

A New Political Party Emerges

“We’ll Hoe our Own Row”

1. Why did farmers feel as though they had not been properly represented politically? How did they feel that they were not treated fairly by other Canadians and their government?

2. Describe the way that farmers began to organize themselves politically.

3. Who was Agnes Macphail?

Farmers in the prairies and in Ontario wanted lower tariffs or “free trade” for two reasons:

1) _____

2) _____

...the farmers felt that neither the Liberal or Conservative parties would support / represent their interests so they formed a new federal political party called “_____” to represent themselves in government!

Politics in the 1920s

In the year 1920, Canada had only two political parties for voters to choose from in elections – the _____ and _____ parties...

When Robert Borden stepped down as Prime Minister in 1920, _____ took over and became both leader of the _____ Party and Prime Minister, but he would have to call an election soon in order to let the Canadian people either officially vote him into power or out of power. Meighen had always been a politician who spoke his mind and acted according to his own personal _____ – this had been evident in the way he had handled the labour issue that erupted during the _____ when he had been the _____. His strongest support would come from traditional _____.

When _____ died in 1919, the Liberal party had to choose a new leader as well – their choice was _____. King was very well educated, from a political family, young, wealthy and

_____ during the Conscription Crisis in 1917. He was a _____ who preferred to follow the political opinions _____ when making decisions. King had written about and extensively studied _____ but he also understood the concerns of business and capital enterprise.

King and Meighen had met at the _____ and they openly _____ each other. In 1921 Meighen called _____ and these two long-standing enemies would face-off at the polls!!!

The 1921 Election

When Meighen called the election in 1921 most people had expected _____
_____. After the votes were counted, many Canadians were surprised at the results...

King's Liberals had _____ but had fewer than _____. This meant that King became the new _____ of a _____ (when a governing party holds fewer than half of the seats _____). As a result, King's government would have to listen to and get support from _____ (Members of Parliament) from other political parties in order to avoid a _____ (occurs when a proposed bill receives _____ of votes in the House of Commons, defeating the government and _____ because it no longer has the support of elected government officials).

To keep the job of PM, King had to pay attention to the wishes of the _____, who supported him because he supported their wish to lower tariffs. Voters in the _____ had supported King because he had promised to deal with their economic problems...

King managed to remain Prime Minister with a minority government for the next _____!!!!