

Progressive Presidents notes

Take your own notes based upon what you read here.

They can be in outline format, Cornell notes format, or any format that works best for you.

I will be grading this in class tomorrow.

Theodore Roosevelt

- **1900—Elected as McKinley’s VP**
 - 6 months into presidency, **McKinley assassinated**
- **T. Roosevelt—bold, robust personality**
 - Naturalist, explorer, hunter, soldier, historian, author
 - Created the **“Rough Riders”** (volunteer Calvary unit during Spanish-American War)
 - Youngest president ever—42
 - Saw the role of the president was a guardian of the people

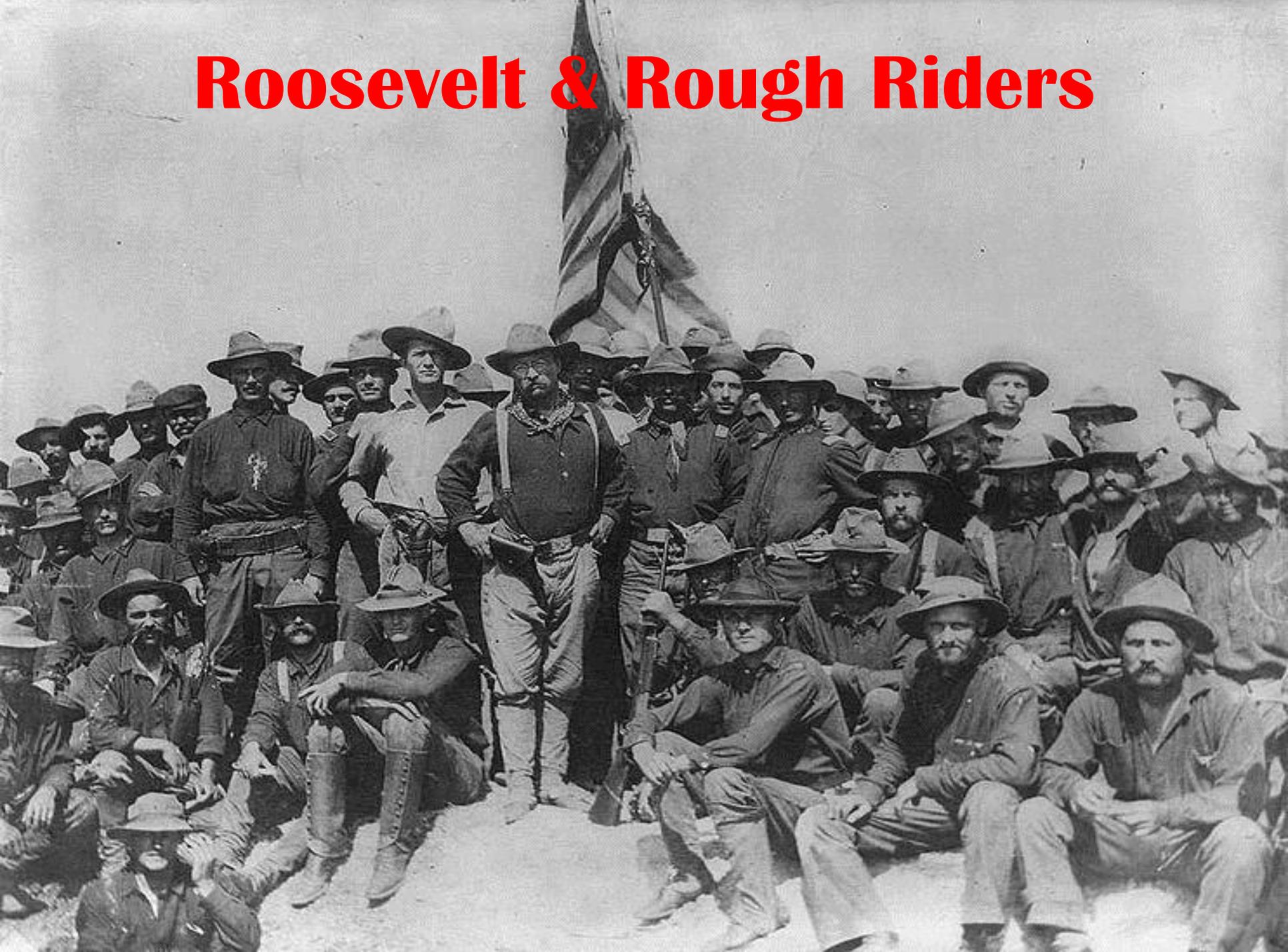


Roosevelt as Leader of Rough Riders



Roosevelt in Night at the Museum

Roosevelt & Rough Riders



Square Deal



- **His domestic program dealt with:**
 1. **Control of corporations**
 2. **Consumer protection**
 3. **Conservation of natural resources**
- **He aimed at helping middle class**
- **He believed federal government should act to get rid of social evils**

1. Control of Corporations

- Roosevelt = **“Trustbuster”**
- One major **progressive goal** for his presidency: to eliminate business trusts. In the three years prior to Roosevelt’s presidency, the nation had witnessed a wave of mergers and the creation of mega-corporations.
 - To counter this trend, Roosevelt created the Department of Commerce and Labor in 1903 whose job it was to investigate trusts.
 - He also asked the Department of Justice to resume prosecutions under the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890 (which was created to empower federal prosecutors to ban monopolies as conspiracies against interstate trade).
- **1st President to enforce the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890**
 - **Ex: Northern Securities Company—RR combination**
 - Owned by J.P. Morgan whose goal was to control all the RRs in the Northwest
- Took on **40 trusts**



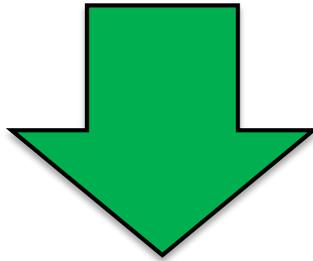
"JIU-JITSUED"
From the Post (Cincinnati)



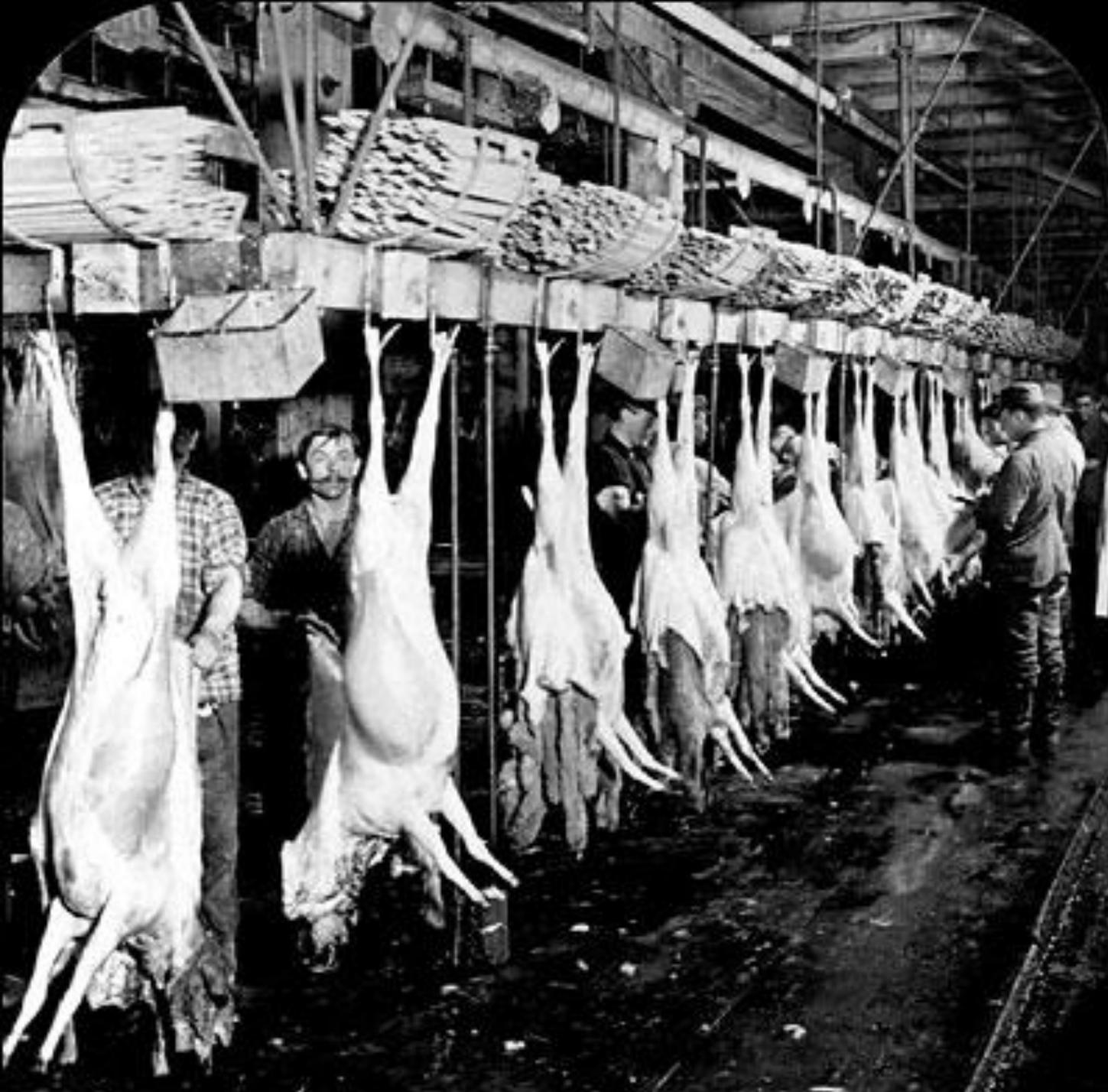
2. Consumer Protection

- **Upton Sinclair wrote *The Jungle*** – a novel (1906)
 - Dealt with the problems in the **meat packing industry**
 - Horror tales of rats ground into sausage; fingers of meat packers ground into sausage; sick cattle canned for human consumption

Led to



- **Meat Inspection Act** – federal inspectors visit packing plants to ensure minimum sanitation standards
- **Pure Food and Drug Act** – forbade the manufacture, sale, & transportation of adulterated or mislabeled foods or drugs



“This is no fairy story and no joke; the meat will be shoveled into carts and the man who did the shoveling will not trouble to lift out a rat even when he saw one.”

- *The Jungle*, Ch. 14



280 Making link sausages—machines stuff 10 ft. per second, Swift & Co's. Packing House, Chicago, U.S.A. Copyright 1903 by H. W. Wilson



“Mary had a little lamb, and when she saw it sicken, she shipped it off to Packingtown, and now it’s labeled chicken.”

Sinclair bitterly admitted his celebrity rose, “not because the public cared anything about the workers, but simply because the public did not want to eat tubercular beef.”

(Sinclair wrote the book to make the public aware of the difficulties of immigrants lives.)

3. Conservation of Natural Resources

- Roosevelt was a **great conservationist**
- Forest Reserve Act 1891—set aside **150 million acres** of federal land that would be used as a natural reserve
 - Established **national parks and other reserve areas**





**Teddy Roosevelt
and John Muir
standing at look-
out point in
Yosemite National
Park**

58 National Parks, a legacy of Teddy Roosevelt





**1902—Teddy Roosevelt
hunting w/ governor of
Mississippi**

**All other men had spotted
bears, but not Roosevelt
so guide tied up an old
black bear to tree
Roosevelt refused to shot
the animal
had someone put the
bear down**

**Political cartoon about
event**

**store owner asked
Roosevelt for permission
to sell stuffed bears
called “Teddy Bears”**



BEGINNING OF THE MILLENNIUM

The President says that on this trip west probably not a shot will be fired.

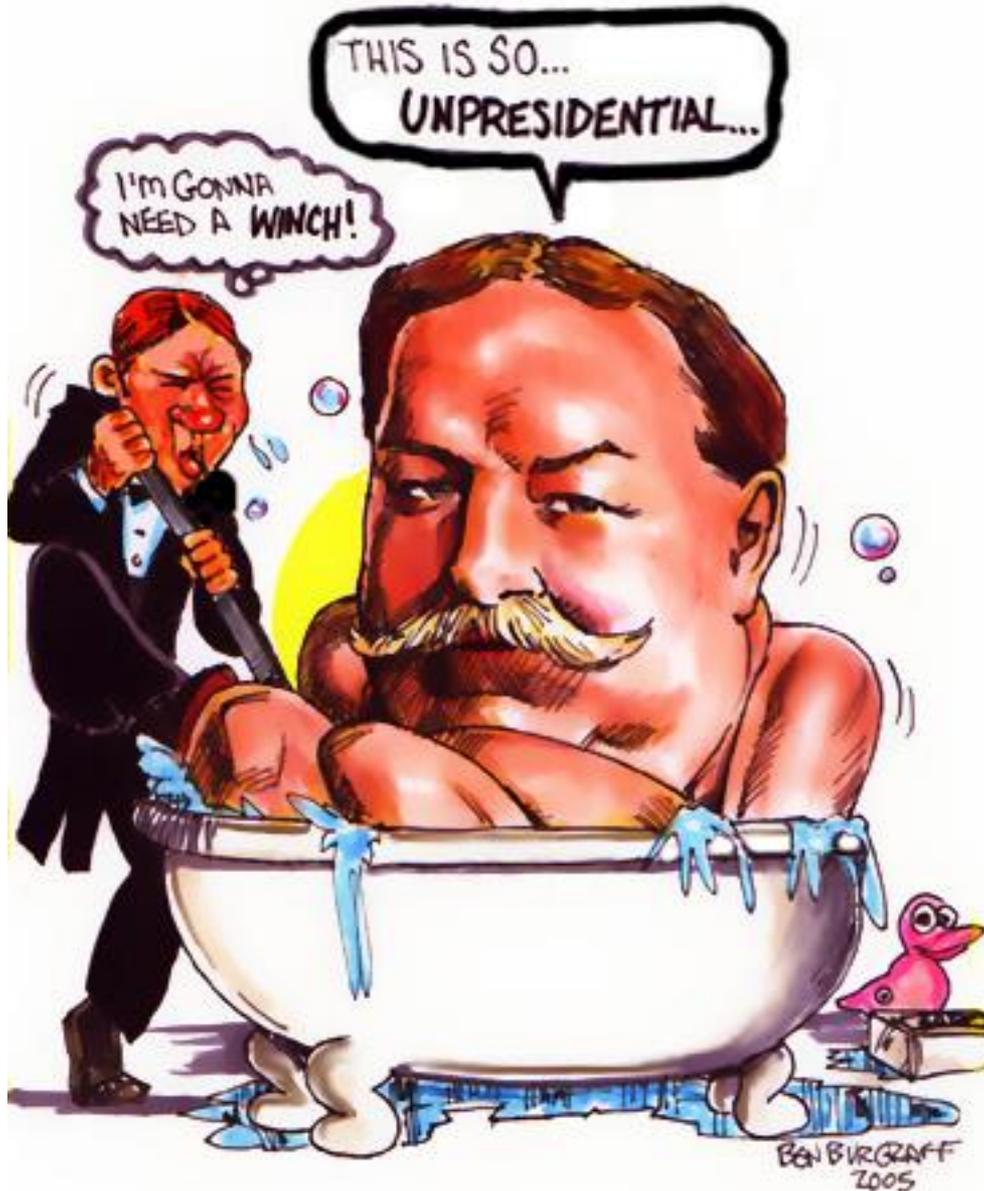
1909—African Safari **(Roosevelt was an avid hunter)**



William Howard Taft



- **1908 Election:**
 - Democrat: William Jennings Bryan
 - **Republican: Taft**— “Vote for Taft this time, you can vote for Bryan any time.”
 - Taft won
- **As president:**
 - **Busted over 90 trusts**
 - **Payne-Aldrich Tariff 1908**
 - Taft had promised to lower tariffs, yet this raised rates on most imports
 - **Progressives in the Republican Party were not happy with him because most of his acts as president were not progressive.**



President Taft got stuck in his bathtub on his Inauguration Day and had to be pried out by his attendants. He was over 300 pounds.

Only ex-president to be a Supreme Court Justice



Election of 1912

- **Democrat Woodrow Wilson**
- **Republican Party split:**
 - **Taft—Republic**
 - **T. Roosevelt—Bull Moose Party (progressive)**
 - **Roosevelt and the other Progressive Republicans left the Republican Party and formed the Progressive Party. His popularity had him hoping to win the presidential race as a third-party candidate.**
 - **The Democrats realized that a split Republican Party gave them a good chance of regaining the White House for the first time since 1896.**
- **Wilson won**
 - **Wilson won the presidency with just 42% of the popular vote, which meant that he would have to sway a large number of voters should he have any aspirations for a second term.**



Vote! **TEDDY
ROOSEVELT**



1912

"A square deal all around."

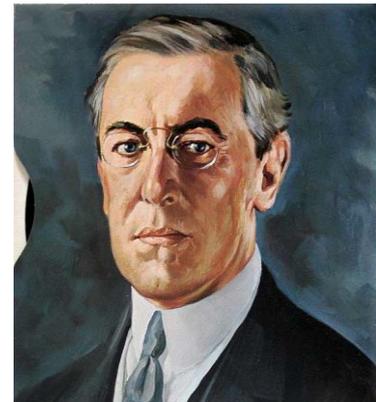
1772



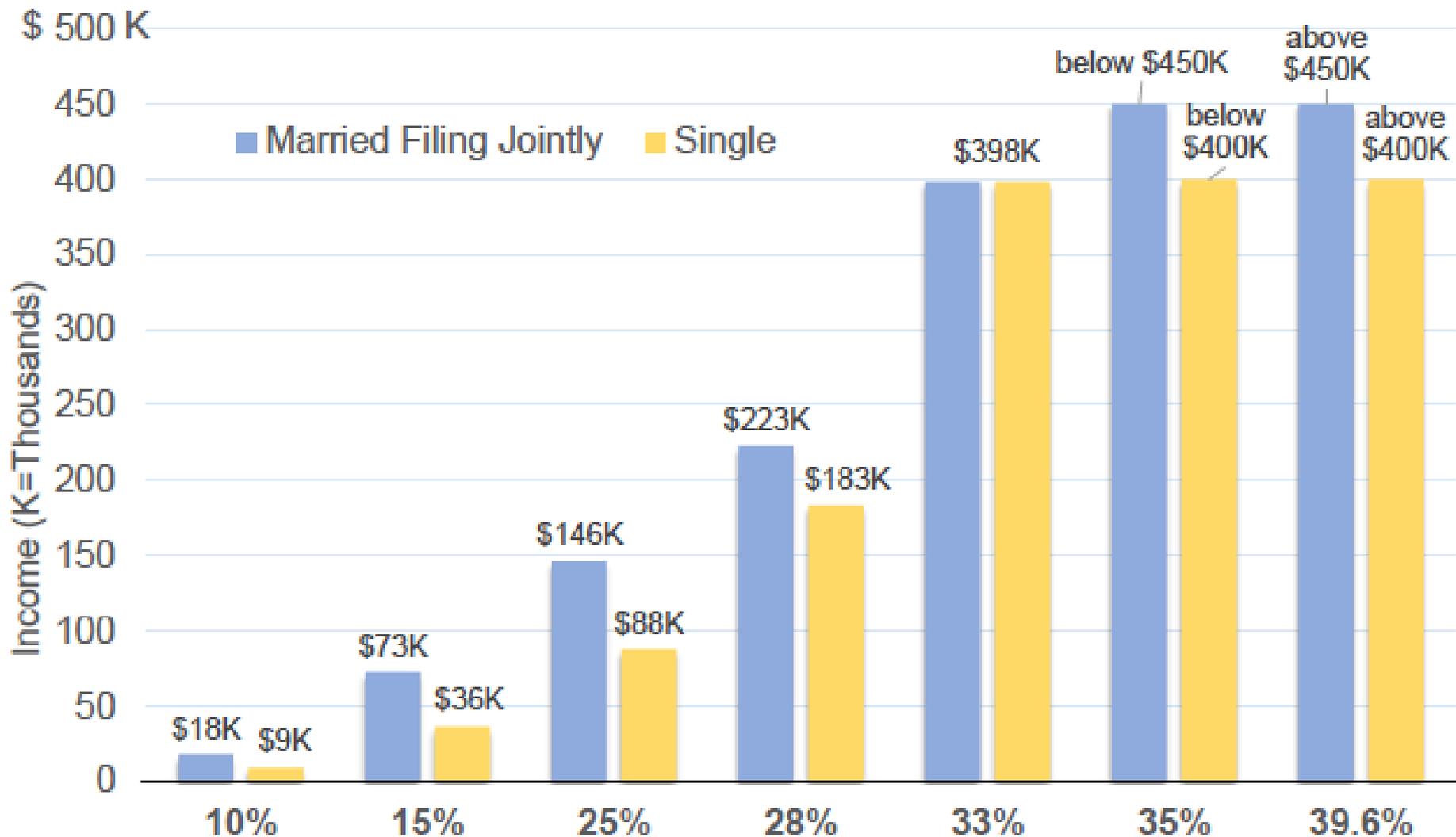
My Hat Is Still In The Ring

President Wilson

- **Attacked powerful organizations in order to give more freedom to average citizens**
- **Lowered tariffs** substantially for the first time in **50 years**
- **16th Amendment = Graduated Federal Income Tax** (to make up for the tariff reduction) [see the chart on the next slide to understand what a graduated income tax is]
- **Clayton Antitrust Act**—strengthen Sherman Antitrust Act
 - No monopolies allowed
- **Federal Trade Commission**
 - Investigate and take action against unfair trade practices in every industry— “Watchdog” agency



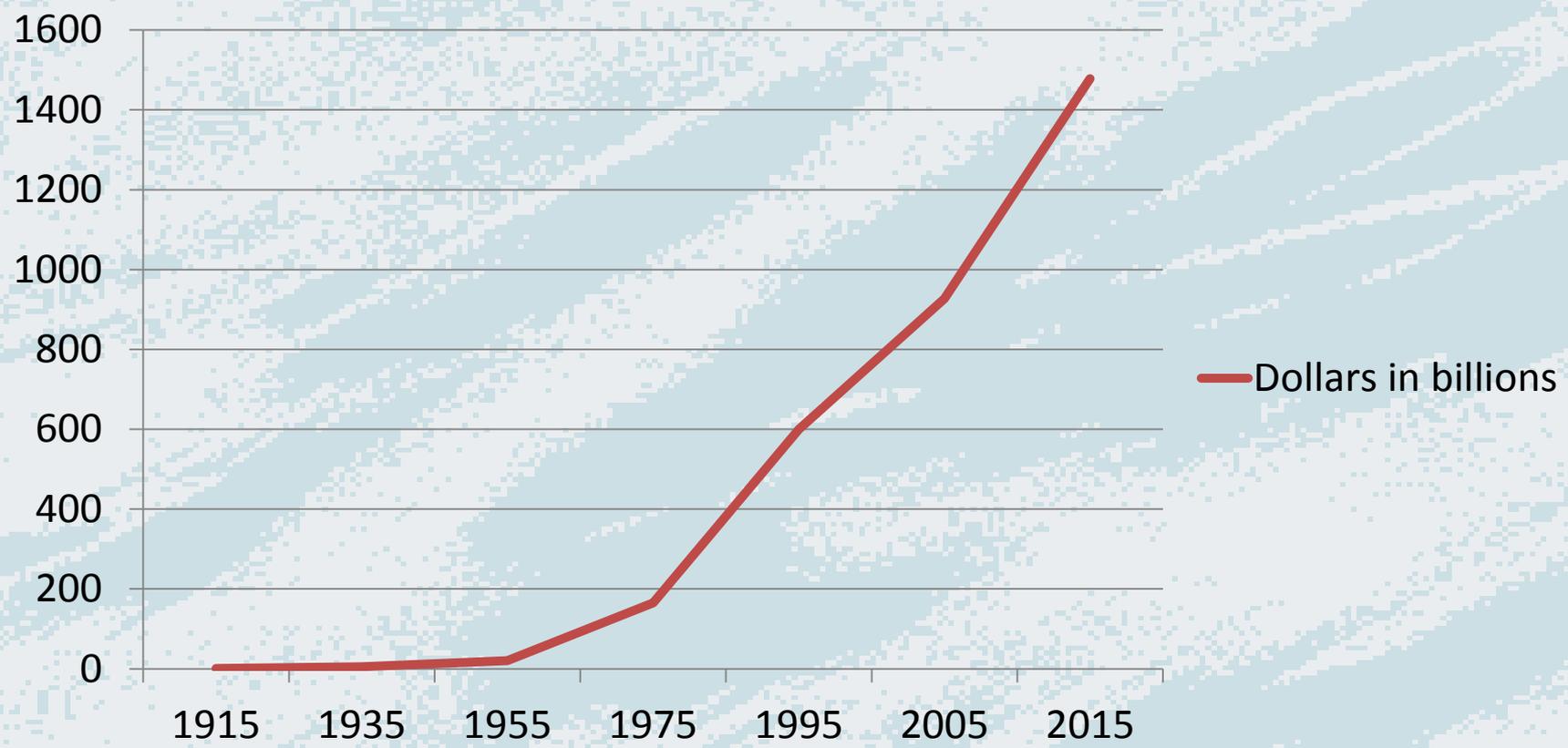
Marginal Tax Rates by Income Level



Data Notes: Tax Year 2013. Numbers rounded to the nearest whole.
 Source: IRS, Revenue Procedure 2013-2015, Accessed on August 1, 2013.
 Produced by Veronique de Rugy, Mercatus Center at George Mason University.

Revenue from Individual Federal Income Tax

Dollars in billions



At the end of your notes, answer this question:

**Which of these 3 presidents do you think was the most “progressive?”
Why?**