

Unit 5: The Progressive Era (1890 – 1920)

The Drive for Reform

The Progressives

- Progressives – Reformers who believed new ideas and honest government could solve the many social problems facing America.
- Believed that industrialization and urbanization were responsible for these problems. Salvation Army (1865) in London; 1889 in NYC; Slum Sister's were among 1st to respond.
- Problems targeted were: Corrupt Governments, Big Business (Trusts), Poverty and Poor Living Conditions, Harsh Working Conditions, Women's Issues (Suffrage)

The Muckrakers



- Writers who exposed social ills of society.
- Named by President Roosevelt; took it as an insult at first, but later as a compliment
- Newspapers, magazines, and books told of the need for reform

Jacob Riis (1849 – 1914)



- Danish immigrant and photo journalist
- Dedicated to solving problems of the poor: especially housing-related ones in NYC
- *How the Other Half Lives* (1890)

Jane Addams (1860-1935)



- Hull House – est. 1889 in Chicago, IL
- Settlement House – Community Centers to aid the urban poor; Kindergarten, Libraries, Daycare, help for immigrants, first juvenile court in U.S. 13 Buildings when finished!
- Nobel Peace Prize in 1931

Florence Kelley (1859 – 1932)

- Lawyer & Reformer who fought for child labor laws and better working conditions.
- Established pressure group National Consumer's League (1899)
- National Child Labor Committee (1902)
- US Children's Bureau (1912 – Present)
- Keating-Owens Act (1916) declared unconstitutional.



Upton Sinclair (1878 – 1968)

- Muckraker who investigated Chicago meatpacking industry
- *The Jungle* (1906) led to passage of Pure Food and Drug Act and Meat Inspection Act – T.R. in 1906 administration



Ida Tarbell (1857 – 1944)



- Attacked Rockefeller and told how he formed a monopoly in oil
- Articles appeared in *McClure's* magazine (1902-1904)
- Eventually published as a book, *The History of the Standard Oil Company* (1904)
- Taft “busted” Standard Oil in 1911

Frank Norris (1870-1902)



- Muckraker who penned *The Octopus* (1901)
- Abuses of the S. Pacific RR exposed
- TR signed Elkins Act (1903) and Hepburn Act (1906) to boost the ICC

John Spargo (1876 – 1966)



- Born in England, moved to NYC in 1901; a socialist
- Muckraker who penned *Bitter Cry of the Children* (1906)
- Exposed treatment of “breaker boys” in coal mines

Clara Barton (1821 – 1912)



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- Served as Civil War Nurse in VA theatre and SC 1861 – 1865
- Humanitarian – founded American Red Cross in 1881
- Lifetime was devoted to philanthropy

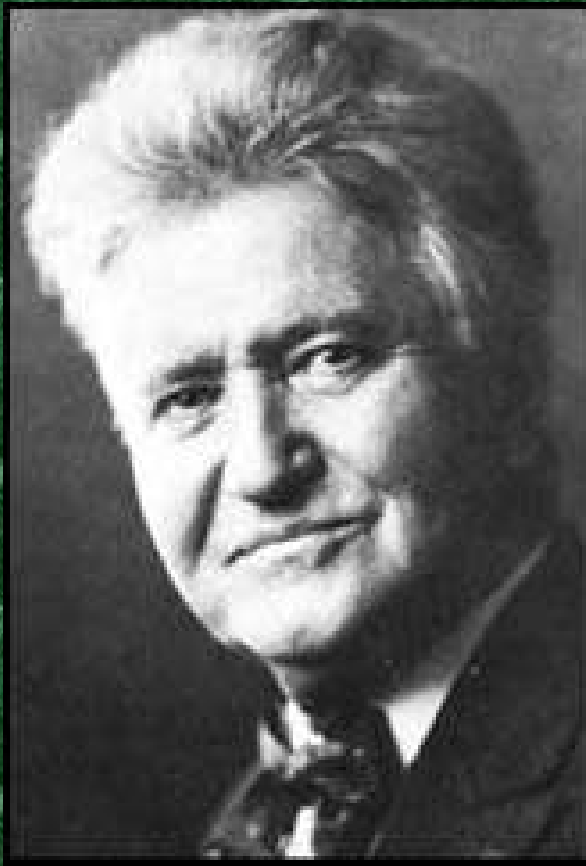
Mary Harris Jones

(1830 – 1930)



- Irish Immigrant
- Radical Union Organizer (RR & Coal) & anti-child labor
- Led “Children’s March” (1903) from Kensington, PA to T.R.’s Long Island home at Oyster Bay, NY

Robert LaFollette (1855 – 1925)



- **Governor of WI 1900**
- **“Wisconsin Idea” – A Progressive Platform to fight corruption**
- **Reforms included referendum, recall, initiative, and direct primary**
- **“Fighting Bob” ran for President in 1924 as a Progressive**

Galveston, TX Hurricane of 1900

- 8000 died & it drove home the need to reform the city's government.
- By 1918, nearly 500 cities like Dayton, OH had adopted a form of the Galveston Plan.
- The new city commissions helped limit the power of political bosses and machines.



1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Fire in NYC

- 146 killed; helped convince the nation that cities and states needed to make workplaces safer; some states established worker's compensation funds to aid workers hurt on the job

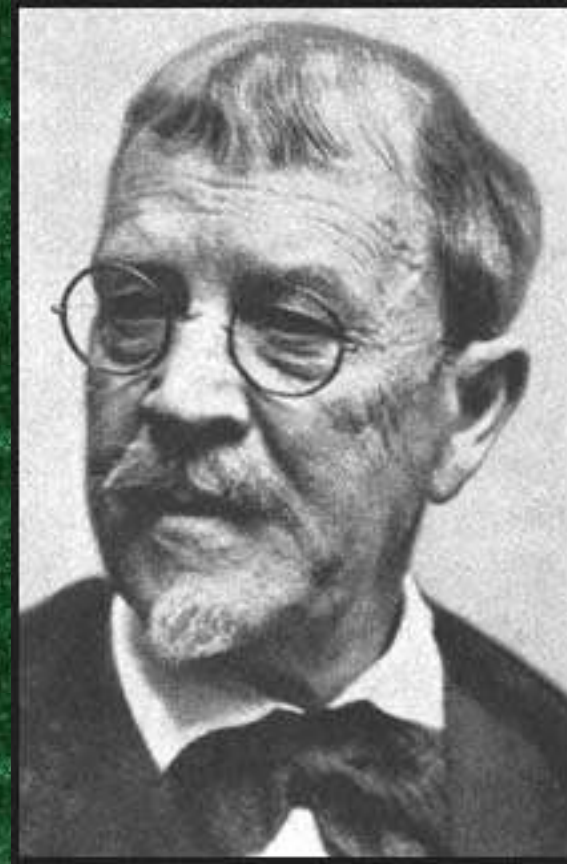


Exit Slip – The Progressives

1. T or F – Some Progressives favored giving women the right to vote.
2. T or F - The muckrakers wrote about the same problems.
3. T or F - The Jungle was a book that exposed corruption in government.
4. T or F – Florence Kelley was successful in helping to bring about the nation's first child labor ban in 1916.

Lincoln Steffens (1866 – 1936)

- Muckraker held editorial positions on *McClure's*, *American*, and *Everybody's* magazines
- Wrote sensational articles exposing city corruption
- Works include *The Shame of the Cities* (1904) and *The Struggle for Self-Government* (1906)



Carry Nation (1846 – 1911)

- **Born near Lancaster, KY (Carry Moore)**
- **Left 1st husband b/c he was an alcoholic**
- **Women's Christian Temperance Movement (WCTU)**
- **1900-1910 – 30 arrests for busting saloons**



Frances Willard (1839 – 1898)

- President of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union in 1879 and World WCTU in 1891
- Harmful effects of alcohol on families
- 18th Amendment (1919)



Alice Paul (1885 – 1977)

- Chief strategist for the militant suffrage wing
- Led 1913 parade in Washington, D.C.
- National Women's Party (1917) – very radical!
- Jailed 6 times in England and in the U.S.
- Waged hunger strike in prison and treated as insane



Carrie Chapman Catt

(1859 – 1947)

- President of National American Woman Suffrage Association in 1900
- With F. Kelley, pro-WWI aided cause
- Less radical than Alice Paul
- 19th Amendment (1919)



Margaret Sanger (1879 – 1966)



- Nurse who saw the effects of unwanted pregnancies
- Opened US's 1st Birth Control Clinic (1916)
- Many arrests for violating public decency laws
- DR's finally could advise women on family planning

Walter Rauschenbusch



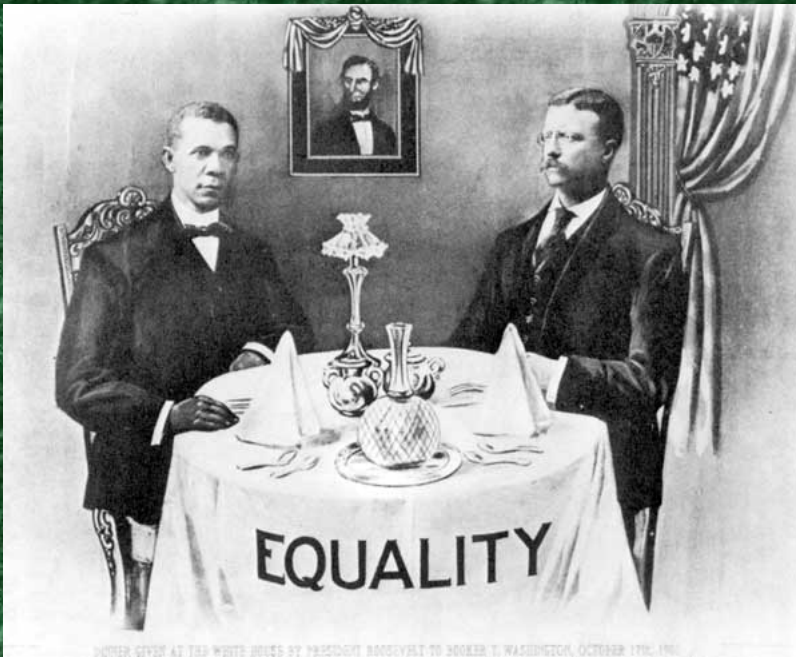
- German immigrant and Baptist minister
- Social Gospel Movement – Christianity's teachings about charity and justice could solve society's problems

W.E.B. DuBois (1868 – 1963)

- Harvard grad (1890)
- Worked with Niagara Movement (1906) and helped found NAACP (1909)
- Wanted “immediate equality for Blacks”
- Advocated education of the “Talented Tenth”
- Disagreed with Washington



Booker T. Washington (1856 – 1915)



- Founded Tuskegee Inst. AL (1881)
- “Atlanta Compromise” – Accommodate Racism for Economic Opportunity
- *Up From Slavery* (1901)

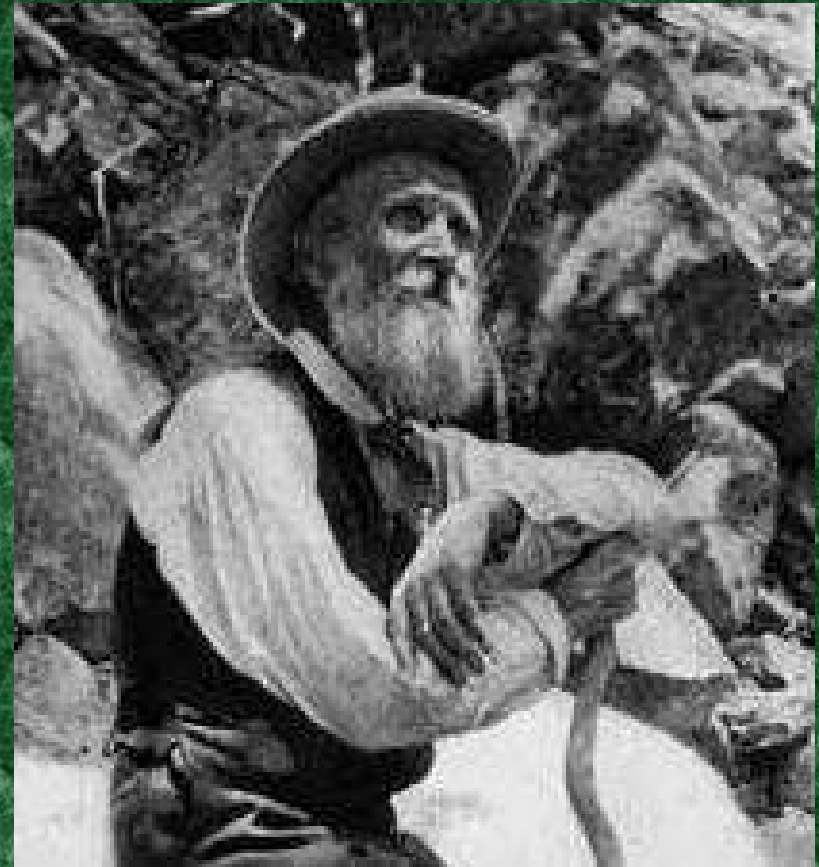
Ida B. Wells-Barnett (1862-1931)



- Born a slave in MS
- Teacher and writer; led anti-lynching campaign
- Worked in Memphis and Chicago
- Also worked for women's suffrage

John Muir (1838 – 1914)

- Scottish Immigrant, moved to WI at age 11
- Devoted Naturalist and founder of Sierra Club in 1892
- Life-long conservationist influential to President T.R.



Exit Slip – More Progressives

1. Civil War nurse who founded the American Red Cross in 1881?
 - a. Jane Addams
 - b. Frances Willard
 - c. Clara Barton
2. Alice Paul worked for women's right to
 - a. vote.
 - b. work.
 - c. use birth control.
3. She worked for the passage on an anti-lynching law?
 - a. Ida Tarbell
 - b. Ida B. Wells
 - c. Carry Nation
4. Booker T. Washington recommended that African-Americans accommodate racism in return for
 - a. the right to vote
 - b. economic equality
 - c. friendship