

islands in Hudson and James bays and Hudson strait), except that portion of Quebec which extends north of the 60th parallel. Its area is 1,309,682 square miles, or nearly as large as the combined areas of Argentina and Chile in South America, or over twelve times the area of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Much of the area is still unexplored. The highest part of the mainland is in the Mackenzie mountains, where Keele peak has an elevation of 8,500 feet and elevations of 11,000 feet have been reported near the headwaters of the South Nahanni river. From the Mackenzie mountains the land drops to an elevation of less than 500 feet at the Mackenzie river, on the east side of which the Horn and Franklin mountains reach altitudes of about 2,000 feet. A large depression is formed by a trough-like valley in which Great Bear and Great Slave lakes are the principal topographical features. To the east of this the land rises to an elevation of 1,400 feet in the great interior plateau, which in turn gradually falls away to the beach-made plains on the west side of Hudson bay. There are some high mountains in the northeastern Arctic islands, particularly in northern Ellesmere island where the Shackleton Expedition of 1935 recorded an elevation of 10,000 feet.

Roughly speaking, about one-third of the mainland and all the Arctic islands are treeless. This is not due to inadequate summer temperature, but more likely to insufficient precipitation coupled with the extreme dryness of the air during winter. Some form of plant life is in evidence wherever there is soil. In the wooded areas there is little difficulty in securing forest products sufficient for the needs of the residents.

Photography from the air has done much to aid in mapping areas adjacent to the better-known transportation routes and the areas in which minerals have been discovered. The silver, radium, and copper deposits near the east end of Great Bear lake, and the gold discoveries in the Yellowknife area north and east of Great Slave lake are the most important mineral discoveries. Oil is being refined at the Imperial Oil Company's wells some 42 miles below Norman on the Mackenzie river. Coal has been reported at several points both on the mainland and in the Arctic archipelago.

Development of the resources of, and communications in, the Northwest Territories and Yukon are dealt with in Chapter XXVIII, Subsection 1 of Section 1.

Summary of Land and Water Areas.—The total land and fresh-water areas of the Dominion, together with their distribution by provinces and territories, are shown in Table 1.

1.—Land and Fresh-Water Areas of Canada, by Provinces and Territories, 1938.¹

Note.—A classification of land area as agricultural, forested, or unproductive will be found under Part VI of this Chapter at p. 27.

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.....	27,473	512	27,985	0.8
Quebec.....	523,534	71,000	594,534	16.1
Ontario.....	363,282	49,800	412,582	11.1
Manitoba.....	219,723	26,789	246,512	6.7
Saskatchewan.....	237,975	13,725	251,700	6.8
Alberta.....	248,800	6,485	255,285	6.9
British Columbia.....	359,279	6,976	366,255	9.9
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.....	493,265	34,265	527,490	14.2
Canada.....	3,466,556	228,307	3,694,863	100.0

¹ The salt-water areas of Canada are excluded.

² Approximate.

³ Too small to be enumerated.