

## REVIEW

### THE CLIMATE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND THE YUKON TERRITORY

By W. G. KENDREW and D. KERR.  
*Ottawa: Queen's Printer, 1955. 9½ x 6½ inches; x + 222 pages; plates, maps, tables. \$1.00.*

Some years ago a series of initial climatological reports was produced, covering the main regions of Canada. These reports were written by university professors across the country, and they were detailed studies of regional climates. There has long been a need for comprehensive studies of the Canadian climate, and the very detailed reports are now being condensed and made available to the public.

The original report on the Mackenzie Basin and Keewatin was extended to cover the southern sections of the Prairie Provinces and published recently as *The Climate of Central Canada*. The reports on British Columbia and the Yukon were combined and have now been published in the same format. Publication of similar handbooks on the climate of Eastern Canada and the Arctic Archipelago will complete a very valuable presentation of the Canadian climate. An interim study of the Far North was published in 1951 (R. W. Rae: *Climate of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago*).

The book on British Columbia and the Yukon makes interesting reading, because it has a very marked touch of the geo-

grapher. Before the actual climatic elements are described the reader is taken on a rapid and quite satisfactory excursion across the land. The guide is a man who knows this country well, and the climatic factors of topography, relief, land, and water are clearly understood to be of prime importance in the subsequent explanation and description of regional climates. Also, the two chapters on pressure systems, air masses, and frontal zones very rightly follow the introductory chapters in both parts of the book (southern B.C.; northern B.C. and Yukon). From a groundwork of climatic factors and circulation features the authors go on to describe conditions of winds, temperatures and humidities, clouds, sunshine, precipitation, and visibility. The sections on variability of the climatic elements are especially interesting, and the numerous tables (101 in number) are ably worked into the text. The book is easily read as a whole, and due to good editing it is also possible to find quickly the values of any particular climatic element for most parts of the two large regions included in the study. Apart from being a textbook it is useful as a reference book, and there are two appendices containing climatological tables for 31 stations in southern B.C. and 13 stations in northern B.C. and the Yukon. Some clear photographs and more than 50 figures enhance the value of this useful and reasonably priced publication.

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