

Fish are used to a much greater extent by the Eskimos of the Western Arctic and the interior than by the people of the East. Arctic char is the most widely distributed and is found in varying numbers everywhere.

The Eskimos, like the white man, have had to learn that natural resources are not inexhaustible. Studies in conservation and wise use of wildlife resources form an increasingly important part of Eskimo education; if they make full use of the wildlife resources available, they will be reasonably well fed and clothed.

Shelter, Fuel, and Light

The majority of Eskimos still live in snow houses or igloos during the winter and in tents during the summer. Seal and whale blubber provide them with fuel and light. There are, however, interesting variations in the style of living in the various locations.

In the Eastern Arctic, in winter, most of the people live in snow houses and in summer the canvas tent has for the most part taken the place of the seal tent used in days gone by. Again, it is by projecting the variations that a true picture of the Eskimo world is screened. At Pangnirtung, where seals are plentiful, skin tents are numerous.

The snow house is not used in the main camps in the Western Arctic, but it is used for winter travel. Here, also, sealskin has largely given way to canvas, and tents are used in most places throughout the year, being banked up with snow in winter time. Driftwood is plentiful in the west, especially in the Mackenzie Delta, and many Eskimos have built wooden houses where they live most of the year. More wood is also available in the west for fuel than in the east.

In all areas, primus and other oil stoves have been bought when the people could afford them, but their use has been auxiliary. The blubber lamp or kudlik is still in general use practically everywhere where there are snow houses or tents.

In the more settled areas, there is a slowly growing inclination among the Eskimos to give up their nomadic life and settle permanently at places where wood and other materials are available. They build houses and endeavour to set themselves up in the manner of the white men. In such areas as the Mackenzie Delta and Fort Chimo, where wood is available both for building and fuel, their aspiration can lead to no great harm to themselves, but in other districts where the Eskimos do not grasp the need for cleanliness in permanent dwellings, and where the only fuel is seal or whale oil, this urge to settle is being discouraged.

Most Eskimos can still obtain a large part of their food, shelter, fuel, light, and clothing from local resources, but they have long since passed the stage when they were entirely self-sufficient. Fire arms and ammunition have taken the place of bow and arrow and other primitive weapons for hunting, and imported foods, clothing, boats, tools, and various other articles of equipment are generally