



WWII: The War at Home



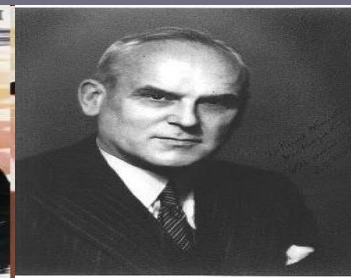
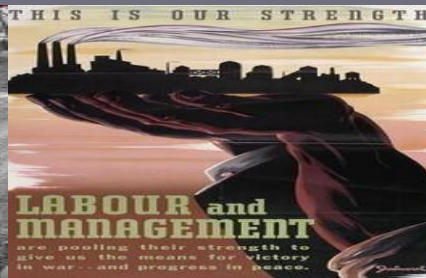
Total War



- By 1942, Canada was committed to a policy of “Total War”.
- All industries, materials and people were put to work for the war effort.

Government and the Economy

- The war launched Canada out of the depression and into an economic boom.
- *The War Measures Act* gave the government enormous powers over the people of Canada.
- Canada shifted to a war-time economy, becoming an industrial power, new factories were built, and old ones adapted for war purposes. Factories churned out thousands of guns, ships, fighter planes and military vehicles.



Canadian Production 1939-1945

Aircraft	16 000
Rifles	900 000
Military Vehicles	815 000
Merchant Ships	410
Landing Craft	3 302
Navy Tugs	254
Tanks	6 500
Escort Ships	487
Machine Guns	244 000

Labour

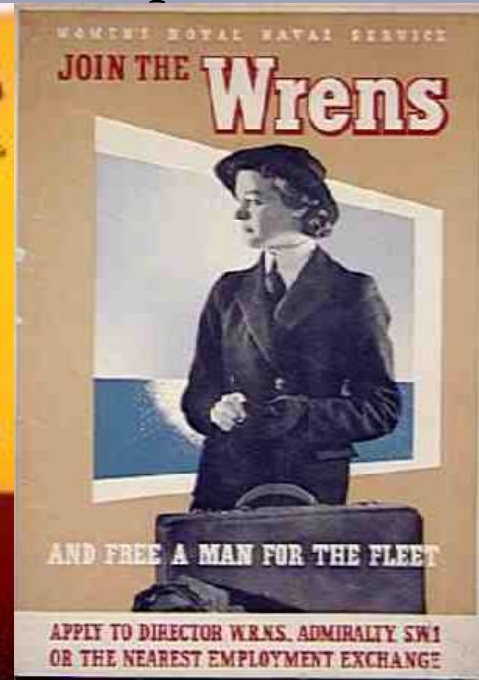
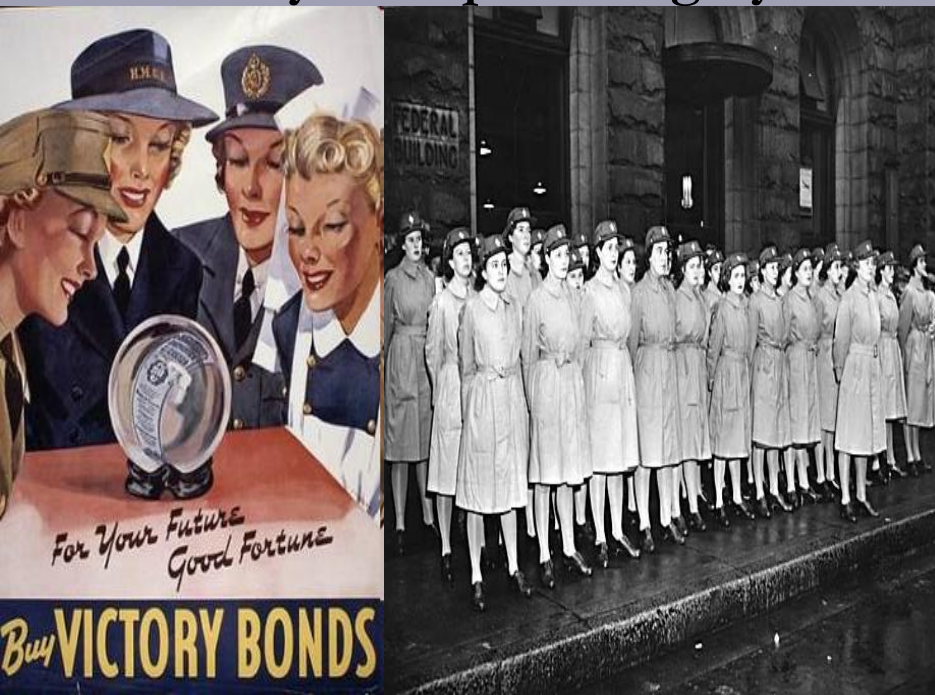


- With so many men enlisting, Canada faced a labour shortage as early as 1941, most notably in war-related industries.
- One of the main strategies of the program was to recruit women for the work force.

- At first only single women were recruited, but upon severe labour shortages, both married women and mothers were sought out; the government even funded daycare centres so that women would be free to work.
- In 1943, there were approximately 225,000 Canadian women working in munitions factories.



- In 1941, for the first time in Canadian history, women were able to enlist in their own divisions of the Army, Navy and Air Force. Although Canadian women were not allowed into combat during the Second World War, they did just about everything else.
- Women served as nurses, stretcher bearers, drivers, machine operators, cooks and secretaries. They also flew Canadian built planes to bases in Britain and ferried officers and politicians from Ottawa to London.
- They were paid roughly 60% of what their male counterparts



Noteable Women



Elsie MacGill

First Female Aircraft Designer in the World



Enlistment By Women In Canada's Armed Forces:

■ Over 43,000 women served overseas in the Canadian Women's Army Corps, the Royal Women's Navy Service and the Women's Division of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Navy	6 781
Air Force	17 018
Army	21 624
Medical Services	4 518
Doctors	58



Are You Reporting Price Increases?

The constant checking of prices by the housewives of the country is a most vital part of the successful working of price control. The careful use of a Little Blue Book makes it easy to see at once if a rise in price of any commodity has taken place. Deterioration in quality or short weight is a matter which must be questioned by the alert shopper.

If you have good reason to think that a deliberate breaking of the price regulations has taken place it is your duty as a loyal Canadian citizen to make a report to the right quarters. This is not difficult to do. Write or phone to the nearest office of the Wartime Prices and Trade



Board or to the nearest Women's Regional Advisory Committee. Give your name and address and all the particulars you can about

the complaint you are making; enclose sales slips if you have them.

Here are some typical cases that have been investigated by the Enforcement Branch in the last few weeks:—

LUNCH COUNTER FINED. For breaking the price ceiling on restaurant prices, a lunch counter proprietor of Toronto was fined \$75. with costs, or option of 60 days in jail. He was charged with raising the price of milk shakes and hot beverages over the price he charged in the basic period. He also served hot chocolate in smaller glasses but for the same price.

THE WOMEN'S REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF ST. JOHN, N.B., advised the Regional Office of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board that small-sized evaporated milk was raised from 5 cents per tin to 6 cents. The seller claimed that the clerk had made a mistake as he had specifically ordered him to sell the product at 5 cents. The grocer promised the investigator he would adhere carefully to his basic price.



THE PRICE OF ICE. Complaints were received against five ice dealers in the Province of Quebec who had made increases in their prices of ice. On investigation it was found that four had increased the price of their 25 pound blocks from 10¢ to 15¢ and one other whose price used to be 2 for 25¢ was now selling at 15¢ straight. All five were prosecuted and each sentenced to pay \$50. fines and costs.

EXHIBITION STAND FINED. At an Exhibition in Alberta, three lunch stand concessionaires were reported to have increased the price of cigarettes, refreshments and food. The complaint was found to be justified and the three were each fined \$50.00. The price of meals and "peanuts, chewing gum, chocolate bars and cigarettes" soon were found to be at ceiling level again.



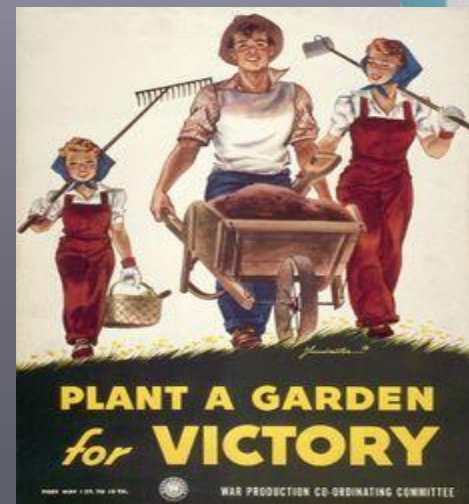
WOMEN'S REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

BROCKVILLE..... Victoria Building
 CHARLOTTETOWN..... Chappell Building
 EDMONTON..... Williamson Building, Jasper Avenue
 HALIFAX..... Cunard Building, 77 Upper Water Street
 LONDON..... 291 Dundas Street
 MONTREAL..... Aldred Building
 NORTH BAY..... 169 Main Street

QUEBEC CITY.. Banque Canadienne Nationale Building
 REGINA..... 2225—11th Avenue
 SAINT JOHN..... 58 King Street
 TORONTO..... Northern Ontario Building
 VANCOUVER..... Marine Building
 WINNIPEG..... 608 Power Building

Pitching in on all fronts

- dedication to the war effort also extended outside the factories.
- Women's organizations collected paper, glass, metal, rubber, rags and bones to be recycled into war supplies.
- They planted victory gardens, sewed clothes for troops and were recruited to work on farms and in factories.



Financing the War

- The Canadian Government did raise taxes during the Second World War to help offset the cost of financing the war.
- To help pay for the rest, the Canadian government turned to an old idea: **Victory Loans drives.**
- **Victory Bond:** A loan made to the government that is to be paid back to citizens after a pre-determined time (with interest!)



Propaganda

- Information, especially of a biased or misleading nature, used to promote or publicize a particular political cause or point of view.
- The National Film Board (NFB) turned out hundreds of documentaries and short films which were shown all over Canada
- Posters and radio messages were everywhere as well

We Can Do It!



WAR PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE



**LET'S
CATCH HIM
WITH HIS
"PANZERS"
DOWN!**

**WE WILL - IF WE
KEEP 'EM FIRING!**



**KEEP
CALM
AND
CARRY
ON**



SPEED THE FINAL VICTORY

*Back the Attack
by over-subscribing the*

VICTORY LOAN



Go ahead,
please-
**TAKE DAY
OFF!**



Regional Tensions - Conscription Crisis

- Conscription would once again become a divisive issue between Quebec and the rest of Canada during 1944.
- To appease supporters of conscription, Prime Minister Mackenzie King decided to hold a plebiscite asking Canadians to release the government from its anti-conscription promises.
- **72.9** per cent of Québec residents voted "**no**," while in the other provinces the "**yes**" vote triumphed by **80 per cent**. The government then passed Bill 80, authorizing conscription for overseas service if it was deemed necessary (only 12,908 would be sent abroad!)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2VfjDbBRd8>

Discrimination and loss of rights

- Following the Attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, Japanese Canadians were categorized as enemy aliens under the ***War Measures Act***, which began to remove their personal rights.
 - 1,200 Japanese-Canadian-owned fishing vessels were impounded and their owners barred from fishing
 - On January 14, 1942, the federal government passed an order calling for the removal of male Japanese nationals between 18 to 45 years of age from a designated protected area of 100 miles inland from the British Columbia coast.
 - In all, some 27,000 people were detained without charge or trial, and their property confiscated. Others were deported to Japan.
- The internments of ethnic populations during both wars remained a contentious public issue until the 1980s, when compensation packages and formal apologies were made by Canada to many of those affected.

