

Summary of Land and Water Area.—The total land and fresh-water area of the Dominion, together with its distribution by provinces and territories, is shown in Table 1.

1.—Land and Fresh-Water Area of Canada, by Provinces and Territories, as in 1933.¹

Province or Territory.	Land. ²	Fresh Water. ²	Total. ²	Per Cent of Total Area.
	sq. miles.	sq. miles.	sq. miles.	
Prince Edward Island.....	2,184	—	2,184	0.1
Nova Scotia.....	20,743	325	21,068	0.6
New Brunswick.....	27,710	275	27,985	0.8
Quebec.....	523,534	71,000	594,534	16.1
Ontario.....	363,282	49,300	412,582	11.2
Manitoba.....	219,723	26,789	246,512	6.7
Saskatchewan.....	237,975	13,725	251,700	6.8
Alberta.....	245,800	6,485	255,285	6.9
British Columbia.....	349,970	5,885	355,855	9.7
Yukon.....	205,346	1,730	207,076	5.6
Northwest Territories—				
Franklin.....	546,532	7,500	554,032	15.0
Keewatin.....	218,460	9,700	228,160	6.2
Mackenzie.....	493,225	34,265	527,490	14.3
Totals.....	3,457,484	226,979	3,684,463	100.0

¹The salt-water areas of Canada are excluded. ²Approximate.

Section 1.—Orography.

The conformation of the present surface of the North American continent admits of its apportionment, in Canada, into several orographic divisions. The exposed surface of the old Precambrian continent forms one of the largest divisions and has been called the Canadian Shield, the Archæan Penplain and in its southern portion, the Laurentian Highland. The mountainous country of the west constitutes the Cordilleras, while the mountains of eastern United States, in their continuation across the border, form the Appalachian Highland of Eastern Canada. The Great Plains, with various subdivisions, occupy the area between the mountainous area of the west and the great roughened surface of the Canadian Shield. The St. Lawrence Lowlands lie between the Laurentian and Appalachian Highlands. Within the borders of the Canadian Shield an area on the southern margin of Hudson bay has been referred to as the "clay belt" It occupies a part of the basin that during the glacial period was submerged and covered with a coating of clay which smoothed over its inequalities and concealed most of the underlying rocks. Since its emergence the surface has been but slightly altered by drainage channels cut across it.

Orographical maps of Eastern and Western Canada, showing elevations above sea-level, will be found on pp. 8 and 10 of this volume.

Canadian Shield.—The portion of the Precambrian continent whose exposed surface still forms a large part of Canada has an area of about two and a half million square miles. Its northern border crosses the Arctic archipelago and the eastern lies beyond Baffin island and Labrador and reaches the depressed area occupied by