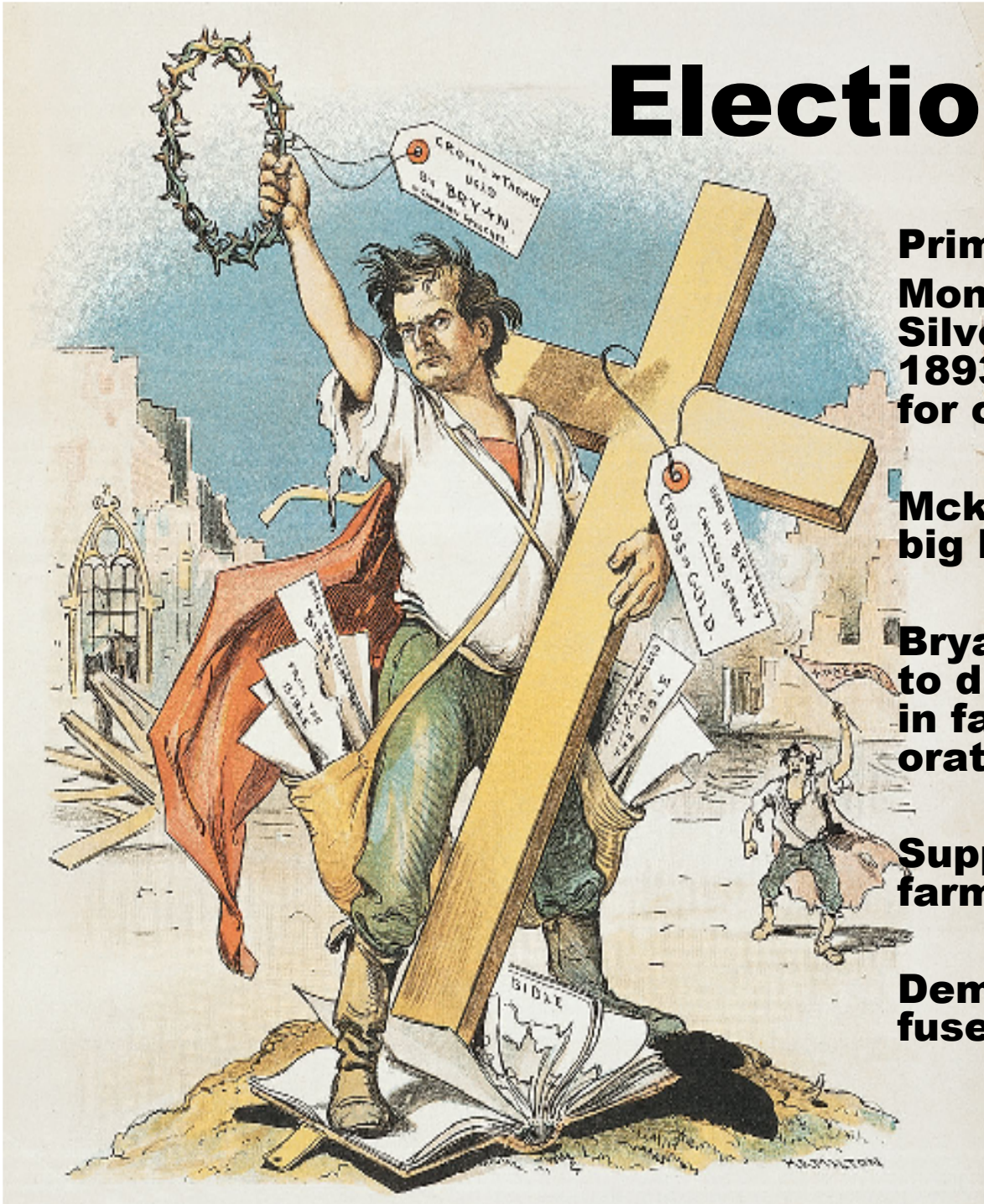


Imperialism

1890-1909

Election of 1896



Primary Issue:

Monetary policy (Gold or Silver?) after the Panic of 1893 caused falling prices for crops and unemployment

Mckinley (R) Supported by big business (creditors)

Bryan (D) Democrats voted to drop incumbent Cleveland in favor of young Populist orator

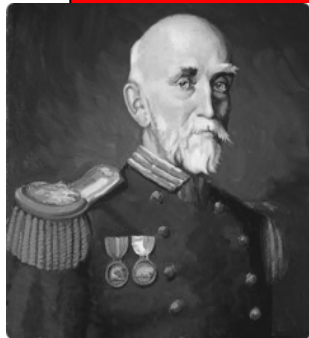
Supported by labor and farmers (debtors)

Dems and Populist party fused

Social Darwinism Applied

**Darwinian theory
Concepts were
applied to several
aspects of life:**

**Economics
Classism
Foreign Policy**



**Alfred Thayer Mahan
“The Influence of Sea
Power Upon History”**

**European
Colonization**

Hawaii:

- **McKinley Tariff**
- **Planter Revolt**
- **Annexation 1898**



Cuban Revolt



Yellow Journalism in 1898: “Remember the Maine!”



In 1895 Cuban *insurrectos* waged a rebellion against Spain

Implemented a scorched-earth policy that threatened US business interests

US demanded an end to the inhumane “reconcentration camps” used to separate *insurrectos* from their base of support

Responding to political pressure, public outcry, and a desire to colonize, McKinley asked Congress for a declaration of war

Spanish-American War



May 1, 1898: US Navy seizes the Philippines after war is declared (Dewey started prepping in February)

June 22, 1898: TR and the Rough Riders (Regiment raised by TR) take part in the successful invasion of Cuba

August 12, 1898: Spain signed armistice ceding Cuba, Guam, and Puerto Rico to the US

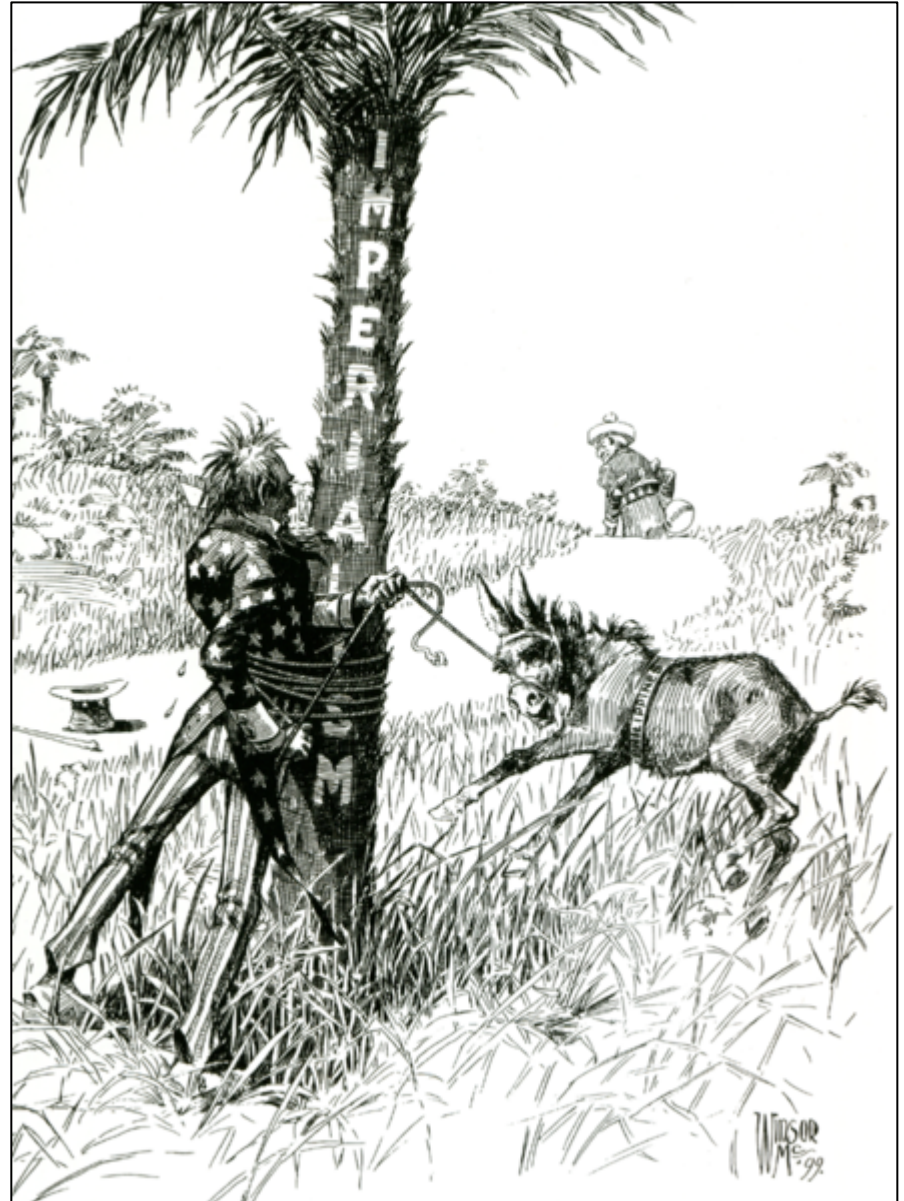
“The Insular Cases”

After successfully defeating the Spanish the US faced the vexing problem of whether colonize or annex the Philippines

The *Insular Cases* heard by the Supreme Court said Constitutional protections did not apply to the people of the acquired territories

An insurrection lead by Emilio Aguinaldo erupted in 1899 and was put down in 1901 (tactics)

Anti-Imperialism League formed



China's Open Door

Open Door Policy:

US policy advocated by SecState John Hay

Stated that all European countries and the US should respect each others rights to trade with China

Leads to Boxer Rebellion in which Chinese Nationalists seek to expel "foreign powers" including thousands of Chinese Christians



Election of 1900

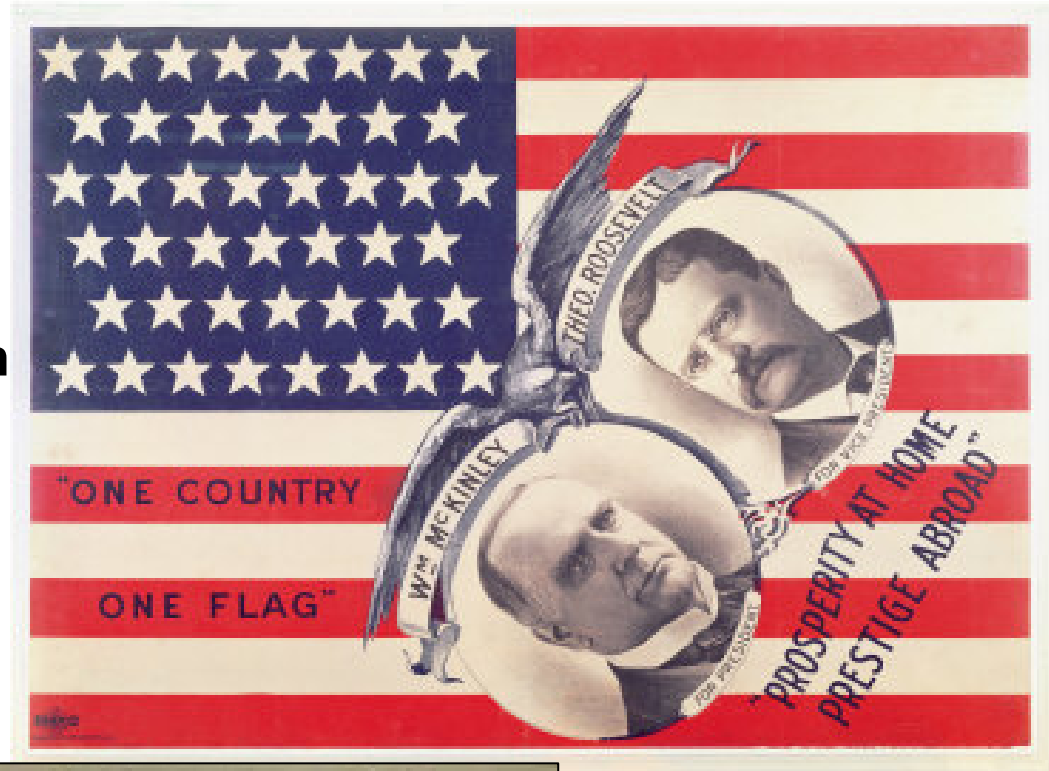
Primary Issue:

American Imperialism

McKinley (R) points to the addition of Spanish territory, and defense of the Gold standard (prosperous economy)

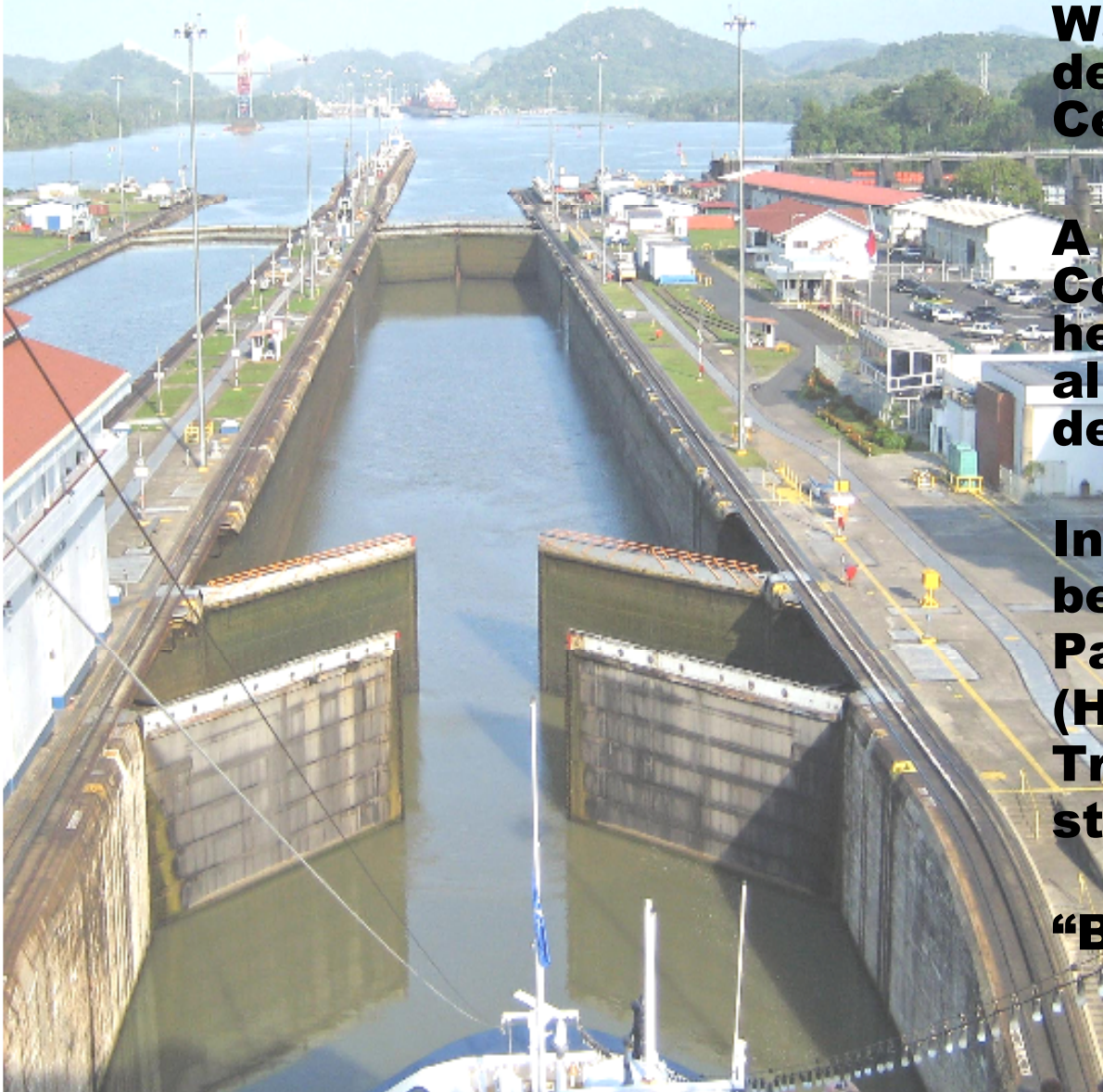
Bryan (D) argued against Imperialism

TR was added to the Republican ticket to “manage” him



Leon Czolgosz assassinated President McKinley in September 1901, catapulting TR into the Presidency

Panama Canal



After Spanish-American War, US wanted to develop a canal through Central America

A successful coup against Columbian rule, with the help of the U.S. Navy allowed Panama to declare independence

In 1903 a formal treaty between the U.S. and Panama was reached (Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty) and construction started a year later

“Big Stick” Policies of TR

“Big Stick Diplomacy”

After mediating the treaty that ended the Russo-Japanese War, Nobel Laureate TR sent the modernized American navy on a world tour

Meant to demonstrate US willingness and ability to defend it's foreign policy

