

# The Government During the 1930s





# KING vs. BENNETT



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- Liberal Party

- Conservative Party

# William Lyon Mackenzie KING

- Liberal Party
- Prime Minister 1921-1930
- Prime Minister 1935-1948
- Believe government should be less involved in the lives of the public
- Believed in letting the depression “run its course”



# R.B. BENNETT

- Conservative Party
- Prime Minister in 1930-1935
- Started Unemployment Relief Act
- Believed the government should be more involved in the lives of the people
- Copied American President with a “new deal”



# The NEW DEAL

## The Canadian Version

The government can't let the depression "cure itself", therefore we **must spend \$\$ and CREATE jobs**

- 8 hour work day
- Minimum wage
- Unemployment insurance
- Price controls

# KING OR CHAOS

- Many voters were skeptical of the **New Deal**:
  - was this just an election ploy???
  - Or too little, too late???
- Voters had grown tired of Bennett and his ideas:
  - Government Relief attached to Work Programs
  - Work Camp (protests)
- The government provided confusion, not support
  - Municipal and Provincial governments were often on the brink of bankruptcy

**VOTERS ELECTED KING IN 1935**

# WHAT ENDED THE DEPRESSION?

On September 10, 1939...

**Canada** (with Britain) **declared**  
**WAR ON NAZI GERMANY**

Unemployed Men:

Returned to work in  
factories producing  
war materials

Became soldiers