**Doris Kearns Goodwin On Teddy Roosevelt and the Progressive Era**

11/27/13 “On Point” with Tom Ashbrook, NPR

1) How did TR’s ascendancy to the presidency challenge the typical partnership between business and government?

2) How has country changed in the last 30 years in ways that have produced a “New Gilded Age” without a corresponding Progressive movement?

3) What did the “bully pulpit” mean for TR? How did he use the press in transforming the American presidency?

4) Why does Kearns Goodwin think TR was the first real “people’s president”? What do she and Ashbrook cite as his major achievements?

5) Look up the 2010 Supreme Court case *Citizens United* for background on this part of the discussion.What is notable about what TR was saying way back in 1905/6 about campaign finance reform and corporate money in politics?

6) In what sense did socialism “help” TR?

7) What was so different about the work of the muckrakers vs. the exposes of the modern day?

8) How does K-G explain the relationship between TR and Taft?

9) Explain the importance of the memory of the Civil War to people of TR’s generation. What did they view as *their* major battle that needed to be fought?

10) How were the muckrakers different from the “journalists” on Fox News or MSNBC today?

11) What has government become for many modern Americans, if not a “problem-solver”?

12) What is the major blemish on TR’s record, as K-G sees it?

13) According to K-G, how would men like TR and Lincoln see the issue of “equality of opportunity” in our modern day?