

CHC 2P: Life in Canada in 1900 (Notes)

Life in Canada in 1900 was VERY DIFFERENT from the life we have in Canada today! In order to understand the world into which WWI erupted in 1914 (in other words, in order to understand _____), we have to go back a little further in time...

DO YOU KNOW...

1. Who was the Prime Minister of Canada in 1900? _____

What was special about him? _____

2. What are the changes in the maps of Canada that you see below?



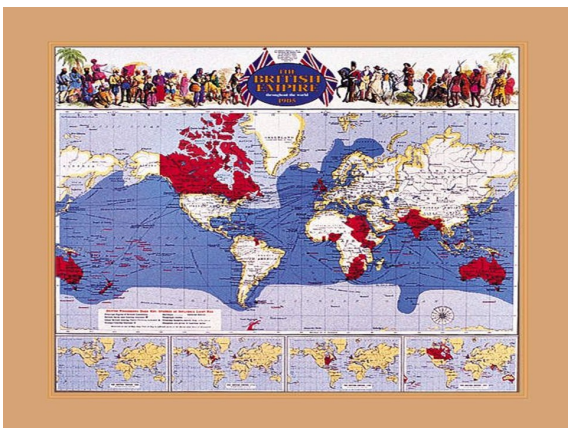
The North-West Territories (Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territory) are acquired by Canada from the Hudson's Bay Company. From part of them Manitoba is created as the fifth province.



Alberta and Saskatchewan are created as provinces to make a total of nine provinces in the Dominion of Canada (1905). The District of Keewatin is transferred back to the Northwest Territories. Due to changes in adjoining areas the boundaries of the Northwest Territories are redefined (1906).

3. How big was the British Empire?

4. What role did Canada play in the British Empire & how did most Canadians feel about it?



The Immigrant Experience—Notes

“The Last, Best West”

1. What type of immigrant was the government trying to attract to Canada in 1900?

2. Why do you think this was?

3. How would an influx of these types of immigrants change Canada?

“Strangers at Our Gates”

1. How did many Canadians view these new immigrants?

2. Who was James Shaver Woodsworth and what did he want to do for these new Canadians to try to help them improve their lives?

3. What do you think of Woodworth’s plan? Explain.



“Gold Mountain”

1. How were immigrants from Asia (esp. from China) treated in 1900? (give some specific examples to support your view)

2. Who was Won Alexander Cumyow? Why is his story important?



Your Opinion:

Based on what we have learned about immigrants in Canada in the early 1900s, how would you describe their experience? (Write a summary on the Summary Sheet)

Class Differences—Notes

“A Nation of Cities”

1. Why do you think more Canadians were suddenly choosing to live in cities/urban areas over the smaller towns and villages/ rural areas in the early 1900s?

2. How would you describe the privileges that the rich in Canada enjoyed in the early 1900s? Use at least two specific pieces of evidence (facts) presented in this video clip to support your view.

3. List and describe some of the challenges and disadvantages that the poor in Canada faced during the early 1900s. Use at least three specific pieces of evidence (facts) presented in this video clip to support your view.



Who do you think would have had access to the new technological toy of the early 1900s—the automobile, the rich or the poor? Explain.

What modes of transportation were used by most people in Canada in the early 1900s?

Your Opinion:

Based on what you have learned so far about the social class differences in Canada in the early 1900s, how do you think the majority of people in Canada would have felt about the system? Was the system fair for most Canadians or not? (Write a summary on the summary sheet)



