

ment and the Province of Alberta. This new highway will enable heavily loaded trucks to convey goods to the south shore of Great Slave Lake.

The Geological Survey of Canada maintained six mapping parties in the Northwest Territories during the summer of 1947, covering the Canso River area, the Lac de Gras area, Indin Lake, the Ranji Lake and Chalco Lake areas, and the McAlpine Channel area. The detailed study of the complex Yellowknife Bay gold belt was continued from 1946, and embraced the Con, Rycon, and Negus mining properties. In addition to these standard mapping projects, other geological investigations and reconnaissance surveys were undertaken by qualified officers of the Federal Government.

The fur trade continued to be an important factor in the economy of the Territories. A catch of 488,039 pelts worth a total of \$1,658,754 was recorded for the year ended June 30, 1947. The trapping of fine furs is the chief occupation of most of the native population, and hunting and trapping in the Territories are restricted mainly to natives and to half-breeds leading the life of natives.

Considerable progress was made in the organization and development of an improved forest conservation and wildlife protection service. Headquarters are at Fort Smith, and regular patrols are maintained. Modern fire fighting equipment has been provided, and it is anticipated that the improved operations will show satisfactory results in restoring wildlife in the Mackenzie district.

The annual Eastern Arctic Patrol was carried out in 1947 and, following the wreck of R.M.S. *Nascopie* off Cape Dorset in Hudson Strait on July 21, 1947, arrangements were made to service northern Baffin Island posts by the Hudson's Bay Company chartered vessel *North Pioneer*, which was despatched from Montreal soon after the loss of the *Nascopie*. Posts in the Hudson Bay region were serviced from railhead at Churchill through the facilities of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Yukon Territory.—The gold production of Yukon showed a favourable increase during 1947. As in past years, most of the gold was obtained from placer operations in the Dawson district. A new find on the Firth River, with promising prospects, was a significant feature of the year's activities, and it is anticipated that more prospectors will be attracted to this area. Development continued of the Keno Hill silver-lead deposits in the Mayo district with an increased amount of ore being mined and concentrated. Work in this area was handicapped, however, by transportation difficulties due to extremely low water in the Stewart River.

The total value of gold produced in Yukon during 1947 was \$1,671,075. The deposits in the Keno Hill area of the Mayo district produced 573 tons of lead valued at \$156,556 and silver production in Yukon was valued at \$267,877.

Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation Limited, continued to be the principal producer in the placer mining field, with six dredges in operation. Yukon Gold Placers Limited, Clear Creek Placers Limited, and a number of individual miners carried on operations in the Dawson mining district, while Mayo Mines Limited, Yukon Northwest Exploration Limited, United Keno Hill Mines Limited, and a number of smaller companies carried out development work in Mayo district. In the Whitehorse mining district, the greatest placer activity was on Burwash Creek, where the Burwash Mining Company operates company claims, as well as