

FARM NEWS

Conservationists Concerned By Stream Water Depletion

Conservation of water and depletion from Halton streams were two of the items which kept the members of the Halton Conservation Committee in session until midnight when they met at the Agricultural Office, Milton, last Tuesday evening.

During recent weeks the pumping of water for irrigation purposes from a branch of the Sixteen Mile Creek, has resulted at times in a stoppage of stream flow, to the detriment of property owners bordering this particular stream. Discussion revealed that legislation pertaining to water rights is somewhat limited and the only recourse for injured property owners is to sue on the basis of common law and riparian rights.

A resolution was passed requesting the Prime Minister and Cabinet of the Province of Ontario to consider one problem of the depletion of the streams of Ontario resulting from the pumping of water from them for irrigation purposes, and further, requesting appropriate action to prepare and implement legislation for the protection of property owners by the assurance that the flow of these streams will not be depleted by such pumping of water.

Want Beaver to Remain
The township road between the Townships of Esqueping and Nassagaweya above the Speyside side-road, which until recently has been flooded since early spring, was another problem laid before the committee. Discussion revealed that while a portion of this road has always flooded slightly each spring for a two or three week period, the activities of the beaver in the area has during the past two years made this section of the road impassible to traffic for some four months. Since conservation of water is of vital importance to all municipalities of Halton, the members of the committee were unanimous in recommending that the beaver be allowed to remain. A further motion recommended that since the beaver are responsible for increasing the amount of road flooding, and the length of time the road is flooded that Halton Council give consideration to providing financial assistance from county funds to assist in the raising or improvement of the road in question.

River Valley Authority
For over two years the question of attempting to form a River Valley Authority on the Twelve and Sixteen Creeks has periodically been

considered by the members of the Halton Conservation Committee. Inasmuch as an authority based on these two streams can only materialize as a result of the approval of 75 per cent of the municipalities in the water shed, the meeting recommended that secretary J. E. Whitelock contact A. R. Richardson, Chief Conservation Officer of the Department of Planning and Development, with a view to arranging a

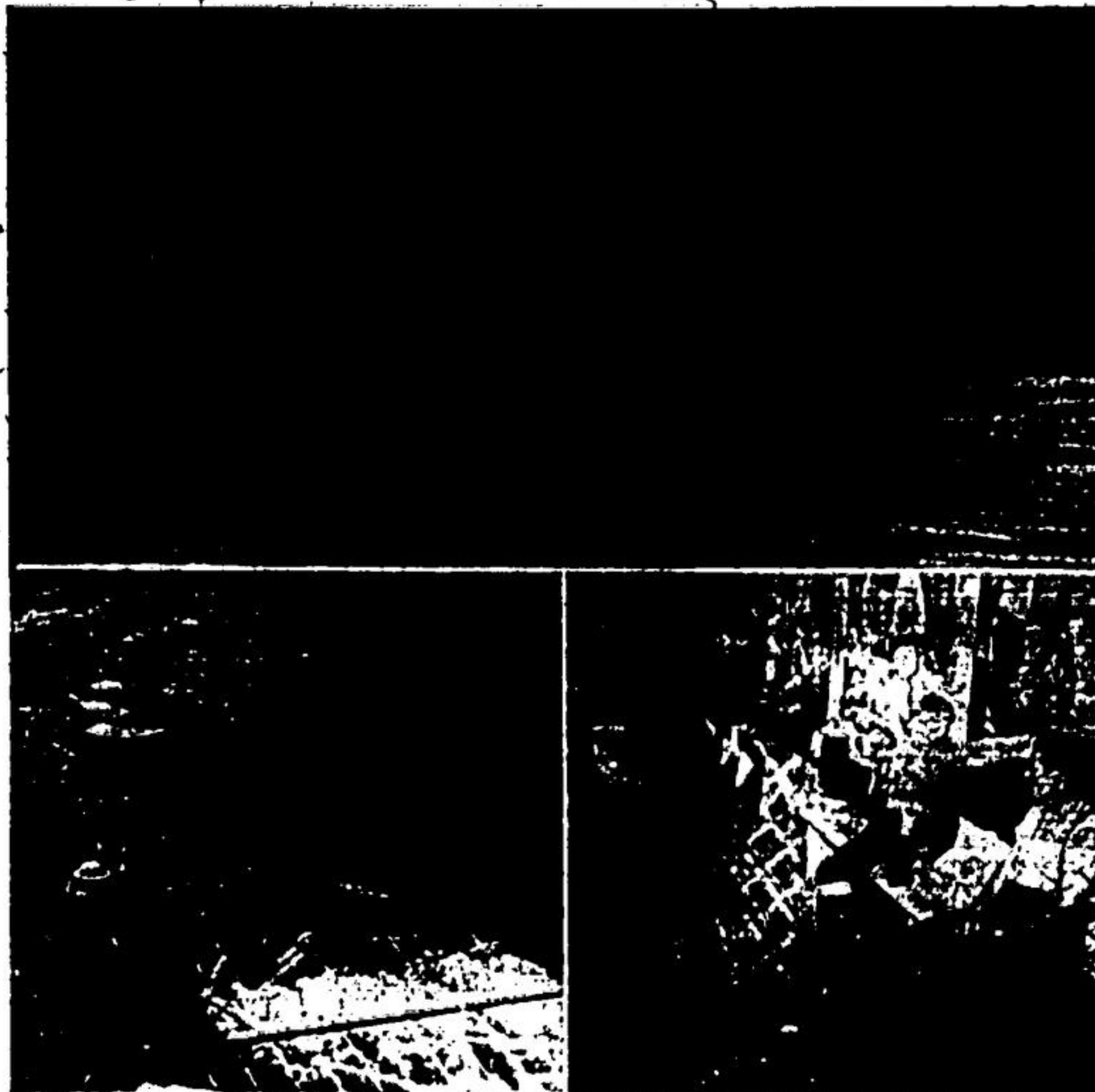
"Spring Drive" of Pulpwood Still Going Strong

This Year's Drive
Down St. Maurice
River Will Total
100,000,000 Logs

For the average citizen, Canada's most spectacular industrial operation, the river drive of pulpwood on the country's eastern waterways, ends with the arrival of the balmy weather. Actually, the drive on the larger river, the drive extends well into the fall. On Quebec's St. Maurice River, scene of the world's biggest log drive, the movement of pulpwood is a show-to-draw-up operation.

The major part of the drive usually attains its climax in mid summer, but, after July 15, an equally important activity, the "sweep" takes place. The drivers go back some 200 miles up river to remove thousands of stray logs along the shore, an operation which accounts for a substantial portion of the drive. Last Saturday, with their poles, floating camps and colourful, two-stemmed, four men boats, which they call "teteux" (suckers), they arrived at LaTuque, where the first down river plant is located.

At LaTuque the local pulp mill operates a sorting gap, a huge, complex floating platform equipped with several conveyors, and which removes the wood belonging to that company from the river, and sends the other logs over the dam on their way to five miles below. It will be late September before the men get on with the "lower sweep." They will then have 100 miles and three more dams to go, before they and the logs they shepherd reach Three Rivers, Canada's newsprint capital. This will occur towards the end of October, and perhaps later, long after next season's cutting operations are underway



in the rich forests of the upper valley.

The St. Maurice River Boom and Driving Company estimates that this year's drive, after the sweep has been completed, will involve in the neighbourhood of 100 million logs, totaling around one million tons of newsprint enough to supply the enormous requirements of all the daily and weekly newspapers in North America for two months.

THAW-TO-FREEZE-UP OPERATION on St. Maurice River, the pulpwood drive continues on well into the fall. Second phase called "the sweep", is now in full swing. It involves (top) the use of scores of two-stemmed boats used by the men to dive in and out of shore and bring stray logs back into the main stream. Bottom left: part of the huge sorting gap at LaTuque where the local mill picks out its logs and sends those belonging to other downriver mills on their way. Bottom right: inside one of several floating camps which follows men downstream. Clean and airy, these house-camps are equipped with comfortable bunks. Back of sleeping quarters is the canteen where men down tremendous quantities of food, and back of the canteen are the private quarters of the drive's "most important" man: the cook.

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Camp Mother of YMCA Dies
For the last 12 years camp mother for the West End YMCA boys' camp at Norval and a resident for many years in Canadian mining towns as the wife of a prospector, Mrs. Harriette Jane Montgomery, 77, died at the home of her daughter on Corley Ave., Toronto.
Widow of Thomas Montgomery, who discovered Waite Montgomery mine, now known as Waite Amulet, she was born in Bobcaygeon, and was the mother of five girls and six boys.
In 1941, Mrs. Montgomery agreed to help out for the summer at Camp Norval. She returned each summer until last year. She had been active all her life in church groups and the Order of the Eastern Star.
Three sons, Hamilton, Norman and Jack, five daughters, Mrs. H. R. L. Davis, Mrs. C. Conn, Mrs. S. H. Robertson, Mrs. W. W. Phillips and Mrs. E. G. Smith; a brother, Bert Hamilton and a sister, Mrs. Katherine Cobb, survive.

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