

DISASTER THREATENS ITALIAN EMPIRE

Record Entry Here For Annual T. & N. O. 'Spiel' Being Held at McIntyre

Ninety-one Rinks Started Off at 8.30 This Morning in Opening Competition For George W. Lee Trophy. Five Sutherland Brothers Taking Part. Thirty-seven Bys Into First Round.

A record entry of ninety-one rinks commenced play this morning in the Eleventh Annual T. & N. O. Bonspiel, being held this week at the luxurious McIntyre Curling Club. It was first estimated that the entry would not exceed eighty rinks but late arrivals swelled the competition to previously unheard of size.

The large and uneven number of rinks gave the drawmaster, A. W. Jacob, a knotty problem at the outset and a preliminary round was inevitable from the start. As the draw now stands, fifty-four rinks will battle it out in the preliminaries, with thirty-seven receiving byes. The opening competition is for the George W. Lee Trophy.

Three clubs that in past years had not entered the T. & N. O. 'spiel' are represented this year, Pamour, Iroquois Falls and Timagami. Cochrane is also back after a lapse of several years with three rinks.

J. R. Davis, of Kirkland Lake, who skipped his last year rink to the Northern Ontario championship, will be defending his crown in the various events. The only change in the personnel of the rink is the substitution of W. H. Gaulty for "Scotty" McDonald, one of the best known figures in the North among devotees to the "roarin' game."

With five brothers taking part in the bonspiel, no one could say that the Sutherland family isn't represented. J. D. Sutherland, W. Sutherland, and D. A. Sutherland are members of Dr. Lou Hudson's McIntyre rink, "Dunc" Sutherland is skipping a Halleybury entry and G. A. Sutherland is "second" on George Doggett's crack rink from Kirkland Lake.

Four commercial travellers compose the rink of W. B. Harvey, of North Bay, but the quartet of "drummers" have laid aside the brief cases and samples for the week to get down to the serious business of bringing home some of the curling trophies.

The first event, the George W. Lee Trophy, is open to all rinks attending the bonspiel. The same conditions apply to the Canada Northern Power, while the Hill-Clark-Francis trophy is open only to rinks losing the first game in the Lee competition. Rinks losing their first game in the Canada Northern Power event will be eligible for the Purly Flour Trophy. The Scotch Anarchic Coal Trophy will be competed for by rinks losing the first game in the Hill-Clark-Francis and those losing their second game in the Lee Trophy. The Dunbar shield is open to all rinks losing their first game in the Purly

Flour Trophy and all rinks losing their second game in the Canada Northern Power. The British Consols Competition will be played by the finalists in the Lee Trophy and Canada Northern Power, along with the winning rinks in the Hill-Clark-Francis and the Purly Flour.

When the bonspiel opened this morning Mayor J. E. Brunette, of Timmins and Reeve Victor Evans, of Tisdale Township, extended a civic welcome to the visiting curlers and officially opened the event by tossing the first two rocks.

On page six of this issue a complete list of all the curlers taking part in the bonspiel will be found, along with the draws for the games commencing at 2.00 p.m., 4.45 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

One of the biggest attractions in conjunction with the event, will be a banquet to be held in the gymnasium of the McIntyre Community Building Wednesday evening. Every curler is invited to attend.

R. J. Ennis, manager of the McIntyre Porcupine Mines, is the Honorary Chairman of the bonspiel committee, with I. A. Solomon and T. E. Newkirk as co-chairmen. George A. Vaughan is secretary-treasurer. A. W. Jacob, drawmaster, and E. H. Hill, umpire.

Bridge Tenders Called

The Ontario Department of Highways have sent out a call for tenders for the building of a new concrete and steel bridge over the Mattagami River at the foot of Hollinger Avenue. Plans will be available to prospective bidders to-morrow and bidding will close on February 12. The announcement by the Department is particularly gratifying to Mayor J. E. Brunette who has worked for the past two years to have the narrow Wilson avenue bridge replaced.

Schubert Choral Begins Rehearsals for "Pinafore"

The Schubert Choral Society is beginning rehearsals at once for "H. M. S. Pinafore," the Gilbert and Sullivan opera, to be presented the latter part of April. Anyone interested in taking part in his are invited to come along to rehearsals, 8 to 10 on Monday night at the radio station.

Decision Deferred In Inquest Into Mine Death

Coroner's Probe Into Circumstances of Fatality at Hollinger on January 17, Adjourned Until This Week. Jury Decided to View Working Place Where Fred Ladoucer Met His Death.

Refusing to bring in a verdict until after they had inspected the underground working place where the accident occurred, a coroner's inquest into the death of Fred Ladoucer, Hollinger miner, was adjourned on Friday night until this week. Ladoucer was killed in the collapse of a sand stope on January 17 that entombed J. B. Minard and "Gus" Leino for many hours. As a result of the decision of the jury, they will go underground, accompanied by Crown Attorney Caldwell and Coroner H. E. Montgomery and the actual scene of the fatality will be viewed and examined.

H. Moore is foreman of the jury which is composed of R. Dudgeon, J. G. Sinclair, R. Jones and Fred Adams. Mr. M. J. Kelly, the first witness called in Friday's hearing told the inquest that from the examination he made of Ladoucer it was quite evident that the man had died of suffocation. He was dead when his remains were dug out of the sand about two hours after the stope collapsed. There was no sign of any injury, the doctor said.

J. Disley, mine captain, testified that the stope in question had been worked out and filled with sand for the past three years. Ladoucer, along with Minard, Leino and Frank Winders, had been instructed to remove certain supporting timber under the stope and install a "crown bar", so that a raise from the level below might be driven through to the 1400-foot level without smashing the supports. Disley told the inquest that he had personally in-

pected the timber before the men started to work and found it to be in good, sound condition. After giving instructions he left to perform other duties in connection with his position in other parts of the mine.

When the accident occurred, Disley was immediately advised and went to the scene. Rescue operations were commenced at once. He told the jury of finding Ladoucer's body in about five feet of sand. Until midnight, rescue crews installed timber and shovelled the sand away but at this point, Minard, who was at the opposite end of the fill in the dead end of the drift told the rescuers that they would have to spot because if they broke through, Leino would be buried. A twenty inch pipe was driven through the sand and about three hours later Minard was rescued. Leino was brought to safety late Saturday morning.

Mr. Moore, the jury foreman questioned Disley closely about the condition of the timber and the witness reaffirmed his earlier statements with respect to the condition of the stope. He told the jury that it was not a customary practice to have a shift boss or leader present when such work was being done. "We do the same thing every few days," he declared. He did say, however, that when the miners were sawing a post to make way for the "crown bar" they should have had another post alongside as a safeguard. "I thank God that I can still tell my story," said J. B. Minard as he

(Continued on Page Three)

OFFICIATES AT OPENING OF BONSPIEL



Recruiting For R. C. A. F. Opens In Timmins Today

Applications to be Received for Pilots, Observers, Air Gunners and Wireless Operators. Skilled Tradesmen, Radio and Electrical Mechanics Also Urgently Required.

Recruiting officers for the Royal Canadian Air Force will be in Timmins all this week and will interview applicants in an office in the basement of the Post Office, Fourth Avenue. Flying Officer E. C. Cross is interviewing the recruits, with Flying Officer M. D. Wall as Medical Officer, and Leading Aircraftman W. F. Colling as trade tester.

Applicants for pilot rating must be between the age of eighteen and thirty-one and have an academic standing of junior matriculation or its equivalent. Observers will be accepted between the ages of eighteen and thirty-three and must have junior matriculation or its equivalent. The same age limit will apply for wireless operators and air gunners, who must have at least two years' high school training.

All varieties of skilled tradesmen are needed and applications will be taken regularly. Guards are also required, the age limit being from 32 to 48. In this rating a preference will be given to veterans of the first Great War.

An acute shortage exists for radio and electrical mechanics and applicants will be interviewed for immediate overseas service.

Flying Officer Cross pointed out that the purpose of their visit to Timmins and other centres throughout the North is to save prospective recruits the expense of making trips to North Bay for examinations. No enlistments will be made but the applications of successful candidates will be forwarded to Ottawa, and placed on the list for immediate call.

The recruiting office will be open all this week until Saturday at noon. Applications will be received daily from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. in the evening.

QUIET WEEK-END

Timmins police report the quietest week-end in some time. Even drunks were conspicuously absent and the charges laid concerned traffic act violations of a minor nature.

New Sergeant-at-Arms



Sgt. H. H. Robson, V.C. is to be appointed sergeant at arms of the Ontario legislature, opening Feb. 19. He succeeds Sgt. Charles Rutherford, V.C., who is on active service.

Weather To Be Clear And Cold

Recent Snowfalls Brings Winter's Total Up to Seventy-two Inches.

"Continuing generally fair and cold," was the forecast of Sydney Wheeler at Hollinger observatory this morning. The temperature at 8 a.m. was twelve below.

Since last Tuesday ten inches of snow has fallen in the Porcupine to bring the winter's total fall up to seventy-two inches. This figure is practically the same as last year. Mr. Wheeler reports.

Maximum and minimum temperatures since last Wednesday are: Thursday, 10 above and 4 below; Friday, 12 above and 5 below; Saturday, 18 above and 10 below; Sunday, 14 above and 12 below.

Charged With Passing Forged Ten-Dollar Bill

Arrested Man Claims Stranger, Wanting Him to Buy High-Grade, Gave It To Him.

Anthony Kasper, of no fixed abode and many aliases, was arrested here Thursday afternoon by Constable Frank Auger, of the local R. C. M. P. detachment on a charge of uttering a forged ten-dollar United States bill. The officer had to pursue the accused for two blocks on Fourth avenue before he was apprehended.

In a statement to the police after being arrested, Kasper said that over the week-end he met a stranger from Toronto who offered him a commission to purchase high grade. As an indication of his intentions the stranger presented Kasper with ten dollars. On Monday Kasper claimed that he discovered the bill was counterfeit but decided to pass it at some boarding house. He then visited the establishment operated by W. Stefuriac on Fifth avenue and ordered a meal for which he paid fifty cents, receiving nine dollars and fifty cents in change.

Subsequently Mrs. Stefuriac discovered the bill was counterfeit and complained to the Mounted Police. During the course of her conversation at the detachment, she happened to look out of the window and saw Kasper walking along Fourth avenue. Constable Auger rushed into the street but as soon as Kasper saw him, he took flight. The fleet-footed constable however overtook the fugitive after a speedy two-block dash.

He was arrested and lodged in the local police cells and will appear before Magistrate Atkinson to-morrow. The accused not unknown in local police circles and has made previous court appearances here.

Reeve Victor Evans, of Tisdale Township, is shown above as he tossed the first stone to open the T. & N. O. Bonspiel at McIntyre Community Building this morning. His Worship, Mayor Brunette, of Timmins, also officiated in a similar capacity.

First Results of Bonspiel

- J. G. MacMillan (K.L.) 10; A. W. Pickering (Mc.) 9.
- W. R. Rinn (T.) 10; S. G. Eplett (N.L.) 4.
- A. Freeman (N.B.) 13; C. D. Stevenson (P.) 9.
- K. Eyre (Mc.) 8; H. L. Gomoll (N.B.) 7.
- J. Linklater (P.) 14; J. W. Brown (N.L.) 6.
- E. V. Woolings (E.) 10; E. L. Reid (T.) 9.
- W. R. Harvey (N.B.) 8; H. Moscoe (Mc.) 7.
- W. McMahon (D.) 11; A. Husband (Kap.) 8.
- R. Howey (H.) 12; D. McGuire (Mc.) 10.
- A. E. Stephenson (N.L.) 11; K. Kilborn (Mc.) 10.
- A. F. McDowell (Mc.) 10; W. Volume (Kap.) 4.

11.15 a.m. Draw Results

- H. Richmond (D.) 10; P. Goddard (Tem.) 9.
- A. W. Lang (Mc.) 14; B. Fraser (Eng.) 3.
- H. G. Murdock (Eng.) 12; A. L. Sharp (Pam.) 10.
- G. S. Drew (Mc.) 9; J. Abrams (K.L.) 8.
- H. A. Leach (Siscoe) 11; P. J. Doyle (Mc.) 8.
- W. J. Linghorne (N.L.) 8; W. S. Jamieson (Mc.) 3.
- D. Best (K.L.) 18; J. R. Walker (Timm.) 6.
- D. Clutchey (Timm.) 14; D. Pilon (Nor.) 6.
- H. Jones (Dome) 10; D. Sutherland (Halley) 9.
- A. E. Riddell (K.L.) 9; J. R. Hall (Mc.) 8.
- Dr. H. Hudson (Mc.) 14; W. J. Robinson (Kap.) 4.

Despite the lateness of the season, experienced bushworkers are still in demand at lumber camps throughout this area. A number of companies have standing orders with the local Employment Office.

New Greek Premier



Alexandros Korizis, 55 year old governor of the Greek National Bank, has been named premier of Greece to succeed Gen. John Metaxas, who died. King George II made the announcement.

Fall of Agordat Viewed As "Beginning of End" For Fascists in Africa

British and Indian Troops Capture Italian Stronghold in Eritrea as Follow-up to Terrific Aerial Bombardment on Sunday. Gains Reported on All Fronts as Fascists Fall Back.

Mine Death Accident Says Jury

Decision Made This Morning After Jurors View Fatal Working Place.

A verdict of accidental death was returned by a jury at the adjourned inquest here this morning into the death of Fred Ladoucer, Hollinger Miner, who died as the result of being caught in the collapse of a sand stope on January 17. Evidence was heard on Friday afternoon but the jury declined to bring in a verdict until they viewed the underground working place where the accident occurred. They made the trip underground this morning and a verdict was immediately reached. The findings of the jury were:—"We, the jury, have come to the decision that Fred Ladoucer met his death accidentally due to suffocation at approximately 9 a.m., Friday, January 17, in 55a North heading East of 13, on the 1400 foot level of the Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines."

Local Lady Skier Has Painful Mishap At Kirkland Lake

Miss Ann Zuck Suffered Compound Fracture of Left Leg

Miss Ann Zuck, popular young member of the Porcupine Ski Club sustained a compound fracture of the left leg in an accident on a practice jump at the Kirkland Lake Club Sunday afternoon. Miss Zuck was one of a special train of skiers who were entertained yesterday by the Kirkland Club.

The ground under the small jump was rough and uneven but Miss Zuck had made it once before without accident. On the second attempt she was seen to fall with her leg crumpled under her. Rushed to hospital, it was found that she had suffered a compound fracture. She was given an anaesthetic and the bones were set and placed in a cast. Doctors believe that the cast will have to be kept on for at least two weeks and the young lady may be incapacitated for four months.

Last Year Successful One for the Timmins Horticultural Society

Appearance of Highway at Approach to Town Improved. Still Further Improvements Planned. Officers Elected and Reports Read are Approved at the Annual Meeting of the Society.

The annual meeting of the Timmins Horticultural Society was held at the Town Hall on Friday, 31st. Jan., at 8 p.m.

While discussing the financial statement the retiring president, Mr. Knell, touched upon the extra strain imposed on the finances of the society through not being able to take advantage of the offer of the Curling Rink for use as an exhibition hall during the Flower and Vegetable show. The Curling Rink was taken over at that time by the C. A. S. P. and the society had no other recourse but to engage the Timmins Arena.

It was drawn to the attention of the meeting that there was no mention in the financial statement of any revenue accruing from the auction sale of exhibits that followed the Flower and Vegetable Show last fall. It was pointed out that the proceeds from the auction, amounting to a little more than fifty-six dollars were donated to the Salvation Army Red 'Chield Fund for the purpose of buying extra food comforts for the local troops quartered in the Curling Rink.

In discussing the work of the past year the meeting was informed that efforts to improve the appearance of the highway at the entrance to the town met with some success. With the help of J. A. Carrol, Superintendent of Horticultural Societies in Ontario,

British Empire forces are now threatening Italy's entire East African army with disaster, in a merciless drive from the North and South, supported by increasing thousands of Ethiopian warriors. The Italian army is estimated to number 200,000 men.

Commenting on the fall of Agordat, Italian stronghold in Eritrea, newspapers on the Continent predicted the end of Italy's African Empire. The capture of Agordat was announced in despatches from Cairo on Sunday.

It was indicated that half the Italian East African army, based in Eritrea, was now in such a position that escape might be impossible and British and Ethiopian pressure was forcing the withdrawal of Italians from outlying parts of Western Ethiopia. British and Indian troops, who captured Agordat on the main railroad to Asmara, the Eritrean capital, and Mas-sawa, big Red Sea port, were reported to have sent a flanking column forty miles southward to attack the Italian right wing at Barentu, where a large force of the enemy is now trapped.

Military circles said that there are only two roads leading out of Barentu and British forces are solidly straddling both.

In Northern Ethiopia, the Italians were in full retreat toward Gondar, closely pursued by fast British mechanized units, while intensified patrol operations caused a general falling back of Fascist forces on the Somali-Land Frontier.

A terrific aerial bombardment paved the way for capture of Agordat, it was disclosed in late despatches today. Within a few hours after its fall, British mechanized units were in close pursuit of retreating Italians who were withdrawing to Keren, forty miles eastward.

Stubborn Retreat in Libya
In Libya the Italians were reported to be fighting a stubborn rearguard action as they fell back along the coastal road from Derna to Bengasi. British forces were harassing and disorganizing them while the main body advanced for what was expected to be the final phase of the Libyan offensive.

MAY USE PORQUIS AIRPORT

It was announced unofficially today that the emergency landing field of Trans-Canada Airways at Porquius Junction may be taken over by the Department of National Defence for use as an R.C.A.F. training centre in conjunction with the Commonwealth Air Training Plan. The Porquius airport can accommodate the largest planes and is fully equipped with "beam" etc.

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