

# POLITICAL CARTOON PROJECT

## THE PROGRESSIVE ERA

Early 20<sup>th</sup> century urban America was faced with many problems. The Progressive Era was a period in U.S. history in which middle-class reformers addressed many of the problems of society. These turn-of-the-century reformers included writers, journalists, church workers, politicians and women suffrage workers. Progressives (reformers) worked to provide relief for those effected by:

- Overcrowding
- Poor work conditions
- Unfair labor relations
- Widening gap between rich & poor
- Monopolies
- Prohibition
- Speakeasies
- Laissez-faire
- Social Darwinism
- Unsanitary conditions/ food
- Powerful industrialists (Robber Barons)

**ASSIGNMENT:** You are to draw a *political cartoon* which reflects one of the above issues or one that you have selected. The cartoon should be consistent with political cartoons we have viewed in class. Your drawing should be done on a piece of typing paper or other unlined paper. Attach, on a separate piece of paper, a typed ½ page description of the position you are taking in your cartoon. Include an historical explanation of why you feel your cartoon accurately reflects the era's concerns.



ONE SEES HIS FINISH UNLESS GOOD GOVERNMENT RETAKES THE SHIP.