

# CANADA AND THE BRITISH EMPIRE

## **Learning goals:**

- determine and understand the different opinions that Canadians had about their future relationships with Britain and the United States
- identify some of the most outspoken representatives of those varied opinions
- develop definitions for words that are useful when learning about Empires
- analyze letters and determine the point of views outlined in each

*In 1897, Britain and her colonies were busy celebrating 60 years of Queen Victoria's reign. Canada, (one of Britain's most important colonies), was encouraged to display it's loyalty to Britain. Although many Canadians did enjoy the close ties to Britain, many (including most French Canadians and new non-British immigrants) did not. This put Canadians against each other on many different issues. In the years ahead, Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier tried to steer a middle path between those who wanted closer ties to Britain, and those who favoured a more independent Canada.*

**Task 1:** Read pages 43-45 in the text 'Making History'

**Task 2:** Using the text (pg 43-45), develop definitions for the following terms and create a sentence that shows you can use the terms effectively.

Example: word 'dictator' Sample sentence: *The dictator had complete control of his people and made all the rules.*

## **Colonies:**

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sentence:

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## **Dominions:**

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sentence:

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**Imperialism:**

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sentence:

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**Imperialists:**

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sentence:

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**Nationalists:**

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sentence:

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**Continentalists:**

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sentence:

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**Task 3:**

Read the letters provided to you from Clementina Ressenzen, Henri Bourassa, and Goldwin Smith. Use the information in those letters to complete the handout “Laurier’s Challenge: Three Opinions About Canada’s Destiny”.

Task Rubrics: Use these rubrics to effectively develop your work. Please follow this.

Task 2: /K

|           | level 1   | level 2   | level 3   | level 4   |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|
| Knowledge | <p>definitions are limited, missing the main point and/or not relevant</p> <p>example sentence is poorly constructed and conveys limited accuracy, effectiveness, relevance</p> | <p>definitions are satisfactory, missing some or the main point and/or is only somewhat relevant</p> <p>example sentence is satisfactory constructed, and conveys some accuracy, effectiveness, relevance</p> | <p>definitions are good, the main point is clearly outlined and relevant</p> <p>example sentence is well constructed and conveys accuracy, effectiveness, and relevance</p> | <p>definitions are excellent, clearly explained and relevant</p> <p>example sentence is excellently constructed and conveys detail, accuracy, effectiveness and relevance</p> |

Task 3: /T

|                      | Level 1   | level 2   | level 3  | level 4  |
|----------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Thinking and Inquiry | <p>1 of 3 letter writers are associated with their movements (no background information given)</p> <p>1 belief is identified accurately</p> | <p>2 of 3 letter writers are correctly associated with their movements (little to no background provided)</p> <p>2 beliefs are somewhat clearly and accurately identified</p> | <p>Letter writers are correctly associated with their movements (some background provided)</p> <p>3 beliefs are somewhat clearly and accurately identified</p> | <p>Letter writers are correctly associated with their movements and their background is briefly explained</p> <p>3 or more beliefs are clearly and accurately identified</p> |

**Laurier's Challenge:  
Three Opinions About Canada's Destiny**

Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier (1896 - 1911) would make many important decisions during his years as Canada's leader. These decisions would influence the kind of nation Canada would be, for many years into the future. There were three groups of Canadians that had their own ideas about what Canada's future should look like: Imperialists, Nationalists, and Continentalists. Laurier had to listen to the ideas of all of these voters, make decisions that would (hopefully) satisfy them, and at the same time, his decisions needed to benefit Canada and all Canadians.

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Canadian Imperialists</b>      |
| <b>EXAMPLE &amp; DESCRIPTION:</b> |
| <b>BELIEF #1:</b>                 |
| <b>BELIEF #2:</b>                 |
| <b>BELIEF #3:</b>                 |

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Canadian Nationalists</b>      |
| <b>EXAMPLE &amp; DESCRIPTION:</b> |
| <b>BELIEF #1:</b>                 |

**BELIEF #2:**

**BELIEF #3:**

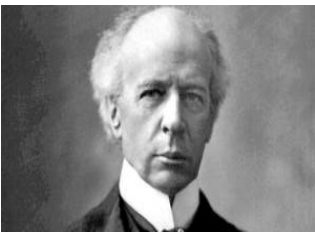
## **Canadian Continentalists**

**EXAMPLE & DESCRIPTION:**

**BELIEF #1:**

**BELIEF #2:**

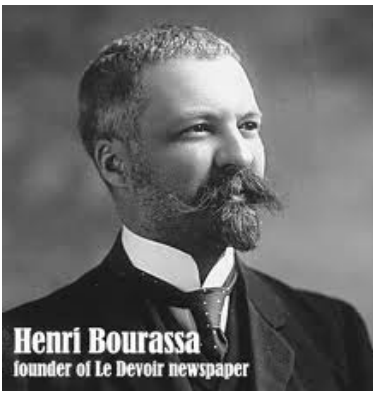
**BELIEF #3:**



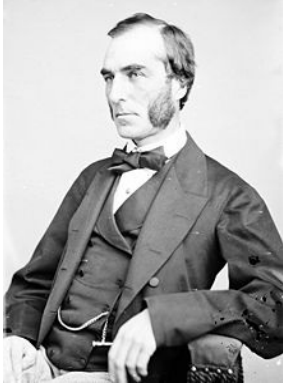
Wilfrid Laurier



Clementina Fessenden



Henri Bourassa



Goldwyn Smith