

Anchor Line



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Introduction

The placement in Archives and Special Collections involved assessing the narrative of the Advertising ephemera produced by Anchor Line with attention to decolonization. The work placement involved adding descriptions of posters and advertising materials to an electronic database.

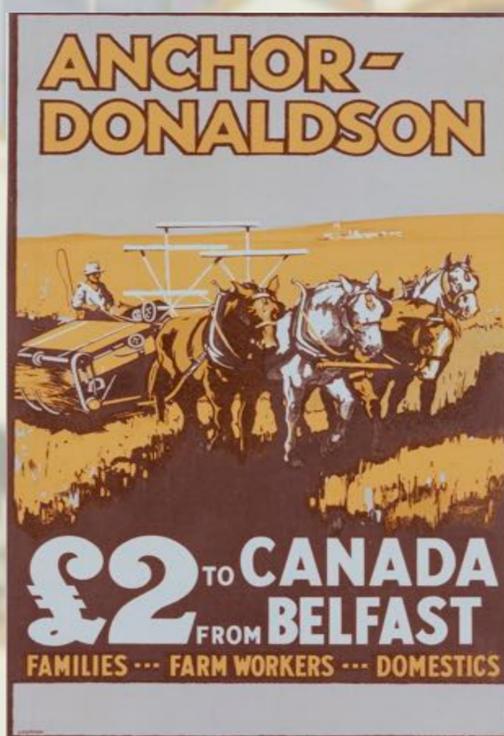
One focus during research on the collection of ephemera became the emigration and decolonization that occurred in Canada, which saw the displacement of the Indigenous people.

Background

The mid 1920's saw the active recruitment of farmers, agricultural workers and domestic staff was taking place as a solution to unemployment and economic depression. Canada was sold as a 'land of plenty', easily accessible and the government offered many schemes including cheap fares and land ownership.

Scots, known to be adaptable were encouraged to emigrate. It appears the offers of jobs or land in Canada came at a time when crofters were struggling in Scotland. The Scottish set up communities with strong Scottish identities

The government also focused their drive on single women 17-35 years old for appointments in domestic service. Many of these girls and women were being supported by women's societies or homes in the UK. Some also came to Canada to wed.



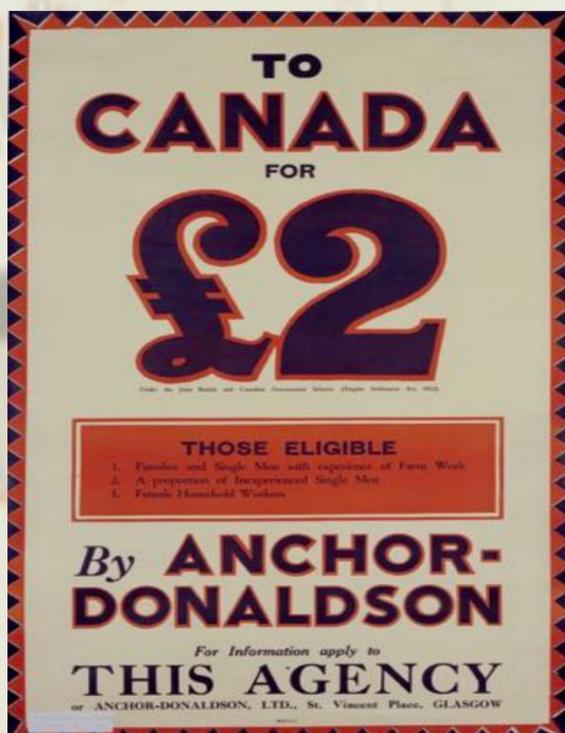
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Conclusions

The colonization of Canada saw the displacement of the First Nations from their native lands. While thousands of Scottish citizens began a new life in Canada during the 1920's and 1930's, the mistreatment and laws effecting the rights of Aborigines was still an ongoing concern.

How this can be addressed within the narrative of the Anchor Line collection is an aspect that could be considered from the view of the First Nations and decolonization.

Further information could also be added to the histories found on Scottish data bases within other institutions holding information on the Scottish emigrants



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Research

Research into the emigration drive, through emigration records held online and in museum collections, highlighted the effect of new communities and governmental offers on the Aboriginal people. The Indian Act of 1857 and the many amendments through the years saw the disenfranchisement of the First Nation communities.

Removed from the native lands saw these communities moved to reservations, laws preventing fishing and hunting on land prevented these communities living as they had. Children were forced into education, often residential. Fighting for land rights through the courts was also banned as was earning money to pay for legal representation.



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References

Canadian Museum of Immigration at pier 21 <http://pier21.ca/home>

National Library of Scotland <https://www.nls.uk>

National Museums of Scotland <https://www.nms.ac.uk/national-museum-of-scotland/>

First Nations Education Steering Committee <http://www.fnesc.ca>