



Source: DOBBS

# Chapter 9 Section 1

The Origins of Progressivism

# Growth of Cities

---

- ▶ Three negative consequences of the growth of America's cities:
- ▶ Unemployment.
- ▶ Unsafe working conditions.
- ▶ Political Corruption.



# Help

---

- ▶ Many people wanted the government to get more involved in solving the nation's problems.



# Socialism

---

- ▶ An economic and political philosophy favoring public or government control of property and income.



# Goals of Socialists

---

- ▶ End the capitalist system (Big companies make profit).
- ▶ Distribute wealth more equally.
- ▶ Nationalize American industries.



**Socialism:**  
the radical  
idea of  
*sharing*

---



# How?

---

- ▶ Hoped to do this through voting not through revolution.



# Labor Movement

---

- ▶ Union members who wanted:
- ▶ Reduced work hours.
- ▶ Better wages.
- ▶ Better working conditions.





# Injunction

---

- ▶ A court order which prohibited Union workers from going on strike.





# Municipal Government

---

- ▶ City government wanted political appointments based on qualifications instead of favors.



# Home Rule

---

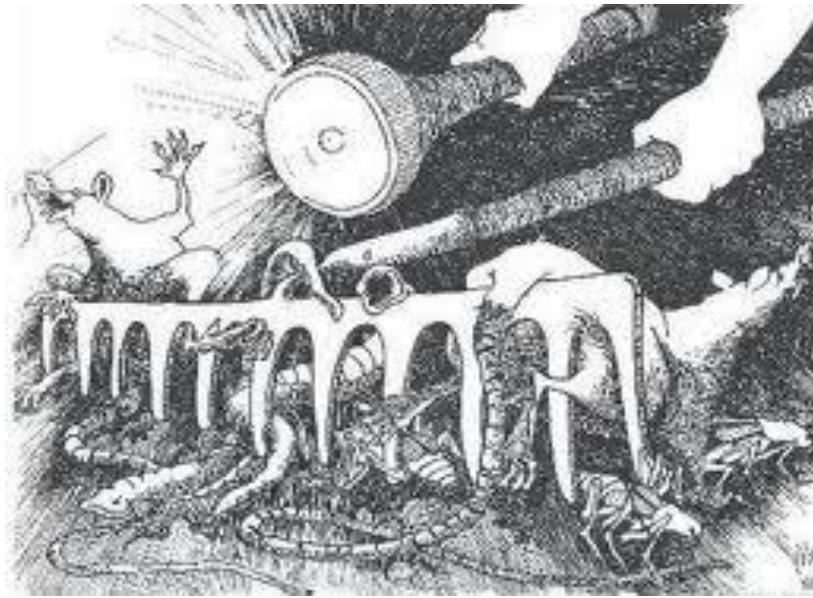
- ▶ A system in which cities have self-rule instead of being dominated by State governments (Controlled by corrupt political machines).



# Muckrakers

---

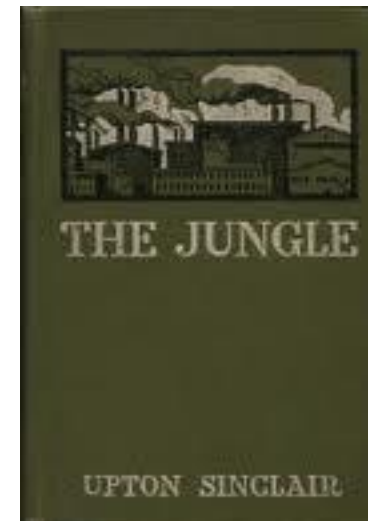
- ▶ Journalists who investigated issues of public concern like slums and sweatshops and alerted the public to the corruption in business and politics.
- ▶ Criticized (by Teddy Roosevelt) for “Earning a living by making up lies about honest men”.



# The Jungle

---

- ▶ Upton Sinclair's book about the horrors of the meat packing industry.  
(Bad beef killed more soldiers in the Spanish American War than bullets.)
- ▶ Led to creation of federal meat inspection programs (FDA).



# The Progressive Era (1890-1920)

---

- ▶ Called this because various groups tried to bring about “Progress” in society by getting rid of the corruption in government.



Library of Congress



# Watchdog

---

- ▶ Progressives did not want the government to own businesses, but to be a watchdog to make sure businesses treated workers and competing companies fairly.



# Social Welfare Programs

---

- ▶ Programs designed to help the working poor because of low wages, unemployment, and workplace hazards.
- ▶ Unemployment, accident and health insurance.
- ▶ Social Security system to aid the disabled and elderly.





# Women Reformers

---

- ▶ Cared about labor (workplace) issues because many women and children were factory workers.



# Florence Kelley

---

- ▶ Women who came from a wealthy Pennsylvania family who fought for better work conditions for women and to get children out of the workplace.



# Opposition to Progressives

---

- ▶ Many poor families, the very people progressives were trying to help, often disliked them because they couldn't survive without sending their children to work.
- ▶ They also didn't want the government having any say in their housing or healthcare.

