

Saskatchewan.—The central prairie province, contained within the western boundary of Manitoba, the 49th and 60th parallels of latitude, and the 110th meridian, covers an area of 251,700 square miles, but slightly less than that of Manitoba, and greater by 5,000 square miles than the combined areas of the United Kingdom and Norway. The country consists for the most part of the open rolling prairie at an average altitude of 1,500 feet above sea-level, while in the north it assumes a more broken aspect and is as yet but slightly developed. The climate is quite different from that of eastern Canada, with less precipitation and perhaps slightly more severe features than are encountered in many other parts of the country, but it is nevertheless most favourable to plant and animal growth. The northern districts are abundantly watered by lakes and rivers and are rich in coal and timber resources.

Alberta.—Lying between Saskatchewan on the east and the Rocky mountains and the 120th meridian on the west, and bounded on the north and south by the Northwest Territories and the United States respectively, is the province of Alberta. Its area is slightly greater than that of Saskatchewan or Manitoba, comprising a total of 255,285 square miles, a little more than the combined areas of Germany and Bulgaria. Formerly an almost exclusively ranching country, it has now become a great wheat-producing region, the frontier of the grain-growing area now approximating to the line of the foot-hills of the Rockies. In the southwest, considerable coal and oil mining are carried on; lumbering is important in the more mountainous western parts and in the north, where some ranching is still pursued in the less populous sections. The climate of Alberta is a particularly favourable one, less severe in summer than more eastern parts of the country and tempered in winter by the "Chinook" winds from the Pacific.

British Columbia.—The province of British Columbia is in some respects the most favoured part of Canada. Within its boundaries are reproduced all the varied climates of the Dominion and almost every natural feature, while some of its climatic and geographical conditions are peculiar to the province. Extending from the Rockies to the Pacific and from the 49th to the 60th parallel of latitude, its limits contain an area of 355,855 square miles, more than three times the area of Italy, slightly less than three times the area of the United Kingdom and but slightly less than the combined area of the United Kingdom, Norway and Italy. The many islands of the Pacific coast, notably Vancouver island, with an area of about 13,500 square miles, and the Queen Charlotte group, are included in the province and are noted for their temperate climate and abundant natural resources. The mines, timber limits, fisheries, and agricultural resources of the province are remarkable for their quality and extent.

Yukon and Northwest Territories.—The vast area of 1,516,758 square miles is included within the boundaries of Canada's northern subdivisions, the Yukon Territory and the three provisional districts of the Northwest Territories. This is over twelve times the area of the United Kingdom, nearly half the area of the United States, and more than the combined areas of the Argentine Republic and Chile in South America. Much of these northern regions is uninhabited, large areas of them even unexplored, but none the less they are of considerable potential economic value, owing to their possibilities in agricultural and pastoral production, to their mineral deposits, such as the Yukon gold fields, as well as to their forest resources and their furs.

Summary of Land and Water Area.—For the convenience of the reader, the total land and water area of the Dominion, and its distribution into provinces and territories, is shown in Table 1.