

Emerging From War

In 1918 World War One ended. The Allies had gained victory but at what cost??

The Human Toll

- Out of a population of about 250 000, almost 2000 young men gave their lives to the war effort.
- In many families more than one family member lost their lives. (see the Ayre family page 140). These families rarely recovered economically or psychologically.
- Casualties: see list page 140. From what military branch did most casualties come from?

The Financial Toll

- Newfoundland also suffered financially
- The value of goods Newfoundland was shipping out had increased
- However the government still had to borrow \$13 million dollars to fund the war such as to pay for equipment, disability pensions etc.
- The war debt was \$35 million in total... a lot for a small country!
- Newfoundland never quite recovered in many ways.

Women's Suffrage Movement

Suffrage: the legal right to vote (male or female).

Suffragette: woman who wanted (and fought for) the right to vote.

Disenfranchised: to be excluded from voting and government.

- The war had a major positive impact on one group in Newfoundland...women!!
- Men had been allowed the full right, also known as suffrage, to vote since 1889.
- By the end of the war women still did not have the right even though their role had changed. However women in Britain and Canada were given the vote in 1918...but not in Newfoundland.
- Women's groups such as the WCTU and the WPA had laid the groundwork for obtaining for the vote for women in Newfoundland by creating awareness of gender issues.
- The women who pushed for the vote faced many obstacles such as negative attitudes from their husbands, boyfriends, fathers, the church etc. Prime Minister Squires was very much against it.
- By **1921**, women could vote in municipal elections but **only if they owned property**.
- By **1925 all women ages 25** and older were allowed the vote as granted by Prime Minister Monroe.
- **Water Lily**, Newfoundland's first women's journal, is founded in 1892.
- **Helena Squires** is the first woman elected to the House of Assembly.