

Responses to the Depression

Shortsightedness of world leaders

- They did not realize the extent to which national economies had become international
- Most countries were unwilling to adopt a radical strategy to combat this widespread economic disaster.
- Leaders simply did not see how severe the Depression would be.

How did Canadians address their economic problems?

- 1) sold products door to door*
- 2) panhandled*
- 3) approached churches and charities for help*
- 4) they “rode the rails”*
- 5) collected public relief.*

Riding the Rails

Why did so many people “ride the rails”?

- 1) In search of work
- 2) something to do
- 3) Police did little to stop it

POGEY!

Why didn't more people collect public relief?

1) Pogeys were lower than the lowest paying jobs in order to discourage people from wanting to be on it.

Bennett's Response

Prime Minister Bennett's initial response to the Depression when he was elected in 1930.

- 1) He set up unemployment relief camps**
- 2) He set high tariffs to protect Canadian industries**

Bennett's 'New Deal'

- 1) **Progressive taxation**
- 2) **Maximum number of hours in a work week**
- 3) **Minimum wage**
- 4) **Stronger regulation of working conditions**
- 5) **Unemployment insurance**
- 6) **Health and accident insurance**
- 7) **Revised old age pension plan**
- 8) **Agricultural support**
- 9) **A board to regulate wheat prices**

On To Ottawa Trek!

In June 1935, why did thousands of relief campers participate in the “On-to-Ottawa Trek”?

- **To protest conditions in the work (relief) camps. The wanted 'work with wages'.**

On To Ottawa Trek!

What happened at the Regina Riot?

- 1) RCMP members stopped the trek and a riot ensued
- 2) The RCMP fought the crowd for three hours and dozens of trekkers were injured.
- 3) One officer was beaten to death.

Blame the Politicians

Why did Canadians turn against Bennett and elect Mackenzie King in the next election?

- 1) Many people thought Bennett's new deal was too little, too late.
- 2) Even after the On-to-Ottawa Trek, no changes were made.