

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

Panama Canal

- Panama Canal was started by a French company in 1891
- French effort failed, and they offered to sell the rights to the United States
- But, Panama was part of Columbia and they refused to let the U.S. build a canal

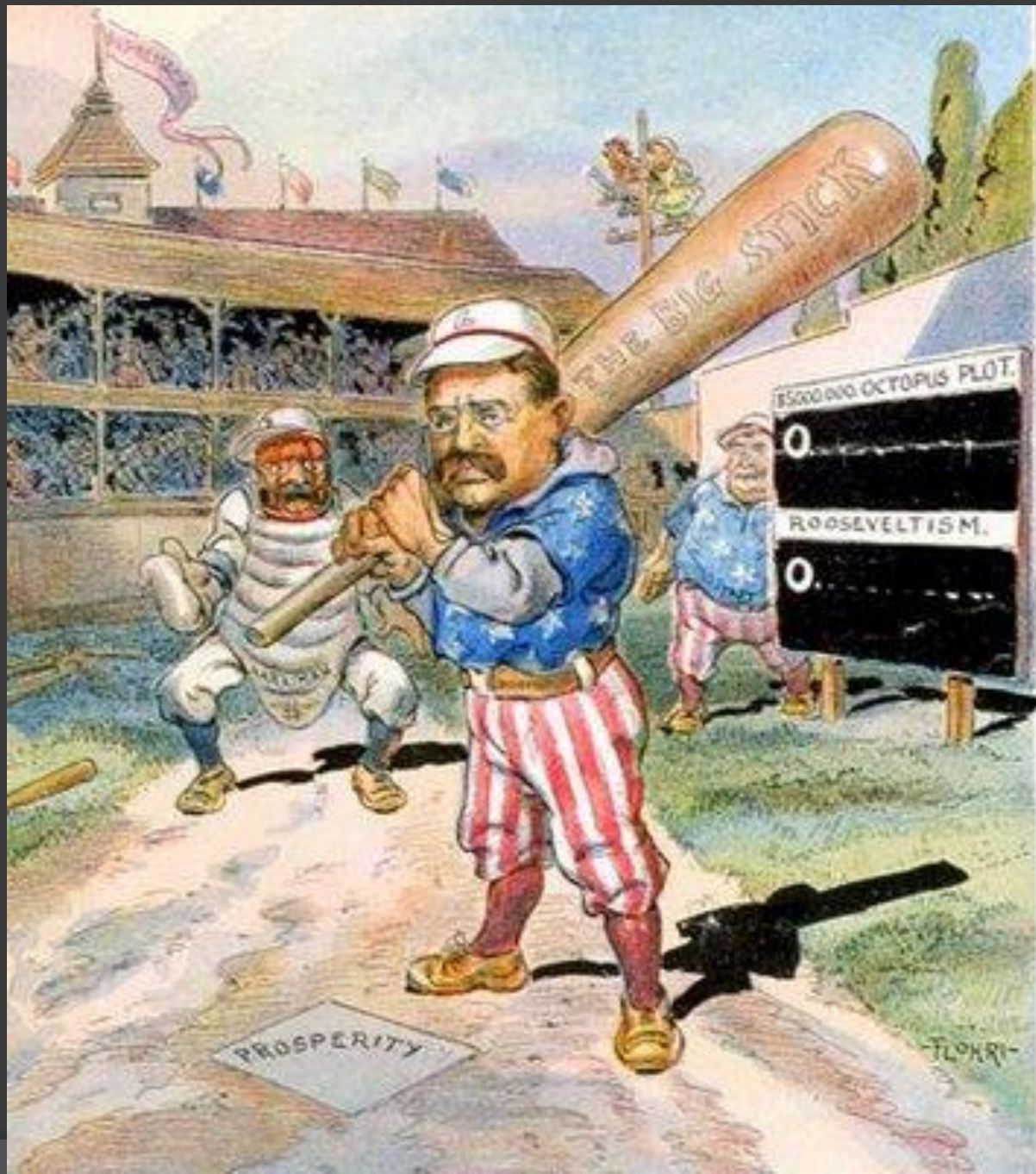
- French company was still concerned that the US would build the canal in another country
- Their agent in Panama arranged a Panamanian army to start a revolt
- Roosevelt sent ships to Panama to prevent Columbian interference
- The US recognized Panama's independence a few days later

- ⦿ Protesters condemned the action as unjustified aggression
- ⦿ Pres. Roosevelt countered by saying that he had “advanced the needs of collective civilization”
- ⦿ What do you think?

Roosevelt's Foreign Policy

- Roosevelt's foreign policy slogan:
 - “speak softly and carry a big stick”





⦿ Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine:

- United States would intervene in Latin-American affairs when necessary to maintain stability in the Western Hemisphere



Foreign Policy after Roosevelt

- ◎ President William Howard Taft
- ◎ “Dollar Diplomacy”
 - Believed that the US could help Latin American countries by investing in Latin American industry
 - “substituting dollars for bullets”

- ① What makes more sense, Roosevelt's policy or Taft's policy?

Or both?

- 1911—US used dollars and bullets in Nicaragua
 - US banks made loans to Nicaragua to support the government
 - That did not work and the leader of Nicaragua asked for more assistance
 - US sent Marines to help keep order and they stayed until 1925!

Just War Theory

- ⦿ Christians have discussed for centuries what it means to have a “just war”
- ⦿ From Augustine (5th Century) onward, the church developed rules
 - Just cause: innocent life must be in imminent danger and intervention must be to protect life
- ⦿ When is it okay to use military force in another country?

⦿ Goals:

- Remove General Noriega from power
 - He was participating in drug trafficking
- Protect the 35,000 Americans in Panama
- Protect the neutrality of the canal