

Thus, in all the provinces but Prince Edward Island, large areas are still available for settlement and, while the nature of the soil and of the climate may in some cases restrict the variety of crops, in general the grain, root and fodder crops can be profitably grown in all the provinces, while stock raising is carried on successfully both in the more densely settled areas and beyond their frontiers.

The Maritime Provinces are noted for their fruit and vegetable crops, particularly for the oat and potato crops of Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, and the apples of the Annapolis valley in Nova Scotia. Quebec and Ontario are pre-eminently mixed-farming communities, various districts specializing in dairying, tobacco, sheep, etc., while the Niagara peninsula in Ontario has long been famous for its fruit crops of both large and small varieties. In Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta the production of grains, especially wheat, is still of primary importance but is giving way to more diversified types of agriculture, while the stock-raising industry, once so typical of the prairies, is regaining much of its former importance. In British Columbia the fertile valleys are devoted principally to apple and other fruit crops, and numerous districts along the coast and on Vancouver island are given over to general farming and market gardening.

Of the larger areas of land still available for settlement, the clay belt of northern Ontario and Quebec, which is suited to the growing of splendid crops, is to a large extent undeveloped, and even larger areas in northern Saskatchewan and Alberta await cultivation.

Forests.—The forests of Canada rank second only to agriculture in their contribution to the national income. It is estimated that forest products make up about 15 p.c. of all the freight hauled on Canadian railways, and the heavy excess of exports over imports which the wood and paper group provides, amounting to \$139,733,022 for the fiscal year ended March, 1935, constitutes an important factor in Canada's balance of international trade.

Canada's forest area may be roughly divided into three main parts: (1) the great coniferous forest of the Pacific slope; (2) the northern forest, principally coniferous, which stretches from the east slopes of the Rockies, north of the prairies and of the Great Lakes to Labrador; and (3) the mixed softwood and hardwood forests extending from lake Superior through southern Ontario and Quebec to the Maritime Provinces.

Canada's forest area is estimated at 1,254,082 square miles, or 36.2 p.c. of the land area. Some of this is agricultural land, and, allowing for this and the maintenance of an adequate proportion of woodlands in agricultural districts, it is considered that 1,130,000 square miles can be utilized to the best advantage under forest. Not all of this area can be considered as capable of producing timber at the present time, only some 800,783 square miles being regarded as accessible and productive, of which 404,044 is young growth, leaving 396,739 square miles of land carrying timber of merchantable size. With regard to quantity of timber, the accessible stand has been estimated at 170,141 million cubic feet, or 245,313 million feet b. m. of saw timber and 1,107,179 thousand cords of pulpwood, cordwood, etc. The stands in Eastern Canada make up 67 p.c. of the total, those in British Columbia account for 18 p.c., leaving 14 p.c. of the accessible timber in the Prairie Provinces.

The total annual depletion under normal conditions of production is estimated to be about 4,158 million cubic feet. Until the growth studies are completed and the distribution of age-classes is known, it will be impossible to tell whether the