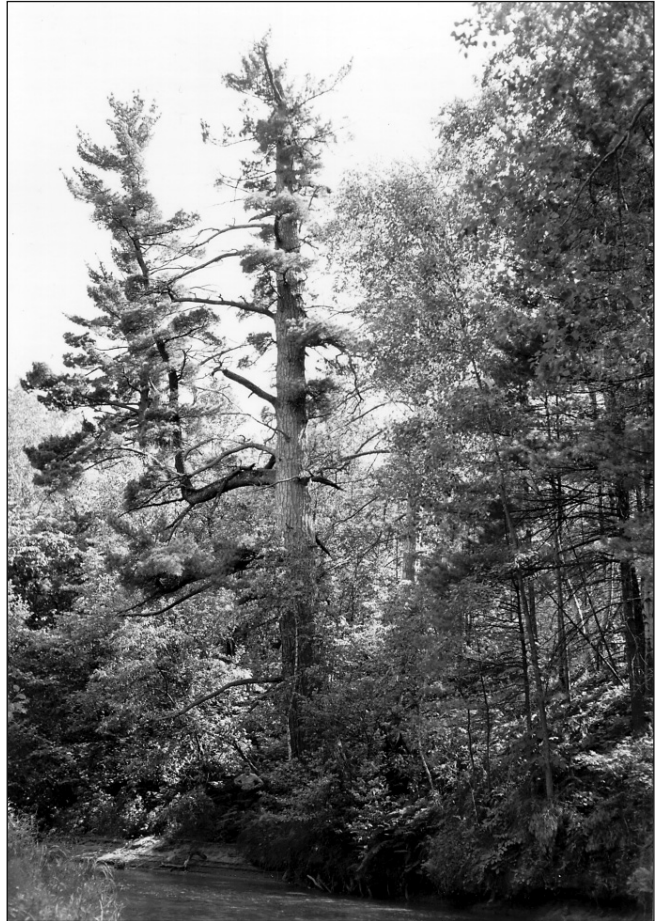


# Two-Leader Pine

## *Eau Claire County*

Many Wisconsinites like to reminisce about the days when the northern section of the state was virgin pine. The logging boom of the nineteenth century left very few of those original trees. But there was one relic that escaped the woodsman's ax in Eau Claire County. It grew about two miles south of the city of Eau Claire, and foresters believe the tree was spared because of the difficulty of getting it out of its inaccessible site.

In 1950 the tree was almost 14 feet in circumference. The odd thing about the tree was its twin tops. Apparently the leader had been broken off some time in the past and a lateral branch had sent up a new terminal shoot. A strange-looking tree indeed. The owner at the time, appreciating its novelty, agreed to preserve it. It is unknown whether this tree still stands.



*Two-Leader Pine*

Jim Fisher