

It has, however, been found that there are many conflicting data, and as the question stands to-day the general consensus of opinion is that while there have been pulsations of both long and short periods during which departures from averages have been quite pronounced, both as regards temperature and precipitation, yet there have not been appreciable progressive changes in either direction.

In view of these facts, we may be fairly sure that in the seasons in Canada of the more than fifty years since Confederation there have been variations such as have occurred down through the centuries and will occur in the future, but we need not expect to find any marked, climatic change. There is, however, one factor which may have to some extent affected the climate of eastern Canada. That is deforestation, and yet, be it said in a somewhat guarded manner, the records that we possess do not indicate that this factor is as important as it was once thought to be.

Temperature.—On an inspection of the charts showing the curves of winter temperature for the different parts of Canada during the past 50 years, the most obvious fact is that the variations from average are largest in the western provinces and that they diminish gradually eastward toward the Atlantic coast. At Edmonton the mean temperature of the winter of 1887 was -4° , while that of 1889 was 22° ; the lowest winter monthly average, -14° , occurred in January, 1886, and the highest winter monthly, 22° , occurred in both January and February, 1889. Winnipeg shows even a greater range, with a mean winter temperature of -9° in 1887, and a mean of 19° in 1878. The lowest monthly mean was -16° in January, 1883, and the highest 23° in February, 1878.

At Toronto the coldest winters were those of 1875 and 1904 with a mean of 17° , followed closely by 1885 and 1918 with a mean of 18° . The warmest winter was 1890 with a mean of 31° and the next warmest 1919 with a mean of 30° and 1921 with a mean of 29° , which give a difference of 14° between the warmest and the coldest winters. The coldest monthly mean recorded was 10.2° in February, 1875, the warmest January mean was 33° in 1880 and the warmest February was 30° in 1882.

At Montreal the coldest winter means were 10° in 1875, 1904 and 1905 and the warmest 21° in 1878 and 1892; the coldest January was 4° in 1888 and also in 1893, and the warmest 22° in both 1880 and 1913. The coldest February was 6° in 1885 and the warmest 27° in 1877.

In Nova Scotia, as represented by Halifax, the coldest winters were those of 1868 and 1905, with mean temperatures of 18° , and the warmest were those of 1870 and 1889, each with a mean temperature of 28° . The coldest January was that of 1920 with a temperature of 14° , and the coldest Februaries were those of 1868, 1875, 1904, 1905, 1911 and 1914, each with a mean of 18° .

The lowest temperatures on record at various stations in Canada are as follows:—Fort Good Hope, Mackenzie river, -79° ; Fort