

SHAWINIGAN ENGINEERING CO.

Travaux de Développement au Rapide Blanc

Dans un précédent numéro de ce journal a été publié une conférence donnée par Monsieur C. R. Lindsey sur les premiers travaux d'arpentage au Rapide Blanc, qui remontent à 1928 et 1929.

Les travaux de développement proprement dits ont commencé en 1930 et comprenaient le prolongement de la ligne de transmission de 220,000 volts de La Tuque à l'emplacement de la Centrale, et la solution du problème des moyens de transports. Ce problème fut graduellement résolu par la construction de chemins de portage, chemins de billots, et maintenant nous avons une route aussi bonne que n'importe quelle route au Canada, comprenant dix milles de chemin en béton armé, avec un chemin parallèle en gravier d'une largeur de 14 pieds, la pente maximum étant de 5%.

Quand on se rend compte que ce chemin a été construit à travers une contrée montagneuse et rocheuse, où il y a de nombreux lacs très pittoresques, on doit se rendre à l'évidence que l'homme qui a su mener cette entreprise à bonne fin avait les vues larges et de la détermination.

En arrivant à l'emplacement de la Centrale électrique, on traverse la rivière St-Maurice sur un pont en acier ayant deux travées de 80' et une travée centrale de 260'. Ce pont a été ouvert à la circulation le 20 octobre 1930. Avant l'ouverture du pont, tous les matériaux étaient transportés du côté est de la rivière au moyen d'un chaland partant de l'emplacement du barrage et de deux trouils aériens près du pont actuel.

Notre village se compose maintenant de six maisons privées, un bureau central, maison de pension pour le personnel, des réfectoires et dortoirs pour environ 1000 hommes, lavoir, buanderie, salon de coiffure, bureau de poste, menuiserie et atelier mécanique, magasin, hôpital, hangar aux matériaux, forge, etc. Un système d'approvisionnement d'eau, avec prise au Creek Bouteille conduit l'eau jusqu'à un réservoir d'une capacité de 15,000 gallons, suffisant pour approvisionner toutes les maisons et les camps.

Vers la fin de l'année dernière, il y avait environ 600 hommes au travail. La construction des batardeaux a été commencée sur la rive est de la rivière, et la moitié environ a été vidée, à l'endroit où seront les écluses du barrage. On a fait environ 23,500 v.c. d'excavation au batardeau et 29,500 v.c. dans la section des écluses.

MARC DÉSAULNIERS

Rapide Blanc Development

Work on Cofferdams is being carried on and approximately 26,000 cu. yds. of cribwork are in place. Excavation in By-Pass is handled by five steel guy derricks, shovels and 44,00 cu. yds. has been excavated to date.

The rock crushing is taken care of by one Jaw Crusher and two Kennedy Crushers. Around 16,000 cu. yds. of rock has been crushed.

The site for the mixer plant is now excavated and sand tunnel conveyor is being erected. Formwork for upstream section of Log Chute is now started.

—A Hockey League has been organized and is composed of four teams, as follows:

Engineers: J. O. Houde, Manager.

Stores: T. Picard, Manager.

Mechanics: A. Bourassa, Manager.

Electricians: L. Paquette, Manager.

Several games have already been played and we are now very pleased to state that some of our heavy-weight players are getting used to the hockey rules.

—The Construction of the Assembly Hall is now practically completed. In future all meetings and indoor games will be held in

that building. The organization of an orchestra is now under way and many musicians have already enrolled.

—Arrangements have been made for the use of a Circulating Library and around seventy reading books will be received in a short time. Mr. J. O. Houde has been appointed librarian with Mr. J. G. Germain as assistant.

—Doctor J. M. P. Ricard has relinquished his duties here to extend his studies in Surgery in Europe. A send-off party was given at the occasion. Dr. Ricard expects to leave for abroad in February. We wish him the best success in his pro-graduate studies in Surgery.

—We extend our best welcome to Dr. A. Kirk who has been appointed to professional duties here.

—Mr. F. Mulligan of the Internal Auditing Department, Montreal, was a recent business visitor here.

—Mrs. P. E. Bellefeuille of Three Rivers and Mrs. M. Boisvert of Shawinigan Falls, spent a few days here recently.

—Messrs. H. K. Wyman, J. Bailey and Guy Rinfret spent holidays in Shawinigan Falls and Montreal.

—Messrs. T. Picard and M. Bouchard have been recent guests in the hospital.

SHAWINIGAN ENGINEERING CO.

Nouvelles du Rapide Blanc

—Dernièrement les dames du Rapide Blanc ont organisé un Euchre-Bridge au profit du club de récréation. Le résultat fut épatant et de jolis cadeaux furent distribués aux gagnants. Une montre-bracelet donnée par Madame T. Gilchrist, pour prix de présence, fut gagnée par M. Fraser S. Keith du Département du Développement de la Shawinigan Water & Power, Montréal. A l'occasion de cete partie de cartes le nouveau piano de la salle de récréation fut inauguré. Madame T. Gilchrist et Giacomini ont adressé des remerciements à l'assistance du bon encouragement qu'elles avaient obtenu. M. T. Piquard fut sollicité de traduire en français le discours de Madame T. Gilchrist, tâche dont ce dernier sut bien s'acquitter.

LISTE DE PRIX

Prix des Dames, 1er prix: Madame F. Bilodeau; 2me: Mme G. Ayotte.

Prix des Hommes: Euchre: 1er prix, M. F. Spénard; 2me, M. E. Mattus.

Prix des Hommes: Bridge: 1er prix, M. Adam Bourassa; 2me prix: M. Ovide Sgard.

—Samedi dernier une soirée fut organisée par le cercle dramatique et musical sous la direction de M. L. Couture. La pièce "Nous avons besoin des sommes au Rapide Blanc" fut très bien interprétée

en un mot tout le programme fut bien exécuté. M. Willie Ayotte présidait la séance.

PROGRAMME

- 1.—Fire Lost, Ouverture. Orchestre Rapide Blanc.
- 2.—Sans les Femmes, déclamation, J. Lafontaine.
- 3.—O Solo Mio, Solo de violon, J. Mattus.
- 4.—Sous le Tunnel de St-Germain, chant, A. Benoit.
- 5.—Mother Machree, chant, L. Couture.
- 6.—Arioso de Benvenuto, chanson, T. Simard.
- 7.—Madrilena, solo de piano, A. Tousignant.
- 8.—Wives wanted at Rapide Blanc :
Salomon Simple, — Allen Stevens
Arthur Alger, — — Léo Couture
Gracie Golder, — — Léo Couture
Benjamin Butterby, H. Humphrey
Stage Manager, — — T. Gilchrist

- 9.—Venise, chanson, A. Benoit.
 - 10.—Rapide Blanc Jig, danse, W. Jacques.
 - 11.—Serenata, chanson, T. Simard.
 - 12.—Heure Brève, solo de violon, J. Mattus.
 - 13.—Par Derrière chez ma Tante, chanson, L. Couture.
 - 14.—Miss Canada, Mlle Y. Bilodeau.
Assistée par Messieurs O. Houde, J. T. Simard, L. P. Dery, E. Milette, G. Germain, E. Owan, J. Lafontaine.
- Pianistes: A. Tremblay, B. Petit.
O CANADA.

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Echos du Rapide Blanc

Célébration de la Fête de Noël

La fête de Noël a été célébrée avec éclat par tous les citoyens du Rapide Blanc.

Les cérémonies débutaient dimanche soir, 24 décembre, par des prières dans la Salle de Récréation, suivies de confession. La Messe de Minuit fut célébrée par le Révérend Curé Michy, suivie de la Messe de l'Aurore. La Salle de Récréation était remplie à sa pleine capacité. Le chœur, sous la direction de M. Willie Peterson, était composé de chanteurs du Rapide Blanc, qui avaient pratiqué pendant plusieurs jours. Monsieur J. W. Ayotte chanta le 'Minuit Chrétien' et 'Adeste Fideles' par Monsieur Bapt. Couture; les autres membres du chœur chantaient des cantiques de Noël. Monsieur Millette tenait l'orgue. Il y avait également une messe à 8 h. 30 le jour de Noël. Les messes ont été suivies par la plupart des gens du Rapide Blanc et des environs: Vermillion, Cressman, Creek des Prairies et Lac D'Or. Il y en avait même qui avaient couvert une distance de 20 milles pour assister à la Messe de Minuit. Monsieur Ayotte avait soigné pour le mode de transport pour tout le monde.

Après la Messe de Minuit, plusieurs familles du Rapide Blanc avaient invité à un réveillon ceux qui n'habitent pas Rapide Blanc. C'était vraiment impressionnant de voir les nombreux arbres de Noël, éclairés à l'électricité, devant plusieurs maisons au Rapide Blanc. Tout le monde avait l'air joyeux et l'entrain n'a cessé de régner parmi toute notre petite population.

Dans l'après-midi de Noël, une belle fête avait été préparée par Monsieur Couture pour les enfants. Il y avait 40 enfants dans la Salle de Récréation et un gigantesque arbre de Noël a été dépouillé. Chaque enfant avait envoyé une lettre au Père Noël pour lui demander des cadeaux et leurs vœux ont été comblés car l'après-midi le Père Noël était présent avec une surprise pour chacun des enfants. Un délicieux repas leur fut ensuite servi, et tout le monde recevait des noix, des fruits et des bonbons. De nombreux parents étaient également de la fête.

Le soir Monsieur Couture servit à souper pour 12 hommes du Rapide Blanc. Parmi les invités il y avait Monsieur le Curé Michy, Étienne Gauvin, Henri Daniel, Armand Rheault, Ludger Bourassa, Albert Prévost, Charlemagne Ayotte, George Dion, J. Germain, Émile Ayotte et Henri Desbiens. Il y eut du chant, chacun y alla de sa petite histoire et tout le monde s'est bien amusé.

Il y eut encore d'autres réceptions chez Mme G. Gilchrist, Mme A. Normand, Mme Paquette, Mlle Gen, Ayotte, Mme Morris, etc.

—Plusieurs membres du personnel sont allés passer les fêtes dans leur famille, entre autres: M. et Mme G. B. Sammlers, M. et Mme R. Andrews, Messieurs A. Wood, E. Byer, W. Robitaille, G. Rinfret, J. MacLaren, J. Wittman, W. Ford, E. Davison, A. Hilton, l'arpentier, M. Prayson, G. Hurtubise, Jos. Bergeron, J. O. Houde, etc., etc.

—A l'occasion de la nouvelle année la Direction de la Shawinigan Engineering Co. souhaite à tous Bonheur et Prospérité pour 1934.

—M. Emile Léon et Jacques Ayotte, Lauréal et Sylvio Paquet passent le temps des fêtes chez leurs parents.

MARC DÉSALNIERS

SHAWINIGAN ENGINEERING CO.

News from Rapide Blanc

Recently the ladies at Rapide Blanc organized a Euchre and Bridge party in aid of the Recreation Club. The result was beyond all expectations and beautiful prizes were distributed to the winners. A wrist-watch, gift from Mrs. T. Gilchrist, attendance prize, went to Mr. Fraser S. Keith, of the Development Department of the Shawinigan Water & Power Co., Montreal. This card party marked the inauguration of the new piano of the Recreation Hall. Mrs. T. Gilchrist and Mrs. Giacomini expressed their heartfelt thanks to the audience for the splendid encouragement they had received. Mr. T. Picard interpreted these sentiments in French to those who attended.

Prize list: Ladies. First, Mrs. F. Bilodeau, Second Mrs. G. Ayotte.

MEN: Euchre: First Mr. S. Spé-nard; Second, Mr. E. Mattus.

Bridge: First Adem Bourassa, Second Ovila Savard.

—Last Saturday the Cercle Dramatique et Musical under the direction of Mr. L. Couture gave an excellent program of songs and a play entitled "Wives wanted at

Rapide Blanc", with the assistance of the Orchestra. There was a good attendance and entire program was a grand success. The following took part: Willie Ayotte, master of ceremonies; J. Lafontaine, in a recitation; J. Mattus in violin solos; A. Benoit, L. Couture and T. Simard, in vocal solos; A. Tousignant, piano solo and W. Jacques in a dance number. Those taking part in the play were Allen Stevens, Leo, Couture, Howard Umphrey and T. Gilchrist, stage manager. Miss Y. Bilodeau appeared in a final tableau "Miss Canada", assisted by O. Houde, J. T. Simard, L. P. Déry, C. H. Déry, E. Millette, G. Germain, E. Osman and J. Lafontaine. A. Tremblay and B. Petit were at the piano.

—The first moving-picture performance took place last Thursday in the Recreation Hall. There was an attendance of about 200, and the program consisted of a feature and a comedy reel, and was greatly appreciated.

—Last week we had the pleasure of a visit from Messrs. J. E. Aldred, J. C. Smith, C. McDougall, Jas. Wilson, W. S. Hart and C. S. Saunders.

—Among recent visitors to Rapide Blanc were Messrs J. A. McCrory, R. E. Hearts, J. McCullough, from Montreal, Dr. J. A. Desjardins, of the Provincial Bureau of Health and A. Terriault of the Royal Bank at La Tuque.

—Recent additions to our staff include Messrs. J. H. B. Ford, G. Durham, J. Racey and A. Paquette.

—Our best wishes to Mr. B. O'Neil, of Crawley & McCracken, on the occasion of his recent wedding.

—Our best congrats to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ayotte on the birth of the first child at Rapide Blanc. The baby will be christened either "Rapid" or "Blanche".

SHAWINIGAN ENGINEERING CO.

RAPIDE BLANC NEWS

-The snow is rapidly disappearing and our many enthusiastic disciples of Isaac Walton are already casting longing eyes towards the rivers and creeks, where they hope soon to be casting flies. One ardent would-be angler is going around with a fly in his cap, though, for what reason we are at a loss to understand, unless, of course, he intends to "use his head".

-Mr. T Gilchrist recently spent a week-end in Shawinigan Falls. If our information is correct, that was the extent of Mr. Gilchrist's expenditures.

-Mr. J. C. (What-a-man) McLean also recently spent a few days in the Falls and reports a very enjoyable time. Joe was glad of the change and got down to business immediately on his return.

-A dance, under the auspices of Mr. Davidson, was held in the Recreation Hall on Saturday night. A good time was had by those present, both of them.

-Bridge is still in vogue here and the opinion of the local experts is about equally divided between the two systems in most general use. Some have adopted the McLean "Try-and-get-it" system whilst others adhere just as strictly to that of the great maestro, namely the Gilchrist "Come-and-get-it" system. The merits, if any, of the respective systems give cause for endless and heated debates between their several advocates. Your reporter, not knowing anything about bridge either, ventures the opinion that the two systems may be lumped together and still be no good. So there you are folks, take your choice.

-Mr. McWilliam is our undisputed ping-pong champion. He is the proud possessor of a family coat-of-arms consisting of a bill;

and hall rampant on a field of bottle green with a ping-pong racket dexter and a relay intermittent in a plain parallelogram right centre. Surmounting this truly stupendous design is the motto "Nolle Prose Corpus Delecti Non Sum Est", which, being interpreted, reads "Hey you punks, scam".

SHAWINIGAN ENGINEERING CO.

**NOUVELLES DU
RAPIDE BLANC**

Mme Émile Juneau, de Shawinigan, est actuellement en visite au Rapide Blanc.

M. et Mme T. Gilchrist partiront sous peu pour un séjour en Europe.

—J. Oseur Houde et W. Davison sont venus à Shawinigan en fin de semaine.

—Samedi soir dernier a eu lieu une petite réunion intime à la Salle de Récréation à l'occasion du prochain départ de M. T. Gilchrist pour l'Europe. Un joli porte-manteau en cuir a été offert à Mme Gilchrist.

—Nos sincères condoléances à M. et Mme J. Saunders à l'occasion du décès du père de Monsieur Saunders.

—Notre Ligue de balle-molle, comprenant 4 clubs, a été formée récemment.

MARC DÉSAULNIERS

Big Dance At Rapide Blanc

Dominion Day Social Event
Proved Very Enjoyable
Affair. — Held on June
29th.

Since Dominion Day was in the offing and a celebration seemed fitting, the lads and lassies of the permanent staff of the Shawinigan Water & Power Co., got together and decided to inaugurate the social realm with a dance.

The affair was held at the Recreation Hall, June 29th, and that it was a glowing success is due to the ability and earnest efforts of the organizers, Messrs "Dick" McWilliams, Power House superintendent, and Harlow Hornby.

The night was "on the Operating Staff" and a whole-hearted invitation was extended to all employees at Rapide Blanc whether Power Company of Shawinigan Engineering Co. This invitation taken advantage to the limit, as was taken advantage to the limit, as evidenced by the numbers at the hall.

Decorations for the occasion were along a patriotic motif, with tricolour predominating in the numerous garlands, streamers and lamp shades. Large size Canadian ensigns and Union Jacks proclaimed an obvious "entente-cordiale".

Next to the floor, the smoothest thing of the night was the Melody Orchestra of LaTuque. It was an inspiration of genius to have secured the services of these boys, for they "made the dance," loud music, lots of encores and unflinching courtesy on the part of the musicians earned them well deserved praises.

One particular feature of the decorating scheme which deserves special mention is the miniature garden in which the orchestra was encased. The musicians were hemmed in by numerous tall ferns, water lilies and an array of wild colorful flowers peculiar to the region. The effect was most pleasing and an innovation that should become standard at Rapide Blanc.

There was the regular programme of foxtrots, Paul Jones, waltzes, and with not too much loss of time between, there were old fashioned sets for those who wished to participate in:

"I'm to the ceiling" an' tamarac 'er down

"Ramataroo on" the corners.

This advice was accepted almost literally and the boys laid it down in good style for the edification of the town bred novices. In this phase of interplectorean revel, Emile Jumeau and Pat Deschamps "called off" in a manner to rival the "corn-huskers", and once it was noted that Miss Jeanette Norman called off a set quite decisively and completely.

Refreshments were of the buffet order, varied and appetizing. The writer of this article knows, for he sat down pretty nearly all night in that quarter, and in "good eats" is somewhat of a connoisseur, even tho' he says it and shouldn't. There are more good cooks and expert pastry-makers in Rapide Blanc than anywhere in Canada. (No doubt, the writer's wife may resent this a bit, but he probably will get asked out a lot from now on.)

The ladies of Rapide Blanc "turn to" most willingly to provide for the refreshment end of "occasions" and their efforts are heartily appreciated. Their work is always an integral part of all social functions, and it was no exception last Friday night.

Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. J. McWilliams, host and hostess; Mr. J. W. Ayotte, Shawinigan Engineering superintendent, and Mrs. Ayotte, Mr. J. Bolly and the Misses Bolly and Crossman, Mr. and Mrs. Dufour, Vermillion; Miss E. Tremblay, LaTuque, and the staffs of both The Shawinigan Water & Power Co., and the Shawinigan Engineering Co.

Without doubt, the dance was one of the best ever held at Rapide Blanc. There wasn't a drowsy moment throughout the whole evening, good fellowship was evident everywhere, and the accolade of appreciation was applied at 2.30 a.m. Saturday when Bill Macaulay said "Boys, some time"

Mr. Harlow Hornby "a grand ses épaulettes" as a very efficient "Knee" and he and Mr. McWilliams have set a high standard of "operation" with the dance. May succeeding ones be as good!

RAPIDE BLANC

Silver Wedding At Rapide Blanc

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gilchrist Feted at Rapide Blanc on the Occasion of their Twenty Fifth Anniversary.

Our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gilchrist, who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary, February 23rd, 1935 in the best Scottish tradition.

The guests assembled in the Recreation Hall at eight thirty. Shortly afterwards, the bride and groom were played into the hall by the bagpipes and drums, where they were received by Mr. and Mrs. J. I. McWilliams, on behalf of those assembled. Mrs. Gilchrist cut the large wedding cake, which was distributed among the guests. This ceremony was followed by the Grand March, led by Mr. and Mrs. Gilchrist, which was, in turn, followed by old fashioned and modern dancing.

At eleven thirty, a banquet was served in the Staff House. At the head table were Mr. and Mrs. T. Gilchrist, Mr. and Mrs. J. I. McWilliams and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ayotte.

Mr. McWilliams Superintendent of the Power at Rapide Blanc, acted as Master of Ceremonies, and presented the guests of honor with a silver cocktail service and tray. A short speech of congratulations and good wishes was made by Mr. J. W. Ayotte, of the Shawinigan Engineering Company. Mr. Gilchrist responded on behalf of himself and his wife, thanking everyone for the honor bestowed upon them, after which more than a hundred people rose to drink a toast to the continued happiness of the bride and groom.

The gathering then returned to the Recreation Hall, where dancing was again enjoyed until the wee sma' hours of the morning.

A feature of the evening was a short skit entitled "Tom and Annie Twenty-Five Years Ago", presented by the local operating staff. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all those present. It was in comic strain, and proved that time works many changes.

No small credit is due the musicians, Madame Laflamme and Messrs. McPhee, Ainslie, Auger and Bordeleau, who unstintingly gave their talents towards the evening's success. An outstanding performance was given by Mr. McPhee, both with his pipes, and his Scotch dances, and Mr. Ainslie gave of Lauder's best. Mr. T. Morrison rendered some of the old songs extremely well.

The celebration was brought to an end in the old time-honored manner, with the singing of Auld Lang Syne.

Guests from out-of-town included Mrs. H. Murdy of Montreal; Mrs. Johnson, La Tuque; Madame Vanasse, Shawinigan Falls; Miss Gladys Watts, Grand'Mere; Mr. J. Hayes and Mr. A. Goudreau, La Tuque; Mr. R. Keller and Mr. K. McPhee, Montreal.

MARC DESAULNIERS

Curling Club News

A group of Lady curlers went to Shawinigan Falls last week and after a bad start Mrs. Ed. Ls. Bouchard's rink came through with flying colours and won the trophy. Beautiful silver trays were given to the individual players. It was a wonderful game and lots of fun.

The men Curlers from La Tuque played in Rapide Blanc this weekend Mr. Pat. Tremblay of Rapide Blanc was the skip of the winning team. Mr. Hughes of Shawinigan Falls was the skip of the winners of the Consolation.

The Rapide Blanc ladies are playing in La Tuque on Friday afternoon. At five o'clock Mr. Bouchard is serving cocktails to all the members and the visiting rinks. At 7 a banquet will be held at the hotel and play will be resumed at 8.30 with a lunch served after the games. La Tuque is going to do it best to bring the trophy home from Rapide Blanc where it has been for the past five years.

The first week of March the La Tuque ladies curl in Rapide Blanc for the return match.

Winners of the La Porte Trophy.

Winners

Mrs. Simard (skip)
Mrs. A. Ruel
Mrs. S. Robertson
Mrs. C. Roy

Runners-up

T. Lavoie, (skip)
J. B. Bellavance
M. Bouchard
Miss J. Beudet

Consolation

Mrs. A. Belle'Isle (skip)
Mrs. M. Creone
Mrs. P. E. Boudreau
Mrs. R. Johnson Jr.

La Tuque Curlers Visit Rapide Blanc

A mad scramble to get aboard the train took place on Friday night when four teams of lady curlers headed north to play against Rapide Blanc. The train was supposedly forty minutes late but then came in earlier which left 13 of the players still stranded at the Curling Club trying to get taxis. They made the train, found a seat, took off their coats when the conductor told them all to get out and get their tickets at the wicket. Finally the in and out scramble over everyone settled down and then the fun began. The group of Merry Madcaps, headed by Madeleine Johnson sang song after song and produced pickle sandwiches and celery out of the "cupboard" Gilberte had along.

On arrival in Rapide Blanc we all went by bus over a beautiful serpentine road to the village itself, where we were billeted for the night. The lights shining on the mounds of pure white snow and dotted with many beautiful homes made one think of something we would see on a picture post card.

Everyone "hit the hay" about 4.30 a.m. and at ten the next morning some of us drove over twelve miles of winding road to the Trenche dam where we were given a conducted tour by Mr. Ainsley, of the power house. Those that went enjoyed it very much.

At noon a very good lunch of roast beef and trimmings were served at the staff house and then at two o'clock the games began.

Mrs. Bellevance's team, L. T. was defeated by Miss Claire Bergeron's R. B. a score of 11 to 4. Mrs. Sutherland's R. B. team defeated Mrs. Martinson's L. T. by a score of 7 to 5.

Following the games cocktails were served at 4.30 p.m. at the Recreation Hall. Here the large centre table had been decorated along the sides with curling stones and two candle sticks of wooden curling stones stood on either side of a beautiful vase of roses which formed the centre-piece. Everything was delicious.

During the cocktail hour Mrs. Germaine Moreau favoured us with two charmingly rendered songs and her elderly mother Mrs. O. Roy sang the Rosary by special request. Both these La Tuque ladies were accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Alice McHarg.

At 6.15 all the players again went to the staff-house for a banquet of turkey and ham. Their very excellent chef really did himself proud and even had "welcome La Tuque on his cakes. Everything was delicious and Mrs. Jean Danis, presid-

ent of the Rapide Blanc Curling Club bid us welcome and was thanked by Mrs. Louisa Simard on behalf of the La Tuque ladies Club.

Two games took place at 8 o'clock and Mrs. Anslee's team of Rapide Blanc defeated Mrs. Simard's team from La Tuque by a score of 12 to 1.

On ice no. 2 Mrs. Duval's team from La Tuque defeated Rapide Blanc's team skipped by Mrs. Tremblay by a score of 11 to 5.

The balance of evening was spent in dancing at the recreation hall where another delicious lunch and coffee was served before train time.

The train drew into La Tuque station on a bitter cold and frosty morning at 4.30 a.m.

All were very tired but had a very enjoyable time at the Rapides. These were the ladies from La Tuque who took part in the home & home cup games.

Skip Mary Bellevance
3rd Jacqueline Ruel
2nd Nellie Champoux
1st Margot Filion
Gilberte Martinson
Jean Jamieson
Madge Johnson
Fernand Mulligan
Louisa Simard
Margaret Lindsay
Madeleine Johnson
Simone Ringuette
Germaine Duval
Ernestine Boudreau
Lillian Adams
Juliette Aubé

MARC DÉSAULNIERS

Shawinigan Falls Rink Win Ladies Rapid Blanc Bonspiel

Mrs. A. M. Wood's Quartette Defeat Miss Claire Bergeron In Finals—
Mrs. C. Simard, Of La Tuque, Consolation Winner.

The Ladies of the Rapide Blanc Curling Club held their first St. Maurice Valley Bonspiel the past week-end. Grand'Mere, Shawinigan and La Tuque were all represented by a team. Grand'Mere and Shawinigan arrived on the Thursday night train but La Tuque's team arrived by wagonette Friday afternoon over the newly opened road.

The rivers, lakes, valleys and mountains were bathed in beautiful sunlight, and the road wound in and out, up and down throughout its whole length. We crossed the Trenché dam on foot and then drove to Rapide Blanc where we saw the tail end of the games.

A really very wonderful cocktail party then took place at the Community Centre.

Some were billobed at the staff house and we had supper at Marion's.

After the games refreshments and dancing took place in the hall much to the enjoyment of everyone. Some went back home to the staff house to sleep and others went down to the Davis, for a sing-song and fun. Both Theima and Sparky hail from La Tuque so what could you expect? On our return to the staff house we found a party in full swing in the room occupied by the Grand'Mere players who were playing host to Shawinigan Falls.

In the semi-finals Mrs. Tremblay's team of Rapide Blanc was defeated by Mrs. R. Davies of Grand'Mere.

Mrs. S. Sutherland of R.B. defeated C. Simard of La Tuque. Miss C. Bergeron of R.B. defeated Mrs. C. Ainslie of R.B. Mrs. A. Wood of Shawinigan Falls defeated Mrs. P. Girard of R.B.

In the evening a wonderful cold buffet supper was served at the staff house before the finals. Miss Cossette, president of the R.B.C.C. bid everyone welcome, hoped they would have good curling and come again. Each skip spoke a few words thanking for their hospitality good time and fellowship.

MAIN EVENT.—Shawinigan vs Miss Claire Bergeron's teams of R.B. Consolation — La Tuque vs Grand'Mere.

The presentation of prizes took place in the school auditorium. Miss Cossette, assisted by Mrs. Ainslie of the Games Committee presented the lovely new trophy to the victorious Shawinigan team consisting of Mrs. A. Wood (skip),

Mrs. Babin, Mrs. W. E. Wavison and Miss Doris Michie, R.N. Each player was given a lovely silver individual serving plate and spoon.

Miss C. Bergeron's runner-up team were each given a silver sugar and cream set on a tray.

La Tuque's Team. — Mrs. C. Simard (skip) Mrs. E. MacLeod, A. Ruel and C. Adams won the CONSOLATION. Each received a beautiful silver compot dish from Birk's.

Grand'Mere's Runner-up, Mrs. R. Davies, Miss D. Dodd, Miss A. Lane and Mrs. Wartow of R.B. (Substitute) each won a Birk's silver Bonbon dish.

Refreshments and coffee were once again served before train time which means a bus ride to the station, a distance of about 10 miles.

Everyone had a wonderful time, though the lack of sleep does catch up with us no matter how much fun we have.

May we take this opportunity of thanking the Entertainment Committee and the ladies of Rapide Blanc for their wonderful hospitality. Here's hoping we can make it again next year. If you didn't go, you don't know what you missed.

Rapide Blanc Ladies Valley Bonspiel Enjoyable Event

The Rapide Blanc Ladies Valley Bonspiel was again a great success. All games were ten ends on very 'natures' ice. The winners of beautiful trophy was a home team composed of P. Girard; A. Mehanz, M. Fatter; L. Veillette. They were given beautiful cut glass vases. The runners-up, also a Rapide Blanc team M. Cossette, J. Dant, M. Foster, L. Diamant also received cut glass vases.

The winners of the Consolation were the Shawinigan team. Mrs. A. Wood, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. W. E. Davison and Miss Michie. They were presented with a lovely cut glass cream and sugar. The runners-up was the Grand'Mere team Mrs. R. Davys; Miss Y. Rheault; Mrs. Jos. McAncon and Miss Josephine Rheault.

The visiting teams were put up at the Bunk house with a special room at their disposal. Needless to say the calory charts were ignored over the week-end for the food was wonderful.

On Friday afternoon the R. B. ladies put on a grand cocktail party in the Recreation hall and all the trimmings on the table were in the St. Valentine theme. The arts d'oeuvres were out of this world and the Manhattans really something. In the evening following the games there were more delicious refreshments and dancing.

Saturday some of the ladies visited the Trenché powerhouse following their game. A very sumptuous banquet was given the players and guests at the staff house Mrs. Tremblay, the president thanked the various teams for coming and hoped that we would return next year. Each of the guests spoke a few words in appreciation for the wonderful entertainment given them and then they went back to the rink for the

finals.

The presentation of prizes was made in the Recreation hall by Mrs. Tremblay and Miss Cossette. The lucky winners were all delighted with their lovely prizes and Mr. Smith who had been judge throughout the event was given a box of cigars.

Once again refreshments were served the crowd and the entertainment committee, headed we believe by Mrs. Lawton, are to be heartily congratulated on the wonderful hospitality and lunches served.

Speaking as one of the participants may say that the Rapide Blanc Curling Club did everything in its power to give us a good time and they certainly received us most royally in every way.

These are the rinks that took part in the Bonspiel Grand'Mere the runners-up in the consolation Shawinigan Falls No. 1 the winners of the Consolation and last year's winners of the trophy. Shawinigan Falls No. 2. Mesdames McGregor; Cummings, Gagneau; Duperron, La Tuque — Mesdames Martinson; MacLeod, Adams, Johnson Sr Rapide Blanc 1. C. Amslie; G. Normand; L. Seiveright, R. St. Onge. Rapide Blanc 2. M. Cossette; J. Davys, M. Foster; L. Diamant. Rapide Blanc 3. The winners of the trophy, Rapide Blanc 4. M. Tremblay, F. Lawton; C. Lacroix; M. Trottier

SHAWINIGAN STANDARD 5 FEVRIER 1969

Hydro Quebec is to close down the picturesque village of Rapide Blanc, 50 miles North of La Tuque, in 1971 and transfer most of the work force to other power developments in the Valley system. Alain Gaudette, director of Center Zone, announced at a press conference at the Cascade Inn here last week. The move is necessary because of plans to automate both Rapide Blanc and La Trenché powerhouses with central control from La Tuque, a project that will cost some \$2,500,000.00. There are fifty-four families, 240 persons living in the village, which Hydro is hoping the department of Tourism, Fish and Game will take over and operate as some sort of a tourist domaine. The village boasts a 13 room inn, a medical clinic, schoolhouse with library, 42 residences, some six rooms with fireplace for which tenants paid \$30.00 a month rent plus \$15.00 a month for light and electric heating, a grocery store, wood working shop, filtration plant, fire protection, 2 sheet curling club, a beach and ski tow and trails.

Many of the residents also belonged to the Upper St. Maurice Fish and Game club, only 3 miles from the village where speckled and grey trout, dore and pike may be caught in their 35 lakes on the 65 square mile lease. They have 10 cottages and 35 boats and they also are negotiating with the Fish and Game department hoping their lease will be renewed and they will be permitted to operate as a private club to which many other non resident Hydro employees belong.

The Rapide Blanc powerhouse was constructed in 1930, the first automobile travelled the village streets in 1935, the first homes were constructed in 1937, the curling club was built in 1939 and the ski tow was put in operation the next year, beach was cleared at Lac Croche in 1944, the school built in 1948, the Inn in 1949, St. Maurice River Boom set up in the village and La Trenché in 1954, the same year the phone service with La Tuque was established, a new Catholic church was erected in 1956 and a road was built from La Trenché to the La Tuque powerhouse. The Rapide Blanc falls are 112 feet high.

The two remote powerhouses will now be automatically operated, push button wise, through micro waves and the network will be extended to Mont Carmel where it will be tied in with a provincial Hydro Quebec communications grid.

Next July each of the permanent Rapide Blanc employees will be told of his new posting during the summer of 1971 and this week Center Zone personnel staff will interview the employees to if possible relocate them in the work of their choice.

Automation of the two powerhouses and closing of the village will save Hydro \$450,000 annually, Mr. Gaudette reported.