

been called the best watered country in the world; numerous rivers provide access to extensive lumbering areas in its interior and to many of the most attractive hunting and fishing resorts in the Dominion.

Quebec.—Quebec might with considerable accuracy be included among the Maritime Provinces, for the gulf of St. Lawrence is really a part of the Atlantic, and altogether salt water washes the coasts of the province for a length of over 2,700 miles. 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 Labrador and Hudson strait, covering over 17° of latitude and an area of 594,434 square miles, about 38 p.c. of which lies south of the isotherm of 60° mean July temperature.¹ The combined areas of France, Germany and Spain are some 5,000 square miles less than the area of Quebec. The conformity of the surface of Quebec is in general that characteristic of the Pre-cambrian rocks, being quite even in general but much diversified by minor hills and hollows. North of the St. Lawrence the land takes the form of a ridge, parallel to the river and rising from sea-level to the Height of Land at an elevation of from 1,000 to 3,000 feet and then descending gently again to the sea-level of Hudson bay to the northwest; but to the northeast the ridge carries its height to end abruptly in the high headlands of Labrador. South of the river the area is comprised of the St. Lawrence Lowlands between Montreal and Quebec which, rising to the east, produce the highest elevation in the province, of about 4,200 feet, in the Gaspé peninsula. With the exception of the treeless zone extending somewhat south of Ungava bay the whole of the province supports a valuable tree growth varying from the mixed forest in the southwest to the eastern and northern coniferous in the areas of higher latitude. Apart from its importance as the threshold of Canada and the gateway through which ocean vessels must pass on their way to the interior of the continent, Quebec is also noted for its natural resources. The extensive timber limits of its northern areas form the basis for the 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, while promising discoveries of copper and gold deposits have been made in Rouyn and the neighbouring townships in the western part of the province, and the fisheries of the St. Lawrence river and gulf are well known. Agriculturally, the climate and soil of the upper St. Lawrence River valley and the plains of the Eastern Townships are eminently adapted to 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', which is a little further south than the northern boundary of the State of California, and its most northern in north latitude 56° 48'. The total area comprised within its limits, of which about 82 p.c. lies south of the isotherm of 60° mean July temperature, is 412,582 square miles, of which its water area of 49,300 square miles forms the unusually large proportion of nearly 12 p.c. The province is over 17,000 square miles greater 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 areas of the six New England States, together with New

¹ The isotherm of 60° F. mean July temperature is generally considered as the northern limit for the economic production of cereals.