

Theodore Roosevelt Presidency Chart
1901-1908
TR's Personality:

Aggressive

Vindictive against political opponents

“abrupt and stormy attacks”

Hard driving

Active

Thoughtful

Strategic

TEDDY Early Life

- Loved school and education as a child.
- Traveled with family extensively.
- Had diverse intellectual interests: philosophy, botany, zoology, religion.
- Read extensively.
- Socially awkward.
- Encouraged, not pressured by parents.
- Always worked ahead.

TR had poetry, fiction, sports, all around him

“Roosevelt’s many sided writings would prove an invaluable resources during his presidency, passionately linking him with hunters, naturalists, bird lovers, historians, biographers, conservationists, educators, sailors, soldiers, and sportsmen. **Everything was of interest to him**... people of today, people of yesterday, animals, minerals stones, stars the past and the future.” ’ Marveled the French Ambassador Jusserand.”

TR's Early Career:

Pg. 67 TR wanted to “help the cause of better government in Ney York”

1882 Elected and took office as assemblyman.

Pg. 68. Quote about Tammany Hall Politicians “totally unable to speak with even an approximation to good grammar; not one of them can sting three intelligible sentences together to save his neck.”

Pg 69. Great story about T.R. beating 2 bullies then inviting a drink to them. Good quote about contrast of Taft and T.R. regarding anger.

Journalism. Young reported that T.R. met was George Spinney. Later became editor and publisher of New York Times.

Roosevelt begins to grow a social conscience. He believed what they taught at Harvard... he believed in Laissez Faire economics then he saw:

With Gompers discussing tenement sweatshops

P 77 “In one tenement house, fifteen families crowded into three floors. Fathers, mothers, and children were at work stripping, drying, and wrapping cigars from six in the morning until midnight. In the yard, ‘a breeding ground of disease’ with ‘no drain to a sewer,’ lay large mounds of decaying tobacco. Another building hosed ninety-eight people from twenty families, with

several families living and working together in one room. Everywhere piles of tobacco and fetid tobacco scraps littered the floors, filling the air with an overwhelming stench. The hallways were so 'dark and gloomy' that even midday it seemed like night."

Roosevelt was shaken by these reports. He agreed to accompany Gompers on an inspection tour, pledging that 'if the conditions described really existed he would do everything in his power to secure the passage of the bill (ending cigar making in tenements) He admitted that he was a good deal shocked at what he found. While a few of the tenements provided living space for the workers apart from the sweatshops, the 'overwhelming majority' had no separate accommodation. He long remembered one tenement in which five adults and several children were confined to a single room for sleeping, eating, and making cigars.' The tobacco was stowed about everywhere, alongside the foul bedding, and in a corner where scraps of food."

The bill ending cigar making in the tenements was passed but killed by the court

"It was this case which first waked me to ... the fact that the courts were not necessarily the best judges of what should be done to better social and industrial conditions." 78 TR said, the court was well intentioned but they interpreted the law solely from the vantage point off the propertied classes. 'They knew nothing whatever of tenement house conditions they knew nothing whatever of the needs, or of the life and labor of three-fourths of their fellow citizens in great cities."

P78 TR starts to work for **Civil Service Reform in NY state**, "do for New York City what the Pendleton bill has just done for the United States. Its aim is to take the civil service out of the political arena, where it now lies festering, a reproach... and the most terrible source of corruption." 78

Author says, "He thrived in the cauldron, functioning best when dramatic moral issues were at stake. He fought with gusto against fraud and corruption..."

TR said, "Words with me are instruments" to galvanize the emotions of the people in spirited battles for reform. (he said) "There is little use for the being whose tepid soul knows nothing of the great generous emotion, of the high pride, the stern belief, the lofty enthusiasm, of the men who quell the storm and ride the thunder. When his critics fought back, he relished the fight, believing that 'only thorough strife, through hard and dangerous endeavor, would victory be won." 85

From a wealthy famous family

Reformer before 1900, NYC Commissioner

NY Representative in State Assembly

Assistant Secretary of War under McKinley admin

Forms a regiment in the Spanish American War called the **Rough Riders**

Governor of NY 1898

Vice President of the US under McKinley 1900

McKinley is **assassinated** and TR becomes President 1901 (read page 647Pageant)

Believed to be the first **modern President**, who directed and lead the national program

Wins 1904 election

Retires 1908

Runs again for President 1912 under Progressive or “BullMoose Party” Loses to Wilson

First “Progressive” president.

He called for vigorous government intervention to protect American society from the corrupting influences of unrestrained capitalism. He was a Republican but from the reform minded wing of the turn of the century party. Halfbreed,” a member of the reform wing of the GOP.

“**Bully Pulpit**” refers to the power the office of President has in shaping public opinion and guiding the nation. Similar to the preacher in church, the president has a role in leading the country through the office of the president. The “Bully Pulpit” was T.R.s vehicle to impact public opinion. Refers to the moral and political stage that inspires, focuses, and leads followers to support political programs.

He advocated:

1. Conservation of Natural Resources and the Environment
2. Government regulation of industry (trusts, food production/processing)
3. Government Regulation of Capitalism (Trusts, Railroads...)
4. To distribute the nation’s wealth more equitably,
5. Regulate the giant corporations and railroads,
6. Strengthen the rights of labor, and
7. Protect the country’s natural resources from private exploitation
8. T.R. vowed to fight against Machine Politics.
 - a. When TR took over... “Voices had been raised to protect the concentration of corporate wealth and the gap between rich and poor, yet the doctrine of laissez-faire precluded collective action to ameliorate social conditions. Under Roosevelt’s Square Deal, the country had awakened to the need for government action to allay problems caused by industrialization- an awakening spurred in part by the dramatic exposes of a talented group of investigative journalists he famously labeled “muckrakers.”

Domestic Policy	Domestic Policy part 2
<p>3 “C”s of TR’s Policy Control of Corporations Consumer Protection Conservation</p> <p>Square Deal “Square Deal” for capital, labor, and the public at large. Coal miners strike (1902) Asked for 20% increase in pay and 9 hour work day Improved working conditions</p> <p> Owners said no</p> <p> TR Brought both labor and owners together and Owners refused to negotiate TR threatened to take over the mines Settlement achieved First time government did not align automatically with owners Workers get 9 hour work day and 10% raise</p> <p>Created new Regulatory Departments to oversee business Department of Commerce Department of Labor Bureau of Corporations</p>	<p>TR and Corporations- Elkins Act (1903) Regulated Railroads that gave rebates</p> <p>Hepburn Act (1906) Regulated RR Bans Free Passes (seen as bribes)</p> <p>Trust Busting Goal was to reform business not end Big Business</p> <p>1st used Sherman Anti-Trust Act against the Northern Securities Company Giant RR Trust and finance company Controlled by JP Morgan</p> <p>TR and Consumers The Jungle – Upton Sinclair Meat inspection Act 1906 Pure Food and Drug Act (1906)</p> <p>Conservation Gifford Pinchot Forestry Service Newland Act (1902) Uses sale of Go Land to irrigate the desert Lumber/Forrest preservation National Parks Service</p>

<p>Foreign Policy Was Assistant Secretary of War under McKinley Advocated Aggressive foreign policy Advocated large Navy after Admiral William T. Mahan’s book, <u>The Influence of Sea Power on</u> <u>History</u> Spanish American War starts and TR resigns and goes to fight in the war</p>	<p>Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine Mainly financial problems for Latin American countries, islands in the Caribbean and in Central America prompted TR to issue the Roosevelt Corollary which said, the US has the right to intervene in the domestic affairs of these regions in an effort to maintain their independence from European intervention.</p>
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<p>Raises and equips a volunteer regiment known as the Rough Riders He gains national attention as a war hero</p> <p>Favorite saying relates to his foreign policy as president “Speak softly and carry a big stick, you will go far.”</p> <p>McKinley is Shot in September 1901 and TR becomes president at age 42 youngest president to that time.</p> <p>Panama Canal Strategic, useful in transit Hay Pauncefote Treaty 1901 gives US the sole right to build a canal on the Isthmus Phillippe Bunau-Varilla early French engineer sold his plan to US Columbia was in control of Panama Columbia would not allow the contract US creates Panama revolt and recognizes a new Panama country. US make treaty with new Panamanian government Hay-Buana-Varilla Treaty 1904-1914 \$400 million to n complete</p>	<p>Really seen by Latin American countries as American Imperialism (The Big Stick Policy) Nobel Peace Prize 1906 Russo Japanese war 1904 Japan asked Roosevelt to begin negotiations</p> <p>Treaty of Portsmouth ends the war</p> <p>The Gentleman’s Agreement (Japanese immigration) 1907 Anti-Japanese immigrant feelings cause Americans to desire a change in immigration laws similar to the Chinese Exclusion Act. Japanese Emperor refused to allow new Japanese immigration in exchange for no American Immigration law. Peace and honor secured for both</p>
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December 1906- March 1907

TR is a “Lame Duck” and waning influence on Congress.

Conservatives vow to stop reform legislation:

- Child Labor Law for D.C.
- 8 Hour Work Day Bill
- National Inheritance Tax
- Progressive Income Tax
- Federal Licensing for Corporations
- Threatening Conservation protection

So he pushed for Taft to take over and protect his achievements against the conservatives.
He was afraid the conservatives would overturn his reforms.

Journalist's commented: "...the deep, unbroken friendship like unsophisticated school boys when together each apparently under the spell of a romantic affection, a strong, simple sense of knightly companionship in the great field of moral errantry and patriotic adventure." 518

TR began a "private campaign of persuasion" letters, meetings, not public...

1. Anti-Trust
 2. Regulation to prevent corporate abuse
 3. Regulation of RR
 4. Food and Drug regulations
 5. Workers' rights liability (example the 1906 Employers' Liability Act (ruled unconstitutional by conservative Supreme Court)
 - TR reacted to this, "it was a matter of humiliation to the Nation that an employee who suffered an accident 'through no fault of his own' would not be protected. 'In no other prominent industrial country in the world could such gross injustice occur.
 6. Conservation
 7. Progressive income tax
 8. Inheritance tax
 9. Campaign Finance transparency to disclose donors to the public
 10. (Taft disagreed with TR over Tariff reduction)
- Stock Crash occurs and TR responds to criticism that regulations caused the crash;
 - TR said, he was "responsible for turning on the light, (not) what the light showed." 527
 - TR blamed big business:
 - "... Certain malefactors of great wealth (conspired) to bring about as much financial distress as they possibly can in order to discredit the policy of government (regulation), and thereby to secure a reversal of that policy so that they may enjoy the fruits of their own evil-doing." 534
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 - "As far as individual blame could we ascribed, "the collapse was due to the speculative folly and flagrant dishonesty of a few men of great wealth, who seek to shield themselves from the effects of their own wrongdoing by ascribing its results to the action of those who have sought to put a stop to the wrongdoing." 536

Election of 1908

Taft vs. Bryan

Dems Nominated William Jennings Bryan 1908 election

- **He was on a Progressive Platform p 548**
- **Pass TR's Workers Rights program**
- **8 hour workday**
- **Employer Liability bill**
- **Progressive Income Tax**
- **Child Labor Laws**
 - **Other Reforms:**
 - **Direct Election of Senators**
 - **Public Record of Campaign Contributions**

- o FED Guarantee of Bank deposits
- o Reduction of Tariffs

Bryan promising that a Democratic majority would break the republican stranglehold of Republican Conservatives in Congress.” 553

TR commented about Taft and campaign disclosures”

Taft “was willing to undergo the disadvantage in order to make certain that in the future we shall reduce the power of money in politics.”

TR supporting Taft said about reform:

“The true friend of reform is the man who steadily perseveres in righting wrongs in warring against abuses, but whose character and training are such that he never promises what he cannot perform.”553

1912 ELECTION

Taft TR Break UP:

Short Story, TR was friends and allies with Taft, TR chose and helped get elected Taft as a successor to TR. Taft was different and not as active in Progressive ideology. TR went away after the election of Taft but then returns and breaks with Taft over Taft’s failure to support a more Progressive agenda. TR will run for a 3rd term in 1912, splitting the GOP vote and it became a nasty break up.

TR said “Taft is as fine as fine a fellow as ever sat in the President’s chair and I cannot express the measureless content that comes over me as I think that the work in which I have so much believed will be carried on by him.”

While T.R. was away he had “disturbing” reports about Taft regarding not so progressive measures.

- Pinchot was removed first year of Taft admin. Taft was reported Pg 12.
- “Letters from fellow progressives, all expressing a belief that Taft to had aligned himself with old line conservatives on Capitol Hill and was gradually compromising Roosevelt’s hard won advances.” 12

- **Election 1912**

- Taft and TR Split
- Taft continued trust busting
- Brought 90 suits compared to 40 by TR
- Standard oil was beat in a suit
- US Steel was bought 1911
- TR became upset because he was involved in a merger with US steel.
- Taft allowed tariffs rise (against TR’s desire)
- Taft messed up Conservation
- Did set up Bureau of Mines
- Controlled mineral resources
- Coal field conserved
- Water conserved

Pinchot-Ballinger Conflict 605 (Conflict over conservation in Taft admin)

Pinchot was appointed by TR-

Ballinger was appointed by Taft (Secretary of the Interior) and was senior to Pinchot.

1. End of TR Admin Pinchot + TR saved 1.5 million acres of river land, forests.
2. Proposed ☐ hydro-electric renewable power as the future
3. TR wanted to avoid the monopoly potential of Hydro-power, like the oil industry

Taft Admin

Interim Sec overturned TR + Pinchot's conservation efforts.

Taft responded as a Judge/legal mind: his big complaint was the lack of detail study, legal binding or legal complaint.

Taft believed Executive orders go beyond- the constitution. Thus he wanted Congress to take the lead for conservation.

He said, "only congress has power to dispose of lands..." 607

Progressives widely criticized Taft as giving into "land thieves and natural resource gabbers."

Pinchot Quote p609 about conservation:

"The purpose of Conservation movement, is to make our country a permanent and prosperous home for ourselves and for our children and for our children's children."

He charged Ballinger of selling out the conservation movement to the corporate/industrial interests.

"Unequivocally, that a great waterpower trust was in process of formation, aided by strict construction of the law, which inevitably championed the great interests as against the people. The struggle over waterpower, he contended, was simply another chapter in "the everlasting conflict between the few and the many... I stand for the Roosevelt policies because they set the common good of all of us above the private gain of some of us." P 609

2nd Issue was Coal (this caused the firing of Pinchot)

Ballinger worked for developers as agent before he was interior Secretary
Alaska

A group of investors misrepresented themselves as small holders but really were part of big coal company

They obtained through Ballinger approval for access on National Forestry land.

Pinchot complained publicly and called for Congressional investigation.

Taft supported Ballinger in removing Pinchot and all of his followers from forestry service.

Taft was the big loser in the controversy.

- Problem was the **Ballinger-Pinchot Affair**
- **Sec of Interior Ballinger**
- **Sold rights to land to developers**
- Pinchot of forestry was upset
- Taft fired him
- TR became upset about this
 - He arrived back and was trying to figure out what to do.

- Pg. 13. Taft was having difficulty. His personality was showing issues of stress. He was not so “jovial” he was 320 pounds.
- T.R was a hard act to follow. Taft was unhappy to lose the friendship of T.R.
- Pg. 13. Taft description quote:
- “America incarnate, sham hating, hardworking, crackling with jokes upon himself, lack in pomp but never in dignity... a great boyish wholesome dauntless shielded, sincere, kind gentlemen.”
- William Allan White was a journalist friend of T.R.
- “he is going to be greatly beloved as President. He has the most lovable personality...”
13
- Taft- saw role to take the “Great Crusade” Started greater federal regulation of the economy.
- Taft would consolidate “make permanent in law”
- Taft was treated as lawyer and judge.
- Key idea was there was emerging a split in the GOP. Progressive reform conservatives. Traditional and progressives did not compromise. Pg 14
- Taft wanted success so he had to compromise (essence of the problem)
- Taft career:
 - Supreme Court Judge 29 years old.
 - US Solicitor General at age 32.
 - Federal Circuit Judge at 34.
 - McKinley asked Taft to be governor of Philippines in exchange for a spot on the Supreme Court.
 - Secretary of war for T.R.
 - VP for T.R.
 - President 1908-1912.
 - He was very sensitive to criticism.
 - Stopped reading criticized articles.

Wife Nelly helped his speech editing.

TR starts New Nationalism (1912 Campaign)

National Gov

Needs to increase its power to remedy economic or social abuses

Teams up with LaFollete of Wisconsin to run for president on a 3rd party

“The Progressive Party” or “Bull Moose Party”

Accused Taft of returning back to conservative GOP politics

Jane Addams supports TR

This split the Republican Party Vote and insures a Wilson (Democratic Victory in 1912)

1912 Election: TR enters politics again and advocates that the GOP needed to be more reform minded...

"The New Nationalism puts the national need before sectional or personal advantage, such an approach regards the executive power as the steward of the public welfare. It demands of the judiciary that it shall be interested primarily in human welfare rather than in property." He still stood for the "Square Deal" but now, he recognized that "fair play under the present rules of the game was not enough; the rules themselves had to be changed so as to work for a more substantial equality of opportunity and of reward for equally good service."

"For this generation the struggle for freedom demanded a fight for popular rule against special interest. Though every special interest is entitled to justice, not one is entitled to a vote in Congress, to voice on the bench, or to representation in any public office... to drive these special interests out of politics he called for direct primary and for laws forbidding corporations from directly funding political objectives.

"Every dollar received should represent a dollars' worth of service rendered – not gambling in stocks."

He called for income tax and inheritance tax on large fortunes. Finally he pressed for new laws regulating child labor and women's work, enforcing better working conditions, and providing vocational training." 644

TR Speech Feb 1912

At a State Convention in Columbus, Ohio

"We Progressives believe that human rights are supreme over-all other rights; that wealth should be the servant, not the master of the people."

All those who sought reform were engaged in an epic battle on behalf of the common welfare. A fight to ensure that the people's wishes, rather than the special interests propelled government decisions. Unless representative government does absolutely represent the people representative government at all. (he would support the expansion of democracy concepts of initiative, referendum and recall)

P 681

TR: "It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly ; who errs, and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and short comings; but nor does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions who spends himself in a worthy cause."

687 March 20 Speech at Carnegie Hall

TR echoes more popular participation in government.

"Are the American people fit to govern themselves?"

TR argued that Taft represented oligarchy = the few govern the many.

He believed the Courts were obstacles to Social Justice.

"Our task as Americans is to strive for social and individual justice, advanced through rule of the people."

TR responded with a “Merciless Denunciation”

695 the attack

“Taft has not only been disloyal to our past friendship, but he has been disloyal to every canon of decency and fair play, for only I discovered I was dangerous to the people when I discovered he was useless to the people.”

TR controlled most primary states

“This is a naked fight against corrupt politicians and thieves and the thieves will not win.” 702

The Bullmoose Mascot:

Reporter asked how he felt... “I’m feeling like a Bull Moose.” 702

Elihu Root, strong supporter of TR said:

“He is essentially a fighter and when he gets into a fight he is completely dominated by the desire to destroy his adversary.”

TR’s last speech at the convention: 1912

TR explained he decided to run against Taft only after he was convinced, “that Mr. Taft had definitely and completely abandoned the cause of the people and had surrendered himself wholly to the biddings of the professional political bosses and to the great privileged interests standing behind them...”

A period of change is upon us... we must either go forward or go backward... We fight in honorable fashion for the good of mankind. Fearless of the future, unheeding of our individual fates; with unflinching hearts and undimmed eyes; we stand at Armageddon, and we battle for the lord.” 703

Taft Response:

Taft’s Nomination Speech: (very conservative values)

Our party stands for the right of property and the right of liberty, for institutions that have stood the test of time and for economic system that rewards energy, courage, enterprise, attention to duty, hard work, thrift, and providence rather than laziness, lack of industry, the yielding to appetite and passion...”

Taft also spoke with pride about the progressive legislation passed in recent years...

“The railroad legislation, the postal banking system, worker’s compensation, an eight-hour day for all government contracts...”

Even as the Republican Party protected the traditions of the past, he argued, it must remain sensitive to the shifting views of the role of government. “Time was when the least government was thought the best, and the policy which left all to the individual, unmolested and unaided by the government was deemed the wisest. As industry consolidation and wealth disparity grew apace however it was clearly recognized that the government had a responsibility to further equality of opportunity in respect of the weaker classes in their dealings with the stronger and more powerful.” 717

Bullmoose Party convention August, delegates were young and idealistic.

- Hiram Johnson was the TR’s VP Candidate
- Social workers
- Suffragettes
- Lots of women
- Social Gospel believers

- Crusaders
- Black delegates from the North (not from the South)
- “New Nationalism”

Speech known as the “**Confession of Faith**”

Red Bandannas – to represent the plain people

Jane Addams commented:

“I have been fighting for progressive principles for thirty years. This is the first time there has been a chance to make them effective. This is the biggest day of my life.” 721

P 721 List of Progressive Goals:

“Surely there never was a fight better worth making than one in which we are engaged.”

New= Social Insurance

Old age Social Security

Health

Involuntary Unemployment

Minimum Wage

Registration of interstate corporations

8 hour work day for women

New Workman’s comp

Theme- “Using government as an agency of human welfare.”

Woodrow Wilson and “New Freedom” 730

WW felt that TR was the bigger threat.

WW didn’t campaign much.

His message:

Envisioned expansive future for the citizens

The scholar/the thinker

The Historian

He was light expository vs denunciatory

“He was asking the country to look at its problems. He was not offering panaceas.”

Advocated less federal intervention and more state intervention

Wilson advocated “fair play”

He called upon his countrymen to “open again the fields of competition.”

“The wealth of America lay in small business... The vitality of America lies in the brains, the energies, the enterprises of the people throughout the land... by reinforcing the anti-trust laws and abolishing tariff favors and return free enterprise to America.”

731

Eugene Debs (socialist party platform) see quote

4th time running for president

“Debs maintained that the capitalist system was “utterly incapable” of dealing with the problems of the industrial age. His Socialist Party Platform called for “collective ownership” of transportation and communication, of land (wherever it was practical), and of the banking system. To ensure more direct democracy, the Socialist Platform proposed the abolition of the US Senate, the elimination of the president’s veto power, and the

removal of the Supreme Court's power to declare laws passed by Congress unconstitutional." 731

Assassination Attempt 732

In Milwaukee Oct 14 (see quote)

The assassin said no 3rd term. TR would cause a Civil War.

TR's Last Speech see 736

Farewell Manifesto

Madison Square Garden

Speech was about principles

"Great battle for human rights"

Social justice

"There is much injustice that can be remediated through government."

Perhaps once in a generation there comes a chance for the people of a country to play their part wisely and fearlessly in some great battle of the age-long warfare for human rights." Perhaps less dramatic than the struggles their fathers and forefathers had faced, the battle for social justice was "well-nigh as important. If the problems created by the industrial age were left unattended, Roosevelt cautioned, America would eventually be "sundered by those dreadful lines of division" that set the haves and the have nots against one another."

We know that there are in life injustices which we are powerless to remedy, but we know also that there are there is much injustice which can be remedied."

The Progressive Party, he pledged, would harness the "collective power of the people through their governmental agencies to move the country forward. We propose to lift the burdens from the lowly and the weary, from the poor and the oppressed. We propose to stand for the sacred rights of childhood and womanhood. Nay, more, we propose to see that manhood is not crushed out of the men who toil, by excessive hours of labor, by underpayment, by injustice and oppression... Surely, there never was a fight better worth making than this. And finally, contemplating this cause so much larger than any individual, Roosevelt concluded: Win or lose I am glad beyond measure that I am one of the many who in this fight have stood ready to be spent."

Wilson Won- 6.3 million votes

48 states

TR- 4.1 million votes

6 states

Taft 3.5 million

2 states VE and UT

Debs 900,000 votes.

Dems won the House and Senate too.

TR died in his sleep, Jan 6, 1919

"Death had to take him sleeping for if Roosevelt had been awake there would have been a fight."

Taft Appointed Chief Justice 1921 (748)