



Nova Scotia fishermen haul in a catch of mackerel.

bread requirements of ninety-two million people. During the war Canada supplied the United Kingdom with 72 per cent of its bacon, 52 per cent of its wheat, 35 per cent of its canned fish and a quarter of its cheese. Canada stood fourth among the United Nations in total war production.

Historically, fish and furs were the first Canadian exports. Lumber was added later, and export wheat production followed the settlement of the western prairies. Industrialization, accelerated by the development of hydro-electric power and mineral deposits, made pulp and paper, base metals and processed foods available for trade. But in 1939 nearly 70 per cent of all exports still were natural products.

THE REGIONAL ECONOMIES

The factor of distance is ever present in considering Canada's rich and varied resources. Montreal, Canada's greatest port, is closer to Glasgow than to Vancouver. And nearly two-thirds of the country is a rugged expanse of rock, forest and swamp.

In the light of geography, sheer distance and physical barriers, the economy of Canada can be described in terms of five separate economic areas—the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, the Prairies and British Columbia. Each tends towards unity within itself.

Men and machines mine coal in North Sydney, N.S.



Potato harvest in Eastern Canada.

The Maritime Region

Utting out from the mainland of Canada are the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The farming area here had to be won from the forests; farms are relatively small. Potatoes, apples and dairy products are the staples and there is a considerable fur-farming industry. Forestry and fishing are closely related occupations, and many farm incomes are supplemented by lumbering or fishing activities. Lumber, pulp and paper, cod, haddock, lobsters and oysters are leading products.

The soft coal deposits on the North Atlantic seaboard, chiefly in Nova Scotia, make mining another significant element of the Maritimes economy. There is an allied steel industry, concentrated mainly around the city of Sydney, in Cape Breton Island, which obtains its iron ore from nearby Newfoundland. Since nearly half the tonnage must be raised from submarine coal-beds, mining is costly.

There is some manufacturing in the Maritimes, devoted largely to processing the products of forest, farm and sea, sugar refining and the manufacture of cordage and textiles. But manufacturing has developed slowly, and the primary industries are still of greatest importance.

Logs wait on frozen rivers for the spring thaws.

