



# Now's The Time To Plug For Our Natural Resources

By JACK McANDREW

If we are to believe that government is supposed to be for the people and by the people, the next two weeks would seem to be a pretty good time to but-hold your local candidate for a seat in the legislature, and make your feelings known about the future of fish and game in the province.

There wasn't any particular mention of anything relating to fish and game in the platform announced this past week by the party leader with the exception of a Liberal platform plank to promote trout farms.

However, it's the democratic right of every citizen to ask candidates where they stand on any topic of interest or importance, and it might be enlightening to put as many as possible on the record. Let's hear their stand on licensing, conservation officers and other matters of vital interest to the hunters and fishermen of the province.

Both parties are making much out of developing resources on the Island for the benefit of all people, and most certainly wildlife is a resource that properly developed can add to the economic and recreational life of the province.

For instance, if you are trying to entice an industrialist to put in a plant one of the things he's sure to look at when he's making up his mind, is the recreational facilities open to labour he plans to hire. It's a known fact that a labour force that has opportunity for recreation is more productive in the long run, and a more contented bunch of people, as well.

**LIMITLESS POTENTIAL.**

Apart from that, the dollar potential to the tourist operator and landowner are limitless. Both the Liberal and the Conservatives recognize the development of the tourist industry as one of their most important tasks, and it's here that a fish and wildlife program can make a real contribution.

In our tourist literature we make a great deal out of the opportunities offered for trout fishing on an island vacation,

but the sad truth is that fishing spots are getting harder to find every year. Most tourists would be quite happy to pay a rod fee and rent a boat if there was any good chance at all of catching a mess of trout, and a properly run pond can be a nice little source of cash money to the operator.

But this doesn't mean just sticking up a sign and charging money without any thought of whether the pond is supporting a sizeable fish population. It means a program of stocking on a regular basis, and some control of the crop, being harvested. It also means care and control and sending away satisfied customers who will come again.

The legislation is now on the books to establish properly run fishing preserves, and I for one will be waiting to see what kind of program the Fish and Wildlife Service can come up with. I'll also be interested to see how they enforce the licensing regulations and the conditions the operator will have to meet to get and keep a licence.

**GUIDANCE NEEDED.**

The salt water sport fishery is another area where the possibilities are enormous, but again it's not the kind of program that can be allowed to develop without guidance. Our sister province of Nova Scotia has developed its salt water sports activities to high degree, and it's getting to be a more popular tourist activity each year.

There has been some development in this province, but it could be greatly expanded to cover more of the fishing villages. It's my feeling that the sport could use a bit of a promotional push as well.

In southwestern Nova Scotia the operators have formed themselves into an association to further their own interests, and the local tourist association sponsors Fishing Competitions of a weekly basis for the largest fish of different species landed during the week.

About all you have to do is give the winner a signed certificate and a picture taken, and then he's got

something to take home and show his friends as a real souvenir of his vacation. The cost is practically nothing, but you can be sure that there are a good many rumpus room walls where the certificate ends up as an advertisement for the spot where the fish was caught.

**TIED INTO TUNA.**

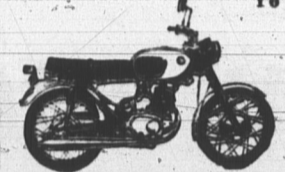
Last year the Island Development Company went out after tuna in a serious way, and though they didn't succeed in landing one of the big fellows they did tie into three of them. I'm told they have located a spot where the fish congregate off the East end of the Island and they'll be out after them again this year when the annual migration passes through our waters. Not only that, they'll be after sword-fish, as well in the coming season.

The tuna is the most highly regarded of all the salt water big game fishes, and as one who has spent several hours at a time, trying to horse one in, I can verify that their reputation is well deserved. Nova Scotia gets world-wide attention because of the tuna fishing to be found in places like Cape St. Mary's, Wedgeport and Halifax Harbour, and if the Island Development boat is lucky this summer there is every reason to hope that similar publicity can be gotten for Prince Edward Island.

See you next week....

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## Walter Gordon Sees Threat To Future Of Liberal Party

TORONTO (CP)—Walter Gordon says he fears the Liberal party may "waffle" in future between cautious conservatism and deliberate left-of-centre policies.

If it does, said the former federal finance minister, "this might very well be fatal."

He said the Liberal party has three alternatives for the future. "We can adopt a cautious and conservative approach and try to compete with what may become a more united and potentially rejuvenated Conservative party—a party which in the future may be expected to adopt more traditional attitudes and policies."

Nor could the Liberal party survive by adopting "a clearly conservative approach."

**ASKS DECISIONS**

He hoped for clear and unequivocal decisions to preserve the Liberal party.

He said the Liberal party

**STRADDLE FENCE**

"The Liberal party can waffle in between these two positions in the hope that by so doing no one will be offended. This is what may happen if, as a party we have not agreed upon what we stand for—or if we wish to try to be all-things-to-all-men."

"I am afraid the Liberal party may adopt this third course—this waffling approach—without ever consciously realizing or admitting it is doing so. In my view this might very well be fatal."

Mr. Gordon, who quit the federal cabinet because he advocated the calling of last fall's election which failed to produce

a Commons majority, spoke to the annual meeting of the Ontario Liberal party.

He said he does not believe a waffling, indecisive Liberal party can successfully compete with the New Democratic or Progressive Conservative parties.

He also said he believes

should "adopt a frankly progressive line with clearly defined policies on all the issues of the day." The party then should stick to them.

This might mean loss of support from some of the present membership and throw support to the Conservatives. But it also would hold part of the present support and attract the young.

Mr. Gordon urged Liberals to start talking about policies now in preparation for the National Liberal party convention in October.

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stories and rumors about the influence of contributors to party funds are exaggerated. But the Liberal party should adopt a course "that will remove even the possibility of suspicion or of rumors."

A text of his speech was issued to the press before delivery.

used for roller skating and various meetings, are public accommodations under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

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