Saving Ontario's Natural Resources

No. 5
(By G. C. Toner)

FORESTS AND FISHES

The fishery biologist is vitally concerned with forests. He knows that trees and woodlands catch and hold the water during the time of the year when precipitation is high, releasing it gradually during the summer. In forested regions the spring floods are gentle; the streams run throughout the year, cool and clear; erosion with its consequent silt is held to a minimum. Simply stated, to have fish, there must be trees over a considerable portion of the watershed that supplies the streams.

Right Temperature

The existence of the brook trout in Ontario is closely dependent on the forests. Like all other creatures they have certain definite physical and chemical requirements of the environment in which they live. Of these, temperature of the water seems to have great power as a limiting factor. If the water in the stream is too warm, there will be no trout; if too cold, the food is scanty or non-existent and again there will be few or no trout. This temperature range is quite narrow, from 45 degrees to 65 degrees with a variation, either way of 5 degrees, and within these limits the trout passes its whole existence.

Trees Along Streams

Water from the earth is usually at 55 degrees, winter or summer. This is close to the most suitable temperature for the speckled trout. In shaded valleys the spring-fed stream is protected from the sun and wind but in the open fields it soon warms. Trees along the watercourses are an insurance against warm water. so a landowner, to keep conditions right for the trout, should plant trees along the valley, close to the stream, and should protect those that are already there.

Farm Notes . . .

After-Harvest Cultivation

After-harvest cultivation is one of the most practical and most effective methods of controlling weeds, states John D. MacLeod, Crops, Seeds and Weeds Branch, Ont. Dept. of Agriculture. Plants draw heavily on the food stored in the roots in order to produce flower and seed and they are at their weakest stage immediately after the crop has been removed.

For the control of annual and winter annual weeds, shallow, thorough cultivation is recommended by using the plow, one-way disc, cultivator or disc harrow. Seeds are brought near the surface by this plan where they germinate and may be killed by subsequent cultivation. An abundance of moisture plus the methods outlined above, will destroy millions of seedling plants of such weeds as Wild Mustard, Stinkweed, Ragweed, Foxtail, False Flax, Pigweed, Lambs Quarters, Shepherds Purse, etc.

Controlling Perennials

For the control of perennial weeds having deep tap roots, such as Bladder Campion and Chicory, deep plowing is recommended as soon as the crop has been removed, followed by cultivation, using wide, sharp shares which overlap. Thorough, frequent cultivation both ways is essential in order to cut roots and bring them to the surface where the sun will assist in destroying them.

Two Objectives

An abundance of moisture will prove favourable for the control of annual weeds but will upset all plans for the control of perennials, particularly those with underground rootstocks. Two objectives should be kept in mind when planning after-harvest cultivation.

(1) Practise a green summer fallow when controlling annuals —permit seeds to germinate and destroy them later by cultivation.

(2) Practise a black summer fallow when fighting winter annuals, biennials and perennials. Keep the ground absolutely black until frosts will make further cultivation impossible.

Revenues from motor vehicle registrations and gasoline taxes in Canada in 1939 totalled $79,-915,492, of which $27,961,132 was from registrations and $51,-954,360 from gasoline taxes. In 1938 the total for registrations was $26,230,196 and the gasoline taxes $41,247,688, making a total revenue of $67,477,884.

Seagram Gold Cup Comes Back to Him

Slammin' Sam Snead, right, is shown as he received the Seagram Gold Cup, emblematic of the Canadian Open Golf championship, from Frowde Seagram after his 18-hole playoff with Harold (Jug) McSpaden at Scarboro' Golf and Country Club Monday afternoon. Snead won the trophy in 1938 at Mississauga Club after a playoff with Harry Cooper. Yesterday he carded a par 71 to McSpaden's 72. McSpaden can be seen peeking over Mr. Seagram's shoulder in the above picture.

THE WAR-WEEK—Commentary on Current Events

New Canada-U. S. Agreement On Defense Is Momentous

History was made last week in a railway car on a remote country siding near Ogdensburg, N.Y., when the Prime Minister of Canada, Mackenzie King, and the President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt, met for a four-hour conference and came to an agreement which is one of the most momentous ever recorded in the annals of this hemisphere. Mr. King and Mr. Roosevelt discussed the mutual problems of defense in relation to the safety of Canada and the U. S., and, following their meeting, issued a statement outlining the three provisions agreed upon: establishment of a joint U.S.-Canadain board of defense; this board to "commence immediate studies relating to sea, land and air problems, including personnel and material;" plans for considering the defense of the northern half of the western hemisphere. Thus was cemented the closest bond yet set up between the two great democracies in North America.

Toward Mutual Assistance Pact

The significance of the new agreement was not likely to be realized in its entirety for many a long day. Political observers meantime saw in it an indication that a mutual assistance pact between Canada and in the United States might be in the making; that the Roosevelt administration intended to blanket the Dominion under the protecting folds of the Monroe doctrine; that the armed forces of the two countries might at a future date be unified under one command.

British-U.S. Union?

The Ogdensburg agreement was followed immediately by a sensational move on the part of Britain. Speaking in the House of Commons, Prime Minister Churchill stated that 99-year leases of sea and air bases in Newfoundland, Atlantic Islands (perhaps a reference to Bermuda) and West Indian points had been offered to the United States. Next day British foreign office sources confirmed reports that the United States had leased the Islands of Canton and Enderby (midway between Hawaii and Australia) from Great Britain as air bases.

Seeds of the Future

These developments gave an impetus to movements in both Great Britain and the United States working for union of the two great powers. Many prophets envisioned a coming world in which five mammoth groups of countries (English, German, Russian, Japanese, Italian) would struggle amongst themselves for trade, combine and re-combine against one another to keep a balance of power.

In his same speech to the House Mr. Churchill declared that Britain sought no advantage for herself from the offer to lease the New World bases, but he did appeal for "timely reinforcement" of Britain's navy from the United States—an apparent reference to recent discussions of United States' aid in filling gaps in the British fleet with over-age destroyers.

A Year of War

Reviewing the year of war just coming to a close, Mr. Churchill found the scales heavier on the side of Britain. He acknowledged that a "cataract of disaster" had poured out during the last three months—the Netherlands and Belgium conquered, France forced out, Italy in the war against Britain, Somaliland gone. But, on the other side, he said, "we have re-armed and re-built our armies in a degree which would have been deemed impossible a few months ago; our navy is far stronger than it was at the beginning of the war; our bomber and fighter strength after all this fighting is larger than it has ever been; our advantages and resources are enormous." (British casualties in the first year of this war reached 92,000, including civilians, as against 365,000 army and navy losses in the first year of the last war).

Speaking even as three waves of German bombers roared across Britain's coast, renewing the furious assault of the Nazi air siege, Mr. Churchill let fall enigmatic words: "We may be sure that Hitler will continue his air attacks as long as he has the strength and as long as any preoccupations he may have in respect of the Russian Air Force allow him to do so." (It was believed Mr. Churchill was suggesting that Hitler might refuse to send his air force against Britain in a long-sustained campaign for fear its ranks would be decimated, leaving Germany at the mercy of Russia's numerically powerful air force).

Victory, Or Stalemate

That Hitler would have to achieve a victory over Britain by mid-September or concede a stalemate in the war was the opinion of Associated Press correspondent Kirke L. Simpson who pointed out that within a few weeks bad weather would be the general rule in the North Sea and the English Channel climaxed by equinoctial storms of unpredictable force and duration.

During the week Germany proclaimed a "total blockade" of the British Isles. Included in the blockade were Ireland and all coastal waters around Britain. The area specified began on the French Atlantic coast approximately at the mouth of the Loire, extended right around the British Isles to North Scotland and down the British east coast, reaching the Continent again at the coast of Belgium.

Eastern Hot-Spots

Developments in the Middle East were expected hourly last week. The long-awaited assault on Egypt by Italy was believed not far off, led perhaps by an aerial attempt to conquer Aden, British-held eastern hinge of the gateway to the Red Sea (British Somaliland constituted the western hinge).

Tension in the Balkans also increased with a double-barrelled Axis drive in prospect, Italy to jump on Greece; Germany to march into Yugoslavia. But behind the scenes forces were believed working to prevent such a push towards the Dardanelles and the east. Russia plainly was encouraging Greece and Turkey to resist an Italian advance through Greece; which might result in Hitler calling Mussolini off before he would take a chance on having to fight Yugoslavia, Turkey, Greece, Russia and possibly Bulgaria.

In order to prevent war breaking out in Southeastern Europe at this time, Hitler appeared to be exerting pressure on Hungary to accept Rumania's final answer with regard to the disposition of Transylvania (King Carol offered to tranfer some of the Hungarians in Transylvania to Hungary and to cede a strip of frontier territory). And at the same time, reports were current that an early settlement would be reached between Rumania and Bulgaria over the Bulgarian demands on southern Dobruja.

China Suffers Three Years

The undeclared war between Japan and China entered its third year during the week. In commemoration of its outbreak, General Chiang Kai-Shek delivered a message to the Chinese people which reaffirmed his determination to carry on the fight against Japan until "all Chinese soil has been freed of the invader." Four days later Japanese bombers again attacked the Chinese capital Chungking with resulting inestimable loss of life—at least 25,000 persons were rendered homeless as incendiary bombs started uncontrolled fires in a large section of the city.

Gracie Fields Visits Lovely Lake Louise

Ardent movie camera fan, Gracie Fields said of Lake Louise. "It's the grandest bit of water I've seen." Here she is giving the camera a work-out from the balcony of her suite overlooking the lake, day before her concert at the Banff Springs Hotel in aid of the Navy League of Canada. —C.P.R. Photo.

Women Know Their Flowers

Want a strange flower named? Call in a woman, not a man.

Five women members of the Federated Garden Clubs of New York defeated an equal number of men in a "name-the-flower" contest at the Gardens on Parade exhibit at the World's Fair.

Required to give the common name and the Latin name for each of 25 flowers now blooming at the exhibit, the women rolled up 283 points against 169 for the men.

For Better Desserts

Durham Corn Starch

Product St. Lawrence Starch Co. Ltd. D20

dye bath that will contain enough liquid to cover the garment completely without crowding. Stir with a glass curtain rod. Follow the directions on the dye package implicitly. Rinse in clear water until no trace of color is shown in the water. Dry in clean muslin cloths, taking care that no two thicknesses of dyed material touch. Press on the wrong side under pressing cloth.

Danes Curtail Farm Exports

Huge Reductions Indicated as Result of Invasion

Curtailment of Denmark's exports of foodstuffs due to war stoppage of her fodder imports was foreshadowed in a report of the agricultural council early in August.

The council estimated that butter exports would drop by 100,000 tons, slaughtered pigs from 180,000 to 40,000 tons, eggs from 100,000,-000 to 21,000,000.

HOGS AWAY DOWN

Exports of live pigs will decline from 4,000,000 to 2,000,000 cattle from 3,300,000 to 2,800,000 and chickens from 12,000,000 to 7,000,-000.

The report said Denmark must depend exclusively upon her own harvests to feed her livestock.

LIFE'S LIKE THAT — By Fred Neher

"I'll bet you boys think I'm terrible."

Italian Ships Are Following Example of Germany's

Since war began the seabeds of the world have been receiving very frequent visitors — scuttled German ships. Now Italy is following the ignominious example—here is one of her ships committing suicide off Gibraltar.

REG'LAR FELLERS—A Man's Man — By GENE BYRNES