

# Don't Under-Rate Commercial Fish Farms - - Those Trout Aren't THAT Easy to Catch

Many trout fishermen would agree that in 1956 when he bought the 100-acre, 200-foot-deep "ranch" where the management stocks private ponds with thousands of fish to guarantee availability of good trout. "They think it would be like the cliché, 'shooting fish in a barrel'."

May Get "Stumped" Ivan Cryderman of Milton would be able to prove them wrong. He owns a 100-acre fish and game ranch near Moffat and although he has personally stocked only a few of his present 15,000 rainbow trout, he has been the most successful fly fisherman he may get "stumped" in those spawning trout-laden waters.

It's no "fish story" when Ivan tells how his trout got "educated" in a hurry. He has watched the Rainbow Beach Fish and Game Club's boys struggle all day on the banks of a pond watching the rainbows snap at the flies skimming over the surface, and completely ignoring the most expensive flies and lures on the end of the dejected angler's line.

Watch Them Go By It's pretty humiliating to the fellow who prides himself on his angling ability, to watch hundreds of beautiful rainbows swimming and leaping past his prime lure.

But the rainbows at the Moffat farm have a golden rule — "Once Bitten, Twice Shy." You may hook them once and toss them back in hopes something bigger will latch onto your line — but that fish won't make the same mistake twice.

## Good Response To Visitation

The scout mothers' meeting was held in the scout hall Tuesday May 7, with 11 members present. The meeting was opened with the Lord's Prayer led by the president Alice Wilkinson. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read.

Ivan Cryderman was willing to come back in 1956 when he bought the 100-acre, 200-foot-deep Moffat village. He tapped onto clear springs that dotted the property, built a pond, erected a rearing tank, and purchased some breeding stock, and he was embroiled in the complicated trout business.

## Spilling Five Pins

AT THE ACTON Bowling Lanes by Ken Hulford

### High School

May 13: The 263 pin lead held by the Blue Bombers from the first three game block along with their second three block of 2064 saw them come home free as champions. The issue was never in doubt as the Bombers added to their lead in the first and second games and although they fell off slightly in the third game they still finished 345 pins ahead of the second place Choo-Choo Puffs. Crowding the second place Choo-Choos were Gutter Flies who finished with 4311. Mashing Monsters couldn't get going until the final game and had to settle for a 4234 pinfall. The Blue Bombers roll was headed up by the solos of Jackie Bullough 202, 202 and Don Harris 201. Choo-Choo Puff's efforts were paced by Marv Grischow 267 and Frank Morton 220. Gutter Flies had Harry Elliott 203 and John Dunn 208 to their credit while Mashing Monsters would have fared much better if they could have backed up Ted Wallo's 633 triples. So it is "hail the champs," Jill Hurst, Terry Churchill, Merl Harris, Jackie Bullough and Don Harris for a job well done and to the losers, better luck next season.

### Micro Plastic

May 14: You have to hand it to the Spatniks, when they decided to go into orbit for the championship, they didn't fool. Going into the final three game block they trailed the leading Squawkers by 168 pins and the second spot holders, Terribles, by 193 and the railbirds didn't give them much of a chance. In fact everyone figured it to be a battle between Squawkers and Terribles but 'twas not to be. Spatniks with Elsa Schmidt 217, Nino Gito 230, Gino DeBartolo 236 and Herman Bessem 268 to pace 'em crashed out a 1136 and with Squawkers—and Terribles—only coming up with 796 and 728 in that order the panic was on.

It took long, hard hours of sweat, brows and perspiration, but by the late summer of 1960 he had a pond stocked with medium-sized rainbows and was ready to open it for fishing.

### Loaded With Rainbows

Over the years the work increased and soon he left the car business to devote full time to his growing "ranch" that today includes four rearing ponds, four rearing tanks, spring ponds, four large fishing ponds, and a 40 foot trough — each loaded with thousands of fighting rainbows ranging in length from two inches to 20 inches weighing over two pounds.

He's still working just as hard, there's still more bush to cut and developing to be done, but for a change there's money coming in to offset heavy expenditures during the first few years of development.

Today Ivan has close to 40 members in his private membership club, with a limit set at 50 members. He's hatching his own eggs and selling fish commercially to owners of private ponds and for restaurant fare. And he's branching out from strictly rainbows, to include speckled trout in his ponds. When this year's eggs hatch after spawning, he'll have close to 50,000 fish on the ranch.

### From Wide Area

In 1961 a group of Oakville anglers attempted forming a club to rent the entire fishing rights on the farm, but membership fell short of the quota and the deal fell through. Many of the same Oakville men are still members, however, and they are joined by fellow anglers from a wide area — including Brampton, Kitchener, Guelph, Hamilton and Toronto.

### Fertilizes Egg

The mill and eggs are left in the pan for two minutes only, while the mill fertilizes the egg, then the used mill is removed and the eggs are rinsed. The egg then is "set up" or hardened by cold water for two hours, before being placed in pans in the hatchery.

### Remove Bad Ones

The next day a lot of the eggs will have discolored, and must be removed immediately. These are the fish that would not have survived anyway, and the shock treatment is the best method of weeding out the good from the bad. If an egg survives the rough treatment, it's bound to live. The eggs take four to six weeks

to hatch, and the fish double, triple and even quadruple their size in the first month. They can be an inch long in six weeks, Ivan explains.

The new young fish will stay in the hatchery 30 to 50 days, depending on their progress, then they're placed outside in the circular 34 foot tanks until the fall of the year. Fish are graded in the fall, and the largest go to the rearing ponds, where they'll stay until they grow to seven to 10 inches.

### On Their Own

After that, they're on their own, for they are stocked into the ponds where fishing is allowed, or shipped off to restaurant or private ponds.

Ivan admits he started onto the fish ranch business with the impression it would be easy. If anyone had asked him in 1956 how to go about starting an angler's haven, he probably would have told them to dig a pond, get a few fish of opposite sexes, and sit back and wait for your farm to be overrun with top quality trout.

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V. E. McARTHUR, Weed Inspector, County of Nelson.

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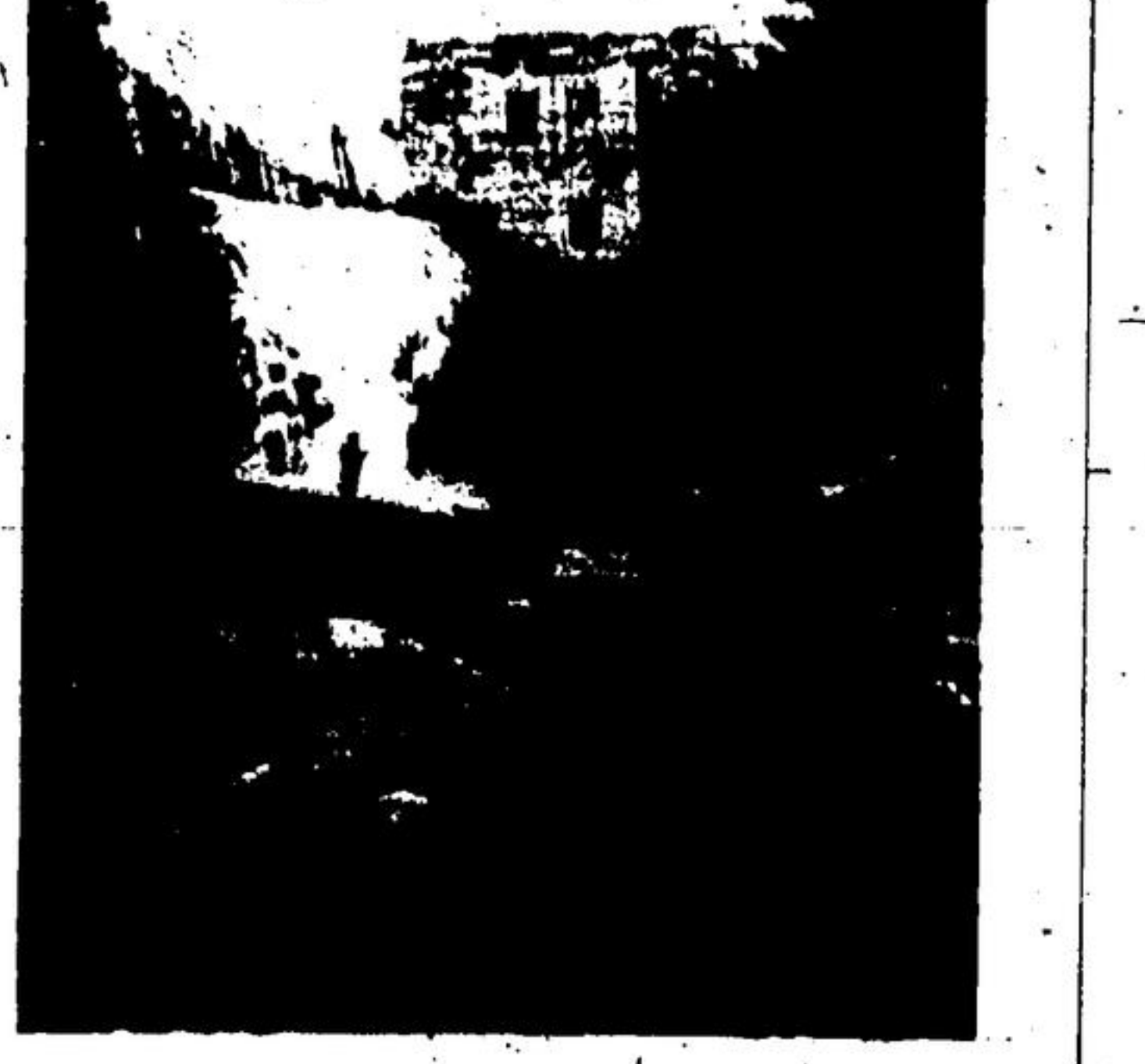
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