

northward of the Appalachian Mountains but, excepting the Notre Dame Mountains of Gaspé Peninsula, the comparatively low elevations are better described as hills. The whole area may be regarded as a peninsula jutting out with bold and broken coast-line to separate the Gulf of St. Lawrence from the Atlantic and it is this situation that dominates the orography; with the exception of the St. John, the rivers are not of great length in their courses down to the sea. It is a beautiful country of diversified character with areas of good farm lands; the broken coast provides many good harbours and the only ocean ports open throughout the whole year that Canada possesses on the Atlantic seaboard.

## Section 2.—Lakes and Rivers.

The fresh-water area of Canada is unusually large constituting over 6 p.c. of the total area of the country. The outstanding feature is the Great Lakes, details concerning which are given in Table 3.

Particularly notable are the depth of Lake Superior and the shallowness of Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie.

### 3.—Areas, Elevations, and Depths of the Great Lakes.

Lake.	Elevation Above Sea-level.	Length.	Breadth.	Maximum Depth.	Total Area.	Area on Canadian Side of Boundary.
	ft.	miles.	miles.	ft.	sq. miles.	ft.
Superior.....	602-23	383	160	1,302	31,820	11,200
Michigan.....	580-77	321	118	923	22,400	Nil
Huron.....	580-77	247	101	750	23,010	13,675
St. Clair.....	575-30	26	24	23	460	270
Erie.....	572-40	241	57	216	9,940	5,094
Ontario.....	245-88	193	53	774	7,540	3,727

Lake Superior, with an area of 31,820 square miles, is the largest body of fresh water in the world. As the International Boundary between Canada and the United States passes through the waters of Lakes Superior, Huron, St. Clair, Erie, and Ontario, only the parts of the areas of these lakes given in the final column of the above statement are Canadian, while the whole of Lake Michigan is within United States territory. The total length of the St. Lawrence waterway, from the head of the St. Louis River in Minnesota to Pointe-des-Monts at the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, is 1,900 miles. The great obstacle to navigation on this waterway was the rise of 326 feet between Lakes Ontario and Erie, which is now surmounted by the Welland Ship Canal; the river itself dropping over the escarpment at Niagara creates perhaps the most famous waterfall in the world. The Great Lakes, with the St. Lawrence River, form the most important system of waterways on the continent