Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders
President William McKinley was assassinated 6 months into his second term.

Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt became the nation’s 26th president.

McKinley was assassinated by an anarchist in Buffalo in September of 1901.
THE MODERN PRESIDENT

- Became the youngest president ever, at age 42, when he became the President in 1901.

- Established himself as a modern president who could influence the media and shape legislation.

- His “Square Deal” was a domestic program that targeted the middle class. He attacked trusts, while protecting business from unorganized labor.
By 1900, Trusts – legal bodies created to hold stock in many companies – controlled 80% of U.S. industries.

Roosevelt filed 44 antitrust suits under the Sherman Antitrust Act.

The Railroad industry regulated by the government in both the Elkins Act and the Hepburn Act.
1902: The Anthracite Coal Strike

- In 1902, 140,000 coal miners in Pennsylvania went on strike for:
  1. increased wages
  2. a 9-hour work day
  3. the right to unionize

- Mine owners refused to bargain.
- Roosevelt called in both sides and settled the dispute.
- After that, when a strike threatened public welfare, the federal government was expected to step in and help.
“THE JUNGLE” LEADS TO FOOD REGULATION

- *The Jungle*, by Upton Sinclair, highlighted all of the unclean and/or unsafe practices of the meat packaging industry.
- Roosevelt pushed for passage of the Meat Inspection Act of 1906.
- The Act mandated cleaner conditions for meatpacking plants.
In response to unregulated claims and unhealthy products, Congress passed the Pure Food and Drug Act in 1906.

The Act stopped the sale of contaminated foods and medicines. It also called for truth in labeling.

Created the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The Pure Food and Drug Act took medicines with cocaine and other harmful ingredients off the market.
ROOSEVELT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Before Roosevelt’s presidency, the federal government paid very little attention to the nation’s natural resources.

- Roosevelt made conservation a primary concern of his administration.

Roosevelt, left, was an avid outdoorsman – here he is with author John Muir at Yosemite Park.
ROOSEVELT’S ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Roosevelt set aside 148 million acres of forest reserves.
- He also set aside 1.5 million acres of water-power sites.
- He established 50 wildlife sanctuaries and several national parks.

Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming
ROOSEVELT AND CIVIL RIGHTS

- Roosevelt failed to support Civil Rights for African Americans.

- He did, however, support a few individuals such as Booker T. Washington.
In 1909, a number of African Americans and prominent white reformers formed the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The NAACP had 6,000 members by 1914.

The goal of the organization was full equality among the races.

The means to achieve this was through the court system.
Republican William Howard Taft defeated Democrat William Jennings Bryan to win the 1908 presidential election.

Among his accomplishments, Taft “busted” 90 trusts during his 4 years in office.
TAFT LOSES POWER

- Taft was not popular with the American public nor reform minded Republicans

- By 1910, Democrats had regained control of the House of Representatives

Taft called the Presidency, “The loneliest job in the world.”
1912 ELECTION: 3 Parties/Candidates

- Republicans split between Taft and Teddy Roosevelt (who returned after a long trip to Africa).
- Convention delegates nominated Taft.
- Some Republicans formed a third party—The Bull Moose Party (also called the Progressive Party) and nominated Roosevelt.
- The Democrats put forward a reform-minded New Jersey Governor, Woodrow Wilson.
Election of 1912

Electoral Vote by State

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<th>Party</th>
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As America’s newly elected president, Wilson moved to enact his program, the “New Freedom.”

He planned his attack on what he called the triple wall of privilege: trusts, tariffs, and high finance.
In 1914 Congress enacted the Clayton Antitrust Act which strengthened the Sherman Act.

The Clayton Act prevented companies from acquiring stock from another company (Anti-monopoly).

The Act also supported union workers.
The FTC was formed in 1914 to serve as a “watchdog” agency to end unfair business practices.

The FTC protects consumers from business fraud.
Wilson lowered tariffs. However, the lost revenue had to come from somewhere else.

Underwood Tariff 1913 - purpose was to reduce levies on manufactured and semi-manufactured goods and to eliminate duties on most raw materials. To compensate for the loss of revenue, the act also levied a graduated income tax (made legal by ratification of the Sixteenth Amendment earlier that year) on U.S. residents.

The 16th Amendment was ratified in 1916. It legalized a graduated federal income tax.

Graduated income tax - direct tax on income, the rich will pay a higher tax than the poor; Progressives believed it was fair to tax on ability to pay.
The Federal Reserve Act

- Created 12 regional banks as "banker's banks? (lend money to banks as a set interest rate).
- Established federal regulation of currency through interest rates.
- Established a Federal Reserve Board to oversee the system of banks
Native-born, educated, middle-class women grew more and more impatient.

Through local, state and national organizations, vigorous protests and World War I, women finally realized their dream in 1920.

The 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote in 1920.
Temperance Advocates Push for the Prohibition of Alcohol

- **The Eighteenth Amendment** of the United States Constitution, established Prohibition in the United States.
- Ratified on January 29, 1919.
- It is the only amendment to the United States Constitution that has been repealed (by the Twenty-first Amendment).
**LIMITS OF PROGRESSIVISM**

- The **Keating-Owen Act of 1916** was the first federal statute to impose restrictions on child labor. 1918 the U.S. Supreme Court invalidated it in a five-to-four decision in *Hammer v. Dagenhart* on the grounds it exceeded Congress's power, as stated in the Constitution, to regulate interstate commerce.

- **While the Progressive era was responsible for many important reforms, it failed to make gains for African Americans.**

- Like Roosevelt and Taft, Wilson retreated on Civil Rights once in office.

The KKK reached a membership of 4.5 million in the 1920s.
WWI Effectively Brought the Progressive Era to an End