Chapter 13-Day 2

Section 2—Roosevelt in Office

- Teddy Roosevelt moved up to Pres upon McKinley's death. He was 42 years old, the youngest person to ever serve as Pres. He believed in Social Darwinism (only the fittest survive) in our competition with other countries
- Domestically his policies were called the Square Deal. Believing the gov't should balance the needs of competing groups in America
- He wants to control big business without destroying efficiency. He wasn't opposed to big business. He was opposed to misconduct.
- By fighting Northern Securities Holding Co. (railroads) and winning he got the reputation as "trust buster".
- 1903 TR gets Congress to create the Dept. of Commerce and Labor with authority to investigate big business.
- Congress created the Hepburn Act to strengthen the Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate railroads.
- <u>Social Welfare</u>—By 1905 concern for public welfare came to the front—patent medicine, food preparation, unsanitary practices
- Upton Sinclair's book *The Jungle* on meat packing industry led to the Meat Inspection Act (plants inspected for sanitary conditions and meat inspected for quality) and the Pure Food and Drug Act (made it illegal to use impure ingredients or falsely label drugs or make false claims)
- <u>Conservation</u>—TR believed it was the gov't job to protect public land and we needed to preserve it and conserve its use
- Newlands Reclamation Act provided use of federal money to build irrigation and land development in the Southwest
- TR appointed Gifford Pinchot to head the Forrest Service
- Roosevelt added 100 million acres to protected national forests, established 5 new national parks, and 51 wildlife reserves
- 1864 Pres. Lincoln granted Yosemite as a wilderness preserve
- 1872 Yellowstone became the 1st national park
- TR changed the role of the federal gov't. Americans began to look to the federal gov't to solve the nation's economic and social problems

Section 3—The Taft Administration

- Election of 1908—TR doesn't run again. He endorses William Howard Taft
- Taft believed high tariffs limited competition, hurt consumers and protected trusts. In a deal with Speaker of the House Joseph Cannon they passed a lower tariff bill.