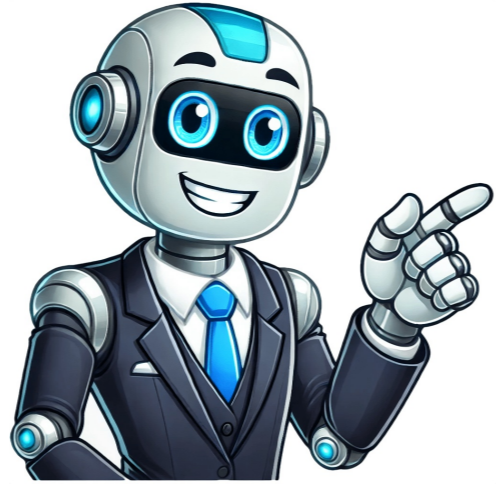


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Progressive Era Timeline (1890 - 1920) for kids
The timeline history of the progressive reform societies, the crusading authors and important people and political events in the Progressive Era Timeline. Interesting facts via the Progressive Era Timeline with info on important Progressives are detailed below. The information on Progressive Era Timeline is told in a factual, date sequence consisting of a series of short facts providing a simple method of relating the history and events in the US Progressive Era. Access to articles about the most important events, laws and amendments of the Progressive Era are also provided in the timeline.
US Progressive Era Timeline for kids: 1890 - 1920
Progressive Era Timeline 1890s: In 1890 the National Woman Suffrage Association and the American Woman Suffrage Association groups united to form the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) - refer to Women's Suffrage.
Progressive Era Timeline 1890: 1890: Jacob Riis (1849 -1914), the city editor of the New York Tribune, author and photographer publishes "How the Other Half Lives" graphically describing the squalor of the New York slums.
Progressive Era Timeline 1890: 1890: The Sherman Antitrust Act was the first measure passed by the U.S. Congress to prohibit monopolies.
Progressive Era Timeline 1893: 1893: Anti-Saloon League was formed adding to the force of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.
Progressive Era Timeline 1896: 1896: Educator and social reformer John Dewey (1859 - 1952) establishes a "progressive" school in Chicago.
Progressive Era Timeline 1898: 1898: The Erdman Act prohibited discrimination against railroad workers because of union membership and provided for mediation of railway labor disputes.
Progressive Era Timeline 1899: 1899: The National Consumers' League was established by social and political reformer Florence Kelley (1859 - 1932) fighting against 'sweatshops'.
Progressive Era Timeline 1901: 1901: Following the disaster of the Galveston Hurricane Galveston introduced the commission system of government replacing the mayor and city council. A major step in the Progressive Era Timeline.
Progressive Era Timeline 1901: 1901: Frank Norris (1870 - 1902) publishes 'The Octopus: A Story of California'. Writing in the naturalist genre about the conflict between the California wheat farmers and the Southern Pacific Railroad.
Progressive Era Timeline 1902: 1902: The Anthracite Coal Strike of 1902 was one of America's largest industrial strikes and saw President Roosevelt act as a mediator.
Progressive Era Timeline 1902: 1902: President Roosevelt takes J.P. Morgan's Northern Securities Company to court for violating the Sherman Antitrust Act in his "trust-busting" efforts to break up big business monopolies. Continued...
US Progressive Era Timeline for kids: 1890 - 1920
Progressive Era Timeline: History timeline of Progressive Era Reforms and Amendments (1890 - 1920)
Details of reforms and amendments continue in the Progressive Era timeline.
US Progressive Era Timeline for kids: 1890 - 1920
Progressive Era Timeline 1903: 1903: Department of Commerce and Labor established to reduce tensions between management and labor. It includes a division called the Bureau of Corporations, with the authority to investigate and regulate corporations without having to sacrifice economic efficiency by breaking up the trusts.
Progressive Era Timeline 1904: 1904: The Square Deal Policy in which President Roosevelt supports progressive and aggressive political reforms, including the heavy regulation of business. Conservation was a cornerstone of his domestic policy
Progressive Era Timeline 1904: 1904: The National Child Labor Committee was established with the goal of abolishing all child labor
Progressive Era Timeline 1905: 1905: Progressive activist Robert La Follette was elected to the U.S. Senate.
Progressive Era Timeline 1906: 1906: Upton Sinclair (1878 - 1968), publishes his muckraking novel The Jungle about labor exploitation and appalling conditions in meatpacking plants.
Progressive Era Timeline 1906: 1906: The passage of the Hepburn Act challenging the economic power of the railroad industry. It also expands the jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC)
Progressive Era Timeline 1906: 1906: Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act are passed to protect the public's health and welfare.
Progressive Era Timeline 1907: 1907: John Spargo (1876-1966) published 'The Bitter Cry of the Children' on child labor conditions in the coal mines and the plight of the "breaker boys".
Progressive Era Timeline 1907: 1907: Theologian Walter Rauschenbusch (1861-1918) the primary theologian of the "Social Gospel" movement publishes his book 'Christianity and the Social Crisis'.
Progressive Era Timeline 1909: 1909: Ida B.Wells (1862 - 1931) an African-American journalist, suffragist and Progressive is instrumental in founding the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) to challenge racial discrimination.
Progressive Era Timeline 1910: 1910: The Mann-Elkins Act strengthens the Hepburn Act and gives the Interstate Commerce Commission authority to regulate telephone and telegraph companies.
Progressive Era Timeline 1911: 1911: The deaths of 146 sweatshop workers in the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire raises awareness of urban work environments.
Progressive Era Timeline 1911: 1911: Antitrust suits brought against Standard Oil and U.S. Steel.
Progressive Era Timeline 1913: 1913: The 17th amendment to the Constitution was ratified to counter Senate corruption by the direct election of senators
Progressive Era Timeline 1913: 1913: The 1913 Federal Reserve Act established the Federal Reserve System
Progressive Era Timeline 1913: 1913: The 1913 Underwood Tariff reduced the average tariff on imported goods
Progressive Era Timeline 1914: 1914: The Federal Trade Commission is established by the 1914 Federal Trade Commission Act to regulate fair competition among Big business and industry.
Progressive Era Timeline 1914: 1914: The Clayton Antitrust Act revises the 1890 Sherman Antitrust Act and bans monopolistic and unfair business practices and affirms the right to go on strike.
Progressive Era Timeline 1916: 1916: The Keating-Owen Child Labor Act limits how many hours children are allowed to work - also refer to Child Labor in America
Progressive Era Timeline 1916: 1916: The Adamson Act establishes an eight-hour workday for railroad
Progressive Era Timeline 1916: 1916: The Federal Farm Loan Act created 12 Federal Land Banks to provide small farmers with long-term loans at low interest rates.
Progressive Era Timeline 1919: 1919: The 18th Amendment is passed prohibiting the sale and manufacture of liquor.
Progressive Era Timeline 1919: 1919: The 19th Amendment is passed giving women the right to vote - refer to Women's suffrage
US Progressive Era Timeline for kids: 1890 - 1920
For additional facts refer to the article detailing the Progressive Movement and the Progressive Reforms that were introduced at city, state and federal levels.
Progressive Era Timeline for kids - Progressivism
The causes of Progressivism were extremely diverse. We recommend that reference is made to following articles that provide facts, information about: Rise of Big Business and Corporations
US Immigration Laws
History Industrialization in America
Progressive Era Timeline for kids - President Theodore Roosevelt
Video The article on the Progressive Era Timeline provides detailed facts and a summary of one of the important events during his presidential term in office. The following video will give you additional important facts and dates about the political events experienced by the 26th American President whose presidency spanned from September 14, 1901 to March 4, 1909.
Progressive Era Timeline
● Facts about the Progressive Era Timeline for kids and schools
● Summary of the Progressive Era Timeline in US history
● The Progressive Era Timeline, a major event in US History
● Theodore Roosevelt from September 14, 1901 to March 4, 1909
● Fast, fun facts about the Progressive Era Timeline
● Foreign & Domestic policies of President Theodore Roosevelt
● Theodore Roosevelt Presidency and Progressive Era Timeline for schools, homework, kids and children
● The dawn of the twentieth century, America was at a crossroads. President, with abundant opportunity, but also hindered by significant internal and external problems, was seeking leaders who could provide a new direction. The political climate was ripe for reform, and the stage was set for the era of the Progressive Presidents, beginning with Republican Theodore Roosevelt. Teddy Roosevelt was widely popular due to his status as a hero of the Spanish-American War and his belief in "speaking softly and carrying a big stick." Taking over the presidency in 1901 after the assassination of William McKinley, he quickly assured America that he would not take any drastic measures. He then demanded a "Square Deal" that would address his primary concerns for the era—the three C's: control of corporations, consumer protection, and conservation. The ownership of corporations and the relationship between owners and laborers, as well as government's role in the relationship, were the contentious topics of the period. Workers were demanding greater rights and protection, while corporations expected labor to remain cheap and plentiful. This conflict came to a head in 1902, with the anthracite coal strike in Pennsylvania. Coal mining was dirty and dangerous work, and 140,000 miners went on strike and demanded a 20 percent pay increase and a reduction in the workday from ten to nine hours. The mine owners were unsympathetic and refused to negotiate with labor representatives. With the approach of winter the dwindling coal supply began to cause concern throughout the nation. Roosevelt, going against established precedent, decided to step in. He summoned the mine owners and union representatives to meet with him in Washington. Roosevelt was partly moved by strong public support and took the side of the miners. Still, the mine owners were reluctant to negotiate until Roosevelt, threatening to use his "big stick," declared that he would seize the mines and operate them with federal troops. Owners reluctantly agreed to arbitration, where the striking workers received a 10 percent pay increase and a nine-hour working day. This was the first time a president sided with unions in a labor dispute, and it helped cement Roosevelt's reputation as a defender of the common person.
The Square Deal, implemented by his success and in pursuit of the goal of the Square Deal, Roosevelt began to attack large, monopolistic trusts. Some trusts were effective and legitimate, but many of these companies engaged in corrupt and preferential business practices. In 1902, the Northern Securities Company, owned by J.P. Morgan and James J. Hill, controlled most of the railroads in the northwestern United States and intended to create a total monopoly. Roosevelt initiated legal proceedings against Northern Securities and eventually the Supreme Court ordered that the company be dissolved. Roosevelt's radical actions angered big business and earned him the reputation of a "trust buster," despite the fact that his successors Taft and Wilson actually dissolved more trusts. In 1903, with urging from Roosevelt, Congress created the Department of Commerce and Labor (DOCL). This cabinet-level department was designed to monitor corporations and ensure that they engaged in fair business practices. The Bureau of Corporations was created under the DOCL to benefit consumers by monitoring interstate commerce, helping dissolve monopolies, and promoting fair competition between companies. In 1913, the DOCL was split into two separate entities, the Department of Commerce and the Department of Labor, both of which continue to play an important role in regulating business today. The railroad business continued to be one of the most powerful and influential industries. Like many companies of the time, railroad companies engaged in corrupt business practices such as rebating and price fixing. Roosevelt encouraged Congress to take action to address these abuses, and in 1903 they passed the Elkins Act, which levied heavy fines on companies that engaged in illegal rebating. In 1906, they passed the Hepburn Act, which greatly strengthened the Interstate Commerce Commission. This law allowed the Commission to set maximum rates, inspect a company's books, and investigate railroads, sleeping car companies, oil pipelines, and other transportation firms. This was a bold action by Roosevelt and Congress given the transportation industry was a powerful lobbyist and a significant political contributor. The second party and ecology issues. While a number of laws had been passed to prevent or limit the destruction of natural resources, the majority of this legislation was not enforced or lacked the teeth necessary to make a significant difference. With Roosevelt's urging, Congress passed the Newlands Act of 1902. This legislation allowed the federal government to acquire public lands in the arid, desert western states and devote the proceeds to irrigation projects. Landowners would then repay part of the irrigation costs from the proceeds they received from their newly fertile land, and this money was earmarked for more irrigation projects. Eventually, dozens of dams were created in the desert including the massive Roosevelt Dam on Arizona's Salt River. Another major concern of environmentalists was the devastation of the nation's timberlands. By 1900, only about 25 percent of the huge timber preserves were still standing. Roosevelt set aside 125 million acres of timberlands as federal reserves, over three times the amount preserved by all of his predecessors combined. He also performed similar actions with coal and water reserves, thus guaranteeing the preservation of some natural resources for future generations. Environmentalists such as John Muir, Gifford Pinchot, and the upstart Sierra Club aided Roosevelt in his efforts. Preserving America's natural resources and calling attention to the desperate need for conservation may well have been Teddy Roosevelt's greatest achievement as President, and his most enduring legacy. Taft's Administration
In 1908, President Teddy Roosevelt could have easily carried his burgeoning popularity to a sweeping victory in the presidential election, but in 1904 he made an impulsive promise not to seek a second elected term. However, he did not intend to completely relinquish control, so he handpicked a successor. Howard Taft, the 350-pound Secretary of War, was chosen as the Republican candidate for 1908. Taft was a mild progressive and an easygoing man that Roosevelt and other Republican leaders felt they could control. Taft easily defeated the Democratic candidate, William Jennings Bryan, and the Socialist candidate, Eugene Debs, in what can be construed as continued public endorsement of Roosevelt. Unfortunately, from the onset of his administration Taft did not live up to Roosevelt's standards or the expectations of other Progressives. He lacked Roosevelt's strength of personality and was more passive in his dealings with Congress. Many politicians were surprised to learn that Taft did not share some of the Progressive ideas and policies that Roosevelt endorsed. In fact, many people felt that Taft lacked the mental and physical stamina necessary to be an effective President. The first major blow to the Progressives during Taft's administration was the Payne-Adler Tariff of 1909. Taft called a special session of Congress to address what many people felt were excessive tariffs. After this session, the House of Representatives passed a bill that moderately restricted tariffs, but their legislation was severely modified when it reached the Senate. Radical Senators, led by Nelson W. Aldrich of Rhode Island, tacked on hundreds of revisions that effectively raised tariffs on almost all products. Taft eventually signed the bill and declared it "the best bill that the Republican Party ever passed." This action dumfounded Progressives and marked the beginning of an internal struggle for control of the Republican Party. Another issue that caused dissension among Republicans was Taft's handling of conservation issues. Taft was a dedicated conservationist and he devoted extensive resources to the protection of the environment. However, most of his progress was undone by his handling of the Ballinger-Pinchot dispute. Pinchot, the leader of the Department of Forestry and a well-liked ally of Roosevelt, attacked Secretary of the Interior Richard Ballinger for how he handled public lands. Ballinger opened up thousands of acres of public lands in Wyoming, Montana, and Alaska for private use, and this angered many Progressives. Pinchot was openly critical of Ballinger, and in 1910 Taft responded by firing Pinchot for insubordination. This infuriated much of the public as well as the legions of political players who were still fiercely loyal to Roosevelt. A major rift occurred in the Republican Party as a result of Taft's straying from Progressive policy. The party was split down the middle between the "Old Guard" Republicans who supported Taft and the Progressive Republicans who backed Roosevelt. This division in the Republican Party allowed Democrats to regain control of the House of Representatives in a landslide victory in the congressional elections of 1910. In early 1912, Roosevelt triumphantly returned and announced himself as a challenger for the Republican presidential nomination. Roosevelt and his followers, embracing "New Nationalism," began to furiously campaign for the nomination. However, as a result of their late start and Taft's ability as incumbent to control the convention, they were unable to secure the delegates necessary to win the Republican candidacy. Not one to admit defeat, Roosevelt formed the "Bull Moose" Party and vowed to enter the race as a third-party candidate. The split in the Republican Party made the Democrats optimistic about regaining the White House for the first time since 1897. They sought a reformist candidate to challenge the Republicans, and decided on Woodrow Wilson, a career academic and the current progressive governor of New Jersey. Wilson's "New Freedom" platform sought reduced tariffs, banking reform, and stronger antitrust legislation. The Socialists again nominated Eugene V. Debs whose platform sought public ownership of resources and industries. As expected, Roosevelt and Taft split the Republican vote, and Wilson easily won a majority of the electoral votes. Having received only 41 percent of the popular vote, Wilson was a minority president. Wilson's New Freedom Upon taking office, Woodrow Wilson became only the second Democratic president since 1861. Wilson was a trim figure with clean-cut features and pince-nez glasses clipped to the bridge of his nose, giving him an academic look. Partly due to his academic background and limited political experience, Wilson was very much an idealist. He was intelligent and calculating, but the public perception was that he was emotionally cold and distant. Wilson arrived in the White House with a clear agenda and the drive to achieve all of his goals. In addition, the Democratic majority in both houses of Congress was eager to show the public that their support was not misdirected. Wilson's platform called for an assault on "the triple wall of privilege," which consisted of tariffs, banks, and trusts, and rarely has a president set to work so quickly. His first objective was to reduce the prohibitive tariffs that hurt American businesses and consumers. In an unprecedented move, Wilson personally appeared before Congress to call a special session to discuss tariffs in early 1913. Moved and stunned by Wilson's eloquence and force of character, Congress immediately designed the Underwood Tariff Bill, which significantly reduced import fees. The Underwood Tariff Bill brought the first significant reduction of duties since before the Civil War. In order to make up for the loss in revenues caused by the lower tariffs, the Underwood Bill introduced a graduated income tax. This new tax was introduced under the authority of the recently ratified Sixteenth Amendment. Initially, the tax was levied on incomes over \$3,000, which was significantly higher than the national average. However, by 1917 the revenue from income taxes greatly exceeded receipts from the tariff. This margin has continued to grow exponentially over the years. After tackling the tariff, Wilson turned his attention to the nation's banks. The country's financial structure was woefully outdated, and its inefficiencies had been exposed by the Republican's economic expansion and the Panic of 1907. The currency system was very inelastic, with most reserves concentrated in New York and a few other large cities. These resources could not be mobilized quickly in the event of a financial crisis in a different area. Wilson considered two proposals: one calling for a third Bank of the United States, the other seeking a decentralized bank under government control. Siding with public opinion, Wilson called another special session of Congress in June of 1913. He overwhelmingly endorsed the idea of a decentralized bank, and asked Congress to radically change the banking system. Congress passed the Federal Reserve Act, which was arguably the greatest piece of legislation between the Civil War and Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. The Act created a Federal Reserve Board, which oversaw a system of 12 regional reserve districts, each with its own central bank. This new system also issued Federal Reserve Notes, paper currency that quickly allowed the government to adjust the flow of money, which are still in use today. The Federal Reserve Act was instrumental in allowing America to meet the financial challenges of World War I and emerge from the war as one of the world's financial powers. Emboldened by his successes, President Wilson turned his attention to the trusts. Although legislation designed to address the issue of trusts had existed for many years, Taft's approach drew controversy and tensions in various parts of the world, including in countries like Nicaragua and China. Despite the challenges and criticisms, William Howard Taft made significant contributions to the Progressive movement and was more passive in his dealings with Congress. Many politicians were surprised to learn that Taft did not share some of the Progressive ideas and policies that Roosevelt endorsed. In fact, many people felt that Taft lacked the mental and physical stamina necessary to be an effective President. The first major blow to the Progressives during Taft's administration was the Payne-Adler Tariff of 1909. 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