



*Clarke's Beach, Conception Bay. The low hills and small patches of good soil are typical of the Avalon Peninsula.*

elevations exceeding 1,200 feet the forest cover gives way to tundra or moss-barren.

The best forest lands are found on well-drained valley slopes, and these are usually mixed forests of balsam fir, black spruce, white spruce and white pine. Along ill-drained valley bottoms and on the higher plateau surfaces the forest cover is usually of poor-quality black spruce. The forests are all self-sown and are thus uneven-aged except in burnt or cut-over areas. They regenerate naturally and prolifically and, in some areas, the growth rate of the trees may be retarded by the denseness of the young growth.

The barren high plateau surfaces are similar to the muskeg country of the Canadian Shield, with innumerable lakes in shallow, ice-scoured basins, and bogs which have a partial cover of stunted spruce and pine and a ground vegetation of sphagnum mosses and berry-bearing plants.

Information regarding the soil and vegetation of Labrador is very limited. Most of the coastal areas are barren and rocky, and north of Nain this treeless zone extends far inland. However, mature forests, chiefly black spruce, have been noted along many of the river valleys, particularly around the Hamilton River and its inlet.