

development. By becoming more compact through our northern expansion and with increased population, trade and industry may be favoured with lower rates of transport, thus lowering production costs, which, in turn, will place Canadian products in a better position to compete on the world trade markets.

With Newfoundland entering Confederation, with the present northern developments in the provinces and with the future expansions of our Canadian north land, Canada is reaching its natural geographical boundaries. It is no longer this "thin red line" extending from coast to coast, but an economic unit based on the dynamic strength of the whole northern portion of the continent.

In our times, northern expansion has taken place in all the Canadian provinces at a constantly accelerated pace. Just to mention a few:

- The Knob Lake iron ore in northern Quebec, which is just entering into production. The greatest single factor in this industrial development has been the construction of a railway of three hundred and sixty miles long in such a rugged country that Jacques Cartier called it "Terre de Cain", "The Land of Cain";

- The opening up of the Abitibi Kirkland Lake area, in northern Ontario and Quebec, which took place at the closing of the prosperity decade prior to the "dirty-thirties" of the depression years. - The present Lynn Lake mining developments - Uranium City on lake Athabaska - the oil fields in northern Alberta. - The Kitimat hydro-electric power installation.

Now that Canada has attained nationhood and a feeling of maturity, it would appear to be appropriate for Canadians to give serious thought to the economic development and political integration of our northern heritage beyond the provinces, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, the last frontier in America.

Let us for a moment look ahead: let us look at the problem of drawing northern Canada into effective economic unity with the southern part of the country. Many factors will of course play an important role in this development. One of them will be the extent to which merchantable wealth can be discovered in these regions, just as the success of the east-west unification of Canada depended upon the existence of immensely valuable natural resources, including the fertile land of the prairies. That these vast stores of wealth do exist in northern Canada is already proven. One has only to consider that the eastern and central mainland portions of the Northwest Territories, and much of the Arctic Islands, consist of the Canadian Shield, that the Mackenzie Basin is an extension of the Great Central Plain, and that the eastern portion of the Northwest Territories and most of the Yukon Territory lie astride the Cordilleras and their flanks. The Canadian Shield and the Cordilleras are two of the world's great metal bearing regions, and the Central Plains are one of the great oil bearing regions; hence the Northwest Territories and the Yukon are one of the great untapped sources of mineral wealth remaining in the world. That the demand for these resources will be urgent, and will increase at an accelerating rate, few can doubt who have studied the Paley Report.