

are following in the tracks of the explorers and the aeroplane has been used as the means of transportation to the field of operations. Drilling operations near Norman on the Mackenzie river resulted a few years ago in striking a considerable flow of oil. Exploitation of this resource awaits only the further general development of the area. The Laurentian Shield, which has proved so rich in valuable minerals in Eastern Canada, is continued into the eastern half of the Territories—that portion lying between Great Slave and Great Bear lakes and Hudson bay—and, although little exploration has been carried out to date, valuable mineral finds have been made. The rich native silver and high-grade pitchblende ores which have been lately discovered and are now under active development in the mineral region of Great Bear lake exemplify the possibilities of this vast area. The agricultural land of the Territories lies almost entirely in the extension of the central plain defined by the Mackenzie valley.

It is known that there are many possible water-power sites throughout the Territories; these will no doubt be developed as a consequence of mining enterprises. Much of the upper Mackenzie valley carries a forest cover, which furnishes timber and fuel for local needs. Fishing, agriculture, mining and lumbering are engaged in to some extent, but the principal industry of the Territories is still the taking and export of furs. Many trading posts operate throughout the regions tributary to the Arctic coast, Hudson bay, and the great inland systems of waterways.

Yukon.—Yukon Territory is administered by the Dominion Lands Administration of the Department of the Interior as in the case of the Northwest Territories. The Gold Commissioner, resident at Dawson, is the executive head of a local elective government of three members termed the Yukon Council, with jurisdiction over local matters. The Gold Commissioner acts on instructions from the Governor in Council or the Minister of the Interior. Hospitals, schools, motor roads, and other amenities of modern life have been provided and, in addition to the overland telegraph line, wireless stations at Dawson and Mayo link up with the outside world through the Northwest Territories and Edmonton.

The route ordinarily taken to enter Yukon is from Skagway, Alaska, on the south, thence by the White Pass and Yukon Railway to Whitehorse, and by river boat to Dawson.

Confederation had been consummated for thirty years before Yukon came into meteoric prominence as one of the great mineral areas of the world. This prominence was due to the discovery of the Klondike placer gold fields, the development of which reached its peak in the decade 1897-1906.

Yukon has produced over \$200,000,000 worth of gold since the Klondike rush, but the old placer claims, operated with cradle, pick and shovel, have given place to consolidated holdings worked with hydraulic dredges and other modern machinery. Silver, lead, copper, tungsten and coal are known to exist in paying quantities, and of late years the development of the silver-lead ores of the Mayo district has been one of the major factors in the growth of lode-mining enterprises. There is a hydro-electric installation of 13,200 h.p. in Yukon, but this is only a small proportion of the possible installation which will be developed as required.

Although fishing, agriculture (including fur-farming), and some lumbering are carried on as auxiliary industries, the future of Yukon is inevitably bound up with mining development.