reformer Luther Halsey Gulick, brought together recreation experts who pressured cities to build more playgrounds. Before 1900, only 10 cities had supervised playgrounds; by 1917, 414 cities had 3,270 play centers of various kinds.

As early as the 1830s, some states had begun to preserve their areas of natural beauty, mineral and hot springs, and historic places. The first true state park began with the federal transfer of Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove to California in 1864 for “public use, resort and recreation.” Although the 20,000-acre area proved too expensive for California to administer and was later folded into Yosemite National Park, its creation spurred other states to venture into park construction. In 1883, New York rescued Niagara Falls from over-commercialization by creating the Niagara Reservation, which became a state park two years later. Other states created parks around famous battle sites, forests, mountaintops, and seashores, thereby preserving them from commercial exploitation. Today there are more than 5,600 state parks.

At the urging of explorers and nature writers, such as John Wesley Powell and John Muir, in 1872 Congress enacted legislation protecting the geysers of Yellowstone. In 1890, Yosemite became a national park. By taking these steps, Congress’s first goal was to preserve the spectacular landscapes of the West, with their canyons, waterfalls, mountains, and forests. But legislators also saw the preserved areas—variously called parks, preserves, monuments, or memorials—as serving the “enjoyment of the people.” Hence in some parks visitors could pursue recreational activities, such as swimming, hiking, and camping. Presidents Benjamin Harrison and Grover Cleveland preserved some 35 million acres of forest land by executive order. In 1907, however, partly in response to lobbying by the lumber industry, Congress denied the President the right to create national forests in six timber-rich western states. Naturalist and outdoor enthusiast Theodore Roosevelt managed to save 16 million additional acres before signing the bill. He also established 18 national monuments and 51 wildlife refuges.

By 1916 the U.S. Department of the Interior was administering 14 national parks and 21 national monuments. In that year, President Woodrow Wilson signed legislation creating the National Park Service, which administers the national park system to this day.

SEE ALSO
Cities; Conservation; Muir, John; Olmsted, Frederick Law; Powell, Job Wesley; Roosevelt, Theodore; Settlement-house movement; West, the; World’s fairs and exhibitions

FURTHER READING

Paul, Alice Stokes
• Born: Jan. 11, 1885, Moorestown, N.J.
• Education: Swarthmore College, B.A., 1905; University of Pennsylvania, M.A., 1907, Ph.D., 1912; Washington College of Law, L.L.B., 1922; American University, L.L.M., 1927, doctor of civil law, 1928
• Accomplishments: chairman, Congressional Committee, National American Woman Suffrage Association (1912); founder, Congressional Union for
Woman Suffrage (1913), which became the National Woman's Party (1917); founder, World Party for Equal Rights for Women (1938)

- Died: July 9, 1977, Moorestown, N.J.

ALICE PAUL, a militant suffragist, grew up in a well-to-do Quaker family and went to college to become a social worker. Soon she turned to graduate work in sociology and economics, and after writing a master’s thesis on equality for women received a scholarship to study in England. While there, she worked in a social settlement and became involved in the British woman suffrage movement. Far more militant than American suffragists, British suffragettes, as they were called, drew attention to their cause by marching in parades, disrupting public events, picketing, subjecting themselves to arrest, and engaging in prison hunger strikes.

Upon returning home, Paul wrote a doctoral thesis on women’s equality and threw herself into the campaign for women’s voting rights. In 1912, she and her friend Lucy Burns took charge of the National American Woman Suffrage Association’s Congressional Committee. Set up to persuade Congress to pass the federal woman suffrage amendment, this committee had been inactive for years. Determined to revive it, Paul and Burns organized British-style parades and demonstrations in the nation’s capital. These colorful activities brought tremendous publicity to the movement but clashed with the association’s more ladylike approach to suffrage work and its agenda of winning individual states for suffrage. In 1914, the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA) expelled Paul’s committee. Undeterred, Paul started a separate movement, transforming her committee into the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage and, after 1917, the National Woman’s Party.

Paul continued to publicize the need for a federal amendment with demonstrations, parades, and picketing. She also adopted the British technique of holding the political party in power responsible for Congress’s failure to pass the amendment. As the Democratic party was then in the White House, her group campaigned against its candidates for office, especially in western states where women could already vote. Early in 1917, Paul and her colleagues began picketing the White House, calling attention to the United States’ hypocrisy in “saving the world for democracy,” President Woodrow Wilson’s chief justification for entering the world war, while refusing the franchise to its own women citizens. Once Congress had declared war on Germany, the picketers appeared unpatriotic to the crowds of curious onlookers. Tussles broke out, and the picketers were arrested for “obstructing traffic.” The abuse they suffered in jail drove them to mount hunger strikes. News of the conditions of their imprisonment, which included solitary confinement, force-feedings, and beatings, aroused tremendous public sympathy for their cause.

By committing acts of civil disobedience Paul showed the American public that she and her followers were
deeply dedicated to their cause. Their actions certainly hastened the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which came in August 1920 and guaranteed women the right to vote. Three years later, Paul proposed that women begin working for complete equality with men before the law. This goal proved to be as controversial as her militant approach to winning the vote, as it raised questions about whether women should be treated exactly the same as men, or whether women and men were so different that equal treatment would actually do more harm to women than help them. For the rest of her life, Alice Paul would work, in vain, for an Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and for equality for all women worldwide. When asked the year before she died why she fought so hard for women’s equality, she said: “It was a feeling of loyalty to our own sex and an enthusiasm to have every degradation that was put upon our sex removed. That’s what I had anyway. It was just a principle that…if I belonged to any group and that group was regarded with contempt, given no power, and handicapped in every possible way it seemed to me, … I can’t imagine not [helping out].”

SEE ALSO
National American Woman Suffrage Association; National Woman’s Party; 19th Amendment; Wilson, Woodrow T.

FURTHER READING

Peace movement

PRESIDENT THEODORE Roosevelt had a poor opinion of pacifists. “No man who is not willing to bear arms and to fight for his rights,” he said, “should be entitled to the privilege of living in a free community.” But his critique did not deter pacifists from making their case for nonviolent responses to conflict. Protestant denominations took the lead here. The Quakers were the best known “peace church.” Others included Mennonites from Germany and Russia, the Church of the Brethren (also called German Baptists or Dunkers), and the Disciples of Christ.

Except for the Quakers, however, members of these churches tended not to join in broader peace movements. These movements revived in the 1890s, as Americans appalled by imperialism sought more rational methods of resolving international conflicts. The intensification of the arms race and technological advances in weaponry convinced them that war was no longer constructive.

The work of Albert Keith Smiley, a Quaker schoolteacher who had built a resort at Lake Mohonk in the New York Catskills, gave impetus to the peace movement renewal of the 1890s. In 1895, Smiley hosted a meeting of 35 prominent supporters of international arbitration. Similar peace conferences, held at Lake Mohonk for 22 years, attracted prominent pacifists from all over the nation and popularized the appeal of nonmilitary solutions to international conflicts.

Pacifists were especially critical of jingoists, a term that came from a British music hall song of the late 1870s and that had come to mean