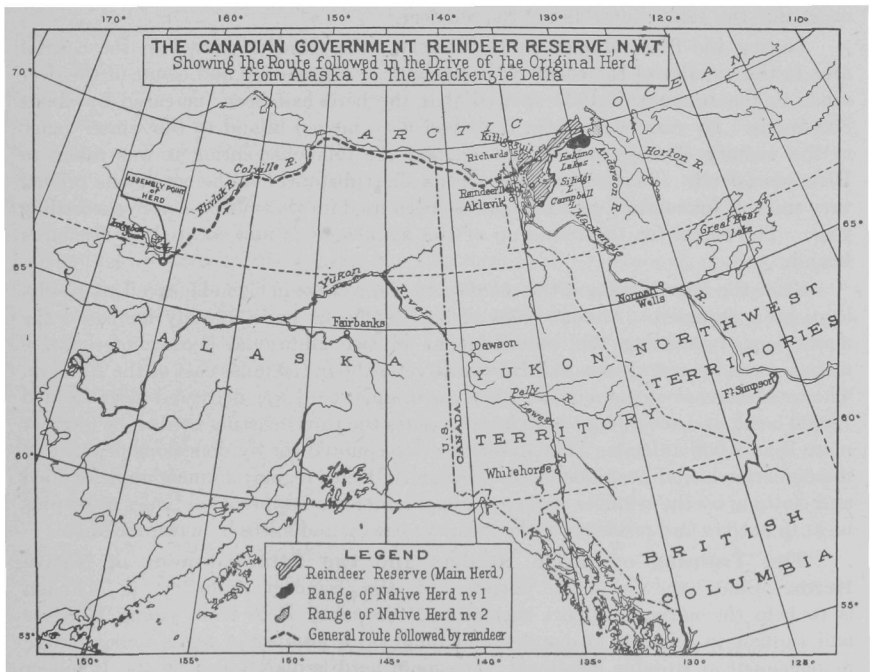


purposes. The herd was assembled near the head of Kotzebue Sound in north-western Alaska, where the drive to Canada was commenced in December, 1929. The movement was in charge of a veteran Lapp reindeer herder, assisted by other Lapps and several Eskimos. Supplies were drawn on sleds by reindeer, and dog teams were also used for this purpose.

*The Drive from Alaska to the Mackenzie Delta.*—The drive proved to be an epic in the annals of northern travel. The route selected was northeasterly across the Brooks Mountains to the head-waters of Etivluk River, down Etivluk and Colville Rivers to the Arctic coast, and thence eastward to the delta of the Mackenzie. The vendors, who had undertaken the responsibility of delivering the deer, experienced difficulties from the start. The homing instinct of the reindeer became apparent, and many broke away and were not recovered. Blizzards, intense cold, attacks by wolves and the presence of other reindeer and caribou impeded progress.

The following spring the drive was halted for the fawning season, and for the remainder of the summer the herd grazed and rested. As the trek continued losses were recouped to some extent by the yearly crop of fawns. The deer arrived in Canadian territory in the spring of 1933. An attempt to cross the Mackenzie



River Delta in the winter of 1933-34 was unsuccessful because of unsuitable weather and ice conditions, and the delivery of the herd was not made until March, 1935. The total number of deer delivered was 2,370 made up of 1,498 does, 611 bucks, and 261 steers. Of this number, it was estimated that less than twenty per cent was original stock that left the Alaskan range in 1929.