

3) Emerging From War

The Cost of War (Human)

- ❖ With so many young men either killed or wounded from a small population, Newfoundlanders found the human cost of the war to be unbearable.
- ❖ It was rare for a family not to have lost a relative to the war and some families never recovered from the loss of loved ones (see the Ayre Family to the right).
- ❖ It is said that Newfoundland lost an entire generation to the war, setting back the country's progress.



The Cost of War (Government & Financial)

- ❖ Fighting alongside other dominions earned Newfoundland a presence at the Imperial War Cabinet and equal to other members of the British Empire.
- ❖ Newfoundland, however, voluntarily allowed Britain to control its foreign affairs.
- ❖ The country did have short-term gains from the war, especially from the rising values of fish, lumber & newsprint. However, these were problems.
- ❖ The government had to borrow \$13 million to pay for the war.
- ❖ When the price of disability allowances and pensions were added, the war debt equalled over \$35 million (a huge debt for a population of a quarter of a million).