

size of the State of New York, or about one-fourth larger than the combined areas of Great Britain and Ireland. Unlike the rest of Ontario it faces on the sea, with a shore line on Hudson Bay 600 miles in length. In shape it is roughly triangular, with a greatest length in a north-east and south-west direction of 630 miles, and a greatest width in a north and south direction of 390 miles.

It is inaccessible, except with light canoes, from any of the southern and more settled parts of Ontario, and none of the main lines of travel used by the early fur-traders of the Hudson's Bay Company passed through it, either on their way southward from Moose Factory to the Great Lakes, or westward from York Factory to the plains of the Saskatchewan or the forests of the Athabasca valley. No attempt has yet been made to develop any other industry but the fur trade, and consequently, though not at all the most remote, it is one of the least known parts of Canada.

Population Meagre.

It is very sparsely populated, the total number of people in it, according to the last census, being 3,009, about 9 of whom are white fur traders, while 3,000 are Indians belonging to the Cree and Ojibway tribes who live by hunting and fishing, though a few of the more civilized have small gardens in which they grow potatoes. The above population gives an average of one person, man, woman, or child, to every fifty square miles of country.

Like most of northern Canada, it is a country of slight relief, with few prominent hills. The highest land, with an elevation of about 1,500 feet above the sea, lies in its south-western portion, in North Latitude 52° and West Longitude 92°, and from this high land as a centre the streams radiate in all directions, northward, southward, eastward, and westward, but no

matter in what direction they start, their waters eventually reach Hudson Bay. The main rivers, beautiful large streams, are as follows with their respective length: Albany 610 miles, Attawapiskat 465 miles, Wenisk 400 miles, Severn 420 miles, and English or Winnipeg 330 miles, the latter of which drains a portion of the district south-westward into Lake Winnipeg before its waters are carried by the Nelson River into Hudson Bay.

The district naturally divides itself into two portions, namely a Littoral portion, which adjoins Hudson Bay and extends 100 miles or more inland from it, with a total area of 60,000 square miles, and an Interior Upland portion, including the higher land already mentioned, with a total area of 90,000 square miles, or nearly 60,000,000 acres.

The Interior Upland Country is underlain by old Archean rocks, chiefly red and gray gneissic granites. Their surface is undulating or lumpy, with few level areas of any considerable extent, but at the same time the crests of the lumps or undulations are low and rarely rise into hills with heights which would need to be expressed in hundreds of feet.

Agricultural Soil.

This rocky Interior Upland may again be divided into two main subdivisions, a Northern and a Southern, though sufficient information is not available to determine their relative areas. The Northern subdivision comprises that portion which has an average slope northward and north-eastward, and is drained into Hudson Bay. On it the underlying granite is mostly covered by a mantle of recent hardpan or sandy clay containing an abundance of boulders. Doubtless this covering is thinner on the hills than in the valleys, but nevertheless the rocks of the hills are usually hidden, while the deeper depressions in the original rocky surface are