

while salt water washes the coasts of the province for many miles on its northern and western borders. Besides including a narrow strip of land between the St. Lawrence and the international and New Brunswick boundaries, Quebec extends northward from the St. Lawrence and Ottawa rivers to Hudson strait, covering over 17° of latitude and an area of 706,834 square miles. The combined areas of France, Germany, Sweden and Italy are some 7,000 square miles less than the area of Quebec. Apart from its importance as the threshold of Canada and the gateway through which ocean navigation must pass on its way to the interior of the continent, Quebec is also noted for its natural resources. The untold timber limits of its northern areas form the basis for a great pulp and paper industry of the present and the future. Its rivers, many of them as yet comparatively unknown, may be harnessed to supply over one-third of the electric power available in Canada. Its mineral deposits, particularly those of asbestos, have long been known for their quality and extent, and the fisheries of the St. Lawrence river and gulf are equally familiar. Agriculturally, the climate and soil of the St. Lawrence shores and the plains of the Eastern Townships make the province eminently fitted for general farming operations.

*Ontario.*—The province of Ontario is the section of the Dominion contained between the great international lakes and Hudson bay and between the western boundary of Quebec and the eastern limits of Manitoba. Its most southern point is in north latitude 41° 41' and its most northern in north latitude 56° 48'. The total area comprised within its limits is 407,262 square miles, of which its water area of 41,382 square miles forms the unusually large percentage of 10.16. The province is a little more than 8,000 square miles less in area than are France and Germany together, and when compared with the states to the south Ontario is found to be almost equal in extent to the combined area of the six New England states, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Many varieties of climate and soil are encountered, from the distinctively southern conditions found along the shores of lake Erie to the infinitely diverse ones of Hudson and James bay. Ontario, of all the provinces of Canada, is the centre of the country's manufacturing life, owing to its abundant water power resources and its proximity to the coal fields of Pennsylvania, but the many natural resources of its rural districts are not on this account neglected. Mining in the Sudbury, Cobalt and Porcupine districts is a thriving industry, the nickel coming from the Sudbury field amounting to three-fourths of the world's consumption; fruit farming in the Niagara district and general farming throughout the entire central part of the province are carried on extensively under unusually favourable conditions, while timber and furs are the most important products of the far north.

*Manitoba.*—Manitoba, the most easterly of the prairie provinces and also the oldest in point of settlement, extends roughly from a line joining the west coast of Hudson bay and the lake of the Woods to a line approximating closely to the 102nd meridian west from Greenwich. On the north and south it is bounded by the 60th and 49th parallels of latitude respectively. The total area of Manitoba is 251,832 square miles. This area may be compared to that of the United Kingdom with its area of 121,633 square miles, and Manitoba is seen to be 8,566 square miles greater than twice the total area of the British Isles. The province is typically an agricultural one, its southern plains being specially adapted to this form of industry. Its northern districts, with a topography very different from that of its prairies, are of importance in the production of copper ore and of timber products