

## Ch 17 Section 3 Teddy Roosevelt's Square Deal

### A Rough-Riding President

#### Roosevelt's Rise

- **Theodore Roosevelt** has sickly childhood, drives self in athletics
- Is ambitious, rises through New York politics to become governor
- NY political bosses cannot control him, urge run for vice-president

#### The Modern Presidency

- President McKinley shot; Roosevelt becomes president at 42
- His leadership, publicity campaigns help create modern presidency
- Supports federal government role when states do not solve problems
  - **Square Deal**—Roosevelt's progressive reforms

#### Using Federal Power

##### Trustbusting

- By 1900, trusts control about 4/5 of U.S. industries
- Roosevelt wants to curb trusts that hurt public interest
  - breaks up some trusts under Sherman Antitrust Act

##### 1902 Coal Strike

- Coal reserves low; forces miners, operators to accept arbitration
- Sets principle of federal intervention when strike threatens public

##### Railroad Regulation

- Roosevelt pushes for federal regulation to control abuses
  - Elkins Act—stops rebates, sudden rate changes
  - Hepburn Act—limits passes, ICC to set maximum rates

#### Health and the Environment

##### Regulating Foods and Drugs

- **Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle***—unsanitary conditions in meatpacking
- Roosevelt commission investigates, backs up Sinclair's account
- Roosevelt pushes for **Meat Inspection Act**:
  - dictates sanitary requirements
  - creates federal meat inspection program

##### Pure Food and Drug Act

- Food, drug advertisements make false claims; medicines often unsafe
- **Pure Food and Drug Act** halts sale of contaminated food, medicine
  - requires truth in labeling

##### Conservation and Natural Resources

- 1887, U.S. Forest Bureau established, manages 45 million acres
- Private interests exploit natural environment

##### Conservation Measures

- Roosevelt sets aside forest reserves, sanctuaries, national parks
- Believes **conservation** part preservation, part development for public

#### Roosevelt and Civil Rights

##### Civil Rights at the Turn of the 20th Century

- Roosevelt does not support civil rights for African Americans
- Supports individual African Americans in civil service
  - invites Booker T. Washington to White House
- **NAACP**—National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

- - goal is full equality among races  
Founded 1909 by W. E. B. Du Bois and black, white reformers