How Canadians supported the war from home	
WAR IN THE AIR/AT SEA AND THE HOME	
"FRONT"	
WAR IN THE AIR	
* At the beginning of the war, pilots flew alone in biplanes (mostly for aerial reconnaissance)	
photographing and reporting on enemy troop movements	
WAR IN THE AIR CONTINUED	
Soon pilots on both sides were armed and fired pistols and rifles at the enemy below (then within a year, machine guns were mounted)	
In <u>aerial dogfights</u> pilots used elaborate spins and rolls to shake off planes When a pilot proved he had shot down 5 anomaly.	
 When a pilot proved he had shot down 5 enemy aircraft, he was identified as an ace In 1917, average life expectancy for a Royal Flying 	
Corps (RFC) pilot, was only three weeks More than 50,000 pilots and air crew were killed between 1914 and 1918	
petween 1914 and 1918	

WAR IN THE AIR CONTINUED...

- Because Canada didn't have their own Air Force, Canadians who wanted to be pilots had to join the British RFC
- Canada produced a number of aces: <u>Billy</u> <u>Bishop</u>, Ray Collishaw, Billy Barker, William May, and <u>Roy Brown</u>, the pilot credited with shooting down the German flying ace, Manfred von Richthofen (the **Red Baron**)

WAR IN THE AIR CONTINUED... Setty Trages Trans 151

WAR AT SEA

- German U-Boats (Submarines) were highly successful at disrupting British shipping – could travel under water without being seen or detected
- When later equipped with torpedoes, they completely destroyed warships or merchant ships
- x 1915 a U-Boat sank the British passenger liner, the Lusitania, killing close to 1200 passengers, including many Canadians and Americans
- April 1917 Germany announced that U-boats would sink any ship within the war zone around Britain, a threat that added one more reason for the U.S. to enter the war

WAR AT SEA CONTINUED...

The Allies developed the convoy system and an underwater listening device that helped them locate and destroy U-Boats



WAR AT SEA CONTINUED...

- Prior to the war, Canada's navy consisted of only 2 warships (Rainbow and the Niobe)
- The strategic location of Halifax and its protected harbour made it a base for the refueling and repair of Allied warships and the chief departure point for Europe.
- Canada's <u>merchant marine</u> ferried munitions and food to Britain

WAR AT HOME - PRODUCTION IN OVERDRIVE

- Production of goods reached all-time highs to support the war effort
- Citizens were urged to produce as much as possible to feed and equip the troops overseas
- The fact that most of the goods were exported to Europe inflated prices domestically
- Businesses made enormous profits, but workers struggled due to wage controls (big issue post-war)

WOMEN AND THE WAR (A TIME OF GREAT PROGRESS)

- Pre-WWI, women rarely worked outside the home. Those that did were typically classified into a few fields:
 - + Nurses
 - + Teachers
 - + Domestic servants/nannies
 - + Low-skill, low-paying jobs (wage inequality)
 - + 1.6 Million women joined the workforce during the war (approximately 40% of the female population)

THE WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT

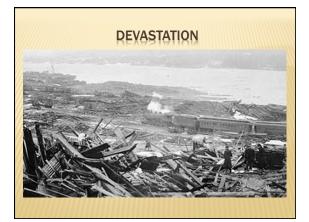
- Without women in the workforce, it is generally considered that Canada's economy would have collapsed
- Women were fully aware of this, and believed they needed more of a say in how the country was run
- Manitoba would be the first province to give women the right to vote in January 1916
 - + By 1918, Women were given the vote in federal elections (except aboriginals and immigrants)

DISASTER ON HOME SOIL: THE 1917 HALIFAX EXPLOSION

- * Halifax was the primary Atlantic port during the war, and was the chief departure point for soldiers and supplies headed across.
- * Traffic control was insufficient and caused frequent collisions
- December 6, 1917, a French munitions ship carrying 2500+ tonnes of explosives was hit
- * The resulting explosion was so intense it destroyed most of the city entirely.
- * Shattered City: The Halifax Explosion

AFTERMATH

- Visit http://www.cbc.ca/halifaxexplosion/
- x 1000 were killed immediately, 1000 more would die before they could be brought to a hospital
- * 9000+ were injured and countless people were left homeless
- The wealthy Richmond region of the city was completely wiped off the map
- Just the Mont Blanc and its cargo alone were worth over \$3,000,000 (at the time, roughly \$45 million in today's figures)



VICTORY BONDS

- The war cost Canada over \$2 million daily, so they needed to find a way to pay for it!
 - + Victory Bonds
 - + Honour Rationing
 - + "Temporary" income tax
 - Corporate tax
 - + Loans
 - × (from US and others)

