Counties of Brome, Shefford, Missisquoi,
Sherbrooke, Compton, Stanstead and part of Richmond.

General Physical Features of the Region.

The Counties under discussion comprise a large part of the Eastern Townships and cover rather more than 3,100 square miles. (The term, Eastern Townships, should perhaps be confined to the Appalachian Counties of southern Quebec but small parts of Shefford and Missisquoi lying in the Montreal Lowlands are included here.)

Geologically the Eastern Townships may be regarded as an eroded platform of plateau with prominent residual hills. These residual hills are represented in the main by three ridges know as the Notre-Dame Mountains that cross the Townships from southwest to northeast. The platform, a major part of the terrain, is typified by the Stanstead Plain and the large sweeps of only slightly rolling country about Ste.Hermengilde, St. Camille and Wotton. River valleys are prominent features of the topography and present, as in the case of the Coaticook and St.Francis, definite problems for the soil conservationist.

The topography is distinctly varid and may be illustrated by a hypothetical traverse passing from west to east across the Counties under discussion. The Lowlands are first evident, then the Piedmont or foothill region, and successively an extent of plateau, the Sutton Mountain ridge, a further plateau region, the Sherbrooke ridge, more plateau, and, at the extreme east, the Megantic ridge. Various river valleys running in general north and souht, or east and west are also crossed in such a traverse.

Soils are in the main formed from glacial till except in the far west in the St. Lawrence Plain where sand and clay deposits stemming from the Champlain Sea together with more recent alluvials cover the till. Soil surveyors, Cann and Lajoie, consider the glacial till to exist in the region as three main classes of