GET READY FOR THE QUIZ
WW1 QUIZ #2

1. What condition was a consequence of wet trenches?
2. A war where there is little movement, but a constant wearing down (killing) of troops is called “a war of ?”
3. Which country introduced poison gas?
4. Which country introduced tanks?
5. What Canadian-made rifle was essentially useless?
6. In which battle did Canadians “glide”? 
7. Which battle cost almost 16,000 Canadian lives?
8. Which battle was the best example of attrition?
9. In which battle did Canadians first get gassed?
10. Name one of the commanders of the CEF.
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

LESSON OUTLINE & OBJECTIVES (don’t copy)

• In today’s lesson we will look at how the war affected lives in Canada.

• you will learn:
  – Which industry boomed during the war
  – How Canada paid for the war
  – Which Canadians won rights and which lost them
  – How the war affected politics
  – The impact of conscription
  – How Canadians suffered through disease & disaster
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

The War in Canada

• War changed daily life and the economy
• Guards watched bridges and any disaster was quickly rumored to be the work of Germans
• By 1917, munitions manufacturing was the largest industry
• High demands were placed on the agriculture industry.
• Goods were rationed, Canadians ate “war bread” & had “Meatless Mondays” to support the war effort
• More people working + less consumer goods = inflation
• Railroads and Banks were brought under national control
• A ban on strikes was issued.
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

Defective Goods

- Sam Hughes, Canada’s Minister of Militia, was in charge of Canada’s shell industry.
- Canada supplied about 1/3 of the shells used by the British.
- Canada produced supplies from ammunition to training planes.
- There was a rush to fill contracts, and many producers engaged in **profiteering** (making inferior products using cheap material to maximize profits).
- This led to boots that fell apart in mud & useless trench shovels.
- It also cost lives as shells and guns misfired or exploded.
The Spoils of War
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

Paying for the War

• Soon, the Gov’t was running out of money
• The Gov’t decided to sell “War Bonds” or “Victory Bonds”
• 1915-1917- over $700 million was raised.
• This wasn’t enough- more money was needed.
• A temporary tax was introduced- a tax on income.
• Today, this temporary tax is still with us, “INCOME TAX”
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

Wartime Propaganda

• Propaganda motivated people to enlist, ration food, and buy victory bonds.
• Propaganda appealed to a sense of duty, patriotism, and even shame.
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

Ethnic Problems In Canada

• 1914- 100,000 Germans, Hungarians & Austrians Lived in Canada
• Loyal ones returned home to fight, BUT those who stayed were viewed with suspicion
• The flip side of patriotism is intolerance
• By summer of 1915, 6000 “enemy aliens” (Germans & Austrians), were living in internment camps.
• City of Berlin, Ontario changed its name to Kitchener.
• Many companies & workers saw this as a good chance to get rid of ethnic competition in the workplace.
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

Power To the Women

• Women experienced more responsibility and influence.
• Many women pushed for the vote and for prohibition.
• A grain shortage made prohibition an easy task.
• Empowered by this, many of the same women continued to push for the vote.
• Women with family in the CEF were given the vote in 1917 to support conscription.
• In May of 1918, all women over 21 got the vote.
Our Investment of Blood
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

The Conscription Crisis

• By 1916 enlistment was starting to drop, supporters already joined.
• Other reasons not to join:
  – employment was up
  – No longer seen as a quick war, or as an adventure
  – French Canadians didn’t want to fight
• First Half of 1916- CEF recruited 134,000
• Last Half of 1916- CEF recruited 36,000
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

- Borden took his Conservative party to the polls in 1917
- Biggest issue was Conscription, Borden needed votes
  - Soldiers located anywhere could vote
  - Women in the CEF (or wives of CEF) were given the vote
  - Both these groups would support conscription.
- Borden invited Liberals who supported conscription to join a new “Union Gov’t”.
- Laurier opposed conscription and the Liberals lost support except for Quebec.
- RESULT: Laurier/Lib 82, Borden/Cons (Union) 162
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

• 1917- Borden introduced the “Military Service Act”- Conscription
• Opposition was strong - an exemption was given to farmers
• 404,395 men were called BUT 380,510 appealed!
• Tribunals in Que. exempted Canadien, but forced Anglo. to serve.
• An appeal court overturned the exemptions.
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

- Easter 1918, Que. City, a man w/o exemption papers was arrested
- A riot broke out and Ottawa sent 700 troops from Ontario
- Mon, April 1, 1918, soldiers fire at a crowd, killing 4
- Riots ended at the request of the Catholic Church
- Borden doesn’t give in
- All exemptions are cancelled
A Broken Promise
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

The Halifax Explosion

• Halifax was an important harbour for convoys.
• Dec 6, 1917, the Mont Blanc was leaving the harbour
• The Mont Blanc was loaded with 2,300 tons of wet and dry picric acid, 200 tons of TNT, 10 tons of gun cotton, & 35 tons of benzol
• A Norwegian ship, the Imo, struck the Mont Blanc
• Fire broke out on the Mont Blanc & she burned for 20 minutes
• People watched, amazed by the spectacle.
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

- At 9:05 am, the Mont Blanc exploded
- 1,900 people died, 250 bodies never identified, 6,000 w/o shelter, 1,630 homes were completely destroyed, 12,000 houses damaged
- Hardly a pane of glass in Halifax and Dartmouth was left intact.
- In hospitals, 25 limbs amputated and more than 250 eyes removed
- It was the largest man made explosion in history (until 1945)
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis
City of Sorrow
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

Spanish Flu

• In 1918 soldiers brought back a bad strain of Influenza

• In Montreal, a trolley car was used to carry coffins because city hearses couldn’t keep up with the bodies.

• About 50,000 Canadians died

Influenza deaths.

| 1918, October | - | - | - | - | - | 3,015 |
| November | - | - | - | - | - | 2,608 |
| December | - | - | - | - | - | 1,568 |
| 1919, January | - | - | - | - | - | 1,514 |
| -February | - | - | - | - | - | 812 |

Total in five months - - - - - 9,517

The population of the province is 2,523,000. At the height of the epidemic in the City of Toronto the deaths from influenza numbered about 150 a day, the total up to the end of November being 2,000. Some medical men used a
Lesson #3: The Home Front & Crisis

POSSIBLE QUIZ QUESTIONS NEXT CLASS

1. Who was Canada’s Minister of Militia?
2. More people working and fewer consumer goods led to?
3. What was the temporary tax the gov’t implemented?
4. What is it called when a manufacturer uses inferior goods to maximize profits on a government contract?
5. What persuasive tool was used by the gov’t to encourage people to enlist or buy bonds?
6. Name the two ships that collided in Halifax harbour.
7. Name the illness that claimed nearly as many lives as the war.
8. In what city did the conscription crisis lead to a riot and 4 dead?
9. What was the major issue in the 1917 election?