

Mackenzie Government was the Franchise Act, which provided that the general elections should be held on the same day throughout the Dominion, and the voting should be by ballot. Another measure was the Canada Temperance Act, known as the Scott Act.

The North-West Territory.—The Dominion Government, recognizing the rights of the Indians of the North-West as the original inhabitants of the country, set apart lands for their use, and established schools for their children. Homesteads were given also to the half-breeds. New settlers were encouraged to come in from the other Provinces and from Europe. Up to this time (1876) the Territory had been under the government of Manitoba. The western part was now placed under a Governor and Council of its own; the eastern portion, called Keewatin, was left as before.

The National Policy.—The years which followed Mr. Mackenzie's accession to power were not prosperous. The trade of the Dominion was greatly depressed, and the public revenue year after year showed large deficits. When times are dull, people are apt to blame the Government. The leaders of the Opposition took advantage of the situation. To increase home production, and as a remedy for the hard times, they proposed an increase of duty on such imported goods as were also produced in the Dominion. They called their scheme of protection the "National Policy," and as their watchword they adopted "Canada for the Canadians." They urged their principles in Parliament, from the public platform, and through the press.

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY.

1. What was the old method of electing members of Parliament?
2. What award did the Fishery Commission give to Canada from the United States? Explain the circumstances. Explain the temperance law called the Scott Act.