

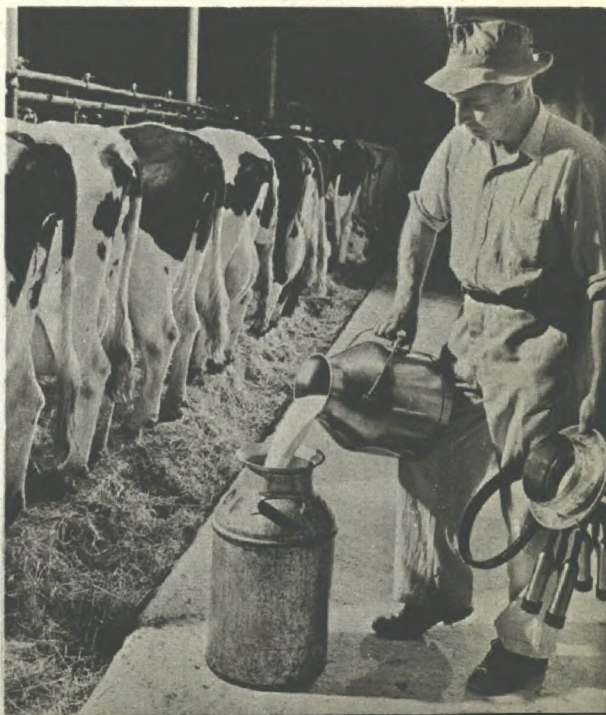


Preparing for a fur auction  
at Winnipeg, Manitoba.

factories, notably iron and steel, automobiles, farm machinery, processed foods, and electrical supplies. Toronto, like Montreal, is a centre of finance, distribution, and transport for eastern Canada.

## The Prairie Provinces

The three provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, each with an area of about 250,000 square miles (about 647,500 square kilometers) are characterized by vast stretches of undulating prairie. The export from Canada of a million bushels of wheat per day from 1944 to 1946 was made possible by the rich alluvial soil of the prairie provinces, improved types of wheat, and the efficiency of mechanized agriculture.



The interior of a  
modern Ontario dairy farm.



Picking apples in  
the Niagara peninsula.

It was the rich and free wheat-lands of the prairies that brought the wave of western settlement at the beginning of the century and the parallel growth of the older communities in the East. By 1931 the population of the three prairie provinces was five and one-half times what it had been at the turn of the century. As an example of the effects of western settlement upon industrial development in the east, the number of eastern firms producing iron and steel products (largely rails and farm machinery) had increased from 29 in 1890 to 89 by 1910.

The double impact of drought and shrinking world trade

Ploughing a farm in the Icelandic settlement of Glenboro, Man.

