

Prisoner of War: members of the enemy forces who were captured in an area of conflict.

Internment Camp: these were temporary places where people who had the same background (German / Japanese) as the enemy were held. They considered civilian prisoners.

Internee: a person held in an internment camp during the war.

The War At Home

Volunteers:

- **Women's Patriotic Association: reassembled for WW2.**
- **duties were similar to that in WW1. They worked six days a week to supply the troops with knit hats, surgical materials, and provided support to the troops on the home front.**
- **Eventually all money raised went to the Newfoundland Central Council Branch of the British Red Cross Society.**

The Newfoundland Patriotic Association

- **helped raise money for families with family members overseas in two different ways:**
- **One Percent Scheme: a voluntary donation of 1% of a person's salary before taxes.**
- **Fish a Man Fund: one fish from each fisherman each season.**

U-Boat Attacks in Newfoundland

There were several U-boat attacks in Newfoundland waters during WW2.

One of these was the sinking of the passenger ferry the S.S. Caribou

It was sunk Oct. 14th, 1942 at about 4 a.m.

The Caribou was hit by a torpedo while travelling from Nova Scotia to Port Aux Basques

Of the 238 people on board 137 were killed, mostly women and children.

It was mistaken for a freighter carrying grain.

Its escort the Grandmere didn't follow correct procedure for escorting vessels. This allowed the u-boat to sneak up on the Caribou.

Destroyers for Bases Deal

This was a deal between Britain and the United States in which the US gave Britain 50 destroyers. In exchange the US leased land in British owned areas on which to build bases. The leases were for a term of 99 years.

U- Boats on Bell Island

There was another attack in 1942 as well when ore carriers at Bell Island were torpedoed by u-boats

69 sailors died in these attacks

On Sept. 5th 1942 the Saganaga, the Evelyn B., the Lord Strathcona, and the PLM 27 were anchored off Bell Island. They were suddenly attacked by u-boat 513.

The Saganaga was struck and split in half. A second torpedo hit and the freight was thrown 91 m in the air and it sank in 15 seconds.

Half hour after the Strathcona was hit twice and sank. The Evelyn B. fired its gun but was not successful.

Two months later on Nov. 2nd the PLM 27 and the SS Rose Castle were sunk by a German U-boat

There is a memorial in Lance Cove Bell Island.

Economic Impact of War

Economic Dislocation: when patterns of work are interrupted and people move from one type of employment to another.

- everyone who wanted to work had a job
- unemployment disappeared
- dependence on government assistance dropped
- 1/5th of men were working on bases.
- men who worked on the bases were paid well but not the same as their Canadian and American co-workers.
- regular businesses such as paper mills, schools etc lost employees that they couldn't replace.
- people left fishing, logging farming to work on bases to get a regular check. These industries also had shortages of workers. (economic dislocation)
- women were hired for jobs they had never done before (cooks, waitresses, laundry workers, secretaries, stenographers, ambulance drivers)
- government was rescued from debt so by 1945 we were self-supported.

Social Impact

Newfoundland changed dramatically during the war. One tenth of the population was military personnel. There were two places where military and civilians socialized.

1. The Caribou Hut- this was on Water Street
2. Knights of Columbus Hostel : Harvey Road

These centers were to provide a friendly and welcoming place for military personnel and their families. Facilities included:

1. cafeteria
2. sleeping quarters
3. recreational areas
4. dances, concerts, sing-a-longs

Services were provided overseas very similar to the Caribou Club(in London). In St. John's there was a "Wanderers Club" established. This organization brought newcomers into Newfoundland homes for hospitality and a home-cooked meal. The WPA had an office in the Caribou Hut and it was a place for volunteers to coordinate with military personnel.

Social Impact of WW2 On Newfoundland

- increase in dances, concerts and sporting events.
- about 200 marriages between NL women and military service-men.
- many people resettled to other areas in North America and didn't come home.
- some people were forced to move from their land so bases could be built.(Argentia and Goose Bay)
- housing shortages because of the number of soldiers moving in.
- increase in STDs (STI)single parenthood, alcoholism, rowdiness.
- different laws for Newfoundlanders and military personnel.

Cultural Impact

- through the increase in exposure to news and the American/Canadian way of life, Newfoundlanders learned more about the way the rest of the world lived.
- People were influenced by the newcomers: ways of dress changed, they heard new music, saw new movies, housing styles and decorations changed, new styles of cars were on the streets.
- demands for health care, education, and government services similar to those available in Canada and the US increased.

Prosperity and Change (pg 216)

After the war peoples' lives had been changed forever:

1. we had better medical, education & social services
2. we had experienced a regular paycheck
3. we were unwilling to lose these advances

Newfoundland was not in debt at the end of this war. We had a bright economic future because

1. fishing, mining & manufacturing began again
2. demand for salt-fish in Europe
3. demand for frozen cod in England & the US
4. demand for newsprint increased (pulp & paper mills)
5. rebuilding in Europe and new building in Canada increased demand for iron ore from Buchans and Bell Island

- this upswing did not continue because a battered Europe was unable to continue to purchase new items

Change in Work Force:

The fishing industry experienced the greatest decrease and the forestry industry had the greatest increase in the production of goods. Government and trade showed significant increase in the production of services. The opening of military installations in NL and Labrador made buying and selling products other than fish a reality. With increased prosperity, people demanded more education, health services and other government services. The role of government increased as laws were necessary to regulate areas such as land use, waterways and trade.