

## **Ch 17 Section 5 Wilson's New Freedom**

### **Wilson Wins Financial Reforms**

#### **Wilson's Background**

- Wilson was lawyer, professor, president of Princeton, NJ governor
- As president, focuses on trusts, tariffs, high finance

#### **Two Key Antitrust Measures**

- **Clayton Antitrust Act** stops companies buying stock to form monopoly
- Ends injunctions against strikers unless threaten irreparable damage
- **Federal Trade Commission (FTC)**—new “watchdog” agency
  - investigates regulatory violations
  - ends unfair business practices

#### **A New Tax System**

- Wilson pushes for Underwood Act to substantially reduce tariffs
- Sets precedent of giving State of the Union message in person
- His use of bully pulpit leads to passage

#### **Federal Income Tax**

- Sixteenth Amendment legalizes graduated federal income tax

#### **Federal Reserve System**

- **Federal Reserve System**—private banking system under federal control
- Nation divided into 12 districts; central bank in each district

#### **Women Win Suffrage**

##### **Local Suffrage Battles**

- College-educated women spread suffrage message to working-class
- Go door-to-door, take trolley tours, give speeches at stops
  - some adopt bold tactics of British suffragists

##### **Catt and the National Movement**

- **Carrie Chapman Catt**, head of NAWSA, stresses organization, lobbying
- National Woman's Party aggressively pressures for suffrage amendment
- Work of patriotic women in war effort influences politicians
- 1920 **Nineteenth Amendment** grants women right to vote

#### **The Limits of Progressivism**

##### **Wilson and Civil Rights**

- As candidate, wins support of NAACP for favoring civil rights
- As president, opposes antilynching legislation
- Appoints fellow white Southerners to cabinet who extend segregation
- NAACP feels betrayed; Wilson self-defense widens rift

#### **The Twilight of Progressivism**

- Outbreak of World War I distracts Americans; reform efforts stall