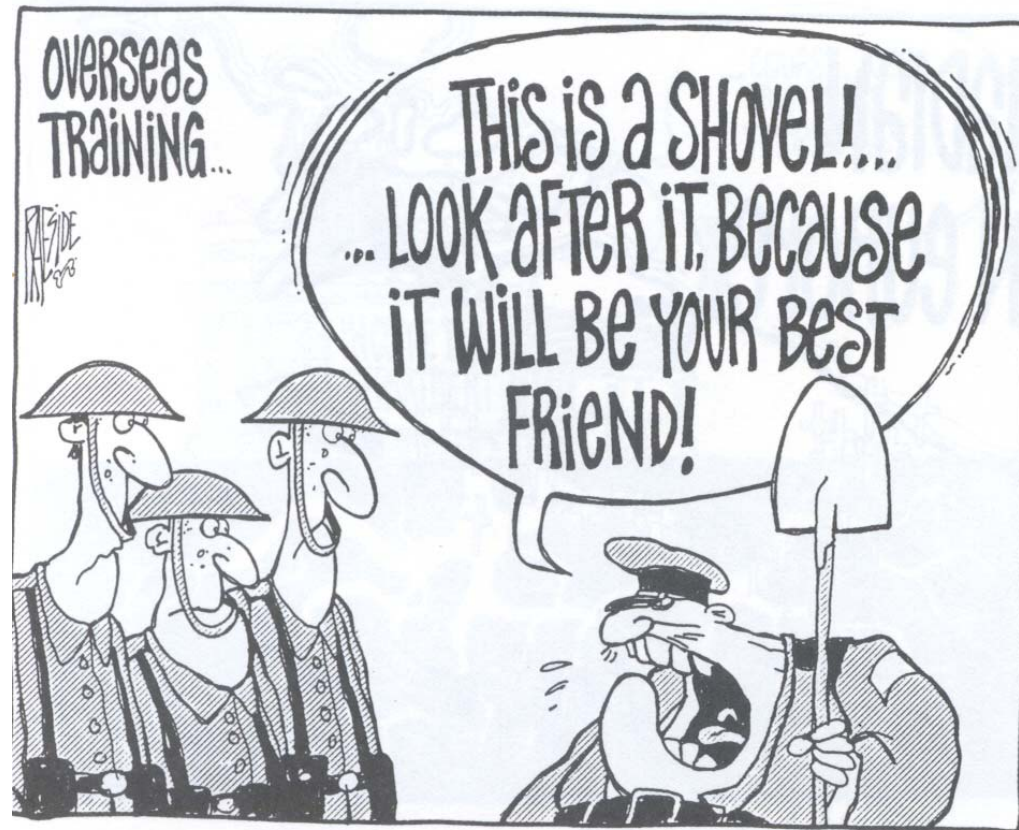








Canada to 1919:

The War At Home II

At home

- ▶ War measures act introduced by Prime Minister Borden
 - ▶ Gave gov't emergency power (bypass HofC and Senate)
 - ▶ Anything for the security and safety of the country
 - ▶ Took away rights, Habeas Corpus suspended
 - ▶ Arrested, detained, and or deported without warrant or charges.
 - ▶ Many German and Austro-Hungarian Canadians interned.
- ▶ government intervened in industry and economy
 - ▶ focused on War



FYI: German or Austro-Hungarian Canadians were often treated harshly, made to carry identity cards and about 8600 were interned in camps during the war

At home

- ▶ WWI was a “Total War”
 - ▶ Every citizen involved/affected at some level
 - ▶ People expected to help out and sacrifice
- ▶ Victory Gardens
 - ▶ Grow food at home in gardens and small allotments/fields
- ▶ Military training for high school students



- ▶ Rationing of food and materials .
- ▶ People were asked to reduce their food consumption.
- ▶ Great emphasis on having little waste.



Women During the War

- ▶ Essential component of Canada's war effort
- ▶ Organized fundraisers, knitted socks, & packaged parcels for the war effort & to support the troops overseas
- ▶ Red Cross, Front-line ambulance drivers & nurses ('bluebirds')



Women During the War



- ▶ New opportunities for women during the war
 - ▶ became an essential component of Canada's war effort
- ▶ 35,000 worked in munitions factories by 1917
 - ▶ considered unsuitable for women before war
- ▶ drove buses/streetcars,
- ▶ worked in banks, on police forces, in civil service jobs, & on farms
- ▶ Allowed some women to become financially independent
- ▶ Many lobbied for social & political equality
- ▶ Gained vote provincially through 1916 & 1917
 - ▶ (West provinces and Ontario)

War Economy

- ▶ War helped bring Canada out of recession
 - ▶ Manufacturing, mining, farming see massive growth
- ▶ War was expensive
 - ▶ How to pay for it?
- ▶ Government raised money through:
 - ▶ War Bonds
 - ▶ Investment sold by gov't to fund war
 - ▶ would pay out interest after the war
 - ▶ Income Tax.
 - ▶ meant to be temporary
 - ▶ 3% tax for well-off people, .
 - ▶ 4% for business

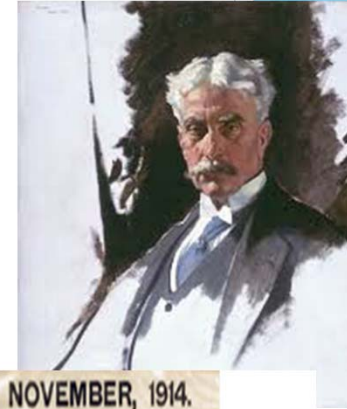


- ▶ Shortages and lack of materials in Canada
 - ▶ So much sent to Europe
- ▶ More expected of workers & business owners
- ▶ Wage controls,
- ▶ Longer hours
- ▶ price controls
- ▶ Strikes illegal



Conscription

- ▶ Borden promised no **conscription**
 - ▶ Lots of volunteers
- ▶ Throughout 1916 few volunteers
 - ▶ could not keep up with the demand for soldiers. Why?
- ▶ Allied Powers new more soldiers would be needed.



Volunteers 1916

Month	Number of Volunteers	Number of Casualties
Jan	9250	4400
Feb	6700	3250
March	5600	6200
April	5500	13500
May	5400	13500
June	4300	8000
July	3800	10000
August	3100	24000
Sept	3000	30000
Oct	3000	9500
Nov	4000	18500
Dec	3900	12000
Total	57550	152850

- ▶ May 1917 Borden introduced the **Military Service Act** to:
 - ▶ make enlistment compulsory
 - ▶ Men 20 - 45
 - ▶ Exempt
 - ▶ Disabled
 - ▶ clergy,
 - ▶ those with essential skills
 - ▶ **conscientious objectors** (those who refused to fight on religious grounds)
- ▶ This would divide Canada along English-French lines

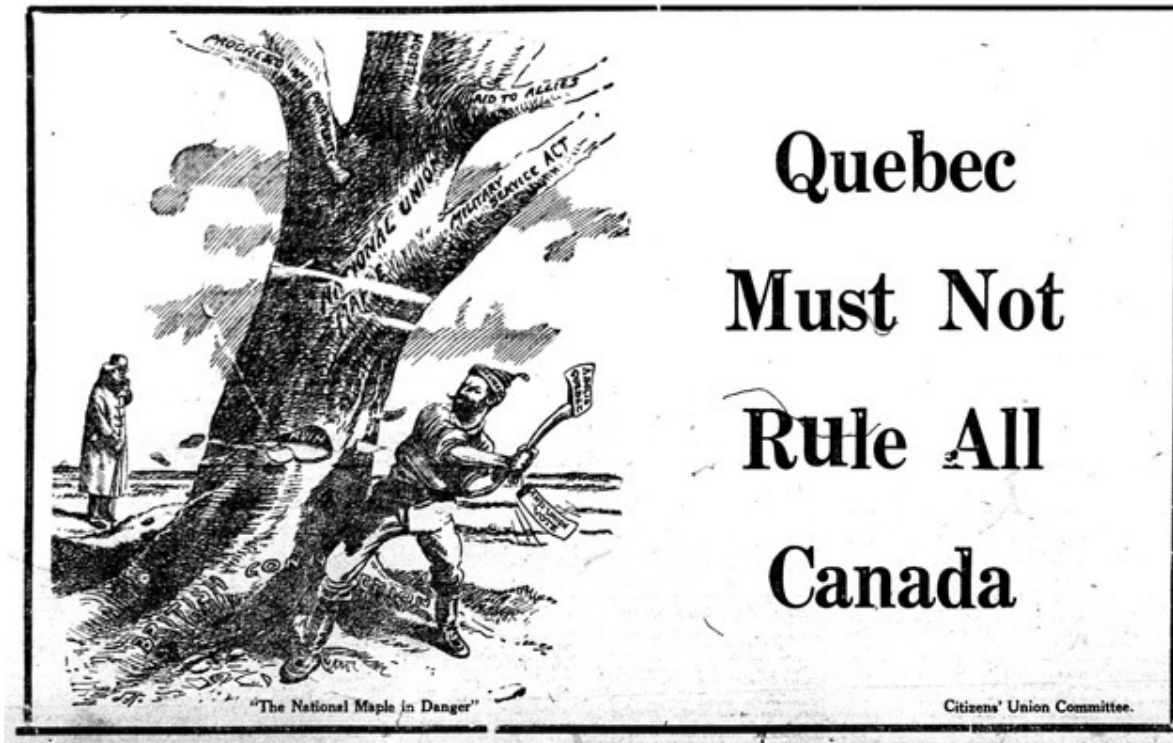
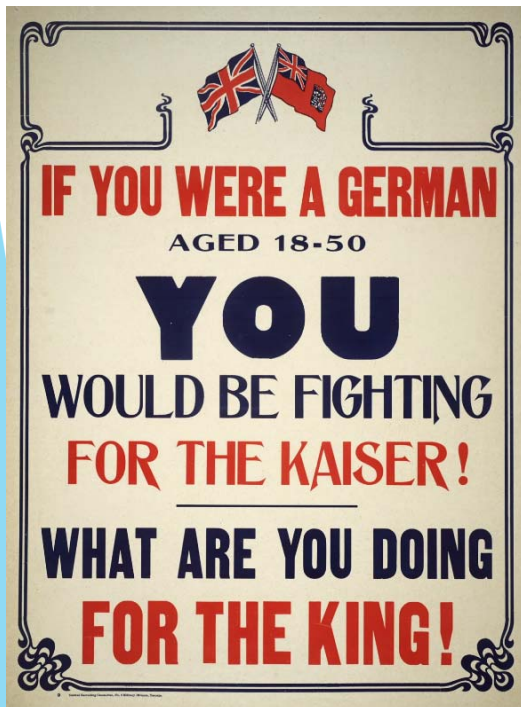


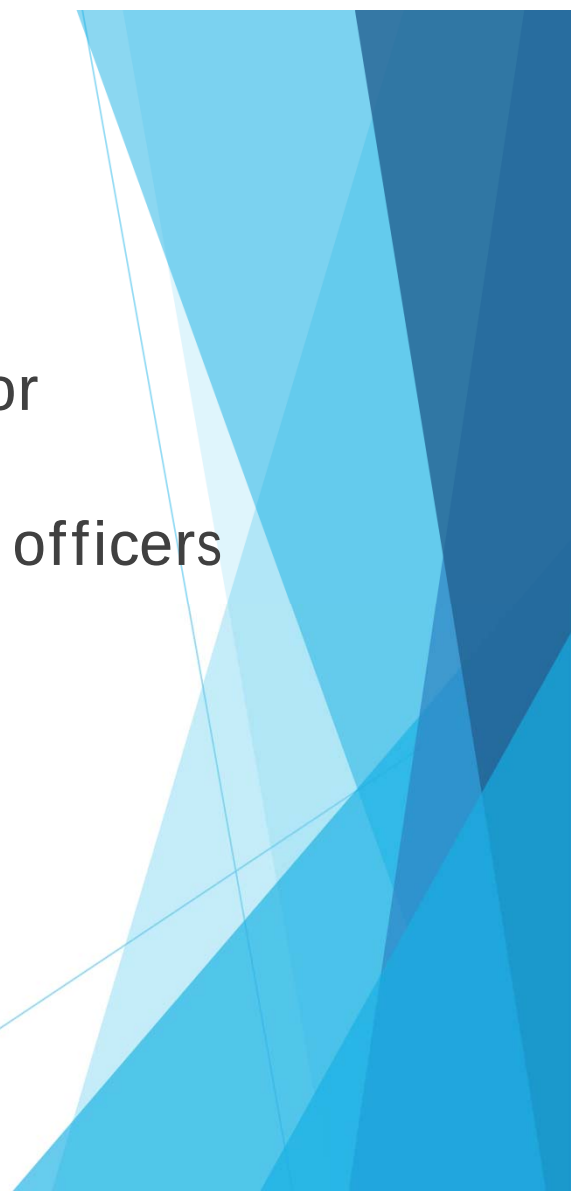
The Conscription Crisis

- ▶ Supported by most English Canadians
 - ▶ Force French to fight in the war
 - ▶ felt French were not “doing their part”
- ▶ French Canadians 30% of pop.
 - ▶ Only 4% of volunteers



- ▶ English newspapers published these statistics:
 - ▶ Ontario provided 63% of volunteers proportionally to their population
 - ▶ Manitoba and Saskatchewan: 81%
 - ▶ Alberta: 92%
 - ▶ British Columbia: 104%
 - ▶ Quebec: 20%



- 
- ▶ **French Opposed Conscription**
 - ▶ Most had no loyalty (partiotism) France or Britain
 - ▶ Military training in English – Few Quebec officers
 - ▶ Saw as continued oppression of the French
 - ▶ Many were farmers
 - ▶ essential in war production
 - ▶ Needed labourers

Wilfred Laurier



- ▶ opposed conscription
- ▶ Believed conscription would lead Quebec towards a dangerous nationalism
- ▶ Bourassa warns gov't that this could lead to Quebec Separatism.



- ▶ Also opposed by
 - ▶ Prairie farmers
 - ▶ Need sons to work farm
 - ▶ Industrial workers
 - ▶ Contributing in factories
 - ▶ Strong in B.C.



A Divided Election - Khaki Election 1917

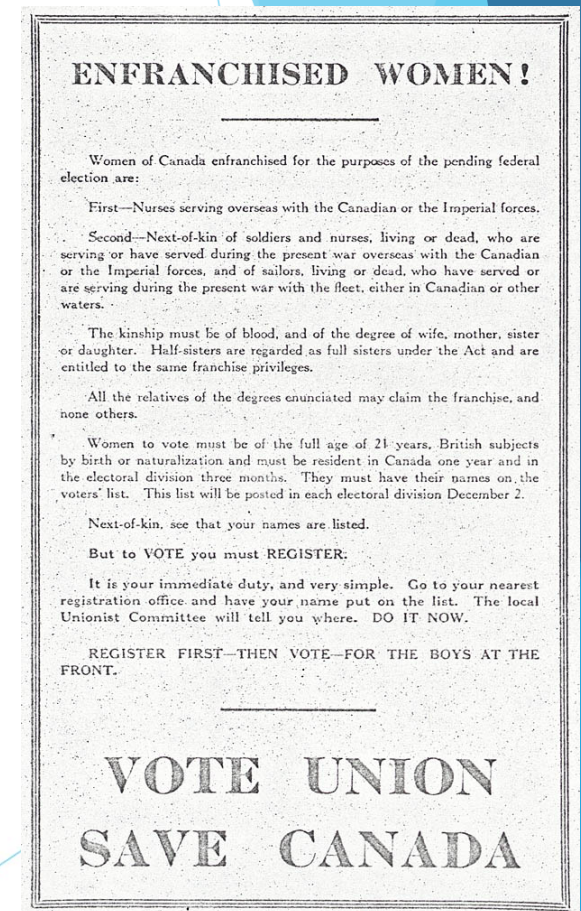
- ▶ Borden - called a Federal election to settle issue

1. Pass Military Voters Act

- a) Allow overseas men and women to vote

2. Pass Wartime Elections Act

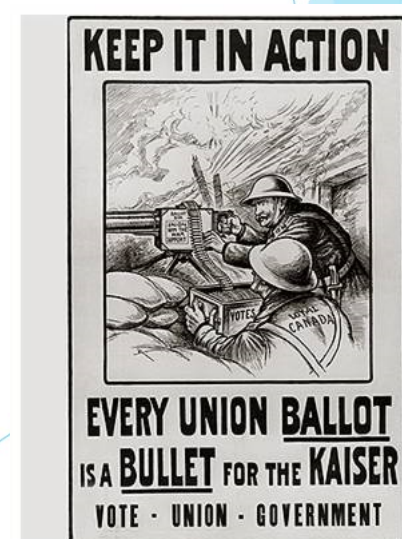
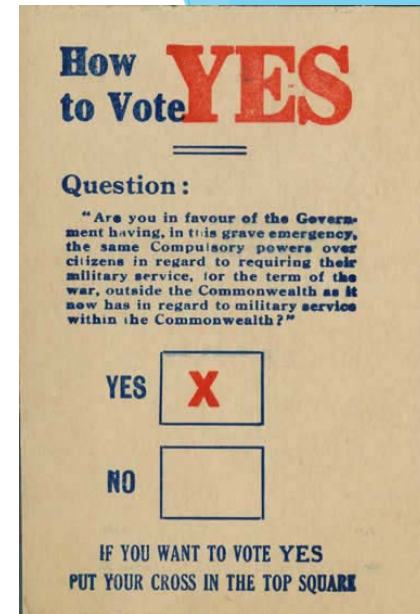
- a) women can vote if directly related to soldiers
- b) disqualify
 - i. Immigrants of enemy countries within 15 years
 - ii. People who spoke the language of an enemy country
 - iii. Conscientious objectors





3. Invited Liberals supporting conscription to join a Union Government (coalition)

a) Offered cabinet position



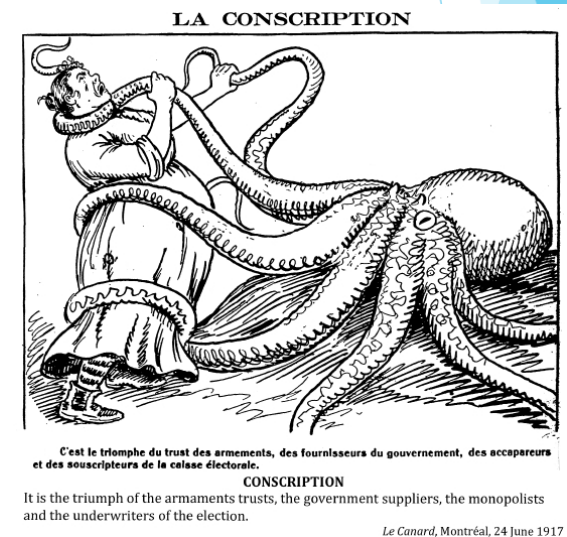
1917 Election

Region	Conservatives Union Government	Liberals
Atlantic Canada	21	10
Quebec	3	62
Ontario	74	8
Western Canada	54	2
Total	152	82



The Evening Citizen, April 30, 1942

- ▶ Union Gov't won
 - ▶ Law effective Aug 28, 1917
- ▶ anger and demonstrations in Quebec
 - ▶ Felt betrayed by gov't
- ▶ Quebec City 1918
 - ▶ Easter Riots
 - ▶ soldiers from Ontario and the West brought in to control
 - ▶ 4 demonstrators shot dead
 - ▶ Dozens injured
 - ▶ 10 soldiers wounded



- ▶ Issue seriously damaged national unity
- ▶ 404 000 conscripts
 - ▶ 380 500 applied for exemptions
 - ▶ 130 000 were enlisted
 - ▶ 45 000 made it to Europe
 - ▶ 24 000 made it to France
- ▶ English would protest in 1918 when Borden gov't eliminates exemptions
- ▶ Shortage of Farm workers occurred
 - ▶ Women and children forced to work on farms.

