

spruce-trees, similar to those found upon the islands in close proximity to the eastern shore of the northern part of James Bay.

*Birds in the Far North.*

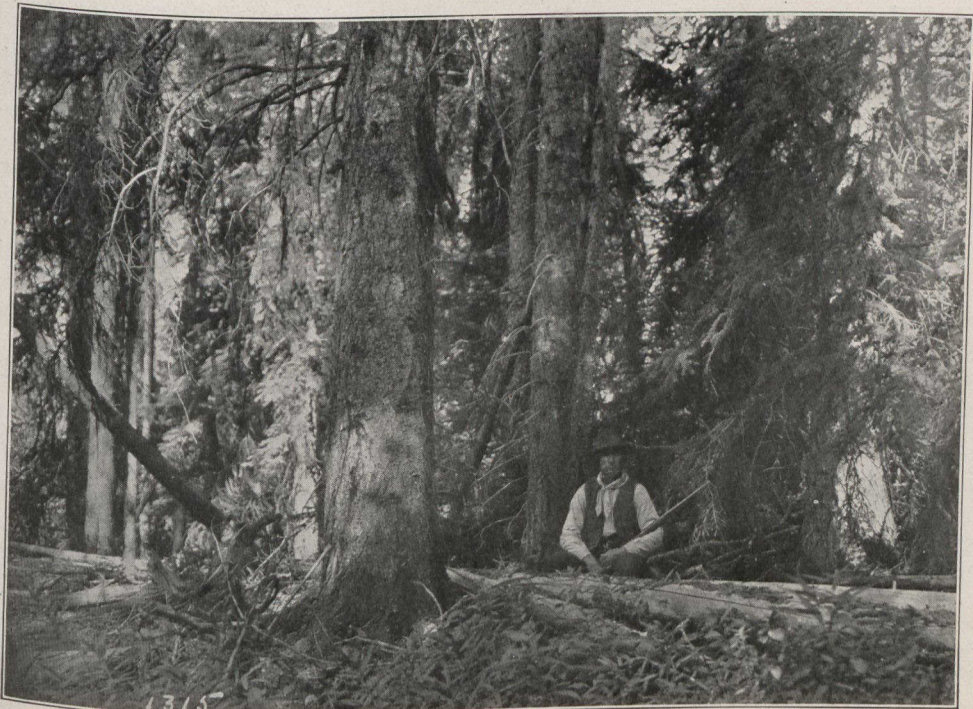
Certain species of birds characteristic of the woods are found as far north as the trees go; and even where the latter are dwarfed song-birds will build their nests in them. Beside their great importance to the natives and other travellers in the region in question, by furnishing material for camping and implements, the trees have an aesthetic value which cannot be overestimated. They give colour and relief to an otherwise dreary coast; and I have seen few more beautiful sights than the wide expanse of Richmond Gulf, bordered by many-coloured rocks, with groves of dark green spruce growing in pockets along bays or on protected points, and reflected in the clear, blue water. There is here a scenery which has evoked the enthusiasm of the comparatively few white men who have visited it; and which might very well in the future be made a reservation for the benefit of all those who love outdoor life. Its protected location, wealth of marine life, and pos-

sibilities for hunting are fully appreciated by the Eskimos living here all year round, and who know far better than many white men how to utilize their country.

Along the east coast of James Bay the forests exhibit in the fall a riot of colours impossible to describe. The dark green of the conifers, the orange-yellow of the birches and poplars, and purple shrubbery are only the extremes and dominant colours along a coast which with its innumerable islands and inviting bights makes a passer by feel like in fairy-land. It was my good fortune, by going down the Missianibi, and back up the Abitibi Rivers, to follow from day to day the transformation of the woods through the summer to their defoliating in the fall.

But most often do I like to recall those brave, little, shrubby trees on the many islands and windswept coast of Hudson and James Bays, standing up, firmly rooted, and of so fantastic a shape, against a clear sky at sunset. May they be spared, as monuments of endurance, during any development of the country, which may take place in the future!

Ottawa, Can., March, 1921.



This looks like a real national asset—Spruce on the shores of Highwood River, Alberta.