**US History**

**Measurement Topic 2:** Industrialization and Immigration

**Learning Target #3:** What were the progressive movements and how did they effect the USA?

**Directions: Read the handout and answer the questions**

**What led up to the progressive movement?**

The tremendous changes brought about by the industrialization and urbanization as well as the mounting aggression towards corrupt political machines triggered a need for change in the United States. Issues through-out the United States such as; corrupt city governments, corrupt business practices, urban poor, lack of education, poor farmers, dangerous working conditions in factories, huge numbers of immigrants and tax issues led Americans to call for reforms and change. Americans argued that society’s problems need to be fixed by the citizens and their government. The American people had become fed up with the corruption and the greed, and they wanted a change. This time period in history where reforms/change took place in the government and society is known as the **Progressive era** (movement) and it lasted from about 1890 to 1920.

**What political programs were created during the progressive movement and why were they created?**

Some Americans attempted to fix the problems through an idea called **Social Gospel**, a movement that tried to improve conditions in cities according to biblical ideas. This movement led to the creation of the Salvation Army, YMCA and protection houses. One protection house was the Jane Adams House, were poor immigrant women and children received housing, education, food and other needs.

Some of the first people who attempted to put progressive ideas (ideas that would lead to change) into place were journalist who **investigated** and **reported** about social conditions and political corruption; these writers became known as **muckrakers**. These muckrakers would **write articles** about **corruption** in the government, corporations and social problems that effected people. One famous writer was **Jacob Riis**. He wrote *“How the other half lives”* which described the poverty, disease and crime in New York City. His article put pressure on the American federal government to introduce reforms/change.

During the industrialization corporations created monopoly and trust (companies owned by one person, but the one person controls multiple corporations). The growth of business began to concern Americans, especially small business owners and farmers, so when **President Roosevelt** took office he asked congress to a law was passed called the **Sherman Anti-trust** **of 1890 to make it illegal for corporations to form monopolies**.

During President Roosevelt’s term as president another social issue was brought to light involving fake medication and problems with food. Companies were putting out medication that was only alcohol or water, or even contained dangerous ingredients such as opium, cocaine and other poisons. Food was as an area of concern when **Upton Sinclair** published the book, ***“The Jungle”.*** This book told how meat factories mixed in old rotten meat with good meat to make a larger batch to increase the amount to sale. It also told how rats ran around the factory and all over the meat that was sold to the public. The book made people angry which prompted **President Roosevelt and congress to pass the Meat Inspection Act.** This required inspections of meat factories and meat being sold.

Progressives who wanted to see an end to corruption in the government pushed for an amendment on how Senators were chosen. According to the constitution, senators were chosen by their state legislators (representatives); however the **American people saw this as a way for corruption** to take place since the Political Machines could influence the election by repaying voters with government jobs. Progressives demand a direct election, an election where the people vote. On May 31, 1913 the **17th amendment** was passed allowing for **direct election of Senators by the American people.**

The industrialization of the United States lead to increase in wages (money) people made. The federal government was running out of money so President Wilson came up with the idea to tax the income of the people. The **16th amendment** was passed February 3, 1913 **which allowed the federal government to tax the income of people.**

Another progressive movement was the **suffrage movement**. Women had never had the right to vote and when the 14 and 15 amendments were passed giving African American men the right to vote, women began to fight for their right to vote as well. The women formed the National American Women’s Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Women supported this movement so they could vote on social reforms or help pass labor laws to protect women. Women would organize marches, speak in public and write letters to lawmakers. Wyoming had granted women the right to vote in 1869 and by 1912 at least have of the states allowed women to vote. On August 26, 1920, the **19th amendment** was passed allowing women the right to vote.

One movement that had started prior to the progressive movements was the **temperance movement**. This movement called for people to monitor/slow down their alcohol consumption. Many people had thought that alcohol was responsible for many problems in American’s lives. Alcohol led to poverty, physical abuse, and sickness. Women were the leaders of this movement and they advocated for moderation or elimination of alcohol. This movement led to the **prohibition** which outlawed alcohol with the passage of the 18th amendment.

Another progressive movement focused on **child labor**. Children had always worked on the farm but with industrialization children began working in factories and the factory work was dangerous and involved long hours. Muckraker **John Spargo** wrote a book called *the “The Bitter Cry of the Children*” where he wrote how young boys, 9 or 10, worked in coal mines for 10 hours for 60₡. The book outlined how the work caused permanent damage such as bend backs and crippled hands, not to mention permanent damage to the lungs. This book and other reports led the government to set laws on maximum hours children could work. States also passed laws to make school mandatory to keep children from working. President Taft established the **Children’s Bureau** to investigate and report problems with child labor.

**President Roosevelt** also wanted to put a halt to the destruction of the environment and natural resources found in the United States due to industrialization so he created the United States Forestry Service to help conserve the forests. By the time he left office **he had created 5 national parks** and even expanded Yosemite here in California.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Questions:

1. Why did the Progressive movements start? What issues angered the people? Who was supposed to fix the issues?
2. What was Jane Adams House?
3. What is a Muckraker? What did muckrakers do?
4. What did “The Jungle” reveal that angered the people? What was created as a result of the “jungle”?
5. Why was the 17 the amendment created?
6. Why was the 16th amendment created?
7. Why did President Theodore Roosevelt want the shaman anti-trust act passed?
8. Why did President Theodore Roosevelt create national parks?