

Canada's extensive areas of arable and forested land, together with its vast water-power resources, are the basis of its industrial and commercial life. Agricultural land has been developed on a substantial scale and is well distributed from east to west. It is characterized by a diversity of contour, soil and climate and is thus capable of producing a great variety of crops in a volume well beyond domestic requirements. Of the total land area, 15.3 p.c. is estimated as suitable for cultivation and of this area a little less than 50 p.c. is, at present, occupied. Most of the unoccupied land considered potentially suitable for agriculture is now under forest. Altogether, about 36 p.c. of the total land area of the country is forested. This vast extent is of immense importance, not only in the production of lumber, pulpwood and fuel, but also in tempering the climate and conserving the water supply.

The above treatment of lands resources is concerned only with those summary phases of the subject that can be regarded as falling under the definition of physiography used in its wider interpretation. Detailed information regarding individual natural resources and their development will be found in later chapters, together with data concerning the efforts directed to conservation of those resources.

### Section 2.—Public Lands

In Table 2, classifying the land area of Canada by tenure, items 2, 3 and 4 are obtained from Federal Government sources and items 1, 5 and 6 from Provincial Government sources.

2.—Land Area Classified by Tenure, (circa) 1952

Tenure	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.
	sq. miles	sq. miles	sq. miles	sq. miles	sq. miles	sq. miles
1. Alienated from the Crown or in process of alienation.....	6,680 <sup>1</sup>	2,173	16,937	16,713	43,507	40,920
2. Federal lands other than National Parks and Indian Reserves <sup>2</sup> .....	2	—	13	38	2,067 <sup>3</sup>	1,126
3. National Parks <sup>2</sup> .....	—	7	391	80	4	12
4. Indian Reserves.....	—	4	30	59	281	2,435
5. Provincial lands, including leased lands and forest reserves, but not Provincial Parks.....	141,270	—	3,372	10,583	466,005	313,577
6. Provincial Parks.....	42	—	—	—	12,000	5,212
<b>Totals, Land Area.....</b>	<b>147,994</b>	<b>2,184</b>	<b>20,743</b>	<b>27,473</b>	<b>533,860</b>	<b>363,282</b>
	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Yukon and N.W.T.	Canada
	sq. miles	sq. miles	sq. miles	sq. miles	sq. miles	sq. miles
1. Alienated from the Crown or in process of alienation.....	44,581	104,413	78,313	19,695	66	373,998
2. Federal lands other than National Parks and Indian Reserves <sup>2</sup> .....	2	51	11,671	161	1,455,084 <sup>6</sup>	1,470,215
3. National Parks <sup>2</sup> .....	1,149	1,496	20,718 <sup>6</sup>	1,671	3,625 <sup>7</sup>	29,149
4. Indian Reserves.....	821	1,880	2,296	1,274	9	9,089
5. Provincial lands, including leased lands and forest reserves, but not Provincial Parks.....	173,170	128,450	135,788	322,397	—	1,694,612
6. Provincial Parks.....	—	1,685 <sup>8</sup>	14	14,081	—	33,034
<b>Totals, Land Area.....</b>	<b>219,723</b>	<b>237,975</b>	<b>248,800</b>	<b>359,279</b>	<b>1,458,784</b>	<b>3,610,697</b>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes the coast of Labrador. <sup>2</sup> Does not add to total for Canada due to fractions of sq. miles.

<sup>3</sup> Includes the Gatineau Park (50 sq. miles) and the Quebec Battlefields Park (0.36 sq. miles) which are under federal jurisdiction but which are not technically National Parks. <sup>4</sup> Less than 1 sq. mile.

<sup>5</sup> Includes 952,849 sq. miles set aside by Order in Council as native game preserves in which only Indians and Eskimos may hunt, as game sanctuaries in which hunting and trapping is otherwise forbidden, and as reserves for reindeer grazing, but which are not regarded as National Parks.

<sup>6</sup> Includes Wood Buffalo Park (13,675 sq. miles) which, although reserved by the Federal Government, is not administered as a National Park. <sup>7</sup> That portion of Wood Buffalo Park in N.W.T. <sup>8</sup> Includes 1,392 sq. miles of unsurveyed lands—Provincial Park areas.