Brien, of the Sixth. States Attorney Longenecker will neither affirm or deny the report. Kunz was still on the rack when the grand jury took a recess.

- Powers was an Irish “boodler”
- A city boss targeted by Jane Addams



Map of the 19th Ward from Hull House Maps and Papers (1895)



What is Progressivism?

- A political approach that dominated change in the United States from roughly 1900-1920.
- Centered on the idea that America's political system is fundamentally sound, but in need of attention to perfect the relationship between government and society.
- Not laissez-faire, but not intrusive. Nonetheless, consider how this approach will change the relationship between Americans and their government (all levels- city, state and federal).

How did Progressivism Work?



Ida M.
Tarbell

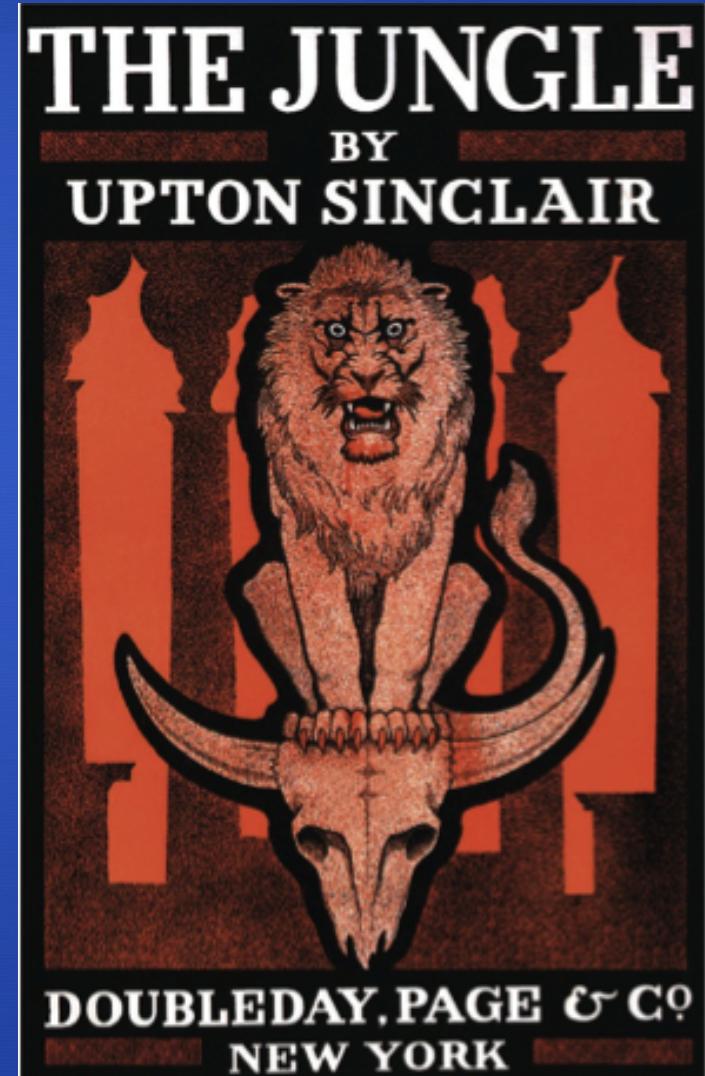


Upton Sinclair

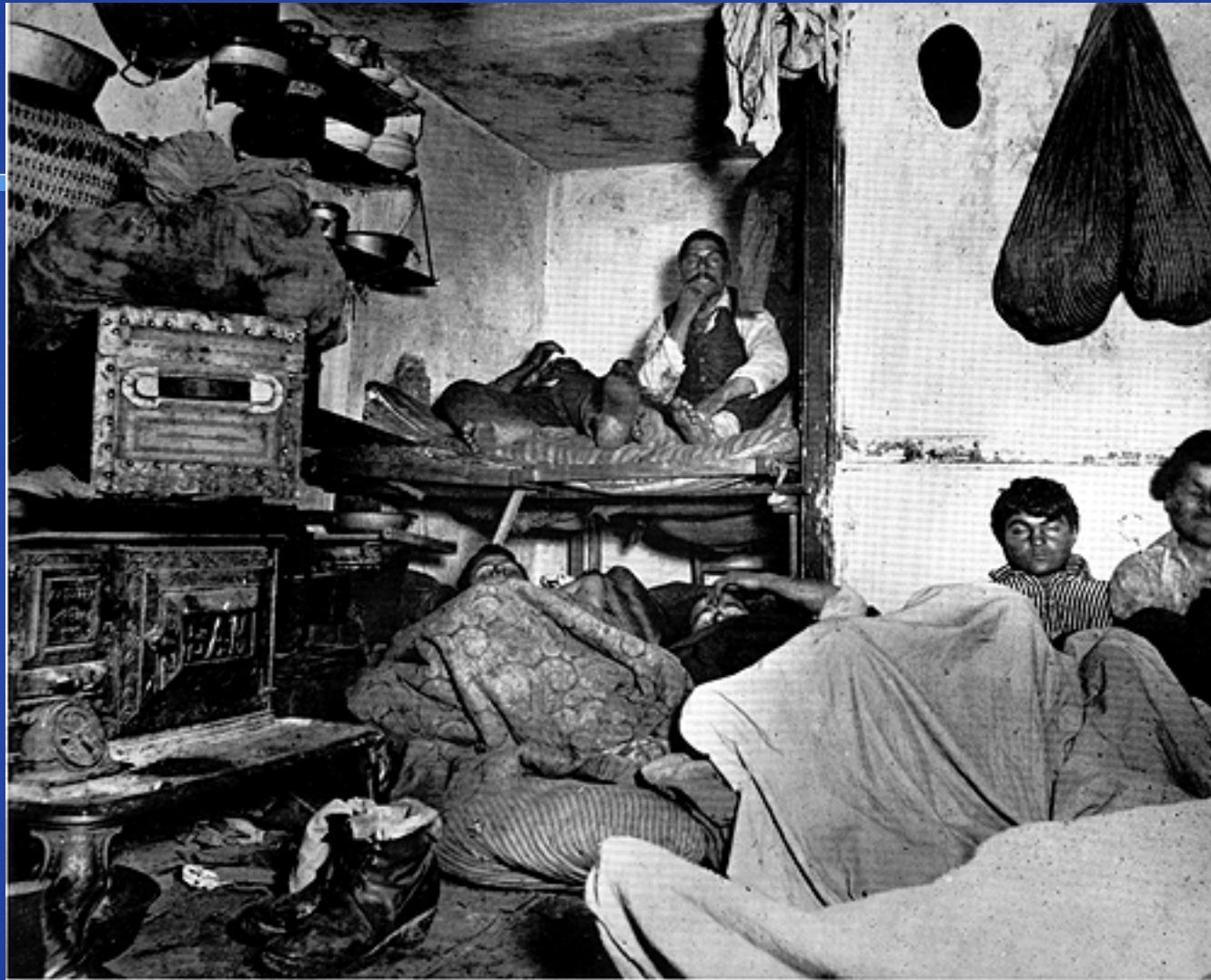
- An unofficial alliance between middle class reformers and presidents of two major parties who advocated the REFORM of problematic aspects of society through legislation.
- Women were heavily represented among Progressives.

The Muckrakers:

- Muckraker: a term applied by President Theodore Roosevelt to Progressive journalists because they must always stare down at the “filth on the floor.”
- Jacob Riis *How the Other Half Lives* (1890)
- Frank Norris *The Octopus* (1901)
- Ida Tarbell *History of the Standard Oil Company* (1902)
- Lincoln Steffens *Shame of the Cities* (1904)
- Upton Sinclair *The Jungle* (1906)

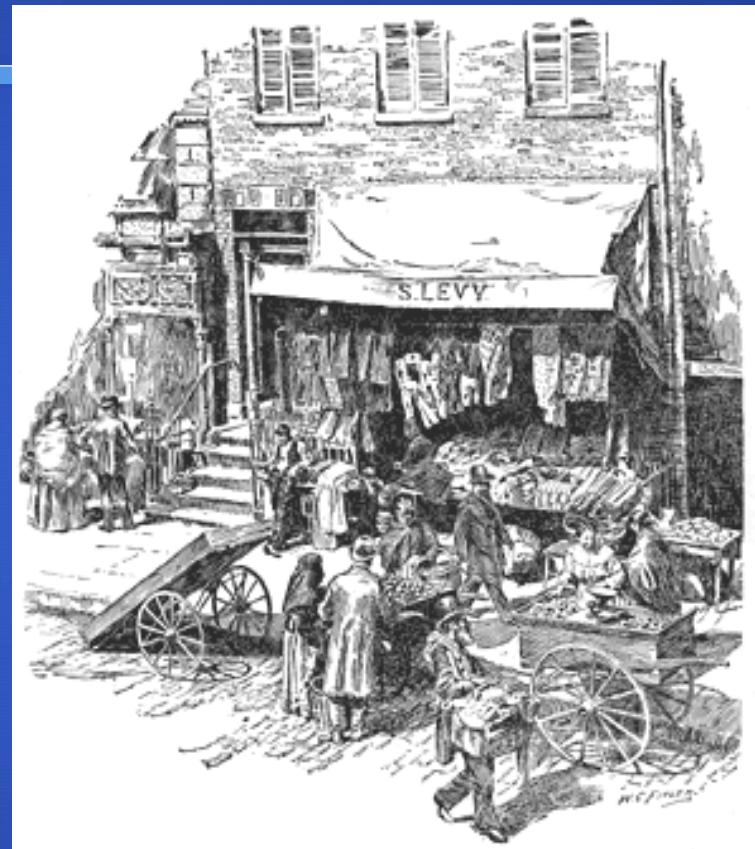


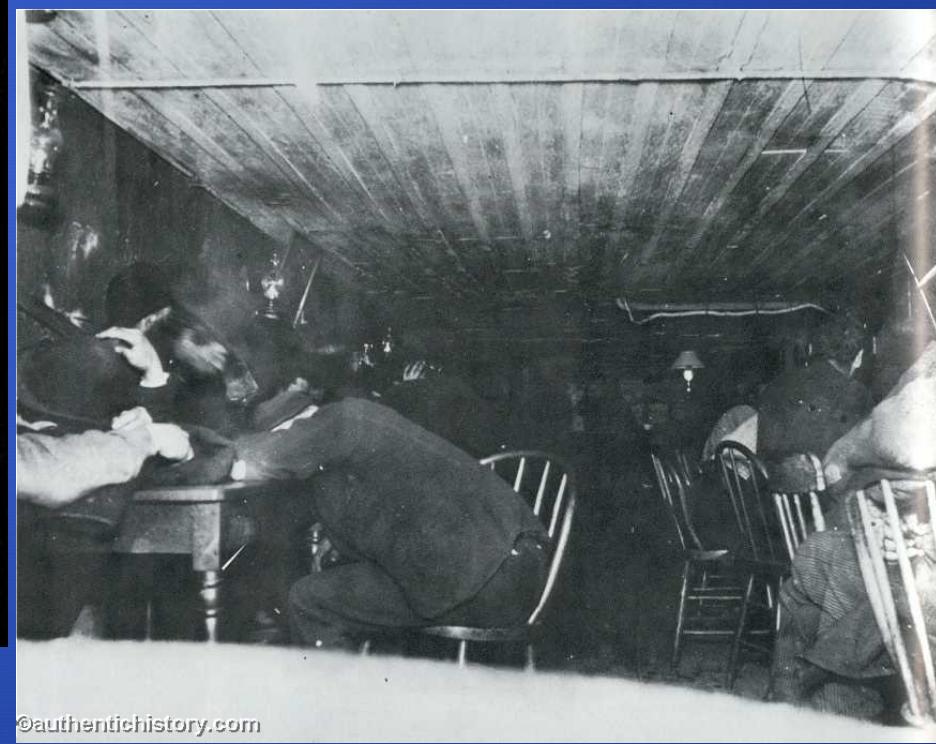






GOTHAM COURT





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Visual Source 18.4 Inside the Factory: Lewis Hine, *Child Labor*, 1912
Oil over photograph, 1912, by Lewis W. Hine. The Granger Collection, New York
Chapter 18, *Ways of the World: A Brief Global History with Sources*, First Edition
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Florence Kelley

- A Chicago-based crusader against child labor.
- Progressives believed that by passing laws to protect women and children they could eventually protect male workers.



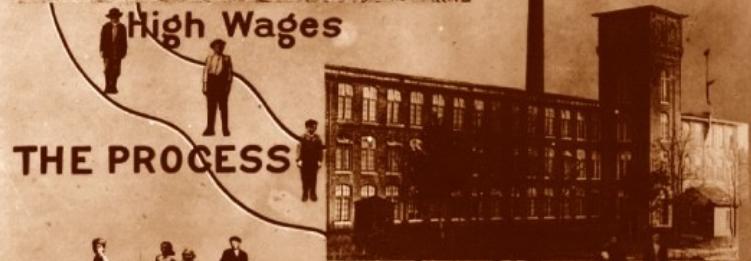
Portrait of Florence Kelley. Gelatin silver print.
c1920-1930. Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute.

Florence Kelley in the 1920s

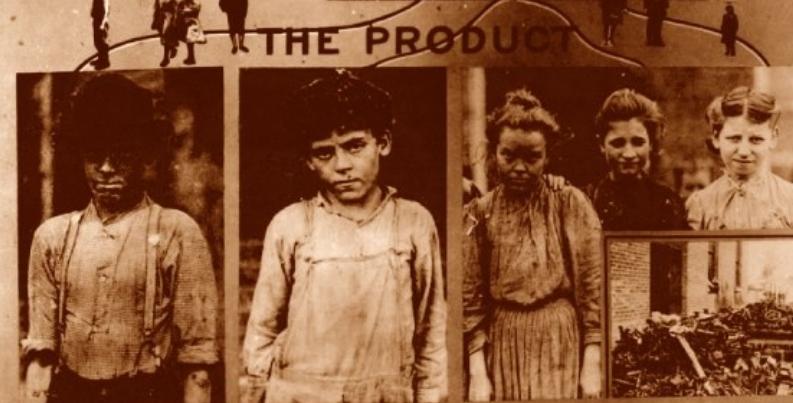
MAKING HUMAN JUNK



GOOD MATERIAL
AT FIRST



THE PROCESS

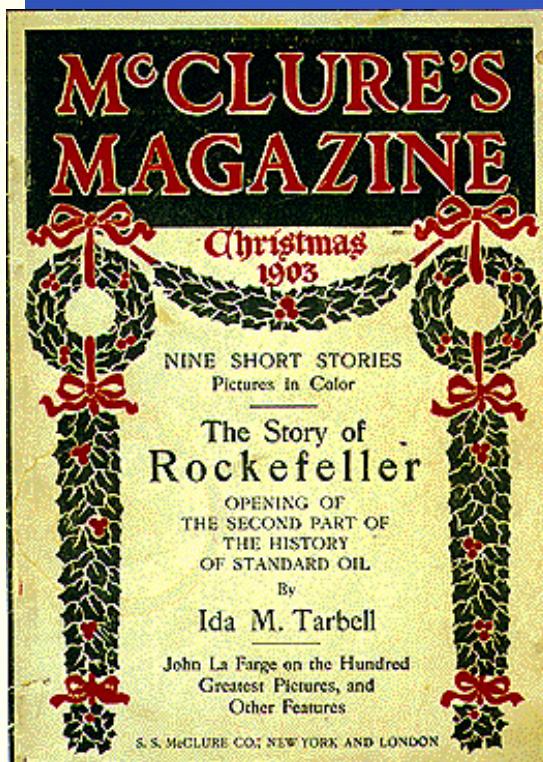
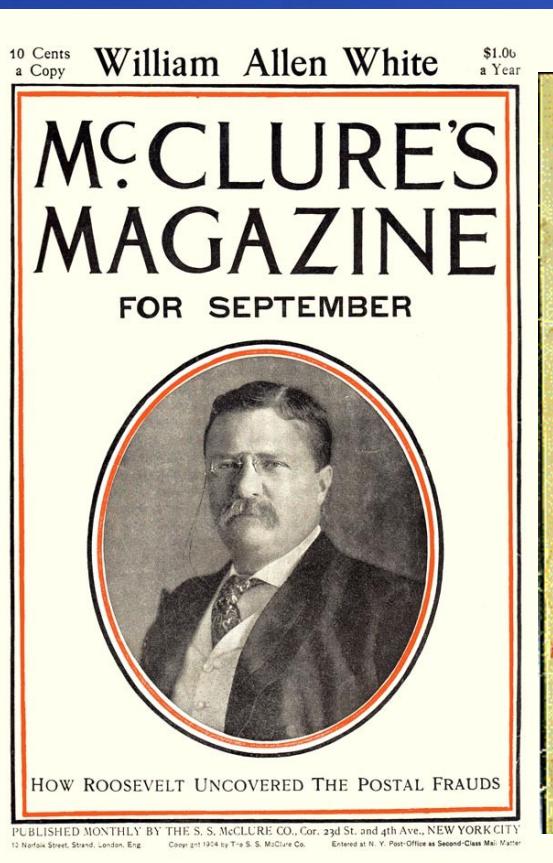


No future and low wages "Junk"

SHALL INDUSTRY BE ALLOWED TO PUT
THIS COST ON SOCIETY?

Progressive Poster Condemning Child Labor

How did Progressives Reach and Sway the Public?



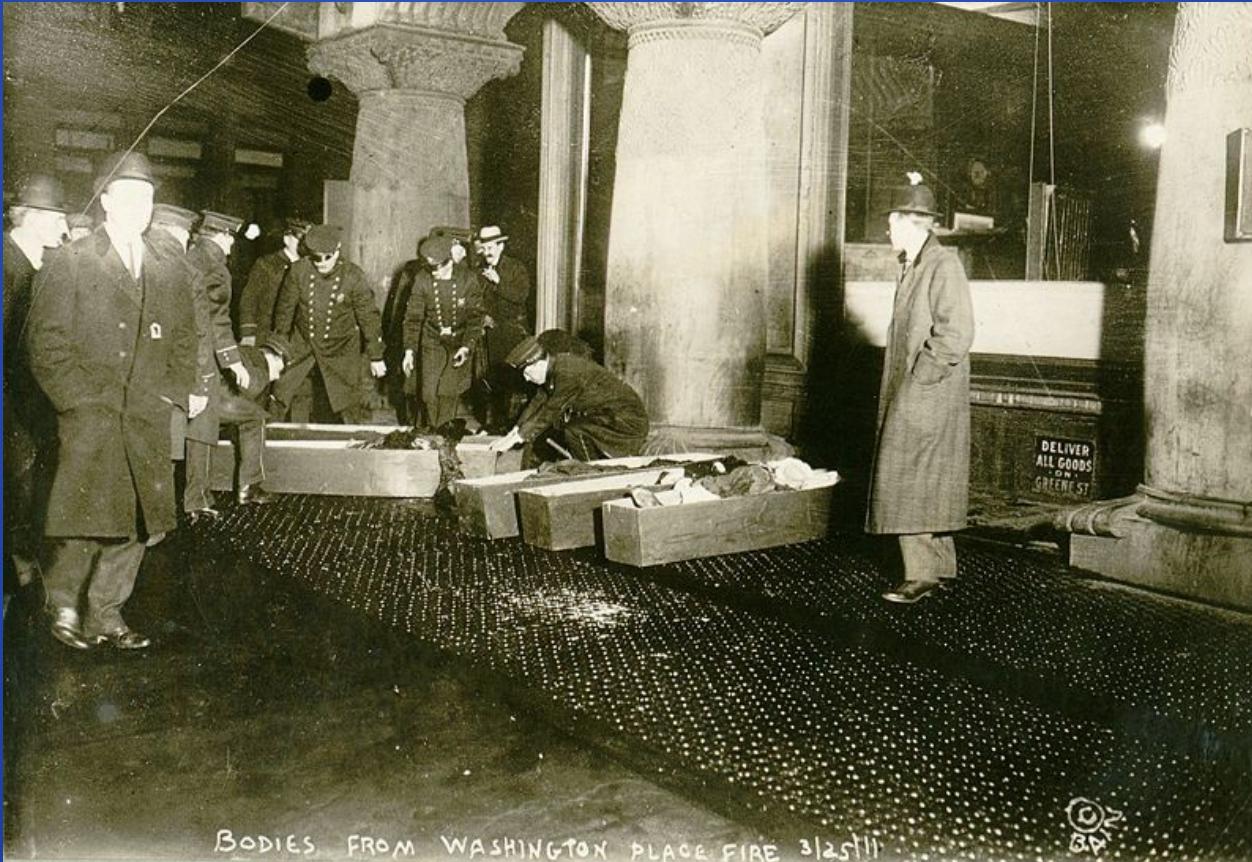
- McClure's magazine was a mainstay in popularizing Progressive causes, both in its monthly and by publishing books.
- Why might a magazine be so effective in reaching like-minded people?

Clara Lemlich and the Uprising of the 20,000



- **1909 International Ladies' Garment Workers Union went on strike in New York. Strikers were arrested and beaten by police. Strikers cooperate across ethnic lines.**

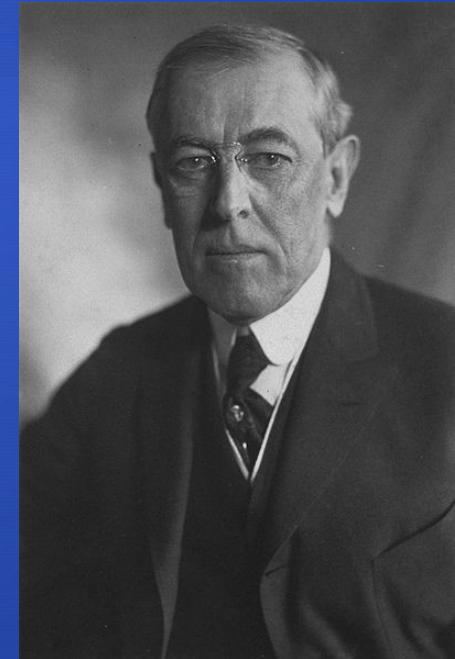
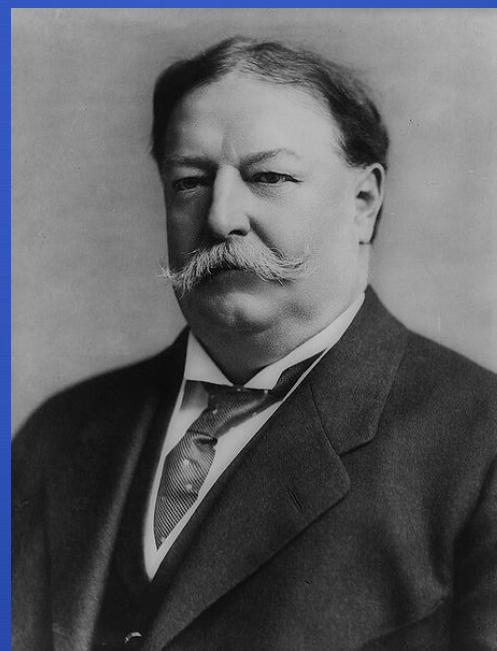
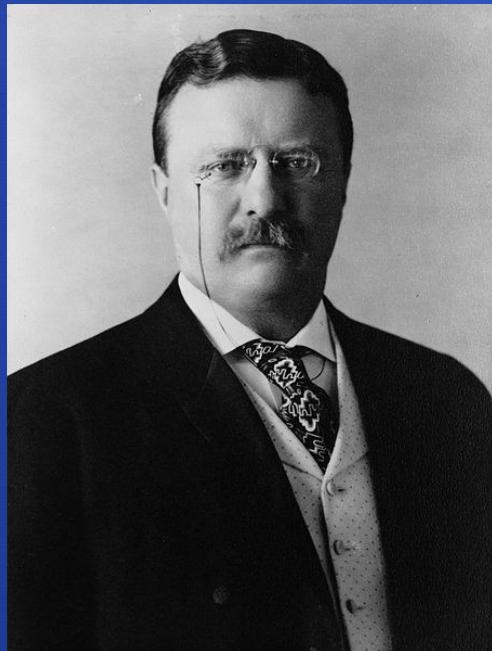
March 25, 1911- Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire



Many victims were immigrant Jews and their daughters

Progressive Presidencies

Presidents from both political parties described themselves as “Progressives”



Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909) William Howard Taft (1909-1913) Woodrow Wilson (1913-1920)

Roosevelt - Food Regulation

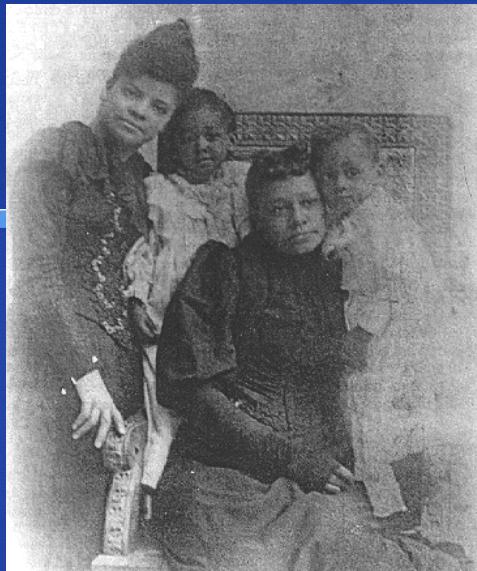
- Meat Inspection Act of 1906
 - TR uses Sinclair's *The Jungle* to force reforms through Congress
- Pure Food and Drug Act of 1906
 - Clamps down on patent medicine (mostly alcohol), took addictive cocaine traces out of Coca-Cola.

Election of 1912

- Three of the four candidates called themselves “Progressive”
 - 1. Woodrow Wilson (D) - 6.3 million votes
 - 2. TR (Progressive) - 4 million votes
 - 3. Taft (Republican) - 3.5 million votes
 - 4. Eugene Debs* - 900,000 votes
- *not a Progressive

Woodrow Wilson

- **Imposed an income tax for the first time**
- **Created the Federal Reserve System - 12 federal banks to expand or contract the currency to manage the economy**
- **Created Federal Trade Commission to prevent monopolies**
- **Granted women's suffrage hesitantly (more on this later)**



Ida B. Wells



- **Trained in Reconstruction-era schools**
- **Member of the black middle class**
- **Daughter of a “race man”**
- **Anti-lynching campaign**
- **Alpha Suffrage Club**

Margaret Sanger



- Considered a radical, even among the New Women at the turn of the century.
- Coined the term “birth control”
- Emphasized “economic self-sufficiency” (a break from Progressive tradition)

Birth Control as “Race Suicide”



- Why might men like TR not favor birth control?

THE WOMAN REBEL NO GODS NO MASTERS

VOL I.

MARCH 1914

NO. 1.

THE AIM

This paper will not be the champion of any "ism."

All rebel women are invited to contribute to its columns.

The majority of papers usually adjust themselves to the ideas of their readers but the WOMAN REBEL will obstinately refuse to be adjusted.

The aim of this paper will be to stimulate working women to think for themselves and to build up a conscious fighting character.

An early feature will be a series of articles written by the editor for girls from fourteen to eighteen years of age. In this present chaos of sex atmosphere it is difficult for the girl of this uncertain age to know just what to do or really what constitutes clean living without prudishness. All this clumsy talk about white slavery, the man painted and described as a hideous vulture pouncing down upon the young, pure and innocent girl, dragging her through the medium of grape juice and lemonade and then dragging her off to his foul den for other men equally as vicious to feed and fatten on her enforced slavery — surely this picture is enough to sicken and disgust every thinking woman and man, who has lived even a few years past the adolescent age. Could any more repulsive and foul conception of sex be given to adolescent girls as a preparation for life than this picture that is being perpetuated by the stupidly ignorant in the name of "sex education"?

If it were possible to get the truth from girls who work in prostitution to-day, I believe most of them would tell you that the first sex experience

Iowa." His sole aim is to throw off responsibility. The same uncertainty in these emotions is experienced by girls in marriage in as great a proportion as in the unmarried. After the first experience the life of a girl varies. All these girls do not necessarily go into prostitution. They have had an experience which has not "ruined" them, but rather given them a larger vision of life, stronger feelings and a broader understanding of human nature. The adolescent girl does not understand herself. She is full of contradictions, whims, emotions. For her emotional nature longs for caresses, to touch, to kiss. She is often as well satisfied to hold hands or to go arm in arm with a girl as in the companionship of a boy.

It is these and kindred facts upon which the WOMAN REBEL will dwell from time to time and from which it is hoped the young girl will derive some knowledge of her nature, and conduct her life upon such knowledge.

It will also be the aim of the WOMAN REBEL to advocate the prevention of conception and to impart such knowledge in the columns of this paper.

Other subjects, including the slavery through motherhood; through things, the home, public opinion and so forth, will be dealt with.

It is also the aim of this paper to circulate among those women who work in prostitution; to voice their wrongs; to expose the police persecution which hovers over them and to give free expression to their thoughts, hopes and opinions.

And at all times the WOMAN REBEL will strenuously advocate economic emancipation.

THE NEW FEMINISTS

That apologetic tone of the new American feminists which plainly says "Really, Madam Public Opinion, we are all quite harmless and perfectly respectable" was the keynote held at the first and second mass meetings held at Cooper Union on the 17th and 20th of February last.

The ideas advanced were very old and time-worn even to the ordinary church-going woman who reads the magazines and comes in contact with current thought. The "right to work," the "right to ignore fashions," the "right to keep her own name," the "right to organize," the "right of the mother to work"; all these so-called rights fail to arouse enthusiasm because to-day they are all recognized by society and there exist neither laws nor strong opposition to any of them.

It is evident they represent a middle class woman's movement; an echo, but a very weak echo, of the English constitutional suffragists. Consideration of the working woman's freedom was ignored. The problems which affect the

Sanger's Birth Control Campaign

- This newspaper led to Sanger's arrest.
- Pamphlet "Family Limitation" written by Sanger and distributed by Wobblies.

Brownsville Birth Control Clinic, 1916



Madame C. J. Walker



Walker drives her car in Indianapolis.

- **Madame C.J. Walker earned her wealth by selling hair products and skin lotions to primarily African American customers in Indianapolis between 1910 and her death in 1919.**

M^CCLURE'S

for June - Ten Cents



Kathleen Norris
Jeffery Farnol
Mary Roberts Rinehart
Grantland Rice
Cleveland Moffett
Samuel Merwin
Sophie Kerr Underwood
Holworthy Hall
Waldemar Kaempffert
May Wilson Preston
Wallace Morgan
Clarence F. Underwood
Lewis B. Allyn
Willard Connely
Charles E. Chambers
Arthur William Brown
Jeannette Gilder
Dana Gatlin
A.W. Atwood
R.M. Crosby
Many Others

Painted by
Clarence F. Underwood

Read the Great War Narrative

CONQUEST of AMERICA in 1921



The New Woman

- Writer Randolph Bourne: "They are all social workers, or magazine writers in a small way. They are decidedly emancipated and advanced, and so thoroughly healthy and zestful, or at least it seems so to my unsophisticated masculine sense. They shock you constantly...They have an amazing combination of wisdom and youthfulness, of humor and ability, and innocence and self-reliance, which absolutely belies everything you will read in the story-books or any other description of womankind. They are of course all self-supporting and independent, and they enjoy the adventure of life; the full, reliant, audacious way in which they go about makes you wonder if the new woman isn't to be a very splendid sort of person."

Next Time:

- **Topic: The United States in the First World War**
- **Assigned Reading: Roark chapter 22 (all)**