of about 12,408 square miles; the mountain range which forms its backbone rises again to form the Queen Charlotte Islands farther north. These islands figure largely in the mining, lumbering and fishing industries of the West and, together with the bold and deeply indented coast line, provide a region for scenic cruises rivalling those of Norway.

On the eastern coast of the Dominion are the island province of Prince Edward Island, the Islands of Cape Breton (an integral part of Nova Scotia), Anticosti, and the Magdalen group (included in the Province of Quebec), and the Islands of Grand Manan and Campobello (part of the Province of New Brunswick) in the Bay of Fundy. Prince Edward Island is 2,184 square miles in area, Cape Breton 3,970 and Anticosti about the same. Fishing activities in these eastern islands are important, while agriculture on Prince Edward Island and mining on Cape Breton are the chief occupations of the inhabitants.

Manitoulin Island and the Georgian Bay islands in Lake Huron and the Thousand Islands group in the St. Lawrence River, at its outlet from Lake Ontario, are the more important islands of the inland waters.

## PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE CANADIAN EASTERN ARCTIC\*

The Eastern Arctic may be defined generally as that part of northeastern Canada, lying north of the tree-line, which is serviced from the Atlantic Ocean and Hudson Bay. It embraces much of the Northwest Territories, including most of the large and numerous Arctic Islands, as well as part of northern Quebec, and contains a land area of about 700,000 square miles or 19 p.c. of the total area of Canada. The District of Keewatin includes the mainland of Canada west of Hudson Bay and north of the 60th parallel as far west as 102° west longitude. The islands in Hudson and James Bays also lie within Keewatin District. The District of Franklin comprises the remainder of the Arctic Islands as far north as the North Pole, together with Boothia and Melville Peninsulas of the Canadian mainland. The Arctic mainland of northern Quebec, formerly the District of Ungava, also lies within the Eastern Arctic and, although its resources are under provincial administration, the Eskimo population at present is the responsibility of the Northwest Territories Administration. Within the Eastern Arctic, which is about twice the size of the Province of British Columbia or about equal to the areas of Quebec and Manitoba combined, live about 150 Whites and 6,000 Eskimo, the latter representing fourfifths of the entire Eskimo population of Canada.

Geology.—The foundations of the Eastern Arctic consist of two chief kinds of rock. Most of the area is underlain by Precambrian rocks of the Canadian Shield, which comprises the geologic base of two-thirds of Canada. Sedimentary rocks, ranging in age from Palæozoic to small local areas of Tertiary, form a belt through the central Arctic islands and include most of the far northern and western Arctic islands. In general, the areas of Precambrian rocks are more rugged and rounded, while sedimentary rocks more typically result in level or low-relief topography.

The ancient assemblages of sediments and volcanics which occur amid the predominant granites and gneisses of the Canadian Shield in the Eastern Arctic are similar to those that have yielded rich and abundant minerals in the betterexplored areas of the southern and western sections of the Shield. Since the later

<sup>\*</sup> Prepared under the direction of R. A. Gibson, Director, Lands, Parks and Forests Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa.