**Study Guide: Slide Set 9: The Progressive Era**

**Progressivism:**

* International movement that emerged out of the social crisis experienced in the industrialized nations around the world. With monopolies controlling much of the US, the people wanted to return the power to the government to lower the amount of power that separated large business from the poor.

**Theodore Roosevelt:**

* When Roosevelt took office his first program was the Square deal which was to take down the Northern Securities trust which controlled 3 huge railroads.
* Next he took down the “big 6” which were 6 meat packing companies that controlled half the nations market. They tried to build a trust called the National Packing Company but it was dismantled in 1905.
* He felt there were good trusts and bad trust which one of the good trusts was Standard Oil.

**William Howard Taft:**

* Was appointed by Roosevelt to run which Roosevelt controlled much of his speechmaking, advice and energy. Many thought he was a substitute for Roosevelt.
* Through his efforts he dissolved Standard Oil and American Tobacco trust in 1911. Filed 90 anti trusts suits vs Roosevelts 54 due to his idea that all trusts were bad.

**Progressive Party (Bull Moose Party):**

* Tafts victory at the convention caused Roosevelt to lose the nomination so he gathered his followers and made the Progressive Party in honor of Roosevelts comparison of himself to a raging bull moose ready to fight. They nominated Roosevelt as its presidential candidate on Aug 6 at Chicago Colliseum. Governor of Cal was his running mate.

**Woodrow Wilson:**

* He passed the New Freedom Progressive program which within the first 2 years he created the Underwood-Simmons Tariff, the first income tax in American history, federal reserve act which established the federal reserve system(first central banking system which the destruction of Second National Bank in 1830), federal trade commission act to curb monopolistic business practices.
* As great as Wilson seemed, he still held racist mindset from his time during the reconstruction. He created many segregated departments by the end of 1913.

**Robert La Follette:**

* Senator Robert “Right Rob” LaFollette of Wisconsin created the National Progressive Republican Leage to replace Taft on the national level.

**Initiative and Referendum:**

* Proposed by the populists in 1890s and forms of direct democracy. It allowed for the public to make political decisions without the interference of political parties to the powerful business interests that controlled them.
* A referendum allowed the people of the state to vote on a measure instead of the legislature having to do it.
* Ballot initiatives was the purest form of direct democracy. It allowed people to draft a law on their own away from legislature and lobbyists. A certain number of signatures had to be gathered to have it placed on the ballot.

**Federal Reserve Bank:**

* With larger banks such as JP morgan controlling over 40% of nations finances, the federal reserve system and 12 federal reserve banks were created. Private banks were required to deposit 6% of their assets to the federal branch to be used to make loans to member banks to issue paper money and to respond to financial crisis.

**16th Amendment:**

* Created the establishment of income tax, congress has the power to lay and collect taxes on incomes from whatever sources derived. Ratified Feb 1913.

**17th Amendment:**

* The direct election of senators instead of allowing them to be appointed.

**19th Amendment:**

* Womens right to vote ratified on Aug 26 1920.