

2.—Drainage Basins of Canada—concluded.

Drainage Basins.	Area Drained.	Drainage Basins.	Area Drained.
Hudson Bay Basin—concluded.	sq. miles.	Pacific Basin—concluded.	sq. miles.
Winisk.....	24,100	Stikine.....	20,300
Severn.....	38,600	Nass.....	7,400
Hayes.....	28,000	Skeena.....	19,300
Nelson.....	370,800	Fraser.....	91,700
Winnipeg.....	44,000	Thompson.....	21,800
English.....	20,600	Nechako.....	15,700
Red.....	63,400	Blackwater.....	5,600
Assiniboine.....	52,600	Quesnel.....	4,500
Saskatchewan.....	158,800	Chilcotin.....	7,500
North Saskatchewan.....	54,700	Columbia.....	39,300
South Saskatchewan.....	65,500	Kootenay.....	15,500
Red Deer.....	18,300	Okanagan.....	6,000
Bow.....	11,100	Kettle.....	3,160
Belly.....	8,900	Pend d'Oreille.....	1,190
Churchill.....	115,500	Total.....	387,300
Kazan.....	32,700		
Dubawnt.....	58,500	Arctic Basin.	
Total.....	1,486,000	Back.....	47,500
		Coppermine.....	29,100
Pacific Basin.		Mackenzie.....	682,000
Yukon.....	145,800	Liard.....	100,700
Porcupine.....	24,600	Hay.....	25,700
Stewart.....	21,900	Peace.....	117,100
Pelly.....	21,300	Athabaska.....	58,900
Lewes.....	35,100	Total.....	1,290,000
White.....	15,000		
Alsek.....	11,200	Gulf of Mexico Basin.....	12,365
Taku.....	7,600		

The St. Lawrence River System.—Most important of the lakes and rivers of Canada is the chain of the Great Lakes with their connecting rivers, the St. Lawrence river and its tributaries. This chain is called the St. Lawrence River system. The Great Lakes, separating the province of Ontario from the United States and connected by a series of canals with the St. Lawrence river, allow vessels drawing not over 14 feet of water to proceed from the Atlantic ocean to the interior of the Dominion as far as Fort William and Port Arthur, twin cities situated on lake Superior, practically half way across the continent.

Other River Systems.—Apart from the St. Lawrence, the great waterway of the eastern half of the Dominion, other systems also merit some attention. The Saskatchewan river, for example, flowing eastward from the Rocky mountains to lake Winnipeg and thence northward by the Nelson river into Hudson bay, drains a great part of the plains of the western provinces. In the north, the Mackenzie river, with its tributaries the Slave, Liard, Athabaska and Peace rivers, follows the northerly slope of the Great Plain and empties into the Arctic ocean, its waters having traversed in all a distance of 2,525 miles. The Yukon river, after draining a great part of the Yukon Territory, flows northward through Alaska into the Behring sea after a course of 1,765 miles. The Fraser, Columbia, Skeena and Stikine rivers flow into the Pacific ocean after draining the western slopes of the mountains of British Columbia. Table 3 gives the lengths of the principal rivers with their tributaries, classified according to the course taken by their waters.