

How did Canada and
Canadians respond to
the Great Depression?

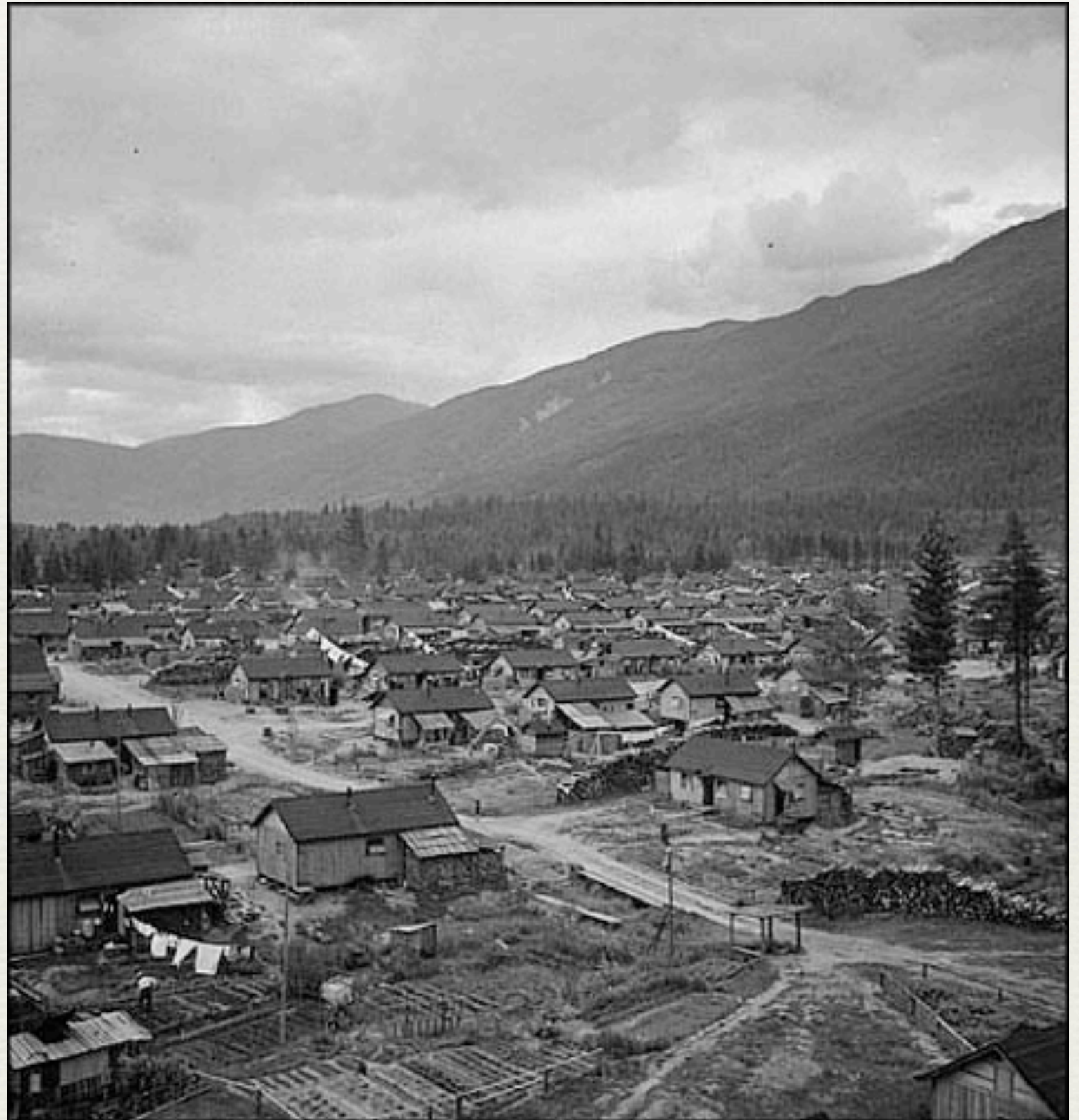
R.B. Bennett

- ♦ Became target for peoples frustration
- ♦ Bennett Barnyard - deserted farm
- ♦ Bennett blanket - newspaper
- ♦ Eggs Bennett - boiled chestnuts
- ♦ fear of jobless becoming communist
- ♦ 1931 Communist Party banned
- ♦ Tim Buck (general secretary arrested)
- ♦ Like Mackenzie was a bachelor
- ♦ secretly generous - sent thousands of his own money to people in need



Relief Camps

- ♦ creation of **work camp**/
first provincial then federal
- ♦ located in the woods -
isolation
- ♦ building roads, drainage
ditches, clearing land
- ♦ 20 cents a day + room
and board
- ♦ living conditions horrible
- ♦ 170 000 men in camps



On to Ottawa Trek

- ♦ 1935 1000's men left BC camps to protest conditions
- ♦ Relief Camp Workers Union traveled to Regina via rail
- ♦ stopped by RCMP
- ♦ Leaders were allowed to continue to Ottawa
- ♦ Union leaders met with Bennett /high hopes
- ♦ Bennett not agreeable / called them radicals
- ♦ Slim Evans - Bennett wasn't fit to run country
- ♦ RCMP in Regina told to clear out trekkers - resistance
- ♦ clash - 1 dead, many injured, 130 arrested



Boarding Train in Kamloops BC

Trouble in Vancouver

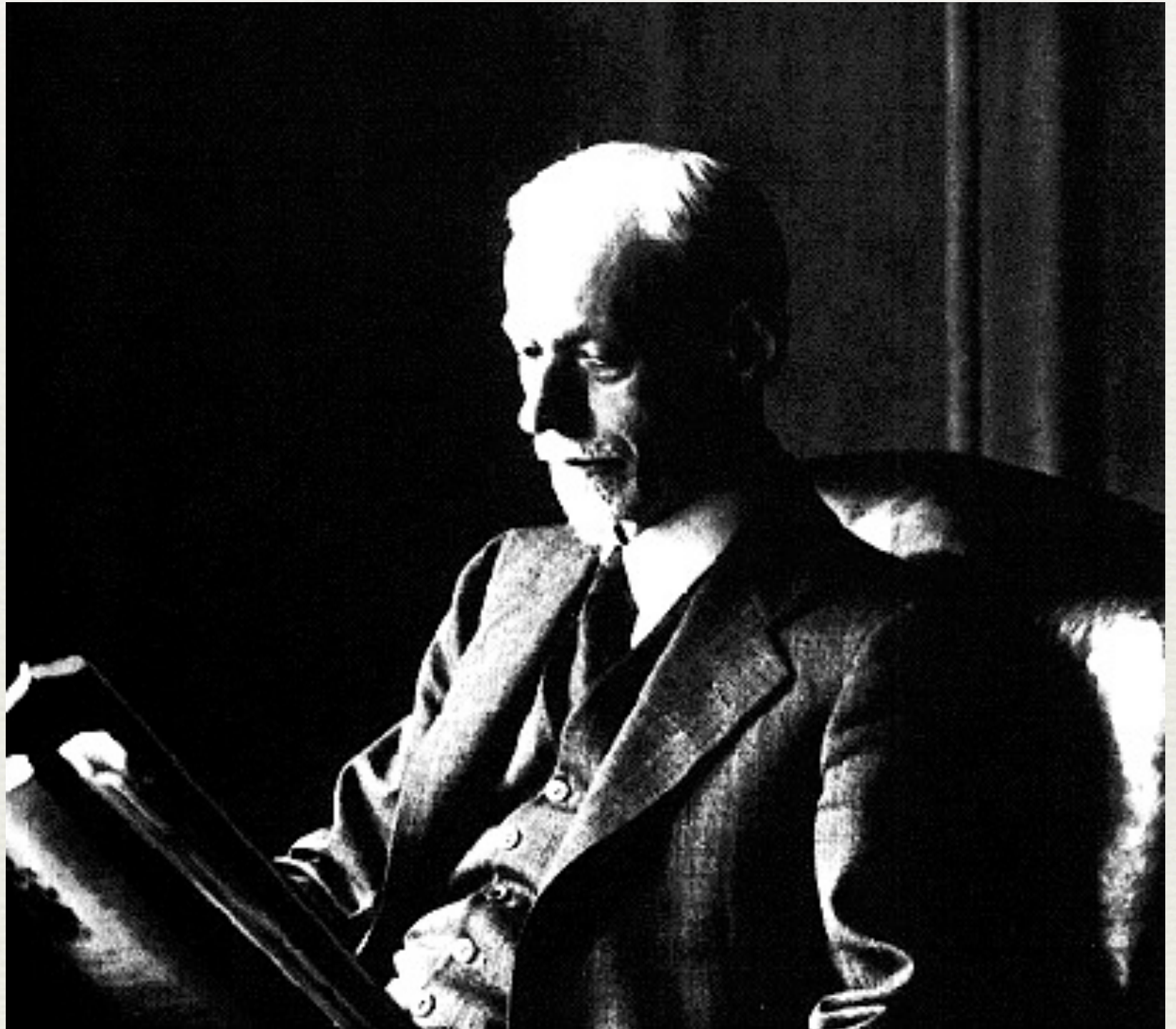
- ♦ 1937 Federal Government closed relief camps
- ♦ Provincial Government decreased relief payments
- ♦ April 1600 protesters - Vancouver Art Gallery, Post Office, Georgia Hotel
- ♦ Men at Post Office refused to leave / tear gas is a strong motivator
- ♦ 2 days of conflict / police - "sitdowners"



June 19, 1938
Bloody Sunday

Political Changes

- ✦ 1932 **CCF Cooperative Commonwealth Federation** formed
- ✦ Farmers, laborers, socialists, intellectuals
- ✦ Led by J.S. Woodsworth / Remember Winnipeg?
- ✦ **Regina Manifesto** - party platform
- ✦ Public ownership of key industries
- ✦ Social programs - people need money
- ✦ Elderly, unemployed, homeless, sick,
- ✦ Creation of public works to create jobs



Woodsworth or is it Lenin?

1935 Social Credit Party

- ♦ led by William Aberhart
"Bible Bill"
- ♦ preacher and highschool teacher
- ♦ capitalism was a wasteful economic system
- ♦ banks hoard money - should be released for people to buy goods
- ♦ \$25 a month to buy necessities
- ♦ fed govt. said no way - issuing new currency
- ♦ party was in power until 1971
- ♦ Successors - Ernest Manning, Harry Strom



Ontario

- ♦ Provincially, voters expressed discontent by voting out gov'ts
- ♦ Liberals came to power for the first time in twenty-nine years
- ♦ Mitch Hepburn championed the “little man”
- ♦ In truth he was a ruthless strikebreaker



1934

Quebec

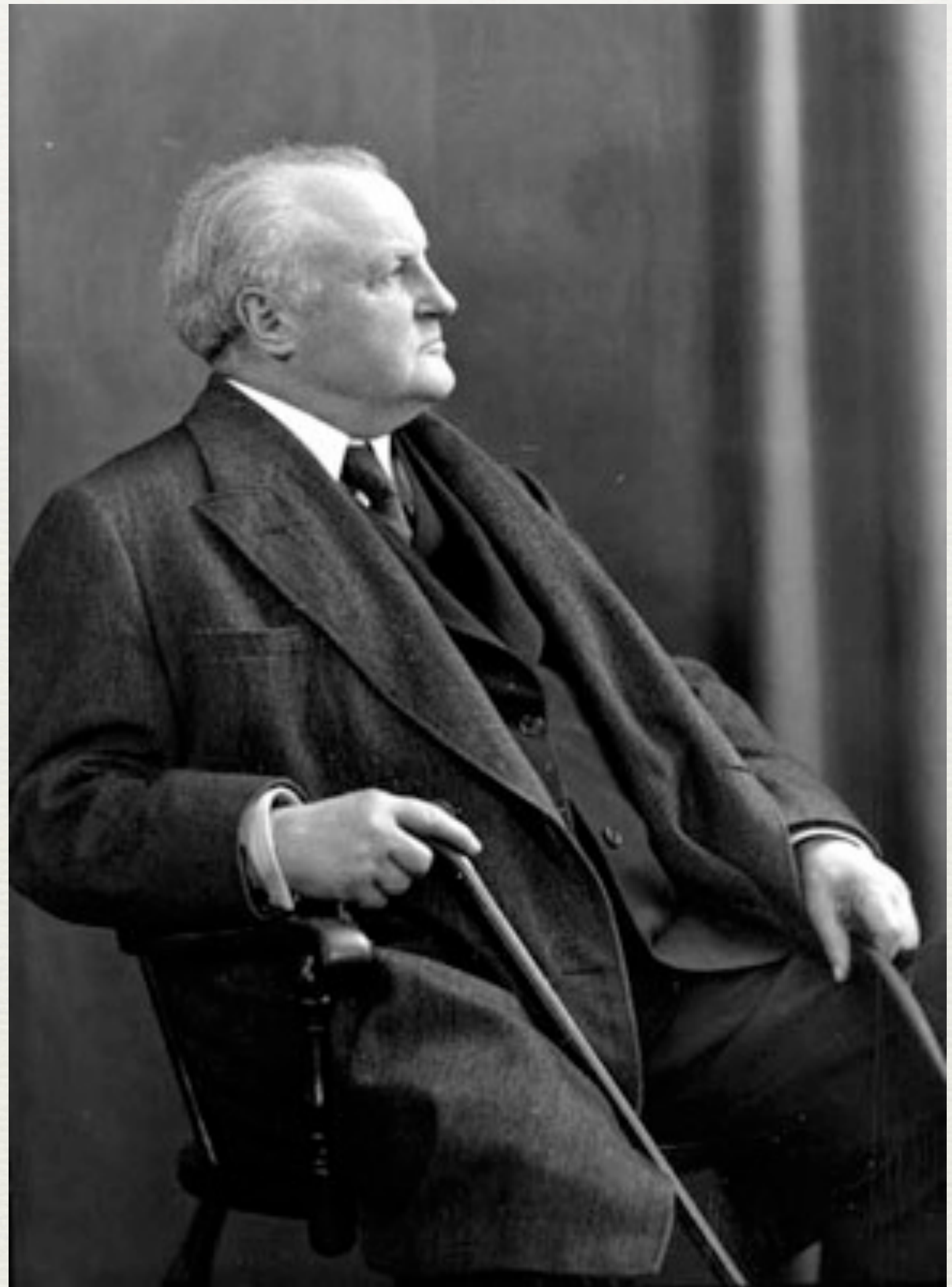
- ♦ Maurice Duplessis came to power as the leader of the new Union Nationale party
- ♦ Relied on rural and Roman Catholic votes
- ♦ Blamed the English for Quebec's social and economic problems
- ♦ Premier until 1959

1936



B.C.

- ♦ Dufferin Pattullo was elected in 1933
- ♦ Promised a “ Little New Deal” modeled after the U.S.
- ♦ Shortened the work week
- ♦ Increased minimum wage
- ♦ Public works programs were launched
- ♦ Pattullo Bridge & Vancouver City Hall





Pattullo Bridge

Mackenzie King

- ♦ Prime Minister for 22 years - 1921-1926, 1926-1930, 1935-1948
- ♦ Was noted as being dull
- ♦ Secret “bad boy” life - talked to the dead (mom. dogs, other politicians), & kinky stuff
- ♦ 1935 Mackenzie King is re-elected
- ♦ Voters tired of Bennett not dealing with economic problems
- ♦ Established commission to find solution but didn't follow the recommendations
- ♦ Good relationship with Churchill and Roosevelt



Tension between Federal and Provincial Government

- ♦ 1937 Rowell-Sirois Commission examined Federal-Provincial relationship
- ♦ Recommended more federal control over taxes
- ♦ Recommended equalization payments to “have not” provinces
- ♦ Wealthy provinces didn’t like the idea



Distractions

- ♦ Movies, magazines and radio were popular
- ♦ Canadians enjoyed US programming e.g. Lone Ranger, big band music
- ♦ CBC introduced in 1936 and has been boring teenagers ever since
- ♦ CBC offered programming in French and English



Dionne Quintuplets

- ♦ 1934 - born in Ontario
- ♦ Parents judged unable to raise children by government
- ♦ taken into care
- ♦ Put on display by government
- ♦ Ont. made millions
- ♦ Money was never given to girls



Grey Owl

- ♦ Englishman who pretended to be a Canadian Aboriginal
- ♦ Archie Belaney
- ♦ Devoted life to the preservation of Northern Canadian forests
- ♦ Most famous Canadian of his day
- ♦ Irony - The most famous Canadian Aboriginal was a European

