

11.1

Progressives Drive Reform



As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- **Identify the causes of Progressivism and compare it to Populism.**
- **Analyze the role that journalists and novelists played in the Progressive Movement.**
- **Evaluate some of the social reforms that Progressives tackled.**
- **Explain what Progressives hoped to achieve through political reforms.**

Progressive Era Begins

Movement that responded to the pressure of industry & urbanization & began reforms

People wanted to combat & correct what they saw as problems & injustices

Reformers sought to end corruption in the government & fix corruption in Big Business

Some wanted to fix the class system & work toward better living conditions.

Muckrakers

Journalists & writers who did investigations into the dirty, ugly side of America.

Lincoln Steffens- He wrote *The Shame of the Cities*, exposing corruption in major cities.

Jacob Riss –Used photography to capture poor urban lives & dangerous work conditions

Upton Sinclair- Wrote *The Jungle* that revealed the unsanitary conditions in the meat industry

Impact on Society

Muckrakers increased support for progressivism & people began to improve living conditions

Social Gospel- The belief that people could make society “the kingdom of God” & help the common man

Settlement House- Community center that provided social services for the urban poor

Jane Addams became inspired by what she saw in London & brought social reform to the U.S. such as the ACLU.

Reforms in the World

Soon laws banning child labor became important eventually being sought in all states.

John Dewey believed schools needed to challenge students & adopt teaching of practical skills

The [Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire](#) shocked Americans & called for work place reform

Soon laws limiting work hours began to become discussed as well as compensation laws

Government Reform

The **Galveston plan** eventually set up ideas for city governments & offices for utilities & safety

Direct Primary- Citizens vote for nominees for upcoming elections

Initiative- People could put a proposed law onto ballots for future election

Referendum- Citizens could approve or reject laws passed by a legislature.

Government Reform

Recall- Voters have the power to remove public servants from office.

Soon senators were elected by the people as well creating the **17th Amendment**

Soon progressives such as Theodore Roosevelt & Woodrow Wilson began being elected to public offices