

Section 2.—Economic Geology

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PART III.—SEISMOLOGY IN CANADA

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PART IV.—THE FLORA OF CANADA

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PART V.—FAUNAS OF CANADA

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PART VI.—LANDS, PARKS, SCENIC AND GAME RESOURCES OF CANADA

Canada is distinctly a new country and her resources are, for the most part, in the early stages of development. The fur, fishery, and forest resources have, it is true, been the basis of trade for two or three hundred years, but exploitation on the present commercial scale is of relatively recent growth. A notable feature, especially in so young a country, has been the effort directed to conservation and, in the cases of those resources that admit of such methods, the actual replenishment or augmentation of the sources of supply by the practice of reforestation, silviculture, fur farming, or the establishment of fish hatcheries.

Numerous surveys and investigations of the extent and value of the resources have been made and broad outlines of the resources of the Dominion supplement the information on physical geography given at pp. 1 to 6. Detailed information regarding individual natural resources will be found in the later chapters.

The treatment of resources considered below is concerned only with those phases of the subject that can be properly regarded as falling under the definition of physiography used in its wider interpretation, and that do not specifically relate to individual subjects treated elsewhere in this volume. A classification of lands resources, information on the National Parks, and resources in game and scenery properly fall under this head.

Lands Resources.—Figures of Table 1 are, in the main, based on estimates of the Dominion Forest Service and by the Surveyor General and Chief of the Surveys and Engineering Branch, both of the Department of Mines and Resources; they show how the total land area of Canada is made up as between present and potential agricultural lands, present and potential forest lands, and lands that are unproductive as regards surface resources. Between the totals of present and potential agricultural lands and the totals of forest lands there is, of course, duplication to the extent of the agricultural lands under forest.