

Boreal Forest Region.—This Region comprises the greater part of the forested area of Canada, forming a continuous belt from Newfoundland and the Labrador Coast westward to the Rocky Mountains and northwestward to Alaska. The white and the black spruces are characteristic species; other prominent conifers are tamarack which ranges throughout, balsam fir and jack pine in the eastern and central portions, and alpine fir and lodgepole pine in the western and northwestern parts. Although the forests are primarily coniferous, there is a general admixture of broadleaved trees such as the white birches and poplars; these play an important part in the central and south-central portions, particularly in the zone of transition to the prairie. In turn, the proportion of spruce and tamarack rises northward, and with increasingly rigorous climatic conditions the close forest gives way to the open lichen-woodland which finally merges into tundra. In the east there is, along the southern border of the Region, a considerable intermixture of species from the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest such as the white and the red pines, yellow birch, sugar maple, black ash, and eastern white cedar.

Subalpine Forest Region.—This is a coniferous forest found on the mountain uplands in Western Canada. It extends northward to the major divide separating the drainage of the Skeena, Nass and Peace Rivers on the south and to that of the Stikine and Liard Rivers on the north. The characteristic species are Engelmann spruce, alpine fir and lodgepole pine. There is a close relationship with the Boreal Region from which the black and the white spruces and aspen intrude. There is also some entry of blue Douglas fir from the Montane Forest, and of western hemlock, western red cedar, and amabilis fir from the Coast Forest. Other species found are western larch, whitebark pine and limber pine, and on the coastal mountains yellow cedar and mountain hemlock.

Montane Forest Region.—This Region occupies a large part of the interior uplands of British Columbia, as well as a part of the Kootenay Valley and a small area on the east side of the Rocky Mountains. It is a northern extension of the typical forest of much of the western mountain system in the United States, and comes in contact with the Coast, Columbia and Subalpine Forests. Ponderosa pine is a characteristic species of the southern portions. Blue Douglas fir is found throughout, but more particularly in the central and southern parts; lodgepole pine and aspen are generally present, the latter being particularly well represented in the north-central portions. Engelmann spruce and alpine fir from the Subalpine Region become important constituents in the northern parts, together with white birch. The white spruce, though primarily Boreal in affinity, is also present here. Extensive prairie communities of bunch-grasses and forbs are found in many of the river valleys.

Coast Forest Region.—This is part of the Pacific Coast Forest of North America. Essentially coniferous, it consists principally of western red cedar and western hemlock, with abundant Sitka spruce in the north, and with the addition of Douglas fir in the south. Amabilis fir and yellow cedar occur widely and, together with mountain hemlock and alpine fir, are common toward the timberline. Western white pine is found in the southern parts and western yew is scattered throughout. Broadleaved trees, such as black cottonwood, red alder and broadleaf maple, have limited distribution in this Region. *Arbutus* and Garry oak occur in Canada only on the southeast coast of Vancouver Island and the adjacent islands and mainland. These are species whose centres of population lie to the south in the United States.

Columbia Forest Region.—A large part of the Kootenay River Valley, the upper valleys of the Thompson and Fraser Rivers, and the Quesnel Lake area of British Columbia contain a coniferous forest closely resembling that of the Coast Region. Western red cedar and western hemlock are the characteristic species in this interior "wet belt" Associated trees are the blue Douglas fir, which is of general distribution, and, in the southern parts, western white pine, western larch, grand fir and western yew. Engelmann spruce from the Subalpine Region is important in the upper Fraser Valley and is found