

# Chapter 4 – Culture & Currents of Thought



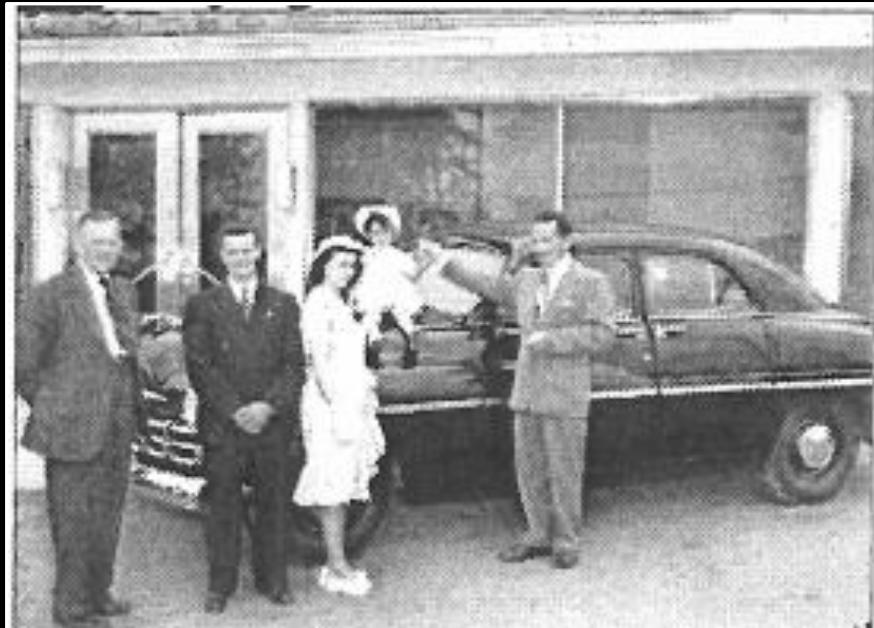
RADISSON MEETS THE INDIANS IN A WINTER CAMP



# Chapter 4 – Culture & Currents of Thought

## Section 4: The Contemporary Period (1867-NOW)

### Part 2: Quebec Nationalism & Agriculturalism



BAnQ/P48, S1, P16811.



Wikimedia Commons/George Bush Presidential Library and Museum.

*Belle Rose du Printemps* 345

Du répertoire de MILEFRID DUCHESNAY, folkloriste

Animer, galement Tous droits réservés - copieraut. (FOLKLORE) PAROLES DE DON-EN-SOL

1. Là-haut, là-bas sur la monta - gne, là-haut, là-bas  
2. Mais la ber - gie - ce qui est le cas  
3. Mais la ber - gie - ce qui est le cas

3.28 The beginning portion of a traditional song as it appeared in *La bonne chanson* in 1938.



Gar Lunney/National Film Board. Photothèque/Library and Archives Canada/PA-133218.

# Background

- By the late 1950s
- FC in Quebec realize they hold the power – majority of population within the province
- Tired of English being the dominant force: English signs everywhere, English schools more popular for immigrants, American companies running the economy, etc...

# Quebec Nationalism

- Rise of Quebec nationalism: late 1950s-1960s
- Quebec Nationalism **still exists today**
- FC taking control of Quebec
- Making sure that the federal government does not get involved in provincial affairs
- Quebec is and should be considered a distinct society
  - Language & culture, politics and economy
- **Protect the French language and culture**
- Quebec to be an independent nation → **separate from Canada**
- Use political measures to do so
  - Some groups have tried to use violence (FLQ)

# Quebec Nationalism

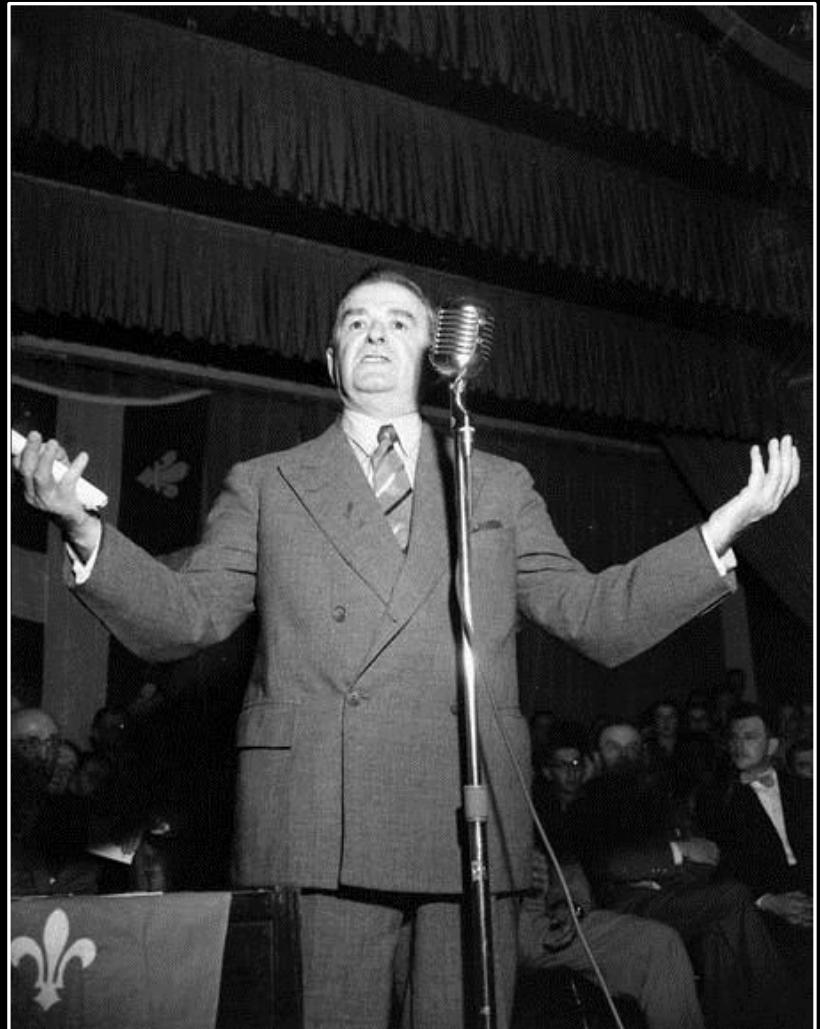
- Old traditional values didn't work anymore
- Some French Canadiens wanted to be called "Quebecois"
- Quebecers wanted to modernize
- By early 1960s- Jean Lesage & Quebec Liberal Government
- Quiet Revolution: Government will make Quebec great & modernized
- State intervention → language laws, Ministry of immigration, Ministry of Education, nationalize hydro electricity (crown corporations)

# Quebec Nationalism

- People who represented Quebec Nationalism:
  - Maurice Duplessis
  - René Lévesque
  - Jacques Parizeau
  - Pauline Marois
  - The Front de Libération du Québec (FLQ)
  - Any newspaper that supported Quebec independence (*Le Jour*)

# Quebec Nationalism

- Maurice Duplessis
- Union Nationale political party of Quebec
- Premier of Quebec 2 times
- 1936-1939
- 1944-1959
- Was premier when Quebec adopted the Fleurdelisé flag on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 1948



# Quebec Nationalism

- Duplessis fought federal government involvement with the provinces' responsibilities → healthcare/education
- In the early 1940s → Duplessis spoke out against the federal government's proposed plebiscite for conscription during WWII
- After WWII → the federal government wanted the provinces to stop collecting income taxes so that the federal government could collect more
  - Duplessis opposed this idea



# Quebec Nationalism

- Rene Lévesque
- Journalist for Radio Canada
- Well spoken/well informed
- Worked for the Liberal Party of Quebec in the early-mid 1960s
- Founder and leader of the Parti Québécois → Quebec political party
- 1968-1985
- Premier of Quebec from 1976-1985
- Was leader of PQ when they held the first REFERENDUM in 1980



# Quebec Nationalism

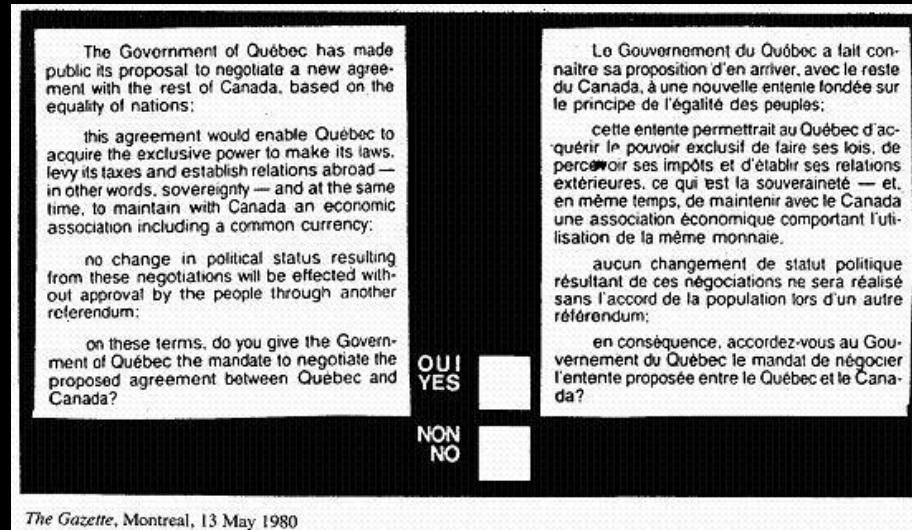
- How was Quebec Nationalism expressed?
  - Written works
  - Songs/poem
  - Manifestos
  - News publications
  - Events/rallies
  - Laws to protect the French language → Bill 101 → Charter of the French Language
  - Referendums in 1980 & 1995 → vote for Quebec separation

# Quebec Nationalism

- 1976 → Bill 1 → turned into Bill 101 *Charte de la langue française* in 1977
- French is declared the official language of the courts, normal language of the workplace, communications, commerce & business
- French education became compulsory for immigrant children and some Canadian children coming from other provinces

# Quebec Nationalism

- 1970s-1990s
- PQ voiced its intent to push towards Quebec sovereignty
- René Lévesque & the PQ called the 1<sup>st</sup> **Referendum** for sovereignty-association in **1980**
- **NON-VIOLENT** political measure
- Ask Quebec population to vote
- NO → 59.56%
- YES → 40.46%



*The Gazette*, Montreal, 13 May 1980

1980 Quebec Referendum ballot

# 1980 Referendum

The Government of Québec has made public its proposal to negotiate a new agreement with the rest of Canada, based on the equality of nations:

this agreement would enable Québec to acquire the exclusive power to make its laws, levy its taxes and establish relations abroad — in other words, sovereignty — and at the same time, to maintain with Canada an economic association including a common currency:

no change in political status resulting from these negotiations will be effected without approval by the people through another referendum;

on these terms, do you give the Government of Québec the mandate to negotiate the proposed agreement between Québec and Canada?

OUI  
YES

NON  
NO

Le Gouvernement du Québec a fait connaître sa proposition d'en arriver, avec le reste du Canada, à une nouvelle entente fondée sur le principe de l'égalité des peuples;

cette entente permettrait au Québec d'acquérir le pouvoir exclusif de faire ses lois, de percevoir ses impôts et d'établir ses relations extérieures, ce qui est la souveraineté — et, en même temps, de maintenir avec le Canada une association économique comportant l'utilisation de la même monnaie.

aucun changement de statut politique résultant de ces négociations ne sera réalisé sans l'accord de la population lors d'un autre référendum;

en conséquence, accordez-vous au Gouvernement du Québec le mandat de négocier l'entente proposée entre le Québec et le Canada?

*The Gazette*, Montreal, 13 May 1980





# Quebec Nationalism

- In 1995 → PQ called the **2<sup>nd</sup> Referendum** for sovereignty-association
- NON-VIOLENT political measure
- Ask Quebec population to vote
- NO → 50.6%
- YES → 49.4%



This shows the question on the ballot in Quebec's 1995 sovereignty referendum. Subsequently, in 2000, Canada's Parliament passed the Clarity Act, which authorizes the House of Commons to determine the clarity of a referendum question on the secession of a province.

1995 Quebec Referendum ballot

# Quebec Nationalism



Top left: 'Yes' supporters during 1995 Quebec Referendum

Bottom Right: 'No' supporters at the ['Unity' rally in Downtown Montreal](#)  
100,000 people came to the rally –  
October 27<sup>th</sup>, 1995

# Quebec Nationalism

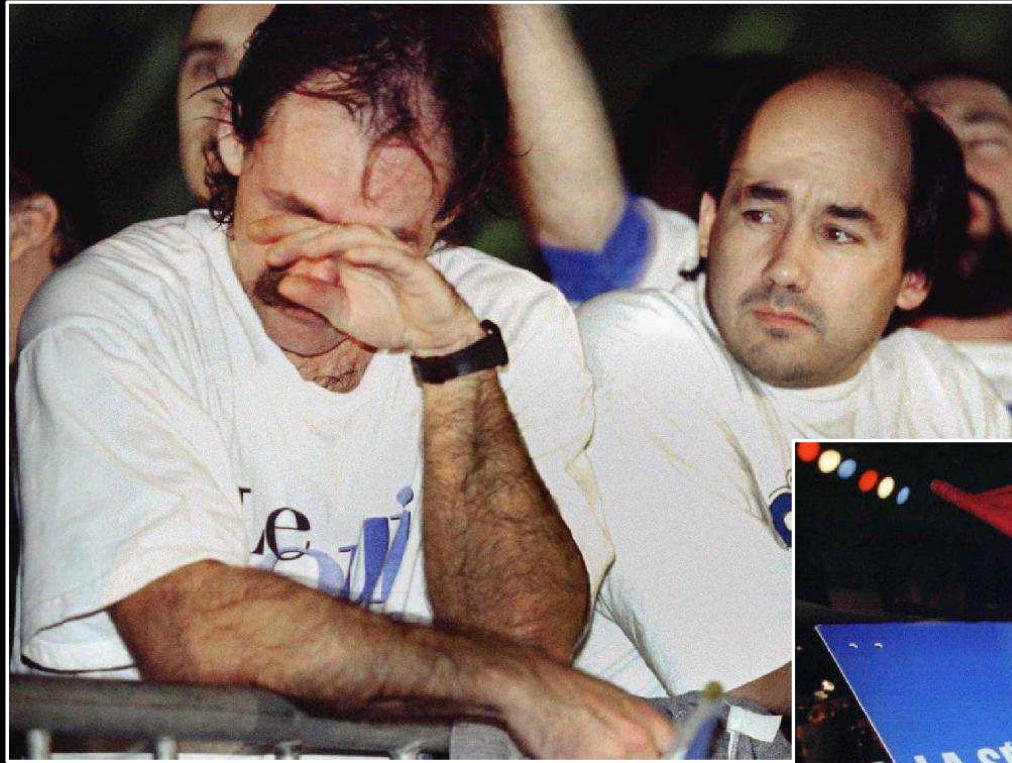


Top left: Jacques Parizeau speech after the 1995 Quebec Referendum

Bottom Right: Jean Chretien at the 'Unity' rally in Downtown Montreal-



# Quebec Nationalism



Top left: disappointed 'Yes' supporters after the 1995 Quebec Referendum

Bottom Right: 'No' supporters celebrating after the 1995 Quebec Referendum



# Agriculturalism

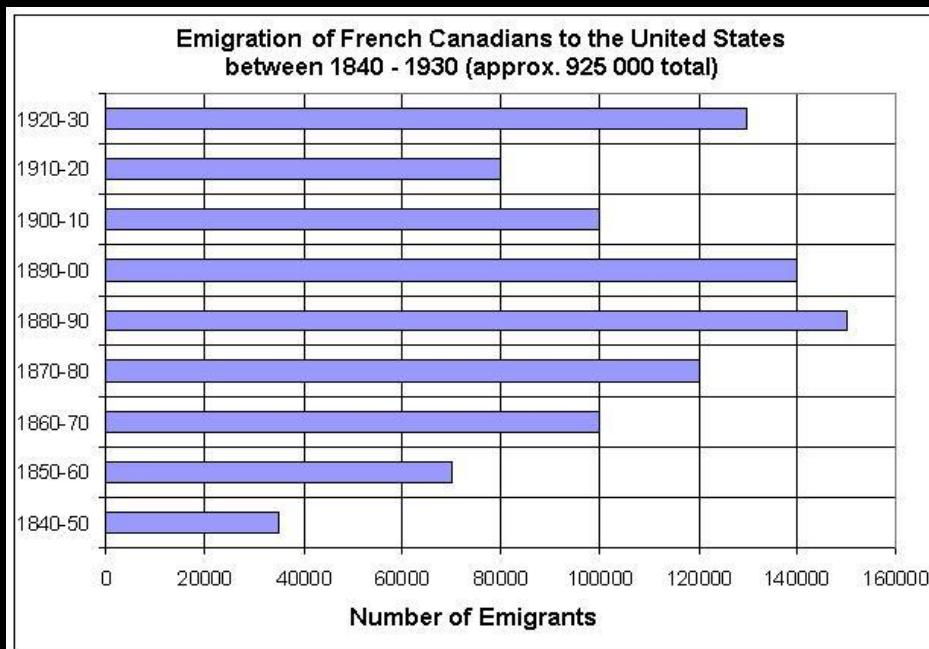
- Late 1800s-late 1930s
- Catholic Church, Quebec government, French Canadian nationalists → Idea that promoted farming
- Life in rural areas = Simple life
- FC traditions such as agriculture, Catholicism, French Language
- Cities are ‘bad’, ‘immoral’, scary, ‘unsafe’...

# Agriculturalism

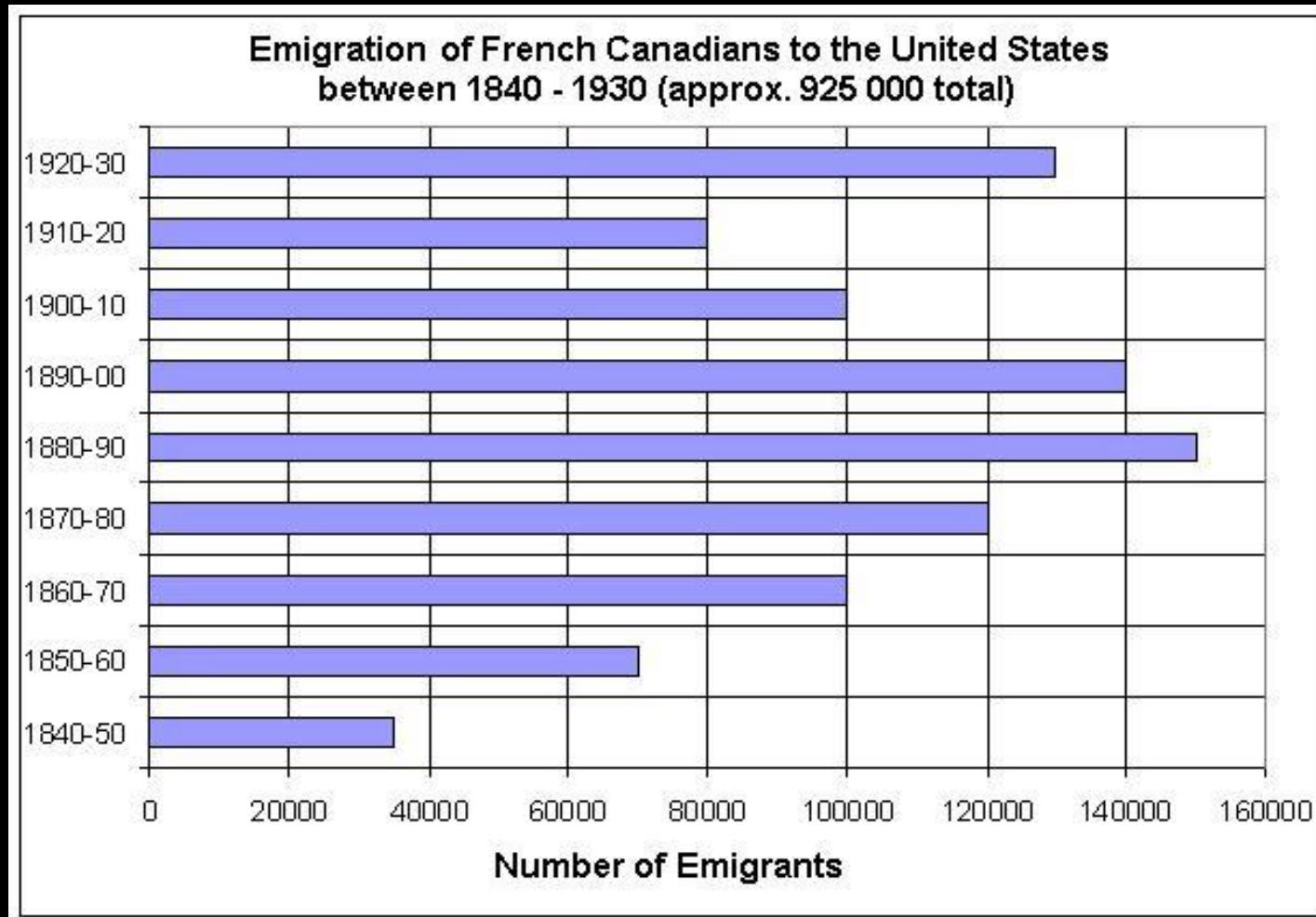
- Industrialization & urbanization:
- More factories producing things quickly = mass production = industrialization
- Cities grew bigger as more jobs became available in factories
- Cities could not keep up with population growth = urbanization

# Agriculturalism

- 1840s-1930s
- Many French *Canadiens* left Quebec for the United States (New England)
- Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island



# Agriculturalism



# Agriculturalism

- Reasons for leaving Quebec:
  - Less available land on farms in rural Quebec
  - Mechanization of farms = less people needed to work on farms
  - Large families = a lot of sons/daughters had to make a decision to leave their family farms

# Agriculturalism

- Reasons for choosing the US:
  - Work!
  - Many **jobs** available in factories in New England (USA)
  - Factory workers did not need a lot of education/training
  - Some French *Canadiens* branched off and started farms in the USA
- Some French *Canadiens* chose to settle in other parts of Canada (Ontario, Western Canada) & Quebec (Mauricie region, Laurentians, Saguenay region)



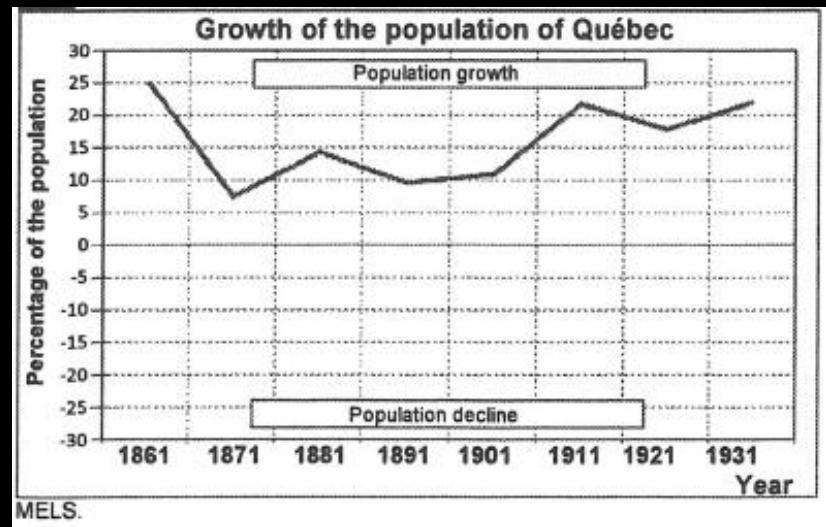
French Canadian Potato farmers in New England- early 1900s



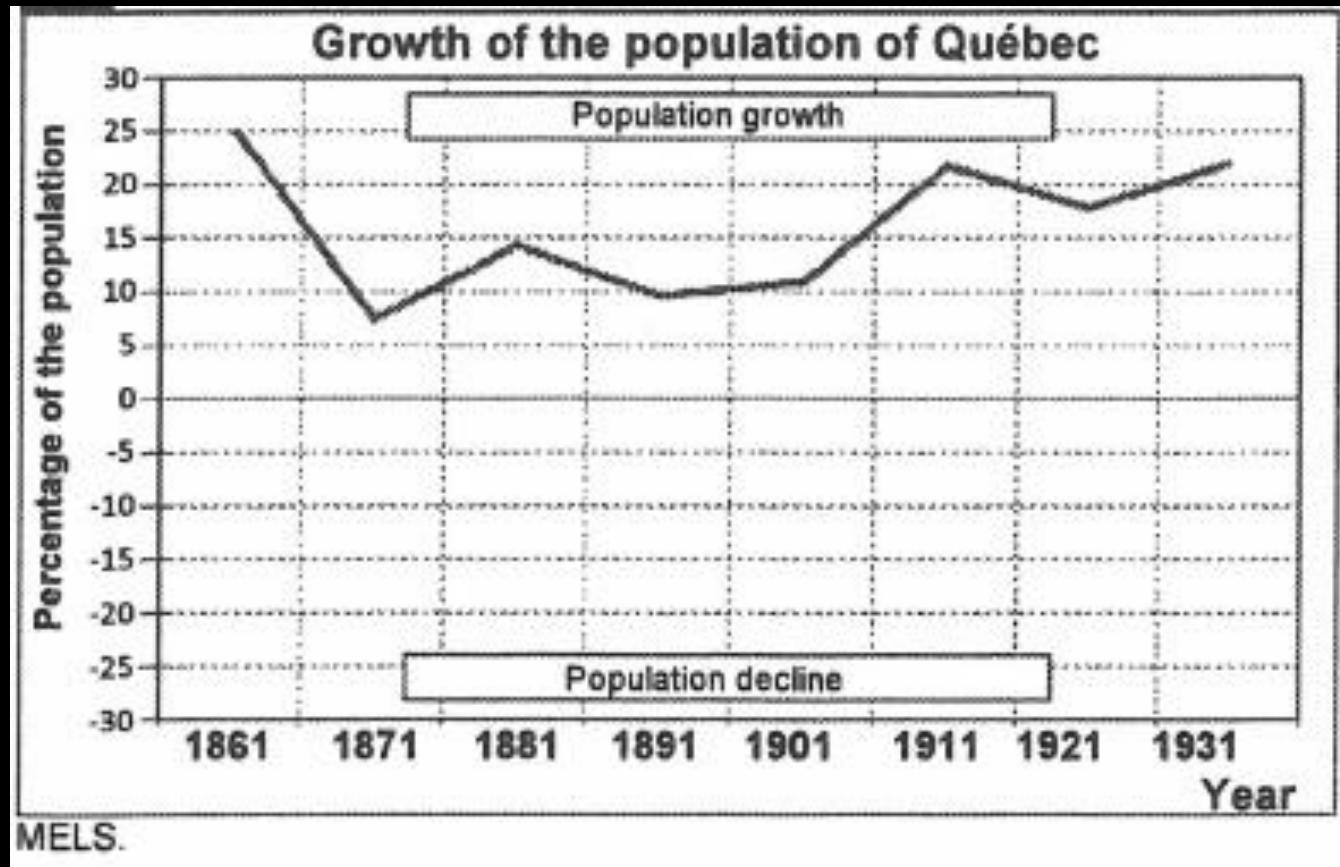
Children of French Canadian paper mill workers - early to mid 1900s

# Agriculturalism

- Because of this emigration, Quebec's population grew slowly, remained stagnant
- Net migration was negative (more people leaving than showing up)



# Agriculturalism



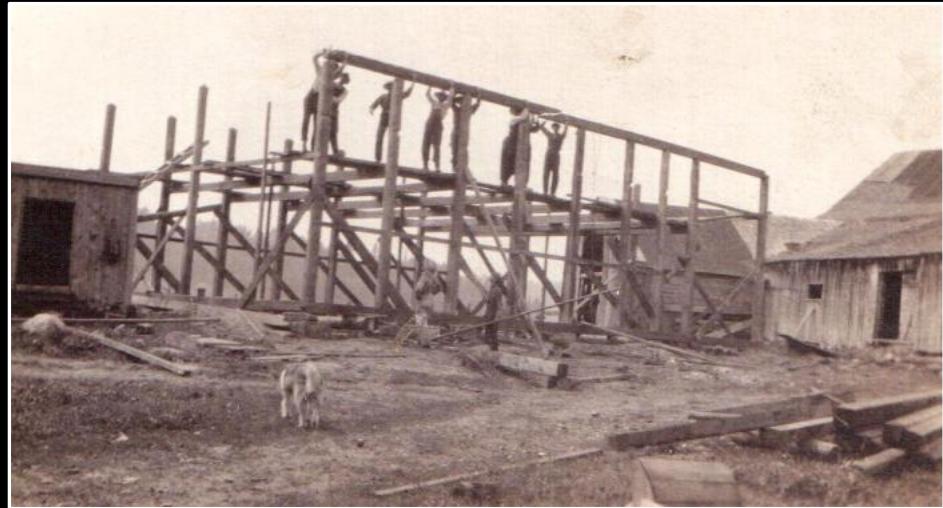
Mid 1800s-1930s- Because of French *Canadien* EMIGRATION to the USA and other parts of Canada:

- Population grow was slow or stagnant
- Net migration was negative

# Agriculturalism

- Both the Quebec government & the Catholic church in Quebec saw the French *Canadien* exodus as a problem
- How did they try and stop it?
- The government was convinced by the church that ‘agriculturalism’ was the answer
- People should live on farms
- So the Quebec government opened up new territory for farmers to move to and start new farms
- These were called ‘**NEW AREAS OF COLONIZATION**’ → Laurentians, Abitibi, Lac St-Jean, Outaouais, Gaspe
- Despite the efforts of the church and Quebec government → people continued to leave in large numbers until the late 1930s

# Agriculturalism



Top Left: raising a barn in Rawdon -  
1920s



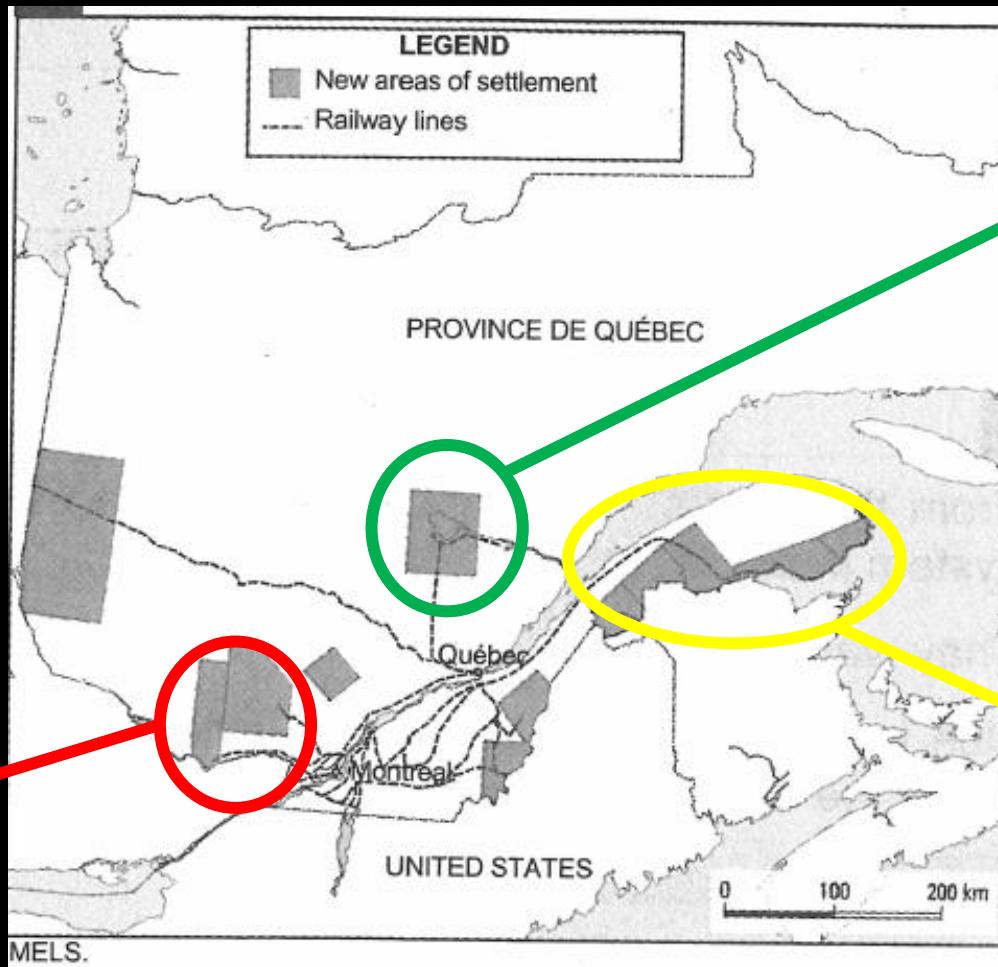
Top Right: Lachute Train Station –  
early 1900s

Bottom Right: Sun Valley Farms – late  
1930s/early 1940s



SUN VALLEY FARM VAL-MORIN, QUE.

# Agriculturalism



Outaouais  
Region

Saguenay  
Lac St. Jean  
Region

Gaspé  
Region

Some new area of colonization late 1800s-early 1900s

# Agriculturalism

- People who represented agriculturlism:
  - Cure Antoine Labelle
  - The Catholic Church
  - Honore Mercier



Cure Antoine Labelle in 1864

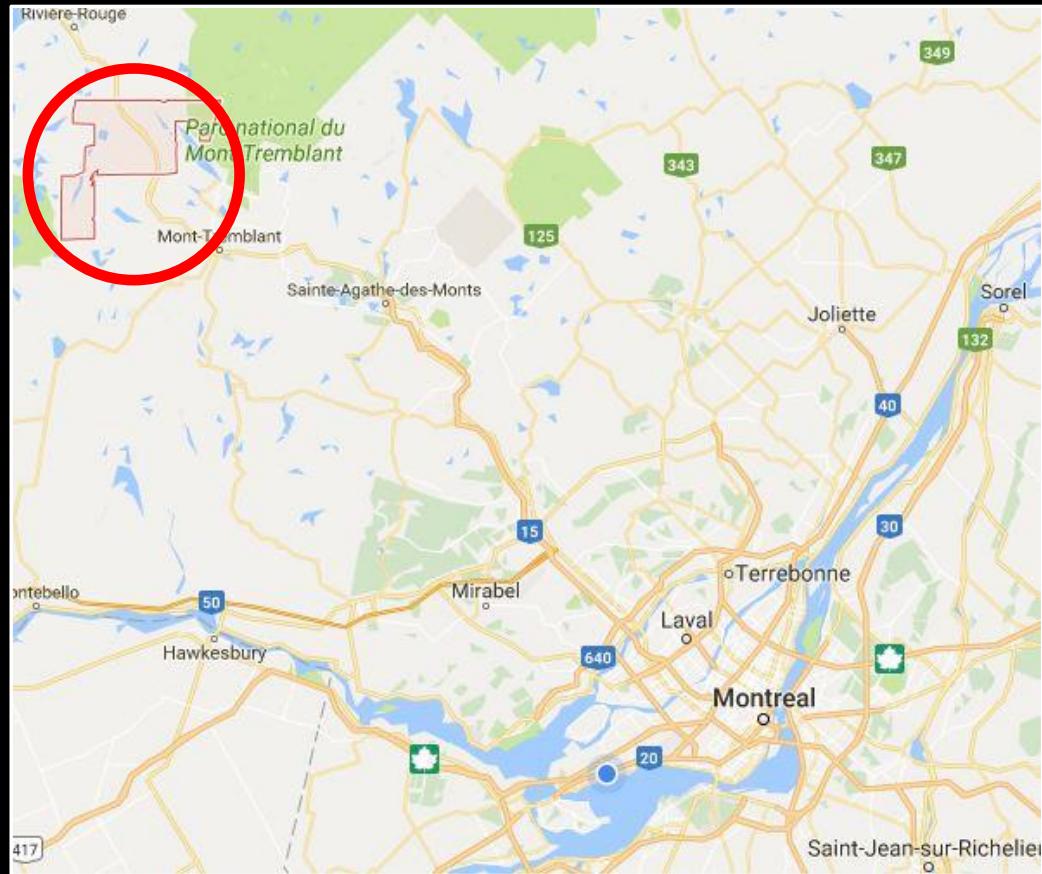
# Agriculturalism

- Cure Antoine Labelle
  - 1870s-1880s
  - Member of RC Church
  - Promoted agriculture North of Montreal → Laurentians
  - Town named after him → Labelle, Quebec
  - Worked with CP railway to build a train line to the Laurentians for easy access
  - Honore Mercier named him Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Colonization in 1888



Statue of Cure Antoine Labelle  
in St. Jerome, Quebec

# Agriculturalism



Left: Labelle, Quebec (Red circled area)

Right: St. Jerome train station on the way to the Laurentians -1910

# Agriculturalism

- How was agriculturalism expressed:
  - FC songs about farming & agriculture
  - Agriculture newspapers
  - Books teaching agricultural techniques to new ‘colonists’
  - Opening up new areas for colonization and farming in Quebec

A book published at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century gave advice to the colonists:

**I** “If you have enough money to survive until the harvest next year, and you buy a cow in the spring, leave this autumn. This will give you a head start: you can build your shanty upon your arrival, and while your wife looks after the details of the interior, you will have the time to clear a few acres of land and you can spend the winter chopping wood.” **I**

# The Shawnigan Handshake!



# Connections to the Progressions of learning

## 5.3. Québec nationalism

- a. Gives characteristics of Québec nationalism (e.g. safeguarding of the French language, respect for areas of provincial jurisdiction, affirmation of the distinct character of Québec society) ★
- b. Identifies players who embody Québec nationalism (e.g. Duplessis, René Lévesque, the newspaper *Le Jour*) ★
- c. Indicates forms of cultural expression associated with Québec nationalism (e.g. stage shows such as *Poèmes et chants de la résistance* and *L'Osstidcho*, the publication *Égalité ou indépendance* by Daniel Johnson, the manifesto *Option Québec* by René Lévesque) ★

## 4. Agriculturism

- a. Gives characteristics of agriculturism (e.g. promotion of rural life, primacy of traditional values such as the French language and Catholic religion, rejection of the industrial world) ★
- b. Identifies players who embody agriculturism (e.g. Curé Labelle, Mercier, Monseigneur Courchesne) ★
- c. Indicates forms of cultural expression associated with agriculturism (e.g. *Un homme et son péché* by Claude-Henri Grignon, *La Bonne chanson* by Abbé Charles-Émile Gadbois, the Agricultural Merit award) ★