

holding, in so far as the land is concerned, is only the right of occupation, although the individual holder owns his improvements. Most Indians live on these reserves, which were designed primarily to provide them with a refuge where they could live, move and have their being without fear of exploitation or molestation. In the far north, however, where the lands are unsettled, there is no need for reserves, though the Indians living there are organized into bands and dealt with as band groups for purposes of administration.

## 2.—Indian Lands, by Classes and Provinces, as at Mar. 31, 1948

Province or Territory	Uncleared and Uncultivated	Cleared but not Cultivated	Under Cultivation	Total Area of Reserves <sup>1</sup>
	acres	acres	acres	acres
Prince Edward Island.....	1,320	800	200	2,741
Nova Scotia.....	16,870	999	456	19,429
New Brunswick.....	33,242	1,176	325	37,726
Quebec.....	139,299	14,339	9,289	179,057
Ontario.....	862,108	119,541	27,147	1,330,977
Manitoba.....	257,718	162,941	17,815	525,299
Saskatchewan.....	508,387	637,492	74,411	1,202,454
Alberta.....	421,568	782,287	71,767	1,455,790
British Columbia.....	445,044	246,452	42,193	814,936
Yukon and Northwest Territories.....	3,280	23	14	5,620
<b>Canada.....</b>	<b>2,688,836</b>	<b>1,966,050</b>	<b>243,617</b>	<b>5,574,029</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes areas under water and waste lands.

**Treaties.**—From their first contact with the Indians of North America, the British recognized an Indian title or interest in the soil and considered such interest as one to be parted with or extinguished only by formal bilateral agreement. This was the beginning of the system of Indian treaties and surrenders which has been the fundamental basis of Indian policy, both in Canada and the United States. Only about one-half of the Canadian Indian population are actually adherents to formal treaties with the Federal Government. The welfare of Indians not under treaties, however, receives no less attention from the Federal Government on that account.

**Trust Funds.**—Many of the Indian bands have community trust funds which are administered for their benefit by the Indian Affairs Branch. These funds, derived mainly from the sale of natural resources, have increased from some \$200,000 in 1870 to more than \$18,400,000 in 1948. They represent the total of approximately 480 separate accounts.

**Education.**—Statistics of enrolment and attendance in Indian schools are given in the Education Chapter at p. 357.

Paralleling the education of Indian children through day-school services are the many and varied adult-education services which are specially designed to encourage economic adjustment of the Indians to modern life. This important work is receiving the close attention of the Department in all settled parts of the country. The policy of the Department and the efforts of the staff are directed towards making the Indians self-supporting.

**Welfare.**—Information about welfare services for the Indians will be found in the Chapter on Health and Welfare at pp. 269-270.