

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 this part of Canada. 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 western 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 southernmost point of Ontario, which is also the southernmost point of the Dominion, is in north latitude $41^{\circ} 41'$ —a little farther south than the northern boundary of the State of California—and its most northern, in north latitude $56^{\circ} 50'$. The total area comprised within its limits, of which about 82 p.c. lies south of the isotherm of 60° F. mean July temperature,* is 412,582 square miles, of which its fresh-water area of 49,300 square miles forms the unusually large proportion of 12 p.c. The Province is over 5,000 square miles greater in area than are France and Spain together, and when compared with the States to the south, Ontario is found to be almost equal in extent to the combined areas of the six New England States, together with New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Except in the southwestern part, the surface conformity of Ontario is influenced by the characteristics of the Precambrian rocks. In northern Ontario a large area with elevations of 1,000 feet or over adjoins the north shore of the Great Lakes and, going north a short distance over the Height of Land, the slope descends very gently to Hudson Bay, which has a wide marginal strip less than 500 feet above sea-level. The highest point in Ontario is 2,120 feet, on the promontory at the north-eastern corner of Lake Superior. The whole Province supports a valuable covering of trees, varying, from south to north, from the mixed forest to the eastern and northern coniferous. Many varieties of climate and soil are encountered, from the distinctively southern conditions found along the shores of Lake Erie to the very different ones of Hudson and James Bays. Ontario, of all the provinces, is the centre of the country's manufacturing industries, owing to its abundant water-power resources and its proximity to the coalfields of Pennsylvania, but the many resources of its rural districts are not on this account neglected. Mining is a very important industry in the widespread Precambrian area and, although the most important districts are Sudbury, Porcupine, and Kirkland Lake, profitable mining operations, principally of gold, are now being carried on from the Manitoba boundary

* See footnote, p. 3.