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Bridger Shields and Medals Presented at P.D.F.L. Smoker

Over a Hundred Present at Big Football Event Here on Friday. Honour Shield Named After Andy Roberts in Recognition of That Player's Fine Sportsmanship and Service to Football in This District. Many Tributes to Mr. E. H. Bridger. A Pleasant Evening.

There were about a hundred football enthusiasts at the annual Porcupine District Football League smoker held in the Mose hall (Roller Rink building), across from the station, on Friday evening last. The evening was a most enjoyable one throughout and all present had a good time. There were lots of free smokes, cigars and cigarettes, etc., and the musical programme was a good one. It was a regular old-time happy gathering of the football boys.

The one regret of the evening was the inability of Mr. E. H. Bridger, of Toronto, to be present for the evening and present the medals and shields he has so kindly donated to football in this camp.

Mr. Duxfield, president of the P.D.F.L., presided on his usual happy way, introducing the programme with a few concise references to the work of the past season and the appreciation felt for Mr. E. H. Bridger in his generous interest in football here.

Mr. B. C. Lambie, past president of the Timmins Football Club, gave a review of the success achieved by the P.D.F.L. He referred also to the generosity and fine sportsmanship of Mr. Bridger, and heartily congratulated the winners, the runners-up, the player winning the Honour medal and the club to which the player belonged. Mr. Lambie made an earnest plea for the reviving of the Timmins Football Club for next season. "We have had a good brand of football during the past season," he said, "but we want better. We want to revive the Timmins Football Club as a senior football team, to put Timmins and the district back again on the football map." Mr. Lambie pointed out that while some of the local teams might have to give up one or two of their best men for the senior team, it would all be for the good of football and the district. The P.D.F.L. teams would carry on as usual, with the local teams being feeders for the senior team, and public interest much increased by this return to the plan of having a senior team.

President Duxfield made reference to the honour to Mr. G. Collins in being awarded the Honour Shield for showing the best sportsmanship on and off the field during the season. The president commented that there had been several others in the running for this honour, but unfortunately there were still others who had shown a poor brand of sportsmanship. He instanced cases and said that this sort of thing would be stamped out. Mr. Duxfield expressed the general regret that Mr. E. H. Bridger, of Toronto, was unable to be present, but called on Mr. G. A. Macdonald, who made the presentations on his behalf. Mr. Macdonald referred to the debt owed to Mr. Bridger for what he had done for football when he was a resident of Timmins and also for his continued interest and generosity. He read a message sent by Mr. Bridger by wire, this message to the boys being as follows:—

"Due to severe pressure of work in this hectic market, it is impossible for me to be with you in person tonight. You may rest assured though that I will be thinking of you and wishing I could be there. It gives me much pleasure to ask you, on my behalf, to present the McIntyre boys

with the medals they had to fight so hard to win, and also to compliment the officials and players of that club on their work which enabled them to do this. Whilst I am sorry that all the rest of the league teams did not win them,—there is another year coming, and may the best team win again then. In presenting the honour shield, I have named it the "Andy Roberts Honour Shield." My recollections and associations with Andy in footer since the early days of the camp have always led me to believe that no stauncher supporter could be found. Then too, I believe, he is about the only one of the originals still left playing. For his interest and support in the past I have with great pleasure named the shield after him. To Mr. Collins, I extend a hearty grip and congratulate him in being the choice of the league as a good sportsman—a thing that unfortunately is becoming somewhat rare in many branches of sport. The desire to win nowadays at any price seems to have taken the place of win or lose but play the game. May this never be said about the boys of the "P.D.F.L."

There was great enthusiasm when it was known that Mr. Bridger had added to his already noteworthy gift to football by calling the new shield "The Andy Roberts Honour Shield." Mr. Macdonald added his tribute to the fine sportsmanship shown by Mr. Roberts on and off the field, and asked Mr. Roberts to make the presentation of the medal to the winner, Mr. G. Collins, and the shield to the club to which Mr. Collins belonged—the Hollinger.

Though evidently greatly surprised Mr. Roberts thanked the donor for the high honour given in the naming of the shield. "I have always tried to play clean football," said Andy, "and I have found nearly everybody else played clean. It's a fine game!" Mr. Roberts then presented the shield to Mr. S. Johns, president of the Hollinger Football Club, and the medal to Mr. Collins. Mr. Johns in expressing his appreciation of the honour to the Hollinger Football Club, referred to the fine sportsmanship of Mr. Collins and the other players, and the kindly interest shown by Mr. Bridger.

Mr. Collins was given a great reception and repeatedly called upon for a speech. His words were brief but to the point. "I thank Mr. Bridger," he said, "and I will try to play harder next year, but I hope some one beats me."

Presentation of the Garrett Shield for the winner of the League, with the E. H. Bridger medals for the players of the winning club, and the P.D.F.L. medals for the runners-up, as well as the presentation of the Boxer Cup and medals to the Cornish Football Club featured the evening also. The following were the winning teams and players:—

McIntyre—Winners of P.D.F.L.—T. Johnson, F. Parker, E. Goodman, H. Moore, H. Wood, A. Morris, J. Cran, J. McLatchie, Truscott, E. Dougal, H. Bratby, W. Barron, A. Cooper, J. Taylor and E. Jones.

Holly Rees.—Runners-up for P.D.F.L. honours—J. Liddle, H. Ewart, T. Doherty, W. Robson, M. Trenouth, J. Jenkins, J. McKenzie, R. McLatchie, R. Roy, A. McWhinnie, J. Bates, V. Meredith, L. Harris, H. Stevenson, J. Rutherford, J. Elrick.

Cornish One-and-All—Winners of Boxer Cup and Medals—W. Willis, S. Hooper, E. R. Street, W. Higman, L. Harris, W. Rice, M. Tonkin, Wearing, Graham, Chalmers, J. Parkin, Doddridge.

Emphasis was given by the various speakers to the good sportsmanship of the three teams, the McIntyre the Holly Rees, and the Cornish. Also to the fine spirit shown by other teams in the League. Among the speakers were:—Mr. Johnson, captain of the McIntyre; Mr. Geo. Pond, of the executive committee; Mr. Jas. Elrick, Mr. Jack Thomas, of the Holly Rees; Mr. Chittenden; Mr. Dan Laing, president of the McIntyres; Mr. Parkin, of the Cornish; and others. All of the addresses were interesting and to the point, and there was a fine spirit of good sportsmanship displayed in the way other clubs were congratulated and praised. There was also very general praise for Geo. Collins.

Mr. W. A. Field said that many nice things had been said, but that it was also necessary to say some unpleasant things. He referred to the foundation of good sportsmanship as resting in being both a good loser as well as a good winner. Players should have the sporting spirit to thoroughly understand the rules of the game and then live up to the rules. He scored a couple of examples of poor sport shown in the season. Continuing he congratulated the P.D.F.L. on the success of the past year, won by businesslike methods. He congratulated the winners and runners-up of the League and also the Cornish for winning the Boxer Cup. The Dome also came in for approval, and especially the captain, Mr. Richards, for his fine sportsmanship throughout the season, with one exception. The P.D.F.L. had paid off a previous deficit of \$50.00, and could start 1928 with a balance. Mr. Field announced that he intended to drop out of senior football and devote himself to fostering juvenile football here. The feeding of the football teams through getting the youngsters into the game had been neglected in the past. He had a plan to get all the schools interested in football and to have a juvenile football league for next season. There would be twelve teams of boys,—midget, intermediate and juvenile

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football being carried on.

Mr. Geo. Pond's address made a special hit, by its friendliness and the number of points it covered in able way. He referred especially to the time and talent given to the P.D.F.L. by Mr. Duxfield, the president, and by the secretary, and the vote of thanks he suggested was heartily applauded. Mr. Pond also emphasized the fact that criticism was cheap, but real sport was where all worked together to advance the common interests of the sport and have everything going smoothly and well. As Mr. Parkin commented, "Mr. Pond is a real peace-maker, and a valuable man for football."

There was a fine programme of vocal and instrumental music, Messrs Galloway and W. H. Wilson playing the piano accompaniments in talented way. Songs were given by Messrs Bates, Galloway, Teasdale, A. J. Downie, Jas. Cowan, and Parker. Each and every one of these songs was greatly enjoyed, all being specially good. Each singer made a special hit and all were insistently encoored. The evening closed with "God Save the King," all present feeling that the evening had been a very pleasant and successful one.

DEAL IN IMPORTANCE IN ROUYN PROPERTIES

A deal of very considerable importance is under negotiation in the Rouyn district involving merger between several groups of well-known and well-located properties. Officials in each case are somewhat reticent, but details will probably be available within the coming week.

Among the properties involved is part of the holdings of Duprat, situated adjacent to Waite Montgomery, as well as the Duprat group lying adjacent to Amulet. From the information available, Duprat itself would not be involved as a company in the merger, but would permit these two parts of the company's holdings to be merged in the new enterprise and would take a large block of stock in the new company in exchange. Duprat itself would also continue in operation on its other properties. The deal will be an important one for Duprat.

The new company plans to take in exceptionally big acreage all in one large block adjoining Amulet and Waite Montgomery on the west, and on some part of which are known ore deposits. The merger is understood to involve the Perron claims, as well as other adjacent properties. A favourable feature is the fact that very strong financial interests have identified themselves with the project and that the enterprise will be represented by an aggressive board of directors. Finances are assured, pending ratification of the deal by the shareholders of the contracting companies.

READY TO ASSIST IN TRAINING MALE CHORUS

Mrs. Wilkins, a musician of well-known ability, informs The Advance that in case the Male Chorus desires to resume its activities here, she will be pleased to assist in the training of that choir. The Timmins Male Chorus achieved a remarkable measure of success here in past years under the leadership of Mr. R. R. Johnston. It appears to be regrettable that the choir should be discontinued or stay dormant, as it promises to do on account of the removal of Mr. Johnston from town. Mrs. Wilkins has a well-merited reputation as a capable and widely-experienced musician, and having had the training of other male choruses in years past, those interested might do well indeed to take the matter up with Mrs. Wilkins in regard to a revival of the Timmins Male Chorus.

Stanley Danevich, the Pole who tried to commit suicide recently near North Bay, was sentenced to four months in Burwash. He blamed bad luck and worse liquor for making him despondent, and expressed pleasure at being allowed to recuperate in a nice jail farm with everything supplied.



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