



“Come Walk Awhile In Our Shoes:”

A Journey of Ordinary –
& Historically Significant
– Canadians,

1900-1945 & 1945-1999.

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... by Peter Kear

Doing history (a verb) involves
historical thinking,
but it also requires
feeling the past in order
to have *sustained*
student engagement ...

(copyright © 2001, "Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes")

**Manual
Cover,
1900-1945**

**Author's mother
& grandparents
(recent English
immigrants),
1914, Kingston,
ON**

... an engaging simulation of canadian history ...

No. R.L.25.G.832
(In replying please quote above No.)

To Mrs. H.H. Goss.
c/o Mrs. Blackley
90 Broadwall.

**©“Come Walk Awhile In Our Shoes”:
A Journey Of Ordinary - & Some Not-So-Ordinary -
Canadians, 1900-1945.**

London, S.W. 6
July 19th. 1916

Madam,

It is my painful duty to inform you that a report
day been received notifying the death of No. 59381
Rank Pte. Goss.H.H.
Regiment 21st
on the 24th. of June 1916., and I am to express to
the sympathy and regret of the Militia Council at your loss.
of death was KILLED IN ACTION.

Any application you may wish to make regarding the late soldier's
effects should be addressed to Chief Paymaster.
Canadian Contingents. 7 Millbank S.
and marked on the outside “Deceased Soldier's Effects.”

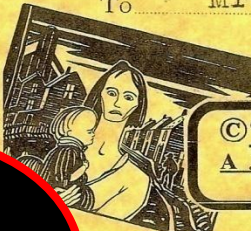
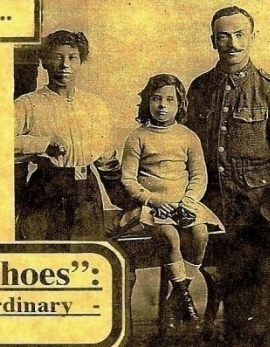


I am, Madam,
Your obedient Servant,

Peter Kear
8 Kelly Road
Huntsville, ON
PIH 1P9
705-789-9112
petekear@vianet.on.ca

a bear insight
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Col.D.A.A.G.
Colonel in charge of Records.
C.E.F.

In loving Memory
of
HERBERT GOSS,
Killed in Action June 24th, 1916.
AGED 29 YEARS

**“KILLED IN
ACTION”:
form letter author’s
grandmother received
informing her of the
death of her husband at
Ypres, June 24, 1916.
Author’s mother had
just turned eight.**

No. R.L.25.G.832
(In replying please quote above No.)

To Mrs. H.H. Goss.

c/o Mrs. Blackley
90 Broadwall.
Stanford St. Blackfriars.

Canadian Record Office,
7, Millbank,
London, S.W.

July 19th. 6
1916

Madam,

It is my painful duty to inform you that a report has this day been received notifying the death of No. 59381

Rank Pte. Name Goss.H.H.

Regiment 21st. Battalion. which occurred at
on the 24th. of June 1916., and I am to express to you the sympathy and regret of the Militia Council at your loss. The cause of death was KILLED IN ACTION.

Any application you may wish to make regarding the late soldier's effects should be addressed to Chief Paymaster.

Canadian Contingents. 7 Millbank S.W.

and marked on the outside "Deceased Soldier's Effects."

I am, Madam,
Your obedient Servant,

J. W. S. Leslie
Lt. Col. D.A.A.G.
For ~~Chief~~ Colonel in charge of Records.
C.E.F.

A.5.
R. 107.

... forgotten documents & stories of ordinary Canadians caught up in the macro-events of the 20th century ...

1916

Primary Document:

"KILLED IN ACTION":
Form letter author's grandmother received informing her of the death of her husband at Ypres, June 24, 1916. Author's mother had just turned eight.

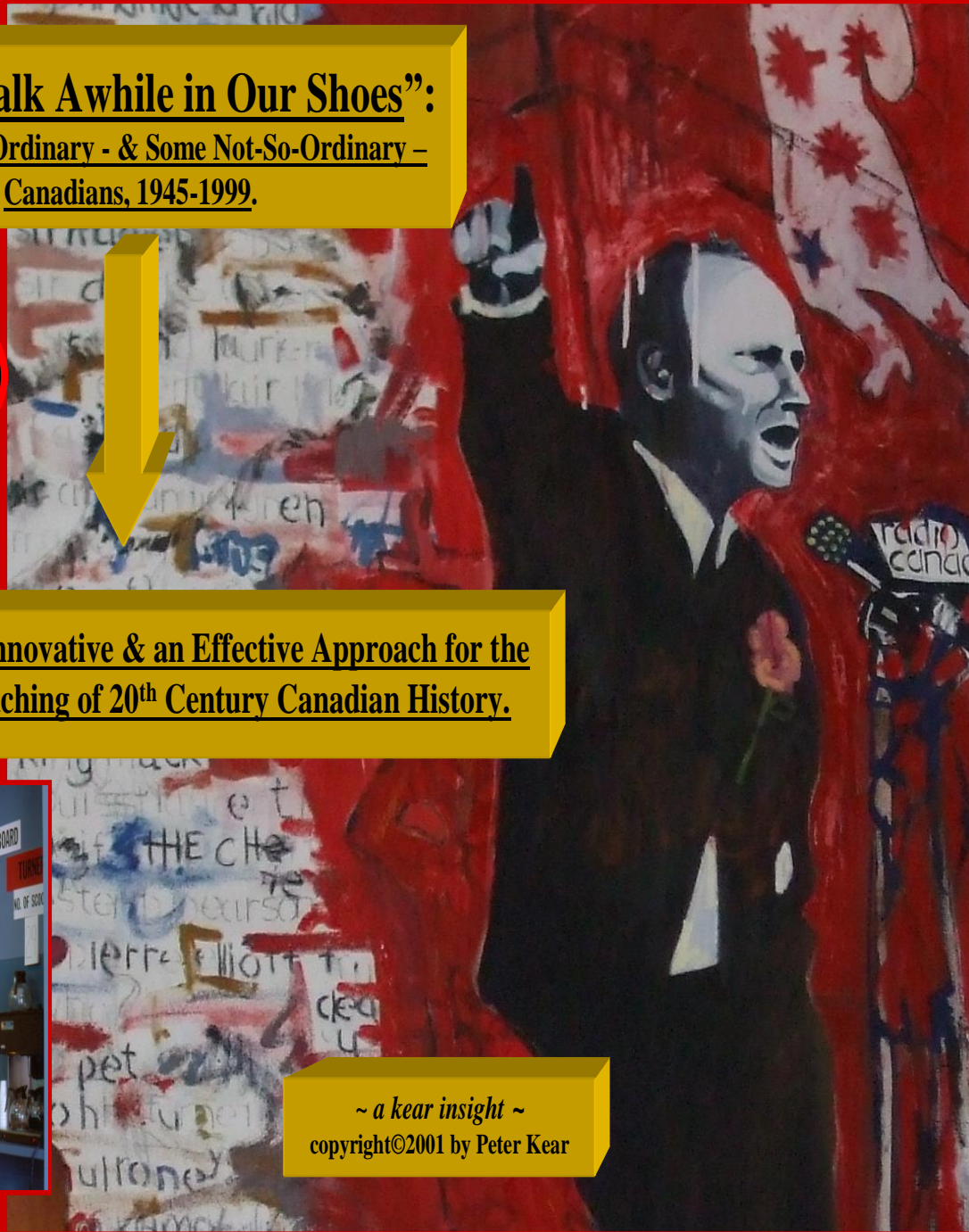
“Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes”:
A Journey of Ordinary - & Some Not-So-Ordinary –
Canadians, 1945-1999.

**Manual Cover
For Post-1945
Period ...**

An Innovative & an Effective Approach for the
Teaching of 20th Century Canadian History.

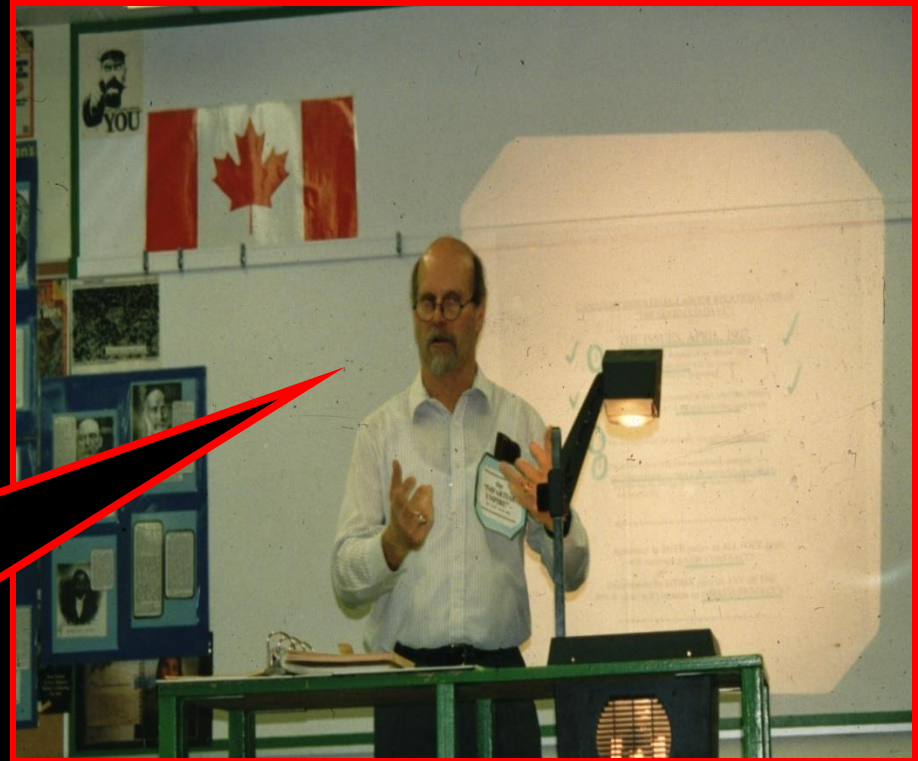


~ a kear insight ~
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... the author's
overall
claim ...

... the more
students
feel the past
=
greater *sustained*
student engagement!



“Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes”

- This role-playing simulation is compliant with the *strands* and *curriculum expectations* of the revised 2013 Ontario grade 10 History program, and its four *assessment categories of knowledge/skills*:
 - knowledge & understanding,
 - thinking,
 - communications, &
 - application.

Change that 'dullsville' perception of Canadian history forever ...



... & watch student interest, understanding ...

... a “draw day”!

What the heck! Our family is French-Canadian & we live in Valleyfield, QC (1900) ... My father works in a damp textile mill & he has just discovered that he has tuberculosis - & his future is not bright!



... & achievement-levels rise ...

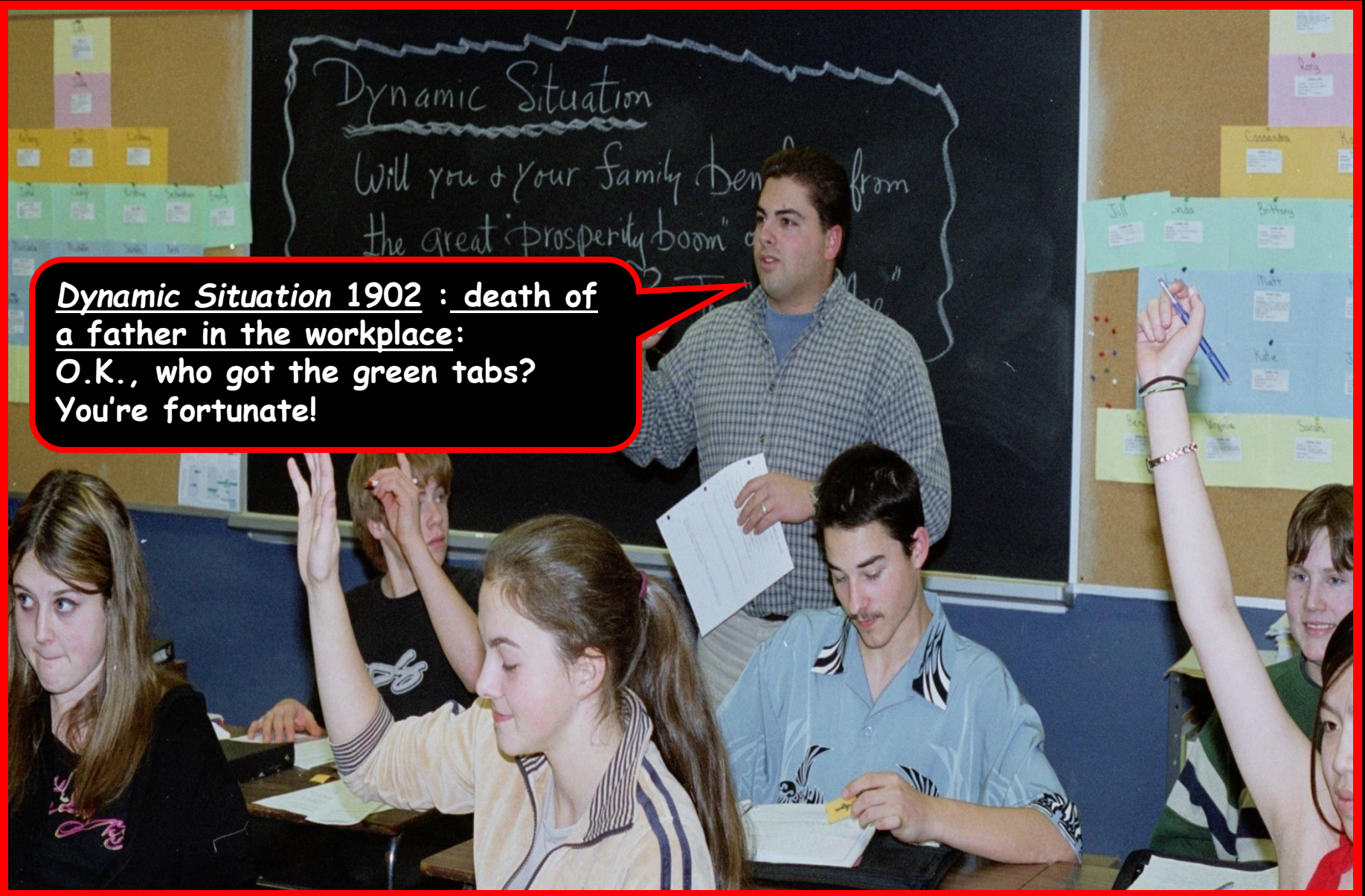
... my fate? ...

Wow! My family is English & we live in Brandon, MB
... my father is a lawyer & he is Minister of the
Interior in the federal government (1900)!

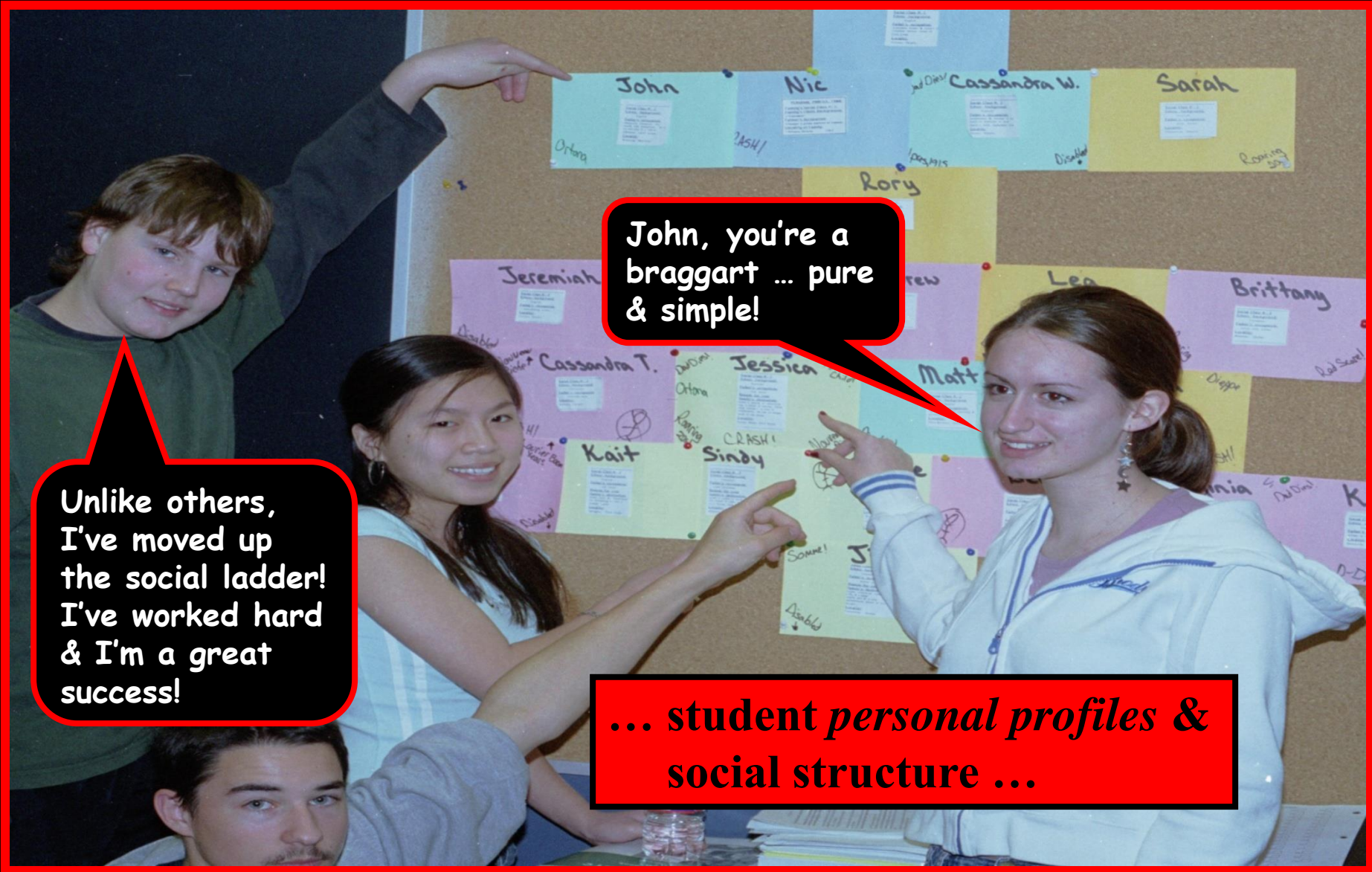


... through a dynamic, engaging, ...

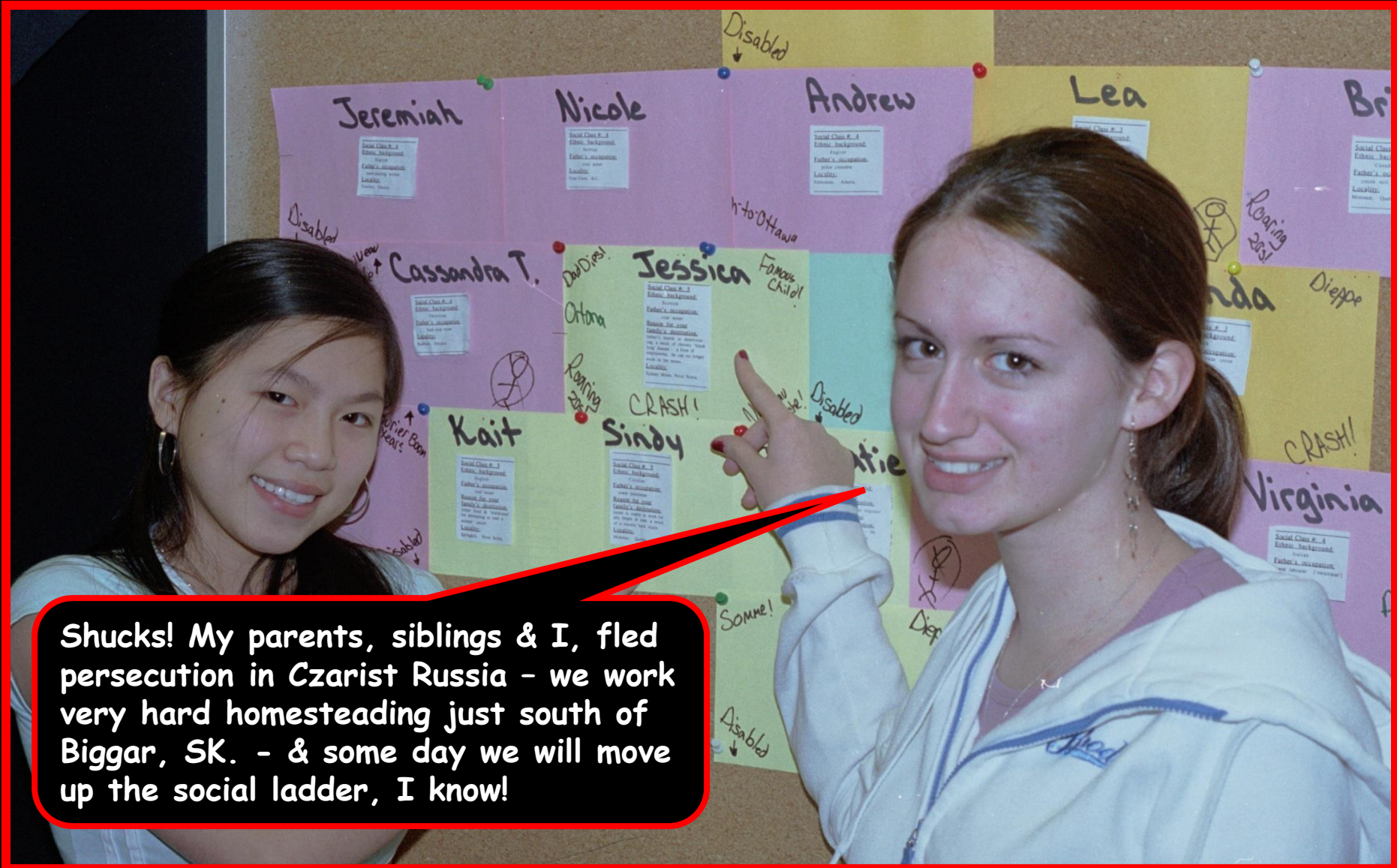
Dynamic Situation 1902 : death of a father in the workplace:
O.K., who got the green tabs?
You're fortunate!



... & a success-proven ...



... simulation of 20th century Canadian history ...




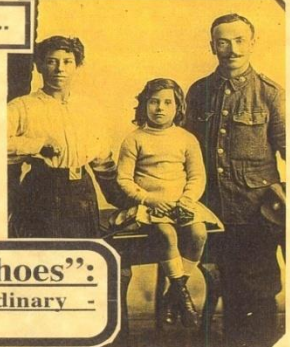
Shucks! My parents, siblings & I, fled persecution in Czarist Russia - we work very hard homesteading just south of Biggar, SK. - & some day we will move up the social ladder, I know!

... when students attempt to “walk in the shoes” ...

... a simulation of canadian history ...

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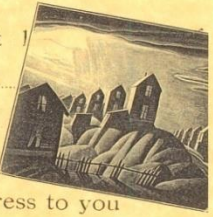
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on the 24th. of June 1916., and I am to express to you
the sympathy and regret of the Militia Council at your loss. The cause
of death was KILLED IN ACTION.

Any application you may wish to make regarding the late soldier's

... & research family histories ...

I am, Madam,
Your obedient Servant,

Peter Kear
8 Kelly Road
Huntsville, ON
P1H 1P9
705-789-9112
petekear@vianet.on.ca

~a beer insight~
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In loving Memory
of
HERBERT GOSS.
Killed in Action June 24th, 1916.
AGED 29 YEARS

S. L. D. A. A. G.
Colonel in charge of Records.
C.E.F.

... or, march in the boots! ...



... November 11, 2005, Ottawa ...

... of their great, & grandparents' generations ...



- great-grandparents' generation:
1900-45
- grandparents' generation:
1945-99.

... November 11, 1990, Ottawa ...

... & experience by walking, struggling ...

... for King, God & Empire!

... National War Memorial, Ottawa ...



... the tough, difficult times ...



... the Great War, 1914-1918 ... "the war to end all war" ...

... as well as, the good times of the 20th century.



Author's
future parents,
Toronto, during
"roaring '20s"

... two lovers, 1928 ...

“Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes”

The claim:

- This role-playing historical simulation shatters the perception that Canadian history is “boring,” “dullsville.” The Canadian story comes alive in the *minds & hearts* of teenagers in a way rarely seen, and students’ curriculum expectations **achievement-levels rise ...**

**... since 1996,
anonymous
end-of semester
student surveys
have shown ...**

... the approach's ability to hook, engage students at the *affective* level of learning:

“Well, you actually feel like you were living then & experience it, so that’s why I learned it better!”

(an applied grade 10 history student, Huntsville, ON, June 21, 2006)



FEEL the past =
greater student engagement

... the approach's ability to hook, engage students at the *affective* level of learning:

“It created *deeper thinking* into what Canadians *experienced* through history.”

(an academic grade 10 history student, Huntsville, ON, June 2012)



***FEEL the past* =
greater student engagement**

The Results of a Student Survey (January 2007): (Sample Size: 46 Academic grade 10 students, Huntsville H.S.)

very, very unhelpful:	0%	
very unhelpful:	0%	<u>negative impact: = 4%</u>
somewhat unhelpful:	4%	
no impact:	4%	<u>no impact = 4%</u>
somewhat helpful:	38%	
very helpful:	50%	<u>positive impact = 92%</u>
very, very helpful:	4%	
Do it again?	<u>“yes” = 98%</u>	<u>“no” = 2%</u>

The Results of a Student Survey (June 2012):

(Sample Size: 48 Academic grade 10 students, Huntsville H.S.)

very, very unhelpful:	6%	
very unhelpful:	0%	<u>negative impact: = 12%</u>
somewhat unhelpful:	6%	
no impact:	2%	<u>no impact = 2%</u>
somewhat helpful:	31%	
very helpful:	38%	<u>positive impact = 86%</u>
very, very helpful:	17%	
Do it again?	<u>“yes” = 90%</u>	<u>“no” = 10%</u>

“Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes”-

Key Concepts:

- *macro-events* (e.g. the “Laurier boom years,” 1900s, the Great War, 1914-18),
- *years/events/dynamic situations* (e.g. the anti-Asian Vancouver riot, 1907),
- *micro-personal profiles*, consisting of:
 - 1) ethnicity/ancestry (where we have come from),
 - 2) region/locality (where we live), &
 - 3) socio-economic status (how we live),
 - 4) gender (our sexual identity).

“Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes”-

Key Concepts:

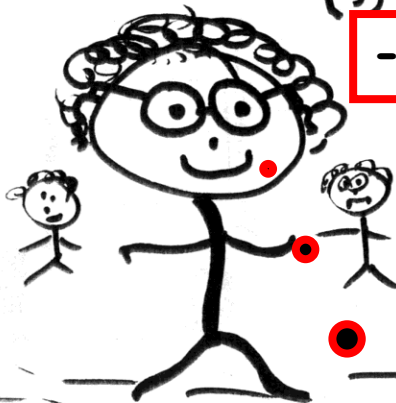
- *not-so-ordinary Canadians*
(individuals who would have a family story and who would likely be mentioned in the textbook),
- *ordinary Canadians*
(individuals who would have a family story but who would not likely be mentioned in the textbook),
- *plurality of perspective*
(reflecting the diversity of the *micro-personal profiles*),
- *social structure & social mobility*
(reflecting the outcomes of the *dynamic situations*).

Key Concepts – A Conceptual Framework:

"Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes": A Journey of Ordinary ~ & Some Not-So-Ordinary ~ Canadians, 1900-45 + 1945-99.

* micro-"personal profiles"

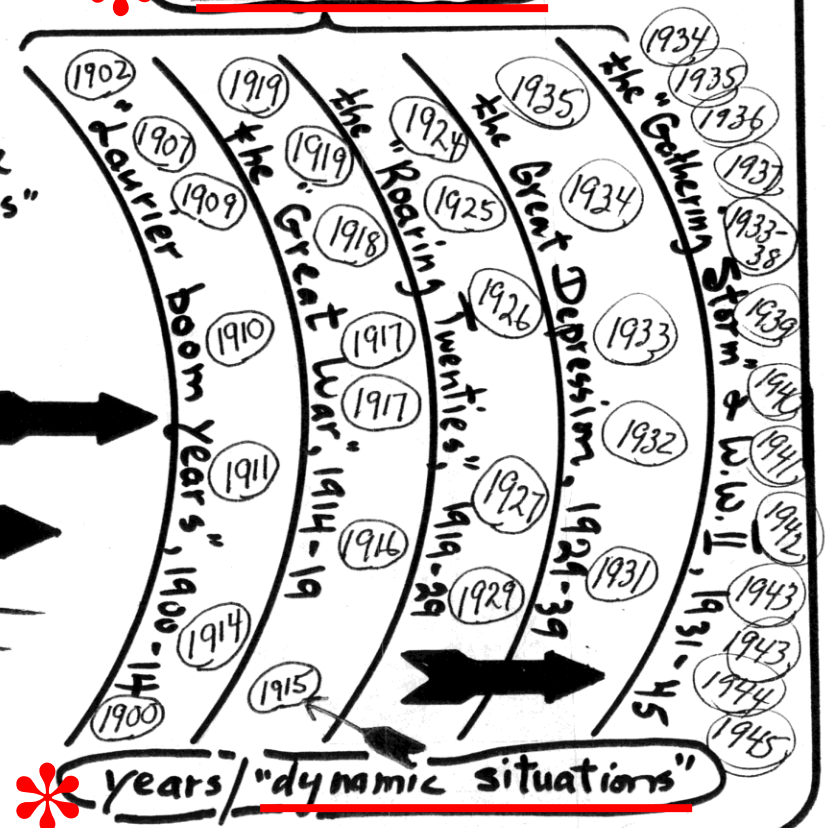
combining: { 1) ethnicity / ancestry
2) region / locality
3) social class / layer } "eye lens"
- plus gender.



I wonder what is in store for me & my family as we journey into this new century?

(© 2001, P. Kear)

* "macro-events"



“Ordinary Canadians”: the Gosses

- recent English immigrants, Kingston, ON, November 1914.



A “Not-So-Ordinary” Canadian:

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Henry Mill Pellatt, 1900s.



I couldn't be a
“robber baron” ... I
was knighted by
Edward VII in
1902!

... a “captain of industry” – or a “robber baron”?

LT.-COL HENRY M. PELLATT,
OF PELLATT & PELLATT, BROKERS; PRESIDENT OF
TORONTO ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.,
TORONTO.

... another “Not-So-Ordinary” Canadian:
Tommy Douglas ...



I couldn't be a "red subversive" ... I was ordained a Baptist minister in 1929!

... voted the “Greatest Canadian” in 2004!



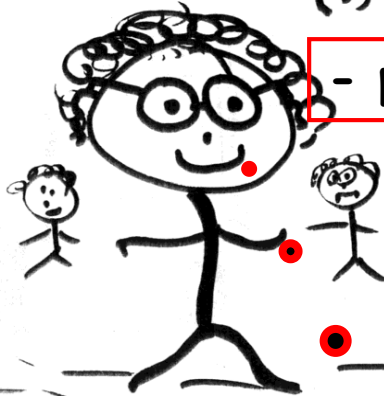
Key Concepts – Macro-Events:

"Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes": A Journey of
Ordinary ~ & Some Not-So-Ordinary ~ Canadians,
1900-45 + 1945-99.

micro-"personal profiles"

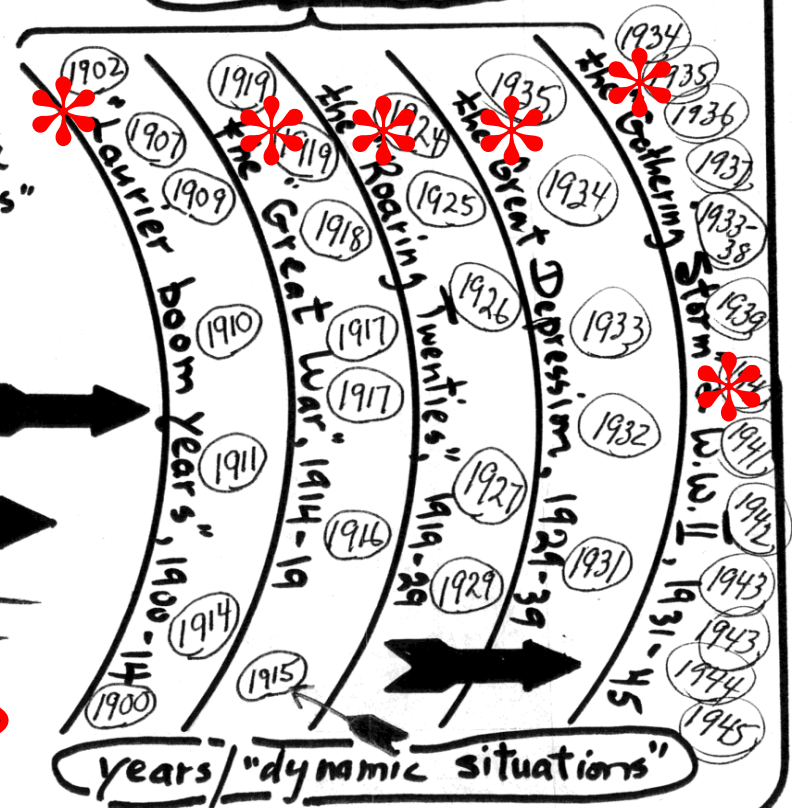
combining: { 1) ethnicity / ancestry
2) region / locality
3) social class / layer } "eye lens"

- plus gender



Those big "macro-events" - I get
lost in them!

"macro-events"



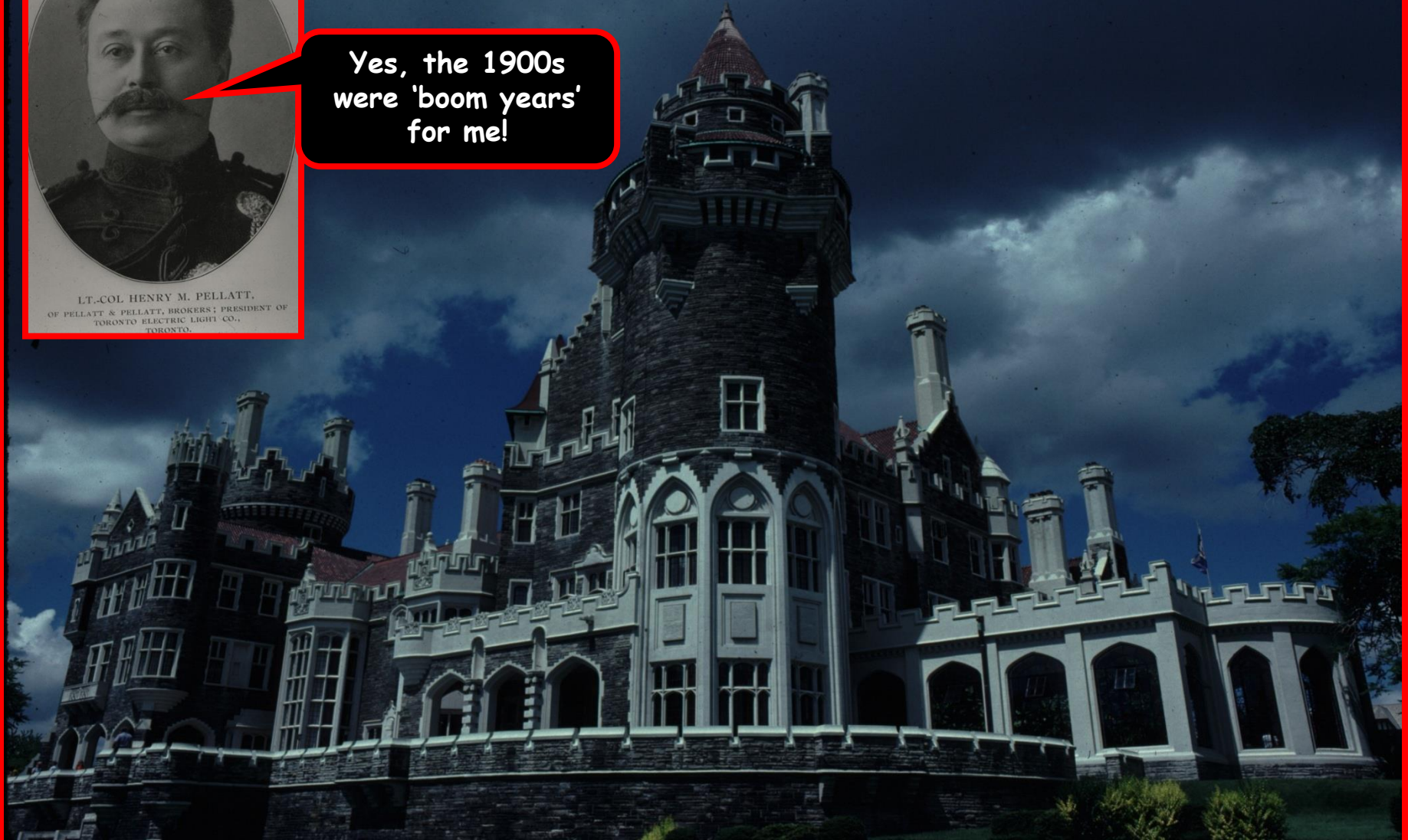
Macro-Event: “Laurier boom years,” 1900s

... & Sir Henry Pellatt's *Casa Loma*, Toronto.

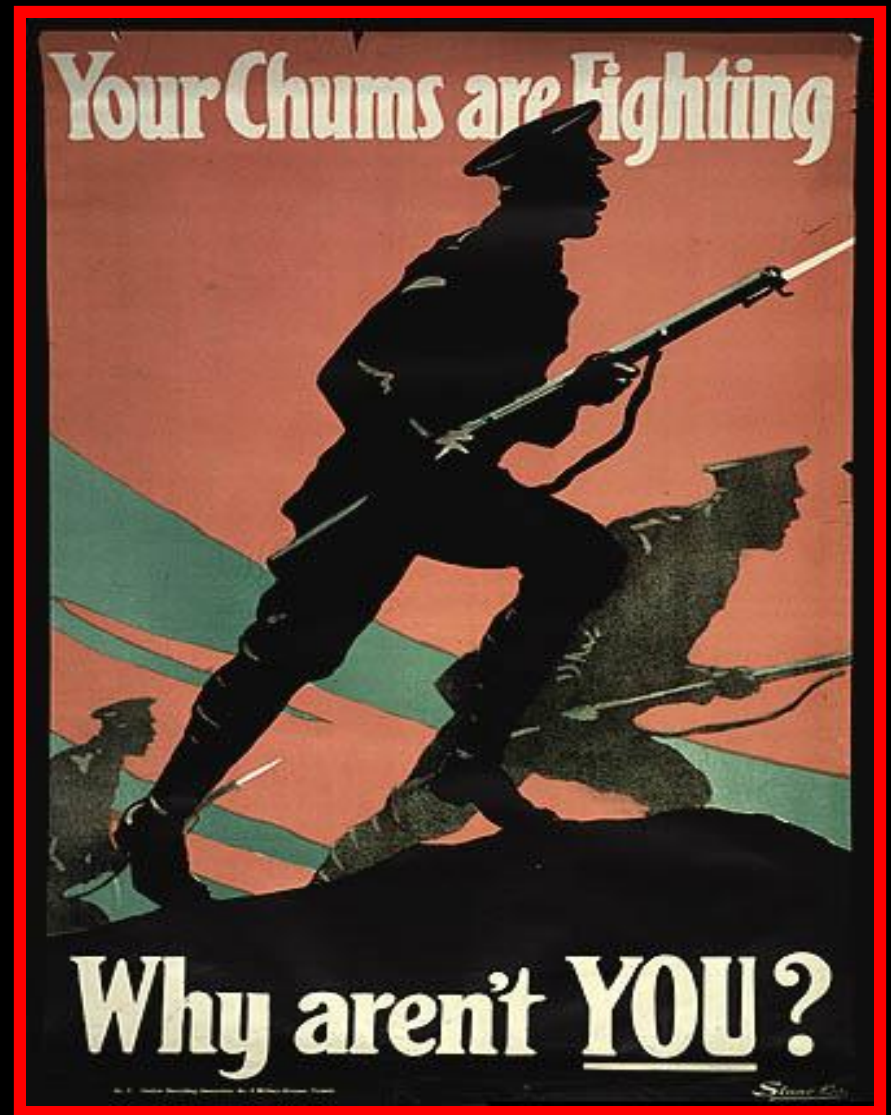


LT.-COL HENRY M. PELLATT,
OF PELLATT & PELLATT, BROKERS; PRESIDENT OF
TORONTO ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.,
TORONTO.

Yes, the 1900s
were 'boom years'
for me!



Macro-Event: the Great War, 1914-18.



Macro-Event: the Great War, 1914-18.

... & many forgotten personal stories of love and hardship.



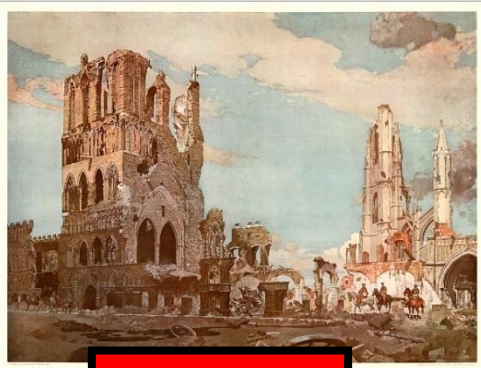
Macro-Event: the Great War, 1914-18, ... & the newspaper death notice for Herbert Goss – author of “a kiss from France” – “killed in action,” in the Ypres salient, Belgium, June 24, 1916.



BUGLER H. GOSS.

Bugler Herbert Goss, of the Canadians, was a twin son of Mr. and Mrs. George Goss, of 83, Mitcham-road, Croydon. He was killed in action on June 24th. Bugler Goss's twin brother is a prisoner in Germany.

... Bedford House Military Cemetery, on the outskirts of Ypres, Belgium, 92 years later...



Ypres, 1916



Ypres, 2008





59381
Private H.H. Goss
21st BN. Canadian Inf.
24th June 1916

Macro-Event: the “roaring twenties.” ... & romance in Canada!



... those two lovers again in “Toronto the Good” ...

Macro-Event: the Great Depression.

- & notwithstanding the “Crash of ‘29”, love & marriage couldn’t wait!



... East York, July 26, 1930

Macro-Event: the Second World War.

- the Hollyers & Kears, Weston, ON, 1943, & another generation goes off to war!



Author's grandmother,
now with her 2nd family:
two sons in the RCAF!

... now, three generations ...

... in the midst of war, 1943, saying good-bye ...



... the son who survived the Second Great War ... switch to the army & was decorated with the Military Cross in 1953 during the Korean War ... learned Russian & joined the Intelligence Corps during the Cold War ...

... another war, & another family member taken ...
lost on a night bombing raid over the industrial
heartland of Germany ...“come walk awhile in our shoes”!

... & the younger son who did not survive... Sgt. Percy Hollyer, 20,
rear gunner, *Halifax* bomber, RAF,
“Killed in Action,”
June 12, 1943 ...

©“Come Walk Awhile In Our Shoes”:
A Journey Of Ordinary - & Some Not-So-Ordinary -
Canadians, 1900-1945.

↓
Epitaph.



To Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Hollyer
This commemorates the gratitude of
the Government and people of Canada for the life of
a brave man freely given in the service of his Country.
Sergeant the Gunner Percy Hollyer, R.C.A.F.
His name will ever be held in proud remembrance.

Charles Power
June 12, 1943
Minister of National Defence for the

Sgt. Percy HOLLYER, age 20, rear gunner
Halifax II bomber HR 684, #78 RAF Squadron,
Bomber Command. Killed in action over Voerde,
north of Dusseldorf, Germany, June 12, 1943.



Key Concepts – Dynamic Situations & a Plurality of Perspective:

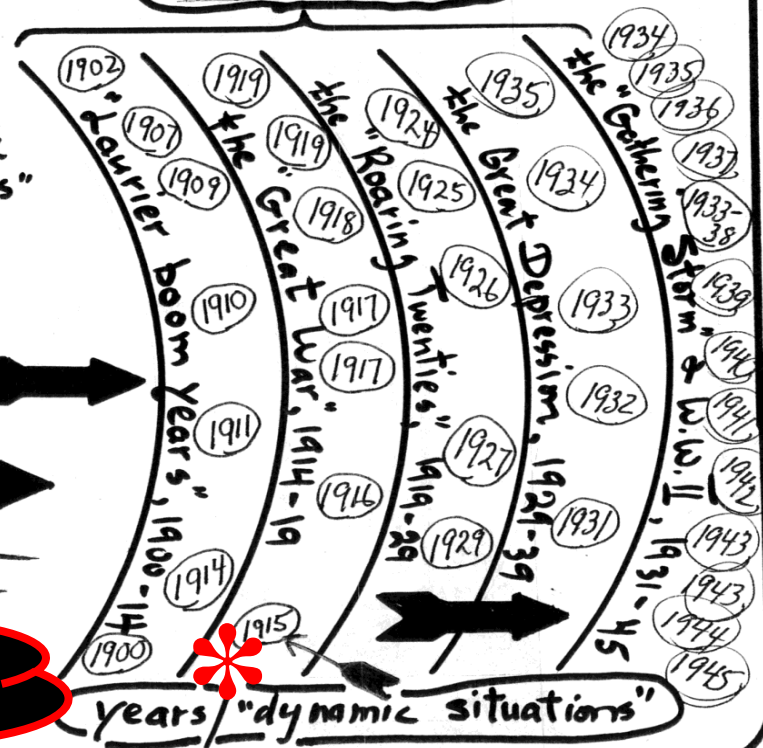
"Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes": A Journey of
Ordinary ~ & Some Not-So-Ordinary ~ Canadians,
1900-45 + 1945-99.

micro-"personal profiles"

combining: { 1) ethnicity / ancestry
2) region / locality
3) social class / layer } "eye lens"

plus gender

"macro-events"

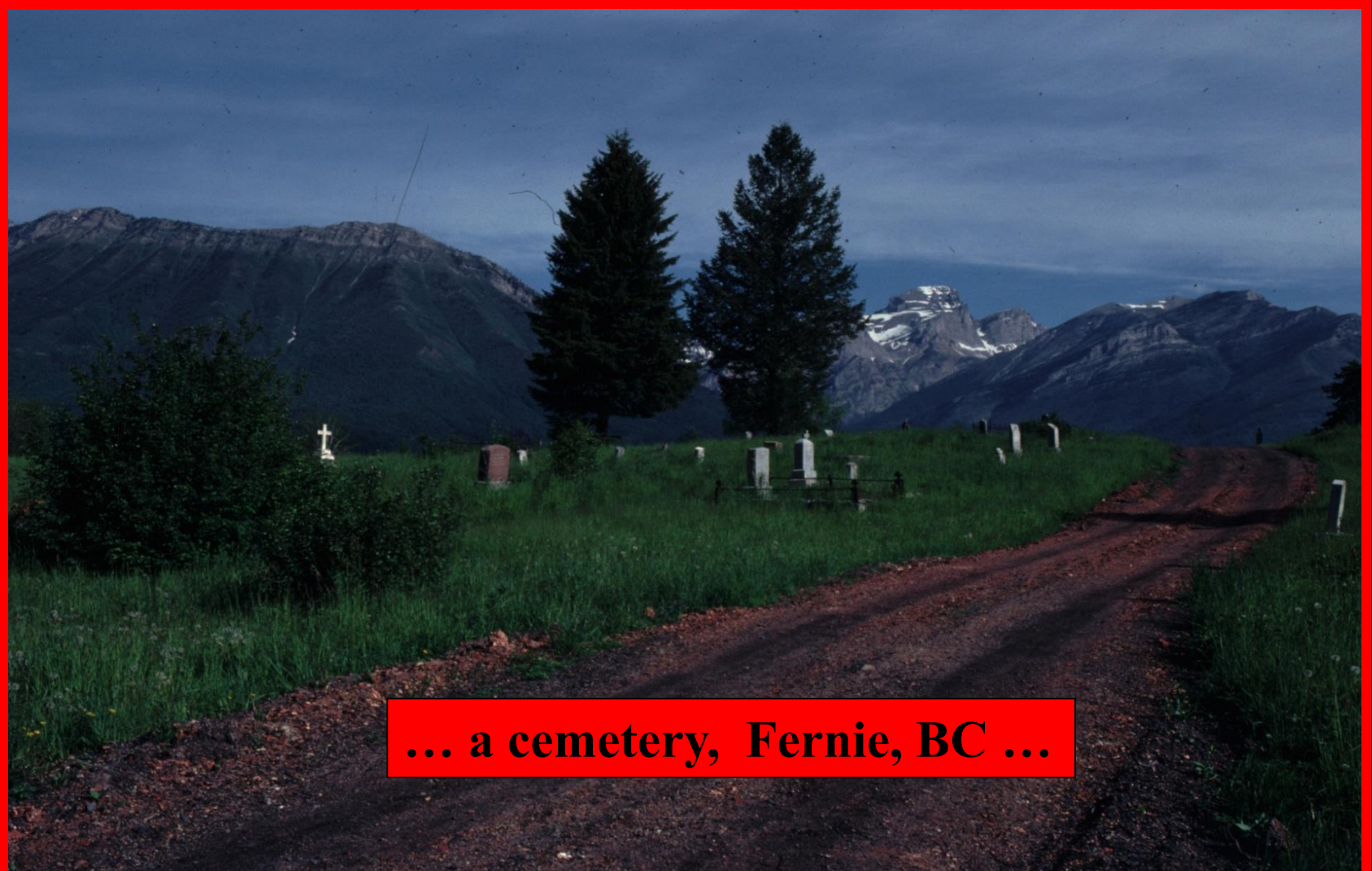


Within these big "macro-events,"
our experiences are so different!
I wonder why?

Dynamic Situation, 1902: death of a father in the workplace during the “Laurier boom years” – coal mining disasters in the Crow’s Nest Pass, BC.



**... the entrance to a cemetery, near Fernie,
the Crow's Nest Pass, BC ...**

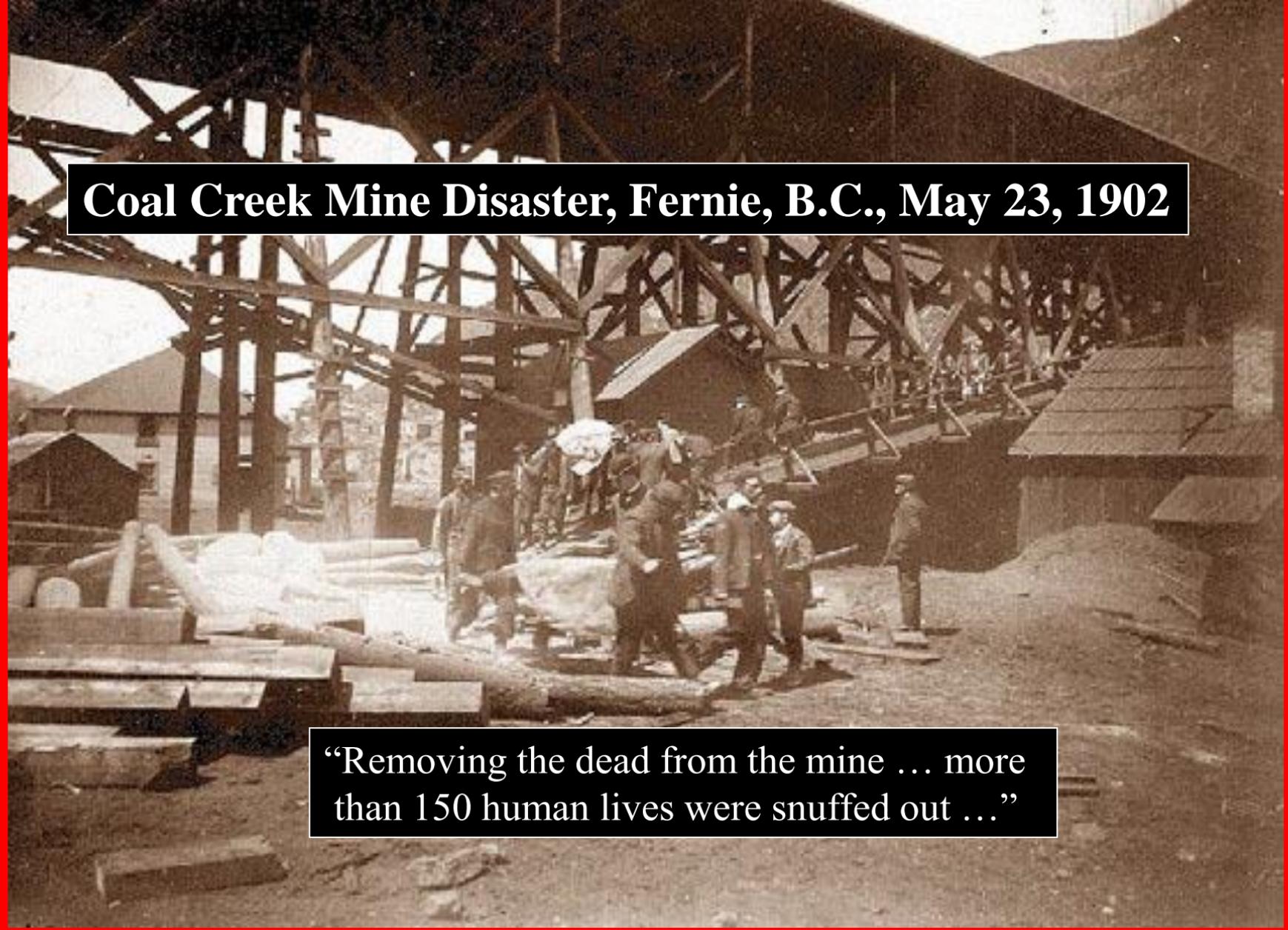


... a cemetery, Fernie, BC ...

**... one victim of two coal mining explosions
that claimed the lives of 232 miners in 1902 ...**



... James Mitchell, Aged 55 Years ...



Coal Creek Mine Disaster, Fernie, B.C., May 23, 1902

“Removing the dead from the mine ... more than 150 human lives were snuffed out ...”

Dynamic Situations = A Plurality of Perspective:

- all did not prosper during the “Laurier boom years”!



... the loss of “our dear sons,” ages 17 & 19, coal mining & war!

... the dynamic situations provide opportunities to explore themes/public issues:

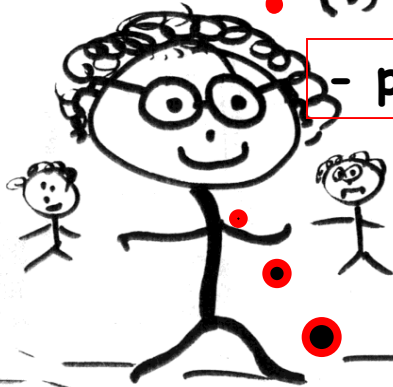
- **communicable diseases** (e.g. typhoid, smallpox, tuberculosis, STDs, influenza),
- **French-English relations,**
- **evolving status of women in Canadian society,**
- **evolution of Canada's social safety net,**
- **medical discoveries** (e.g. diabetes & the discovery of insulin),
- **Canadian-American relations,**
- **international collective security,**
- **war, peace & the crisis of conscience,**
- **personal legacies of war** (e.g. physical disabilities, psychological/emotional disorders like PTSD or post-traumatic stress disorder),
- **racial & other forms of prejudice, discrimination,**

Key Concepts – Micro-Personal Profiles:

"Come Walk Awhile in Our Shoes": A Journey of Ordinary – & Some Not-So-Ordinary – Canadians, 1900-45 + 1945-99.

* micro-"personal profiles"
combining: { 1) ethnicity / ancestry
2) region / locality
3) social class / layer } "eye lens"

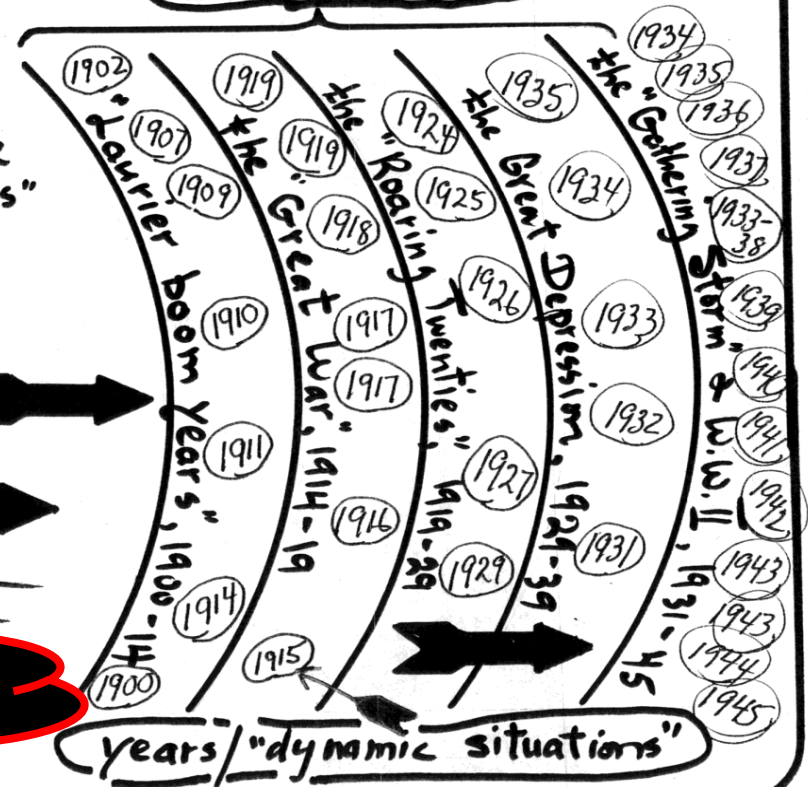
- plus gender



Within these big "macro-events,"
our experiences are so different!
I wonder why?

(© 2001, F. Hear)

"macro-events"



Personal Profiles – Components of Identity: ethnicity/ancestry: where we have come from ...



Personal Profiles – Components of Identity: ethnicity/ancestry: where we have come from ...



Pakistan

Scotland

India

... ethnic/ancestral diversity ...
(Riverdale, Toronto, 1981)



**... the culmination of a student field trip –
a visit to & a meal at a Sikh temple ...**

... ethnic/ancestral diversity ...
(Riverdale, Toronto, 1981)

... the culmination of a student field trip – a visit to & a meal at a Sikh temple ...



**... a Hindu, a Scot Presbyterian & a Sikh at a Sikh temple - &
a common front against the KKK, in Riverdale, Toronto, 1981 ...**



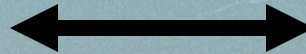
... & the transforming potential of empathy ...

Personal Profiles – Components of Identity: geography/region/locality: where we live ...

... the Canadian prairie, north of Biggar, SK ...

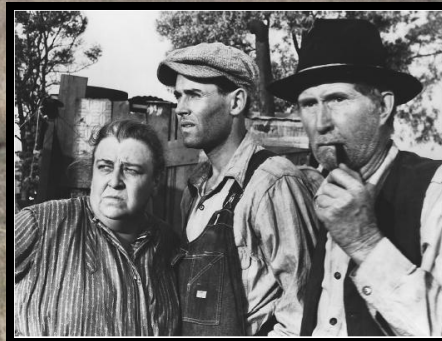
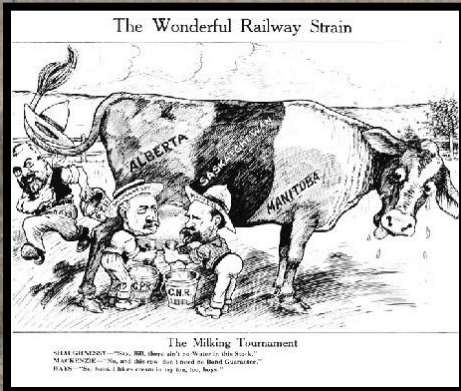
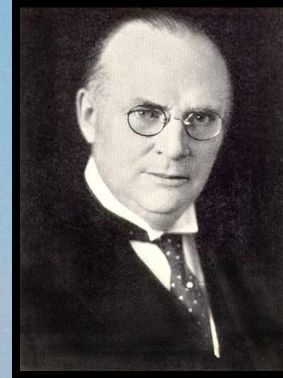


... geography, history & a clash of cultures ...



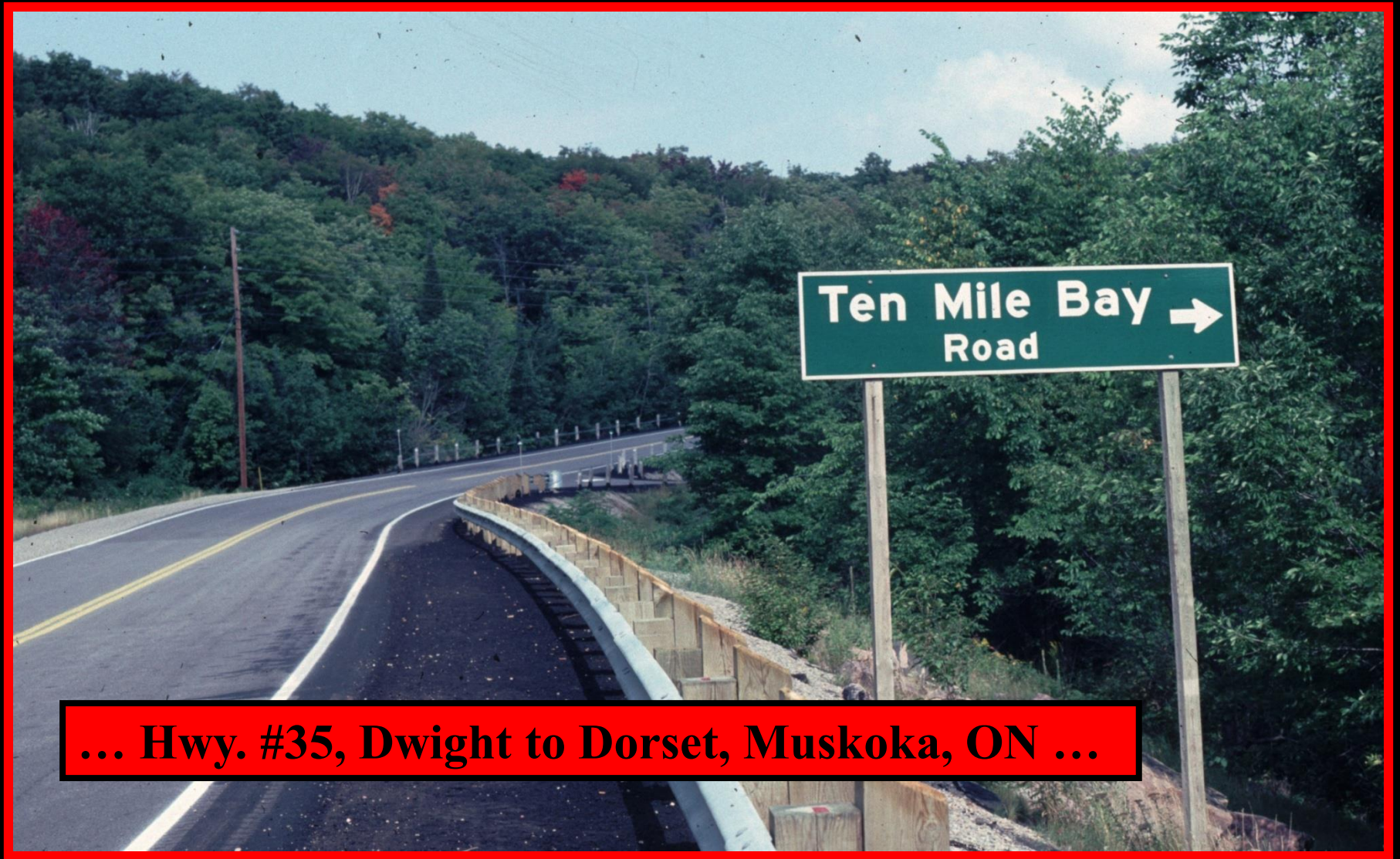
... Battle of Cut Knife, May 2, 1885,
Lt.Col. Otter & his 'Sharpshooters' vs.
Chief Poundmaker & his Cree warriors

... geography, history & a clash of cultures ...



... farmers, railway companies/"eastern interests,"
freight-rates, & political protest/action!

Personal Profiles – Components of Identity: social classes/strata/layers: how we live ...



... Hwy. #35, Dwight to Dorset, Muskoka, ON ...



... a typical Canadian Shield highway rockcut!

... note the evidence of geological strata/layers ...

A man with a beard and a teal polo shirt is standing in front of a large rock face. He is pointing with both hands towards a set of horizontal rock layers. The rock face is composed of various shades of brown and grey, with distinct horizontal strata. The man is wearing white pants and a black watch on his left wrist. The entire image is framed by a thick red border.

... evidence of geological strata/layers ...

How we live: one example of housing in Toronto, 1900s ...



... evidence of social stratum/layer/class?

How we live: another example of housing in Toronto, 1900s ...

... further evidence of social stratum/layer/class?



... one backyard in Toronto, 1900s ...



... evidence of social stratum/layer/class?

... & another backyard in Toronto, 1900s ...

... evidence of social
stratum/layer/class?



Micro-Personal Profiles & Canadian Social Layers/Structure, 1900s

1

Social Class #: 1
Ethnic background:
"Canadian"
Father's occupation:
lawyer & p.m. of Canada
Locality:
Ottawa, Ontario.

Social Class #: 1
Ethnic background:
English
Father's occupation:
investment broker & colonel
in Canadian militia; owner of
Casa Loma
Locality:
Toronto, Ontario.

2

Social Class #: 2
Ethnic background:
English
Father's occupation:
real estate broker & successful
land developer
Locality:
Edmonton, Alberta.

Social Class #: 2
Ethnic background:
"Canadian"
Father's occupation:
regional wholesale merchant
& provincial m.p.p.
Locality:
Trois-Rivieres, Quebec.

Social Class #: 2
Ethnic background:
Scottish
Father's occupation:
owner of a small woollen mill
Locality:
Saint John, New Brunswick.

3

Social Class #: 3
Ethnic background:
Metis
Father's occupation:
blacksmith, owner of a livery
stable & a farm supply depot
Locality:
Batoche, Saskatchewan.

Social Class #: 3
Ethnic background:
Polish
Father's occupation:
upholsterer, trade union
organizer
Locality:
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Social Class #: 3
Ethnic background:
Scottish
Father's occupation:
dairy farmer
Locality:
Chesterville, Ontario.

Social Class #: 3
Ethnic background:
"Canadian"
Father's occupation:
cabinetmaker
Locality:
Sherbrooke, Quebec.

4

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
Chinese
Father's occupation:
market garden worker
Locality:
Port Coquitlam, B.C.

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
Ukrainian
Father's occupation:
homesteader
Locality:
New Kieu, Alberta.

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
English
Father's occupation:
worker in a sawmill
Locality:
Huntsville, Ontario.

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
Acadian
Father's occupation:
railway maintenance crew
Locality:
Moncton, New Brunswick.

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
Irish
Father's occupation:
coal handler
Locality:
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
Japanese
Father's occupation:
fish cannery worker
Locality:
Steveson, B.C.

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
Russian
Father's occupation:
railway ballast labourer
Locality:
Brandon, Manitoba.

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
Scottish
Father's occupation:
woollen mill worker
Locality:
Lanark, Ontario.

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
"Canadian"
Father's occupation:
cotton mill worker
Locality:
Montreal, Quebec.

Social Class #: 4
Ethnic background:
Scottish
Father's occupation:
coal miner
Locality:
New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.

5

Social Class #: 5
Ethnic background:
Ukrainian
Father's occupation:
homesteader
Reason for your family's destitution:
father was disabled in a
farm accident & forced to
give up the grant of land.
Locality:
Biggar, Saskatchewan.

Social Class #: 5
Ethnic background:
Irish
Father's occupation:
logger & bush worker
Reason for your family's destitution:
father died in a logging
accident.
Locality:
Dorset, Ontario.

Social Class #: 5
Ethnic background:
English
Father's occupation:
abattoir worker
Reason for your family's destitution:
father deeply depressed
after his return from the
South African War in 1901; he
is no longer able to perform
his job.
Locality:
Peterborough, Ontario.

Social Class #: 5
Ethnic background:
"Canadian"
Father's occupation:
textile worker
Reason for your family's destitution:
father contracted
tuberculosis (TB) at a damp
textile mill & is now
quarantined; future is not
bright.
Locality:
Valleyfield, Quebec.

Social Class #: 5
Ethnic background:
Irish
Father's occupation:
railway maintenance worker
Reason for your family's destitution:
father was killed in a
train derailment.
Locality:
Moncton, New Brunswick.

Student Journeys & a *Plurality of Perspective*:

“Even though we have different outlooks as a result of *this journey* with very different *personal profiles* through the *macro-events* & the *dynamic situations* of the 20th century, we are still good friends – I hope!”



“... still good friends – I hope!”

The Approach's Effectiveness – No Longer “Dullsville” ...

“I found this approach to be an exciting way to learn history. You’re in competition with everyone in the class to get and stay on top of the economic ladder ... it’s a very fun and effective approach.

Students even talk about their situations when they’re not even in class!”

(an academic grade 10 history student, Petawawa, ON, June 17, 2004)



The Approach's Effectiveness: Affective Domain

“Well, you actually feel like you were living then and experiencing it, so that’s why I learned it better!” (an applied grade 10 history student, Huntsville, ON, June 21, 2006)



... a “draw day” – “is it good news?”

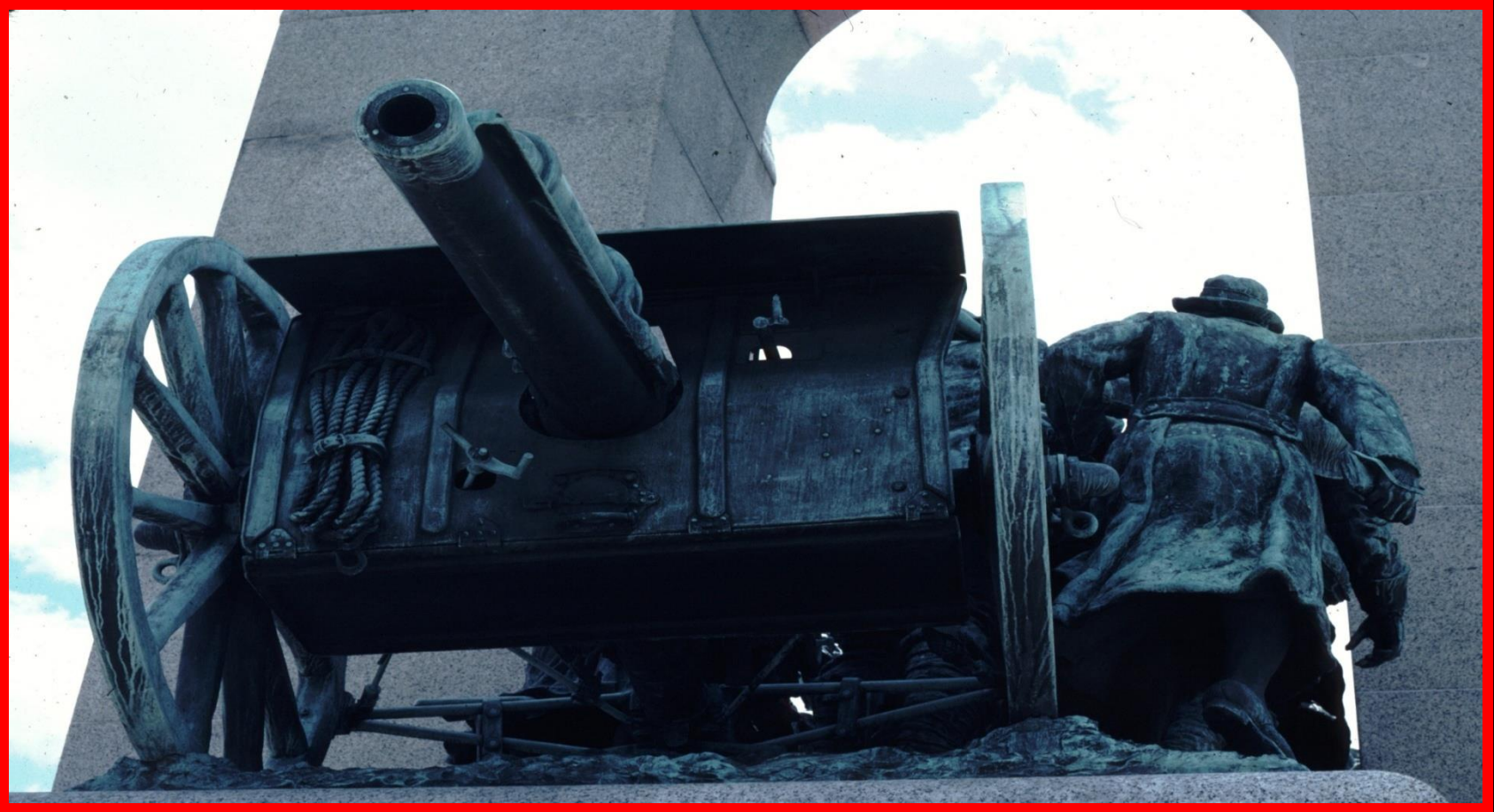
“This is the first fresh approach to high school Canadian history I’ve seen in years, and a brilliant teaching method that captures and holds student interest.”

(Canadian political & military historian & author, Jack Granatstein, O.C.)



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(Roy MacGregor, O.C., author, *Globe & Mail* columnist)



... the end ...



Peter Kear,

8 Kelly Rd.

Huntsville, ON

P1H 1P9

(705)789-9112

- petekear@vianet.on.ca
- pkear@tyndale.ca

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