



NFB FILM

STUDY GUIDE

FRASER'S RIVER

Color or Black & White — 15 minutes
Produced by the National Film Board of Canada 1958.

Suggested Uses: History and Geography classes
in junior and senior high schools.

SYNOPSIS

FRASER'S RIVER tells the story of the wild and beautiful river in British Columbia which once lured men to seek gold and then contributed to the development of the Province's lumber and salmon industries. Tracing the river from its source in the Rocky Mountains to its mouth, we behold the Fraser's influence as a transportation link to the rest of Canada.

CONCEPTS

The following are the main learning concepts presented in the film. These points should be clear before showing the film, because by knowing them an accurate judgment may be made of the extent to which the film will be of use in the class. Some of these concepts are more difficult than others and their degree of application will be governed by the grade level at which the film is used:

1. The Fraser River commences high in the Canadian Rockies and rushes 800 miles to the sea while taking in several other rivers its journey.
2. The Fraser River has contributed to the development of both the lumber and salmon industries of British Columbia.
3. It serves as a transportation link to the rest of Canada.
4. It has contributed to a large extent to the Province's economic and social development.
5. The Fraser was influential in the development of Vancouver into Canada's third largest city.
6. It provides an export route for prairie grain and eastern manufactured goods to be carried to all parts of the world.

SUGGESTED CLASS PREPARATION

a) Introduction:

This film should serve to introduce the class to the general concept of the influence rivers may have in the industrial, economic and social development of a region. Specifically, the film can be utilized to focus the students' attention on British Columbia's industrial growth as well as on the river's importance as a link in our export to other countries. In order that the best use be made of the film within these topics, students should locate the river and its tributaries and be somewhat familiar with British Columbia's industrial growth.

b) Words Which May Cause Difficulty:

Simon Fraser
"Cariboo" country

Chilcotin
bountiful

c) Directive Questions Raised in the Film:

1. Fraser's exploration of the river to its mouth has been termed one of the most difficult in North America. Why?
2. What important event ended the Fraser River's period of fur-trading posts and the beginning of settlement?
3. Name the Fraser River's chief tributaries.
4. What industries followed the gold rush of 1856?
5. How did British Columbia become linked to the rest of Canada?

SUGGESTED FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

1. Take up and discuss the directive questions. Relate them as much as possible to the various concepts presented in the film.
2. Prepare a map tracing Fraser's journey to the river's mouth. Mark its tributaries as well as the location of the Rocky Mountains, the Yellowhead Pass, the "Cariboo" country and Vancouver.
3. Prepare an oral or written paper on how a river can influence the industrial development and settlement of an area.

RELATED VISUAL AIDS

Films:

INDUSTRIAL CANADA (NFB — 18 minutes)
RAILROADERS (NFB — 30 minutes)
THE TALL COUNTRY (Parry Productions — NFB — 21 minutes)
TREASURE OF THE FOREST (NFB — 13 minutes)

Filmstrips:

THE APPROACH FROM THE WEST (NFB — B&W)
GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS OF CANADA (NFB — Color)
HARVESTING THE COASTAL FOREST (NFB — B&W)
OUR RESOURCES Series (NFB — B&W)
OUR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES Series (NFB — B&W)