


The Progressives


Chapter 6

Theodore Roosevelt's Square Deal

Section 3



MAIN IDEA
Theodore Roosevelt used the power of the presidency to push for progressive reforms in business and in environmental policy.



HSS 11.2
Students analyze the relationship among the rise of industrialization, large-scale rural-to-urban migration, and massive immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe.

Key Terms and People

Theodore Roosevelt progressive reformer who became president when President McKinley was shot

bully pulpit use of the presidency to publicize and get support for important issues

Square Deal Theodore Roosevelt's belief that the needs of workers, business, and consumers should be balanced

Elkins Act 1903 law that forced railroads charge the same prices to all their customers

Hepburn Act 1906 law that authorized the Interstate Commerce Commission to set maximum railroad rates

Upton Sinclair writer who exposed filthy conditions in the meat packing industry

Meat Inspection Act law that required the federal government to inspect meat shipped across state lines

Pure Food and Drug Act law that outlawed the manufacture, sale, or transportation of food and medicine containing harmful ingredients

John Muir naturalist who helped get government protection of Yosemite

Newlands Reclamation Act 1902 law that allowed the federal government to build irrigation projects to make dry land productive

Gifford Pinchot conservationist; first head of the U.S. Forest Service

Section Summary

ROOSEVELT'S VIEW OF THE PRESIDENCY

Theodore Roosevelt was a progressive reformer. Political bosses thought they could silence him by making him vice president. However, when President William McKinley was shot, Roosevelt became president. Roosevelt used the presidency as a **bully pulpit**. This meant that he used it to publicize and get support for important issues. In 1902 coal miners in Pennsylvania struck for higher wages, shorter hours, and recognition of their union. Roosevelt became involved and forced both sides to accept arbitration. This meant allowing a third person, who would not take sides, to act as judge and settle the dispute. The result was a compromise. Roosevelt called the results

Why would political bosses want to silence Roosevelt?

Underline the definition of a bully pulpit.

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a **Square Deal**. This expression became Roosevelt's campaign promise and belief. It meant that the needs of workers, business, and consumers should be balanced. The popular Roosevelt easily won the election of 1904.

What was Roosevelt's Square Deal?

REGULATING BIG BUSINESS

Roosevelt wanted businesses to act responsibly. He used the Sherman Antitrust Act to sue a railroad for forming a monopoly and won. He then launched a trustbusting campaign. He went after trusts and monopolies that sold bad products, competed unfairly, or corrupted public officials. In 1903 Congress passed the **Elkins Act**, which forced the railroads to charge the same prices to all their customers. The **Hepburn Act** of 1906 authorized the Interstate Commerce Commission to set maximum railroad rates.

Which trusts and monopolies did Roosevelt go after?

In 1906 writer **Upton Sinclair** wrote a book about the filthy conditions in the meat packing industry. Roosevelt acted to protect the consumer. The **Meat Inspection Act** required federal government to inspect meat shipped across state lines. The **Pure Food and Drug Act** outlawed making, selling, or transporting food and medicine with harmful ingredients.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Roosevelt signed laws creating many national monuments and parks. Naturalist **John Muir**, who convinced the government to protect Yosemite, thought all wilderness should be kept natural. Roosevelt thought some lands should be protected but others should be put to use. Accordingly, the **Newlands Reclamation Act** allowed the government to build irrigation projects to make dry land productive. Conservationist **Gifford Pinchot**, who first used the word *conservation*, supported Roosevelt. He became the first head of the U.S. Forest Service.

How was Roosevelt's view of conservation different from John Muir's?

CHALLENGE ACTIVITY (DO THIS ACTIVITY)

Critical Thinking: Evaluate Write a short summary of the achievements of Theodore Roosevelt's presidency.

Your textbook will be helpful in writing this summary.