

Progressive Era: Taft and Wilson

WHICH?



Rockefeller and his associates did not build the Standard Oil Co. in the board rooms of Wall Street banks. They fought their way to control by rebate and drawback, bribe and blackmail, espionage and price cutting, by ruthless efficiency of organization.

— Jda Tarbell —

AZ QUOTES

Ida Tarbell

- -Investigates the Standard Oil Trust in 1900 through an interview of Henry H. Rogers (a leader of Standard)
- -Published in Nov. 1902 issue of *McClure's*, along with Lincoln Steffens' *Shame*; article would run for 19 issues
- -Stirs public opinion against Standard Oil → govt taking action against the trust

"Progressive Amendments"

16th: income tax (1913)

17th: direct election of senators and Australian "secret" ballot

(1913)

18th: prohibits the manufacture, transportation, consumption, production of alcoholic beverages (1919) 19th: women's suffrage (1920)



"Income the Senators with Booze and Women"

Initiative: citizens draft a bill or amendment (a "measure"), which they then propose by petition; if the petition receives sufficient support, the measure is then placed on the ballot and can be enacted into law by a direct vote of citizens

*Think "citizens have taken the initiative to add it to the ballot for a vote"

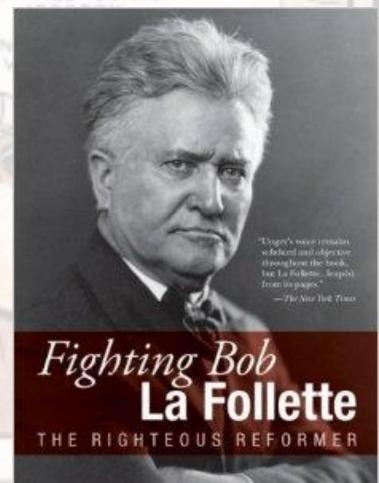
Referendum: allows voters to approve or repeal an act; if the legislature passes a law that voters do not approve of, they may gather signatures to demand a popular vote on the law; during the time between passage and the popular vote, the law may not take effect

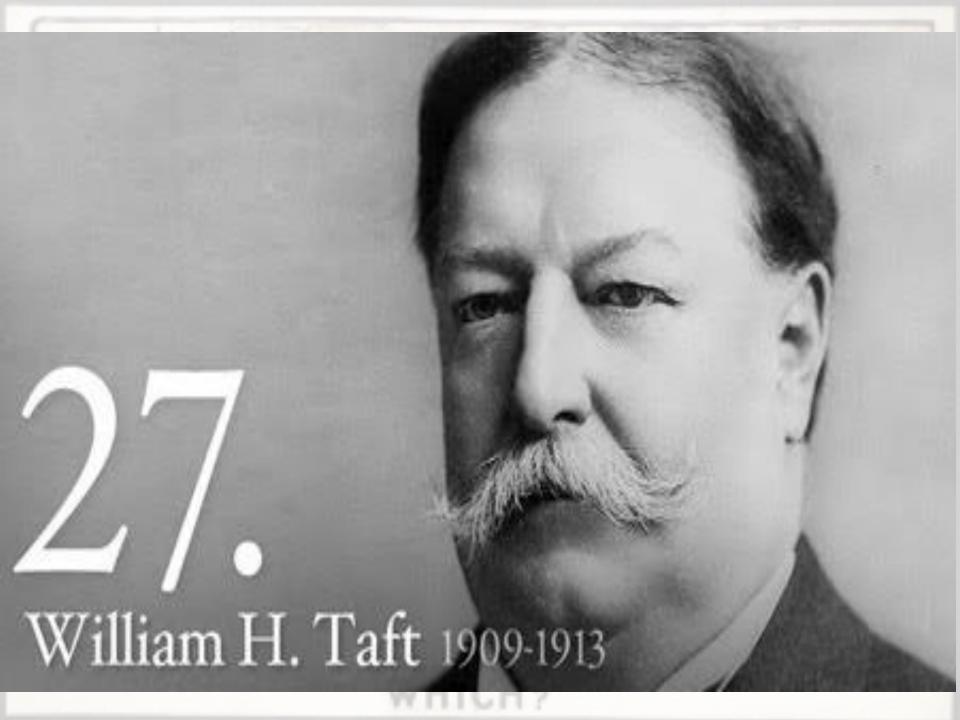
*Think the govt is "referring" back to the citizens for their vote on a law

Primary: a preliminary election to appoint delegates to a party conference or to select the candidates for election

"Fighting Bob" La Follette (Wisconsin) experimented with these voting reforms; Wisconsin became known as the "Laboratory for Progressivism"

Progressive Reforms in Voting





William H. Taft (1857-1930)

Childhood & Early Life:

- -Born into wealthy Ohio family
- -Admired his father as a successful lawyer, judge, Attorney General, and Sec. of War
- -Educated in law at Yale University
- -Dream to become Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court





Action for which I become responsible, or for which my administration becomes responsible, shall be within the law.

(William Howard Taft)

izquotes.com

Successes as President

- -Added additional acres of public parks & forests (not as much as TR)
- -Broke up more than 90 monopolies, including Standard Oil in 1911
- -Set up the Dept. of Labor & the Bureau of Mines to protect workers
- -Supported the passage of the 16th and 17th Amendments
- -Established the 8-hour day for govt workers

Split Between Progressives & Conservative Republicans:

-Taft signed **Payne-Aldrich Tariff Act** → raised tariffs on certain imports and very slightly lowered rates in others

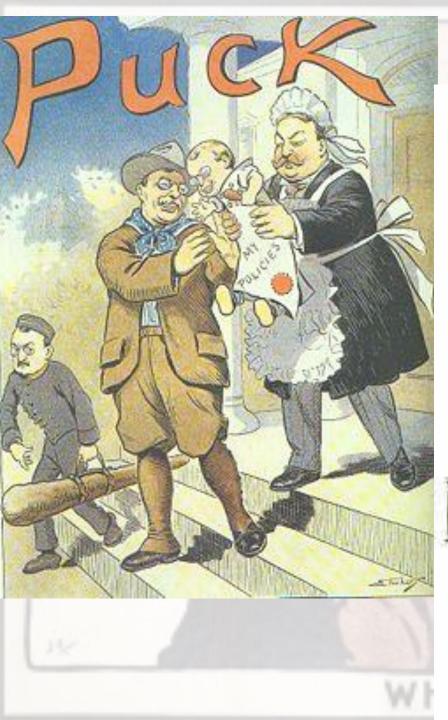
- 1. Pleased "big business"
- 2. Angered progressives and farmers

-Appointed Richard Ballinger as Secretary of the Interior

- 1. Favored industrial development of wilderness area
- 2. Accused by Pinchot of giving wealthy Americans access to Alaskan coal lands
- 3. Taft fires Pinchot



-TR became Taft's #1 critic



PADDING THE BIG STICK.



Taft's Foreign Policy:

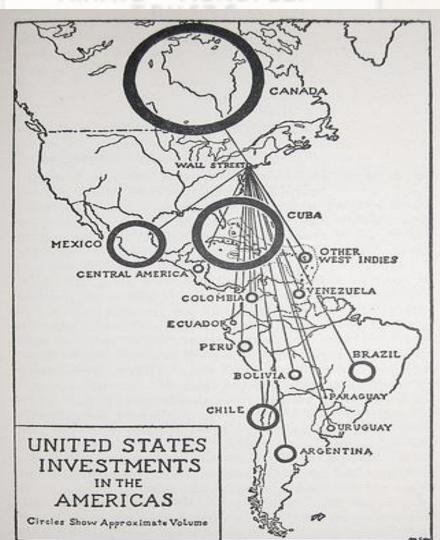
Dollar Diplomacy -Effort of the U.S.—particularly under President Taft—to further its aims in Latin America and East Asia by guaranteeing loans made to foreign countries

-Justified it as a means to protect the Panama Canal

-Allowed the U.S. to gain financially from countries, but also resisted other foreign countries from reaping any sort

of financial gain







Election of 1912

-Taft wins nomination of Republicans

-TR breaks away, forms Progressive Party AKA the "Bull Moose" Party

Promises a "New Nationalism"

Platform: tariff reduction, women's suffrage, business regulation, child labor ban, 8 hour workday, direct election of senators

-Wilson is nominated by Democrats

Promises a "New Freedom"

Platform: many of the same reforms as TR, but more "soft" on business and farmer-friendly





THE ELECTION OF 1912

Candidate	Political Affiliation	Electoral Votes	Popular Votes
Woodrow Wilson	Democratic	435	6,293,454
Theodore Roosevelt	Progressive	88	4,119,538
William Howard Taft	Republican	8	3,484,980





INTERPRETING MAPS

Taft made the poorest showing of any president seeking reelection. Wilson won with only about 42 percent of the popular vote.

Region In comparison, how did Wilson fare in the electoral vote?

See Skills Handbook, p. H21

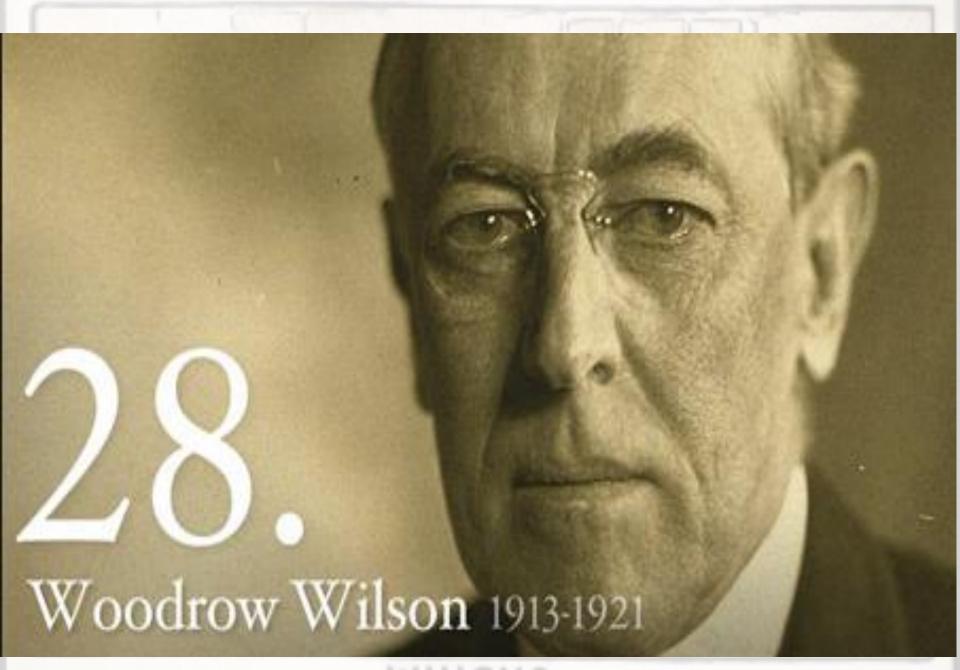




Taft after Presidency

1921: named 10th Chief Justice of the Supreme Court by President Harding

- -Served until 1930
- -Considered it the "greatest honor" of his life



WHICH?

Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924)

Childhood

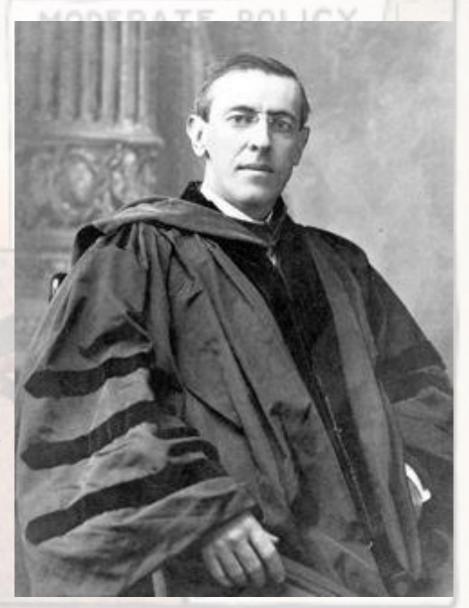
- -Born in Staunton, VA to a middle-class family
- -Father was a minister and strict with his family
- -Family moved often





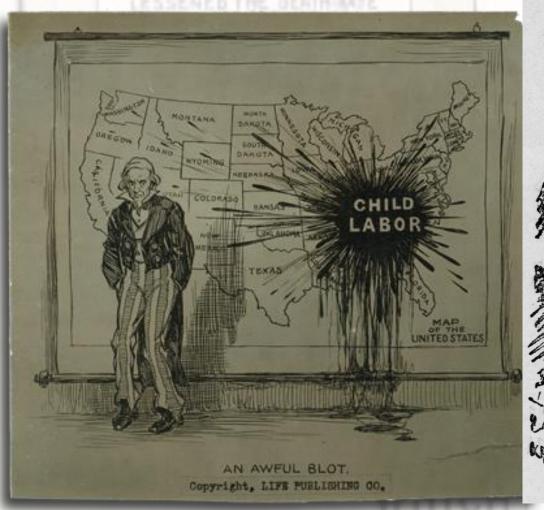
Early Career

- -Graduated from Princeton University in 1879
- -Practiced law in Atlanta for a year
- -Became professor of law & economics at Princeton
- -1902: named president of Princeton University
- -1910: elected governor of New Jersey



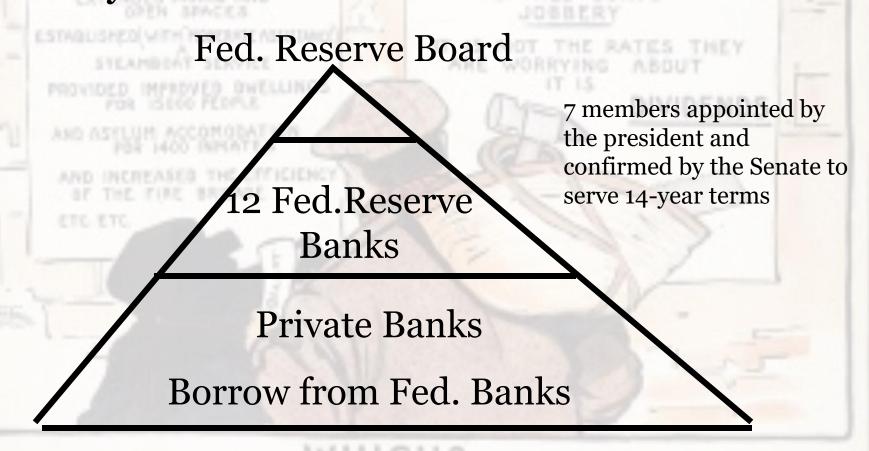
Wilson's New Freedom:

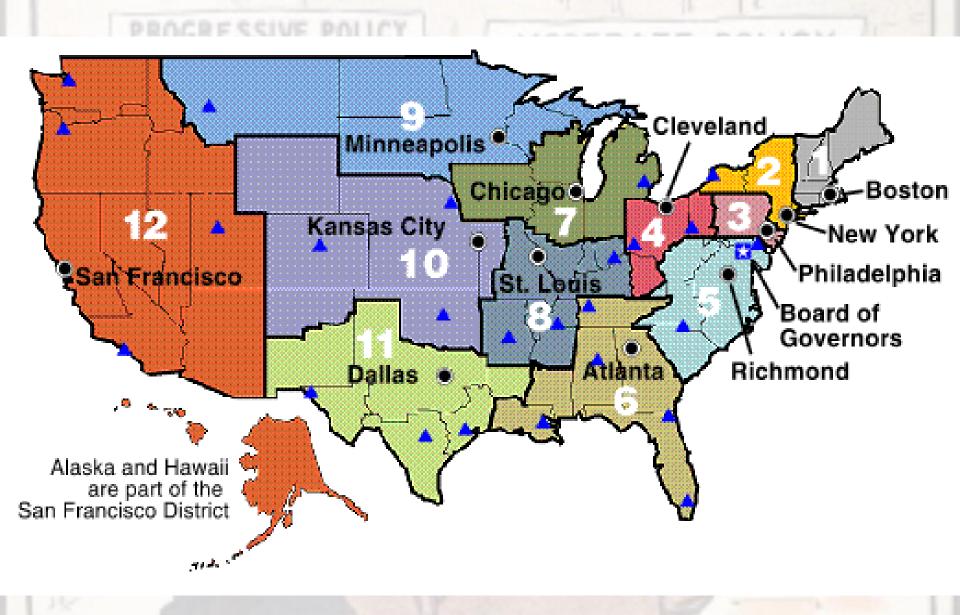
- -Underwood-Simmons Act (1913): lowered import tariffs from 40% to 25% and re-imposed an income tax
- -Keating-Owen Act (1916): <u>curbed</u> the use of child labor
- -Federal Farm Loan Act: gave farmers low interest loans





Federal Reserve Act: 3-tiered banking system designed to a) Regulate banks b) Maintain the nation's money supply with elastic currency





WHICH?

Stronger Anti-Trust Law

Clayton Anti-Trust Act:

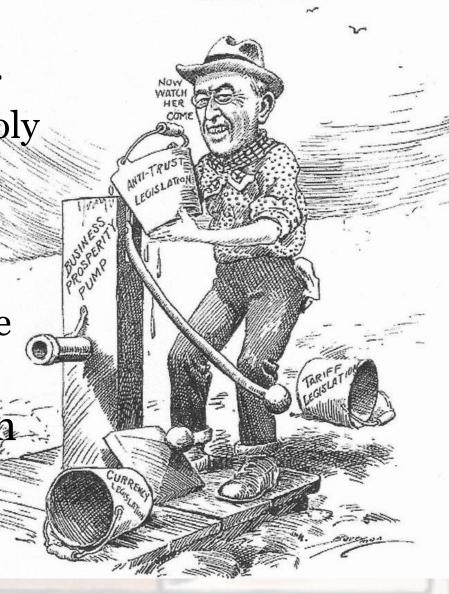
-Could not buy out another company to form a monopoly

-Strikes and boycotts now legal – protects union workers

-Closed the loopholes of the Sherman Anti-trust Act

Federal Trade Commission created:

- -Enforced anti-trust laws
- -Investigates businesses



Wilson as a Progressive? PRBARIC

-Wilson believed states should handle anti-lynching legislation

Wilson and Minority Rights

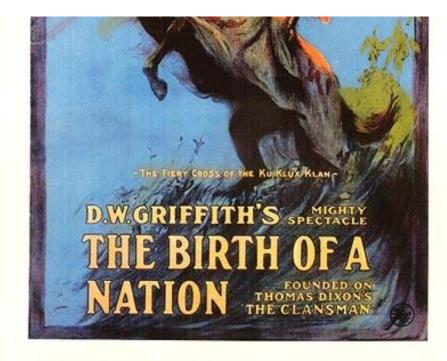
MODERATE POLICY

-His cabinet members continued to segregate their departments (even requiring photos as part of their hiring practices)

"In every man's life, there's the possibility of making a considerable difference. By attitude, by word spoken, by something done or not done. You'd have to say that in the area of race relations, Woodrow Wilson was deficient on all those points."

-David Levering Lewis, Historian

-Silent on a Congressional law making it illegal for interracial marriage in D.C. WHY?



-"Birth of a Nation" revived KKK membership (1915)

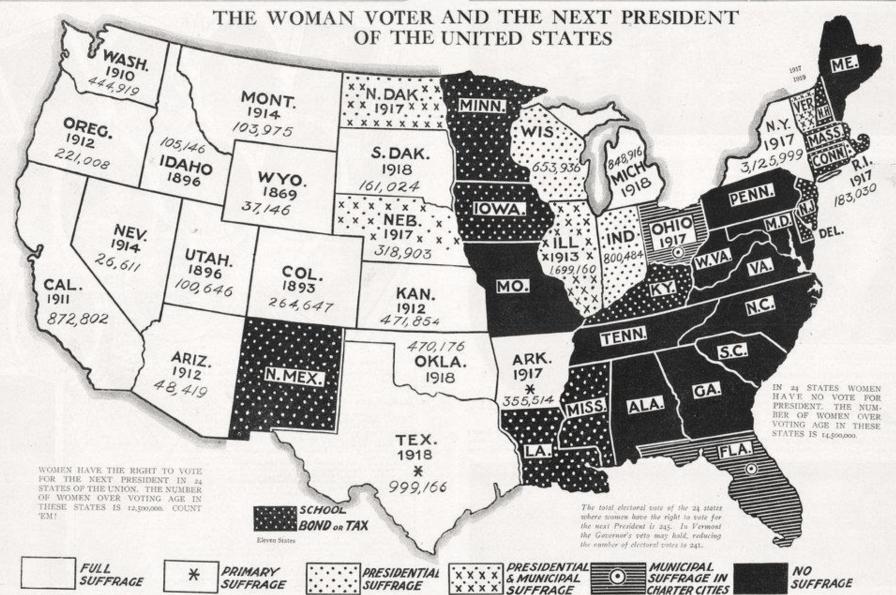
COMPARING THE KLANS

The First Ku Klux Klan	The Second Ku Klux Klan		
- Founded by ex-Confederate soldiers during Reconstruction	- Founded by Protestant fundamentalists in the period before WWI		
- Greatest influence: 1866-1872	- Greatest influence: 1922-1928		
- A secret society dedicated to the restoration of white supremacy in the South	- A national secret society dedicated to the promotion of white Anglo-Saxon Protestant ideals and "one hundred percent Americanism"		
- Led by General Nathan Bedford Forrest, Imperial Wizard, a former Confederate general	- Led by Doctor Hirem Wesley Evans, Imperial Wizard, a dentists and former KKK Grand Dragon from Texas		
Major Objectives	Major Objectives		
- Restoration of constitutional rights for all Southern whites	- Protection of the U.S. government from foreign and/or radical elements		
- Protection of Southern women from carpetbaggers, scallywags, and freedmen	- Preservation of white supremacy and suppression of non-white influences		
- Reestablishment of white citizens' home rule and the end of Reconstruction in the South	- Reestablishment of isolationist policies and restrictions on immigration to the U.S.		
Reasons For Decline	Reasons For Decline		
- Klan terrorism, especially against black people, led to the passage of restrictive acts - The Force Act and the Ku Klux Act - in 1870-1871	- Increasing incidents of violence forced many political allies to withdraw public support for the Klan		
- Reconstruction came to an end with the reestablishment of predominantly white governments in all Southern states	- Scandals and charges of corruption discredited the KKK and the Protestant heartland abandoned the movement		

Fifteen States

Two States

Eleven States



"Silent Sentinels"

17 March 1913: Alice Paul and other suffragists met with Wilson, who said it was not yet time for an amendment to the Constitution

"I believe the time has come to extend the privilege and responsibility to the women of the State, but I shall vote...only upon my private conviction. I believe that it should be settled by the State and not by the National Government..."

-Woodrow Wilson, 1915

Mr. President: You said to the United States Senate on Sept. 30th We shall not only be distrusted but shall deserve to be distrusted if we do not enfranchise women." You, alone, can remove this distrust NOW by securing the one vote needed to pass the Suffrage Amendment before March 4th

Feb. 1919

-Paul was sentenced to jail for 7 months

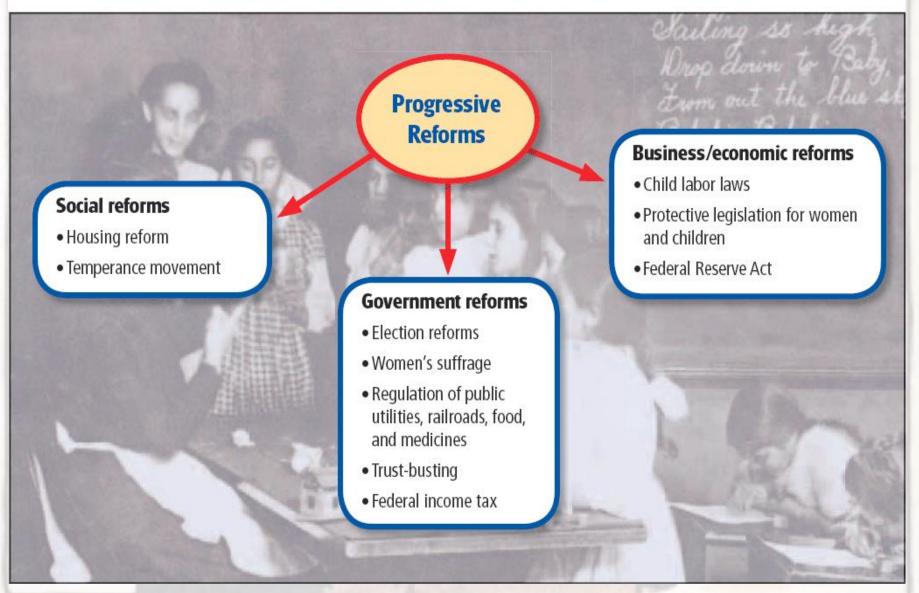
Wilson & Women's Suffrage

-Wilson continued to "flipflop" on the subject of women's suffrage into his 2nd term; managed to keep suffragettes at bay once WWI started

-Gave a speech to the
Senate in 1918 urging
support of the 19th
Amendment after members
of the National Women's
Party were jailed at
Occoquan Workhouse after
picketing in front of the
White House



Visual Summary: The Progressives



WHICH?

War broke out in Europe in 1914 (later called WWI)

-Wilson called for U.S. neutrality (he was a pacifist)

-1917: entered war with reluctance, saying we must go to war to "Make the world safe for democracy"

-Focus would now be on foreign affairs



