

Salmon intruder causes concern

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

The province's Ministry of Natural Resources is investigating a sighting of what looked like a number of Pacific Salmon swimming upstream in Silver Creek next to Willow Park in Norval last Sunday, said Tracy Smith, a Fish and Wildlife Supervisor with the MNR.

If they were Pacific Salmon the fish were heading upstream to find a place to spawn, confirmed Mr. Smith. Appropriate spawning areas include Silver Creek, nearby Black Creek and further upstream at Belfountain in the Credit River. If the Pacific Salmon reach these spawning grounds, they could harm the native Credit River and Silver Creek Brook and Brown Trout, he said.

Ken Owen, manager for Resources and planning with the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, echoed this opinion, saying, "the fish could wreak havoc on the Brown and Brook Trout." The CVCA oversees the Credit River and the valley.

Mr. Smith suggested, in a telephone interview, that the fish could have been Atlantic Salmon. But when told these fish seemed to weigh about 20 pounds or more, he said they were more than likely Pacific Salmon. The Atlantic Salmon in the Credit River are between four and five pounds, said Mr. Smith.

The MNR has been stockpiling the middle section of the Credit River at the Reed Dam in Streetsville with Pacific Salmon for the past several years, said Mr. Smith.

Pacific Salmon eggs are collected at the dam in the Fall. They are then cultivated at an MNR hatchery and subsequently put back in the river at the Reed Dam. From here the fish swim down river to Lake Ontario where they stay for two or three years. After this period they return back to the Reed Dam in the Fall to spawn.

The problem, according to Mr. Smith, is that some of the more

tenacious fish, are capable of jumping over the dam. Heading upstream they encounter three other dams but at certain times during the Fall, the fish can overcome these obstacles, said Mr. Smith. The MNR has little control over these dams because they are privately owned, he said.

To lay their eggs, the Pacific Salmon turn over on their side and wag their tail back and forth to make a nest. Once the nest is complete they lay a few eggs and then proceed to make another nest to lay more eggs. This process is repeated several times resulting in a huge nest which destroys the nest of the Brook and Brown Trout, said Mr. Owen. The native fish can't begin to compete because they are about four pounds while the Pacific Salmon can weigh up to 50 pounds, he explained.

Mr. Smith acknowledged that some Pacific Salmon can escape the Reed Dam area, saying it has happened in previous years and "it's something the MNR preferred didn't happen." But it's not a "crisis situation" he stressed. Mr. Smith said the fish jump over the Reed Dam because of a small lip in the dam caused by the location of a nearby rock in the river, said Mr. Smith. The MNR is waiting for the opportune time to remove the rock, he said. Meanwhile, nothing can be done to stop the fish moving up stream if they jump over the dam.

Aside from the MNR's Pacific Salmon Credit River program, it has also been stocking the river with Atlantic Salmon for the past two years. At one time, said Mr. Smith, Atlantic Salmon were native to the river. Pollution destroyed the population.

The river is now clean enough to support an Atlantic Salmon population, he said.

This Fall marks the first time that the fish, first hatched two years ago, have returned to the river to spawn. But the MNR has taken steps so that these fish don't infiltrate the spawning areas of the Brook and Brown Trout, said Mr. Smith.



The province's Ministry of Natural Resources is currently investigating whether Pacific Salmon have jumped over the Reed Dam in Streetsville and are making their way up the Credit River and Silver

Creek to spawn this Fall. This picture of what appears to be a Pacific Salmon was taken in Silver Creek at Norval next to Willow Park on Highway 7, last Sunday. (Herald photo)

Air transportation a region concern

Halton Regional Council directed the Region's planning staff Wednesday to evaluate several recommendations concerning the future of air transportation in and out of the Greater Toronto Area, (GTA).

A Committee comprised of the GTA Regional chairmen, including Halton's Chairman Peter Pomeroy, have put forth several recommendations aimed at improving air transportation in the GTA. Aside from Halton, the GTA is comprised of Hamilton-Wentworth, Glanbrook, Waterloo Region, Brampton, Etobicoke, Toronto, Metro, York Region, Peel, Mississauga, Markham, Durham, Pickering and Oshawa.

The main suggested recommendation is that an airport

authority be established with the Lester B. Pearson International airport as the "hub" and the smaller surrounding airports linked to it.

The future development of the smaller airports, which total 11 including Halton's one airport in Burlington, depend on the expansion of the Lester B. Pearson Airport and the amount of air traffic they can now accommodate.

Urging the Region to participate in the study chairman Pomeroy wrote in a report presented to councillors Wednesday, "I believe that airports with capacity in the GTA will play a significant role in the economic development of Halton over the next 20 years."

Halton Cable Systems

Program Listings for Halton Community Television Cable 4

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15

- 5:30 - TV Storytime
- 6:00 - Could You
- 6:30 - Jerusalem, Jerusalem
- 7:00 - Sheridan College Media Arts Awards
- 8:00 - A Taste of Wine
- 9:00 - Fishing in Northern Ontario

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16

- 5:30 - Bahai Faith
- 6:00 - George's Country Jamboree
- 7:00 - Caring Foster Parents
- 7:30 - Anatomy of the Human Mind
- 8:00 - Canada Savings Bonds 1990
- 8:30 - Karin and Blair's Story

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

- 5:30 - Freaky Friday at the Fair
- 5:45 - The Beauty of Steel
- 6:00 - TV Storytime
- 6:30 - Electrifying Research
- 7:00 - Halton Seniors TV Productions
- 8:00 - If You Love This Planet
- 9:00 - Bus III
- 9:30 - Bus 121

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

- 5:30 - Going West Play Presented by Robert Baldwin School
- 6:35 - Playsale II
- 7:00 - Bahai Presents
- 7:30 - Lois Gibbs Speaks
- 9:16 - Acne the Straight Facts
- 9:30 - Psychology 204

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

- 5:30 - Money in the Bank
- 6:00 - Region Council

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POPPY FUND POPPY FUND REPORT Oct. 1/89 - Sept. 30/90

Poppy Campaign Donations (1989)	\$ 8,616.00
Expenses:	
Veterans Welfare and Donations	\$13,913.38
Wreaths & Poppies	\$ 5,745.17
	\$19,658.55
Deducted from Trust Fund	\$(11,042.55)

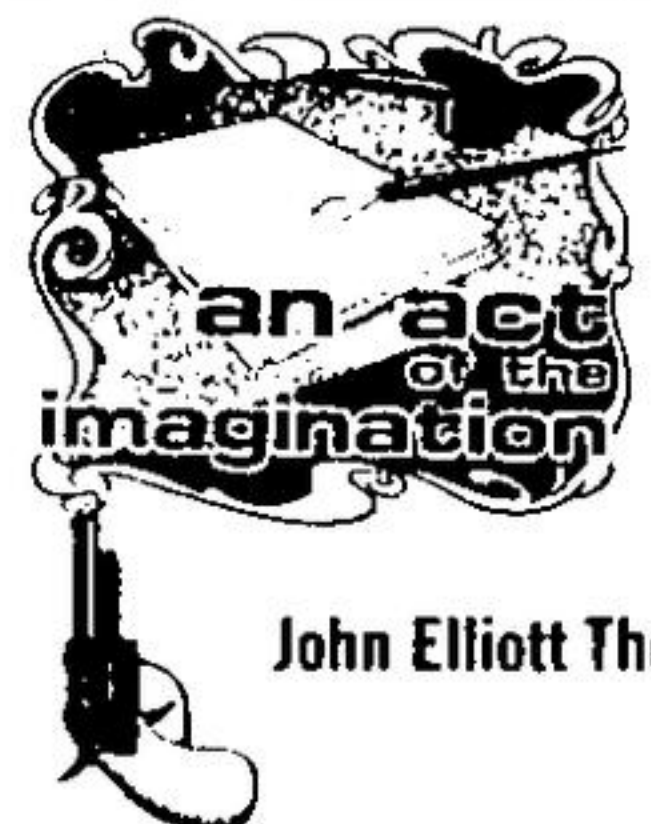
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Prizes to be drawn Oct. 17th for the Oct. 19th performance, Oct. 22nd for the Oct. 24th & 25th performances. Winners will be notified by phone.



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