

other industries sprang up. The wealth of the forests, fisheries and lands was realized by the new comers who saw in these regions unlimited resources and wonderful possibilities that the fur traders could not or would not admit.

Mining, lumbering, fishing, farming, shipbuilding and other industries have grown into prominence, but the fur trade that held lone sway for the first fifty years of the white man's occupation of these parts goes on apace. The mountainous nature of the province prohibits the settlement and cultivation of more than about ten per cent of its total land area, thus leaving vast regions of wildness in which the wild animals and bird life propagate their species.

In the mountainous and sparsely settled districts of Central British Columbia it still to be found in great numbers practically every species of game and fur-bearing animal common to these regions since the earliest days. Large numbers of men still pursue trapping as their sole occupation and with the high price of furs that has prevailed in recent years find it a very remunerative calling. Both game hunting and wing shooting may be enjoyed to the fullest extent in these parts.

The quality of furs obtained in Central British Columbia is the very highest. Marten compares favourably with the Russian sable, while fisher, lynx, foxes, and beaver are exceptionally good. Prince George is the centre of a great fur trade and the value of raw pelts shipped from this port in 1918 was approximately \$400,000.

The large game includes moose, wapiti or elk, cariboo, deer, mountain sheep, goats, bear, wolves and three species of the cat family. The smaller fur-bearing animals include black, silver and cross foxes, beaver, musk-rat, otter, racoon, marten, mink, wolverine, badger, porcupine, hare, skunk, polecat, weasel, sea-lion, hair seal and a very few sea otter.

Moose are very plentiful throughout the interior and northern regions. The biggest and best heads are obtained in the Cassiar district which is best reached by way of the Stikine river. Prince George is also the centre of an excellent moose district. Along the upper Fraser and Parsnip rivers moose are very plentiful and have increased in numbers greatly during the last few years. Splendid heads are obtained from these districts. The grounds are easily accessible and hunting conditions are good. The district lying to the north and east of Prince George is exceptionally good.

The wapiti or elk were at one time quite numerous but are now excessively rare. They are protected by a continuous close season in hopes that this noble species will not become extinct.

Cariboo are found in plenty. The Black or Mountain species are found in nearly all mountainous parts of the interior with the Chilcotin, Quesnel and Prince George districts favourable hunting grounds. In the more northerly parts big bands of the species known as Osborn's cariboo are found.

Mule deer and Richardson's or large black-tailed deer are widely spread over the more southerly parts of the district. The Columbia or Coast deer is plentiful along the coast but is not found east of the Coast range of mountains. The most common and widely found species of deer in Central British Columbia is the white-tailed species. These are found throughout all parts of the great interior plateaus.

Mountain sheep include four species, namely, the Common Bighorn, *Ovis Stonor*, *Ovis Tamini* and *Ovis Dalli* or Yukon sheep. The three latter species are very similar and are often found in the same band. The Bighorn is found in the more southerly