

Columbia, Ontario, or other more southerly and easterly portions of Canada (Plates II, III, VII, IX).

In the vicinity of Yukon river, about one-third of the land-surface is forest clad, but as the Porcupine is approached, this amount becomes reduced to about one-fourth or less, and the timber is noticeably more sparse. Throughout the district, the southern and western slopes are considerably better forested than the northern and eastern hillsides. To the south, timber ceases in most places at an elevation of about 3,000 feet above sea-level, but trees grow in protected draws up to 3,500 feet. In the northern portion of this belt, trees seldom occur at an elevation exceeding 2,000 feet.

Five principal forest members occur that attain the dimensions of trees, and ten species of shrubs were noted. The five main varieties of trees are,<sup>1</sup> white spruce, *Picea canadensis*, aspen poplar, *Populus tremuloides*, balsam poplar, *Populus balsamifera*, northern canoe birch, *Betula resinifera*, and tamarack or American larch, *Larix laricina*; and the more important shrubs include juniper, *Juniperus nana*, dwarf birch, *Betula glandulosa*, "soapollali", *Sherpherdia canadensis*, five species of willow, *Salix*, and two species of alder.

The spruce is the most important of the trees, and constitutes about one-half of the forest growth of the district; specimens having 21-inch stumps were noted in some of the valley bottoms, but the larger individuals range generally only from about 12 to 16 inches, and a tree 18 inches in diameter, 3 feet from the ground, is somewhat exceptional. The two varieties of poplar are very plentiful both in the valley bottoms and on the hillsides; these have stumps rarely exceeding, and generally less than 10 inches in diameter. Northern canoe birch occurs in occasional small groves both in the valleys and on the mountain sides, but individuals of this species of tree rarely exceed 10 inches in diameter. Larch is of rare occurrence and no specimens were noted north of Bern creek at about latitude 66°25'. Willow,

<sup>1</sup>During the seasons of 1911 and 1912, the writer collected specimens of all the plants, including trees and shrubs, that were noted in this district, and these were delivered to Mr. J. M. Macoun of this Department, from whose report the names here used are taken.