

## O. D. B. A. 1930 - 1931

Mother nature was having a rough year with devastating earthquakes in Wellington, New Zealand, Southern Serbia and Minagua, Nicaragua within a month of each other. The sports world was saddened by the death of Knute Rockne "Win one for the gipper" on April 1/31.

### THE DISTRICT

The District's second year was as exciting as the first. Badminton truly was in its heyday. District membership started strong and finished stronger with 10 member clubs and 1200 players. The tenth member was the Church League which while affiliated as one member, was itself composed of 9 church clubs. According to the Journal, there were 25 clubs operating in the capital.

In addition to the church league, a new District League was organized as a separate entity and geared toward 'B' level players who languished in limbo between the pure recreational players and the elite club competitors. It should be pointed out that the elite players represented individual clubs when travelling to competitions during this era and only the very best were permitted on the teams. The District League registered 500 players as eligible for 'B' League play. Of this, 232 players representing 8 separate member club teams vied for the Bryson-Graham Trophy, the symbol of league supremacy.

The St. Lawrence District was functioning quite well. The Brockville Rifles BC hosted a St. Lawrence District tournament registering 130 entries from clubs in Belleville, Kingston, Prescott, Morrisburg and Cornwall.

Interclub invitational competition again seemed to be the most prevalent system of competition. The many trophies as outlined in the elsewhere, were highly valued and required the challengers to travel to the holders club. These were also adjoined by rather drawn out club tournaments which would be played nightly over several weeks.

We would be remiss here not to bring forward

the contribution of Fergie Loatian, the District representative from the Glebe Community Association and the all time, media champion for our sport. Every night articles appeared in the Ottawa Journal on anything and everything to do with badminton. The schedules and results of both leagues appeared daily. Every draw schedule and results of all tournaments in the District were there to read, as well as out of town tournaments of significance. The Ottawa Journal also featured articles 4 nights a week on the basics of how to play badminton by Frank Purcival. Through the Journal we heard of new clubs and valley clubs, such as the Carleton Place B.C., playing at capacity, three nights a week in the town hall.

Towards the end of the season, came the announcement of a new dedicated facility with the construction of the new Rideau Badminton and Curling Club to be located on Laurier St. West (three blocks from the BCO).

The second District Championships were a success and a deal by today's standard. For the 309 entries, the cost was 50 cents per event, birds provided. There were 39 entries in Men's Singles, 28 in Ladies Singles, 30 pair in Men's Doubles, 37 pair in Ladies Doubles and 54 sets for Mixed Doubles. It required both the BCO and the Cartier Drill Hall for the tournament.

In the Kingston Cup (XD play), the Badminton Club of Ottawa held off two challenges, defeating the Montreal Ladies Tennis and Badminton Club 9 matches to 6 and then downed the Royal Montreal Regiment 6 to 1.

The (Cairine) Wilson Cup was won by BCO (Mrs.s Wright and MacFarlane) over teams from Rideau BC Royal-Ordnance and YWCA.

## THE PROVINCIAL SCENE

The Ontario Badminton Championships and Annual General Meeting for this season were hosted by the Granite Club in Toronto. On the Championship side Margret and Ruth Robertson of Ottawa captured the Women's Doubles title. From the minutes of the AGM we note that approval was given

for a grant of \$ 250 to Jack Purcell of Toronto to aid in a trip to the All England Open Championships to represent Canada. The All England was the premiere competition in the world throughout this era in the sports history. No other information of note was available.

## THE NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL SCENE

This was an exciting season for Ottawa on the national and international stage. W.M. (Bill) Stewart of Ottawa (BCO) was promoted to President of the CBA for 1931/32.

At the Gross Point Country Club in Detroit, Michigan over 1200 spectators attended an exhibition match by Canadian and U.S. players.

The highlight of the year was the performance of Ottawa Players at the National Championships held in Quebec City. Toronto and Ottawa each accounted for 50 of the 400 entries. Ruth Robertson (RBC) won the Women's Singles and then joined with her sister Marg as finalists in the Women's Doubles event. Bill Stewart and Jack Cameron (BCO) were finalists in the Men's Doubles. Marg Robertson and Cameron Hawken (BCO) captured the Mixed Doubles Consolation Round.

At home, Ottawa was the second stop on a country wide tour by the British national team which included some names which are still revered in the sport today. The captain was Sir George Thomas and included H.S. Uber. These gentlemen are honoured by the Thomas and Uber Cups, the symbols for world supremacy in men's and women's team competition. It also included Mr. J.F. Devlin and one R.M. White whom the press reported, created a mild sensation by wearing shorts, on court during play. In 1930, the standard for gentleman was white pants, while dresses were the order for the "ladies". Over 800 spectators viewed the competition at the BCO. W. M. Stewart and Jack Cameron saved the day for Ottawa with a 2 - 15, 15 - 9, 15 - 8 victory over Mr.s Thomas and Uber.

## DISTRICT DATA 1930 - 31

### District Executive:

**President - John B. McRae**  
**Hon. Secretary - William Keenan**  
**Hon. President - H.S. Southam**

**Vice-President - Lt. Col. E.W. Sansom**  
**Hon. Treasurer - Maj. Guy MacFarlane**

### Executive Committee:

**J.M. Wardle (Rideau)**  
**E.D. Hendry (Glebe Community B.C.)**  
**A.J. Gibbard (P.L.D.G.)**

**Frank Potts (Church League)**  
**Mrs. H.F. Wright (BCO)**

### Member Clubs:

Badminton Club of Ottawa  
 Princess Louise Dragoon Guard B.C.  
 Royal-Ordinance Corp. B.C.  
 Governor General Foot Guard B.C.  
 38th Highlanders B.C.

Rideau B.C.  
 Garrison B.C.  
 Post Office B.C.  
 YWCA B.C.  
 Church League

**Number of Clubs - 10**

**Number of Members - 1250**

### O. D. B. A. Championship:

Held - Mar 17-20 at BCO. Entries - MS- 29; LS- 28; MD- 30pr; LD- 16pr; XD- 30pr.

Event	Winner	Runner Up	Score
<b>MS</b>	<b>Hugh Robertson (BCO)</b>	<b>George Goodwin Jr.(Rid)</b>	15-12, 15- 6
<b>LS</b>	<b>Ruth Robertson BCO)</b>	<b>Marg Robertson (BCO)</b>	11- 8, 9- 11, 11- 6
<b>MD</b>	<b>W.M. Stewart (BCO)</b>	<b>H.F. Wright (BCO)</b>	18- 13, 15- 9
	<b>George Goodwin Jr</b>	<b>Cameron Hawken (BCO)</b>	
<b>LD</b>	<b>Ruth Robertson</b>	<b>Mrs. G. MacFarlane</b>	15- 9, 15- 10
	<b>Marg Robertson</b>	<b>Mrs. H.F. Wright</b>	
<b>XD</b>	<b>Marg Robertson</b>	<b>Ruth Robertson</b>	15- 6, 15- 5
	<b>Hugh Robertson(BCO)</b>	<b>Cameron Hawken</b>	
<b>Cons</b>			
<b>XD</b>	<b>K. Craig (Rid)</b>		
	<b>Larry Purvis (Rid)</b>		

### O.D.B.A. District "B" League:

Approximately 500 players competed for the Graham Bryson Trophy

Results:

<b>1st</b> - P.L.D.G.	- .750 %	<b>5th</b> - Garrison B.C.	- .488 %
<b>2nd</b> - Rideau B.C.	- .702 %	<b>6th</b> - YWCA B.C.	- .333 %
<b>3rd</b> - 38th Highlanders	- .667 %	<b>7th</b> - Gov. Gen. Ft. Guard	- .235 %
<b>4th</b> - Royal Ordinance B.C.	- .631 %	<b>8th</b> - Post Office	- .202 %

## Church League:

Results:

<b>1st</b> - St. Georges	- .887 %	<b>6th</b> - Chalmers	- .337 %
<b>2nd</b> - St. John's	- .875 %	<b>7th</b> - First United	- .325 %
<b>3rd</b> - Dominion	- .637 %	<b>8th</b> - St. Paul's-Eastern	- .225 %
<b>4th</b> - Unitarian	- .600 %	<b>9th</b> - First Baptist	- .125 %
<b>5th</b> - St. Andrew's	- .487 %		

## Church League Singles Tournament:

Event	Winner	Runner Up	Score
<b>MS</b>	<b>F.L. Jackson (St.G.)</b>	<b>J.R. Claughton</b>	15- 2, 15- 11
<b>LS</b>	<b>Mrs. D. Mills (Unitarian)</b>	<b>Doris Morgan</b>	11- 8, 11- 3