

LESSON 4: PROGRESSIVE REFORMS, 1906–1913

Vocabulary

- Progressive movement—Reformers in many different areas, economic, political, and social, around the turn of the 20th century
- Child-labor laws—Laws to prevent or limit child labor
- Workers’ compensation—Money paid to workers if injured on the job, or to workers’ families if killed on the job, without having to prove negligence by owners
- *The Jungle*—Upton Sinclair’s muckraking novel about the meatpacking industry
- Poison Squad—Group of subjects, overseen by Dr. Harvey Wiley, who ingested foods and drugs to determine the effects of additives
- Meat Inspection Act—Progressive reform to ensure high-quality meat. (“U.S.D.A. Inspected”)
- Pure Food and Drug Act—Requires labeling of certain additives to food and drugs
- Millionaire’s club—Slang term implying that rich people controlled the Senate
- Trust—A group formed by businesses with the intent of achieving a monopoly
- Boss Tweed—Corrupt political boss of New York City’s Tammany Hall
- Direct election of senators—Allows the people, rather than state legislatures, to elect senators; a way to break up the “millionaire’s club.”
- Initiative—When citizens start a bill by obtaining a minimum number of signatures
- Referendum—When citizens vote directly on a bill
- Recall—When citizens vote on whether to remove a government official (often a judge)
- Direct primary—When citizens vote on which candidate from each party will run in the final election
- Progressive income tax—When people with higher incomes are taxed at a higher percentage
- Zoning—When local governments control how land is to be used; for example, preventing residential land to be used for commercial purposes
- Sterilization—Medical procedure to prevent someone from having children