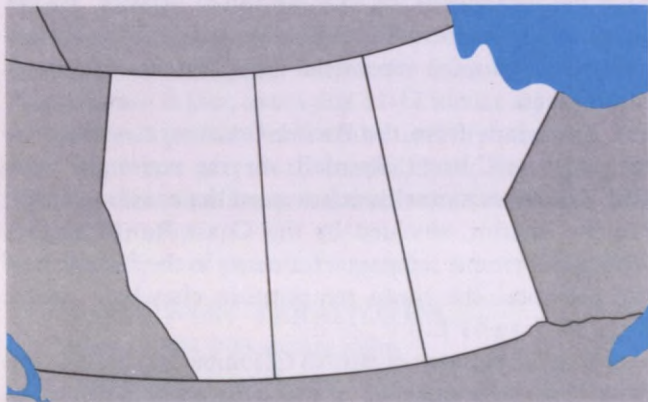


## PRAIRIE PROVINCES

The Prairie Provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta) cover 758,000 square miles, or about 20 per cent of Canada's area. The greater part of the three provinces consists of the Interior Plains, which are covered with grass in the south and wooded in the north. The Precambrian Shield, a rocky expanse dotted with rivers, forest and muskeg, covers much of northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Western Alberta lies in the foothills and ranges of the Rocky Mountains.



### MANITOBA

Area: 251,000 square miles  
Population: 969,000  
Capital: Winnipeg

Most of the province is of limited elevation, the highest point being 2,727 feet. The freshwater area is 39,225 square miles. The northern three-fifths of the province lies within the Precambrian Shield.

Manitoba has continental extremes of heat and cold, ranging from  $-50^{\circ}\text{F}$ . in winter to  $90^{\circ}\text{F}$ . or more in summer. Snowfall is less than in Eastern Canada. Precipitation averages 17.2 inches a year.

The primary resource is land; in the southwest the soil supports valuable crops of wheat. Other crops are oats, barley, rye, peas, rapeseed, sunflower seeds and mixed grains.

About 49 per cent of the province is forested, and nearly half this area produces marketable timber.

Rich mineral deposits have been found in the Shield.

### SASKATCHEWAN

Area: 251,700 square miles  
Population: 959,000  
Capital: Regina

The northern third of the province lies within the Precambrian Shield. The southern part is a rolling plain. The freshwater area is 31,518 square miles.

As in Manitoba, the climate is continental; extremes of temperature as high as  $100^{\circ}\text{F}$ . and as low as  $-50^{\circ}\text{F}$ . are not uncommon. The average annual precipitation is 11-20 inches, half of which occurs during the summer.

Land is the main resource. Over 40 per cent of the province is tillable, and over 18 million acres are planted to wheat.

There are valuable mineral deposits, the importance of which is increasing.

A prosperous potash industry has recently been established.

### ALBERTA

Area: 255,285 square miles  
Population: 1,520,000  
Capital: Edmonton

The northern half of the province has many rivers, lakes and forests, with broad expanses of prairie country. The southern half contains fertile wheatland and rolling park-like terrain, as well as the mountainous region that forms part of the Rockies and their foothills.

The average yearly precipitation is from 10 to 20 inches. The warm Chinook wind from the southwest can cause the temperature to rise as much as  $80^{\circ}$  in a single day, turning snow to vapour.

The province has little water-power, owing to the gentle slope of the land, but energy is available from important deposits of petroleum, natural gas and coal.