

## ***Searching for Order - The Progressive Movement In America***

- I. Beginnings of Progressivism
  - a) "muckrakers"
    - i) Ida Tarbell- *A history of Standard Oil*
    - ii) Upton Sinclair- *The Jungle*
    - iii) Jacob Riis- *How the Other Half Lives*
    - iv) Lincoln Steffans- *Shame of the Cities*
  - b) the middle-class response to "industrial chaos"
  - c) Exposed educated, middle-class Americans to factory life, bad conditions, poverty, etc.
- II. Progressive Characteristics
  - a) Usually (not always) white, middle class, professional
  - b) Often deeply committed Christians (motivated by religion)
  - c) Often women
    - i) Gained the right to vote
    - ii) Especially when helping the poor
  - d) Four major agendas
    - i) Political reform
      1. Getting rid of graft; cleaning up politics; getting rid of political machines
    - ii) Scientific efficiency
      1. Inefficient economy wastes resources, so bring in experts who will make things run smoother
    - iii) Economic reform
      1. Opposed to monopolies; support government regulation of economy
    - iv) Social Justice
      1. the "Social Gospel" movement
        - a. Charles Sheldon- *In His Steps*; started WWJD
        - b. Said people shouldn't compete; The Golden Rule, etc.
      2. interested in poverty

### 3. mainly women, Christians

\*\*trying to make industrialism more friendly, fair, less chaotic\*\*

#### III. Three Progressive Stories

- a) Settlement Houses – Hull House, etc.
  - i) dedicated to improving urban conditions
  - ii) Jane Addams, Alice Hamilton
  - iii) The Good Side – sincere efforts to help people, leads to increased female political activism, suffrage campaigns, etc.
  - iv) The Bad Side – condescending? Self-centered?
- b) President Teddy Roosevelt
  - i) Monopolies – tries to control them, though not always.
  - ii) 1902 – Northern Securities Company broken up. TR goes on to attack others.
  - iii) Unions – often supports them. Mine Workers and the “Square Deal,”
- b) Conservation – protecting land from industrial excess
  - ii) Resources – should be managed efficiently by experts. National Forest system set up and run by scientific forester Gifford Pinchot.
  - iii) Aesthetic resources needed – many national parks created.