

been carried on in the Great Slave Lake area where discoveries of gold have been made. Two mines are producing gold and others are expected to be in production shortly. The agricultural land of the Territories lies almost entirely in the extension of the central plain along the Mackenzie Valley.

It is known that there are many potential water-power sites throughout the Territories and one of them will probably be developed in the near future as a consequence of mining enterprises. Much of the Mackenzie Valley carries a forest cover that furnishes timber and fuel for local needs. Fishing, agriculture, and lumbering are engaged in to some extent, but the principal industry of the Territories is still the taking and exportation of furs, with mining rapidly increasing in importance. Many trading posts operate throughout the regions tributary to the Arctic Coast, Hudson Bay, and the great inland systems of waterways.

Yukon.—Yukon was created a separate Territory in June, 1898. Provision is made for a local Government composed of a chief executive classified as Controller, also an Elective Legislative Council with jurisdiction over local matters and composed of three members with a three-year tenure of office. The Controller administers the Government under instructions from the Governor General in Council or the Minister of Mines and Resources. The seat of government is at Dawson. The Territory has hospitals, schools, and other amenities of modern life, including wireless and telegraphic facilities. The population in 1931 was 4,230.

The usual route followed by travellers to the Yukon Territory is by steamer from ports on the Pacific Coast to Skagway, Alaska, from that point to Whitehorse by the White Pass and Yukon Railway, and thence by river boat to Dawson.

The use of aircraft for transportation purposes is increasing and landing fields have been conditioned at Dawson, Mayo, Whitehorse, and Carcross. A temporary licence has been issued for the field at Whitehorse which is becoming important because it is on the main route for international traffic. Some work has been done on emergency fields at Selkirk, Carmacks, McQuesten, and Minto.

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. 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. Copper, tungsten, and coal are also found in the Yukon Territory. There is a hydro-electric installation of 18,199 h.p. in Yukon, which is used to supply electric energy for placer-mining operations and for the City of Dawson.

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 and the fur trade.

Subsection 2.—Provincial Public Lands.

In the Maritime Provinces and in Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia (except the Railway Belt and the Peace River Block) the public lands have been administered by the Provincial Governments since Confederation. Since the transfer of the natural resources to the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia (see p. 1019 of the 1931 Year Book) public lands in all provinces have been under provincial administration. In Prince Edward Island, all the land is alienated and there are no provincial public lands.