

The average precipitation of these provinces is between 40 and 45 inches, except along the southern coastline of Nova Scotia, where it is nearly 10 inches greater. The snowfall is very heavy in northern New Brunswick, where it exceeds 100 inches. It diminishes southward to Nova Scotia, where the precipitation accompanying winter storms is usually partly in the form of rain.

The climate of these provinces is eminently suited to agriculture and the raising of cattle, while in such situations as the Annapolis valley orchards bear fruit of famous quality. A trip through the Annapolis valley in October will amply repay the tourist, as nothing can be conceived more beautiful than the gorgeous autumn tints which everywhere enhance the loveliness of the landscape.

2.—The Factors which control Canadian Weather.

Under the above heading, Sir Frederick Stupart, Director of the Dominion Meteorological Service, Toronto, contributed an article which appeared at pp. 26 to 31 of the 1924 Year Book, also at pp. 36 to 40 of the 1925 Year Book.

3.—The Distribution of Precipitation in Canada.

An article on "The Distribution of Precipitation in Canada", contributed by A. J. Connor, Climatologist, Dominion Meteorological Office, Toronto, appeared at pp. 42 to 46 of the 1926 edition of the Year Book.

4.—The Meteorological Service of Canada.

Under the above heading Sir Frederick Stupart contributed a short article descriptive of the growth and present activities of the Meteorological Service, which for reasons of space is not reprinted here, to the 1922-23 edition of the Year Book (pp. 43-47); to it the interested reader is referred.

5.—Meteorological Tables.

Tables 9 and 10 which follow, have been prepared by the Meteorological Service of Canada for insertion in the Year Book and have been revised for the present edition so as to cover longer periods of observation. For the interpretation of Table 9 a note on the method used in measuring temperature and precipitation is appended.

TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION.

TEMPERATURE.—At the stations of the Dominion Meteorological Service the highest and lowest temperature in each 24 hours, termed respectively the maximum and the minimum, are recorded by self-registering thermometers. For any month the sum of the daily maxima, divided by the number of days of the month, is the mean maximum temperature of that month. The mean minimum temperature is obtained in a similar manner. The half sum of the mean maximum and the mean minimum is called the mean temperature. The averages of these results for any particular month over a period of years are the average means for that period and are used as normal means or temperatures of reference. The highest and lowest temperatures recorded during the whole period of years are termed the extreme maximum and extreme minimum respectively. These latter figures are of course to be regarded as extraordinary, the more unlikely to recur the longer the period from which they have been derived. Temperatures below zero have the minus sign (–) prefixed. The mean winter temperature is based on the records of January, February, March, November and December, and the mean summer temperature is based on those of June, July and August.

PRECIPITATION.—Under the collective term "precipitation" is included all moisture which has been precipitated from the atmosphere upon the earth; rain, snow, hail, sleet, etc. The amount of moisture is conveniently measured by determining the depth to which it has accumulated upon an impervious surface, and is always expressed in inches of depth. The total depth of snow is tabulated separately, but is added to the depth of rain after division by ten. An extended series of experiments in melting and measuring snow having been collated, the rule was deduced that a given fall of snow will, in melting, diminish on the average to one-tenth of its original depth. This rule is used in practice. All solid forms of precipitation other than snow are included in the tables of rain. The capital letter "T", used in the precipitation columns, indicates a "trace" of snow or rain, less than a hundredth part of an inch.