**Chapter 18, Section 2: Roosevelt in Office**

**I. Roosevelt Revives the Presidency** *(pages 555–558)*

**A.** During his second term, Theodore Roosevelt’s reform program was known as the **Square Deal.** As a progressive and a Social Darwinist, he felt the government should try to balance the needs of all the groups in American society. He believed that the U.S. needed progressive reforms to remain an efficient society that could compete successfully with other nations.

**B.** The fight for control of the Burlington Railroad erupted on the New York Stock Exchange. E.H. Harriman of the Union Pacific Railroad and James J. Hill and J. P. Morgan of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific Railroads argued over stock, which could have led to a recession. The three men compromised by creating a new holding company called **Northern Securities.**

**C.** Roosevelt felt Northern Securities violated the Sherman Antitrust Act, and he ordered a lawsuit filed. In 1904 the Supreme Court ruled that Northern Securities had violated the Sherman Antitrust Act.

**D.** The **United Mine Workers** (UMW) union called a strike of the miners who dug coal. About 150,000 workers from the mines of eastern Pennsylvania demanded a pay increase, reduction in work hours, and recognition for their union. The strike went on for months, threatening a coal shortage. Roosevelt urged the union and owners to accept **arbitration,** a settlement imposed by an outside party. The union agreed, but the owners did not. Mine owners finally agreed after Roosevelt threatened to have the army run the mines.

**E.** In 1903 Congress created the Department of Commerce and Labor. Within the department was the **Bureau of Corporations** that had the authority to investigate corporations and issue reports on their activities.

**F.** In 1906 the **Hepburn Act** was intended to strengthen the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) by giving it the power to set railroad rates. Over time, railroads realized they could work with the ICC to set rates and regulations that limited competition and prevent new competitors from entering the industry.

**Discussion Question**

How did Roosevelt take on big business? *(In early 1902 he ordered his attorney general to file a lawsuit under the Sherman Antitrust Act against Northern Securities. When the mine owners refused arbitration in the coal mine strike, Roosevelt threatened to order the army to run the mines. Roosevelt convinced Congress to create the Department of Commerce and Labor with its Bureau of Corporations, which investigated corporations and issued reports on their activities. Roosevelt pushed the Hepburn Act through Congress. This act was intended to give the ICC the power to set railroad rates.)*

**II. Social Welfare Action** *(page 558)*

**A.** By 1905 consumer protection became a national issue. Patent medicines and food consumption became serious threats to Americans, forcing new legislation.

**B.** In 1906 **Upton Sinclair’s** *The Jungle* described his observations of Chicago slaughterhouses. As a result, federal legislation was passed. The **Meat Inspection Act** required federal inspection of meat sold and set standards of cleanliness in meatpacking plants. The **Pure Food and Drug Act** prohibited the manufacture, sale, or shipment of impure or falsely labeled food and drugs.

**Discussion Question**

What were patent medicines? *(Many patent medicines were potions made from alcohol, colored water, and sugar. Companies claimed the medicines would cure a variety of ills.)*

**III. Conservation** *(pages 558–559)*

**A.** President Theodore Roosevelt urged Americans to conserve natural resources. In 1902 Roosevelt supported the passage of the **Newlands Reclamation Act,** which authorized the use of federal funds from public land sales to pay for irrigation and land development projects.

**B.** Roosevelt appointed Gifford Pinchot to head the United States Forest Service to carefully manage the timber resources in the West. Pinchot and his department created regulations controlling lumbering on federal lands.

**C.** Roosevelt’s actions during his presidency caused Americans to increasingly look to the federal government to solve the nation’s economic and social problems. The executive branch of government greatly increased in power.

**Discussion Question**

What was Roosevelt’s policy on conservation? *(Roosevelt believed in conservation methods that promoted careful management of the nation’s resources. He believed that trained experts in forestry and resource management should apply to the landscape the same scientific standards that others were using in the management of cities and industry.)*

***Answer the following questions from chapter 18, section 2.***

1. Define Square Deal. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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2. Define arbitration. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. Explain what was provided for in the Hepburn Act. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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4. How did Upton Sinclair contribute to involving the federal government in protecting consumers? \_\_\_

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5. What impact did Roosevelt’s use of the Sherman Antitrust Act have on business? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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6. Imagine you are living in the early 1900s and have just read Sinclair’s The Jungle. Write a letter to a friend explaining what the novel is about and how it characterizes the Progressive Era. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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