



AUTUMN IN LABRADOR

Autumn in Churchill Falls, Newfoundland, has sometimes been described as a season of unpredictable skiing. While there is a grain of truth in this disgruntled observation, autumn in central Labrador has more beguiling characteristics.

As the temperature cools, the weather becomes more unsettled. Fog and misty rain become frequent, and it is only with the arrival of the frigid temperatures of winter that the people of Labrador begin to enjoy day after day of brilliant sunny skies.

Even as early as this, a scum of ice is seen on puddles and ditch-water every morning. It won't be long before one will be able to walk on that surface.

Blueberries and bakeapple berries, which reached their peak about Labour Day, are now threatened by frost. Black bears, fat and shiny, are topping off with their pre-hibernation feast these berries before starting to look for a mossy hollow in which to spend the winter.

Leaves of the few deciduous trees such as birch and mountain ash are turning brown, while the black spruce are turning the darker green that produces

striped patterns in the bush.

Caribou are moving south through the project area, but they "spook" easily and are difficult to spot.

Geese and ducks are flocking here before heading further south in their straggling V formations. The Canada goose, one of nature's more intelligent creatures, often permits itself to be seen, but not too closely.

Young spruce partridge, fearing nothing – and apparently knowing nothing – shuffle along construction roads. Perhaps because of this, a larger-than-usual number of young foxes have also been seen this fall.

Ptarmigan, difficult to spot in summer in their reddish-brown plumage, will soon be pure white again, and just as difficult to see nestled in the snow drifts.

The animal to watch, though, is man. Signs of autumn for that species are pink nose and white finger tips and a slight squirm while walking, suggesting an inner plumage of long underwear.

CANADIAN RECEIVES U.S. AWARD

Doctor Ross A. Chapman, special adviser to the Deputy Minister, (Health) in the federal health and welfare department, has been given the Underwood Prescott Memorial Award by the Massachusetts Institute of Management.

Dr. Chapman, former Assistant Deputy Minister of the old Food and Drug Directorate – now called the Health Protection Branch – has been prominently identified with the development of international standards for foods and food additives.

Dr. Chapman was chosen for this tenth annual award by a Massachusetts Institute of Technology faculty committee of the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, which stated that it was given to him: "in recognition of his contributions to the field of food science and technology in laying a sound foundation for the development and establishment of regulatory procedures for the food and drug industries based on a logical approach, sound judgment, creative thinking, and food science". His research in food chemistry, and his administrative ability, they said, had "led to international recognition".