

parts, the Chilcotin district being a favourite range of theirs. The *Ovis Stonei* are the most numerous of mountain sheep and are particularly plentiful in the Cassiar district. The Yukon sheep are also widely distributed.

Mountain goats are very numerous all over the district where there are high mountains. They are found in the Coast mountains adjacent to the Grand Trunk Pacific railway and north and east of Prince George. They are also plentiful in the Omineca and Cassiar districts.

Grizzly bears are plentiful in the mountains and northerly parts of the district. The Nass, Skeena and Stikine rivers are said to afford good hunting for this ferocious animal. Big game hunters will find in the grizzly a beast worthy of their highest admiration and one that affords the maximum of thrills. Black, brown and cinnamon bears are common all over the interior. During the salmon run they congregate along the rivers' edges and live on these fish, which they scoop out in a most dexterous style. To obtain good skins these animals should be hunted as soon as they leave their winter quarters. The fur then is thick and glossy and the colour good. In a short time it becomes faded and ragged as the bear scrambles through thickets of woods and tangles of berry bushes in the summer's heat.

Timber wolves are found in the northern parts and along the northern coast. They vary in colour from nearly black to grizzly grey, brown, or yellow. They prey heavily on caribou, deer, smaller fur-bearing animals and the young of the large game. Coyotes or prairie wolves are fairly common throughout the interior. They will not attack man, but prey on poultry, birds and smaller fur-bearing animals.

Of the cat family some three species are to be found. The largest is the cougar, mountain lion or panther. While plentiful in the southern parts of the province and on Vancouver island, it is seldom found in the central parts. The common lynx may be found anywhere, while a few wild-cats are sometimes seen.

Of the smaller fur-bearing animals there are many species widely distributed. Beaver are now being protected, as this very valuable animal was showing signs of being on the decrease. Indians are permitted to kill the beaver in summer-time if in need of food—a convenient excuse—and the practice no doubt has a more serious effect on the decrease of the species than the regular winter trapping.

Red foxes are plentiful, with a fair number of cross, silver and black scattered over the district. Fox farming is an industry that might be expected to prove very successful in many of the isolated valleys of the northern interior.

As approximately 90 per cent of the total area of the province will remain in its present condition of unbroken hills, covered with forests and interspersed with streams and lakes, the hunting grounds and haunts of these animals will remain undisturbed. So long as the taking of them is not permitted to become unduly excessive the fur supply should remain a permanent asset.

Of wild-fowl there is a large and varied list which affords excellent sport in proper season and most palatable additions to the table. Geese and swans are found on the northerly interior waters, while many species of ducks are widely distributed over both coast and interior regions. On the coast they remain all winter, but migrate from interior waters.

Prairie chickens were scarce for some years, but after a period of protection are becoming more plentiful. A few species of grouse are widely distributed and fairly plentiful. Ptarmigan are found in the mountain and northern regions in large flocks.