

with the climatology of Alberta is that the isotherms in the summer months run nearly north and south, so that the mean summer temperature is almost as high in the more northerly regions as in the southern districts.

Thus Dunvegan in the Peace river country and Chipewyan on lake Athabasca have nearly the same summer temperature as Calgary and Edmonton; while it is said that with the longer period of sunlight, plant life in the north makes more rapid growth than in the south. The effect of latitude, however, begins to be evident towards the end of August in the more rapidly diminishing temperature at the northern stations. On the average the winter, December to March, has mean temperatures distributed from south to north as shewn by these figures:—Calgary 18°, Edmonton 14°, Dunvegan 6°, Chipewyan 3° below zero.

The chinook wind, one of the characteristic features of the climate of Alberta, usually blows strongly from a southwest or west direction. Although of more frequent occurrence in the southern districts, it is by no means uncommon even in the Peace river country. Sometimes a change of wind from the northeast and north to the southwest will, in Alberta, cause a rise of temperature from perhaps 20° below zero to 40° above zero in a few hours. Largely to the effect of this wind is due the fact that the ground is usually bare of snow over large areas of the prairies of southern Alberta during the winter.

Saskatchewan.—The southern half of this province is almost wholly prairie land, and it is only to the northward of the Saskatchewan river that any extensive forest areas are to be found. The climate is similar to that of Manitoba. It is like that of Alberta, however, in respect to the rather earlier commencement of spring in the southwestern portion as compared with a generally later opening in the north and east, while in midwinter the chinook extends sometimes into this province, occasionally as far east as Regina. Up to the end of April the temperature of southern Saskatchewan is somewhat higher than that of southern Manitoba, but from May onward through the summer it is a little lower and remains so until December. The mean daily range of temperature during the summer months is here, as in other prairie provinces, very large, amounting to 25° or even 30°. Occasionally during both early June and late August the temperature goes dangerously near the freezing point, and there are several instances of record when considerable damage was done to unripened crops by frost. The mean total annual precipitation is from 15 to 18 inches, of which nearly 60 p.c. falls during the growing season, from May to the end of August. Snowfall is from 30 to 35 inches (that is, from 3 to 3½ inches of water) in the western and southern districts, and from 40 to 50 inches in some of the northern and eastern districts.

Manitoba.—This Province is almost in the centre of the continent about midway between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and also midway between the Gulf of Mexico and the Arctic ocean. As it is many hundreds of miles distant from any high mountains, the topographical features are not pronounced. About two-thirds of the total area, including lakes Winnipeg, Manitoba and Winnipegosis, are at a level of less than 1,000 feet, while to the westward the levels increase gradually to about 1,600 feet, with a few districts a little higher. In view of its geographical situation and these topographical features, it is not surprising that the climate is typically continental in character, and that such differences as exist between districts are due chiefly to latitude and elevation. The very pronounced contrast between the continental and littoral type of climate is well illustrated by some comparisons between Manitoba and British Columbia. The mean range between the warmest and coldest months of the year is 70° at Winnipeg, while at