

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-Water¹ Areas of Canada, by Provinces and Territories, 1939.

NOTE.—A classification of land area as agricultural, forested, or unproductive will be found under Part VI of this Chapter at p. 18.

Province or Territory.	Land. ²	Fresh Water. ²	Total. ³	Per Cent of Total Area.
	sq. miles.	sq. miles.	sq. miles.	
Prince Edward Island.....	2,184	³	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	49,300	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.....	493,225	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.

Section 1.—Orography.

The outstanding and predominant orographical feature in Canada is the great Cordilleran mountain system which, extending up from the south, parallels the coast of the Pacific Ocean, and, continuing on, comprises the bulk of the United States territory of Alaska. Throughout Canada this mountain system has a width of about 400 miles and, covering about 530,000 square miles in area, includes nearly all of British Columbia and Yukon. This region is definitely the most rugged and elevated in the Dominion, many of the summits reaching heights of 10,000 feet with occasional peaks over 13,000 feet above sea-level. The principal named peaks exceeding 11,000 feet in elevation are given in Table 2. The main mountain ranges forming the system are the Coast Mountains and the St. Elias Mountains on the Pacific side, the Selkirks and the Rockies on the east side of the system to the south, and farther north on the east side the Stikine and the Mackenzie Mountains. This great mountainous tract is a formidable barrier between the ocean and the interior of Western Canada; by precipitating a great part of the moisture out of the winds coming from the Pacific, it has a marked effect on the climate of the western country. On the west side, the Cordilleras are drained by mountain streams pitching swiftly down to the Pacific. The Yukon Territory is drained to the north by that remarkable river of the same name which runs through a wide valley over