

A LOOK AT CANADA

— CANADIAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE

加拿大社会与文化

曹玲娟 主编

沈阳出版社

A LOOK AT CANADA
——CANADIAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE

加拿大社会与文化

主 编：曹玲娟

副主编：刘亚儒

沈阳出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

加拿大社会与文化/曹玲娟主编 - 沈阳:沈阳出版社

ISBN 7 - 5441 - 0259 - 9

I. 加… II. 曹… III. 理论 - 文化 - 中国 - 当代

IV. 116

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2004)第 072375 号

孔雀文丛
加拿大社会与文化
曹玲娟 主编

出版发行:沈阳出版社

地 址:沈阳市沈河区南翰林路 10 号 110011

印 刷:佛山捷迅印刷厂

开 本:880×1230 1/32

字 数:415 千字

印 张:12.6 印张

版 次:2005 年 7 月第 1 版第 1 次印刷

印 数:1~2000 册

书 号:ISBN 7 - 5441 - 0259 - 9

定 价:38.00 元

前 言

《加拿大社会与文化》是一本关于加拿大社会与文化背景的教科书。旨在帮助大学英语学习者了解加拿大的社会与文化概貌,如地理、历史、政治、经济、社会生活和文化传统等方面的基本知识。同时,通过课文的学习和各种阅读练习的实践,达到提高英语水平的目的。

本书主编曹玲娟教授是 2003 年度“加拿大研究专项奖”(SACS)的获得者,副主编刘亚儒老师是 2005 年度“加拿大研究专项奖”(SACS)的获得者。应加拿大政府的邀请,两位老师先后前往加拿大进行过为期五周的学术访问。在加拿大访问期间,他们收集了大量相关的资料。在此基础上,两位编者开始了本教科书的编写工作。特别值得一提的是,主编曹玲娟教授还开设了有关加拿大社会与文化的课程,且这门课程受到学生的欢迎。学生们通过听课,阅读英语课本,从网络上猎取资料,在扩大知识面和英语语言技巧方面都有很大收益。这种通过文化学习语言的经验说明,英语教学必须实行语言教学与文化知识紧密结合的原则,而且应从低年级开始有计划地逐步实施。只有这样,英语教学才能进一步深化。随着社会的进步和科技的高速发展,中、加各种交流越来越密切,这种综合必将日益重要。

根据上述编撰宗旨和认识,本书在课文的编写及练习的设计上作了一些新的尝试。首先,本书力图符合中国学生的具体情况,适应他们的实际需要。英语学习刚刚起步的中国读者极需要一本大众化的西方文化背景知识教科书。为此,编者收集了通俗易懂,语言地道,内容新颖的相关课文,并选配了方便学生学习的辅助阅读材料。这些短小精悍的故事,侧重介绍了与本课文话题相关的文化背景与社会概

貌,力图培养学生学习、体验、欣赏英语和文化的能力。辅助阅读部分主要由学生独立完成,这些信息资料也可在课文教学中适当加以结合利用。

其次,本书在编写中试图体现教学应以学生为中心,学生自主学习的教学思想。每章课文后都增加数篇相关的阅读材料及练习内容,这些练习不仅可以帮助学生记忆各种信息、巩固和提高文化和语言知识,还可以帮助学生复习、归纳所学内容。书后附有练习题的答案,供学习者参考。此外,每章都有思考题,供学生进行口语练习或开展跨文化比较讨论时使用。

本书由加拿大专家 Christian He 博士审阅,加拿大渥太华大学传播学院教授 Gary Evans 对该书进行了仔细的审校,加拿大康克迪亚大学妇女研究中心的 Karin Doerr 教授亦对本书提出了建设性的建议,编者谨向他们的劳动表示感谢。

编者

2005年6月

海南大学加拿大研究中心

Contents

Chapter I Land (1)

Reading 1 Canada (10)

Reading 2 Canada Day (13)

Reading 3 Early Settlement Patterns (17)

Reading 4 The Loyalists (19)

Reading 5 Standard Time (21)

Chapter II Natural Resources (31)

Reading 1 Different Kinds of Farms (40)

Reading 2 Canada – Rich in Resources (46)

Reading 3 Water – Canada's Most Precious Resource (51)

Reading 4 The Klondike (56)

Reading 5 Wheat (63)

Chapter III People (71)

Reading 1 The Average Canadian (86)

Reading 2 Changes in Canadian Life (89)

Reading 3 Diversity – This Is What “Canadian ” Looks Like (93)

Reading 4 Canadian Weddings (97)

Reading 5 Family Firm	(102)
-----------------------------	-------

Reading 6 O Canada	(106)
--------------------------	-------

Reading 7 K.C. Irving	(113)
-----------------------------	-------

Chapter IV Society	(121)
---------------------------------	--------------

Reading 1 Canadian Beavers Invade Russia	(131)
--	-------

Reading 2 Canada's Constitution	(135)
---------------------------------------	-------

Reading 3 British America Act	(140)
-------------------------------------	-------

Reading 4 Elections	(149)
---------------------------	-------

Chapter V The Economy	(158)
------------------------------------	--------------

Reading 1 How Much Do Canadians Make?	(173)
---	-------

Reading 2 Saint Lawrence Seaway	(177)
---------------------------------------	-------

Reading 3 Underground Railway	(185)
-------------------------------------	-------

Chapter VI Canadian Education	(193)
--	--------------

Reading 1 Changes in Public Education	(201)
---	-------

Reading 2 English Spelling	(205)
----------------------------------	-------

Reading 3 Dates to Remember	(209)
-----------------------------------	-------

Reading 4 Multicultural Holidays	(213)
--	-------

Reading 5 Teens on the Net	(217)
----------------------------------	-------

Reading 6 Eh	(222)
--------------------	-------

Reading 7 CBC	(230)
---------------------	-------

Chapter VII Arts and Leisure	(238)
---	--------------

Reading 1 The Great One Hangs Up His Skates	(254)
---	-------

Reading 2 Winter Sports	(258)
Reading 3 Native Art	(263)
Reading 4 Grey Cup	(271)

Chapter VIII Canadian Health (279)

Reading 1 Canada's Growing Population	(285)
Reading 2 Charlotte Whitton	(289)
Reading 3 Vineyards	(297)

Chapter IX Tourist Attraction (305)

Reading 1 A Natural Wonder – Niagara Falls	(317)
Reading 2 Ottawa	(323)
Reading 3 Canadian Migrate to Alberta for Jobs and Opportunity	(328)
Reading 4 Casa Loma	(332)
Reading 5 Canada – U.S. Border	(337)
Reading 6 Algonquin Park	(342)

Chapter X Canada in the World (351)

Reading 1 50 Years of Queen Elizabeth II	(362)
Reading 2 Immigrants Choose the GTA	(367)
Reading 3 Women Had to Fight for Rights	(372)
Reading 4 Free Trade Agreements	(377)
Reading 5 YMCA	(386)

Chapter I THE LAND

Of Canada, Margaret Atwood has written: "In a country with such a high ratio of trees, lakes and rocks to people, images from Nature are almost everywhere." Whimsical but true. In Canada, some 70% of the land is wilderness – land with no sign of human settlement.

As Canadians, we celebrate this: our novels, poems, songs, our national anthem, our conversation, our newspapers are all rich with images of the land.

The land challenges us to describe it, and we take up the challenge, "No European except for a Russian can ever take in the size of Canada except by traveling by train," writes author Mavis Gallant. "A long plane journey gives some idea, particularly at night when the lights of cities are like rafts in what seems to be the emptiest and darkest of seas."

Canada's size makes it the second largest country in the world, topped only by the Russian Federation. We have 7% of the world's landmass, and 9% of its fresh water supply. Of a total area of nearly ten million square kilometers, over nine million are land, and 755,000 fresh water. The three oceans that couch our shores – the Atlantic, the Pacific and the Arctic – provide us with the world's longest coastline at 244,000 kilometers.

Given Canada's image as "the great white North," it may come as a surprise to find that our southernmost land is an island that shares a latitude with Northern California to the west and Rome to the east. Appropriately named Middle Island, it sits in the middle of the Lake Erie shipping channel just north

of the 41st parallel. The most southerly occupied land is nearby Pelee Island near Point Pelee, Ontario, a national park and mecca for bird-watchers.

The True North? It took more than a century of debate to pinpoint the precise location of Canada's northern extremity. Finally, in 1987, the Department of National Defense determined that it was a small point extending from Cape Columbia on Ellesmere Island at a latitude of $83^{\circ}06'41.35''\text{N}$. From this point to our southernmost point, Canada stretches 4,634 kilometers.

East to west, the width of the country is such that Newfoundlanders are already at lunch when British Columbians are having breakfast. Canada spans six time zones; there's a four-and-a-half hour difference between Pacific Time and Newfoundland Time. Canada's most easterly land (and that of North America too) is Cape Spear near St. John's, Newfoundland. The most westerly is the Yukon-Alaska boundary, 5,514 kilometers away.

Tying this country together is the world's longest national highway. The Trans Canada Highway runs from St. John's, Newfoundland on the Atlantic ocean to Victoria, British Columbia on the Pacific, an asphalt ribbon nearly 8,000 kilometers long.

STARTING POINT "Canada begins right here," proclaims the sign at St. John's City Hall, Mile 0 / Kilometre 0 of the Trans Canada Highway. Author Farley Mowat has described Newfoundland as "a mighty granite stopper over the bellmouth of the Gulf of St. Lawrence."

In fact, the province is made up of the island of Newfoundland, and Labrador, part of the mainland. The scenery is best described as rocky; Labrador is covered by thick forests to the south and barren mountain peaks to the north. According to Canada's climate severity index, the residents of St. John's experience the most severe weather in Canada: their days are the foggiest, snowiest, wettest, windiest and cloudiest.

In 1994, Newfoundland was one of only two regions (the other being Yukon Territory) to lose population. That year, Newfoundlanders numbered 582,000, down 2,000 from the previous year. With a total area of 406,000 square kilometers, Newfoundland has the lowest provincial population density (1.6 people per square kilometer).

In terms of natural resources, for generations Newfoundlanders have depended on their fishery. Now, with this industry in decline, Newfoundlanders are having to find other means of livelihood and, in some cases, are moving elsewhere. However, Newfoundland is Canada's leading source of iron ore; in 1992, the province produced almost 18 million tonnes.

THE ISLAND "Fair Island of the Sea" is how Lucy Maud Montgomery, creator of Anne of Green Gables, described her home province. And with its red soil and white, sandy beaches, Prince Edward Island has a distinctive beauty. Much of it is farmland, with potato and mixed grain fields covering 45% of the island.

At 5,660 square kilometers, "the Island" is Canada's smallest province, but it actually has the country's highest provincial population density: about 23 people for every square kilometer, although the total population is under 135,000. The province is also the least urbanized, with just 40% of Islanders living in towns or cities.

The natural beauty of the Maritime provinces - Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick - makes them a popular summer vacation destination, but winter brings widely seesawing temperatures and heavy storms.

NOVA SCOTIA With much of its land edged by the rugged North Atlantic, Nova Scotia is a province of the ocean. Famous for the Bluenose schooner, Canada's fishing and sailing champion of the 1920s, its inhabitants are

often affectionately called "Bluenosers", even to this day.

The province is also famous for its musical talent: the Barra MacNeils, Rita MacNeil, Ashley MacIsaac, the Rankin Family and many more have brought acclaim to Nova Scotia.

Schooners and crooners aside, Nova Scotia has traditionally relied on fishing, but this is now an industry in trouble. On the other hand, Nova Scotia has a larger and more diverse manufacturing sector than the other two Maritime provinces. The province's principal mineral is coal, the production of which in 1992 was worth \$ 265 million.

Most of the population of 937,000 live somewhere within 10 kilometers of salt water, but then no part of Nova Scotia is more than 50 kilometers from the sea. The province covers 55,000 square kilometers and includes Cape Breton Island, now joined to the mainland by a permanent causeway.

PICTURE PROVINCE New Brunswick has been called the picture province with the lush green of farmlands and forests and the cool blue of the St. John River. The province is small, only 73,440 square kilometers, and much remains treed, approximately 90%. Forestry dominates New Brunswick's economy. The pulp and paper and forestry and wood products industries account for 6% of all jobs and about 40% of provincial exports.

The St. John River, as much as the forests, has influenced the development of the province. Flowing southerly, through the middle of the province, it was a major transportation route for traders, loggers and shippers during the late 18th and 19th centuries. It remains the lifeblood of the farmland that stretches along much of its banks. Perfect for some crops, this land produced about 16% of Canada's potatoes in 1994, one of New Brunswick's major crops. In the south, the pasture land provides suitable grazing land for dairy and beef cattle. The river is also a source of power; about 90% of the prov-

ince's hydro - electric energy is fuelled by the St. John River.

New Brunswick retains much of the spirit and ways of its settlers. As Canada's only officially bilingual province, it achieves a balance between the largely Loyalist settlers of the south and the Acadian settlers of the north. Today, the province has a Francophone minority of 34%, which has remained fairly stable over the past 20 years.

LA BELLE PROVINCE It's large and it's beautiful: about 80% of "la belle province" is covered by the Canadian Shield, a mosaic of forests, rocky outcrops, lakes and rivers. The fertile lowlands of the St. Lawrence River counterbalance this wildness with their robust dairy and livestock industries.

Quebec is Canada's largest province, covering 1.5 million square kilometers. Of that area, 184,000 square kilometers are water: Quebec has a quarter of Canada's fresh water.

In 1994, the population of Quebec was 7.3 million, about 5.2 people for every square kilometer. Most Quebecers (78%) live in the province's towns and cities.

About half of all Canadians live in the corridor between Quebec and Windsor, Ontario. One of the area's natural advantages is its closeness to the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes. The St. Lawrence Seaway, opened in 1959, links the five Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River with the Atlantic Ocean, providing an economical means of shipping bulk commodities such as grain, iron ore and coal. Quebecers produce about one-quarter of Canadian manufactured goods - mostly paper, primary metals and processed foods. The province is one of the world's leading producers of asbestos. It produces Canada's second largest quantity of gold after Ontario, and of iron ore after Newfoundland, and is also a major producer of copper.

Montreal, the largest urban center in this province, may be the snow removal capital of the world. Of all major cities, it clears the most snow from its streets, an average of 42 million tonnes a year. This reality moved Montreal poet Emile Nelligan to write: "Oh! How the snow snowed!"

ONTARIO Pianist Glenn Gould found Ontario's countryside "absolutely haunting in its emptiness and bleakness and starkly magnificent beauty." But with all this largely true, Ontario is still where over one-third of us live: close to 11 million in 1994.

As in Quebec, the Canadian Shield dominates the province but the climate and soil of the Great Lakes lowlands make Ontario the provincial leader in agricultural production at \$ 5 billion in 1991 (a quarter of Canada's total). At the same time, the province is Canada's industrial heartland, accounting for about half the country's manufacturing. The manufacture of transportation equipment is its largest single industry. Ontario also leads Canada in the production of gold and nickel.

Ontario is home to Canada's largest metropolitan area, Toronto, with 4.3 million inhabitants in 1994. It shares the National Capital Region with Quebec: Ottawa - Hull, with just over one million inhabitants, is Canada's fourth largest metropolitan area after Montreal and Vancouver.

PRAIRIE POOL "Moving from east to west the land / rises in successive giant steps / like prairie billiard tables," wrote poet Al Purdy of this part of Canada. Table-top flat for the most part, the Prairies encompass Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and are covered by the deep fertile clay soils left by glacial lakes. Hot summers and cold winters are the norm here, with relatively light precipitation in all seasons. The area is largely built on agriculture, with wheat and other grain crops being the most important.

Manitoba Cool "If I am asked what my image of Manitoba is," said

novelist Gabrielle Roy, the one that "comes to mind spontaneously is that of the giant plain, open, immense, yet tender and full of dreams." Manitoba is Canada's geographic heartland. Its southern plain is the lowest of the three step-like formations of the Prairie region, and is covered by deep, fertile soil. Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, has the distinction of being the coldest major city in Canada, with a January mean temperature of -18°C .

About 1.1 million people live in Manitoba, of whom 72% are urban dwellers. Apart from agriculture, the province's economy is based on manufacturing, mineral production (Manitoba is second to Ontario in production of nickel), and a small commercial freshwater fishery.

Saskatchewan "And Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan: said the train."

Author Malcolm Lowry's words evoke the rhythm of the train trekking across the great plains of this province. One of Canada's most palpable symbols has been its rail system. In fact, the steel rails of the transcontinental railways built in the late 19th and early 20th centuries welded the nation together and fuelled its industrialization. They also brought the flood of agricultural immigrants to the Prairies.

More land area is given over to farms in Saskatchewan than in any other province. Known as the "bread basket of the nation," the province has a total land area of 570,700 square kilometers, of which farming takes up 47%. Despite this, the province's population of just over one million lives mostly in cities (63%).

While the leading industry is agriculture, Saskatchewan is also a major world producer of potash. In 1992, it was the Canadian leader in the production of uranium (eight million kilograms), and was second to Alberta in the value of petroleum produced (\$ 1.4 billion).

And Alberta "I want to scribble all over that enormous sky!" novelist Arian Engel once exclaimed. While Alberta claims the famous Rocky Mountains as its western border, most of the province lies in the plains. Alberta's 2.7 million residents experience a highly variable winter climate: the Chinook arch, a strong, warm southwestern wind sweeping over the Rockies from the Pacific Ocean, can raise the temperature 15°C in an hour.

Alberta is oil country. It accounts for about half the value of mineral production in Canada (\$ 16.4 billion). Almost all of this comes from petroleum, and natural gas and its byproduct. Grain and livestock production are also important to the provincial economy.

BRITISH COLUMBIA Humorist Eric Nicol has called it "a large body of land entirely surrounded by envy." Indeed, the province's natural beauty, together with its mild climate, makes it increasingly a desirable place to live.

Over the past two decades, the trend has in fact been westward. British Columbia has Canada's fastest growing population: in 1994, there were 3.7 million British Columbians, an increase of 2.6% over the previous year – a growth rate more than double the national average. Both immigrants and other Canadians contribute to British Columbia's population growth.

British Columbia's economy thrives on its natural resources, the forest industry being the most important. In 1991, the province led Canada in the value of forest products (\$ 3.8 billion). In 1992, it was also number one in the value of coal produced (\$ 706 million) and copper (\$ 908 million). Livestock – specialty crops and fruit are the major agricultural products. The extensive fishery – Canada's largest – is based on salmon and herring.

YUKON "If the North has a soul," Pierre Berton has mused, "it is here in this empty land which, harsh though it is, has a beauty that no man

who has not lived there a lifetime can really understand." This triangle of plateaus and mountains covers 483,000 square kilometers. Mount Logan, at 5,959 meters, the highest point in Canada, is located in the St. Elias Mountains in the southwest. Yukon has the greatest average annual temperature range in North America, at 40°C. As with the Northwest Territories, the population is sparse: with some 30,000 people, there are only 0.1 people for each square kilometer. Mining is the chief economic activity.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES This vast area of 3.4 million square kilometers - one-third of Canada - features extremes in topography, flora and fauna, and climate. Most of the area is plains, but in the extreme north are mountainous highlands. There are many fur-bearing animals and species of fish, and brilliantly blooming plant life during the brief, cool summers. The climate is harsh with long, cold winters, although surprisingly little snow. This is the land of the midnight sun and the polar night, where the sun remains below the horizon for several weeks at midwinter.

Because of the climate and poorly developed soils, this is the most sparsely populated region of the country with just 64,000 inhabitants. Population density is a mere 0.02 people per square kilometer. The economy is dominated by the mining industry; fur and fisheries are exploited commercially on a small scale.