



*Part of a buffalo herd roaming northern Manitoba*

to be good. Agriculture has been the economic mainstay of the Province since its birth in 1870 and before, but there is increasing confidence in the development of a strong manufacturing sector.

This year the price of land was high, the grain harvests were good, but the market prices were disappointing. The most significant crops are grains, particularly wheat. Manitoba is host to much of Canada's grain marketing machinery - the Wheat Board, the Winnipeg Commodity Exchange and the Canadian International Grains Institute as well as the University of Manitoba Centre of Grain Research. In the trading room of the huge Commodity Exchange, feed wheat, feed oats, feed barley, rye, rapeseed, flaxseed, corn, gold and silver futures and options are traded. During the crop year ending in July 1981, there were 2.26 million futures contracts traded, valued at 11.9 billion dollars. Manitoba's agriculture, unlike that of the other prairie provinces Saskatchewan and Alberta, is quite varied and includes market gardening and livestock production.

For some years, manufacturing has been a bright spot and employment has remained constant. Capital investment in this sector rose 68.7 percent last year. The garment, furniture, food and machinery plants serve the expanding markets of western Canada and are suffering less from the recession than their eastern counterparts. Winnipeg has become an important centre for the manufacturing of aircraft components, buses and railway rolling stock, much of which is exported. (A special edition of "Canada Today", devoted to Manitoba, was published in October 1982 by the Canadian High Commission in London).