

CHAPTER 1

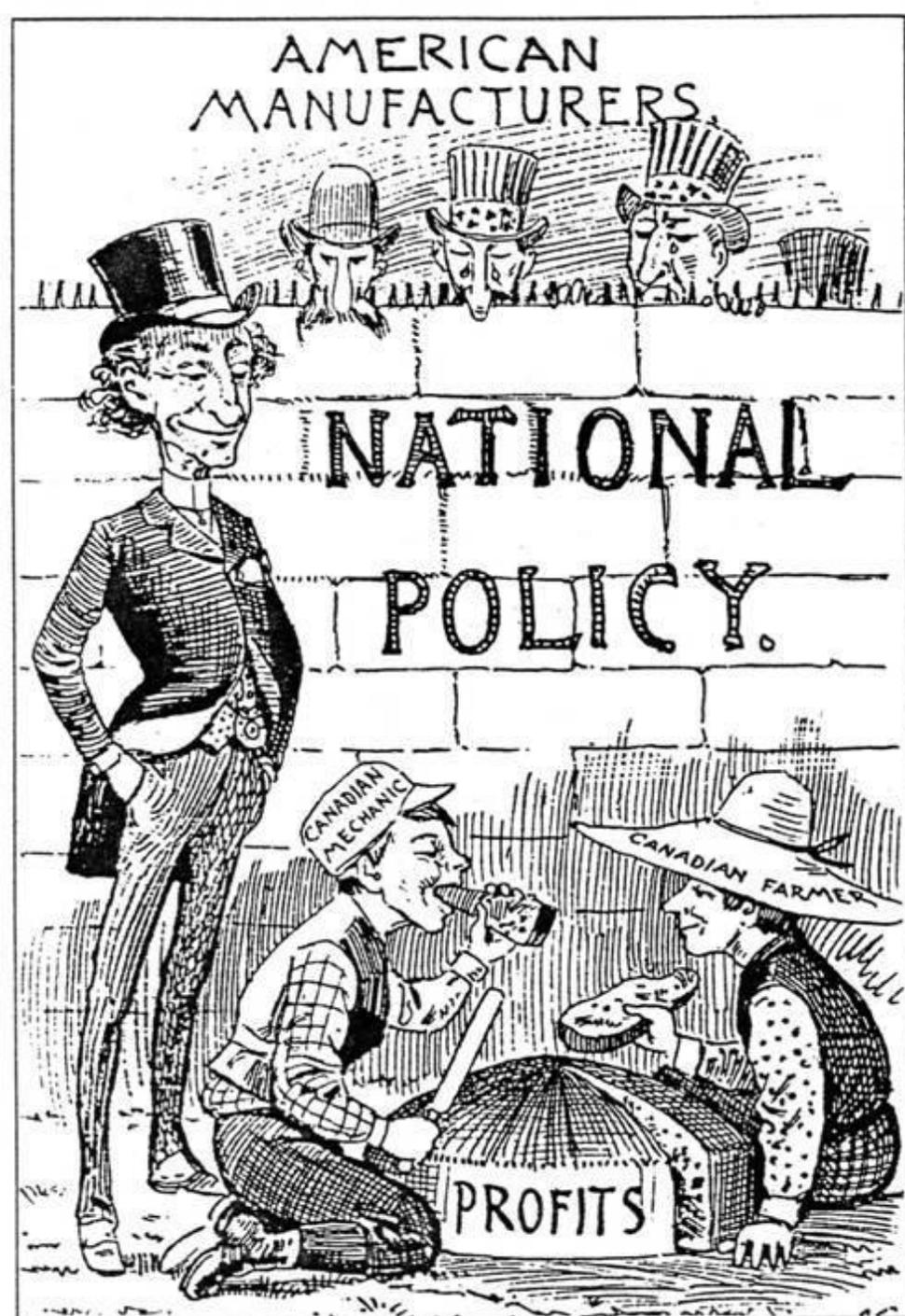
1840-1896

*Development of
Canadian federalism*

PART 8

National Policy & Migration

National Policy



This illustration shows Prime Minister John A. Macdonald, standing and watching a Canadian factory worker and a Canadian farmer seated on the ground.

- What is the topic of the caricature?
- What are the different characters doing?
 - Canadians
 - Americans
- Why is the National Policy represented by a wall?
- What positive aspect of the National Policy is illustrated in this caricature?



TRUMPTY
DUMPTY
SAT ON
A WALL

NOW, THIS
IS A REALLY,
REALLY GREAT
WALL! ...I'M
JUST GONNA
HOP DOWN AND
TAKE THIS
INVOICE TO
THE MEXICAN
PRESIDENT!

...TO BE
CONTINUED

US BORDER

R. M. KITE
© 2017 THE AUGUSTA CHRONICLE 1/27
cartoonists.com

Economic crisis of 1873

- Economic activity slowed down in Europe in 1873. The impact was felt in Québec and Canada, especially between 1874 and 1879.
- The Dominion of Canada experienced an economic depression:
 - Companies struggled to stay afloat.
 - Unemployment rose.
 - Wages fell.
 - People lost confidence in financial institutions.
 - The price of raw materials, like wheat and wood, dropped.



- John A. Macdonald's answer to the depression: **THE NATIONAL POLICY**



First Prime Minister of Canada: John A. Macdonald, Conservative Party (1867-1873, 1878-1891 – died in office)

The National Policy (1879)

Adopted by **John A. Macdonald's** Conservative Party.

GOALS:

- 1) To revive industrial development in Canada.
- 2) To protect Canadian industries from American competition.
- 3) To increase settlement in Western Canada in order to develop land and the domestic market.



A MECHANIC'S HOME

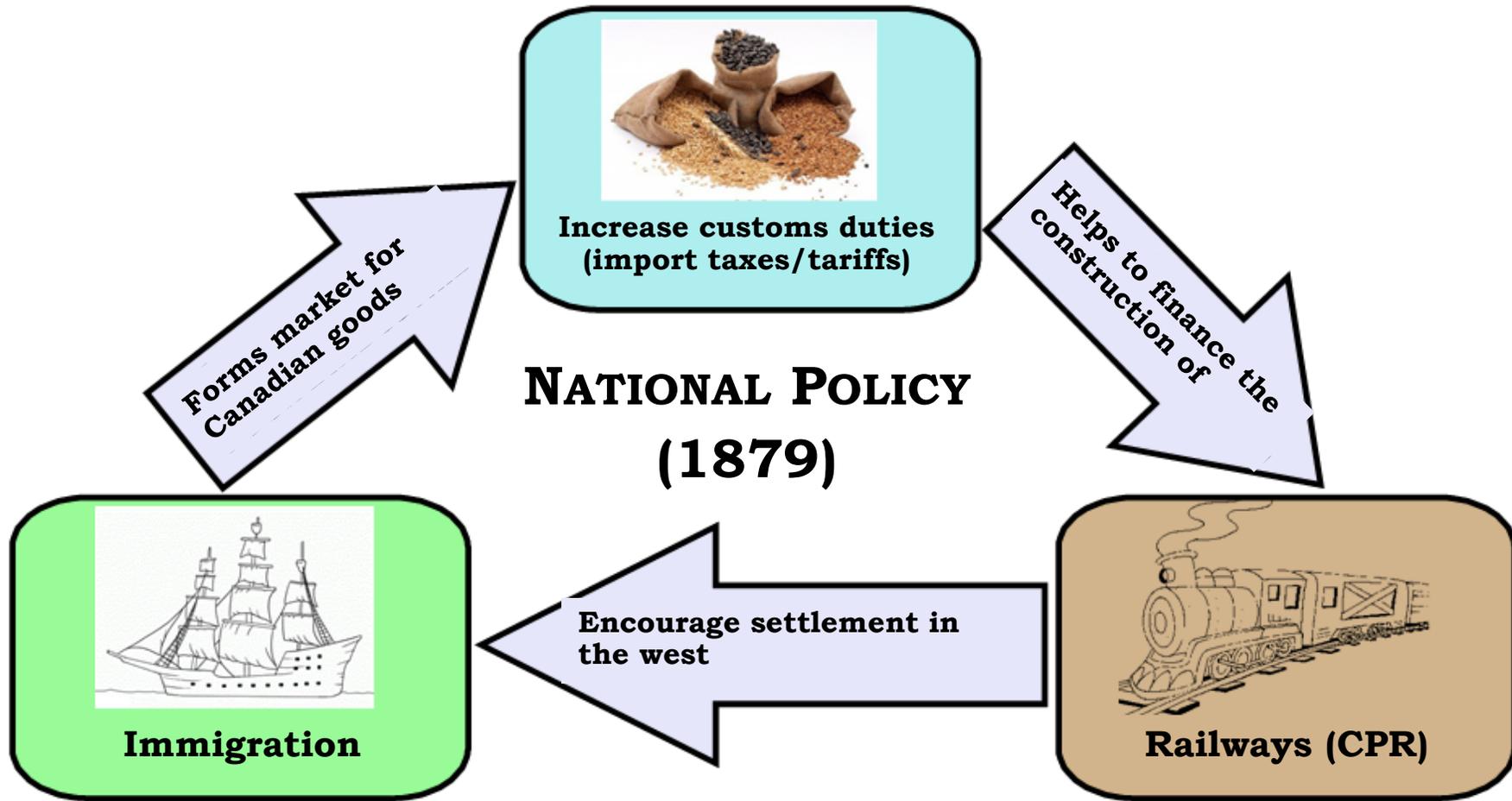


UNDER THE NATIONAL POLICY.

NO WORK, NO MONEY.



UNDER A FREE TRADE OR REVENUE TARIFF.



3 main components of the National Policy

1) Increase customs duties on imported products

- Macdonald imposed a **protectionist tariff policy** to lessen the harm done by the strong foreign competition, especially from American companies.
- Taxes on imported goods increased by 25-30% until the mid 20th century.

Results:

- Goods manufactured abroad were more expensive. This gave Canadian consumers a reason to buy Canadian-made products instead.
- The policy protected new industries from foreign competition in order to stimulate their growth.
- It was also a way for Canada to increase revenue to pay for the railways.



3 main components of the National Policy

2) Expansion of the railway network

- Construction of a transcontinental railway linking the entire country, from the east coast to the west coast – built by the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) company.
- Allowed settlers to move in the “empty” lands in the west.
- Construction spanned from 1881 to 1885 with many financial and technical challenges along the way (close to bankruptcy, Rocky Mountains, etc.).



The rail network in Canada (1885)

Legend

- Grand Trunk
- Intercolonial
- Canadian Pacific
- ★ Federal capital
- Main cities
- Definite border
- - - Approximate border



➤ What is the connection between the development of the rail network and the development of the Dominion of Canada?



Heritage Minutes: Nitro



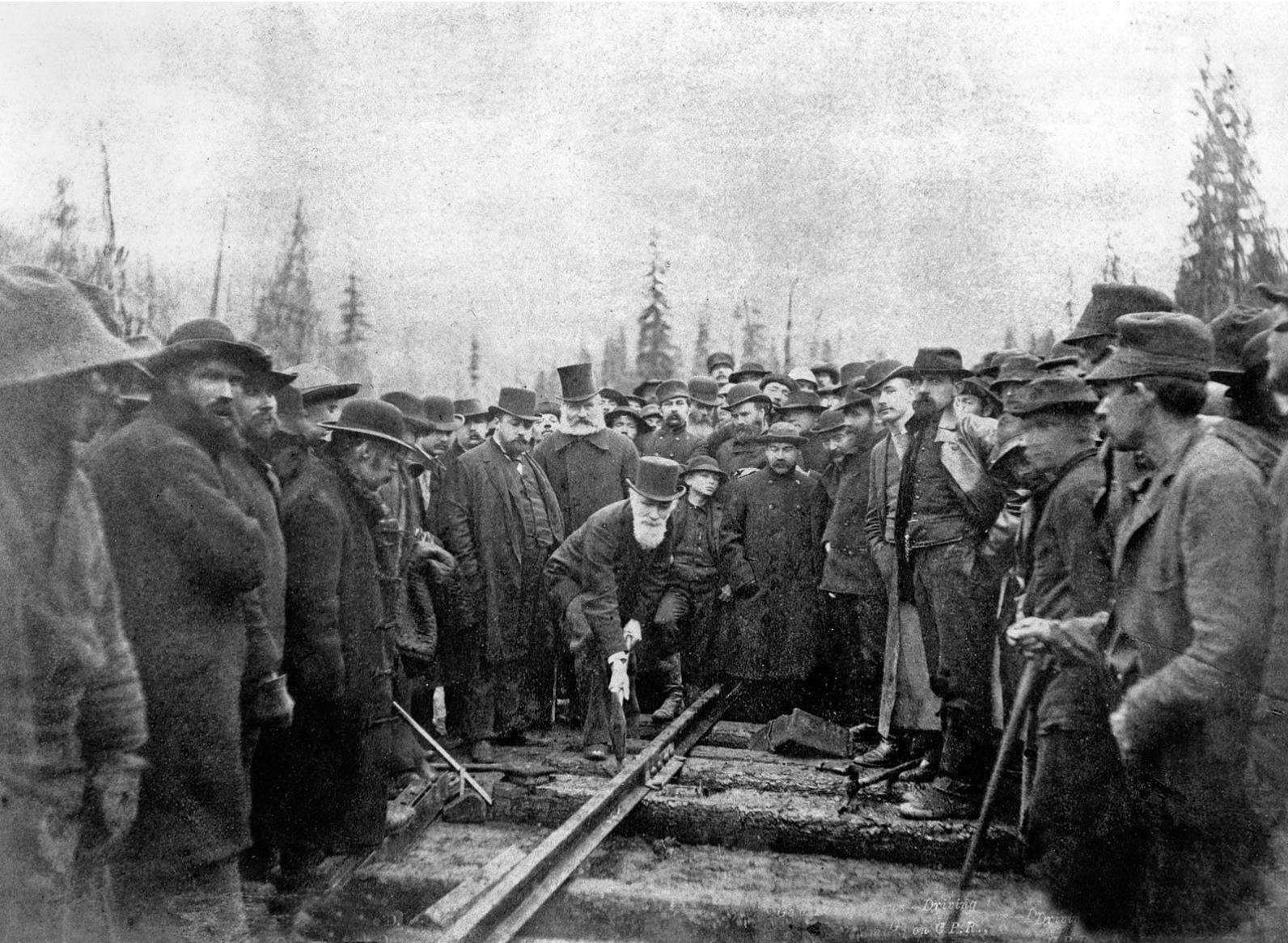
Regarder p...



HERITAGE
MINUTES

- **15,000 Chinese workers** contributed to the construction of the CPR (1880-1884). They were given **the most difficult and dangerous jobs** like clearing the route with explosives.
- They earned less than \$2 a day (half a White man's wage). They lived in makeshift camps and they had to pay for everything (clothes, food, transportation to the job site, medical care, etc.).
- About 600 Chinese men died during the construction of the CPR.
- Many workers wanted to stay in Canada. **To discourage more immigration of poor Chinese workers**, the Government of Canada passed the **Chinese Head Tax** law in 1885:
 - \$50 tax to enter the country in 1885
 - \$500 tax to enter the country in 1904 (A year's wage at the time!).





The last spike

(photo taken on November 7, 1885, marking the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway)

3 main components of the National Policy

3) Colonization of Western Canada

- The government wanted to lure immigrants to Canada to develop the fertile Prairies.
- More immigration would increase the number of consumers in the country, which would expand the domestic market and accelerate industrialization.
- New citizens would grow more wheat to feed the Canadian population and increase grain exports.
- **The federal government tried to attract farmers from Europe by:**
 - distributing promotional materials
 - financing transportation companies to bring new immigrants to Canada
 - promising 160 acres of free, arable land to settlers in Western Canada.

An ad targeting Britons (circa 1890)

The map shows summer and winter routes for reaching Canada.

FREE FARMS FOR THE MILLION

DOMINION OF **CANADA**

RED-RIVER VALLEY
Saskatchewan, Alberta
THE GREAT NITRATE PLAINS
and British Columbia

VAST MARSHES, BAYS,
and other water, pasture, and
timberland, etc., etc.

Immense Coal Fields.
Extensive LUMBER LANDS.

Railway lines from the West.

CLIMATE THE HEALTHIEST IN THE WORLD.

CANADA HAS
Experimental Farms

FREE FARMS of 160 ACRES

Given to every Male Adult of 21 years and over, in the great Prairie belt of
MANITOBA, CANADIAN NORTH-WEST AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

Easy soil, well watered, wooded, and situated in the world—rarely reached by railroads. Wheat—average 30 bushels to the acre, with fair farming.

VAST COAL FIELDS AT CONVENIENT DISTANCES.

GRANTS FROM 100 TO 200 ACRES ARE OFFERED IN OTHER PARTS OF CANADA.

For full and full particulars, in pamphlets and maps, apply to the High Commissioner for Canada, or to the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Canada.

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA,
21 Victoria Street, London, E. C., England.

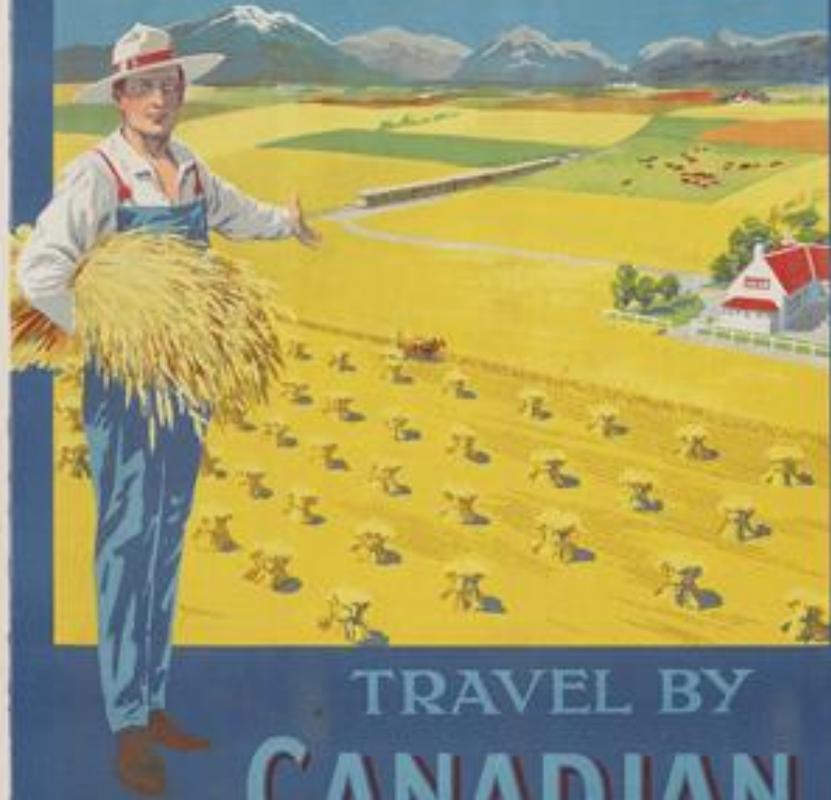
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

The advertisement makes claims about Canada's healthy climate.

This section describes the free farmland offered by the government.

CANADA

THE RIGHT LAND FOR THE RIGHT MAN



TRAVEL BY
CANADIAN
NATIONAL RAILWAYS

SERCOMBE & HAYES, 9, South St., DORCHESTER

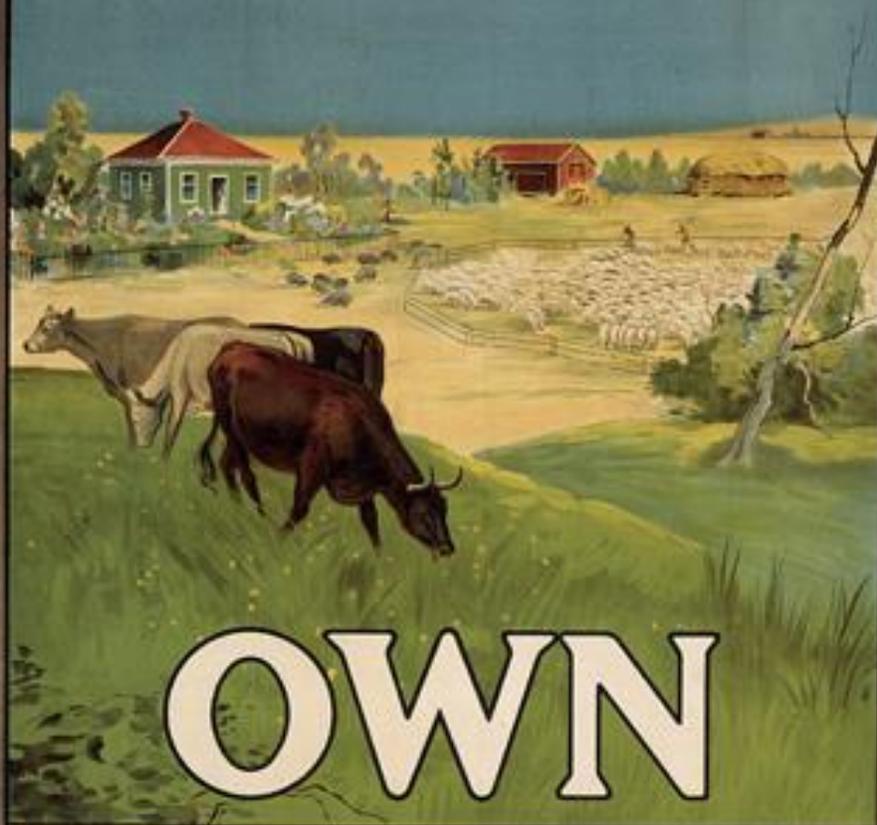
READY MADE FARMS IN WESTERN CANADA



GET YOUR HOME IN CANADA
FROM THE
CANADIAN PACIFIC

SPECIAL FARMS ON VIRGIN SOIL
NEAR THE RAILWAY
AND CLOSE TO SCHOOLS, MARKETS, CHURCHES &c.
ARE PREPARED EACH YEAR FOR
BRITISH FARMERS OF MODERATE CAPITAL
PAYMENTS IN EASY INSTALMENTS

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY (—)



OWN

YOUR OWN

HOME IN CANADA

and apply for a

READY-MADE FARM

to the nearest

CANADIAN PACIFIC AGENT

CANADIAN PACIFIC

Migration

Rural exodus

- From the second half of the 19th century to the mid-20th century, there were major population movements in Canada East/Québec.
- **Factors that contributed to rural exodus and rural depopulation:**
 - HIGH birth rate in rural areas → ↑ population → scarcity of farmland
 - Mechanization of agriculture → reduced need for labourers → many moved to urban areas in search of work
- In 1851: 87% of the population lived in rural areas
In 1901: 64% of the population lived in rural areas



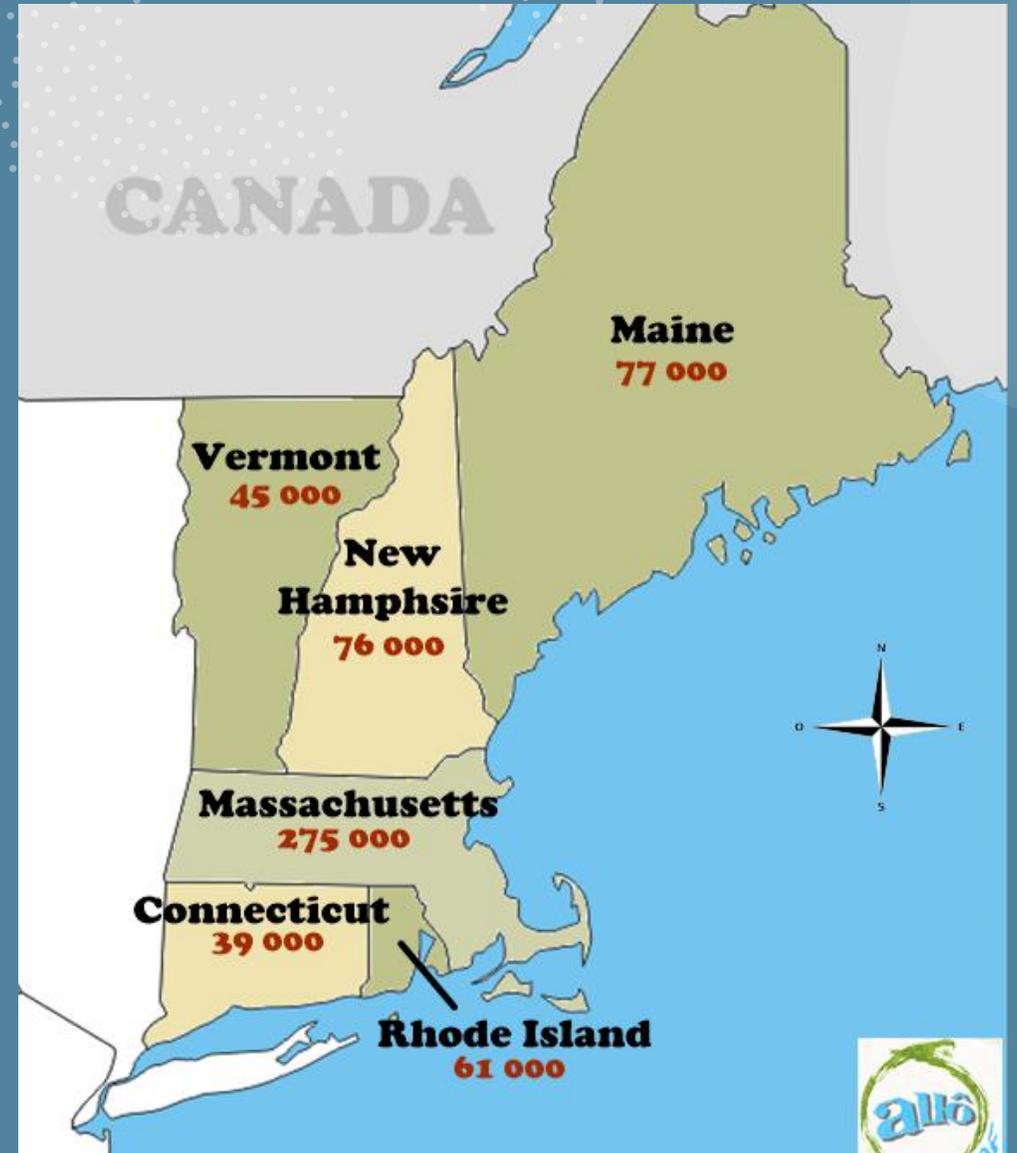
Rural exodus

- The “surplus population” – especially young people, who were more likely to leave their rural homes – was faced with 3 options:
 1. **Move to the city** to find work in newly built factories.
 2. **Emigrate to the USA**, where there were more job opportunities.
 3. **Move into a new region of Québec** that had not yet been settled.

Emigration to the USA

- The French Canadians who chose to emigrate to the United States, especially to New England, **worked in recently-built factories** (e.g. textile factories like cotton mills).
- **Many jobs** were offered and the **wages were higher** than those offered in Québec.
- Entire families were attracted to move to the USA in search of a better life. The new railway made it easier to travel from place to place.
- It is estimated that **over 500,000 French Canadians emigrated from Québec between 1840 and 1900.**

French Canadians in New England, circa 1900



Net migration

- Emigrants: people leaving Canada (Exit)
- Immigrants: people moving to Canada (In)
- During the second half of the 19th century, Canada had a negative net migration:
 - Due to emigration to the USA from both Québec and Canada
 - **The number of immigrants < the number of emigrants**
- Despite this, **the Canadian population continued to grow due to high birth rates.**



1.40**NET MIGRATION IN CANADA BETWEEN 1851 AND 1901**

	IMMIGRATION	EMIGRATION	NET MIGRATION
1851-1861	352 000	170 000	+182 000
1861-1871	260 000	410 000	-150 000
1871-1881	350 000	404 000	-54 000
1881-1891	680 000	826 000	-146 000
1891-1901	250 000	380 000	-130 000
TOTAL	+1 892 000	-2 190 000	-298 000

Source: Adapted from Maurice Saint-Jean, *Atlas de géographie historique du Canada*, Éditions françaises, Boucherville, 1982.

1.39

**EVOLUTION OF THE
POPULATION OF QUÉBEC
AND CANADA BETWEEN
1871 AND 1901**

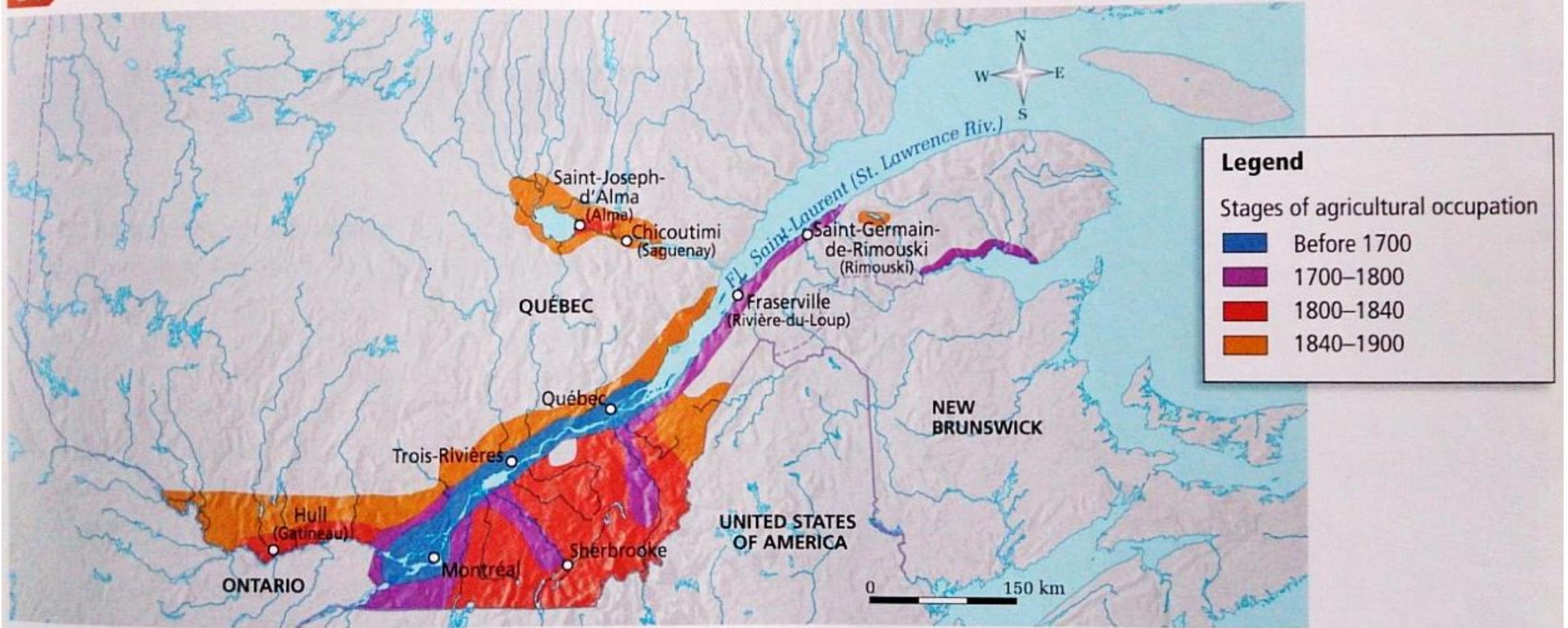
NUMBER OF INHABITANTS		
	QUÉBEC	CANADA
1871	1 191 516	3 689 257
1901	1 648 898	5 371 315

Source: Statistics Canada, Canada Censuses (1851 to 1971), adapted by Institut de la statistique du Québec.

New settlement areas in Québec

- **Agriculturalism**: a philosophy placing great value on farming and the role of the pioneer.
- To limit the mass emigration to the USA, **the Catholic clergy and the Québec government encouraged French Canadian families to move to unsettled regions of Québec** through various programs.
- The Government of Québec supported these colonization efforts by **subsidizing the construction of railways**, which provided access to remote areas.
- **New regions settled**: the Laurentians, Lanaudière, Bas-Saint-Laurent, Témiscamingue and Lac-Saint-Jean.

58 The development of Québec's agricultural territory, at the end of the 19th century



Data from: Gilles Laporte, Luc Lefebvre and David Milot, *Fondements historiques du Québec contemporain*, 2013.

New settlement areas in Québec

- **These efforts were NOT very successful:**
 - The **land was of poor quality**, the **climate too harsh** to grow crops.
 - These farms were **too far from markets** so that settlers could not sell their products.
 - These settlers were **limited to subsistence farming**.
 - To get by, these settlers worked for logging companies in the winter, thus creating a **farm-forest economy** (the farming and logging sectors complemented each other, both being essential to the colonization of these areas).

Transatlantic immigration (1867-1896)

- The Canadian government was encouraging large-scale immigration **to populate Western Canada.**
- The majority of immigrants settled in the West, many moved to big cities, like Montréal and Toronto, where there were many factory jobs. Canada's population became increasingly ethnically diverse.
- **1.5 million immigrants arrived to Canada:**
 - Great Britain
 - United States
 - Northern and Eastern Europe (Germany, Italy, Scandinavia, Holland)
 - Jews from Eastern Europe and Russia
 - China