

# The Progressive Era: 1900-1920

## AREAS OF CONCERN:

1. **Trust-busting**
  - Henry Demarest Lloyd
  - David G. Phillips – “The Treason of the State”
  - Ida Tarbell – History of the Standard Oil Co.
  - Frank Norris – The Octopus
  - Upton Sinclair – The Jungle
  - Thorstein Veblen – Theory of the Leisure Class
  
2. **Destroy political machines [GOO GOOs]**
  - initiative, referendum, recall
  - reform governors:
    - \* Robert LaFollette – WI – “**The Laboratory of Democracy**”
    - \* Charles E. Hughes – NY
    - \* Hiram Johnson – CA
  - city reform:
    - \* commission system – Galveston, TX
    - \* city-manager system – Staunton, VA
  - Lincoln Steffens – Shame of the City
  
3. **Voting reform**
  - “Australian” secret ballot
  - direct primaries
  
4. **Improve squalid urban living conditions**
  - Settlement House Movement
    - \* Jane Addams – Hull House (Chicago)
    - \* Lilliam Ward – Henry Street Settlement (NYC)
  - Jacob A. Riis – How the Other Half Lives
  - Social Gospel Movement
    - \* Walter Rauschenbusch
    - \* Washington Gladden
  - Temperance Movement
    - \* Carrie Nation – Anti-Saloon League
    - \* Francis Willard
  - Education Reform
    - \* John Dewey – “Learning by doing”

## SUCCESSFUL LEGISLATION:

1. **Trust-busting**
  - Elkins Act (1903)
  - Hepburn Act (1906)
  - Mann-Elkins Act (1910)
  - Federal Trade Commission Act (1914)
  - Clayton Anti-Trust Act (1914) \*\*
  
2. **Destroy political machines [GOO GOOs]**
  - 16<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1913) -- national income tax
  
3. **Voting reform**
  - 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1913) – direct election of Senators
  
4. **Improve squalid urban living conditions**
  - 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1919)

## SUPREME COURT DURING THE PROGRESSIVE ERA:

- Conservative Court.
- Overturned many progressive gains in Congress and in the states.
- *Northern Securities Co. v. US* (1901)
- *Lochner v. NY* (1905)
- *Hammer v. Dagenhart* (1918)
- *Adkins v. Children's Hospital* (1923)

## AREAS OF CONCERN:

5. **Improve working conditions, especially for women and ending child labor**
  - John Spargo – The Bitter Cry of the Children
  - Charlotte Perkins Gilman – Woman and Economics
  - Florence Kelley
  - Margaret Sanger – birth control
6. **Female suffrage**
  - NAWSA
  - Jeannette Rankin
7. **Consumer protection**
  - Upton Sinclair
8. **Conservation**
  - John Muir
  - Gifford Pinchot
  - John Burroughs
9. **Banking reform**
  - Postal Savings Bank system created (1910)
  - Federal Reserve Board created
10. **Some rural reform**
  - sub-treasury plan established (1916) → what the Populists had pushed for earlier.

## SUCCESSFUL LEGISLATION:

5. **Improve working conditions, especially for women and ending child labor:**
  - Child Labor Act (1915)
  - Workmen's Compensation Act (1916)
6. **Female suffrage**
  - 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment (1920)
7. **Consumer protection**
  - Pure Food and Drug Act (1906)
  - Meat Inspection Act (1906)
8. **Conservation**
  - Newlands Reclamation Act (1902)
  - Antiquities Act (1906)
9. **Banking reform**
  - Federal Reserve Act (1913) \*\*
10. **Some rural reform**
  - Federal Farm Loan Act (1916)
  - Federal Highway Act of 1916
  - Warehouse Act of 1916