

## Chapter 7 THE HOME FRONT





## **7.1 The War at Home**

### **E*conomic Change***

WW II completely changed Canada's economic situation the war led to an economic boom because of the demand for raw materials, weapons and other war supplies the government stepped in to plan and co-ordinate production



National Resources Mobilization Act (1940)

increased government power over the people in  
Canada ( put or keep people in vital jobs)

1941 Canada enormously expanded  
manufacturing and created a closer economic  
connection to the United States

Primary industries were not depended on as much  
as they were before the war



## *Social Change*

role of women in the workplace changed  
women volunteered for military service and served as  
nurses, welders, and radar operators

Labour shortages in industry, meant that women were  
relied on to take factory jobs

Women were paid less  
than men for the same  
work

Canadian Women's Army Corps  
(CWACS)

Women's Royal Canadian Naval  
Services (WRCNS)






[http://www.nfb.ca/film/rosies\\_of\\_the\\_north](http://www.nfb.ca/film/rosies_of_the_north)



**Rationing** was government control of the distribution of products thought to be in short supply.

imported goods such as coffee, tea and sugar  
gasoline, rubber and certain metals

All Canadians were given ration books that allowed them to buy a certain amount of rationed goods.

<b>RATION BOOK 1</b>		<b>CARNET DE RATIONNEMENT 1</b>
Serial Number	OA 421325	No de série
<b>DOMINION OF CANADA</b>		
Name Nom	<i>Lu Divine Lafontaine</i>	
Address Adresse	<i>219 Spark St. Ottawa</i>	
Age if under 16 ..... Age, si au-dessous de 16 ans		
ISSUED BY THE WARTIME PRICES AND TRADE BOARD ÉMIS PAR LA COMMISSION DES PRIX ET DU COMMERCE EN TEMPS DE GUERRE		

Avery www.delcampe.net



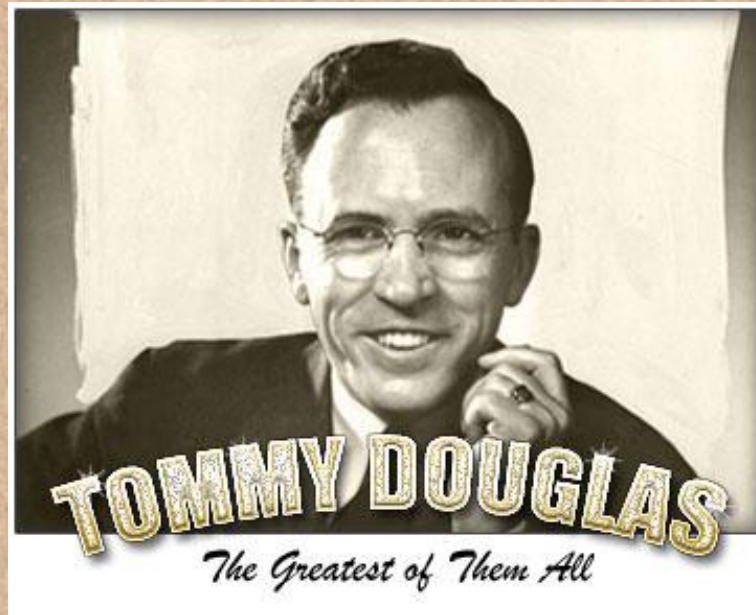
## *Political Change*

### Social Policies

1940 Unemployment Insurance introduced

1945 "Baby Bonus" or Family Allowance

These policies were adopted by Prime Minister King, however, they were first introduced by CCF's Tommy Douglas





## Conscription

1940 NRMA had included conscription, but only for home defence

Different from regular soldiers they were given the nickname "zombies", because they would not fight overseas

1944 Canadian casualties were so high that 13 000 home defence soldiers went to Europe  
only 2400 of these ever saw battle



## **A NEW PROVINCE**

1907-1934 Newfoundland was a self governing Dominion  
1934 because of an economic crisis the democratically  
elected government was dissolved in favour of a  
Commission of Government  
World War II Newfoundland prospered  
Newfoundland strategically located





## National Convention 1946

Debated three options:

Keep Commission of Government

Return to Responsible Government

Join Canada

The people were very divided on the issue!

First Referendum: No option won 50% of the vote

Second Referendum: Commission of Government dropped from the ballot and citizens voted to join Canada with 52.3% of the vote



Newfoundland becomes Canada's TENTH province on March 31st, 1949.



December 2001, name officially changed to Newfoundland and Labrador



## 7.2 Ethnic and Cultural Relations

### Internment Camps

Canada had a history of Anti-Asian discrimination (Immigration policies were restrictive and Asians were not allowed to vote)

After Pearl Harbour, things got worse. Propaganda and hate mongering in the media led government to act

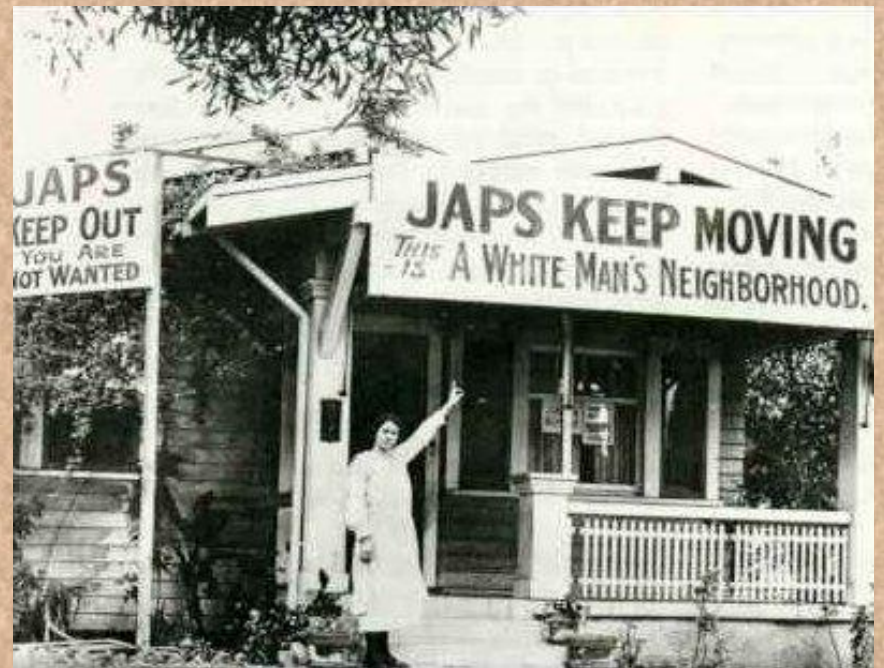
They decided to intern Japanese Canadians in camps



[http://www.nfb.ca/film/sleeping\\_tigers\\_the\\_asahi\\_baseball\\_story/](http://www.nfb.ca/film/sleeping_tigers_the_asahi_baseball_story/)



Camps were set up in the interior of B.C  
Homes and businesses were confiscated and  
their property was later sold  
three quarters of these were citizens and most  
had been born in Canada  
some were soldiers fighting in the armed forces  
Apology given by Canadian  
government in 1988





Relocation to Redress The Internment of the Japanese Canadians CBC Archives.rm



## Jewish Refugees

Canada's treatment of Jewish refugees was also racist long before WW II a number of places posted signs declaring that Jews were not welcome and could not enter some professions

Canada allowed fewer than 4000 Jewish immigrants from 1931-1939





## Democracy for All?

Canada re-examined its ***ethnocentric*** policies

***Marginalized*** Canadians supported the war effort just as loyally as the mainstream culture

African Canadians faced discrimination in WW II, but they eventually became integrated into the army

Having fought for their country they were no longer willing to accept discrimination

Segregation was practiced in parts of Canada



## **First Nations**

1939 First Nations could not vote in federal elections unless they gave up their status

3000 status First Nations volunteered to fight for Canada (Non-status also volunteered)

They fought even though they were denied their rights and faced discrimination

1960 First Nations received the right to vote without restrictions



## Attachments

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