

The interior of New Brunswick is very heavily forested. In fact, 86 p.c. of the total land area is classed as productive forest land and three quarters of the merchantable wood is made up of coniferous species. It is mainly upon these great stands of timber and the existence of the many fast-flowing rivers providing easy transportation for the logs to the mills or to tide-water that the economy of the province has been built. Four pulp mills, three pulp and paper mills and one paper-converting mill are in operation and their output, together with that of the 300 sawmills, makes up more than a third of the manufacturing production of the province. The rivers provide moderate-sized power sites advantageously situated to meet local requirements and many of these have been developed. The St. John River Valley and the northwestern part of the province are the agricultural areas, the former specializing in potato and livestock production and the latter containing fairly large mixed-produce farms. In the northeast and along the coastal fringe, part-time agriculture is often combined with fishing and/or lumbering for a livelihood. Fishing, too, is well developed, inshore fisheries being of greater importance than offshore. Lobster from Northumberland Strait is the major money-maker, followed by herring from the Bay of Fundy and then cod. The mineral resources of the province are not extensive. They include moderate amounts of coal, natural gas and petroleum. Shipments of ore and concentrates containing copper, lead and zinc have recently been made from base-metal mines in the northern area.

In 1961, 597,936 people lived in New Brunswick, 10 p.c. of them on farms, 43 p.c. in small centres of fewer than 1,000 persons, and the remainder in urban centres. The metropolitan area of Saint John, which is situated at the mouth of the St. John River and is the principal port and industrial centre of the province, had 95,563 residents. Most of the population of the province is located fairly close to the coastal areas, along the St. John River Valley which is near the western boundary, and in the lower-lying eastern portion. The interior is very sparsely inhabited.

Prince Edward Island.—This, the smallest province of Canada, is a separate land mass cradled in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, 10 to 20 miles off the mainland east of New Brunswick and north of Nova Scotia. The waters separating it from these provinces are known as the Northumberland Strait. The Island has an area of 2,184 sq. miles, varies greatly in width from about four to 40 miles and is 140 miles long. It has no pronounced upland but attains an altitude of about 450 feet above sea level. The coast is greatly indented and has many bays and inlets running far inland in every direction. In fact, the Island is almost trisected by the indentation of Tracadie Bay on the north which almost meets the wide East River flowing into Hillsborough Bay on the south, and by the deep indentation of Malpeque Bay on the north curving within two or three miles of Bedeque Bay on the south. Because of the influence of the sea, the climate is quite moderate although occasional extreme lows may be experienced in winter. The Island enjoys a frost-free period of about five months.

The moderate climate combined with fertile soil is very favourable to the pursuit of agriculture, which is the principal occupation of the people. Almost 70 p.c. of the land area is cultivated, the farms producing mixed grain crops and specializing in potato-growing; dairying and stock-raising are also important, and the recent establishment of large freezing plants has encouraged the growing of small fruits and vegetables and provided a new export for the Island. Prince Edward Island fishermen secure their share of lobster from the prolific waters of Northumberland Strait and this catch accounts for something like 70 p.c. of the value of the primary fishery production of the province. Groundfish and oysters, the latter mainly from Malpeque Bay, are next in importance. The major manufacturing industries on the Island are based on these agricultural and fisheries resources. There are perhaps 800 sq. miles of productive forested land, the products from which are used locally. Mineral production consists solely of sand, gravel and stone for structural purposes and there is very little hydro power available.

Prince Edward Island had, in 1961, a population of 104,629, of whom 70,720 were classed as rural residents. Charlottetown, with 18,318 persons, is the only city; seven towns and 17 villages account for the other urban dwellers.