

**Precipitation.**—In this Region, precipitation is usually ample for most purposes; 50 to 60 inches of water annually on the wetter outer coast of Nova Scotia, 40 to 45 inches on the Fundy shore and in the interior of Nova Scotia; 32 to 40 inches in New Brunswick, in the interior and north, and the same in Prince Edward Island. Of this annual total 7 to 10 inches arises from the water-content of freshly-fallen snow, the larger figure belonging to the interior of New Brunswick and the Gaspé Peninsula, Que. In these northern sections the proportion of precipitation in the form of snow is large in midwinter and good accumulation of snow in the forested highlands is advantageous for lumbering but fails in some winters. Years with least snowfall, especially in Nova Scotia, are marked by a more maritime character of the winter. Intrusions of polar continental air into the Region become less frequent or weaker and are replaced in part by a flow of air from a southerly direction moving along the Atlantic seaboard. In the more extreme cases the air moves up from the tropical areas of the Atlantic, almost wholly by a sea-route. Almost every year brief incursions of such air will occur for a day or two with temperatures higher than 50°F. in Nova Scotia in January and 45°F. to 50°F. at least in February, but the mildness is less effective in New Brunswick. When in winter, air of this character is followed immediately by fresh polar air moving southward or south-eastward through Quebec and New England, U.S.A., very stormy weather ensues. Tropical air in summer brings uncomfortable humidity which is comparable to the most trying humidity of the Lower Great Lakes Region. Temperatures then reach 85°F. to 90°F. or higher during the day, in air with such a heavy content of water vapour that the humidity condition reaches 100 p.c. as soon as the evening-cooling reduces the temperature below 75°F. Such conditions are usually of much shorter duration in the Atlantic Region than in southern Ontario. The maximum incidence of fog, June to August, coincides with the chilling of moist, southerly air by the cold, coastal waters.

The following statement gives typical temperatures and precipitation of this Region:

Station	TEMPERATURES (Fahrenheit)				TOTAL PRECIPITATION				
	Mean		Highest	Lowest	Average in Inches			Average Number Days	
	Jan.	July	on Record		Jan.	July	Annual	Rain	Snow
Charlottetown, P.E.I.....	17.8	65.6	98	-27	3.76	2.98	39.47	119	52
Annapolis Royal, N.S.....	24.4	64.4	89	-13	4.20	3.40	41.41	115	30
Fredericton, N.B.....	13.5	66.1	101	-35	3.87	3.53	42.80	108	55

### The Laurentian Plateau

**General Description.**—The area known as the Canadian Shield covers nearly 2,000,000 square miles extending from Lake Superior westward to Lake Winnipeg, northward to the shores of the Arctic Ocean, and includes the territory eastward to the Labrador Coast, except the Hudson Bay and James Bay Lowlands. The southern limit in the east runs close to the Ottawa River and the north shore of the St. Lawrence River and Gulf. Climatically, this Shield is too large to be consid-