

GIANT YELLOWKNIFE GOLD MINE

Largest Gold Mine in the North, Yellowknife, N.W.T.

relatively tiny fraction of the north so far carefully investigated include (besides gold, uranium, lead and zinc) copper tungsten, iron, coal, tantalum, beryllium and lithium.

Possibly the pace of things to come is best indicated by one figure: in just seven years between 1946 and 1953, mineral production in the Canadian north increased 1.000 per cent.

Climate and Distance

Here, then, is much of the wealth the world needs. What are the problems of getting it? They are considerable. The first one which comes to any mind is climate.

Climate is not, however, as serious a factor as most people think. In the first place, in the area of Great Slave Lake where mining activity is now, and for some years is likely to be, centered, the harshness of the climate is often exaggerated. The winter temperatures are a good deal colder than in the cities of the south—Yellowknife winter temperatures average 17 degrees F. below those of Winnipeg. In the summer months, however, Yellowknife is pleasant and has an average temperature of 57 degrees, only about seven degrees cooler than Winnipeg and only three degrees cooler than Edmonton. And, though the summer growing season is short, the long hours of sunlight permit the rapid growth of plants.