

**National Parks of Canada.\***—The Dominion Government maintains, as the medium through which some of the most outstanding natural beauties of the country may be preserved and popularized, the National Parks Bureau, Lands, Parks, and Forests Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources, which administers the scenic and recreational parks set aside for this purpose. Under the supervision of this same body are the national wild-animal preserves—large fenced areas established for the protection and propagation of species in danger of extinction—the national historic parks, and the historic sites of great national interest which have been acquired throughout the country (see pp. 78 to 90).

The mountain parks include regions of unsurpassed grandeur in the Rocky and Selkirk mountains of Western Canada. Among these are the Banff, Jasper, and Waterton Lakes National Parks in Alberta, located on the eastern slopes of the Rockies; the Kootenay and Yoho parks in British Columbia on the western slopes of the Rockies; and the Glacier and Mount Revelstoke Parks, also in British Columbia, located in the Selkirks. While these parks have a general resemblance to each other, each possesses individual characteristics, varying flora and fauna, and different types of scenery.

Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan forms a typical example of the lake country bordering the northwestern prairies, and the Riding Mountain National Park in Manitoba, having a general elevation of 2,000 feet above sea-level, contrasts sharply with the fertile plains to the east. In Ontario are located three small park units, the Point Pelee, Georgian Bay Islands, and the St. Lawrence Islands National Parks, which were established primarily as recreational areas. Fort Anne National Park in Nova Scotia and Fort Beauséjour National Park in New Brunswick, surround sites notable in early Canadian history.

A recent addition to Canada's National Park system is the Cape Breton Highlands National Park, an area of 458 square miles, situated on the northern limits of Cape Breton island, Nova Scotia. An area of approximately 10 square miles has also been set aside as a national park on the north shore of Prince Edward island.

The special animal parks were established for the protection of such vanishing species of mammalian wild life as the buffalo, wapiti (elk), and pronghorned antelope, which now thrive under natural conditions in large enclosures especially suited to their requirements. These parks include the Buffalo and Elk Island parks in Alberta, which contain large herds of buffalo, elk, moose, and deer, and the Nemiskam and Wawaskey parks also in Alberta, which form sanctuaries for the pronghorned antelope.

In the national parks all wild life is given rigid protection and primal natural conditions are maintained as far as possible. The local administration of the larger parks is carried out by resident superintendents, assisted by park wardens who are responsible for the necessary game and forest patrols. Recreational facilities are many and varied, and in some parks natural attractions have been augmented by the provision of golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, bath-houses, and other features. A number of the parks also possess well-equipped motor camp grounds, which are available to visitors desiring this type of accommodation.

The national parks of Canada are accessible either by railway or motor highway. In addition to being served by the Canadian Pacific or Canadian National

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