

General Outlook

How 20s r viewed

- "Crazy 20s"
- "The aspirin age" -- lots of drinking = headaches
- "Era of wonderful nonsense"
- "A three ring circus of SPorts, sex, crime"
- The lost generation"

However there is something that is something missing, as shown by the following quote:

- "The 20s has become trivialized and vulgarized by people who weren't there"

What is left behind

- Get home but ...
 - Much longer for soldiers to get home then expected
 - Partially due to the lack of transport
- Family but ...
 - Everything changed
 - People on the home front started playing more roles
 - Emotional strain
 - Deaths and injuries
 - Spanish Flu
- Good jobs but ...
 - Factory jobs had to change -- war stuff to peacetime stuff
 - Hard transition
 - Men wanted good jobs, which meant they had to kick out women
- Party but..
 - Post-war inflation :(

Mindset/emotions of population

- Confidence -- optimism, enthusiasm, "carefree"
 - Simply because they just won the war
 - Really awaited for time of peace
 - Lots to be hopeful for
- Business conditions and prosperity -- steady employment, regular income
 - Faith in economy
 - More spending

New technology

- There was a lot of innovation leading to modern conveniences or even luxury items
 - Electric Stoves
 - Toaster
 - Washing machine

- Appliances in general
- Also important to remember that technology has become more available to the general population
 - 1910 -- some car costed \$850 -- means only rich ppl can get it
 - 1920 same car costed only \$290

If you think about it, more of these appliances will lead to leisure time -- because ppl don't have to spend as much time doing chores.

- This leisure time just made the time feel more "fun" (for lack of a better word)
- New clothing styles and fads
 - This even included contests
- Growth in spectator sports
- Changes in entertainment
 - Because ppl now needed something to fill up their leisure time
 - Jazz
 - Night clubs
 - Start of silent movies
- The special thing about this is now we see for the first time a bit of a divide between classes
 - Now if you're poor, or not as rich, you start to miss out on stuff for the first time
 - In addition, it started to become important that your a certain class, race, or part of a certain community to really have fun
 - This connects to the differences between new money and old money

Of course there were also a lot of problems

- Increase in criminal activities
 - Bootlegging and gangs
- Prejudice and racism
 - Hard on immigrants
 - Women were still paid half of men
 - Nationalism was still prominent
 - Contempt towards germans/austro-hungarians
 - No apologies
- Ppl didn't share prosperity
 - Rich kept on getting richer
 - Divide between new/old money

Winnipeg General Strike

Collective bargaining: to negotiate on behalf of a group of ppl instead of having every person negotiating for themselves

Why was Winnipeg a "perfect" perfect place for the strike to occur

- Rapid growth and industrialization
- Lots of immigration
- Housing sanitation wasn't the best
- BIG divide between rich and poor
- All kinds of worker under stress and strains

Reminder of the big boom in the economy in the war

- Steel and munitions production grew
- During the war, everybody who could work worked
- Factories increased the economy because we shipping stuff to Europe

Post - war conflicts with war veterans

- Basically they were really pissed because they fought so hard in the war and were basically given nothing in return
 - Most jobs were taken by immigrants and/or women
 - Unemployment increased (in fact 20% of soldiers were unemployed)
 - Lots of inflation
 - Soldiers were also very pissed at the profiteers and hoarders during the war
 - Particularly for purposely making bad products to earn more money
 - E.g Ross Rifle

One Big Union (not part of lecture but seems important)

- Basically union delegates from all across Western Canada formed this union
- As the name suggests, it's a union for all workers instead of being trade-specific
- They were the ones who actually suggested the general strike (March, 1919)
- The federal government knew about this and sent spies to attend meetings
 - At the meetings, the spies noticed that the OBU praised the communist revolution in Russia

Union notes from lecture

- Lots of jobs now, so ppl formed and joined unions
- If employers are unsympathetic, they can now strike
- Success in Russian Revolution inspired ppl
 - There's a similar theme in which poorer ppl are overthrowing aristocrats
- From 1917-1919, strikes doubled
- Employers had to resort to the courts to prevent workers from striking
- They also hired non-union strike leaders to replace striking ones
 - Viewed very negatively -- cuz they prevent workers' demands to be met
 - Called scabs

The actual strike

- First it only involved the metal workers -- start of May 1919
 - This was kind of a spark/inspiration

- Everybody joined because they realised that these issues affected EVERYBODY in the country
- By May 15, 30 000 ppl went on strike

Why ppl were striking

- Better wages -- no minimum wages at the time
- Better benefits -- no healthcare or pension and a lot more things
- Better working conditions
 - 10-14 hour workdays were ridiculous
 - Sometimes not adequate toilets
 - Sometimes machines would break/malfunction in factory jobs causing severe life-changing injuries -- e.g loss of an arm
 - Generally unsafe and unsanitary environment
 - Right to bargain
- Just goes to show that what we kind of expect now were like foreign concepts at the time

Impact

- Strike spread from industry to industry
- Winnipeg shut down for 6 weeks
- A lot of day to day things gone
 - Stores, fire dept, newspapers, offices
- Sympathy strikes all around the country

Central Strike Committee (**Strikers**)

- Strikers created a committee to oversee the conduct of strike
- Held mass meetings
- Published "strike bulletin" to update workers about what's happening
 - Goes to show how organized the strikers were
 - Made them look more like a threat
- They even issued permits for the essential services that were missing because of the strike

Citizens Committee (**Employers**)

- Basically Winnipeg's richest people came together to try and end the strike
- They lobbied to the government to interfere
- Claimed that the strike was a communist conspiracy

Government action

- June 6, 1919
 - Amendments to the Immigration Act
 - Government could deport anybody -- supposed to target striking immigrants
 - Expanded the definition of "sedition" -- easier to arrest strikers

- This only raised tensions
- June 17
 - 8 leading strikers arrested + charged
 - BIG BOI PROTESTS
- June 21 -- Bloody Saturday
 - Troops were sent to Winnipeg to deal with scenario
 - Pissing ppl off
 - Riots and violent protests in response
 - Violent crowd, setting things on fire, breaking windows and vehicles -- think of the G20 riots
 - Also remember how a group of ppl went and overturned a streetcar
 - Representation of mob mentality
 - When ppl around u are doing bad things, u are more willing to do bad things
 - 1 person shot/killed; 30 injured
- June 26
 - Strikers called quits on the strike
 - It was the longest and most violent conflict in North America history at the time

Government response to Strike

- Section 98: Criminal code
 - Government had permission to arrest or deport anyone who was considered a threat -- basically all the strikers
- Strike was basically disastrous for workers
- They were forced to sign "yellow-dog" contracts
 - Which "forbade them from joining a union or taking part in union activities"
- Unionists were also viewed as communists -- which gave them a **very** negative connotation
- Conclusion: Government was savage and basically demoralized workers

Any pros?

- Several strike leaders were elected to Manitoba legislature
- Social Activist and labour leader JS Woodsworth elected to House of Commons
- Formation of Progressive party?

Prohibition

Definition:

- Movement to ban the production, importation, sale, and consumption of liquor
 - Notice that this is a very comprehensive definition
 - It was actually the women who played a big role in organizing and lobbying this
 - Women's Christian Temperance Union were leaders
 - Why women might have been leaders

- Husbands were the main source of money in the household
 - Drunkenness takes away from their work productivity
 - They also spent a lot more money on alcohol than the actual household
- Sketchy marriages
 - A lot of fighting because of drinking
 - Hitting on other girls as well
- Connection to MADD nowadays
 - It's like a mother's instinct to protect others
- "Lips that touch liquor ill not touch ours"

Why was prohibition introduced

- Initially to help the war effort actually
 - The grain used to produce liquor is better used supporting soldiers overseas
 - People who work in liquor production to work in more war-useful jobs
 - Enacted 1918 countrywide

Pros

- Violent crime decreased
- Arrest for public drunkenness dropped
- People spent less time gambling and more time with family
- Increase in industrial efficiency

Cons

- Pretty much impossible to enforce
 - "Cannot legislate morality"
 - After all, people will still want the alcohol
- Loss of taxes (in the millions) from liquor sales
- Unpopular amongst citizens
- New types of crimes emerged -- basically drug dealing but alcohol dealing

Crimes associated with prohibition

- Bootlegging: act of producing and/or selling alcohol
- Rum-running: act of transporting illegal alcohol over the Canadian/US border
- Rum alleys: International rivers where illegal alcohol was smuggled
 - Niagara River
 - Detroit River
- Speakeasy: clubs where people meet up and disobey prohibition together
 - Selling alcohol
 - Interesting because they were no police raids because the police attended them as well
 - They were pretty glamorous

People also raided other people's houses looking for alcohol

- Rights were being trampled on
- Germans were being raided a lot
- Racial class
 - Who and who wasn't punished was very influenced by this

Economic Recession, Recovery and Rise (I just wanted to alliterate)

Rapid changes in the economy during the war

- Canadian economy grew
 - Demand for agriculture + munitions
- Canadians consumed less
 - Grew own food
- Canadians exports costed 4 times more than before

Post-war recession

- Reduced demand for products
 - Farms and factories slowed production
- Return of soldiers led to more unemployment
- People weren't yet to spending
 - Frugal during war
 - This led to inflation :(
- Recession lasts from 1919-1924
- There were also issues with the European countries
 - They were in a lot of debt
 - They couldn't afford the expensive Canadian exports
- U.S tariffs also hurt Canadian exports
 - Cuz they became super expensive
- Despite the fact that our production increased, doesn't mean that our economy increased
 - There wasn't a market
- There also many other problems
 - Labour movement and strikes
 - Spanish Flu
 - Killed >50 000 Canadians
 - Emigration
 - Poor economic situation led to >1M Canadians going to the US

Recovery

- Of course, our recovery must be fueled by the recovery of our market, Europeans
 - American loans, Dawes Plan

- Now there were more demands for Canadian products
- The recovery returned prosperity to farms and factories
- Expansion was made mainly because of American investment
 - American already imported lots of natural resources
 - But ppl want to avoid tariffs
 - So they set up Branch plants -- where American started owning Canadian companies and factories
 - This made it so that the products were still "American"

Rise (growth)

There are 5 main sectors that expanded:

- Agriculture
- Pulp and paper
- Metals
- Automobile
- Energy

Automobiles

- By 1926, Canadians own the second most amount of cars in the world
- In one year there was lots of growth
 - 200k automobiles
 - 12 000 workers
 - 11 factories
- 1929 > 1M cars
- Auto industry also leads to many other spinoff industries
 - Road construction
 - Mechanic
 - Gas stations
 - tires

Metals

- The rise of new cars and electrical appliances = more demand for metals
- It's also great because the Canadian shield has lots of metals

Energy

- A larger economy of course needs more energy to support
 - Electricity was need more in factories with more machines
 - Fuel was need for autos, trucks, and farm machines
 - A lot of energy required for mining and smelting
- Second largest producer of hydroelectricity in the world
 - Lots of rivers
- Oil and Gas also had a lot more uses
 - Cars

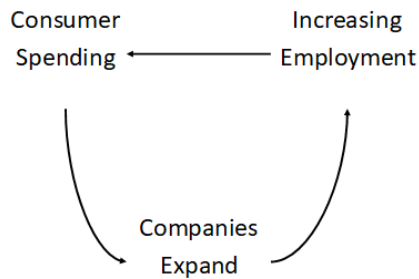
- Lubricant for machines
- Heating
- Called “black gold” and found in Alberta

Pulp and Paper

- Big demand from American newspapers and magazines
- We were highest producers in the world and had more than the rest of the world combined

Agriculture

- Farmers were able to produce more because of the development of new technology



Canadian Women Role in 20s

It could be said that agriculture slump actually played a big role in inspiring women to play a big role in politics

- Reminder that farms were not in the greatest state
 - Farmers were sent overseas due to conscription
 - Economic slump
 - Farmers ended up moving to the city
- In addition nice quote: “Farmers work 12 hours to feed people who work 8 hours, but still get paid less”
 - Farmers were getting flexed on and not being treated very well
- Women farmers started running and winning in provincial governments
 - 2 important things
 - Women were not very common politics
 - Nor were farmers
- 1921: Agnes MacPhail became first female federal MP
 - In fact she was the only women politician until 1929

Alberta 5 and Person's case

- In 1916, Emily Murphy was appointed judge
 - However a lawyer challenged her right to judge a case because women were not "persons"
- In addition, women were not appointed as senators because they weren't considered "persons"
- This pissed all the women off as I'm sure it does us
- "Alberta Five":
 - Emily Murphy
 - Nellie McClung
 - Louise McKinney
 - Henrietta Muir Edwards
 - Irene Parlby
- 1927, they challenged the definition of persons in the BNA act
- 1928, brought to Supreme court but were rejected
- 1929, brought to Privy Council in England (basically the Supreme Court of the time) and succeeded

1890s-WW1

Many middle to upper class women were in organizations

- This comes as a luxury of not needing to go to work
- Organizations included
 - Children's Aid Society
 - Victorian order of Nurses
 - Red Cross
 - Protestant Orphan's Home
 - Women's Christian Temperance Union
 - National Council of Women of Canada
- Notice how most of these jobs still involved women taking care of other people
- These "jobs" allowed women to build several skills:
 - Teamwork
 - Leadership
 - Practical skills
 - Self-confidence

However first duty was still **HOME**

WW1 refreshers

- Of course, women played a lot more roles in the First World War
- Replacing male jobs

- Factories
- Farms
- Nurses went overseas as well
- Partial voting rights
- Become part of a bigger community
- Played bigger role within house
- **Permission** to think and go outside house

Politics

In the early 1900s, women's organizations already fought for many things:

- Vote
- Prohibition
- Justice in workplace
 - Actually having female washrooms
 - Minimal sense of security because most workers were men

They also wanted changes in laws:

- Health
- Education
- Implementing a minimum wage
- Safer workplace

Women received vote in 1918

- Apart from Québec -- 1940

Women were able to run for Parliament in 1920

- Agnes MacPhail 1921
- First senator in 1930
- May not seem like much, but it is still a sign of the beginnings of change

Fashion

Flapper: "A rather **wild** young girl who dressed outrageously in order to attract attention"

- In winter, they wore these boots with buckles, but they didn't buckle the buckles
 - Caused the buckles to **flap** and make noises
 - Thus they were called flappers
- Knee-level hem-line
 - Kind of considered slutty to expose skin
 - Similar to our views of Lavan and his low-riding
- Bobbed short hair
- Smoked and drunk
- Bares shoulders and arms
- "If men can do these things we can do them too."

- It is still important to remember that not all girls were flappers

Men also had a changing fashion

- They wore **Neon hats**
- Knickers
- Bow ties
- Greased hair back, parted down the middle

Sports

- Figure skating, diving, swimming, and tennis were seen as the only “proper” female sports
 - However, there were still issues at pro level
 - Very minimal sponsorship
 - Sports also impact capability to have kids
- Girls also played basketball, hockey
 - Issue was that these sports had lots of body contact
 - Didn't seem right as women were viewed as “delicate”
 - Edmonton Grads were a very successful women's basketball team
 - Broadcast on radio
 - Kinda popularized women sports

Respectability

Women were given more freedom and choices

- However, some women were still traditional
- Men were still head of the house
 - Patriarchy -- father knows best
- Women are still expected to play big role in household despite working outside the house
 - Then again, their house work was kind of their dignity

Politics and Regional Protests

Québec

There was still a big split between the french and the British

- Conscription
- No French-Canadian Conservative MPs
- This led to formation of French trade unions, farmers' parties and co-operatives

American investment in Québec

- There was increasing economic issues in Québec
- So people started moving out

- The government thought that promoting American investment would encourage people to stay
- It was successful, however not everybody agreed

“Masters in our own house” (Abbé Lionel Groulx)

- Some people thought that it's not right to let Americans take over
 - It's kind of like selling the province's jewels
- People thought by doing this, it causes the French culture to fade away
- They thought that Québec needs to start taking control of its industries and factories
- They also suggested that part of the French culture is to split Québec from Canada

Maritimes

There were many issues occurring in the Maritimes

- Decline in demand for fish and coal
- This caused the big companies to move to Central Canada
- High freight rates
- Tariffs favoured manufacturing companies to move to Central Canada
- High unemployment forced ppl to leave Maritimes

Maritime Rights Movement

- Regional cooperation to get the Government to solve their issues
- Do so by:
 - Lowering tariffs
 - Larger subsidies
 - Lower freight rates allowing easier shipping to Central Canada

The West

Basically, farmers started to form their own parties because the government was pissing them off

- Borden lied to them about conscription and start of war
- Demand for wheat plummeted after war
- Encouraged to use machines during war which caused them to be in debt afterward
- High tariffs
- They also didn't have as much of a say in politics because Central Canada had more seats in Parliament

So they started to form their own parties

- Ontario, Alberta and Manitoba all had farmer parties winning the government
- Formation of the Progressive party in 1920 by Thomas Crerar

Progressives

- One big thing about the progressives is that they wanted the people to have more of a direct say in the lawmaking process
 - Recall: vote where eligible voters can fire elected officials
 - Referendum: votes on subjects where ppl can have direct say in parliament

Path to Full Autonomy and Independence

1922 - Chanak Crisis

- British troops were getting attacked by Turkish
- Asked colonies to help
- King decided that the decision had to go through Parliament
- However, Parliament wasn't in sitting
- So he had to say no
- First step to autonomy

1923 - Halibut Treaty

- Canada and US signed treaty to protect Halibut
- It ended up being signed without the signature of the British ambassador
- Britain objected but King threatened to put a Canadian representative
- First step to see that Canada can sign treaties and deals for themselves as well

1923 - Imperial Conference

- Basically King prevented Britain from establishing the foreign policy of all its colonies
- Final report: "foreign policy decisions are necessarily subject to actions of the Governments and Parliaments of the various portions of the Empire"

1926 - King-Byng Affair

- Scandal in Customs department of King's Government
- This was an opportunity for Meighen to criticize and humiliate King
- So, King went to ask Governor General Byng to dissolve Government
 - Byng said no
- He then asked Byng to consult British government
 - Byng again said no
- Arthur Meighen then became PM
- But was kicked out a week later with a vote of no confidence :(
- The outcome was that King was pretty pissed off and decided to change
 - He redefined the role of GG as a representation of monarch and not British government
 - Therefore the GG should take into account advice of government

1926 - Imperial Conference, Balfour Declaration

- Basically full Canadian autonomy
- Balfour Declaration allowed Canada to make its own foreign policy decisions

- This where King redefined GG's powers
- Canada now directly communicates with British government instead of through the GG