Notes 3.1

Chapter 3: 1945-1980: The Modernization of Quebec & the Quiet Revolution

Section 1: Quebec Society under the Duplessis Government (1945-1960) Part 1

Pages that correspond to this presentation

- Quebec Society under the Duplessis Government: Pages______________________________

What is chapter 3 all about?...A quick summary

- After WW2 until 1980 → the world goes through many social, technological, political and economic changes
- Quebec is no different
- After WW2 → Duplessis government/Union Nationale is in charge of Quebec from 1945-1960
- Traditional values/ideas remained:
  - Church involvement in society
  - Opposition to unions
  - Economic liberalism
  - A focus on agriculture
- Despite Duplessis and the Union Nationale being in power → Quebec society is moving away from some of the traditional values/ideas it was used to
There are a few factors that contribute to this:
- After WW2 → Quebec and Canada is prosperous → consumer society again
- Baby Boom → Canadian population increases due to natural growth
- Influence of American culture in Quebec
- Arrival of waves of different groups of immigrants
- Union movements demanding better conditions for workers
- After WW2 → ________________________________
- After WW2 → start of the __________________________ between the two world ‘superpower’
  countries → USA vs. The Soviet Union (USSR)
- Europe was essentially cut in half → Eastern Block countries were absorbed by the Soviet Union
- By 1949 → Western European democratic countries joined with the United States to form the North
  Atlantic Treaty Organization ________________________________
- By 1955 → The ______________ asked all of its satellite communist allies to sign a treaty of its own to
  counter the formation of NATO → Warsaw Pact
- Western democracies VS. Eastern communists
  Canada’s ___________________________ - does well → ________________________________
- After WW2 → Europe was in ______________
- Many cities and infrastructure in Europe needed to be rebuilt
- Both Canada and the United States saw this __________________________ process as an opportunity
  to strengthen their economies
- How did Canada benefit?
- Major ________________________________ by American companies → wanted Canadian resources
- Canada had many natural resources needed to:
- Rebuild Europe
- Help equip the American military in the face of the Cold War
The ____________________________

• After WW2 → the Canadian government thought it would be a good idea to intervene in Canada’s economy
• __________________________ to help Canada avoid economic disasters like the Great Depression of the 1930s
• Maybe letting capitalism fully control the economy wasn’t such a good idea…
• Canada wanted to ____________________________ the ’ups & downs’ that may occur within the economy
• Some things Canada did to help control the economy:
  • When the economy was growing and doing well → The federal government spent less money because it did not need to → the economy was doing well
  • The Bank of Canada ____________________________ when the economy was doing well → this lowered the demand for credit which kept inflation low
• ____________________________ = a period when the prices of goods increases
• Some things Canada did to help control the economy:
  • When the economy took a downturn → the government spent more to help businesses and stimulate the economy
  • The Bank of Canada ____________________________ → increase in credit → people used credit to buy goods or to invest in businesses
• Some things Canada did to help control the economy:
• Attempted to gather more money from taxes to help ALL Canadians
• ____________________________ between Canadian provinces (more on this on next slide)
• Programs that gave money to Canadian universities (help keep cost for university low)
• Programs to help Canadian hospitals across the country → hospital insurance → a step towards the Medicare system we have now
• A focus on equalization payments in Canada:
  • The Canadian/federal government collects taxes from all the provinces
  • Part of these taxes are set aside for equalization payment to provinces
  • The federal government looks at all the provinces and how their economies perform
  • If the economy of a certain province is struggling – this province will receive a equalization payment from the federal government
  • Provinces that get money are called “have not provinces” / provinces that do not get money are called “have provinces”

• The Federal Government Intervenes in the Economy

• A focus on equalization payments in Canada:
  • Quebec has been a “have not province” for a long time...
  • In 2017-2018 → Quebec will receive between $11-$12 BILLION just for equalization payments
  • The total equalization payments for all of the Canadian provinces will be $18.3 BILLION
  • If we include other transfers → Quebec will get $23.7 BILLION
  • Things such as revenue from provincial taxes, revenue from natural resources, consumption taxes, etc.

• The Federal Government Intervenes in the Economy

Duplessis & the Union Nationale Government from 1944-1960: 

• Duplessis and the ____________________________ government were all about protecting Quebec’s French character and making sure Quebec remained as autonomous within Canada as possible
  • Quebec is still a part of Canada but makes ____________________________ → less intervention by Canadian government in provincial jurisdictions
  • This attitude saw Quebec ____________________________ offered by the federal/Candian government to provide funds to Quebec

• Why?...
• Duplessis thought that if Quebec accepted funds from the federal government → it would mean Quebec would have to give in and let the federal government intervene in provincial jurisdictions
• Duplessis denied funds from the federal government for Quebec universities
• Duplessis wanted to ____________________________ which forced the federal government to lower federal taxes in Quebec

Duplessis & the Union Nationale Government from 1944-1960: ________________________________
• The Union Nationale government focused on 3 things during its 16 year term:
  • Foreign investment in Quebec (mainly from USA) which lead to...
  • The continuation of natural resources being exploited in Quebec (iron ore, gold, copper, etc.) which made the government money to spend on...
  • The modernization of agriculture in Quebec → make sure all major farming regions in Quebec have access to electricity
• ____________________________ (mainly from USA)
• The Union Nationale government believed in ECONOMIC LIBERALISM → let the economy take care of itself with the government applying rules/interventions
• This idea attracted many ____________________________ helping rebuild Europe OR helping equip the American military (mentioned earlier)
• The USA needed ____________________________ and Duplessis wanted Quebec to benefit from it
• Duplessis and the Union Nationale government kept business taxes low and somewhat allowed ____________________________ to be ____________________________
• American companies needed natural resources such as iron-ore
• This lead to the development of 2 regions in Quebec:
  ________________________________________________________________
• American companies focus their efforts to exploit natural resources from these regions
• As a result ➔ towns linked to the mining operations started to pop-up ➔ ____________________
  and Gagnon are the 2 most notable
• In order to access these mines/towns ➔ the Quebec government build ____________________
  and connecting ______________________ on the North shore of the St. Lawrence River
• ________________________________________________________________
• As before ➔ Duplessis beleievd that farming/agriculture was Quebec’s ‘backbone’
• The agricultural sector should be ___________________________
• In addition ➔ many of the districts that voted for Duplessis were rural districts ➔ He’s got to keep
  them happy somehow
• Duplessis turned to policies that ________________________ these rural regions
• 1945 ➔ Act to Promote ________________________________ By Means of Electric Cooperatives
  ➔ make sure rural areas had electricity ➔ farms could produce more

Duplessis & the Union Nationale Government from 1944-1960: ________________________________
• As before ➔ Duplessis and the Union Nationale government promoted social conservatism ➔
  traditional values promoted by the RCC
• Many other Western countries started to take control of social aspects of society (like healthcare and
  education)
• However ➔ Duplessis liked that the RCC was in charge of these areas of society
• The Union Nationale government and the RCC supported each other in Quebec
• Quebec’s __________________________________________________________________________

• The money for healthcare and education used by the Union Nationale focused on the construction of school and hospitals

• However → the RCC was in charge of running these institutions (the majority of them)

• __________________________________________________________________________________

• and an increase in the number of children meant that the RCC could not keep up with the educational needs of the population

• Duplessis still believed that the RCC should remain in charge of these areas despite the fact that they were not able to keep up → Duplessis just ‘threw money’ at the problem

• This was not enough:

• 1951 → 70% of school institutions only had 1 classroom, 60% had no electricity, 40% had no washroom

• Classrooms & other school facilities were not modern→

• __________________________________________________________________________________

• and other areas of technical training

• This ____________________________________________________________________________________ hurt Quebec education in the 1940s/1950s → low graduation rates → Francophones had a lower graduation rate than Anglophones

• Even with some funds coming from the federal government → hospitals and healthcare in Quebec was lacking

• Quebec still __________________________________________________________________________

• Duplessis refused to implement one

• People had to pay out of pocket for health care

• Duplessis & the Union Nationale Government from 1944-1960:

• __________________________________________________________________________________

• Despite the fact that Duplessis and the Union Nationale government was voted back several times between 1945- 1960 → many people groups in Quebec their policies

• Union opposition: Duplessis did not believe in unions and was strictly opposed to them
• There were several notable ________________ in Quebec during the time between 1944 and 1960 → these strikes outlined the divide between the working class and the Union Nationale government

• Asbestos strike in 1949

• Mining company workers in Asbestos & Thedford Mines demanded better working conditions and wages

• Negotiations between the company owners and workers fail

• Workers went on illegal strike on February 13th, 1949

• The Union National Government lead by Maurice Duplessis was ‘anti-union’ → used the police force to break up the strike

• Duplessis sided with the American mining company → ________________________________

• Duplessis & the Union Nationale Government from 1944-1960: Opposition, Protests & Unions

• ___________________________________________

• 3000 workers at the textile factory in Salaberry-de-Valleyfield went on strike for better working conditions and wages

• Strike lasted 100 days

• After a violent protest on August 13th 1946 → negotiations started

• Minimal gains for workers → Province favoured corporations over workers’ rights

• Duplessis & the Union Nationale Government from 1944-1960: Opposition, Protests & Unions

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• The “Refus Global” manifesto & “Cite Libre” Magazine

• Manifesto = a document that publicly states the stance of a group of people on a certain idea

• 1948 → The “Refus Global” manifesto was written and signed by Quebec artists including Paul-Emile Borduas → the manifesto denounced the fact that the RCC had so much control over society and that the government practiced social conservatism
1950 → young intellectuals (educated individuals) founded the “Cite Libre” magazine
→ again, denounced RCC control and the overall conservative stance held by Duplessis
(anti-union, etc.)

These groups wanted greater cultural expression and freedom of expression within Quebec

Duplessis & the Union Nationale Government from 1944-1960: Opposition, Protests & Unions

Generally, the people who supported the “Refus Global” and “Cite Libre” magazine were in favor of
SECULARISM

Secularism = the idea that church and state are separate → the RCC’s responsibility remains RELIGIOUS
ONLY (they are not involved in education, healthcare or politics)

These artists, intellectuals and their supporters wanted the government to take control of education
and healthcare → this would lead to a modern Quebec

Duplessis & the Union Nationale Government from 1944-1960: Opposition, Protests & Unions

Duplessis & the Union Nationale Government from 1944-1960: Opposition, Protests & Unions

Evolution & Change within Quebec Society from 1944-1960: Consumer Society

The 30 years following WW2 were years of general economic prosperity in most Western countries
(including Canada)

Wages for workers in Quebec increased → increased purchasing power for the population

Quebecers has money to purchase consumers goods as they saw fit

This was a special thing after almost 10 years of the Great Depression and 6 years of rationing during
WW2

Evolution & Change within Quebec Society from 1944-1960: Consumer Society

By the 1950s → Higher wages combined with less hours worked during the week = people had more
time and money to spend on leisure = goods that fit into leisure time were bought (cars, televisions,
etc.)

People and their consumption habits changed → Quebec and Canada became a CONSUMER SOCIETY
→ buying goods they wanted and NEEDED when they wanted

This was called MASS CONSUMPTION
• **The emergence of advertising (especially on television)** & access to credit to buy goods added to the mass consumption

• Evolution & Change within Quebec Society from 1944-1960: Influence of American Culture

• Forms of media like radio and (especially) television helped expose Quebecers to American shows → aired on Canadian broadcasting stations like CBC

• In 1952, the first CBC and Radio-Canada television stations, CBLT-Toronto and CBFT-Montréal

• By 1955 → 66% of Canadians had access to CBC television services

• More and more movies theatres opened in Canada → showing American made movies from Hollywood → with American movie starts

• Rock ‘n’ Roll from the United States became increasingly popular in Quebec → Elvis Presley

• Evolution & Change within Quebec Society from 1944-1960: Influence of American Culture

• A post WW2 American culture was revealed to Canadians (including Quebec)

• Quebecers were influenced by American cultural values of individual freedom and individual success/prosperity → consumerism connected directly to these values

• A rise in American products in Canada → Coca-Cola, Pepsi, fast food dinners, etc.

• Drive-in movie theatres, drive-in restaurants, etc.

• Evolution & Change within Quebec Society from 1944-1960: Influence of American Culture

• Evolution & Change within Quebec Society from 1944-1960: Population growth & suburbs

• After WW2 until 1960 → many Canadian soldiers had not seen wives/girlfriends in several years → marriages & starting families

• It was not uncommon for families to have 3, 4, 5 children

• This period of time was called THE BABY BOOM

• Rate of natural increase (natural growth) → Many babies were born, infant mortality rate decreased significantly from previous decades

• 1916 → 16% of women gave birth in hospitals

• 1961 → 94% of women gave birth in hospitals

• Evolution & Change within Quebec Society from 1944-1960: Population growth & suburbs

• Evolution & Change within Quebec Society from 1944-1960: Population growth & suburbs
By the early 1950s → 25% of the population was under the age of 10

How would the government & society have to react to the “BABY BOOM”?

Issue land to build houses for returning soldiers and their families → leads to the growth of suburban neighborhoods in cities like Montreal

More schools, daycares, roads need to be built

Suburban neighborhoods spark the creation of shopping centers

Connections to the Precisions of Learning