

timber and numerous rivers provide access to the lumbering areas. The Province is watered to the west and south by the St. John River which in its course of 400 miles runs through country famed for its beauty.

Economically the forest resources are of first importance, followed by the fisheries, although large areas of rich agricultural land are found in the numerous river valleys, especially that of the lower St. John, and in the broad plains along the Bay of Fundy coast. The mineral resources of the Province include moderate amounts of coal, natural gas and petroleum and an extensive orebody with an excellent grade of lead-zinc ore is now under development southwest of Bathurst. In addition in 1954 announcement was made of the discovery of several extensive zinc-lead-copper-pyrite orebodies northwest of Newcastle.

Quebec.—Quebec, the largest province of Canada, lies east and southeast of Hudson Bay; adjoining it on the south are the United States and New Brunswick, with Ontario on the west. It has an area of 594,860 sq. miles, and most of the surface is made up of Precambrian rocks of the Canadian Shield. North of the St. Lawrence is the broken rim of the Canadian Shield, rising sharply to the Height of Land (varying from 1,000 to 3,000 feet) from which it descends gently to sea level at Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait. The Gulf of St. Lawrence and the River St. Lawrence penetrate the entire width of Quebec and divide the Eastern Townships and the Gaspé Peninsula to the south from the larger area of the Province to the north.

With the exception of the treeless zone extending north of latitude 58°, most of the Province supports a valuable tree growth varying from the mixed forests in the southwest to the coniferous forests in the east and north. In addition to extensive timber limits which form the basis of a great pulp and paper industry Quebec is the foremost of the provinces in the development of hydroelectric power and has available waterpower resources at ordinary minimum flow almost equal to those of Ontario and Manitoba combined. Quebec has made exceptionally rapid progress in the development of its mineral resources and ranks next to Ontario in annual value of mineral output. In 1953 the Province produced about 70 p.c. of the world output of asbestos and is a leading Canadian producer of copper, gold and zinc. In the Quebec-Labrador region are huge deposits of hematite from which production commenced in 1954. Also, important discoveries of iron ore have been made on the west side of Ungava Bay. At Allard Lake in eastern Quebec are large deposits of ilmenite, an ore of titanium and iron, output from which is shipped to Sorel for treatment. The fisheries in the St. Lawrence River and Gulf are important and inland waters abound in game fish. The climate and soil of the upper St. Lawrence Valley and of the Eastern Townships are well suited to general farming operations including dairying and the production of vegetables and maple products.

Ontario.—Lying between Quebec on the east and Manitoba on the west, Ontario has an area of 412,582 sq. miles. Though usually regarded as an inland province its southern boundary has a freshwater shore line of 2,362 miles on the Great Lakes and its northern limits have a saltwater shore line of 680 miles on Hudson and James Bays.

The surface of Ontario is characteristic of the Canadian Shield, except in the southern triangle lying between the lower lakes and the Ottawa River where the surface is undulating to rolling, being higher to the west of the Niagara Escarpment, northwest of which the highest elevations are obtained. The highest point in Ontario is 2,120 feet, on the promontory at the northeastern corner of Lake Superior. Northwest from the Height of Land the slope descends very gently to Hudson Bay where a large marginal strip (the Hudson Bay Lowlands) is less than 500 feet above sea level.

Ontario has long been Canada's leading producer of minerals and accounts for practically all the Canadian production of nickel and for about 82 p.c., excluding USSR, of the world output of this metal. It is a leading world source of copper and the platinum metals and mainly as a result of developments in the Steep Rock and Michipicoten areas