

provide access to extensive lumbering areas in its interior and to many of the most attractive hunting and fishing resorts in the Dominion. While its forest resources are an important economic feature, extensive areas of rich agricultural lands are found in the river valleys and the broad plains near the coasts. The Minto coal-fields, though producing on a limited scale for many years, have shown an expanding tendency recently and the province also produces a limited quantity of petroleum and natural gas.

Quebec.—Quebec might well be included among the Maritime Provinces, for with the St. Lawrence river, the gulf of St. Lawrence, the Atlantic, Hudson strait and bay, 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 594,534 square miles, about 38 p.c. of which lies south of the isotherm of 60° F. mean July temperature.* The combined areas of France, Germany, and Spain are about 2,600 square miles less than the area of Quebec. The conformity of the surface of Quebec is in general that characteristic of the Precambrian 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 known elevation in the province, *viz.*, 4,160 feet, that of Jacques Cartier peak of Tabletop mountain in the Gaspé peninsula. With the exception of the treeless zone extending somewhat south of Ungava bay, most 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 Atlantic 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 about two-fifths of the electric power available in Canada. Its asbestos deposits have long been known for their quality and extent, while more recently there have been extensive developments of deposits of gold and copper in the northwestern part of the province, with further discoveries extending the mineralized area into the Chibougamau district. These developments have brought the province up to third place in mineral production in Canada. 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. Although generally regarded as an inland province, Ontario has a fresh-water shore line on the Great Lakes of more than 2,362 miles and on the north a salt-water shore line of about 680 miles with a tidal port at Moosonee at the southern end of James bay. The

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