

Confederation. This was finally accomplished by the British North America Act, 1867 (30-31 Vict., c. 3), which united as the Dominion of Canada the four provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario, and provided for admission into the Union of other parts of Canada. The Act took effect on July 1, 1867, and the anniversary of this date, known as "Dominion Day," is observed in Canada as a statutory public holiday. In 1870 the new Dominion purchased the territorial rights in Prince Rupert's Land of the Hudson's Bay Company and acquired the rights of government control over the whole of the Northwest Territories.

*Areas and political boundaries.*

On May 12, 1870, the new province of Manitoba was formed out of Rupert's Land and the Northwest Territories by Act of the Dominion Parliament (33 Vict., c. 3), confirmed by Act of the Imperial Parliament in 1871 (34-35 Vict., c. 28). By Imperial Orders in Council British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, then the largest and smallest of the provinces, situated respectively at the western and eastern limits of the country, were admitted into the Dominion, British Columbia on July 20, 1871, and Prince Edward Island on July 1, 1873. On September 1, 1905, were formed out of the Northwest Territories, by Acts of the Dominion Parliament (4-5 Edw. VII, cc. 3 and 42), the two new provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, thus completing a chain of nine autonomous provinces from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Since Confederation, adjustments of the provincial boundaries have been made by Imperial or Dominion authority, including the settlement of the boundary between Ontario and Manitoba on August 11, 1884, and an extension of the boundaries of Quebec on July 6, 1896. By the Boundary Extension Acts, 1912, of the Dominion Parliament (2 Geo. V, cc. 32, 40 and 45), the provinces of Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec were enlarged by the addition of areas that were previously part of the Northwest Territories. The effect of these Acts was to extend the northern boundary of Manitoba to the 60th parallel of north latitude and the northern boundary of Ontario to the southern shores of Hudson Bay, while to the province of Quebec were added the whole of the territory of Ungava and that part of Labrador which is within the Dominion of Canada. Manitoba thus received 178,100, Ontario 146,400 and Quebec 354,961 square miles of additional territory.

In the accompanying series of six maps are shown the political development of the Dominion of Canada from 1841 to 1917. Map 1 shows the province of Canada consisting of Upper Canada (Ontario)