

**East Slope of Rocky Mountains.**—The slopes are less abrupt than on the western side, with a wider fringe of foothills, merging gradually into the Great Plains. The forests are similar to those of the western slope of the mountains. This is the main range of the bighorn sheep, and mountain goats and wapiti are also found, while the typical moose (*A. a. americana*) is common farther north. Other characteristic mammals are Rocky Mountain cougar (*Felis concolor hippolestes*), Rocky Mountain hoary marmot (*Marmota caligata oxytona*), with the Montana hoary marmot (*M. c. nivaria*) occurring locally near the International Boundary. The northern chipmunk (*Eutamias minimus borealis*) reaches its western limit here, but ranges north along the Mackenzie and east to northern Ontario. The alpine flying squirrel (*G. s. alpinus*), Drummond wood-rat or "pack-rat" (*Neotoma cinerea drummondii*), Richardson water vole (*Microtus r. richardsoni*), long-tailed mountain vole (*Microtus mordax*), approaching its eastern limit, and Alberta pika (*Ochotona princeps lutescens*) are characteristic animals.

**The Great Plains.**—This region which merges gradually into the foothills of the Rocky mountains, is characterized by Transition-Campestrian fauna. Some of the larger mountain forms formerly ranged for some distance on the Plains. The big Plains grizzly (*Ursus horribilis*) which was found as far east as Manitoba 130 years ago, is now extinct, and the cougar which reached the Cypress hills in southwestern Saskatchewan until comparatively recent times, does not stray far from the shelter of the mountains. In addition to the typical Plains species found in Canada, listed earlier in this paper, we may add the northern white-tailed jack-rabbit (*Lepus townsendii campanius*), silver badger (*Taxidea taxus taxus*), and several forms of the true pocket gopher (*Thomomys talpoides*), which on account of their glossy fur and habit of throwing up earth hills are often mistakenly called "moles" on the prairies as well as in British Columbia. There are no true moles known in Canada in the region between eastern Manitoba and the extreme southwestern corner of British Columbia. The Plains muskrat is a pale-coloured form (*Ondatra zibethica cinnamomina*), and the Missouri River beaver (*Castor canadensis missouriensis*), which is found in some of the parts of southern Alberta and Saskatchewan belonging to the Missouri drainage system, is also a pale, bleached form.

### Distribution of Species in the Northwest.

The general trend of the life zones of Canada being along a southeast-northwest line, it has been generally assumed that the dispersion has been fairly regular across the Great Plains region and to the northward of the Plains (the Rocky Mountain system forming an unbroken barrier which is surmounted by few forms of life) and that the species have followed the foothills of the Rockies along the Mackenzie River valley to the Arctic ocean. The above is true only in part. The fauna of the Mackenzie Delta region (about latitude 68° N. and longitude 135° W.), much farther west than the west coast of British Columbia, is essentially the same as that of Eastern Canada, with the exception of a few stragglers from the Yukon side, and a few marine species of Pacific origin.

However, it has been known for some time that there is a strong infusion of many typical Eastern Canadian species in central Yukon and northern British Columbia, extending into central Alaska to the mouth of the Yukon river and beyond. The eastern race of the common fox sparrow (*Passerella iliaca iliaca*) ranges to the northwest coast of Alaska, while the large, dark, western coast races of the same species—Shumagin Island fox sparrow (*unalaschensis*), Kodiak Island (*insularis*), Valdez (*sinuosa*), Yakutat (*annectens*), Queen Charlotte Island (*towns-*