

# 1912: The Election that Changed the Century



**Ms. Susan M. Pojer  
Horace Greeley HS  
Chappaqua, NY**

**Edited (shortened)  
by Ms. Wallace**

# The Republican Party & President William H. Taft



# Republican Party Platform

- ✧ High import tariffs.
- ✧ Put limitations on female and child labor.
- ✧ Workman's Compensation Laws.
- ✧ Against initiative, referendum, and recall.
- ✧ Against "bad" trusts.
- ✧ Creation of a Federal Trade Commission.
- ✧ Stay on the gold standard.
- ✧ Conservation of natural resources because they are finite.



# The GOP After the Circus

“The Republican Party must stand for the rights of humanity, or else it must stand for special privilege.” TR



# The Progressive Party & Former President Theodore Roosevelt



**"People should rise  
above their sectarian  
interests to promote  
the general good."**



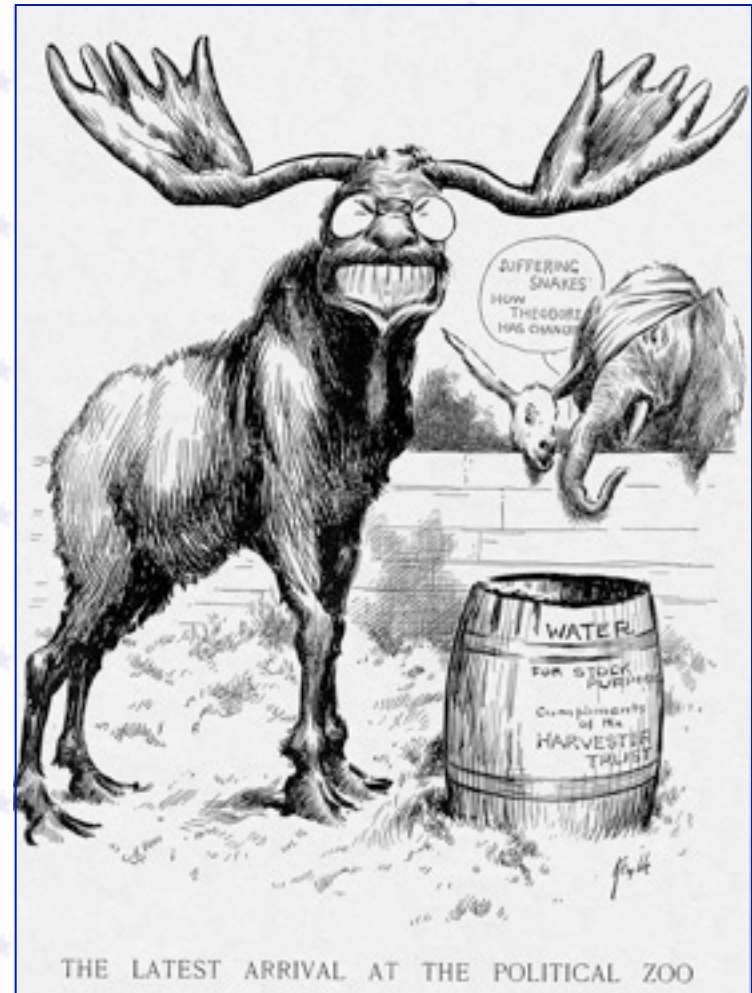


# Theodore Roosevelt at Osawatomie, KS: New Nationalism



**“Big business requires big government.”**

The  
“Bull Moose”  
Party:  
The Latest  
Arrival  
at the  
Political Zoo



We stand at Armageddon,  
and we battle for the Lord!

ONWARD, CHRISTIAN  
SOLDIERS!





# TR & Women's Suffrage:

## The Militant Recruit

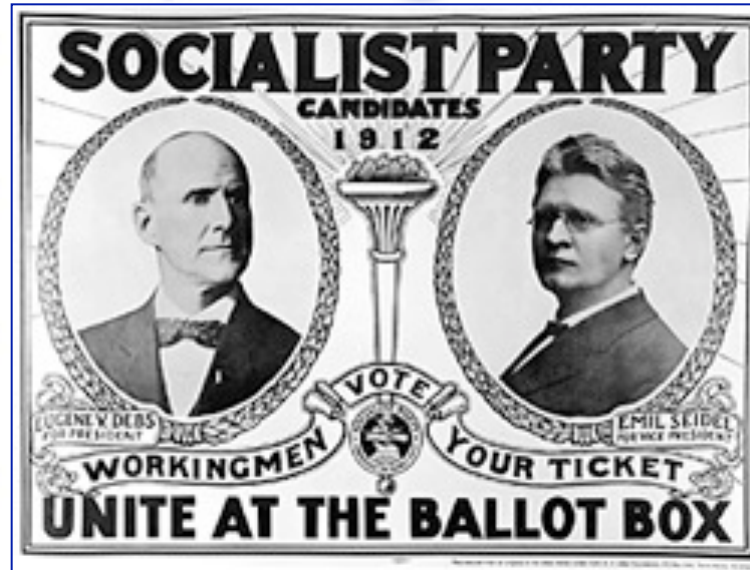


# Progressive Party Platform

- ✧ Women's suffrage.
- ✧ Graduated income tax.
- ✧ Inheritance tax for the rich.
- ✧ Lower tariffs.
- ✧ Limits on campaign spending.
- ✧ Currency reform.
- ✧ Minimum wage laws.
- ✧ Social insurance.
- ✧ Abolition of child labor.
- ✧ Workmen's compensation.

N  
e  
w  
  
N  
a  
t  
i  
o  
n  
a  
l  
i  
s  
m

# The Socialist Party & Eugene V. Debs



"The issue is Socialism versus Capitalism. I am for Socialism because I am for humanity."



# Growth of the Socialist Vote

Year	Socialist Party	Socialist Labor Party	Total
1888		2,068	2,068
1890		13,704	13,704
1892		21,512	21,512
1894		30,020	30,020
1896		36,275	36,274
1898		82,204	82,204
1900	96,931	33,405	130,336
1902	223,494	53,763	277,257
1904	408,230	33,546	441,776
1906	331,043	20,265	351,308
1908	424,488	14,021	438,509
1910	607,674	34,115	641,789
1912			<b>901,873</b>

# Socialist Party Platform

- ✧ Government ownership of railroads and utilities.
- ✧ Guaranteed income tax.
- ✧ No tariffs.
- ✧ 8-hour work day.
- ✧ Better housing.
- ✧ Government inspection of factories.
- ✧ Women's suffrage.



# The Democratic Party & Governor Woodrow Wilson (NJ)



Could he rescue the Democratic Party from "Bryanism"? (the fear that Bryan would destroy prosperity by overthrowing the gold standard and putting into effect his economic heresies) Bailey







# Democratic Party Platform

**N  
e  
w  
  
F  
r  
e  
e  
d  
o  
m**

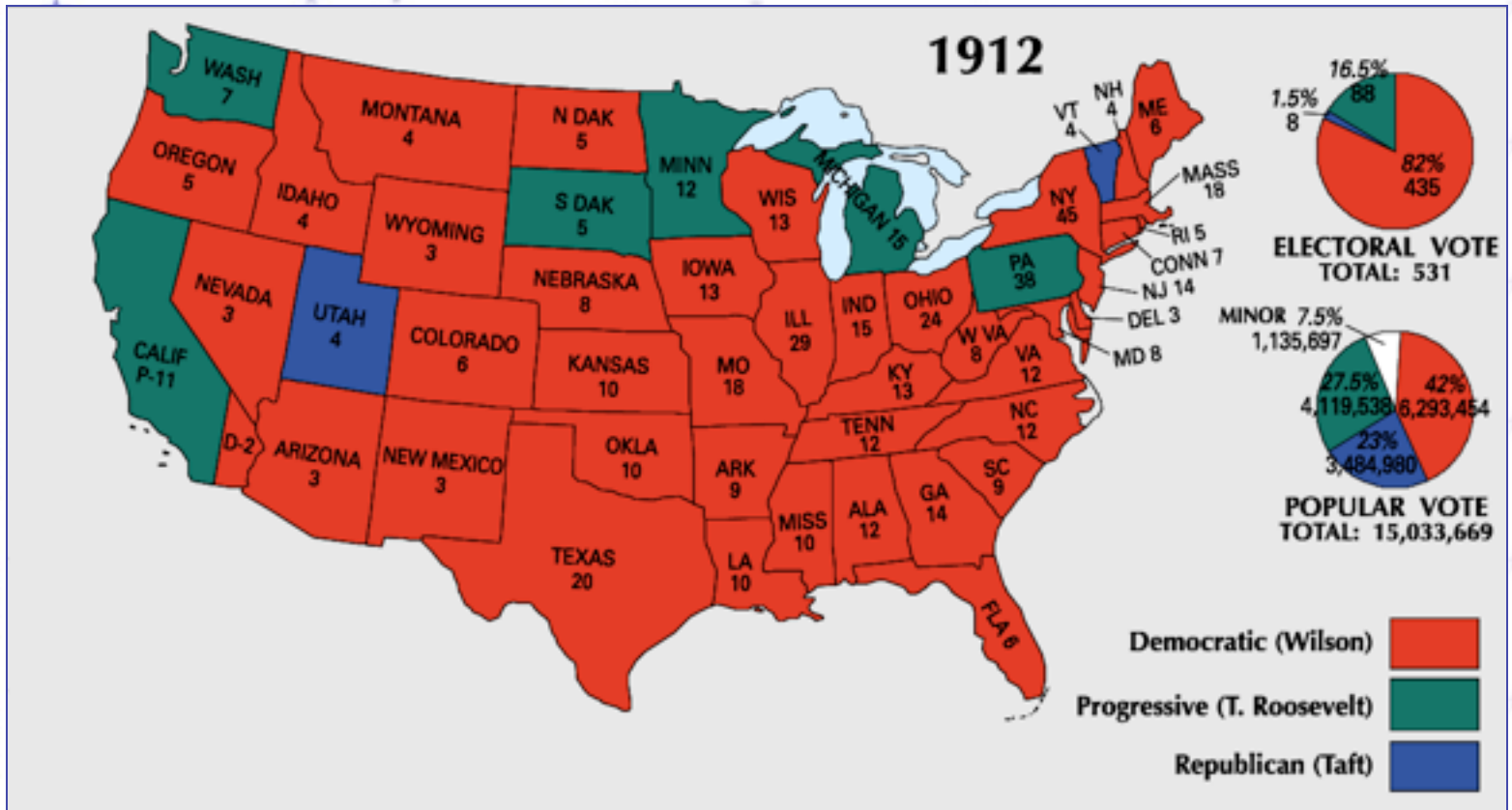
- ★ Government control of the monopolies
  - trusts in general were bad
  - eliminate them!!
- ★ Tariff reduction.
- ★ One-term President.
- ★ Direct election of Senators.
- ★ Create a Department of Labor.
- ★ Strengthen the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.
- ★ Did NOT support women's suffrage.
- ★ Opposed to a central bank.



# An Actual 1912 Ballot

 <p><b>Democratic Ticket</b> For President <b>WOODROW WILSON</b> For Vice-President <b>THOMAS R. MARSHALL</b></p>	 <p><b>Republican Ticket</b> For President <b>WILLIAM H. TAFT</b> For Vice-President <b>JAMES S. SHERMAN</b></p>	 <p><b>Socialist Ticket</b> For President <b>EUGENE V. DEBS</b> For Vice-President <b>EMIL SEIDEL</b></p>	 <p><b>Prohibition Ticket</b> For President <b>EUGENE W. CHAFIN</b> For Vice-President <b>AARON S. WATKINS</b></p>	<p><b>INDEPENDENT NOMINATIONS</b></p>  <p><b>National Progressive Ticket</b> For President <b>THEODORE ROOSEVELT</b> For Vice-President <b>HIRAM W. JOHNSON</b></p>	<p><b>INDEPENDENT NOMINATIONS</b></p>  <p><b>Socialist Labor Ticket</b> For President <b>ARTHUR E. REINER</b> For Vice-President <b>AUGUST GILLHAUS</b></p>	<p><b>BLANK COLUMN.</b></p> <p>THE ELECTOR MAY WRITE IN THE COLUMN BELOW, OR FOR THE TITLE OF THE OFFICE, THE NAME OF ANY PERSON WHOSE NAME IS NOT PRINTED UPON THE BALLOT FOR WHOM HE DESIRES TO VOTE.</p>
For Election of President and Vice-President, <b>HERMAN RUGGER.</b>	For Election of President and Vice-President, <b>CHARLES A. WEDDER.</b>	For Election of President and Vice-President, <b>SOLINA DANIEL.</b>	For Election of President and Vice-President, <b>WILLIAM W. BRIDG.</b>	For Election of President and Vice-President, <b>BERY L. STODDARD.</b>	For Election of President and Vice-President, <b>JAMES G. GUNTER.</b>	For Election of President and Vice-President,
<b>SAUEL INTERMYEN.</b>	<b>FREDERICK C. SEEVERS.</b>	<b>CHARLES H. WATSON.</b>	<b>FRANK A. BALDWIN.</b>	<b>IRVING L. BURN.</b>	<b>FRED BROWN.</b>	
<b>JAMES A. WOODWARD.</b>	<b>EDWARD H. SCHLES.</b>	<b>EUGENE WOOD.</b>	<b>GRUBER H. SCOTT.</b>	<b>J. H. COCHRAN RAFFAN.</b>	<b>WILLIAM J. WURDE.</b>	
<b>BERNARD SUTMAN.</b>	<b>AUGUST KUTKA.</b>	<b>WILLIAM BURMAN.</b>	<b>DEVILLE H. ROBERTS.</b>	<b>H. PLATT STRATTON.</b>	<b>MAGNUS DEANWALL.</b>	
<b>JAMES F. WALLISTER.</b>	<b>STEPHEN J. BURDOW.</b>	<b>CHARLES REYNOLD.</b>	<b>JOHN BUCK.</b>	<b>OTTO WICK.</b>	<b>OTTO L. MONTGOMERY.</b>	

# Election Results



- ✧ By 1912, 100,000 fewer people had voted for Wilson than had voted for Bryan in 1908.
- ✧ The 1912 election marked the apogee of the Socialist movement in America.



# **GOP Divided by Bull Moose Equals Democratic**

