

cessful effort to promote tourism; and fox breeding, a mainstay of the Island seventy years ago, has become profitable again. Keith Milligan of Tyne Valley, whose father once worked for the Milligan-Morrison Ranch, a huge concern before the Depression of the thirties, bought fifteen silver foxes for \$250 each in 1974. He now has 150, worth between \$1,200 and \$1,500 each, and a lot of other people have gone into the business.

The economy is looking up, at least a bit, but short-term prospects are at best uncertain. The market for potatoes, the principal cash crop, is shaky, and lobster prices appear to be softening. John Palmer, Director of Planning and Statistics in the Department of Finance, says that on the bright side, the federal government is moving the Department of Veterans Affairs from Ottawa to Charlottetown, bringing 750 permanent jobs. Tourism is buoyant, and the dairy and poultry industries are thriving.



P.E.I.'s principal cash crop is potatoes.

## Nova Scotia

*Nova Scotia is a peninsula entirely surrounded by fish. An early travel writer.*

In the mid-19th century Nova Scotia had a quarter of the world's shipping and a good portion of the world's kilts.

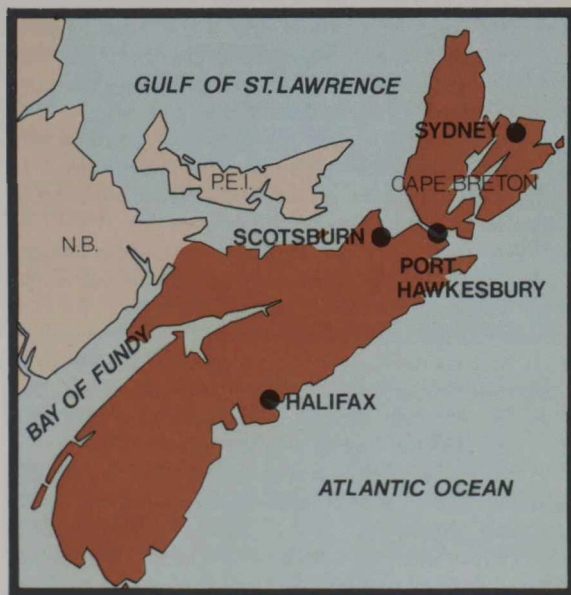
It has lost rank in both cases, but Halifax remains the largest ice-free, deep-water port in North America, and thirty-five per cent of the population still have a boastable Scot connection.

It is the most populous of the Atlantic Provinces (900,000 people) and the most prosperous, though that is a relative term. It depends heavily on federal assistance and has received more than \$400 million in aid. Equalization payments, in the words of Premier John Buchanan, are "the lifeblood of Nova Scotia. Without them we'd be dead ducks."

Depleted fishing stocks have been restored and the fishermen, like their colleagues in the adjacent provinces, are doing well.

The Cape Breton Development Corporation has a striking history of wins and losses. It began by attempting to create new and alien industries—the making of abrasives and pre-fabricated houses—which lacked accessible markets, and in 1972 it changed tactics, concentrating on more familiar goals. It pushed the expansion and modernization of mines, the encouragement of tourism and the upgrading of local cattle. (Nova Scotia pastures support a cow to an acre, compared to a cow to thirty acres in the prairies.)

These efforts did not have immediate positive effects. In the mid-1970s the province had its worst recession since the thirties, but the economy began to improve in 1977, and in 1978 manufacturing output rose by thirteen per cent and foreign exports



Unlike many ports in Canada, Halifax's harbour is busy the year round.