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Estimate Timber Value of Vivian Forest Close To 1 Million Dollars

The Minister of Lands and Forests, the Hon. J. W. Spooner, accompanied by Deputy Minister Frank MacDougall, Division Heads and other senior Department officials from Toronto visited York County Forest, at Vivian, on Wednesday, July 8. The meeting was arranged to obtain first hand information on growth yields in a typical County Forest and examine some of the management practices underway.

Following luncheon, which was held in one of the planted pine stands adjoining the headquarters, a presentation relating to the developments at Vivian and present volumes and production was made by members of the Lake Simcoe District staff. York County Forest is one of a large number of forest areas managed by the Department of Lands and Forests under agreement with Counties and River Valley Authorities. These Agreements, established under authority of the Trees Act, now cover an area of over 110,000 acres in Southern Ontario. In the Lake Simcoe District agreements have been entered into with the Counties of York, Ontario, Dufferin and Simcoe as well as with 2 River Valley Authorities—The Grand and the Metro Toronto and Region.

In describing management practices at Vivian, which was established in 1924, it was pointed out that permanent sample plots were established early in the life of the forest and from periodic measurements of yield and growth, information is obtained to determine the proper age to thin plantations and also the degree of thinning required in stands represented by these sample plots. Measurements are taken for diameter, height, volume, number of trees per acre, etc. A fairly large number of these plots have been established in York County Forest and Department foresters thin them with different degrees of intensity, thereby determining the optimum density for other similar stands.

One of the most significant factors obtained from plots is the rate of growth. One case cited was a typical plot in a 34 year old red pine plantation, in which the diameter of an average tree was 8", height 54' and volume 8½ cu. ft. or 25 l.b.m. The present merchantable volume of this particular stand is 32 cords or 10,400 f.b.m. per acre. This is exclusive of previous thinnings. Total production made up of 19 cords of pulpwood taken out in recent thinning, plus the present volume of 32 cords, amounts to 51 cords per acre.

These figures indicated that the present production of the stand of 51 cords in 34 years represented a growth of 1½

cords per acre per year, which compares very favourably with the rate of growth in southern pine stands in the United States. Compared with unmanaged natural stands in northern Ontario foresters estimated these plantations at Vivian are producing 7 times the volume. Growth and yield data of this kind point up the value of management in volume production and quality, as well as the demonstration value they have with private plantation owners.

In addition to the measurements taken on sample plots, Dept. of Lands and Forests have laid out a number of control plots which are left uncut and unmanaged. Comparison of the two plots highlights very clearly the greater value received when plantations are properly managed. For instance, in the managed area, trees after 34 years had an average volume of 8½ cu. ft. compared to 4 cu. ft. in the unmanaged control plot.

Department staff have projected the current volume and growth data, after 34 years, to the expected final crop or rotation age. At that time, age approximately 134 cords or 55,000 l.b.m. per acre. Considering values in terms of dollars and cents, it was computed that the total estimated net stumpage value in this one acre managed plot, at the age of 80 years, would be \$2,510.00. Foresters pointed out that this was based on present values of poles, pulp wood and saw logs.

The area under agreement with York County at Vivian is now 3665 acres comprising both natural stands and plantations. The plantation area covers some 2221 acres, of which slightly over 1800 acres will produce commercial crops, the balance being established, chiefly, for protection purposes on very poor sites.

Of the commercial plantation area, 500 acres falls in the 32 to 34 year age class. Illustrating its present market value, it was shown that if one acre, of this age class, was clear cut, at the present time, the total delivered value in poles and posts produced would be \$2206. Going a step further, the delivered value, at present market prices, of all timber in this 500 acre area, at the present time, would be \$1,000,000. While, obviously, there is no intention of clear cutting, these figures do give a very interesting indication of present volumes and market values after 34 years. Leaving the sample plot area, the Minister and other members

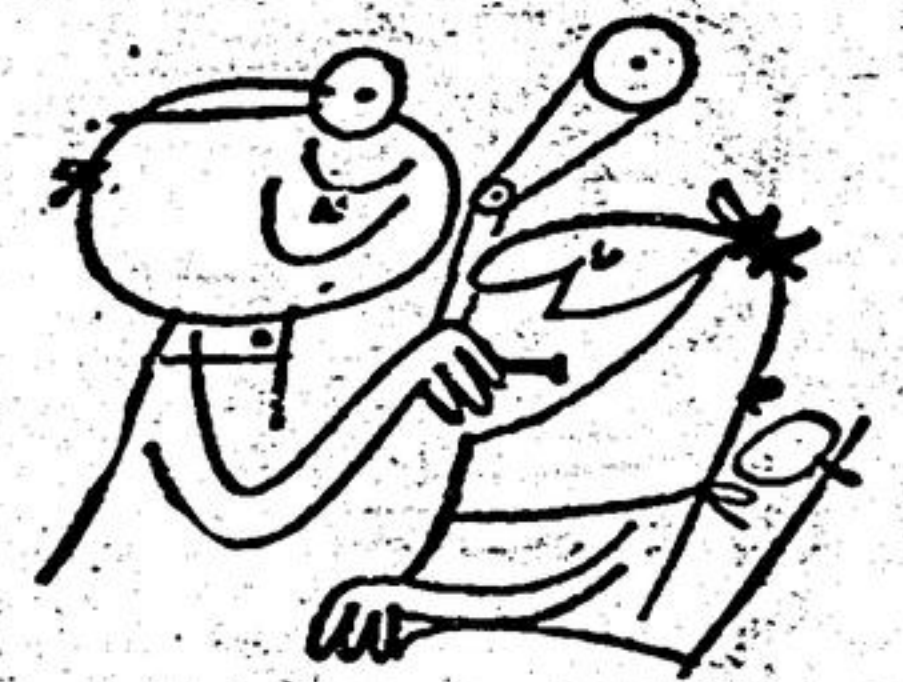
of the group visited the Forest Headquarters and were given a general description of the Management Plan and Immediate 10 year operating programme. The Plan, based on accurate measurements and maps of Vivian Forest, indicates what volumes are to be removed in thinnings in the various compartments annually as well as areas to be treated for crop tree pruning and improvement cuttings in natural stands.

The meeting concluded with a tour of the Main Tract with stops being made in representative stands where management practices were explained. Included was an examination of the pond and water reservoir, an important factor in fire protection, which had been established as a result of reforesting the area. Originally, before open sandy lands were planted in the late 1920's, only a small creek had existed which usually dried up during the summer months. An inspection was also made of the fence post treatment operation where bark is removed either by sap peeling in the spring period or drum barker later in the season and posts dipped in a preservative. It was pointed out that such treated red pine posts would provide the same usefulness and life as cedar, which is generally lacking in this area.

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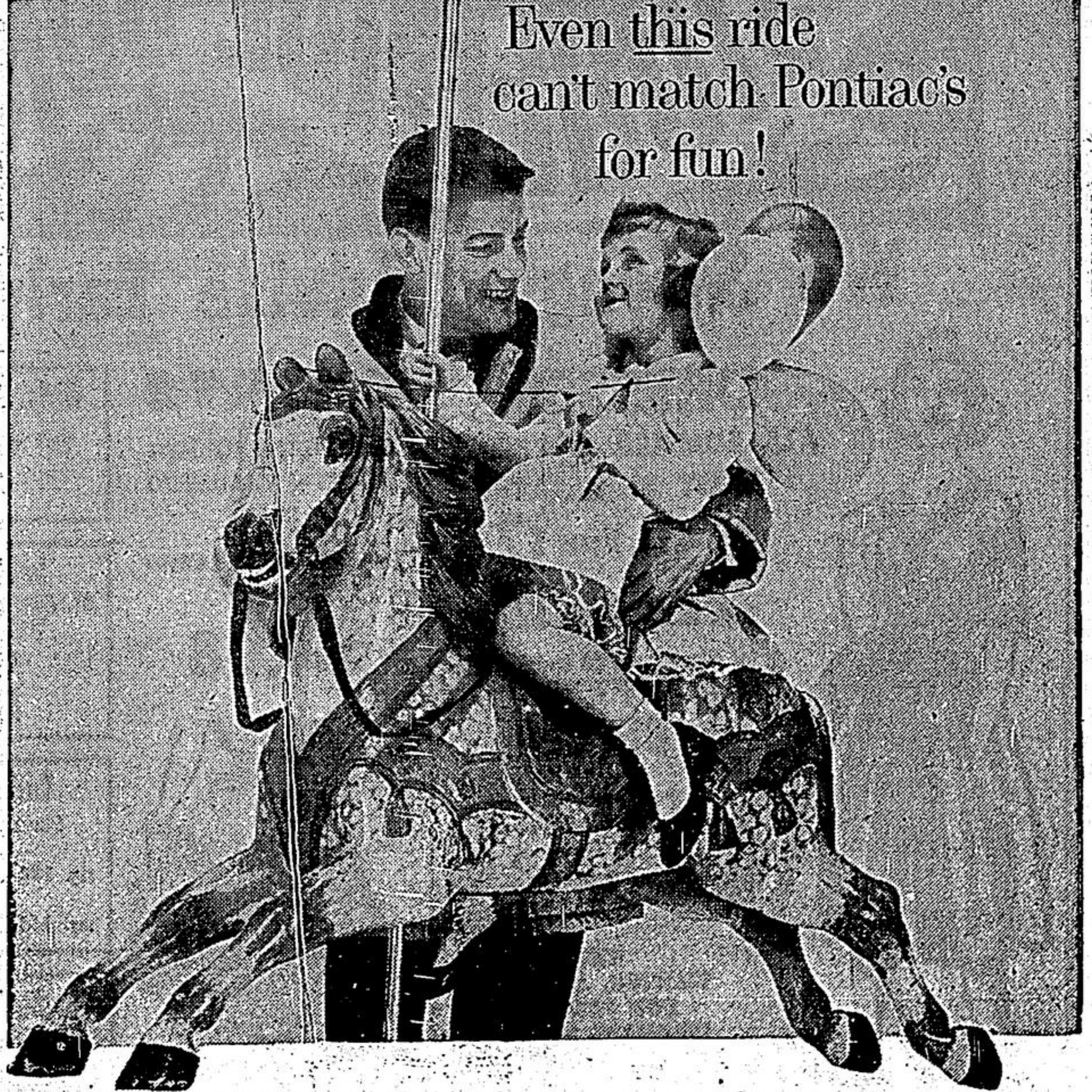
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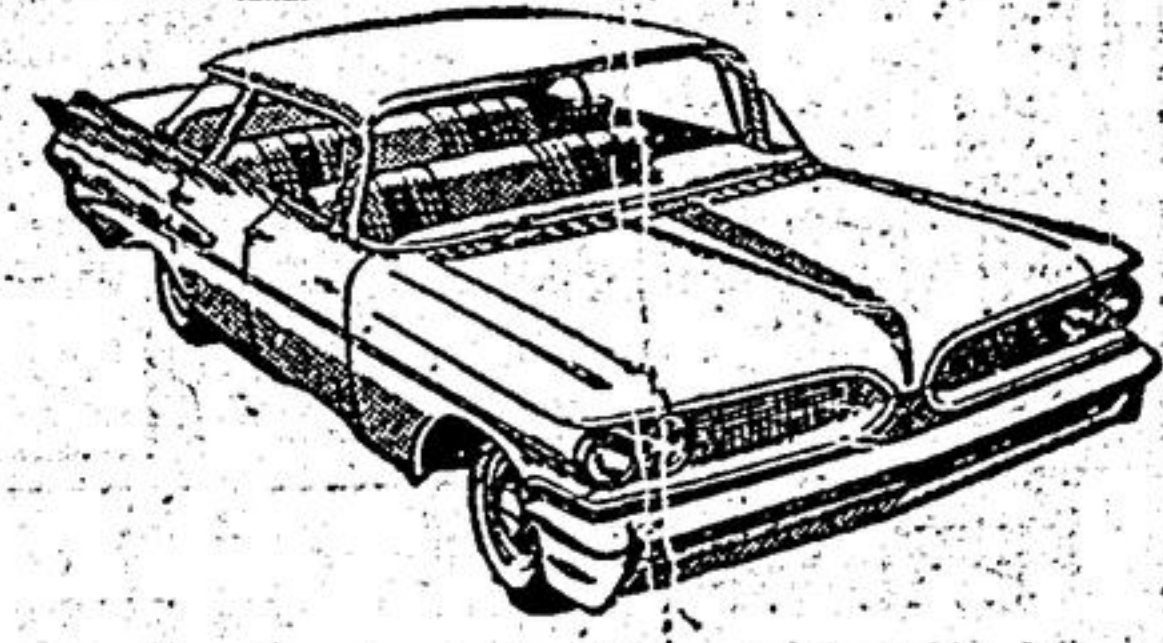
New Stamp to Honor Plains of Abraham Bicentennial

A new commemorative stamp to mark 200 years of united effort by "Canada's two great language groups in building a modern nation was announced today by the Honourable Wm. Hamilton, Postmaster General. The stamp, which will go on sale on September 10th, marks the anniversary of the battle of the Plains of Abraham which took place on September 13th, 1759, outside the walls of the City of Quebec. The settlement reached after the battle resulted in the creation of a nation where both the English and French languages and traditions were honoured and protected. The new stamp is to be printed in deep red and black. The centrepiece is a group of three maple leaves flanked by the

British lion and the Fleur de Lis of France with the word "Canada" centred under the maple leaves. The dates 1759-1959 and the words "Plains of Abraham" and "Plaines d'Abraham" in cursive type complete the design. The maple leaves, the 5-cent denomination, the dates and the words "Postage" and "Postes" appear in black. The stamp is the horizontal type and is approximately 1" x 1½". The British and French heraldic emblems on either end of the ribbon which has "Canada" in the centre symbolize the union of these people to form Canada. The three maple leaves, which are similar to those on the Coats of Arms of several Provinces, represent the two original groups as well as the peoples of many other nations who have joined in the task of building our country. This is the second occasion on which the Canada Post Office has paid tribute to the achievements of General James Wolfe and the Marquis de Montcalm. In 1908 a 7c olive green stamp bearing the likenesses of the two gallant generals was issued as part of the Quebec Tercentenary Series. The new stamp is the work of Mr. Philip Weiss of Ottawa. He is attached to the Department of Trade and Commerce where he assists in the preparation of Canadian Government exhibits. He also teaches art at a local High School. This is the second stamp of his design to be issued, the first being the N.A.T.O. commemorative which went on sale earlier this year. A native of Montreal, Mr. Weiss lived many years in Toronto where he attended Central Technical High School and the Ontario College of Art.



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