

*The Aspen Grove Section.*—This Section lies entirely within the Prairie Provinces and is a part of the Boreal Region, but has very special characteristics. It is a zone of transition between the true forest region to the north and the open grasslands to the south. Aspen is the dominant tree and is in sole possession of most of the area. In southern Manitoba stands of bur oak are found, and elm, basswood and ash occur singly or in small groups in river beds. Most of the area is farmed and much of the forest is in the form of woodlots.

**The Sub-Alpine Forest Region.**—This Region is essentially a coniferous forest extending from the grasslands of the prairies and the western border of the Boreal Region up the eastern slopes of the Rockies to timber-line. This same type of forest reappears in a narrow strip extending northwesterly from the International Boundary between the plateaux of the Montane Region and the non-forested tundra formation of the mountain tops of the Coast Ranges.

In general, this forest formation occupies areas from 3,500 to 6,000 feet above sea-level. Rainfall is moderate, temperatures are low, and the growing season is short. The topography is mountainous with steep-sided valleys, and the soils are mostly derived from glacial and other residual material. The dominant tree species are Englemann spruce, alpine fir and lodgepole pine. Less widely distributed are mountain hemlock, alpine larch and white-barked pine.

**The Columbia Forest Region.**—This Region, often referred to as the Interior Wet Belt of British Columbia, supports forests that are somewhat similar in composition to those of the Coast Region.

The forests properly attributable to the Columbia Region comprise stands in the valleys of the Columbia and other rivers that lie between elevations of 2,500 feet and 4,000 feet above sea-level. Below this range occurs the Montane Region, and above it the Sub-Alpine. The climate is intermediate between those of the Coast and Montane Regions. The precipitation varies from 30 to 60 inches. The Region actually should be mapped as a series of 'islands' and 'stringers' surrounded by patches of sub-alpine forest; but it is impracticable to do this on so small a scale as is used for the map facing this page.

Some authorities consider the Columbia Region to be merely an extension of the Coast Forest Region. The division followed here has been adopted because of the complete physical separation of the two Regions in Canada, and also because of important differences in environmental conditions.

The principal species in this Region are Englemann spruce, western red cedar, western hemlock and Douglas fir. Among other species of considerable importance are alpine and grand firs, western white pine and western larch. Lodgepole pine commonly replaces stands destroyed by fire. Black cottonwood is found on rich alluvial soils.

**The Montane Forest Region.**—This Region forms part of what is often termed the Interior Dry Belt of British Columbia. It covers an extensive series of plateaux, valleys and ranges in the interior of the Province and extends northward from the International Boundary to the valley of the Skeena River. The