Chapter 15

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Canadian Urbanization

Aarya Wadke and Gaurav Bhushan
Intro to Urbanization

- Pattern of urban growth = similar to US
- Rise of cities strengthened metropolitanism
  - metropolises = industrial & financial establishments
- Rapid growth = new political and social problems
Rise of the Urban Metropolis

- Montreal (CPR) → Toronto, Ontario
- Simultaneously, Frontier → Contradictory?
- Changing Face of the City
The City Life

- Winnipeg = most evident “boom”
- Changed Canadian lifestyle & society
- More people = ↑ in business & ↑ in land prices
- Big cities divided into residential districts
  - Rich vs. Poor
- Street lighting = indicator of economic status
Public Health & Sanitation
- inadequate water supply
- poor system for sewage disposal
- contaminated milk

Cost of Living
- Significant income variations depending on skill
- Recessions -> unemployment
- Inflation & Immigrant Labor
Visions and Reformers

- Leaders: Middle Class, Women
- Motives: America vs. Canada → “Depraved Classes” vs. “God’s Kingdom on Earth”
- Public Health
- Social Welfare
- Utilities
- Planning and Development
- Governance
Women’s Rights
(Canadian Edition)

Kristen Cox and Mariya Savinov
Initiate All The Social Reforms
Gender Roles

- industrialization, separation of home/work
- “home considered the woman’s ‘proper sphere’” (414)

- late 19th century: women to work
  - “threaten the existence of the family”
  - “woman question”
  - role = wife and mother
The Idealized Role of Women

ASSUMPTIONS:

● **every** woman financially dependent on male
● **every** male able financially support family

REALITY:

● widowed/single/divorced women
● married women work too
  ○ especially in slums
There Are Two Types of Women... (comic by Kristen Cox)

(drawn in perspective of Canadian men)

woman in purple is the ideal woman
she's the nearly impossible woman during this era
woman in green is the "bad" woman
she's one of the typical women during this era
Feminism’s Roots in Canada

- Women traditionally active in reformation
  - not happy with role in homes
- New ideas + criticized
  - temperance
  - public health
  - child welfare

Child Welfare League of Canada
Ligue pour le bien-être de l’enfance du Canada

Public Health Agency of Canada
www.publichealth.gc.ca
50 Shades of Feminism

- two kinds
  - maternal/social feminism
    - maternal feelings should run society
      - needed women voting to work
  - equal rights feminism (RADICAL ALERT!)
    - gender equality
      - stop making decisions white male!
Young women in the US made voting rights the major political issue that would resolve all of women’s problems. In Canada, there were two groups of feminists: the “maternal” or “social” feminism group and “equal rights” feminism group, which was much smaller.
Urban Suffragettes

- Canadian: broad, later reform movements
  - sharing is caring
    - BENNETT: “a struggle, never a fight”
- American: focused on just women

Kate Beaton
Toronto Women’s Literary Club

- first suffrage group in CAN
  - 1877: Dr. Emily Howard Stowe
    - middle-class women seeking
      - access to progressions
      - discuss higher education for women
  - 1883: Toronto Women’s Suffrage Association (open)
Dr. Emily Stowe

- NY med student
  - denied admission to Toronto b/c woman
  - Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony
    - meets them and becomes feminist
1890s and Women’s Movements

- national associations
  - National Council of Women of Canada
    - (NCWC) 1893 as umbrella organization
      - Lady Ishbel Aberdeen = leader
        - Parliament of Women
          - stressed “grand woman’s mission of ‘mothering’”
What About the Vote?

- 1910: suffrage gains social acceptance
  - council finally endorses voting rights
More Urban Reform

- influx of immigrants
  - fear of “race degeneration”
- female suffrage is now:
  - adding “good Christian women” to electorate
    - not challenging gender roles
Where Did These Crazy Ideas Come From?!  

- Europe and USA  
- American progressive reform movement  
  - gov’t by commision  
    - w/o city council, management experts  
  - CAN: commitment to British parliamentary practice  
    - in formal structures, civic reform differed
First Breakthroughs (2 Developments in 1910)

- attention to hunger strikes, public marches
- women’s suffrage resolution endorsed
- new suffragists also social reformers
  - concern for death of “family life”
    - women’s main duty = the home
    - public life needs maternal skills
Women’s Temperance Crusade

- temperance = prohibition
  - pop. route to suffrage
    - remove social problems via removing alcohol

- largest foundation made: WCTU 1874
  - goes political route for suffrage
    - enfranchise women = swing vote
      --> prohibition
Divisions Within the Movement (1910+)

- suffrage societies generally ignored/shunned female problems
  - ladies indifferent about union
- tactics of British/American=little appeal
  - “wholly dignified campaign”
Works Cited


