



wooded river-valleys of Ontario and Quebec and the rounded slopes of the Laurentians form the contours of the land, while forests, streams, and coastal inlets characterize the Maritimes and Newfoundland.

Twenty-six national parks across the country preserve regions of outstanding natural beauty and historic interest. In the larger parks of Western Canada buffalo, caribou, elk and deer are no longer in danger of extinction. Many eastern parks are also wild life sanctuaries.

There is a wealth of game in the wooded and unsettled regions of each province; moose, deer, bear and smaller animals. The wild

Skiers below Diamond Head Mountain, Garibaldi Park, B.C.

geese and ducks wheel their squadrons northward in spring and south again with the approach of autumn frosts. Grouse abound in the woods from coast to coast. Prairie chicken, pheasants and Hungarian partridge nest on the open prairies. The lakes breed countless waterfowl and fish.

In the wooded areas of the land east of the prairies, the splendour of the Canadian landscape is perhaps most striking during the fall of the year, especially during "Indian summer"—an autumn afterglow of delightful warm weather. There is generally an almost complete absence of wind; the days are mild and hazy, the nights cool and crisp. The foliage of the maple, birch, sumach, and oak, touched by the first frosts, displays brilliant new colours, blends of orange, gold, scarlet, maroon, and green. Soon the leaves fall to the ground and presently the white snow covers the land—snow calm and level, or piled into drifts by the winds of early winter.

The natural heritage of Canada is still in the stage of discovery and development. The original inhabitants of this territory, the Indians and Eskimos, led primitive lives and lacked the techniques necessary to make the land yield up its riches. It remained for newcomers from Europe to tap the treasures hidden in the soil, forest and rock of Canada: to take up the tremendous challenge of the Canadian land; to overcome its vast geographic barriers; to span its distances.

In the Purcell Range near Golden, B.C.

