**WWII Home Front**

**Total War:** *“All industries, materials and people were put to work for the war effort.”*

**WARTIME ECONOMY AND POLITICS**

**Government + the Economy**

* Economic Boom (ended the Depression in Canada)
* C.D. Howe: Minister of Munitions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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 |

* Industrial Power

**Canadian Production 1939-1945**

* Rationing: encourage citizens to contribute to war effort by saving food.
* **Financing the War:** Victory Bonds & Loans

**LABOUR CHANGES and WOMEN’S CONTRIBUTIONS**

**Women and Labour**

* Labour Shortage
* National Selective Service Act (1942) - "to effect the orderly and efficient employment of the men and women of Canada for the varied purposes of war." Canada’s Armed Forces.

**Women and Military Forces**

* Canadian Women’s Army Corps
* Royal Women’s Navy Service
* Women’s Division of the Royal Canadian Air Force
* No combat
* 60% of pay compared to men

**Women and War Effort**

* 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.

**CONSCRIPTION: PART II**

* National Resources Mobilization Act (NRMA) – arose from public pressure for more effective Cdn war effort (stemmed from fear after quick success of German forces over Belgium and France)
* **Plebiscite**: PM King asked the public if they would allow Conscription to go forward. Everybody said “YES” except Quebec.
* **Controversy**: Nation divided, once again.

**SOCIAL SECURITY (WELFARE STATE)**

* Social Safety Net
* Unemployment Insurance Act
* Family Allowance

**IMMIGRANTS + MINORITIES**

* Registering “enemy aliens”
* Canadian government banned Pro-Nazi parties and Communist Parties
* Conscientious Objectors faced with hostility
* Black Canadians discriminated against until 1942
* Aboriginals had highest numbers of volunteers join the war
* Jewish Refugees (“None is too many” says Canadian Government)
* Anti-Semitism (“No Jews Allowed”)

**CANADIAN IDENTITY**

* **Camp X**: Top secret spy-training facility
  + Canadian Spies
  + Significance: Canadians included in top secret mission in worldly affairs.
* **British Commonwealth Air Training Program**
  + Created by Canada
  + Trained Canadian pilots
  + Significance: Huge Canadian contributions to war effort; recognized as an important country in world affairs

**BIGGER PICTURE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Canadian Identity |  |
| Positive/Negative Impact |  |
| Home Front (Social, Economic, Political) |  |
| Immigrants |  |
| Women |  |