

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 of the 1938 Year Book.)

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.

The most recent additions to the system of National Parks are located in the Maritime Provinces. Cape Breton Highlands National Park, an area of 390 square miles, is situated in the northern part of Cape Breton island between the gulf of St. Lawrence and the Atlantic ocean. Its rugged and picturesque shore line, and its mountainous interior which greatly resembles the Highlands of Scotland, are accessible from Cheticamp and Ingonish by a spectacular motor road called the Cabot Trail. Prince Edward Island National Park, containing an area of seven square miles, extends for a distance of twenty-five miles along the northern shore of Prince Edward island. Outstanding among its features are beautiful sand beaches, among the finest in eastern Canada, which offer unrivalled opportunities for surf-bathing. The provision of recreational facilities, including golf courses and bath-houses, is being carried out in the orderly development of these park areas.

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 park also in Alberta, which forms a sanctuary 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

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