

On The Main Street

Mar. 2/68

with Ford Moynes

An answer has been received to the question "What is a Feather Cedar?" Herb Avery called to say that years ago when Indians roamed the land, pitched their wigwams on the shore of a placid lake and scouted for food in the woods, they had an unique way of making a fire using "feather cedar".

The red men singled out a fallen cedar tree and cut strips of bark from the dry under side, about a foot in length. The bark was carefully scraped and the result was very thin strands much the same as the fuzz from a coconut. This handful of very fine cedar was placed on or in a shallow piece of hardwood and rubbed vigorously with a



second piece of hardwood and the friction kindled the dry cedar. The result "feather cedar".

The same method of lighting fires in the white man's humble stove in pioneer days is said to have been used before the use of new fangled matches.