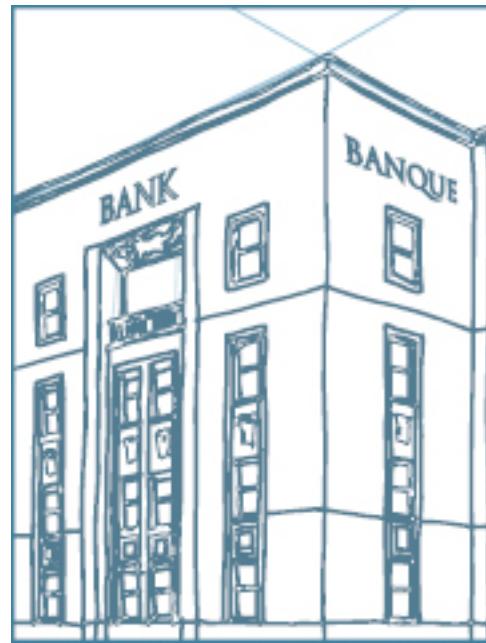




Canada's War

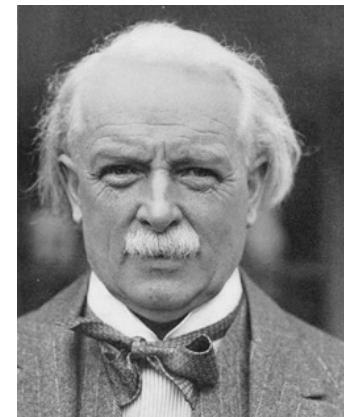
On the Eve of the Great War

- Military upgrades during Boer War (1899), but hardly a military society
- Diminished economic prosperity from Laurier era
- Anglo vs. Franco Canada
 - **Regulation 17** – ONT limits teaching & speaking of French in classrooms



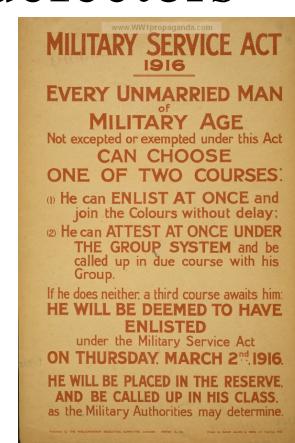
Outbreak of War

- King George V declared war on GER in August 1914
 - All his subjects, including Canadians, were going to war
- PM Robert Borden – Reacts w/ enthusiasm & pledges CAN support; Laurier & Henri Bourassa echo sentiment
- Feb. 1915 – 30K Canadians show up on Western Front
 - Overall, 600K served in Army, Navy, RAF; 60K KIA
 - Lloyd George: "they played a part of such distinction that thenceforward they were marked out as storm troops; for the remainder of the war they were brought along to head the assault in one great battle after another. Whenever the Germans found the Canadian Corps coming into the line they prepared for the worst."



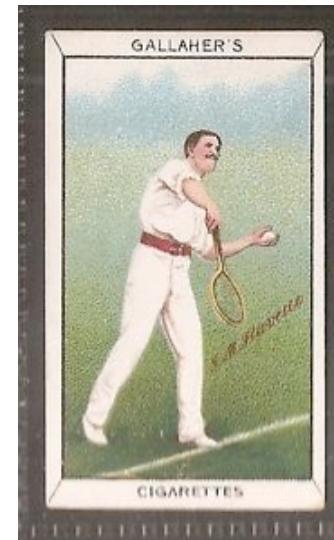
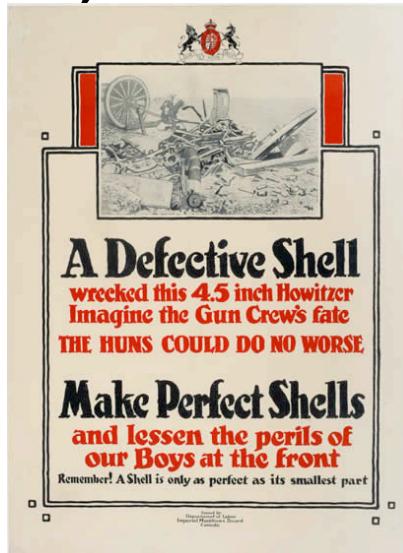
War Drags On...

- 1916 – Enlistment numbers drop & calls for a “union” (national) government rise
- Borden insists on four full divisions → moves toward conscription → disliked by French, farmers, unions, Westerners & supported by British
- **Military Service Act (1917)** – Controversial.
 - Act & “union” rejected by Laurier → promises broken on conscription & rejecting French culture while making them fight for Britain.
 - Laurier’s Liberals suffer in elections & show political cost of war → Borden’s union wins w/ some Liberal defectors



Homefront

- War brought vote for women, income tax, beginnings of Prohibition, expansion of production
- War cured economic depression of 1912
- Tried industrial munitions manufacturing → failed → Lloyd George reprimands them →
 - J.M Flavelle called upon to lead **Imperial Munitions Board (IMB)** for British government → Success!



Labor Radicalism

- Labor criticized IMB for lack of fair wages & favoritism toward eastern businesses
 - Flavelle's response: “lucky to have a job” (446)
- Inflation outpaced wages
- Repressive government security measures like police raids & internment of “enemy aliens”
- Socialist immigrants, women, and urban poor led to increased union strength & sympathy



“Baptism by Fire”

- BENNETT: To CAN, WWI was like American Revolution (392)
 - Canadians led Canadians in battle, enjoyed military honor, gained prestige in Empire
 - Due to British economic weakness, moved closer to USA

