

## **Ottawa Region - 1926 - 1927**

In Ontario the government allowed for the sale of liquor through provincially controlled outlets, the first step in the repeal of prohibition. Britain was consumed, on one hand with the negotiations between herself, Japan and the U.S. for the reduction of naval forces and on the other hand with the well being of its citizens trapped in Hong Kong as the Chinese Civil War raged around them. On the domestic front, a super Beatty Electric Wringer Washer could be had for \$159.00. The cheaper model was available for \$99.00. On the sports scene, the Ottawa Senators were the talk of the town for their capture of the Stanley Cup in a hard fought battle with the Boston Bruins.

### **The Ottawa Region**

The Badminton Club of Ottawa would open the season in their brand spanking new, dedicated facility, located at 66 Slater St., on the south side of the street near Elgin. The club incorporated with 125 male and 150 female members. The funds for the building were raised through the issuing of bonds and a mortgage on the structure which also incorporated a small squash facility. The Rideau BC, with a membership of 100, answered its need for better facilities by moving into Balmoral Hall, a banquet room located in the front of the Capital Theatre at the corner of Bank and Queen Streets. It was reported that an audience of 300 viewed the finals of the club championships.

The various clubs held several "friendly" matches with each other while the Rideau BC moved to a full schedule club championship. The Badminton Club of Ottawa held a novice round robin and a mixed doubles handicap while the Garrison BC conducted an A/B tournament.

At this juncture in our history, the churches were a major focal point in the social fabric of the community. They were extensively involved in several sports with active leagues. The interest among the church clubs in badminton was growing and the inauguration of a fledgling series of interclub Mixed Doubles competitions became The Church League. The mayor of Ottawa would donate the Balharrie Cup for first place. It ran from Feb. 23 to Apr. 13, 1927 with five church groups participating. This would be the first effort at an organized local body and a forerunner of the Ottawa District Badminton Association. As the sport became more organized at the national and provincial levels, the Church League made a conscious decision to remain a separate entity. When the District did finally come into existence, the Church League remained separate however it fully supported the local authority and were in turn respected by the District, being allowed membership in the District as a single entity.

### **The Ottawa Scene:**

#### **Church League:**

<b>First Place</b> - St. John's - 84%	<b>Second Place</b> - Erskine - 54%	
Other participants		
- Unitarian		
- Knox		
- St. Andrews		

## THE PROVINCIAL SCENE

The Ontario Badminton Championships and AGM took place at the Badminton and Racquet Club of Toronto the week of Feb. 3, 1927. Member clubs from the Ottawa area represented at the meeting included the Garrison BC by Maj. J.C. Foy and the Badminton Club of Ottawa by W.M. Stewart. Bill Stewart was elected OBA President for the 27/28 season. A set of membership fees were established for the 27 clubs which made up the Provincial Association. The fees would be \$5.00 for clubs with less than 150

members and \$10.00 for over that number.

In the championships Ottawa players could get no closer than the semi finals where Bill Stewart and H.F. Wright were handily defeated by Jack Purcell and A.B. Massey of Toronto. In the Consolation Round the Ladies Doubles were won by Mrs. M. McMillan and Ms. K. Ewart of the BCO.

The Queen's Own Rifles BC of Kingston had a very successful season playing invitational competitions against other Kingston clubs as well as Ottawa, Belleville and Brockville.

## THE NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL SCENE

The Dominion Championships took place at the Royal Montreal Regiment Armouries the week of March 2, 1927. Again, Ottawa players were shut out of the main round laurels, but managed to bring home some silverware in the consolation events.

Ottawa results at the Nationals:

**MS Cons** - **H.F. Wright**

**LD Cons** - **Phyllis Rykert / Mrs. G.S. MacFarlane**