

the Lewes, between the mouth of the Yukon on Bering sea and Whitehorse at the head of navigation on the Lewes, a distance of about 2,060 miles measured along the river. There is no regular steamboat traffic on Porcupine river, but during 1910, 1911, and 1912, steamers were engaged to take the members of Survey parties, their horses, equipment, and supplies upstream from Fort Yukon at the mouth of the Porcupine, and to return for the parties again in the autumn.

The first power boat to go up the Porcupine was a small gasoline launch which went as far as New Rampart House with a small advance reconnaissance International Boundary Survey party in 1909. In 1910, the first steamer to go up this river was taken up on behalf of the Boundary Surveys. It was found that the smaller type of Yukon River steamboat, under exceptionally high, favourable stages of water, can get up the Porcupine as far at least as New Rampart House which is situated on the north bank of the river only a few yards east of the Boundary line (Frontispiece).

The period of highest water on the river and the most favourable time to go up this stream is generally between May 24 and June 10, immediately after the last ice comes down the river. A lesser rise generally occurs about August 20 and another is expected in September. In the spring of 1912, the steamer Tanana was chartered so as to be at Fort Yukon by the time the last ice had come down the Porcupine. Taking advantage of the temporary high water immediately after the break-up, the steamer started up Porcupine river with a scow on May 25 and was very fortunate in reaching New Rampart House in about 56 hours without mishap, having aboard the members of the different United States and Canadian International Boundary and Geological Survey parties, about 85 men in all, as well as their supplies, equipment, and 160 horses. Within 8 or 10 days, the water had fallen 6 or 7 feet, making it impossible for the same steamer to have then come upstream past Camp Tittman, 65 miles below New Rampart House.

On the larger tributaries of the Yukon and Porcupine which cross the 141st meridian, an attempt was made to use specially designed gasoline launches, but it was found that these could be