

Chapter 6 – The First World War: 1914-1918

Newfoundland at War

Grade 8 Social Studies

Chapter Overview

This chapter will focus on the following aspects of Newfoundland's participation in the First World War:

- 1) The outbreak of war and Newfoundland's involvement.**
- 2) The role of volunteers and the conscription issue.**
- 3) The cost of the war.**
- 4) Women's suffrage movement (right to vote).**
- 5) The influenza outbreak of 1918-1919.**

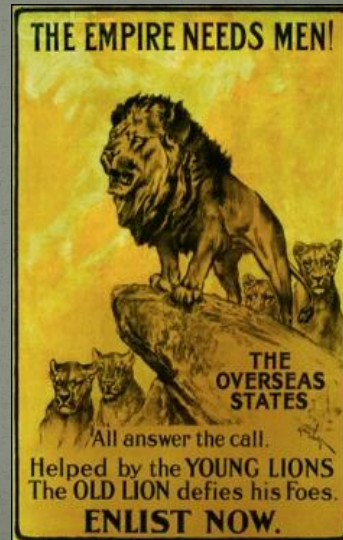
1) The Outbreak of War

War Breaks Out

- ❑ When Britain declared war on Germany in 1914, Newfoundland considered itself at war as well since it was part of the British Empire along with Canada, Australia, New Zealand and others.

Enlistment and Recruitment

- ❑ Many young men rushed to join up for the adventure and the chance to display their **patriotism** or love for the mother country, England.
- ❑ Many people were encouraged to join up through the use of propaganda.

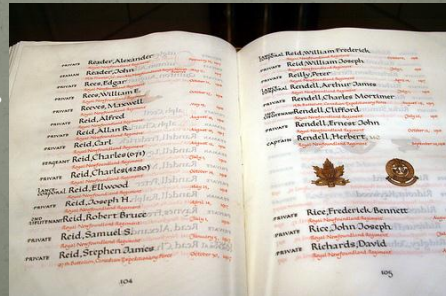


- ❑ **Propaganda** is information used to promote a political cause or point of view.
- ❑ During World War I, propaganda posters were used to get men to sign up, encourage the saving of food and supplies, and often portrayed the enemy as truly evil.
- ❑ Used by both the Allies and Central Powers.



Those Who Served

- ❑ Memorial University is named in honour of those who died fighting for Newfoundland & Labrador.
- ❑ The names of those who died are recorded in *The Book Of Remembrance* and placed in three locations: Memorial University, Mile One Stadium and the original in the Memorial Chamber in the Peace Tower of Parliament Hill, Ottawa.



Newfoundlanders Who Served in WW I

Branch	Enlisted	Description
Royal Naval Reserve	2050	Served on over 30 British naval ships but no "Newfoundland" ship.
Newfoundland Regiment	6240	Created in 1914 and made up of men aged 19-36. First 500 known as the "Blue Puttees".
Volunteer Aid Detachment	40	Unarmed volunteers. Mostly female nurses who worked in military hospitals in France and Britain.
Forestry Corps	500	Unarmed volunteers who travelled to Scotland to cut wood for increased wartime demand.
Merchant Marine	5000	Civilian sailors who crewed cargo ships to get supplies to England.
Canadian & Other Allied Forces	3100	Newfoundlanders who lived and signed up in foreign countries.

Beaumont Hamel

- ❑ On July 1st, 1916 the Newfoundland Regiment fought in the battle of the Somme at the French town of Beaumont Hamel.
- ❑ During the morning of the battle, the Regiment was ordered to move out of its trenches and across the open territory of No Man's Land toward the enemy positions



- ❑ As the Newfoundlanders advanced they were met with heavy machine gun fire from the German trenches.
- ❑ Of the 801 soldiers of the Regiment who went over the top that morning, 233 were killed, 386 were wounded and 91 were missing. Only 68 were fit for duty the next day.
- ❑ Since that day, July 1 has been seen as Memorial Day in Newfoundland, but is also Canada Day



After the war, Newfoundland bought the land where the battle took place and turned it into a memorial Park. It opened on June 27, 1925.

