

## Anti-semitism

“At the time, religious intolerance and anti-semitism were common in Canadian society and even in its cultural and political leaders.”

An irrational hatred of Jewish people.

## Citizenship

“In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws revoked Jewish Germans’ citizenship and voting rights, leaving them no protection under the law as... violence against Jews escalated.”

The position or status of being a citizen of a particular country.

## Discrimination

“Hundreds of discriminatory laws were issued in Germany that directly targeted Jewish citizens.”

The practice of unfairly treating a person or group differently from other people or groups of people.

## Duckboard

“Lumber was essential for the war effort. It was used for revetting the sides of trenches and for duckboards for the bottom of trenches or across muddy terrain.”

A board consisting of a number of wooden slats joined together, placed so as to form a path over muddy ground or in a trench.

## Enlist

“In August 1914, tens of thousands of men across Canada rushed to their local recruiting centre to enlist for service in the First World War.”

To join the armed forces as a volunteer.

## Holocaust

“The ship returned its passengers to safe harbour in four European countries. Sadly, 254 of its passengers later perished in the Holocaust.”

The killing of civilians and especially Jews by the Nazis during World War II.

## Immigration

“Increased anti-Semitism, the corrupt sale of landing certificates, and recent changes to immigration regulations in Cuba kept the ship... in port for days.”

An act or instance of coming into a foreign country to live.

## Jew

“Months after the rise of Adolf Hitler and the Third Reich in 1933, the lives and livelihood of Jews in Germany were put in peril.”

A member of the people and cultural community whose traditional religion is Judaism and who trace their origins through the ancient Hebrew people of Israel to Abraham.

## **Kristallnacht**

“The world was aware that the situation in Germany was getting worse for the Jews, especially following reports of Kristallnacht (9–10 November 1938).”

Night of Broken Glass, a program against (persecution of) German Jews that occurred on November 9-10, 1938.

## **Labour**

“The Canadian Forestry Corps urgently needed labour to support its forestry operations in the Jura Mountains in southeast France.”

Work, especially hard physical work.

## **MS St. Louis**

“On 7 June 1939, 907 Jewish refugees aboard the MS St. Louis were denied entry to Canada.”

Ship with 937 Jewish refugees which was refused by Cuba, the U.S., and Canada.

## **Nazi**

“The ‘night of broken glass,’ as it was called, was a night of violent riots in Nazi Germany and Austria in which Jewish establishments were targeted and destroyed.”

A Member of the National Socialist German Workers Party, which controlled Germany from 1933-1945 under Adolf Hitler and advocated totalitarian government.

## **Oppression**

“Jews were particularly desperate to escape the oppression of the Nazi regime because they were hit with discriminatory laws...”

Prolonged cruel or unjust treatment or control.

## **Persecution**

“Though it was known that Jews faced persecution... and outright violence in Nazi-controlled regions of Europe before the Second World War, their fate was unknown.”

Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race or political or religious beliefs.

## **Quota**

“Jews were... forced from the civil service, disbarred as lawyers, and dismissed as teachers, while quotas restricted the number of Jewish kids allowed in schools.”

A fixed minimum or maximum number of a particular group of people allowed to do something, such as immigrants to enter a country, workers to undertake a job, or students to enroll for a course.

## **Racism**

“Facing rejection and racism, Black men successfully pushed for recognition and an active role in the war.”

Unfair treatment of people of a particular race in a society especially to the benefit of people of another race.

## Refugee

“MS St. Louis departed Hamburg, Germany, on 13 May 1939. The 937 refugees on board the luxury liner were desperate to leave a dangerous situation in Europe.”

A person who flees for refuge or safety, especially to a foreign country, as in time of political upheaval, war, or economic turmoil.

## Sanctuary

“The Canadian government’s refusal to admit Jewish refugees in need of sanctuary... is one example of Canada’s history of discriminatory immigration practices.”

A place of refuge or safety.

## Segregation

“However, despite Black men’s hopes of fighting on the frontlines alongside their white compatriots, this was to be a non-combat, segregated labour battalion...”

The practice or policy of separating a race, class, or group from the rest of society.

## Trench

“Lumber was essential for the war effort. It was used for revetting the sides of trenches and for duckboards for the bottom of trenches or across muddy terrain.”

A narrow ditch dug by troops to provide a place of shelter from enemy fire.

## Visa

“MS St. Louis was bound for Cuba, a country for which many of its passengers held landing visas.”

Official government approval for someone to enter the country.