

William Howard Taft

- Quiet & cautious
- Broke up more trusts than TR
- Approved safety rules for mines
- Signed laws giving government workers the 8-hour work day
- oversaw the creation of a federal office to make regulations controlling child labor
- Lost Progressive support by the end of his presidency because he raised taxes & modified conservation policies

Theodore Roosevelt (TR)

- Trust Buster - a person who works to destroy monopolies & trusts. TR brought lawsuits against several large trusts & won
- 1st president to side with strikers in a union dispute, The Pennsylvania coal miners. Forced mine owners to negotiate
- The Square Deal - promised Americans that everyone should have the same opportunity to succeed. Promised to make changes in the working & living conditions faced by the poor
- Conservation - protection of national resources. Formed the U.S. Forest Service & set aside thousands of acres for national parks

Woodrow Wilson

- New Freedom - wanted to restore free competition among American corporations
- Created the Federal Trade Commission: had the power to investigate companies & order them to stop using unfair practices to destroy competitors
- Clayton Antitrust Act: banned some business practices that limited competition & stopped the laws from being used against unions

Progressive Presidents