

- Roosevelt was a “trust buster” - or was he?
 - He didn’t bust all the trusts, but only the bad trusts
 - What is “bad”? It’s hard to tell.
- Taft administration follows Roosevelt
 - Not an activist president, but accomplished much
 - Fumbled relationships with hard line Progressives
 - Wants to decrease the tariff to improve the economy
- George William Norris
 - Progressive Republican
 - Work to whittle away the power of the speaker of the house
 - Democrats are perfectly willing to help
 - Removes the ability of the speaker to select the committees
 - Taft supports Cannon - the current speaker of the house
- Roosevelt gives a speech at Asawotemy, Kansas
- Split in the Republican party between Conservatives and Progressives
 - Entire Republican party falls, but conservatives fall more
- Woodrow Wilson
 - Monopolies are inherently evil
 - Small business, free market
 - Does not endorse Women’s suffrage - state issue.
- Election of 1912
 - High point for progressives
 - Total of about 75% of the popular votes went toward some progressive candidate
- Federal Reserve Act
 - Decentralizes the money system
 - Also rationalizes the money - printing
- Clayton anti-trust act
 - Improvement on the Sherman anti-trust act

- Exempts the labor unions from anti-trust as long as the activities are legal
- Wilson is clearly Southern
 - Racist, does not like blacks
 - As 1916 approaches, he moves back to conservative republicanism
- Railroad strike of August, 1916
 - Wilson calls together the owners and labor members and attempts to push a resolution on them
 - Adamson act gets passed - 8 hour workday for railroads
 - Warehouse act - sets up a subtreasury which the public has always wanted
- National regulation of child labor
 - Declared unconstitutional two years later because it interferes with the parents' right to earn as much money as possible
- 1916 Election
 - Wilson is nominated
 - World War I is underway in Europe
 - Nominated against Wilson is Hughes
 - Wilson outcampaigns Hughes
 - Narrow victory for Wilson
- Advances (1910s)
 - Income for factory work is rising, along with life expectancy
 - Nobody is wearing homemade clothes anymore
 - People only working 5.5 days a week on average
 - Mass entertainment appears
 - Movies appear - talkies not until 1920
 - * Serials presented to draw people back to the theaters
 - Perils of Pauline is the first popular one
 - * Break down the class barriers
 - * Everyone is together in going to the movies
- Government is still very small compared to today