

the ocean, the lakes have well-defined land and lake breezes, the breeze from the lakes landward commencing in summer at 8 or 10 o'clock a.m., and continuing until sunset, and the breeze from the land lakeward from 9 or 10 p.m. until sunrise.

For about one-half the distance across the continent the waters of the St. Lawrence system divide the Dominion of Canada from the United States. The boundary line, beginning on the St. Lawrence in latitude 45 degrees, passes through the middle of Lake Ontario, Erie, St. Clair, Huron, the St. Mary's River and Lake Superior, to a point on its north shore, 124 miles east of Duluth and Superior, the western end of Lake Superior. Lake Michigan is wholly within the territory of the United States. These great lakes contain more than one-half the area of all the fresh water of the globe. They make up the largest system of deep water inland navigation on the globe. No other inland water may bear upon its bosom so vast a commerce, or touches, as this does, the vital interests of so many millions of men. Lying, in general direction, east and west between the 41st and 47th parallels, they penetrate the tide water on the St. Lawrence. The western extremity of the system, the head of Lake Superior, is 1,700 miles only from the waters of the Pacific. It is 2,384 miles from Belle Isle, at the mouth of the St. Lawrence, and 4,618 miles from Liverpool.

The range of this water system, it will be observed, is entirely within the limits of the north temperate zone, on the line on which population has most freely moved westward, where final settlement is most compact, and where climatic conditions insure the largest returns to capital and labor. Lake Superior, the head of the system, alone receives the waters of 200 rivers. One hundred and fifty miles northwest of Port Arthur and Duluth are the fountains of three of the great drainage systems of the continent. Physical conditions there send flowing waters northward to the ocean through Hudson's Bay; southward, through the Mississippi Valley and the Gulf of Mexico, and eastward, through the lakes and the St. Lawrence. For commercial purposes, the northern drainage system has not yet been utilized; but flowing water will forever be a potent instrument of commerce, southward and eastward, between the interior and the Atlantic coast.