

The "Square Deal"

Laissez-faire Economics
Check out this website for more information. http://encyclopedia.kids.net.au/page/la/Laissez-faire

2. Read the information below and answer the question that follows.

Theodore Roosevelt Conservationist

It had long been believed in the United States that the supply of new lands and natural resources was unlimited. In 1890, however, the Director of the Census announced that a western frontier no longer existed. The last remaining reserved area, the Oklahoma Territory, had been opened for settlement in the previous year. Other remaining unoccupied lands were largely either arid or mountainous. A bitter debate followed—and continues today—between those who argued that America should exploit its resources to the fullest for as long as they last and those who favored conservation as a means to sustain supply over a longer time and preserve natural beauty.

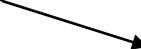
By the turn of the century, several things were evident:

- Forests throughout the country were depleted; some estimates indicated that only about 20 percent of the original woodlands remained in 1900
- Much of the nation’s farmland, particularly in the South and East, had been exhausted by overuse and was marginally productive
- Extractive industries such as oil, gas, and minerals were proceeding at an unfettered pace
- Water rights were increasingly coming under the control of private parties, who often operated without concern for flood control or the preservation of natural features.

Theodore Roosevelt, a sportsman and naturalist, sided emphatically with the conservationists. Legislative effort was devoted to changing the way America used its land, especially in the West. The president, with the aid and encouragement of Chief Forester Gifford Pinchot, worked to preserve more than 170 million acres, mostly in the West, in the forms of national parks and monuments. According to the National Geographic, the area of the United States placed under public protection by Theodore Roosevelt, as National Parks, National Forests, game and bird preserves, and other federal reservations, comes to a total of approximately 230,000,000 acres or about 84,000 acres per day!

Explain why Teddy Roosevelt is often regarded as the nations first Environmentalist President.

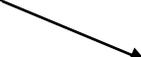
William Howard Taft



The "Trustbuster"

Passage of the Sixteenth Amendment

The Election of 1912
William Howard Taft vs.
Teddy Roosevelt



Teddy Roosevelt and the Bull Moose Party (Progressive Party)

Taft and the Republican Nomination



The Election of 1912
Woodrow Wilson



Wilson in the White House
1. Tarrif Reform
2. The Federal Reserve Act
3. Federal Trade Commision
4, Clayton Antitrust Act