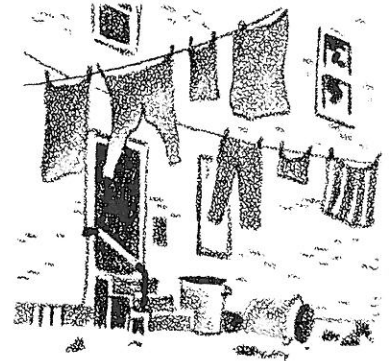


THE PROGRESSIVE MOVEMENT

The rapid growth of industry in the United States brought about such problems as business monopolies, dishonest politicians, crowded city slums, and miserable working conditions. During the 1870s and 1880s, reformers spoke out against these evils. They demanded improvements in the quality of life for the middle class and the poor. But little progress was made until the 1890s, when the public and the government gave widespread support to the reform movement.



Those people who led the fight for change called themselves “progressives.” They attacked abuses of monopolies and trusts, rate-fixing practices of railroads, use of child labor in factories and mines, and the corruption of big-city political machines. They supported women’s suffrage, conservation programs, civil service, and better pay and shorter hours for workers.

The Progressive Movement of the 1890s and early 1900s was urged on by a group of writers called “muckrakers.” They were given this nickname by President Theodore Roosevelt, who agreed with their charges of political and social abuse. These writers reminded Roosevelt of a storybook character who became so involved in shoveling filth with a “muckrake” that he never looked up. Similarly, the muckrakers relentlessly attacked those things which were wrong and unfair. Lincoln Steffens wrote about dishonest politicians in *The Shame of the Cities*. Ida M. Tarbell published *History of the Standard Oil Company*, in which she exposed the ruthless methods by which Standard Oil won almost total control of U.S. oil production. In his book *The Jungle*, Upton Sinclair told a shocking story about unsanitary conditions in the meat-packing industry.

Reformers won control of many city and some state governments. They also succeeded in getting numerous candidates elected to Congress. Both Democrats and Republicans voted for reform legislation. Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Taft, and Woodrow Wilson supported various reform laws. The result was that many changes were made at the local, state, and federal levels.

Making Comparisons: Read the first paragraph in column one below. It describes a problem which existed in the United States before the Progressive Movement began. Rearrange the two groups of scrambled letters in (a) and (b) to form key words, names, or terms. In column two, read how the situation changed after reforms were made. Fill in the missing letters in answers (c) and (d). Continue in the same way with 2-12.

Before Progressive Reform	After Progressive Reform
<p>(1) Victorious candidates used the spoils system to give government positions to (a) SNEDIRF _____ and supporters. But many of these people lacked the qualifications necessary for doing a (b) ODGO _____ job.</p>	<p>More and more (c) g _ _ _ _ n _ _ _ t jobs were filled using the civil service system, or merit system. Persons had to prove they were qualified for a job by passing a civil service (d) _ e _ t.</p>
<p>(2) Candidates running for office were usually chosen by a (a) ALSLM _____ group of party leaders. (b) RESOVT _____ had no say in who the candidates would be.</p>	<p>The “direct primary” was used to select candidates for office. In a “(c) _ _ i _ _ r y election,” registered voters from each party chose the candidates that they wanted to run in the upcoming regular (d) e _ _ _ t _ _ n.</p>

Before Progressive Reform	After Progressive Reform
<p>(3) Political leaders often lined up people willing to vote for certain candidates in exchange for cash or a job. These voters were given ballots on easily identifiable (a) ORLODEC _____ paper, so the politicians knew they were voting for their candidates. Counterfeiting ballots, stuffing (b) BLOTLA _____ boxes, and other illegal practices were widespread.</p>	<p>The Australian ballot, or “(c) _ e _ r _ _ ballot,” was introduced. It was printed by the government on paper of the same color. The ballot contained a list of candidates and the positions they wished to fill. Voters marked their ballot in the privacy of a curtained (d) _ o _ _ h.</p>
<p>(4) In New York City and other large urban areas, party bosses controlled political machines. (a) ORAVSF _____ were done for people in return for their votes. Bribes were regularly accepted. “Boss” William Tweed of New York City was the worst of these corrupt politicians, stealing an estimated \$30 (b) OLILNMI _____ or more of taxpayers’ money.</p>	<p>Progressive mayors and state lawmakers introduced numerous political reforms. The “initiative” enabled citizens to propose laws; the “referendum” allowed them to vote for or (c) _ g _ _ _ _ t laws already passed by state legislatures; a “recall” let them vote to (d) r _ _ _ _ v _ corrupt politicians from office.</p>
<p>(5) Despite passage of the Interstate Commerce Act, (a) IRLDAOAR _____ shipping rates remained excessively high. Railroad companies found ways to avoid charging (b) REOWL _____ rates set by the Interstate Commerce Commission.</p>	<p>Congress passed the Hepburn Act. This law gave (c) _ o _ _ e power to the Interstate Commerce Commission. The result was a (d) _ e _ r _ _ s _ in railroad rates.</p>
<p>(6) Workers, including women and (a) NDERLHIC _____, were frequently on the job 12 to 14 hours a day, six or seven days a week. Wages were terribly low. Bad working conditions often caused illness and (b) CIADCNEST _____.</p>	<p>Laws were passed requiring safety precautions in factories. Some states passed minimum wage laws. Working hours were shortened. “Workmen’s compensation laws” required employers to carry (c) _ _ s _ r _ _ c _ on their workers. Many states passed legislation that restricted child labor. The American Federation of Labor bargained for better (d) w _ _ _ s and working conditions.</p>
<p>(7) Many big businesses became (a) LEISNOMOPO _____, or trusts. One company, or several companies working together, sometimes gained control of a single industry, such as oil. They charged high prices because there was no (b) PTEOMCIOTIN _____ to hold prices down.</p>	<p>While Theodore Roosevelt was President, the government sued more than 40 companies for violating the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. One suit broke up John D. Rockefeller’s Standard Oil Company. (c) R _ _ s _ _ _ _ t earned the nickname “trustbuster.” During Woodrow Wilson’s administration, the Clayton Act gave the government additional power to (d) _ r _ _ k up monopolies.</p>

Before Progressive Reform	After Progressive Reform
<p>(8) Terrible conditions existed in the food processing industry. Upton Sinclair, a muckraker, told how packing houses often kept meat on dirty (a) SRLOFO _____. He found that chopped meat sometimes contained rat hairs, wood splinters, bits of rope, or pieces of (b) SLOIPDE _____ meat. Sinclair's findings were published in his book, <i>The Jungle</i>.</p>	<p>The (c) _ e _ t Inspection Act and the Pure Food and Drug Act gave the government power to take action against companies whose products were impure, (d) _ _ s _ f _ , or wrongly labeled.</p>
<p>(9) Wilderness areas were being ruined in many parts of the United States. Great (a) OLAFUFB _____ herds disappeared, the passenger pigeon became extinct, and other forms of wildlife were threatened. Government land and (b) RIENMLA _____ resources were either sold cheaply or given away.</p>	<p>The Forest Reserve Act set aside wilderness areas. Other "conservation" measures saved mineral, (c) w _ _ _ r, and fuel resources. Congress established the National Park Service to run existing national (d) _ _ _ k s and start new ones.</p>
<p>(10) Taxes were usually based on the amount of (a) YPTRERPO _____ a person owned. But many wealthy people hid some of their property from the government. Consequently, they did not pay their fair share of the (b) XESAT _____ being collected.</p>	<p>The 16th Amendment gave the federal government the power to collect "(c) _ _ c o _ _ taxes." The more money a person earned, the more taxes they (d) _ a i _ .</p>
<p>(11) The two (a) RTSONAES _____ each state sent to Congress were chosen by members of state (b) LSALGIERSEUT _____.</p>	<p>The 17th (c) _ m _ n _ _ _ _ t provided for the direct election of U.S. senators by the voters of each (d) s _ _ _ e.</p>
<p>(12) Only (a) EMLA _____ citizens 21 or older could vote. In 1869, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton founded the National Woman Suffrage Association. It campaigned for the right of (b) EMONW _____ to vote.</p>	<p>The women's (c) _ _ f _ r _ _ e movement succeeded in getting the 19th Amendment added to the (d) C _ _ _ _ _ t _ _ _ _ n. It gave women the right to vote.</p>