

the cold waters of the Labrador Current which sweep along the east and west coasts. The ice-laden waters chill the atmosphere above them and also set up a barrier against warm air masses from the south. The summers are cool and there are few places in the Island where mean July temperatures reach 60°F; but during warm spells, temperatures of 80° are recorded. Winters are relatively mild, although St. John's, almost on the same latitude as Victoria, B.C., is 15° colder in January. Winters are normally more severe on the Island's west coast, which is affected by its proximity to the continental landmass, and average January temperatures are 5° lower than on the east coast. Belle Isle, at the extreme north of the Island, has a mean January temperature 11° lower than St. John's, and a mean July temperature about 7° lower.

Precipitation is abundant and evenly distributed throughout the year. Most of the Island, except for the northwest coast, has more than 30 inches annually. Precipitation is heaviest in the southeast, and St. John's has an annual average of 54 inches. In the northwest of the Island snow accounts for a quarter of the precipitation, and the amount of snow decreases from 120 inches in the north and northeast to 80 inches in the south.

The Island is crossed every few days by cyclonic depressions which move down the St. Lawrence. These are more frequent during the winter months and bring about considerable variety in the day-to-day weather. High winds are frequent in winter and often carry fine snow or, near the coast, frozen spray. Another local phenomenon is the 'glaze' or ice storm that occurs when warm, moist air from the south brings rain which freezes on contact with the frozen ground.

Newfoundland is less liable to fog than the southeast coast of Nova Scotia, St. John's having an average of 37 days a year, while Halifax has 54. The well-known fog region lies over the Grand Banks to the east of the Island. The fog is produced by warm, moist winds blowing from the southwest off the Gulf Stream, mixing with

Winter at Corner
Brook.

