

White Pass to Whitehorse, and this railway, with the waterway, has made the Plateau easily accessible.

Dawson, the capital, chief commercial, and placer-mining centre of the Territory, is on the Yukon River and has an elevation of 1,038 feet. Whitehorse, situated at the head of navigation of Lewes River, ranks next in importance, being the junction of rail and water transport and the distributing centre. The elevation at Whitehorse is 2,081 feet above sea-level. Mayo is the centre of the silver-lead mining industry. In recent years roads for use throughout the year have been built in the neighbourhoods of these three places. Aeroplanes are now an important means of travel and a chain of landing fields has been built along the chief air routes.

The chief industries are mining, fur trade, tourist traffic, and big-game hunting: mining is by far the most important. For over fifty years Yukon has been a producer of gold and in more recent years silver, lead, copper, and coal have also been mined in important quantities. A wide variety of other mineral resources have been discovered throughout the Territory, promising greater importance for mining in future. The relatively warm and dry climate for such northern latitudes enjoyed by the Plateau of southern Yukon enables a wide range of garden produce and hardy grains to be grown throughout its extent. The break-up of the ice in the lakes and rivers takes place in May and navigation opens in the fourth week of that month and closes in the latter part of October.

*The Northwest Territories.*—The Northwest Territories consists of the provisional districts of Mackenzie, Keewatin, and Franklin. It embraces all of Canada north of the 60th parallel of latitude and east of the Yukon Territory (including also the islands in Hudson and James Bays and Hudson Strait), except that portion of Quebec which extends north of the 60th parallel. Its area is 1,309,682 square miles, or nearly as large as the combined areas of Argentina and Chile in South America, or over twelve times the area of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Much of the area is still unexplored. The highest part of the mainland is in the Mackenzie Mountains, where Keele Peak has an elevation of 8,500 feet and elevations of 11,000 feet have been reported near the headwaters of the South Nahanni River. From the Mackenzie Mountains the land drops to an elevation of less than 500 feet at the Mackenzie River, on the east side of which the Horn and Franklin Mountains reach altitudes of about 2,000 feet. A large depression is formed by a trough-like valley in which Great Bear and Great Slave Lakes are the principal topographical features. To the east of this the land rises to an elevation of 1,400 feet in the great interior plateau, which in turn gradually falls away to the beach-made plains on the west side of Hudson Bay. There are some high mountains in the northeastern Arctic islands, particularly in northern Ellesmere Island where the Shackleton Expedition of 1935 recorded an elevation of 10,000 feet.

Roughly speaking, about one-third of the mainland and all the Arctic islands are treeless. This is not due to inadequate summer temperature, but more likely to insufficient precipitation coupled with the extreme dryness of the air during winter. Some form of plant life is in evidence wherever there is soil. In the wooded areas there is little difficulty in securing forest products sufficient for the needs of the residents.

Photography from the air has assisted in the mapping of areas adjacent to the better-known transportation routes and the areas in which minerals have been discovered. The silver, radium, and copper deposits near the east end of Great Bear Lake, and the gold discoveries in the Yellowknife area north and east of Great Slave