

fox. There is some farming, and such surprising crops as watermelon, corn and tomatoes are often grown successfully, but transportation costs have so far made large-scale agriculture impractical.

Two new resources, still largely undeveloped, are oil and base metals. During the Second World War there were sixty-one producing wells at Norman Wells. Exploration by several companies now suggests that oil reefs are to be found for most of the length of the Mackenzie. The biggest mineral find along the Mackenzie system



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has been a belt of lead-zinc ore, on the south shore of Great Slave Lake, thought to be one of the largest on the continent.

*The Arctic Archipelago* comprises a vast agglomeration of treeless islands that extend north from the harsh Arctic Coast to the seas surrounding the Pole. These islands cover more than half a million square miles and vary in size from tiny dots on the cold sea to huge masses such as Baffin Island, which is almost a thousand miles long and contains mountains six thousand feet high and ice caps a quarter of a mile thick. Only a few white men occupy these islands, whose summer temperatures rarely rise

above fifty degrees Fahrenheit. This is the land of the Eskimo. So far the main resources here have been fur and fish.

*The Cordilleran Belt* consists of three great mountain systems—on the west the Coastal Mountains, on the east the Rockies and Mackenzies, and in the centre a series of ranges of which the picturesque Selkirks are the best known. This mountain belt, five hundred miles wide, contains ninety-seven peaks higher than ten thousand feet. Here are to be found the great National Parks that attract thousands of tourists; the best known, Banff and Jasper, whose enormous icefields, towering peaks and green lakes have made them year-round playgrounds.

The resources of the Cordilleras are varied and not yet fully developed. The Coastal Mountains are gold producers; the Rockies contain large

1) Aerial view of Churchill, Manitoba

2) "Land of the Midnight Sun"