

early in the season, sometimes in September, and stays until July, or, in extreme seasons, until August. The result of this superabundance of cold is to blight any appearance of life on the barren coast-line, and its stretch of grey rocks covered with moss and lichens is impressive but extremely depressing. In the sheltered inlets, as at Davis inlet, Hamilton inlet, and Sandwich bay, there is a growth of small timber; game and berries abound, and life is more endurable. The "liveyers," or permanent white settlers on the Labrador coast, who fish on the coast in summer, make their winter homes here. Potatoes and garden truck are raised in sheltered spots with some difficulty.

The bays in the northern portion, Saglek, Nachvak, etc., freeze over in the middle or end of December. Navigation closes here the first of November, and the extensive transient population of Newfoundland fishermen, estimated at 15,000, is off the northern coast by this time. In this section flurries of snow are not unusual at any time of the year. In the vicinity of Hudson strait and Ungava bay, the higher hills retain snow until the last of August, and are covered again by the middle of September. This condition is probably due to the immense amount of moisture in the atmosphere and the presence of icebergs at all times of the year, causing variations in temperature.

Ice forms in the various bays to a depth of from 20 to 40 feet. The lowest recorded temperature is 55 degrees below zero, although the actual range is probably greater. The temperature rarely rises above 80 degrees, even during the brief three months summer. In the northern section, this season is shortened to two months, counting by the disappearance of the snow and ice, and winter is hardly over before it begins again.

ICE.

The dependence of hunting on ice conditions is well known in the north, particularly in the Eskimo world. The ice brings the winter store of seal and bear, and the break-up in the spring is followed by the walrus and whale. The absence of ice on their coastal settlements, or fixed ice remaining without a break, would mean starvation to the Eskimo. Consequently they