

Supporting Question 3:	What did the US Government do with the evidence from the Hygienic Table Trials (Wiley) and the Neil-Reynolds Report (Sinclair)?
Source 3D:	A brief timeline of the food industry in American from 1898 to 1906
See list of references at the bottom of the document	

FOOD SAFETY TIMELINE

- **1899:** Bad meat leads to the death of American soldiers in the Spanish-American War. Future President Theodore Roosevelt gives testimony to Congress regarding the unsafe conditions of the food.
- **November 1902:** Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, with \$5,000 in Congressional funding begins the Hygienic Table Trials (known in the press as the "Poison Squad").
- **1904:** Results of the Hygienic Table Trials experiments with Borax published. Proves Borax is injurious to health. Lobbying from industry groups and lack of Congressional interest led to The Secretary of Agriculture refusing to publish future reports publicly, although reports are still compiled and filed by Wiley. The Hygienic Table Trials officially ran until 1907, when the Pure Food and Drug Act takes effect.
- **February 25, 1905 - November 4, 1905:** Upton Sinclair's "The Jungle" is serialized in the Socialist newspaper *Appeal to Reason*. Sinclair hopes it will shed light on the horrible conditions faced by immigrant workers in the meatpacking industry. As he later put it: "I aimed for the public's heart, and by accident hit it in the stomach."
- **February 26, 1906:** *The Jungle* is published as a book.
- **March 10, 1906:** Riding a groundswell of public outrage, Sinclair urges President Roosevelt to send independent investigators to the packinghouses of Chicago. Despite the Bureau of Animal Industry already investigating, Roosevelt eventually agrees and handpicks Commissioner of Labor Charles P. Neill and social worker James Bronson Reynolds as investigators.

- **April 3, 1906:** The Bureau of Animal Industry finishes its official investigation and reports to the House Committee on Agriculture on the appalling conditions in the Chicago Stockyards.
- **May 21, 1906** Senator Albert Beveridge introduces legislation in the Senate that is known at the time as ‘the Beveridge Amendment.’ It forms the core of what will become the Meat Inspection Act, which ultimately becomes law as an amendment in a House funding bill.
- **June 4, 1906:** Independent investigators Neill and Reynolds submit their findings about horrific, unsanitary conditions in the Chicago Stockyards to President Roosevelt and the House Committee on Agriculture. That same day, President Roosevelt sends a letter to the House Committee supporting the findings and urging reforms.
- **June 7-8, 1906:** Neill and Reynolds testify to their findings in front of the House Committee on Agriculture.
- **June 30, 1906:** Roosevelt signs into law the Pure Food and Drug Act (known in the press as ‘Wiley’s Law’) and the Pure Meat Inspection Act.

Wrap-up Question: What do you notice about the amount of change (and the speed of that change surrounding food reform) before *The Jungle* is published, compared to after?

References

- FDA Consumer Magazine. (2006). *Harvey W. Wiley: Pioneer Consumer Activist*. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. <https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/fda-leadership-1907-today/harvey-w-wiley-pioneer-consumer-activist>
- The Food and Drug Administration. *Part I: The 1906 Food and Drugs Act and its enforcement*. U.S. Food and Drug Administration. <https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/changes-science-law-and-regulatory-authorities/part-i-1906-food-and-drugs-act-and-its-enforcement>
- Klein, C. (2023, May 10). *How Upton Sinclair's "The jungle" led to US Food Safety Reforms*. History.com. <https://www.history.com/news/upton-sinclair-the-jungle-us-food-safety-reforms>
- New York Times. (1899, March 26). *Roosevelt on Army beef; testifies that the canned roast stuff sickened his men. would sooner eat his hat it was slimy and nasty -- a disgrace to the country -- "embalmed" beef on transport*. The New York Times - Breaking News, US News, World News and Videos. <https://nyti.ms/3XMRDvL>
- Reynolds, J. B. & Neill, C. P. (1906). *Report on conditions in the Chicago stock yards*. U.S. House of Representatives. <https://www.docsteach.org/documents/document/report-on-conditions-in-the-chicago-stock-yards>.
- The so-called "Beveridge Amendment" to the agricultural appropriation bill (H.R. 8537) as passed by the Senate May 25, 1906 – to which are added various documents bearing upon the "Beveridge Amendment": Hearing before the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture, 59th Cong. (1906). <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=hvd.hx7dvd&seq=7>
- Watson, B. (2013, June 27). *The Poison Squad: An incredible history*. Esquire. <https://www.esquire.com/food-drink/food/a23169/poison-squad/>