## Forestry is vital to Canada

Long before Canada became a nation, forestry was one of our most important industries. Perhaps no industry has been as important in opening Canada for development than the forest sector.

A healthy forest industry is vital to Canada's economy now and in years to come.

Forestry contributes directly to the economic well being of numerous communities and regions across Canada. As an employment generator among primary resource sectors, the forest industry ranks first or second in 10 of 16 economic regions in Atlantic Canada, 8 of 10 in Quebec's economic regions and first in all 6 Ontario economic regions. In British Columbia, the forest sector is the leading employment generator in 8 regions and second in only 2 regions where mining and smelting dominate.

One in 10 working Canadians is directly or indirectly employed by the forest industry.

In northern Ontario, 70 per cent of the manufacturing labour force is employed by the forest manufacturing sector.

Across Canada, the potential exists for the creation of about 100,000 new jobs through growth in the

forest industry. The forest industry is an important element in Canada's economy. This country is the leading exporter of lumber, newsprint and pulp. In 1980, forest industry exports reached \$14.8 billion of 17 per cent of Canada's export trade.

The Federal Government Role The Government of Canada recognizes pro-

vincial jurisdiction over forest resources. The federal government also accepts responsibility, along with industry, labour and the provinces, to make sure forestry continues to grow and occupy its leading place in the national eco-

The Government of Canada plays an important role in supporting the forest industry.

Through multinational trade negotiations, the Canadian government has helped to lower tarrif barriers around the world to provide Canadian forest sector products with wider market access. Export development programs have been actively pursued by the Government of Canada.

The United States is the largest market for forest sector exports. Most northern Ontario forest products are sent to the United States.

In December 1982, the Canadian government lodged a formal protest with the United States government against an American investigation into Canada's forest sector which could result in the increase of tariffs on Canadian forest products by about 65 per cent.

The note of protest against the U.S. tariff investigation is only part of the government's activities in assisting the forest industry to grow.

The forest industry is the largest single industrial user of energy in Canada. The pulp and paper industry accounts for 24 per cent of all industrial purchase of fuel and electricity.

The National Energy Program (NEP) and energy pricing agreements withouthe producing provinces have kept energy prices below price levels in most countries of the world.

Lower energy costs help the forest industry maintain its competitive edge in producing forest products at competitive prices.

In July 1980, the Government of Canada increased available DREE grants under the Paper Pulp and continued from page 6

## THANK YOU

Thanks to all who have been so kind to me after my hockey injury, you have all helped pick up my spirits. The gifts, cards, visits and phone calls have all meant so much. My special thanks to Heather Nugent who drove me to the hospital. Dr. Wilkes, Mary Shack and Debbie McGrath, also to Dr. Faulk, Dr. Marrack and the nurses on 6 West at the Port Arthur General Hospital who treated me so well. A very special thanks to Penti Lund who came to visit at a time when I needed it the most, the Terrace Bay Old Timers Hockey Club who have helped in numberous ways and to my family whose deep concern gave me the courage I needed. Once again thank you to everyone, your kindness will never be forgotten.

Marvin Osmar

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