



ICE FISHING, a popular winter sport, nets hardy sportsmen whitefish, pickerel, pike, and in some places, lake trout. In one part of Northern Ontario a local air transport company flies week-end parties into inland lakes. A usual afternoon's catch is four fish per person. Fishing shacks dot Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay but some winter anglers spurn the use of shelters. At Lake Simcoe, miniature cities of fishing shacks bloomed as soon as the ice formed. Various estimates place the number of fishing shanties there at from 1,300 to 1,500 with about 1,500 more holes being fished unprotected on a good day.

Hardy Anglers Fish Through Lake Ice

Ice-fishing, according to one, old guide and trapper in Northern Ontario, "is for them as likes it." Certainly there is some divergence of opinion as to the popularity and worth of this winter sport. It's like the old nursery rhyme, perhaps—the one about "Peas Porridge"—in which "some likes it hot" and "some likes it cold."

In one northern district, a report refers to ice-fishing as "a sport enjoyed only by the most hardy fishermen—those who brave the ever-present wind and inclement weather are ardent anglers indeed."

Another report from an equally northern section opines that "there is really nothing to it. You just go out and cut a hole through about 16" or more of ice, take a sounding, adjust your line to length, put a minnow on the hook and dangle it a few feet from the bottom."

"Most follows the line to the end of a four foot long branch, stick one end in the snow, rest the other in the upright crotch of a stick and then hike for shore where they build a big bonfire and try to keep warm."

"As they tramp round and round the fire, stamping their feet and thrashing their arms to keep up the circulation, they cautiously peek from their parkas from time to time at the rods. When one starts bobbing up and down or wiggling a bit they howl with glee, rush like mad for the hole, grab the rod and yank out the fish. But they don't have to run very often and after a few hours at most are content to head for home, a hot drink and warm blankets."

At Lake Nipissing, Lake St. Clair and Lake Simcoe, the sport is indulged in by thousands of enthusiasts. In winter time pickerel, pike, whitefish, lake trout, particularly perch, even sturgeon, take the bait readily, are much firmer of flesh and more flavorful than they are in summer.

Ice-fishing from Lake Nipissing southward is a more comfortable sport, to say the least, than in the north and north-west Ontario—and much more sociable. Down in the "banana belt," as northerners have somewhat irreverently named the area south of French River, two or more anglers can spend a lot of happy hours around a fishing pole when sheltered in a portable shanty with a heater in one corner and a mug of tea served to all hands at frequent intervals.

Ice-fishing conditions generally have not been too favorable this year across the province. Slush and water have covered the ice most of the time. Many fishermen last shanties on Lake Simcoe during the big windstorm in February—in one instance, three shacks disappeared "in thin air." A thaw followed the big wind and thinned the ice dangerously in many areas. On Lake Simcoe a number of cars broke partly through and, near Sutton, a tractor sent out to rescue a car with a wheel through the ice was lost completely. But in spite of the occasional risk, most winter anglers emphasize that "it's mighty satisfying to bring home a nice batch of fat, firm fish for the table and at the same time to have the day's outing."

HALTON PRESBYTERIAL W.M.S. HOLD ANNUAL; MRS. BROWNRIDGE PRES.

The 24th annual meeting of the Halton Presbyterial of the Woman's Missionary Society of the United Church of Canada was held in Walton Memorial United Church on Tuesday of last week.

Mrs. A. E. Pickard, Bronte, president, opened the meeting and called on Mrs. A. Page, Bronte, for welcoming remarks, after which the Port Nelson United Church Federation conducted the worship service. Mrs. Livingston read the scripture from the second chapter of Peter and Mrs. Wright gave the comments, stating that although as individuals and as a world, we may be at times frustrated, we should, like Peter, put our trust in God and be calm and ready to serve, always remembering the power of prayer.

Greetings from Hamilton, Brantford and Bruce Conference branches were read and welcome given to the new societies formed during the year.

The president's remarks included the summary of the year's work and the success of the campaign conducted to raise funds for the building of the new United Church Training School at Toronto. Mrs. Pickard reminded the group of the theme of the meeting, "Enlistment" and stressed the importance of carrying it into every phase of work.

Mrs. G. DeCoursey, Oakville, literature secretary, gave a brief outline of the new books and leaflets available and announced that the winner of the book shelf contest was Miss B. Hills, Glen Williams, Mission Band secretary, presented the awards to the various groups according to the number of years they had been organized. Ashgrove receiving their 14th-year certificate.

Mrs. Howard Coulson and Mrs. Peter Gates, Lowville, then sang a suitable duet entitled "Spring has Returned," accompanied on the piano by Mrs. R. Coulter.

Mrs. W. N. Brownridge, Georgetown, introduced the guest speaker of the morning session, Mrs. R. E. Thompson, Dominion Board Secretary of Community Friendship, who described the world as a series of little communities. To each is given the responsibility of preserving friendship at the local level and if each one carried out the Golden Rule it would relieve the tension under which we are living at an amazing degree. The importance of making new Canadians feel at home, visiting and caring for the sick people and making the old people feel as though they were still useful, are some of the ways that societies can carry out the aim of the Community Friendship department. Mrs. Thompson stated.

Rev. A. Page of Bronte closed the morning session with prayer and the meeting adjourned to the dining room where the Bronte ladies had prepared a delicious dinner. At the close of the meal, Mrs. A. Page again warmly welcomed the group on behalf of the Bronte Auxiliary and Mrs. O. Bush, Burlington, graciously replied.

In the absence of the Presbyterial president, Rev. J. Smith, greetings were brought from that organization by Rev. A. Page, Bronte.

Greetings were also heard from Mrs. W. Savage, Oakville, president of the Presbyterial Woman's Association; Mrs. H. C. Smith, Dominion Board officer, Oakville and Mrs. G. J. Patterson, president Hamilton Conference Branch.

The afternoon session was opened by Rock Chapel Auxiliary taking charge of the worship service and the memorial service wherein 14 spring flowers were placed on the altar in memory of the 14 members who had died during the past year.

The roll call recorded a total of 133 after which the offering was taken by the Bronte Auxiliary and dedicated by Mrs. W. N. Brownridge. Mrs. Ross Segsworth, Appleby, then gave the treasurer's report and announced that \$8,492.17 had been raised in 1952, \$342.17 over the allocation, which will be used for the Means School at Angola, South Africa through the God's Building Advance Fund. Care for Canada is the choice for 1953 G. E. A., wherein cars will be bought to be used in the various Mission Fields in Canada.

Miss A. Blanchard, Appleby, Stewardship secretary, announced that the allocation for 1953 would be the same as the previous year.

and this was accepted by the gathering. Mrs. Tall Hawkins, Burlington, presented a beautiful solo, "The Palma."

The highlight of the afternoon session was the talk by Miss M. Leona Douglas, missionary on furlough from Japan, who brought a wealth of information on conditions in that country. There have been great changes in the last seven years; women now have a vote and take positions in Parliament and the standard of living is much higher than formerly. There is a great desire among the youth of Japan to build a good life and besides the many who are working with the missionaries in the church, there are many working outside the church, helping to teach the children Bible study.

In the war years the church people lost many of their churches but through their determination and feeling of responsibility, they rebuilt and are now working hard to become independent. Miss Douglas expressed her gratitude to the W.M.S. workers for making it possible for her to go to Japan as she feels it is a great privilege.

Mrs. Harry Coote Smith, Oakville, called on Mrs. Roy Coulter to give the report of the nominating committee, which was as follows: past president, Mrs. A. E. Pickard; president, Mrs. W. N. Brownridge; first vice-president, Mrs. F. Beaumont; second vice-president, Mrs. E. Woods; third vice-president, Mrs. A. Harris; recording secretary, Mrs. B. Gunby; corresponding secretary, Mrs. E. M. Readhead; treasurer, Mrs. R. Segsworth. Department secretaries: Christian Stewardship, Miss A. Blanchard; Mission Circle, Mrs. A. R. Spaight; affiliated C.G.I.T., Mrs. R. Coulter; Mission Bands, Miss B. Hills; Baby Bands, Mrs. J. Drummond.

Associate members, Mrs. O. A. Sherwin; supply, Mrs. L. W. Coulson; community friendship, Mrs. F. Eaton; literature, Mrs. G. DeCoursey; Missionary Monthly and World Friends, Mrs. S. T. Coulson; Christian Stewardship, Mrs. G. King; press, Mrs. G. Bellbody; members without portfolio, Mrs. F. McIven and Mrs. J. C. MacMillan.

Mrs. Smith conducted the impressive induction ceremony and Mrs. M. Inkster, Oakville, presented the report of the courtesy committee, thanking everyone who had made the day the splendid success that it was. An invitation from Burlington was brought forth for the annual meeting next year. Mrs. Brownridge, as newly elected president, took charge of the closing ceremonies and pronounced the benediction.

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