

## Porcupine Skating Club Presents Ice Show That Delights Packed Houses

**Ice Show Planned Only for Saturday Repeated Monday Night by Popular Demand. All Items on Programme Outstanding. Dominion Pair Champions Prove Special Favourites.**

The Porcupine Skating Club Ice Show held at the McIntyre Arena drew a capacity crowd at the afternoon and evening performance on Saturday, April 17th, and a final show was presented on Monday evening. The fine talent displayed by the two hundred and some odd members was good evidence of the able teaching of their instructor, Miss Madge Austin.

During the performance the McIntyre Orchestra under the leadership of Lieut. J. Lomas was in attendance. At the beginning of the show, they played the Overture "Wagneria."

The School of Skating opened the show, and students of the teacher, Miss Madge Austin, filed out to the rink, where they performed their various steps. They were accompanied by the assistant teachers, Mr. Alex Fulton, Miss Margaret Keeley, Miss Olga Bernyk, Miss Vera Jenkins, Miss Joyce Jenkins and Mr. John O'Donnell.

The first lesson was figures, where all executed different difficult steps they had been taught. Then two groups were formed for dancing, all doing the two-step, the first group being the tiny tots, and the second the advanced school of boys and girls in a partner waltz.

The third lesson was spirals and jumps, difficult feats, first exhibited by the assistant teachers and followed by all the pupils.

After this performance, the talent scouts, Mr. O. Lafontaine, Mrs. T. R. Langdon and Mr. S. D. Cooke, arrived, preceded by their secretaries, Miss Beryl Goodman, Miss Marjorie Tomkinson, and Miss Mona Kittner. Each advanced pupil in turn displayed his or her talents, and the talent scouts disappeared behind the scenes for a consultation. Those who were to be picked would be presented at the Ice Cabaret at the Grand Hotel.

During the consultation, all the pupils enjoyed a recess, playing odd games, such as "ring around the rosey" and others, a happy playtime being the result.

At the close of this part of show, the Grand March was held, in precision, and it was during this number that the pupils were chosen for the Cabaret.

At this time, the "skating mothers" were watching all this. The mothers were played by Miss Dorothy Gracie, Miss Florence McInnes, Mrs. Evelyn and Miss Margaret Kenney. Humour was provided during this number by the Problem Child, played by Mr. Wilbur Cook, of the Kirkland Lake Skating Club. Mr. Cook was dressed in a particularly funny costume, and during the display of the pupils, he made a spectacle of himself by his spills, and bothering others, and had to be "scolded" many times by the teacher, Miss Madge Austin.

The pupils taking part in this scene were as follows:

Class 1—Diane Lloyd, Alice Scullion, Leone Platous, Nicolina Marina, Helen Channen, Doreen Keizer, Nancy McNeil, Diane Bagatto, Christine Chalmers, Helen Delor, Margaret Fowler, Margaret Langdon, Mary Manette, Shirley Manette, Leonore Marshall, Joan Noble, Maria Steele, Myrtle Thompson, Ellen McMillan, Annie Bundeak, Margarita Groom, Betty Joyce, Donald Kelly, Sandra Skele, Joan Remus.

Class 2—Catherine Pecaric, Irene Keeley, Audrey Jenkins, Mary Logan, Catherine McNeil, Margaret Kirkland and Sheila Moran, and Messrs Francis Murray, Gordon Paul, Lionel Boni, Tom Harkness, James Fraser and Roger Todhunter, as "snoritza" and "Senors".

"The Blues" was presented by the guests of the "hotel," after which Miss Madge Austin, Professional Instructor of Porcupine Skating Club, lovely in a white sheer gown, and Mr. Robert Courter, Professional Instructor of the Oshawa Skating Club, brought the delightful show to a climax with a display of dance steps.

After their number and their encore, Miss Austin was presented with a large basket of mixed spring flowers, a gift from the members of the Porcupine Skating Club, the presentation being made by little Kathleen Hill and Arlene Cameron.

A grand finale was held, when the standard bearers appeared. Misses Mary Gomersich, Mary Kirkland, Veronica Shantz, Miss Barron, Irene Domagalski, Helen Channen, Annie Valentich, Norma Killins, carrying flags and the senior members of the Porcupine Skating Club forming rings around the ice. The National Anthem brought the show to a final close.

## Men Off to War, Girls Become Punchers



These punchers are in a telegraph office and not on the western plains, as the name might suggest. Girls are now being trained to become operators of automatic transmitters, but as the purpose of the machine is to perforate, or to "punch" symbols through a paper tape, the term "puncher" is now generally applied to all who work on these keyboards. Owing to the very large number of enlistments of men operators, the Canadian National Telegraphs are calling on women to replace men now in the armed forces. To train these operators, schools have been established throughout Canada.

The course continues for twelve weeks after which those who have become proficient in the use of the perforator machine are transferred to one of the operating rooms of

the Canadian National Telegraphs where they begin to handle "live" traffic under the supervision of a senior operator.

These girls are efficient touch typists, the keyboard they operate being similar to that of the office typewriter. The real test for the tyro "puncher" is to maintain a typing speed of fifty words a minute during a ten-minute period.

The "punch" is more than symbolic, because the perforating machines require a heavier touch than is necessary for a typewriter.

The upper photograph shows:

A.C.N.T. instructor, who knows all the "do" and "don'ts" of telegraph language, at the blackboard, just like school, stressing the elements of a telegraph message.

Below, a pupil "puncher" practicing at the keyboard of a perforator

machine. These exercises, like the scales for piano players, are designed to train the fingers to find the "note" by touch. The first line reads: "IVZ WAUTS BOAULKI HICFED BCA," which is not code but one of a number of lessons designed to impress upon the student the location of the letters on the keyboard.

There were twenty enlisting last week (from April 8th to April 14th, inclusive) in air crew and other trades at the R.C.A.F. Recruiting Centre at North Bay. Of this number the largest number (4) came from Sudbury. North Bay contributed three, as did Kirkland Lake. There was one each from Timmins, Cochrane, Cobalt, Noranda, Garrison, Parry Sound, Chapleau, South River, Minnow Lake, Ont., and Chapeau, Que.

Timmins — Peter Myrtle Dolan, 13 Ann Avenue.

Kirkland Lake — Mervyn William James Steele; Ronald Francis Lynch; Harold Deline.

Cochrane — Melvin Clarence McDonald, 166 Eleventh Avenue.

Cobalt — Charles William Willard.

Noranda — Elwin Ledger Armitage.

**Women's Division**

There were two women enlisting in the R.C.A.F. Women's Division at the North Bay Recruiting Centre during the week of April 8th to 14th inclusive. One of these was from Sudbury, and the other from Garrison, Ontario.

## Victory Loan Sales Force Hold Very Inspiring Meeting

Under the chairmanship of Mr. H. B. Martin, General Sales chairman for the District of Cochrane, a full and enthusiastic sales meeting was held in Victory Loan Headquarters one evening this year from April 21 to May 21, both days inclusive. This period applies to the territory north and west of the French and Mattawa rivers and Lake Nipissing, and includes the Manitoulin Island. Trappers must be provided with the regular license and must observe the regulations laid down.

## Silver as Substitute for Solder in Tin Cans

As a means of conserving vital supplies of tin, pure silver is being used as a substitute in making the solder used in the side seams of tin cans," according to R. C. Taylor of the American Can Co.

It takes about 16 cents worth of silver to make the solder for 1,000 cans, the newspapers say.

Sudbury Star:— In the case of the boy who swallowed a whistle his parents don't know whether to operate or let him grow up and become one of these hockey referees.

## Interesting Career of Special Speaker to be Here Early Next Month

Hon. Alphonse Fournier to Address Rally in Aid of Victory Loan. Has Been Teacher, School Inspector, Lawyer, Parliamentarian, and Now is Minister of Public Works at Ottawa.

Hon. Alphonse Fournier, who is to be the speaker at a big rally here in the interests of the Fourth Victory Loan next month, has been described as a very interesting and attractive personality. He certainly has had an interesting career, and those who know him best are confident that he will add many more chapters of interest and progress to the story as it stands to-day. He is a fluent and able speaker in both French and English. A recent address at Sudbury won him a special reputation in Northern Ontario.

From Sudbury there comes the following information regarding Hon. Mr. Fournier:—

Hon. Alphonse Fournier, Canada's new Minister of Public Works, and one of Quebec's representatives in the Federal Cabinet, is a man of several accomplishments.

He was born on March 24, 1893, at Methuen, Mass., U.S.A., came to Can-

## Dominion Experiments With Production of Crude Rubber from Kok-Saghyz

**Department at Ottawa Makes Progress in Growing Russian Dandelion for Producing Crude Rubber. Results of Experiments and Tests Considered Very Satisfactory.**

Considerable publicity has been given what may be described as special war efforts of Canada, but not enough has been said about the steady and able work of various departments of government in the way of earnest and careful effort along their own particular line to aid in the war effort. Some of the departments at Ottawa have done notable work in their own particular department. Perhaps, there should be a special word for the Dept. of Agriculture in its work to develop a Canadian production of crude rubber from Kok-Saghyz. The following special article

"When the Japanese occupied the Red Indies in 1942 about nine-tenths of the world's natural rubber supply to the United Nations was cut off. With a full realization of what this situation meant, Science and the Experimental Farm Services of the Dominion Department of Agriculture in co-operation with the National Research Council began to give consideration to obtaining a Canadian supply of natural rubber, which it is necessary to use with synthetic rubber in order to make the latter usable in a practical way for certain essential uses. It was known that Russia had for some years been obtaining a supply of natural rubber from the Russian dandelion known as Kok-Saghyz. A limited supply of Kok-Saghyz seed was obtained from the United States Department of Agriculture in the spring of 1942 and planted in quarter-acre plots at 8 Dominion Experimental Stations across Canada. The plantings were made for the dual purpose of producing seed and roots, as it is from the latter that natural rubber is obtained. The growth on the experimental plots was fairly encouraging last year, both for seed and roots. The important part of the plant for rubber is the rhizome or root which extends deeply into the soil.

"Data from six of the eight farms and stations where plantings were made have been assembled. The Central Experimental Farm planting returned on an acre basis at the rate of 8,100 pounds of roots, Kentville, N.S., 6,200 pounds, Ste. Clotilde, Que., 5,100 pounds, Lethbridge, Alta., 4,600 pounds; Agassiz, B.C., 3,900 pounds, and Winnipeg, 1,600 pounds, or an average of 5,100 pounds. These figures compare favourably with production of Kok-Saghyz in Russia, where 4,000 to 5,000 pounds of roots per acre are reported and with about 5,000 pounds per acre where it has been planted in the United States. There was considerable variation in the rubber content from the roots grown in Canada, varying from two to seven per cent. Some seed was harvested from the plots and with it and what has been obtained from Russia and the United States enough is available at present for planting 35 acres this spring at nine experimental farms and stations. Should this year's plantings prove satisfactory it is hoped soon to have enough seed for commercial production.

"Meanwhile intensive experiments and tests are being made in connection with every phase of production by the Division of Botany, Science Service, working in co-operation with the Experimental Farm Service, while the national Research Council has undertaken the work in connection with the extraction of this natural rubber. The co-operative program includes such features as the selection and anatomy of Kok-Saghyz, for it is a new-comer to Canadian agriculture. The botiological characteristics and cultural peculiarities of the plant have to be learned. Then there are cultural seed gathering and root harvesting methods to be tried and tested, genetic studies made, breeding methods and physiological problems investigated. It is a somewhat similar job to that which the different services of the Dominion Department of Agriculture have been doing in the past 50 years in connection with the now famous varieties of wheat and other grains, vegetables, fruits, flowers and other products.

"So far the limited extent to which the co-operative research work has been undertaken has offered a considerable measure of encouragement. Kok-Saghyz was first found in 1931 near Tien Shan, Kazakhstan, near the border of China. Even with its comparatively low yield of six to 12 per cent raw rubber the cultivation of the plant is practicable, because its growth appears to be dependable and it produces good seed. Its winter hardiness in different parts of Canada has yet to be determined.

"In Russia it has been found that if the crop is harvested at the end of the first year plants yield an average of 4,500 to 5,500 pounds of cleaned roots per acre, which equals 150 to 200 pounds of crude rubber and 75 to 100 pounds of seed. If the crop is left for a second year, the average yield is 2,700 to 3,600 pounds of roots and from 100 to 150 pounds of seed per acre. In some cases the yield at the end of the first year is as high as 7,000 pounds of root, which of course gives an even larger amount of rubber. At the end of the second year, the percentage of crude rubber is higher, but the yield of roots is less since the plants have been thinned out by the frosts of the preceding winter and other causes.

"Another related program of research work is being carried out by the Science and Experimental Farm Services in co-operation with the National Research Council in connection with milkweed. The leaves and stalks of this weed contain a percentage of crude rubber and the fibers from the seed pods can be used for the same purposes as Kapok, an East Indies product. Ten acres of milkweed are to be sown this year at the Central Experimental Farm, principally for the production of seed and fiber.

## Planning Mass Choir of Over 200 for Victory Loan Rally Here on May 9th

**Any Who Can Sing or Any Independent Group of Singers Anywhere in the Porcupine Camp Urged to Get in Touch with Victory Loan Headquarters to Make This Choir a Large One.**

It is doubtful if any other area of similar population anywhere in Canada has as much outstanding musical talent as the Porcupine area. Not only are there a large number of individual singers of much more than average talent, but there are several choirs that would be difficult to equal even in cities of much larger population. Accordingly, in planning to have a musical choir for the Victory Loan drive the Features Committee have turned up a "natural".

The Fourth Victory Loan Public Relations Features Committee are planning a big rally in the McIntyre Arena on May 9th, at 8 p.m., and one of the special features for the evening is to be a massed choir to be known as the Victory Choir and to include at least 200 good voices. Of course, it will be a mixed choir, to include both the male and female singers who have made the Porcupine Camp so well known for musical talent.

The first practice of the Victory Choir will be in the big studio at the Radio Station. All who can sing are invited to come out and make the Victory Chorus the greatest event ever featured here.

The Features Committee have done their part in proposing and sponsoring the idea of the Victory Chorus, and they are doing everything else possible to assure the greatest possible success of this feature. It remains for the people in general to do their part, and anyone who knows the Porcupine will be quite sure that none will fall down a "natural".

The idea may be put into words as follows:— Every person who can sing, and every choir in the district, including church choirs and national choirs, should get in touch with the Victory Loan headquarters to see what they may do in this matter. Other groups of singers should do the same. The hope is to make the Victory Chorus one of the largest and best of choirs.

It may well be done, if all will help. The talent is certainly here, and there are enough teachers and directors to make success inevitable.

If you can sing, and are interested in singing, and in the success of the Vic-

tory Loan campaign, get in touch at once with Victory Loan headquarters. There is ample time yet to have a large and effective choir before May 9th. If it is not convenient to get in touch with the Victory Loan campaign headquarters at 39 Third avenue, at least make a point to join the first practice to be held at the local Radio Station, and help to make the choir pass its strength of the expected 200%.

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Mr. Wilbur Cook, the "bad boy" of the show, from the Kirkland Skating Club, proved to be one of the best trick skaters yet seen in any previous carnival. Thanks are also extended to Miss Beryl Goodman, professional of the same club, whom it is stated filled in on the "three-some" in place of Miss Sandul, who met with a knee injury earlier in the week.

Music lovers were highly delighted with the beautiful selections chosen, the 4-piano "Concerto" being the highlight of this feature of the show. Miss Peggy Wetmore's singing of "Deep Purple" was also another added attraction for the lovers of good music, as contributed to the art of figure skating.

The short address by Dr. Robson, in regard to the children being able to play and perform struck a note that should be heeded by all who love freedom and children.

A special word to the electricians and carpenters should be given for the magnificent setting erected for the Ice Show. This consisted of a semi-circular dias supported by ornate columns with striking lighting effects. The centre being occupied by the McIntyre Orchestra. The spotlight effects also added to the complete success of the 1943 Porcupine Figure Skating Club Ice Show.

How many in the packed arena noticed the spins, cartwheels and splits as performed by Velma Popovich, Do-