

CANADA'S FORESTS

Canada is known for its forests. The forests are still the basis for a large part of our prosperity. Timber has been cut in our area from White River to Nipigon. Lumber camps have been set up on the Slate Islands to all the islands from Rosspport to Nipigon and on the mainland sites in the area. Man's progress from the early cave days to the present modern times, without frequent references to TREES.

Trees supplied material for fuel, buildings, bridges, roads, fences, furniture, dishes, tubs, barrels, paper products etc. Logs were rafted to be towed to mills, or to be loaded on ships. They were hauled in large loads on sleighs by horses to the skidway and rolled into a river or stream or lake floated to a desired location, then rafted and towed to their destination. The logs were kept moving by the River Driver drivers----men using pike poles to deslodge the logs caught along stream banks. Now all work is mechanized--tractos, loaders, hauled by trucks to the mills. Several big cement dams lay idle north of Schreiber and Rosspport, the gates open and the catwalk still useable but not required now, just sit there as reminders of early logging operations in the area.

In earliest days our forests provided shade, shelter, protection, food, clothing, tools and fuel for early mankind. When the first settlers arrived at Schreiber and Rosspport, the forests seemed inexhaustible. The Lumberjacks are still part of our history and life. There are so many demands on our forest heritage. We use