

River Raft Race Ready

DEEP RIVER — Yankee ingenuity will be the watchword when about 100 rafts embark on the annual River Raft Race on Saturday. The hardy sailors will take off from the Deep River Town Dock at 11 a.m. and chart a course downstream.

Last year, the Town of Essex was inundated with spectators who came to take a ferry from the foot of Main Street to Notts Island, where the rafters ended up. This year, because of complaints from several local businessmen, the ferry will not operate.

The race has been a matter of discussion in Essex for some weeks now, with some opposing it while others, the Board of Trade, supporting it.

The rafters will come ashore at Nott's Island where the Tri-Town Jay-ees will sell refreshments.

First Selectman Lorraine Wallace of Deep River is a staunch champion of the event, noting that the entry fees collected from the raft racers is do-

nated to several charitable institutions.

This year, she said, certain areas will be roped off as requested by property owners in the vicinity of the dock.

The constables will be paid by the raft race committee and all in all, she declared, "It's a real fun thing."