

THE ELECTION of 1912

This election's outcome determined the path of the Progressive movement and helped shape the nation's path in the 1900's. *

① The Republican Party Splits

- Roosevelt was willing to accept a Republican nomination
- Conservatives rallied behind Taft, Roosevelt left party and campaigned as an independent
- Roosevelt became the new candidate for the Progressive Party, (nicknamed the Bull Moose Party)
- The election became a contest between two progressives: Bull Moose Roosevelt vs Democrat Wilson

② Wilson's Character

- Woodrow Wilson was a progressive and former governor of N.J.
- He revamped election laws, established utility regulatory boards, established cities to change the presidential form of gov.

③ "New Freedom" vs. "New Nationalism"

- Wilson and Roosevelt both supported progressivism, but had different approaches
- Roosevelt's reforms were called: "New Nationalism": (consisted of the regulation of trusts, and more powerful federal gov, etc.)
- Wilson's reforms were called "New Freedom": he thought Roosevelt's reforms supported "regulated monopoly" He thought his reforms also gave the federal government too much power and didn't restore competition. Believed in freedom over efficiency.

④ Wilson is Elected

- Roosevelt & Taft split the Republican voters
- Wilson won Electoral College with 435 votes, but won less than 42% of the popular vote
- For the 1st time since Cleveland's election in 1893 a Democrat had become President

Federal Aid and Social Welfare

- In 1914, Wilson thought his new freedom program was complete, and he retreated from activism
- Democrats suffered major losses in the House, and the Republican party was growing, so he supported reforms to help get votes in the election
- 1916 he signed first federal law regulating child labor
- Keating-Owen Child Labor Act prohibited employment of children under the age of 14 (Supreme court found it unconstitutional)
- Adamson Act established 8-hour workday
- Federal Farm Loan Act provided farmers long term loans at low interest rates

Regulating the Economy

● Reforming Tariffs

- Wilson became president to reduce tariffs
- the Underwood tariff reduced average tariff rate about 30% of the value of the goods
- income tax: direct tax on earnings of individuals or corporations

● Reforming the Banks

- Wilson supported the Federal Reserve System, banks would have to keep a portion of their deposits in a regional reserve bank providing financial cushion
- the Federal Reserve Act became one of the most significant pieces of legislation in American history

● Antitrust Action

- Wilson wanted to break up monopolies and restore competition
- Federal Trade Commission was created in 1914
- unfair trade practices must compete
- Clayton Antitrust Act: banned tying agreements, price discrimination

The Legacy of Progressivism

- o President Wilson built upon Roosevelt's foundation.
- o After progressivism, Americans expected a more active government.
- o Progressivism failed to address racial reforms.
- o The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was formed by African Americans in 1909.

THE JUNGLE

- Upton St. Claire was born in ~~1878~~ Maryland in 1878
 - He spent his life writing about what he wanted to change in the U.S.A.
 - He wrote "The Jungle." It deals with Jurgis, an immigrant that arrives in the U.S. with family, dreams of wealth and freedom
 - Finds packing town; filthy stock yards of Chicago
 - St. Claire describes conditions that Jurgis encounters in the meat packing plant
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