

THE DOMINION OF CANADA

AREA, POPULATION, ETC.

CANADA comprises the northern half of North America. Its southern boundary is the United States, on the east is the Atlantic, on the west the Pacific, and on the north the Arctic Ocean. Its area is 3,729,665 square miles, larger than that of the United States, and nearly equal to that of Europe. The population was, according to the last census, which was taken in the year 1911, 7,206,643, or less than that of Pennsylvania, the population of which, according to the census of 1910, was 7,665,111. The census also showed that of the population 3,896,985 were British by race or origin, 2,054,890 were of French descent, 393,320 Germans, 105,492 Indian and half-breeds, 36,795 Chinese and Japanese, while almost every European race was represented in the remainder. During recent years a large number of farmers from the United States have settled in the Western Prairie provinces. Population to square mile, Canada, 1.93; Great Britain, 471; U.S.A., 25.

From Vancouver on the Pacific to Halifax on the Atlantic is 3,740 miles by rail. From Dawson on the Yukon River to Victoria on the Pacific is 1,550 miles by ocean and river steamer and rail. Its most southerly portion is in the latitude of Northern Spain and Italy, and the most northerly portion of the mainland is in the latitude of Northern Norway.

PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES.

The following table gives the areas and population of the various provinces:—

Provinces	Area in Square Miles	Population 1901 Census	Population 1911 Census
Yukon, etc.	207,076		8,512
Northwest Territories	1,242,224	47,348	18,481
British Columbia	355,855	178,657	392,480
Alberta	255,285	73,022	374,663
Saskatchewan	251,700	91,279	492,432
Manitoba	251,832	255,211	455,614
Quebec	706,834	1,648,898	2,003,232
Ontario	407,262	2,182,947	2,523,274
Prince Edward Island	2,184	103,259	93,728
New Brunswick	27,985	331,120	351,889
Nova Scotia	21,428	459,574	492,338
Total	3,729,665	5,371,315	7,206,643

CLIMATE.

In a country of such a vast extent, a wide variety of climate is naturally to be found. Except on and near the ocean coast, the general characteristic of the climate of Canada comprises a warm dry summer and a dry cold winter. It is bracing and healthful, and in all respects is a white man's country.

On the Pacific coast, owing to the Japanese current, the climate is identical in temperature with that of the British Isles, which lie in the same latitude.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.

The Dominion is governed, under a Governor-General appointed by the British Crown, by a Legislature or Parliament, which makes the laws. Parliament is composed of two Houses, the Commons, elected by the people, and the Senate, appointed by the Government.

The Cabinet or Government, which administers the laws passed by Parliament, is composed of members of Parliament, who must have the support of a majority of the Commons or elective branch in order to hold power.