

## Chapter 13

### The Executive Branch

#### The Bureaucracy grows with Presidential power

- As the nation grows so does the bureaucracy
- The development of the West
- The nation was becoming more complex
- Businesses were growing in size and importance
- Civil War and Reconstruction.

#### Is the government a threat to liberties?

- Presidential authority grows at the expense of legislative and judicial authority
- Threats from the Liberal place limits on businesses
- Threats from Conservatives attack civil liberties in the name of “Law & Order.”
- What will happen with this first domestic attack?

#### Our institutions are democratic

- Most of the fears held by the Founders were addressed in checks and balances.
- No one had seen a real democracy at work.
- Faith in democracy was limited, skeptical.
- Faith proves to be justified.
- Real threats came from anti-democratic sources

#### Checks and balances work!

- Some of the complaints are part of the checks and balances process, that is, healthy.
- Some go on to portray the bureaucracy as evil.
- Some complaints are because the power of the bureaucracy limits other’s powers.

## **The Bureaucracy Helps the Less Powerful**

- Big business doesn't want any oversight.
- The states that advocate "states' rights" primarily wanted to keep African Americans as second-class citizens
- Government enforces separation of church and state
- Religious zealots want to create a theocracy.

### **Some abuses are institutional**

- Some abuses are a function of individual personality traits
- What one person does with institutional power.
- People function differently when in groups.
- Big business is as much a threat as big government and other large institutions.

### **Max Weber (1864-1920)**

- German sociologist at various universities.
- Taught people function differently in large groups.
- Importance of approach in viewing collective human behavior.
- People in power act to protect the group

### **Random thoughts about the bureaucracy**

- Executive departments created by Congress
- Related to powers stated in the Constitution
- Federal bureaucracy leaner and more efficient than 1 bureaucracies of large states.
- Some complaints come from small states.
- Federal government the most efficient tax collector--Cost less per dollar collected than any other institution.

### **Where Do the Complaints Come From-- Mostly**

- Complaints about government often come from sources which led to government growth.
- The South
- Big business
- The arid Western states
- Keeping government efficient and responsive to liberties is an ongoing challenge.