

Chapter 5 - The Prairies 1870-1896

Please read pages 170-176 and fill in the blanks of this summary.

The _____ made up the majority of the population in the newly created province of _____. They felt their rights would be protected by the _____ 1870: English and _____ were the two official languages, there would be two education systems (Protestant and _____), and 1.4 million acres of land was reserved for the Metis for _____.



Troops that were sent by Prime Minister _____ to keep the peace in the region committed criminal acts against the Metis, such as arson, assault, rape, and murder, but were never punished for their crimes. To own land in the new province, you needed to have a



piece of paper, a _____. There were two types of scrips given to the Metis. _____ scrip had a value of _____ or \$240 and could be converted to _____. _____ scrip could be exchanged for a homesteader's land grant of 160 acres. The Metis did not understand the true value of the scrip: they didn't realize this

piece of paper was worth land or money and their culture did not use writing and paper to denote land ownership. In addition, the land that could be purchased with a scrip wasn't always near established communities or rivers or suitable for farming; land was allotted based on a lottery system, so it was just 'luck of the draw'. As a result, many Metis sold their scrip to _____

_____ and were forced to leave Manitoba and settle in the _____.

In the Northwest, the Metis re-created the life they had left in Manitoba. They farmed the land using the traditional _____ system and built churches so they could practice the Catholic religion. They earned a living through _____ farming (just growing enough food to feed the family), the _____ hunt, and moving freight for the _____. Life was good until the buffalo hunt was threatened by encroaching settlement and



farming plots. The bison herds, which once numbered in the thousands, were quickly _____ . The First Nations and Metis relied upon the bison for their own existence, plus they traded hides and pemmican with the HBC. In response, the Metis created the _____. These laws outlined settlement, farming, and hunting practices in the hopes of conserving the buffalo and the Metis way of life.



The HBC Chief Factor _____ at Fort Carlton used the Metis for cheap labour. He only hired them for temporary contracts and gave them low wages, most of which were in the form of trade goods instead of cash. Clarke also became the _____, or judge, in the Northwest and this allowed him to maintain order in the region and advance the HBC.

By the winter of 1874-75, the way of life of the Metis was in trouble. Almost all the bison had been eliminated, which meant a lack of _____ and _____. In 1875, some Metis started the hunt earlier than others.

_____, the leader of the Metis in St. Laurent, arrested and fined them for illegal hunting. These men appealed to Chief Factor Clarke and he in turn arrested Dumont and his men! The Canadian government, under Prime Minister _____, knew that Dumont was right and Clarke was wrong, but the government did not stop Clarke from abusing his powers in the region. Dumont and his men were fined, an act which made the Laws of St. Laurent invalid. This event signaled the end of _____ control over the buffalo hunt. They could no longer make their own laws or govern their own livelihood.



WORD BANK

\$160
Alexander Mackenzie
buffalo
cash
Catholic
disappearing
farming
food
French

Gabriel Dumont
HBC
income
land
land speculators
Lawrence Clarke
Laws of St. Laurent
Macdonald
magistrate

Manitoba
Manitoba Act
Metis x2
money
Northwest
scrip
seigneurial
subsistence