

"Let the watchwords of all our people be the old familiar watchwords of honesty, decency, fair-dealing, and commonsense... We must treat each man on his worth and merits as a man. We must see that each is given a square deal, because he is entitled to no more and should receive no less. The welfare of each of us is dependent fundamentally upon the welfare of all of us."

**- New York State Fair, Syracuse,
September 7, 1903**

Square Deal

- President McKinley was assassinated in September 1901
- Roosevelt, at age 42, became the youngest United States President in history.
- Champions idea of his "Square Deal" domestic policies
- Promises the average citizen:
 - Fairness,
 - Breaking of trusts
 - Regulation of railroads
 - Pure food and drugs.

Business Regulator

○ Bureau of Corporations 1903

- Task: Investigate and publicly report on corporate activities
- Research monopolistic ventures/effects/dangers

○ Elkins Act 1903

- Ends the practice of “rebates” demanded by shipping companies
- Ideally helps railroads – but only large ones

○ Hepburn Act 1906

- Gives the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) the power to regulate railroad prices
- Standardizes bookkeeping practices
- Critics argue overregulation of rails led to its downfall once trucks were introduced on highways
- ICC power extended to bridges, ferries, terminals, and pipelines

*Roosevelt says “Government may regulate business”

Trust Buster

○ Roosevelt is elected 1904

- Tells Attorney General to sue a railroad shipping monopoly under **1890 Sherman Anti-Trust Act**
- Illegal to monopolize market
- 1904 Supreme Court orders monopoly dissolved
- *"We don't wish to destroy corporations, but we do wish to make them serve the public good."*

○ Roosevelt's "Trust Busting" Campaign

- 44 more lawsuits filed
- Size didn't matter – Good or Bad for public good
 - *"We draw the line against misconduct, not against wealth"*

Trust Buster

- **Northern Securities Co. v United States (1904)**
 - Prosecuted under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act
 - JP Morgan and the rails argued the new Northern Pacific Co. operated under state laws
 - Federal laws did not interfere with the buying of stock between companies
- *Ruled 5-4 in favor of the government – dissolving the prospective monopoly*
- **Swift and Co. v United States (1905)**
 - 6 Meatpacking businesses controlled 50% of national business
 - Expanded Gibbons v. Ogden – stated when a *finished* product is going between states, interstate commerce applies
 - Halted price fixing in Chicago
- *"Beef Trust" was ended*

Conservationist

- Roosevelt loved to hunt for sport
 - Concerned about loss of habitat and over-hunting
- Did not want Americans to believe resources were inexhaustible
 - Personally lost ranch land to overgrazing
- Railroads received free/cheap land so the government should keep some



"We have fallen heirs to the most glorious heritage a people ever received, and each one must do his part if we wish to show that the nation is worthy of its good fortune."

- Theodore Roosevelt

A landscape of layered rock formations, likely sandstone, under a cloudy sky. The rocks are arranged in various shapes, some resembling pillars or stacks. The sky is filled with soft, white and grey clouds, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting. The overall tone is natural and somewhat somber.

230

million acres protected by Roosevelt's programs

"the time has come to inquire seriously what will happen when our forests are gone, when the coal, the iron, the oil, and the gas are exhausted, when the soils have still further impoverished and washed into the streams, polluting the rivers, denuding the fields and obstructing navigation.."

- Theodore Roosevelt

Conservationist

A large, cylindrical rock formation with vertical columns, known as Devil's Tower, stands prominently against a dark, cloudy sky. The rock is light-colored with some darker patches. The base of the tower is surrounded by a dense forest of evergreen trees and a rocky, scree-covered slope in the foreground.

- Roosevelt was influenced by **John Muir** of the Sierra Club
- **Newlands Reclamation Act 1902**
 - Provides funding for irrigation in the west
- **Antiquities Act 1906**
 - Funding/Protection of natural wonders or man-made artifacts
 - *Devil's Tower, Wyoming
 - First declared National Monument (1906)

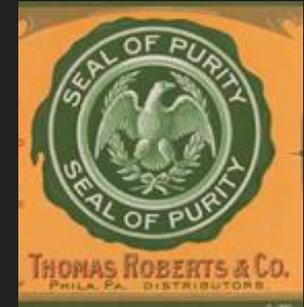
Consumer Protector

○ Pure Food and Drug Act 1906

- Targeted proper labelling of ingredients
- Designed to out the experimental ingredients and overuse of alcohol in medicine (especially for children)

○ Meat Inspection Act 1906

- Spurred by *The Jungle* – Upton Sinclair's expose
- Four primary requirements
 - Mandatory inspection of livestock before slaughter
 - Mandatory inspection of carcass after slaughter
 - Sanitary standards set for slaughterhouses/meatpacking facilities
 - USDA may conduct ongoing inspections



Middle Class Supporter

○ Anthracite Coal Strike

- Mine owners refused to recognize union
- Coal shortage was occurring and miners walked off job sites
- TDR invites parties to the White House and demands arbitration

*First time the federal government intervenes for unions

○ Employers Liability Act of 1906

- FELA ensured workers on interstate commerce rail lines would have insurance

“...shall be liable in damages to any person suffering injury while he is employed by such carrier in such commerce, or, in case of the death of such employee, to his or her personal representative, ... for such injury or death resulting in whole or in part from the negligence of any of the officers, agents, or employees of such carrier, or by reason of any defect or insufficiency, due to its negligence, in its cars, engines, appliances, machinery, track, roadbed, works, boats, wharves, or other equipment.”

End of an Era

- **Election of 1908**
 - Roosevelt endorses William Taft
 - Calls Taft a “True Progressive”
 - Taft defeats Bryan (third time Bryan loses)
- Roosevelt leaves the country on safari
 - Accused of rigging and running the White House

