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TRIPLICITY

OR THE

Donkey, MOOSE or Elephant

BULL MOOSE

CAMPAIGN SONG

PRICE 50c

MAXWELL SALES COMPANY, 1451 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

293959

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1912

Woodrow Wilson (Democrat) v. Theodore Roosevelt (Progressive) v. William Howard Taft (Republican) v. Eugene V. Debs (Socialist)

"Thou wilt not cower in the dust,
Roosevelt, O Roosevelt!
Thy gleaming sword shall never rust
Roosevelt, O Roosevelt!"

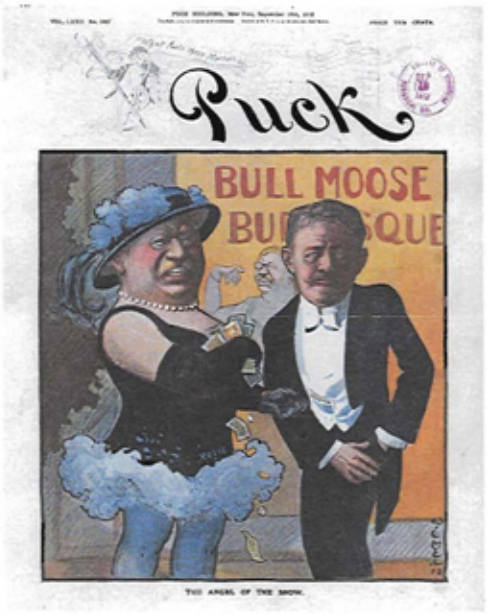
—Sung by delegates at the Progressive convention, 1912

Electoral Votes	Popular Votes
Wilson 435	Wilson 6,293,152
Roosevelt 88	Roosevelt 4,119,207
Taft 8	Taft 3,486,333
Debs 0	Debs 900,369

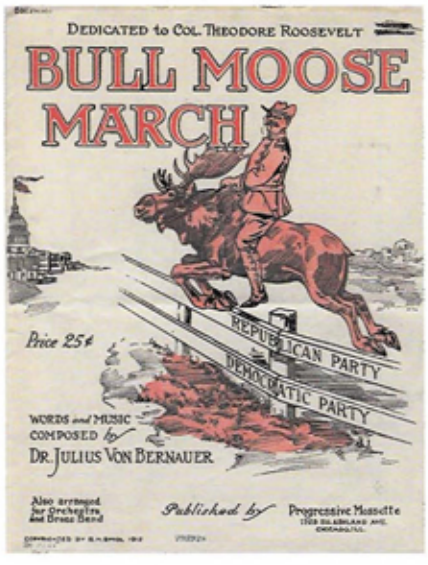
Theodore Roosevelt—the larger-than-life leader of the Rough Riders during the Spanish-American War, prolific author, Nobel Peace Prize winner, political reformer, and two-term U.S. president—vacated the White House in March 1909, confident that his hand-picked successor, William Howard Taft, would continue his progressive policies. When Taft fell short of expectations, Roosevelt once again sought the Republican nomination in 1912. It was the first year that primary elections played an important role in the election process, and Roosevelt proved much more popular than Taft among grassroots Republicans. Conservative influences controlled the party machinery, however, and Taft prevailed at the national convention. "I expect to be nominated for president, and I want to be," Taft said at the time, "to keep Theodore Roosevelt from wrecking the Republican Party."

In 1912, the country rang with cries to end the power of special interests and increase social justice. Within two months, disgruntled Republicans, reformers, feminists, and other supporters of Roosevelt's political vision (dubbed the "New Nationalism") had formed the Progressive Party. At their boisterous Chicago convention, they named Roosevelt as their candidate and selected California's Hiram Johnson as his running mate. The addition of Roosevelt, along with the unusually strong support for Socialist candidate Eugene V. Debs, set the stage for one of the most complex and riveting presidential campaigns in American history. A characteristically boisterous utterance from Roosevelt ("I'm feeling like a bull moose!") gave the newly formed party both its symbol and its informal name. In October of election year, he proved as strong as his party's namesake. Seriously wounded in an assassination attempt while en route to a speaking engagement, Roosevelt refused treatment until after he had delivered his one-and-a-half-hour address. When Roosevelt took time off to recover, both Taft and Wilson suspended their own campaigns, refusing to take advantage of their rival's incapacitated state.

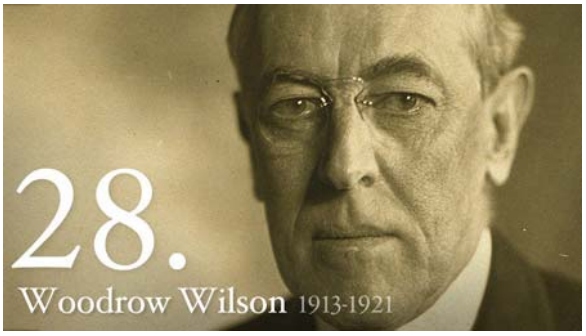
Unpopular and unenthusiastic except in his desire to see Roosevelt defeated, Taft quickly devolved into a minor force in the campaign, which became a contest between the two progressives, Roosevelt and Wilson. Each advocated a different approach to reform. In the end, the cleft in the Republican Party, coupled with Wilson's earnest eloquence, proved impossible for Roosevelt to overcome. "The fight is over," he said when the returns were in. "We are beaten."



The Angel of the Show, photomechanical print by W. E. Hill, 1912. In this "Bull Moose Burlesque," Roosevelt is a dancer receiving tips (funds) from George Perkins, an official of his Progressive Party.



Bull Moose March, cover of sheet music published by Progressive Morsette, 1912. Roosevelt soars above the Republican/Democratic fence on an awkward mount.



Vigésimo octavo presidente de los Estados Unidos de América. Nació en Virginia en 1856, hijo de un ministro presbiteriano que durante la Guerra Civil fue pastor en Augusta, Georgia y durante la Reconstrucción cumplió los roles de profesor en la abrasada ciudad de Columbia en Carolina del Sur.

Luego de su graduación en Princeton y de la Universidad de Derecho de Virginia, Wilson logró su doctorado en la Universidad Johns Hopkins y se dedicó a su carrera académica. Wilson progresó de manera acelerada como un joven profesor conservador de ciencia política lo cual lo llevó al puesto de presidente de Pinceton en 1902.

Su creciente reputación nacional, llevó a algunos demócratas conservadores a considerarlo como un candidato postulable para la presidencia. Fue postulado para la presidencia en la Convención Demócrata de 1912 y llevó adelante la campaña de su programa denominado Nueva Libertad, que hacía hincapié el individualismo y los derechos de los Estados.

Wilson introdujo en el Congreso tres proyectos legislativos de gran envergadura. El primero de ellos fue el Acta Underwood que proveía una rebaja en las tazas proteccionistas. El pasaje del Acta de la Reserva Federal dotaba al país con el abastecimiento más elástico de dinero que tanto necesitaba. En 1914, la legislación antitrust estableció una Comisión Federal de Comercio para prohibir prácticas de negocios deshonestas.

En 1916 tuvo lugar otro incremento en la actividad legislativa. Una ley prohibía el trabajo infantil y otra reducía la jornada laboral de los ferroviarios a 8 horas diarias. Pero luego de la elección, Wilson llegó a la conclusión de que Estados Unidos no podría mantenerse neutral en la Gran Guerra. El 2 de abril de 1917, solicitó al Congreso la declaración de guerra a Alemania.

Pero la elección de 1918 había cambiado el balance en el Congreso en favor de los Republicanos. Por 7 votos, el Tratado de Versailles no fue aprobado en el Senado.

El Presidente, contra los consejos de sus doctores, hizo una gira nacional con el intento de movilizar de sentir popular por el Tratado. Exhausto, sufrió un infarto que casi le cuesta la vida. Al cuidado de su segunda esposa, Edith Bolling Galt, vivió hasta el año 1924.

Créditos

Presidentes de los Estados Unidos de América
Centro de Recursos Informativos (CRI) - Centro Eleanor Roosevelt & Centro Lincoln - Oficina de Prensa y Cultura - Sección de Intereses de los EEUU en la Habana, Cuba - http://havana.usinterestsection.gov/

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Website de la Casa Blanca - http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents

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