

excellent mail service in which river steamboats and aeroplanes co-operate, motor roads, and a system of radio stations linking up Fort Smith, Resolution, Simpson, Norman and Aklavik with Edmonton, Alberta, and with Dawson and Mayo, Yukon.

The Department of the Interior has set aside certain areas, totalling over 338,916,000 acres, as preserves wherein only the Indian and the Eskimo may hunt. Officers in the field have made investigations into the conditions affecting musk-ox, caribou, and other forms of wild life. The Wood-Buffalo Park in the vicinity of Fort Smith covers an area of 17,300 sq. miles; it has been specially preserved for the protection of the buffalo. The Thelon Game Sanctuary to the east of Great Slave lake is, in its turn, the home of musk-oxen and caribou.

Included in the Northwest Territories are the Arctic Prairies, which are capable of supplying pasturage to large numbers of reindeer and caribou. Following investigation, 2,370 head of reindeer have been imported from Alaska and established on a government reindeer reserve in the vicinity of Kittigazuit, east of the Mackenzie River delta, containing an area of approximately 6,000 square miles. Under the favourable conditions which exist there, everything points to a considerable increase in numbers of the herd. Indications are that this experiment will result in a plentiful meat supply in the future.

The introduction of wireless communication and the development of reception has been a great boon to the isolated posts in the Mackenzie district. It enables traders and trappers to keep in touch with outside markets, and furnishes the inhabitants generally with news of current events.

In view of the great increase in the use of aircraft for mail and general transportation, the Administration is undertaking the development of landing facilities throughout the Mackenzie district. A winter landing field has been partially conditioned at Fort Smith and it is expected that it will be completed during the present year. For summer landing, it is proposed to install floating docks and other conveniences at Fort Smith, Resolution, Rae, Simpson, Norman, Aklavik, and Cameron Bay.

Exploratory work has been carried on throughout the Territories and local surveys made in all districts. Mineral prospectors are following in the tracks of the explorers, the aeroplane being used as the chief means of transportation. 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 valuable discoveries have been made in this area. The rich native silver and high-grade pitchblende ores discovered during the last few years east and south-east of Great Bear lake are now under development. The oil wells near Norman on the Mackenzie river have