

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ONE

PROGRAM ONE 1900 – 1907

In the first decade of the 20th century, the United States looked inward and faced the crises that would define it as a world power over the next 100 years: racism, poverty, labor rights and political rights. Program One is the first volume of this unique series of Turning Points in 20th Century American History. The topics cover ratification of the gold standard; Dr Walter Reed's breakthrough discovery of the cause of yellow fever; the 1902 Mine Workers Strike that set the stage for labor winning concessions from industry; the Newlands Reclamation Act that would help turn parts of the west into an agricultural paradise; the most far reaching invention of the 20th century--the Wright Brothers' airplane; the muckraker's startling exposés that helped initiate progressivism; the Panama Canal uniting two halves of a vast continent by sea; and Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House which ushered in a truly American architecture for the first time.

Turning Point #1

1900 – The Gold Standard Act is Ratified by Congress – 2:50 min.

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- At the end of the 19th century the United States had completed her territorial expansion and now she looked inward.
- In America's changing landscape, industry dominated the nation; rural America was flocking to the great cities; and electricity was powering a new kind of business.
- All that was needed to propel the United States into economic leadership in the 20th-century was capital to encourage foreign trade and new investment. In 1900, that meant adopting the gold standard.
- Congress ratified the Gold Standard Act making gold the official standard of U.S. currency.

Points for Teachers:

- The legislation redefined the roles of the political parties. Democrats became champions of the underdogs and poor; Republicans swung their support to big business.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1846 – The United States Declares War on Mexico
- 1870 – Rockefeller Incorporates Standard Oil of Ohio
- 1898 – Sinking of the Maine
- 1869 – Completion of the Transcontinental Railroad

Turning Point #2

1901 - Dr. Walter Reed Discovers Yellow Fever is Transmitted by Mosquitoes – 2:40 min.

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- A scourge of the tropics, yellow fever made it difficult if not impossible to maintain adequate health for work forces building the Panama Canal. Dr. Walter Reed used the scientific method to show mosquitoes transmitted yellow fever, thus enabling the canal to be built.
- The long-term effects of his research were felt in the medical sciences, as in the decades that followed, selfless men and women investigated the many plagues that afflicted mankind.
- Mosquitoes carried yellow fever and the elimination of their breeding grounds eradicated yellow fever.

Points for Teachers:

- The development by Jonas Salk and Albert Sabin in the 1950s of a vaccine for all three strains of poliovirus dramatically reduced the occurrence of the disease.
- Combining the scientific method and medicine lead to other breakthroughs in health.
- In 1963 a vaccine for measles and rubella was introduced that virtually ended these childhood diseases.
- Diabetes occurs when the pancreas is unable to secrete enough insulin to maintain a normal concentration of the sugar glucose in the blood. It was a crippling disease that often led to death before the discovery of insulin in 1921.
- In December 1982, the first artificial heart for permanent use was developed by Dr. Robert Jarvik and implanted in Dr. Barney Clark who lived for 112 days.
- In 1950, Margaret Sanger, a lifelong advocate of women's rights and the use of birth control, underwrote the research necessary to create the first human birth control pill.
- Gertrude Elion patented the leukemia-fighting drug 6-mercaptopurine in 1954.
- In 1970, Raymond Damadian invented the magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner, which has revolutionized the field of diagnostic medicine. He made his first machine in 1977, which he dubbed the Indomitable.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1732 – Influenza Sweeps Through the American Colonies
- 1843 – Dr. Morton Demonstrates Painless Surgery Using Ether

Turning Point #3

1901 – McKinley is Shot and Theodore Roosevelt Becomes President – 2:40 min.

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- In the last half of the 19th century American democracy languished as a few wealthy industrialists controlled the nation's wealth and ran the country.
- McKinley's assassination enabled Teddy Roosevelt, a man of energy, zeal and progressive ideas, to become President and restore the power of the Presidency.
- Roosevelt, the celebrated colonel of the Rough Riders, brought to the office imagination, a progressive sense of reform, and a desire for American pre-eminence in the world.
- Roosevelt went on to become known as a trustbuster, conservationist and friend of labor.

Points for Teachers:

- Roosevelt wrote of succeeding McKinley, "It is a dreadful thing to come into the Presidency this way; but it would be a far worse thing to be morbid about it."

- Teddy Roosevelt's philosophy of a Square Deal for every American citizen brought reforms to a country that McKinley, a man elected by industrial bosses, could not have dreamed of nor dared to attempt.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1796 – John Adams Becomes the Second President of United States Inaugurating the Two-party System.
- 1868 – President Johnson is Impeached
- 1870 – Rockefeller Incorporates Standard Oil of Ohio
- 1898 – Sinking of the Maine
- 1902 – 140,000 Mine Workers go out on Strike
- 1902 – The Government Passes the Newlands Reclamation Act
- 1906 – Upton Sinclair's Novel, "The Jungle" is Published
- 1906 – U.S. Takes Over Construction of the Panama Canal

Turning Point #4

1902 - 140,000 Mine Workers Go Out on Strike – 3:40 min.

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- The changing role of government concerning labor.
- While the Framers of the Constitution promised equality for all Americans, the nation's greatest inequality lay in the conflict between capitalists and labor.
- As a result of Theodore Roosevelt's intervention in the coal strike, a century of government siding with industry on labor issues was set aside.
- Workers were afforded a measure of equality in negotiations.

Points for Teachers:

- In March 1903, the dispute was resolved with many of the miners' demands being met, though the union remained unrecognized.
- Organized labor would have other wins throughout the century. In 1912, Lawrence textile strikers got pay hikes, and the UAW won reforms in 1930's.
- After a century of government siding with industry on labor issues, finally, workers were afforded a measure of equality in negotiations.
- The greatest gains would be made under Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the New Deal. And though labor's successes have moderated since then, American workers enjoy the highest standard of living on the globe.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1870 – John D. Rockefeller First Incorporates Standard Oil Co. of Ohio
- 1882 – Chinese Exclusion Act Passed by Congress
- 1901 – President McKinley is shot by Anarchist Leon Czolgosz
- 1906 – Upton Sinclair's Novel "The Jungle" is Published

- 1914 – Clayton Anti-Trust Act is Passed

Turning Point #5

1902 – The Government Passes the Newlands Reclamation Act – 2:30 min.

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- The Newlands Act provided for irrigation of western lands through dam building.
- It was part of a massive restructuring of the American West's waterways and rights that would allow for more farming in what was more or less a desert.
- Teddy Roosevelt fought to manage the west's vast wealth for the public interest against the interests of the cattle ranchers, mining companies, the timber industry and the railroads.

Points for Teachers:

1. Arguably the beginning of Government involvement in protecting, conserving and using America's resources for the nation instead of big business.
2. Roosevelt was advised by far seeing individuals like Gifford Pinchot,

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1701 – The French Return Soldiers to the North American Interior
- 1803 – The Louisiana Purchase
- 1804 – Lewis and Clark Expedition
- 1821 – Inauguration of the Santa Fe Trail
- 1862 – Congress Sets Forth the Homestead Act
- 1889 – Oklahoma Land Rush Begins
- 1970 – First Earth Day

Turning Point #6

1903 - Wright Brothers Fly at Kitty Hawk – 3:00 min.

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- No other invention of the Twentieth century changed the map of the world more than the airplane.
- The Wright brothers solved the critical problems of controlling a plane's motion in rising, descending, and turning.
- At Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on Dec. 17, 1903, Orville achieved the first successful flight ever made in a self-propelled heavier-than-air craft.
- Stimulated by two world wars, aviation went from simple biplanes that traveled at speeds up to 125 mph to supersonic jets that crossed the Atlantic at twice the speed of sound, carrying passengers, and cargo.

Points for Teachers:

- Their aircraft replaced sillier and more dangerous ideas of powered flight, in the same manner that Henry Ford's automobile replaced steam driven cars.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1807 – Robert Fulton Awakens the World to the Steamboat
- 1831 – Cyrus McCormick Demonstrates his Mechanical Reaper
- 1876 – Alexander Graham Bell Demonstrates the Telephone
- 1879 – Thomas Edison Demonstrates the Incandescent Lamp
- 1880 – George Eastman Patents Kodak Roll Film
- 1893 – The First Gas Powered Automobile is Demonstrated
- 1906 – Upton Sinclair's Novel "The Jungle" is Published
- 1908 – Henry Ford Introduces the Model T
- 1926 – Goddard Initiates the Space Age
- 1976 – Personal Computers Herald the Post Industrial Age

Turning Point #7

1906 – Upton Sinclair's Novel "The Jungle" is Published – 2:50 min.

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- Modern investigative journalism has its roots in the early part of the Twentieth Century.
- Journalists like Upton Sinclair and Ida Tarbell made the case for industry being held accountable for its unethical and unsafe practices.
- These investigations led to progressive reforms under the leadership of Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, spurring politicians to regulate such industries as meat-packing.
- Investigative journalists' bold writing style and demand for accountability by industry and political leaders brought upon them the appellation 'Muckrakers.'

Points for Teachers:

- The term 'muckraker' came from English poet John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" and was coined by Teddy Roosevelt in a 1906 speech in reference to their ability to uncover "dirt."
- The practices of these early writers have passed down through the twentieth century to other authors such as Aldo Leopold--'A Sand County Almanac,' and Rachel Carson--'Silent Spring,' whose works started the environmental movement.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1702 – Cotton Mather Publishes, "The Ecclesiastical History of New England"
- 1735 – Peter Zenger Acquitted of Libel in New York
- 1783 – Noah Webster Issues "Blue-backed Speller"
- 1819 – Washington Irving Publishes "Rip Van Winkle"
- 1826 – James Fennimore Cooper Publishes "Last of the Mohicans"
- 1845 – Edgar Allan Poe Publishes "The Raven"
- 1852 – Harriet Beecher Stowe Publishes "Uncle Tom's Cabin"
- 1885 – Mark Twain Publishes "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"
- 1940 – Ernest Hemingway's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" is Published
- 1970 – First Earth Day

Turning Point #8

1906 – U.S. Takes Over Construction of the Panama Canal – 3:15 min.

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- The construction of the Panama Canal captured the mind and hearts of Americans at the beginning of the century.
- The canal defined Roosevelt's reputation as a maverick politician and an audacious international statesman.
- Roosevelt and other American leaders understood that a canal was absolutely necessary to the military and economic survival of the United States as a major world power.
- Roosevelt's action set the precedent for American intervention in Latin America on the basis of national security during the 20th Century.

Points for Teachers:

- Roosevelt's interpretation of the Monroe Doctrine, later known as the Roosevelt Corollary, asserted that while Europe had no right to interfere in the western hemisphere, the United States had a moral obligation to intervene in Latin America when countries acted in a brutal manner or in some other way did not conduct their affairs with decency.
- In 1905 Roosevelt sent troops to Santo Domingo and put it under American control in order to end the twin cycles of revolution and debt. He imposed U.S. supervision of customs and established a repayment structure for European debt.
- Roosevelt extended the influence of the Presidency and with it the influence of the United States beyond the Western Hemisphere.
- He intervened in Morocco where French and German rivalry threatened to erupt into war. His negotiations brought all parties including the United States and Great Britain to a conference that settled the matter.
- Roosevelt won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1777 – John Paul Jones Sets Sail
- 1787 – The United States Constitution is Created
- 1825 – Erie Canal is Completed
- 1854 – Commodore Perry Lands in Japan
- 1898 – Sinking of the Maine
- 1901– President McKinley is shot by Anarchist Leon Czolgosz
- 1907– Frank Lloyd Wright Completes the Robie House in Chicago

Turning Point #9

1907 – Frank Lloyd Wright Completes the Robie House in Chicago

STUDENT GOALS - In this section the students learn:

- Frank Lloyd Wright defined American architecture for the entire world.
- The Robie house epitomized what he termed organic architecture or natural forms: large, windowed walls, terraces, and low-slung projecting eaves.
- By the time of Wright's death in 1957 he was just a first of many American geniuses: William James in philosophy, Alfred Stieglitz in photography, Georgia O'Keefe in painting, Aldo Leopold in ecology, Stephen Jay Gould in paleontology, Richard Feynman in physics.
- By the end of the 20th-century America was leading not following in intellectual breakthroughs.

Points for Teachers:

- Wright proclaimed his vision as "Indigenous Architecture." He wrote that nature "furnished the materials for the architectural motifs out of which the architectural forms as we know them today have been developed."
- Eschewing what he called dead formulas that harkened back to the Puritan ideas and even to a type of feudalistic design, Wright embraced nature.
- Wright wrote of nature, "Her wealth of suggestion is inexhaustible; her riches greater than any man's desire. A sense of the organic is indispensable for the architect."
- Dubbing himself the "New School of the Middle West," Wright laid out his principles of design: 1) "Simplicity and repose. Simplify so that comfort and utility go hand and hand with beauty;" 2) "Openings should occur as integral features of the structure and form, if possible, its natural ornamentation;" 3) Excessive detail leads to ornamentation that turns houses into junk shops. Everything should be integrated, appliances, furniture and even paintings so that the house flows together; and 4) "A building should appear to grow easily from its site and be shaped to harmonize with its surroundings if Nature is to manifest there."

Related Segments from other Turning Points include:

- 1871 – Chicago Fire
- 1940 – Ernest Hemingway’s “For Whom the Bell Tolls” is Published

RESOURCES – INTERNET SITES

Turning Point #1

1900 The Gold Standard Act is Ratified by Congress

1. Great American History Fact-Finder - -Gold Standard Act March 14, 1900, an act establishing gold as the standard of value for money in the United States:
http://college.hmco.com/history/readerscomp/gahff/html/ff_078400_goldstandard.htm
2. Reference || Gold Standard Act - Read about 'Gold Standard Act' and thousands of other subjects at 4Reference.net. ... Gold Standard Act. The Gold Standard Act of 1900 ...
http://www.4reference.net/encyclopedias/wikipedia/Gold_Standard_Act.html
3. What Was the Gold Standard? Silver was traded. A true gold standard came to fruition in 1900 with the passage of the Gold Standard Act.
http://economics.about.com/cs/money/a/gold_standard.htm

Turning Point #2

1901 Dr. Walter Reed Discovers Yellow Fever is Transmitted by Mosquitoes

1. A Short History of Yellow Fever in the US by Bob Arnebeck. From 1793 to 1822 yellow fever was one of the most dreaded diseases in ... <http://www.geocities.com/bobarnebeck/history.html>
2. The Inside History of a Great Medical Discovery - Yellow Fever
<http://www.worldwideschool.org/library/books/tech/medicine/YellowFever/Chapter1.html>

Turning Point #3

1901 McKinley is Shot and Theodore Roosevelt Becomes President

1. The Presidents of the United States: The Presidents of the United States Web site.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/index.html>

2. The Last Days of a President: Films of McKinley include footage of President William McKinley at his second inauguration; of the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York;

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/papr/mckhome.html>

3. Pan-Am Exposition, 1901 President McKinley and the Pan-American Exposition of 1901.

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/papr/mckpanex.html>

4. Biography of William McKinley: When McKinley became President, the depression of 1893 had almost run its course and with it the extreme agitation over silver.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/wm25.html>

Turning Point #4

1902 140,000 Mine Workers Go Out on Strike

1. The Anthracite Coal Strike: George F. Baer, leader of the anthracite operators in 1902; George F. Baer ... Articles from Public Opinion; "The Real Issue of the Coal Strike";

<http://www.history.ohio-state.edu/projects/coal/1902AnthraciteStrike/>

2. Chronology of the Anthracite Coal Strike of 1902: Formation of the United Mine Workers of America. <http://www.history.ohio-state.edu/projects/coal/1902anthracitestrike/1902StrikeChrono.htm>

<http://www.history.ohio-state.edu/projects/coal/1902anthracitestrike/1902StrikeChrono.htm>

3. The Coal Strike of 1902: Turning Point in US Policy

<http://www.dol.gov/asp/programs/history/coalstrike.htm>

4. Museum Galleries - Coal Strike of 1902: Special Exhibit-- The Great Anthracite Coal Strike of 1902. <http://mossgraphics.com/anthracite/galleriescoalstrike.htm>

5. The Great Anthracite Coal Strike of 1902.

<http://www.stfrancis.edu/ba/ghkickul/stuwebs/btopics/works/anthracitestrike.htm>

Turning Point #5

1902 The Government Passes the Newlands Reclamation Act

1. Newlands Reclamation Act/Newlands Act of 1902 ... The Newlands Act of 1902, named for its author Francis Griffith Newlands

<http://www.ccrh.org/comm/moses/primary/newlands.html>

2. Newlands Reclamation Act: the Reclamation Act came into being, and with it, the dollars to build the Newlands Reclamation Project

<http://www.ag.unr.edu/NAES/Newlands/pg2.htm>

3. Newlands Reclamation Act - History Resources History of the Newlands Irrigation Project and the NWPA <http://www.newlands.org/historyres.htm>

4. Conservation Movement: Conservation Chronology 1901-1907: "Territories to the construction of irrigation works for the reclamation of arid lands"

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amrvhtml/cnchron4.html>

Turning Point #6

1903 Wright Brothers Fly at Kitty Hawk

1. Wright Brothers Aeroplane Company and Museum of Pioneer Aviation: An online museum of the Wright brothers, including a biography of Wilbur and Orville Wright, the history of the invention of the airplane and early aviation...

<http://www.first-to-fly.com/>

2. Wright brothers: Wilbur and Orville Wright--A brief biography of the Wright brothers: Wilbur and Orville Wright, inventors of the airplane; photographs. Picture of Wilbur Wright Wilbur and Orville Wright ...

<http://www.wam.umd.edu/~stwright/WrBr/Wrights.html>

3. Wright Brothers History: The Tale of the Airplane: A history of the invention of the airplane by the Wright brothers, Orville and Wilbur Wright.

<http://www.wam.umd.edu/~stwright/WrBr/taleplane.html>

Turning Point #7

1906 Upton Sinclair's Novel "The Jungle" is Published

1. The Muckrakers Lincoln Steffens The Shame of the Cities. Pages: Upton Sinclair The Jungle.

Pages: Ida Tarbell History of the Standard Oil Company.

<http://mohawk.k12.ny.us/progressive/progressive.html>

2. Weinberg / The Muckrakers The Muckrakers. ... This rude awakening was the work of the muckrakers, as Theodore Roosevelt christened these press agents for reform.

<http://www.press.uillinois.edu/s01/weinberg.html>

3. Muckrakers: straight documentaries. The term "Muckrakers" was coined by Theodore Roosevelt in reference to their ability to uncover "dirt." ...

<http://www.digisys.net/users/benwood/progressivism/webdoc3.htm>

4. Modern Day Muckrakers: The rise of the Independent Media Center movement.

<http://www.ojr.org/ojr/business/1017866594.php>

Turning Point #8

1906 U.S. Takes Over Construction of the Panama Canal

1. Welcome to The Panama Canal: Celebrating 100 Years of the Republic of Panama.

<http://www.pancanal.com/eng/>

2. How the Panama Canal works plus canal history, java animation

<http://www.ared.com/kora/java/pcc/javaani.html>

3. The Panama Canal

<http://www.smplanet.com/imperialism/joining.html>

Turning Point #9

1907 Frank Lloyd Wright Completes the Robie House in Chicago

1. Frank Lloyd Wright: PBS Frank Lloyd Wright Web site, a companion to the Ken Burns/Lynn Novick film, contains biographical information, drawings and blueprints

<http://www.pbs.org/flw/>

2. Frank Lloyd Wright: Designs for an American Landscape, 1922-1932; Wright developed architectural prototypes

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/flw/flw.html>

3. Wright on the Web: A Virtual Look at the Works of Frank Lloyd; An overview of Frank Lloyd Wright's 70-year career

<http://www.delmars.com/wright/flwright.htm>

4. Frank Lloyd Wright in Oak Park, Illinois (1889-1909); Oak Park, Illinois is home to the world's largest collection of Frank Lloyd Wright designed buildings and houses, with 25 structures built between 1889 and 1913 <http://www.oprf.com/flw/>

5. <http://www.wrightplus.org/> Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust includes Robie House page

SEE BLACKLINE MASTER 1A – TEST QUESTIONS

ANSWERS TO TEST QUESTIONS FOR PROGRAM ONE

(Answers: 1-c, 2-True, 3-a, 4-d, 5-d, 6-b, 7-True, 8-False, 9-d, 10-b, 11-c, 12-e, 13-True, 14-b, 15-a, 16-True, 17-False)

SEE BLACKLINE MASTER 1B - TIMELINE