

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



1945-46 SEASON OPENS

It's HERE! The ice is made at St. Andrews and we start the season on Tuesday, December Fourth. As usual we will have an opening dinner at St. Andrews and then do a bit of curling. Dinner will be at seven-thirty and every one is expected. If you can't come please call me at Murray Hill 4-4400, but do your best to make it.

Due to a resignation there is one vacancy in our membership. To fill this vacancy a special meeting will be called at seven o'clock just before dinner. It is the recommendation of the membership committee that as at the Annual Meeting nomination be limited to former members. There are two pending applications in this class and if you know of any others let Ad Hastings know before the meeting.

Scouts for Duck Soup report St. Andrews will have more curlers than last year and Caledonia with their new members from last year will be stronger than ever. We should have one of the best seasons for many a long year - more bonspiels - more trips - and more curling.

See you Tuesday

Russ Weston
Secretary

ARDSLEY CURLING CLUB

To All Ardsley Curlers:

In order to pave the way for what I hope will be Ardsley's biggest and best curling season, I am calling a meeting of the members for Tuesday, October 16th, at 8:30 P. M. to discuss various matters pertaining to curling and the Ardsley Curling Club. It will be held at the home of Walt Howlett, at Ardsley, who offers the use of what is probably the largest living room at present in the possession of any curler.

The Club has gone on from year to year without ever having any written by-laws or rules of procedure. It seems to me that such rules should be formally adopted, and I enclose a set for your consideration. These were carefully prepared by your Historian, Cuyler Stevens, with the help of your Secretary, Russ Weston. Please study them and be prepared to offer suggestions at the meeting. As you will see, the question of a membership limit has been left blank. This question will be discussed at the meeting and a limit set at that time.

Please fill out and return the enclosed card promptly, so that we will know how many of our present members will continue. Then at the meeting, when we set our membership limit, action can be taken on former members who wish to be reinstated and on new members who have expressed a wish to join.

The membership of the Curling Committee will be announced at the meeting. This committee will welcome your suggestions regarding the curling program, the selection of Bonspeil rinks, or whatever else occurs to you that needs discussion.

Sincerely yours,

Ed Shaw

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for Ardsley Curlers



Annual Meeting, October 16, 1945

For those who were unable to attend the first regular Annual Meeting of the club, this letter will serve as a quick resume and for those who were present, a reminder of what took place.

First of all, three honorary life members were elected. Jim Finn, Bill Kimbel and Jug Ogden are now honorary members. President Shaw has written each of them, and Duck Soup would like to add its welcome to these loyal curlers.

The proposed code of procedure was thoroughly discussed and adopted with the following amendments.

1. The number of members will be fixed each year at the first Annual Meeting. For the year 1945-46 it has been pegged at thirty-one active members.
2. A quorum for an Annual Meeting shall be twelve active members.
3. Notice of Annual Meetings shall be sent out not less than five days prior to the Meeting.
4. The initiation fee for new members was voted down; however, ten dollars to be applied to the first year's dues shall accompany application for active membership.

With a membership of thirty-one there were only three vacancies and these were filled with former members. We welcome back Bill Gish, Ward Van Alstyne, and Bill Wurster.

The Curling Committee for this year was announced by President Shaw -- Walt Howlett is Chairman and will be assisted in his deliberations by Eddie Fisk and ~~Cuyler~~ Stevens.

The Membership Committee is Ad Hastings, Chairman, with Harold Southern and Jack Valentine.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Ex-Treasurer, Buck James and was accepted with thanks. As Buck gave it, it really balanced which is a great trick when you can do it.

Dues were set for this year at thirty dollars including taxes, payable before December first, so get your check books ready.

Walt Howlett talked of the curling plans for next year and at his suggestion the Ardsley Medal will be put in competition first and the Windler Cup will close the season.

On behalf of the Club, Duck Soup would like to say thanks to Walt Howlett for his generosity in holding the meeting at his home, and also for the beer and cheese.

The National Curling News which you all saw last year has now been expanded to take in Canadian Curlers and will be known as the North American Curling News. Subscription on the basis of club membership is seventy-five cents a year, and a blanket subscription has been placed for all of our members. You will find this little item on one of the bills from Charlie Upjohn.

No date has been announced for the first curling, but it won't be long. Pray for cold weather at the end of November -- it helps. A further notice will be sent to you just as soon as word comes through from St. Andrews.

See you soon,

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



December 7, 1945

If the Opening Dinner is a forecast of things to come we are certainly going to have a swell season. Only four active members were absent and they all had good excuses. We were very proud that honorary member, Jim Finn, came over to join us. Even the speeches were good -- good and short.

Before getting down to business it seems best to record for posterity the fact that Ardsley had a rink at Seignory for the Invitation Bonspiel. The four snowbirds and their wives (Mesdames Hastings, Blanton, Fiske and Shaw) left by car in a blizzard just like '88. Eventually they arrived in Montreal and the next day Seignory. Then came trouble -- three matches and one win. Everyone was enthusiastic about the trip, but apparently the other rinks had been on the ice for some time.

We are sorry that business will prevent Brud Bickford from curling this year, and that the trick back of George Williams will keep him behind the plate glass. We are very glad, however, that both will be associate members. In the meeting before the dinner, two former curlers were elected to take their place. Duck Soup welcomes Steve Lovekin and Guy Robinson.

Important Notice

The out-of-town bonspiels this year will be Detroit January 14-16, Utica February 1-3, Schenectady February 15-17, Brookline February 28-March 3. Walt Howlett would like to have a note on the bonspiels you would like to attend. Pick the spots and list them in the order of your preference. Let Walt know this Tuesday night or by mail.

The rinks for the Utica and Playland Cup Competition are:

Ardsley 1

Hastings
Shaw
Sutphen
Valentine

Ardsley 2

Blanton
Eddison
Weston
Baker

Ardsley 3

Fiske
Stevens
Howlett
Simmons

The Caledonia Club is having an anniversary and are celebrating with a very small select bonspiel. One rink has been invited from Ardsley. Our old timers (in curling years only) will make up the rink. Bart Eddison will skip, with Fiske third, Shaw second, and Townsend lead.

Ardsley Medal

The Ardsley Medal Competition starts this Tuesday night with the same rules as last year. Every substitute costs the rink one stone, and if the sub is a skip it is worth two rocks. It is up to the skip to see that his rink is there. This is the first round, 2 vs 7, 5 vs 6 -- next week 1 vs 4 and 3 vs 8. Losers in the first round go into the Consolation.

Rinks

1	2	3	4	5	6
Shaw	Sutphen	Howlett	Robinson	Gould	James
Baker	Sothorn	Lovekin	Fiske	Hastings	Eddison
Simmons	Gish	Van Alstyne	Valentine	Townsend	Warner
Wells	Weld	Dean	Wurster	Stevenson	Fraser-Campbell
		7	8		
		Weston	Upjohn		
		Blanton	Stevens		
		Koehl	Hockmeyer		
		May	Rice		

One sheet of ice will be clear so that those who are not playing in the Ardsley Medal can still have a match.

The curling after the dinner was a little ragged in spots. Your reporter is so new to the job that he forgot to get the scores. The only score recorded, if you must know, was the one between Bart Eddison and my rink. Bart gave us a lesson -- 12-5.

On that unhappy note we sign off until next week.

Russ Weston
Secretary

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



December 14, 1945

Ardsley Medal

Ardsley 4-15 Ardsley 7-5
Ardsley 5-10 Ardsley 6-9

The first round of the Ardsley Medal was played on Tuesday with Ardsley 2 skipped by Dunc Sutphen with Sothern, Gish and Substitute Stevens winning handily from Ardsley 7 skipped by Weston with Blanton, Koehl and May doing all the work. The boys on number two curled very well indeed and there was never any question of the end result. In the other match it was neck and neck all the way to the final end. In the ninth end Buck James' team led by two stones, but the good work of Ad Hastings, Charlie Townsend and Jim Stevens left Buck two almost impossible shots to win or tie the match. Buck's final shot came awfully close to deciding the match in his favor. It was well played all the way, and Fraser-Campbell, Bob Warner and Bart Eddison did the leg work for Buck.

On the free sheet of ice Al Shaw with Walt Howlett, Bud Baker and Steve Lovekin nosed out a rink skipped by silent Eddie Fiske supported by Charlie Upjohn, Bill Wurster and Ward Van Alstyne. Al points out that this is the second time that he has been able to beat Eddie Fiske. The final score was 7-5.

The Wilds Matches have started and attached are the three Ardsley-Wilds Rinks. The names of the skips and vice-skips have been filed with St. Andrews in case of any postponements. Schedules have not been released as yet and they will have to go out in a later issue of Duck Soup. Some of the Wilds Matches this year will be curled during the week rather than over the weekend as last year. Also, some of the matches with one Ardsley rink against another will probably be curled on Tuesday nights. Skips will get in touch with members of their rinks when they are to play.

The teams for the Utica-Playland Matches are all set and we look forward to seeing Ardsley Rinks in the finals. Good luck to all three!

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

Ardsley-Wilds Rinks

<u>One</u>	<u>Two</u>	<u>Three</u>
Stevens	Blanton	Fiske
Hastings	Eddison	Shaw
Robinson	Weston	Howlett
James	Gould	Sutphen
Sothorn	Lovekin	Baker
Townsend	VanAlstyne	Gish
Hockmeyer	Simmons	Valentine
Warner	Wells	Stevenson
Wurster	Dean	Koehl
Rice	May	Fraser-Campbell

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ARDSLEY MEDAL

December 21, 1945

Ardsley 4 13 -- Ardsley 1 5
Ardsley 8 9 -- Ardsley 3 7

The first round of the Ardsley Medal was completed on Tuesday night. Guy Robinson's rink of Fiske, Valentine and substitute Eddison won easily from Shaw's rink which consisted of all substitutes -- Gould, Stevenson and Eddison. It was a great duel between leads Eddison and Blanton with Bart taking the honors although the rink lost. In the other match, Charlie Upjohn with Stevens Hockmeyer and substitute Townsend won from Walt Howlett who had Lovekin, Van Alstyne and substitute Weston.

The next Ardsley Matches will be on January 8th. In the semi-finals Sutphen No. 2 will meet Gould No. 5. On the same night the first round of the Consolation will be played with James No. 6 meeting Weston No. 7. On January 15th Robinson No. 4 will play Upjohn No. 8 in the other half of the semi-finals. Shaw No. 1 will play Howlett No. 3 in the Consolation. The finals in both the Ardsley and the Consolation will be on January 22nd. Each night there will be a free sheet of ice for pick up matches.

It is suggested that Skips check on their rinks and make arrangements for substitutes before Tuesday night.

The Utica and Playland Cup Bonspiel last weekend was very successful for Ardsley. The final in the Utica was between Ad Hastings' rink of Shaw, Gish and Hockmeyer, and Eddie Fiske's rink of Stevens, Howlett and Sothern. Ad and his entire rink curled beautifully to win, 20 to 6. Fiske's rink, as the Montreal papers would say, made an uphill fight all the way. The other Ardsley rink, skipped by Alex Blanton, lost to the Hastings rink in a very strange match, 17 to 15, in the last end.

The Playland Cup was won by a St. Andrews rink skipped by Jimmy Ingram, 18 to 5. The loser was another St. Andrews rink skipped by Bert Blake.

Bonspiel Dinners are good fun and more of our members should plan on attending. We had a rather poor showing on Saturday with only eight men present.

Enclosed is a list of our membership for 1945-46. Please keep this for future use. An extra copy is included for each Wilds skip.

If you have not done so, please let Walt Howlett know the trips you would like to make.

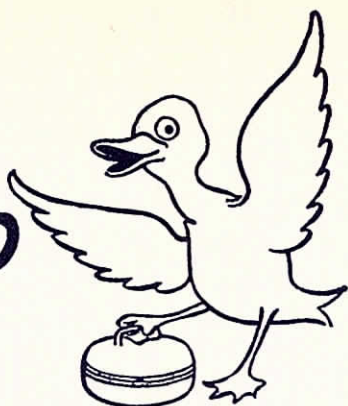
Next week we will curl on Wednesday December 26th and the following week on January 2nd.

A Very Merry Christmas!

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



December 28, 1945

The idea of curling the day after Christmas apparently didn't appeal to most of the club for there were only two rinks out. The gallery fared very much better as Phil Weld brought his five dachshunds along. Phil skipped a rink and I understand that when he made an exceptional shot all five dogs beat on the plate glass with their tails. It must be grand to have such loyal supporters. In spite of the audience Phil lost to Cuyler Stevens 9-7. The dogs, I am told, were terribly disappointed.

We are very sorry to lose Joe Simmons, but congratulate him on his new job. Joe will continue as an associate member and we hope sometime he will be moved back and become an active member again.

This leaves a vacancy in the membership. Several names have been proposed and Ad Hastings would like to have the names of any other suggested members immediately. The vacancy will be filled in the very near future--so act fast.

Enclosed with this issue is the Grand National Schedule. Keep it and if you haven't done so, tell Walt the trips you want to make.

Also enclosed is the schedule for the three Wilds Rinks. Your Skip will get in touch with you for the various matches.

Curling next week will again be on Wednesday (January 2nd). One Wilds Match will be played that night.

A very Happy New Year to all and may every stone be in the house in 1946.

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

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WILDS MEDAL COMPETITION

Blanton	Stevens	Fiske
Dec.12 - C1	Dec.12 - S2	Dec.19 - S4
Dec.23 - S3	Jan.2 - A1	Dec.29 - S5
Dec.27 - S2	Jan.3 - S3	Jan.3 - S2
Jan.2 - A2	Jan.9 - S5	Jan.8 - A1
Jan.5 - S5	Jan.15 - A3	Jan.9 - S1
Jan.8 - A3	Jan.16 - A2	Jan.15 - A2
Jan.10 - C2	Jan.23 - C1	Jan.24 - S3
Jan.17 - S1	Jan.26 - S1	Jan.30 - C1
Jan.27 - M	Jan.30 - M	Feb.6 - C2
Feb.6 - S4	Feb.7 - C2	Feb.7 - M

S1 - Arndt	A1 - Blanton
S2 - Carl	A2 - Stevens
S3 - Blake	A3 - Fiske
S4 - Ingram	C1 - Cuthbertson
S5 - Hahn	C2 - MacFarlane
	M - Halstead

All matches on days except Saturdays and Sundays
will be played at 8 P.M.

Saturday matches will be played at 2 P.M.

Sunday matches will be played at 10 A.M. and at 2 P.M.

Opposing Skips may postpone matches to any day when no
other scheduled matches are being played.

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January 4, 1945

The New York Caledonian Curling Club is celebrating this year the ninetyeth anniversary of its founding. In honor of the occasion they will hold a dinner at St. Andrews on Saturday, January 12th, and they have very graciously invited the curling members of Ardsley to attend. Should there be any change in your decision to attend, please let me know before Tuesday, January 8th. In the afternoon three Caledonia rinks will curl against rinks from Ardsley, St. Andrews and Mahopac. The matches will start at 2:30 and the dinner will be at seven. We should have a good showing at both the curling and the dinner.

Curling on Wednesday was again rather poorly attended. There was one Wilds Match between Ardsley No. 1 and Ardsley No. 2, and one pick-up match. Alex Blanton's rink won from Cuyler Stevens 11-7 in a very close game. Alex was ill and Bart Eddison took over as skip. The remainder of the rink was Weston three, Gish two, and Baker one. Cuyler had a real power house with Ad Hastings three, Robinson two, and Sothern one.

We were very glad to have as a visitor, Campbell from Schenectady. He has been a member of the Schenectady Curling Club for six years and has now moved to New York.

On Sunday Ad Hastings's rink of Fiske, Weston and Sothern lifted the Kimball Plaque from a St. Andrews rink 15-6. They will defend it this Sunday against a challenge from another St. Andrews rink. The winner of the Plaque for 1946 will be the rink which wins the greatest number of matches, although they may not hold it at the end of the season. The Kimball Plaque has not been in competition since 1942 because of war conditions.

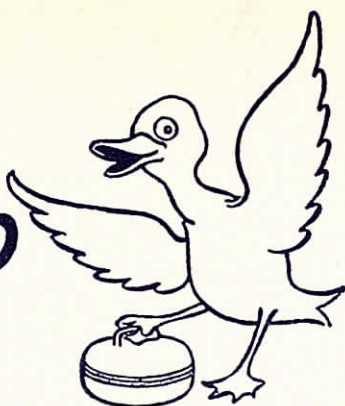
Correction on the Wilds Schedule -- Ardsley No. 2 (Stevens) plays St. Andrews No. 4 on January 16th not Ardsley No. 2 -- so sorry.

Ardsley Medal Matches will resume on Tuesday with Sutphen No. 2 playing Gould No. 5 and James No. 6 against Weston No. 7. Skips get your rinks out and avoid penalties!

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



January 11, 1946

Business is rushing today so this will be a shorter Duck Soup than usual.

On Tuesday night in the semi-finals of the Ardsley Medal Sutphen defeated Gould by a score of 16-2. My reporter failed to give me the makeup of the rinks, except that Ad Hastings substituted for Bill Gould as skip. I am sorry to report that Bill Gould is in the hospital and I will take this means of saying to Bill that we all hope he will be out soon.

In the other semi-final Guy Robinson defeated Charlie Upjohn by the very close score of 7-6. This must have been a very tight match although, again, my reporter gave me no details on it.

In the semi-final of the Consolation Buck James took Prexy Shaw 15-5. I would suggest that Buck be a little more careful of how he handles the President or he may find that he will be unpopular.

Sunday night there was a meeting of the Curling Committee and your secretary was allowed in in order that the words of wisdom might be placed on paper. It certainly was a wonderful experience to see the great minds at work, considering their problems from all angles and giving their undivided attention to the task of picking rinks. After the smoke had cleared away and Eddie Fiske had mopped up his drink, the schizophrenic master minds picked the following rinks for the Douglas Matches.

Stevens	Hastings
Fiske	Shaw
James	Eddison
Baker	Sothorn

They also picked the following tentative rinks for the Utica Bonspiel February 1, 2 and 3.

Stevens	Hastings	Fiske
Shaw	Blanton	Sutphen
Baker	Weston	Sothorn
Valentine	Hockmeyer	Stevenson

The Mid-Winter Dinner will be on January 22nd with the finals of the Ardsley Consolation Match after dinner. May the sober team win.

Next Tuesday will be the finals of the Ardsley Medal between Sutphen and Robinson. There will also be a Consolation semi-final between Howlett and Weston.

See you at the Caledonia Dinner. Don't forget curling in the afternoon starts at 2:30.

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



January 18, 1946

The Caledonian Dinner on Saturday was one of the finest affairs ever held in curling circles. The matches in the afternoon were informal with changing rinks so that most everyone had a chance to participate. Our own and unparalleled Ad Hastings skipped one of the Caledonian rinks as one of their three oldest members. Although a member of long standing, this marked the first time Ad has played on a Caledonian rink, for which Ardsley is duly appreciative.

Following the curling the group at the rink was piped to the clubhouse in a torchlight procession. It was quite impressive. The dinner was attended by nearly one hundred men including representatives from almost all Grand National Clubs. We had a fine turnout of about twenty men. George MacMillan of Caledonian was the toastmaster and did a fine job.

Attached is a copy of the speech by the President of Caledonian, Jack MacFarlane, and also copies of the poems read by Mr. Halliday of St. Andrews and Bob Pryde of Hartford.

The Commemorative Medal was given to those at the head table, and all attending the dinner will receive a medal in due course. It was a swell dinner from start to finish--at least until the finish of Eddie Fiske and your sec.

Tuesday saw the finish of the Ardsley Medal competition with a rink skipped by Dunc Sutphen just nosing out Guy Robinson's rink by a score of 14-11. In the 10th end Guy tied the match but then lost 2 in the 11th and 1 in the 12th end. Harold Sothern played a great 3 for Dunc, and Bill Gish and Vic Hockmeyer played equally well in the No. 2 and No. 1 positions. Eddie Fiske, Jack Valentine and Bill Wurster completed the losing rink.

In the semi-final of the Consolation Walt Howlett's rink took my band of stalwarts. We tried hard but missed by a score of 10-8.

We have two new members, L. W. Grasskamp and Ernest Rumpf both of Ardsley Park. Grassy lives on Langdon Avenue having moved there from Chicago about a year and a half ago. He is from Wisconsin so the game of curling is not new to him. Chuck Rumpf also comes from the north country by way of Pittsburgh. While he has not curled before, he has watched a number of games in Minot, North Dakota.

The Mid-Season Dinner will be held on Tuesday, January 22nd. Cocktails at six thirty and dinner at seven. Bill Kimball, father of the Ardsley Club will be present and that means a swell talk on the early days. The Ardsley and Windler Medals for 1944-45 will be presented and also the Ardsley Medal for 1945-46. Following the dinner the finals of the Consolation in the Ardsley Medal will be played.

-2-

The Douglas, as you know, is this weekend--the finals will be on Sunday at two thirty. If you want to see a real match come over. We hope to have at least one of the three Ardsley rinks on the ice at the time.

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

Mr. Toastmaster, distinguished guests, fellow curlers, it gives me very great pleasure indeed to welcome you to this ninetieth anniversary dinner of the New York Caledonian Curling Club. You have honored us by your presence here, but I know you are really honoring those pioneers of curling who established the grand old game here in the States and now have gone to their last bonspiel.

It is fitting that at this time I review as briefly as I can some of the early history of this club of which we are so proud. Ninety years is a long time but I assure you I shall compress it into far fewer minutes.

One January day just ninety years ago a group of sixteen curlers, all of whom had curled in Scotland before coming to the United States and all of whom lived in the then Scottish district around West 25th Street in New York, spent the afternoon curling at Bloomingdale. Following the game, they met at the Rams Head Tavern in lower New York and founded what was then called the New York Curling Club, later to become known as the New York Caledonian Curling Club. The by-laws then drawn up show an entrance fee of 50 cents and annual dues of 25 cents. From the old records, the club continued to meet at the Rams Head Tavern for a time, switching to Halpins Hotel at the corner of Ninth Avenue and 26th Street, then to Manchots Hotel at 172 West 25th Street, and then after a couple more moves, to Knickerbocker Cottage at 456 Sixth Avenue. Curling was not new even then in New York, for there are references in the minutes to "old club" which apparently owned the stones. As for the stones themselves, many were imported from Scotland but not a few were turned out by the players themselves.

Club meetings were more formal then than now. For example, smoking was not allowed at the meetings and one member was fined 10 cents for smoking and then 6 cents more for continuing to smoke after he had paid the first fine. The annual meetings of the club were advertised in 1856 in the Times,

the Herald, and the Clipper.

There was some difficulty about getting a curling pond. Finally the committee secured through the efforts of one Councilman Leary a pond in Central Park. The club then debated at some length whether it should, according to the minutes, "give some money to the source whence came the privilege of getting this curling pond. Having discussed for and against it, all knowing it was morally wrong, but under existing circumstances it was thought proper by a majority vote of this meeting to allow them \$20 or \$25." Evidently, politics were already politics ninety years ago and Mr. Leary was subsequently paid \$20.

There were other curling clubs in New York and the surrounding territories in those days. Matches were played with such clubs as the New York Curling Club, the New York Thistle Club, the Pittston Club of Pittston, Pennsylvania, The New England Curling Club of Boston, the Hudson Curling Club, and the Paterson (N.J.) Curling Club. Later, clubs were formed at Ogdensburg, Albany, Troy and elsewhere. Matches were usually played on the Central Park pond and occasionally on a pond at 58th Street near Fourth Avenue.

It wasn't all beer and skittles. For example, the club had trouble because the people stole the ice off the pond and appointed a committee to speak to Mayor Wood about it. In 1859 the club adopted as an emblem "a small piece of blue ribbon" with the club initials on it, paying \$3.35 for ninety such badges. A medal was put up at the cost of \$16, the medal to be given to the player scoring highest at points. Dinners were held annually, the one in 1860, for example, being held at the Murray Hill House at a cost of 75 cents per plate. In 1862 the name of St. Andrews Curling Club first appeared, but it is assumed that that club was a New York City Club.

Caledonian flourished, electing as many as six skips. For the first

eleven years the club was undefeated and the record of the first fifteen years shows thirty-two outside matches played, of which twenty-eight were won. Matches lasted 4 1/2 to 5 hours and the players varied from three to five on a side.

In 1867 the Grand National American Curling Club was inaugurated with delegations from eight clubs present. Two years later we find reference to the Gordon medal. In 1869 Caledonian played a match with the Yonkers Club at Yonkers.

In 1870 the first match was played under cover at the Empire City Skating Rink, 63rd Street and Third Avenue, against St. Andrews. Still later on, the various New York curling clubs got together in a cooperative effort to build an indoor rink. A company was formed and shares sold. Two sites were available -- Coogan's Bluff where the Polo Grounds now stands and the Jersey meadows back of Hoboken. There seems to have been a little fast dealing by certain curlers who owned title to the meadow property but of this the less said, perhaps, the better. In any event, the rink was finally built on stilts back of Hoboken.

That nearly ruined the sport in the New York area. There were no tubes then and ferries were none too strongly built. It was a long haul from New York to the rink, particularly with 80 pounds of stone under one's arm. To make it worse, the Hudson had an annoying habit of becoming pretty well jammed with floating ice, making the return trip on the ferry a matter of hours instead of minutes, and the curlers' wives, even though a curler's wife is noted for her patience, became a bit annoyed at the two or three A.M. return of their sportsmen-husbands.

Perhaps, fortunately, the Hoboken rink burned to the ground about 1906. The stones, indestructible as curling itself, were eventually salvaged, in part at least. The metropolitan clubs then turned to Van Cortlandt where

they curled at first on the big lake. There might be found, sweeping mightily, members of such old-time clubs as the Thistles, New York St. Andrews, the Terrace City and the Yonkers Curling Clubs of Yonkers, and, of course, the New York Caledonian. About 1911, the city fathers built a small pond especially for curling, north of the big lake at Van Cortlandt. This rink, on the edge of the golf course, was even lighted at night for a time but the golfers complained of the wires and fixtures. From Van Cortlandt, Caledonian moved to the present St. Andrews rinks.

They were a hardy lot, these curlers of yesteryear. One has only to draw them out over a wee dock and dorris, to hear of the old days when twenty-one ends was considered an average game, when totting two stones and a broom to a bonspiel in Montreal was all in a day's sport. Many of the old timers here tonight recall the days when, after lugging a pair of stones from New York to the pond on the Hudson River Country Club grounds at Yonkers, the heavens would open and the game would be rained out before a single end was played. That all came under the head of sport, but perhaps no sport on earth except curling could have survived such hazards.

But survive it did and with it the New York Caledonian Curling Club, now stronger in numbers than it has been for a number of years. That it has survived is a tribute indeed not only to such grand old men of the game as Tom Archibald, Willie Cuthbertson, and the rest, but to the members of our sister clubs, men like Aleck Helligay, Bob Pryce and a host of others I could mention, whose friendship for Caledonian has meant so much and to whom we owe so deep a debt of gratitude.

A Wee Game of Curling.

By Andrew Gillies

Tune—A Wee Deoch and Dhoris.

A grand old game is curling,
A game that's good and clean
Our fathers played before us
They played it fair and keen,
It's there that men foregather
Ye know the kind I name,
Then let us drink a toast to-night
To curlers and the game.

Chorus

Just a wee game of curling,
The grandest game a'va
Just a wee game of curling
In it we brithers a'
Play your stones up to the tee
Steady with eye and hand
Your skip will clap your back and say
Ye're a' richt—just grand.

I like a man, a curling man
His game is straight and fair
The sort of man that will and can
In curling do his share.
He'el play the broom and sweep the rink
And work with might and main,
And when the game is fought and won.
He'el sing with loud acclaim.

Chorus

Just a wee, etc., etc.

New York Caledonians 90th Anniversary

Ninety years have come and gone
When Scotsmen took their canny game
In serious vein to start anew
In New York State to tempt their fate
At Curling on the Ice

Coming from Scotland, their homeland of sport
They missed very badly, the ice pond of course
But not for long did their young hearts ache
They got their stanes, brooms and happy gait.

The Archibalds and Ridley, Willie Cuthbertson and all
Geo. Cobban, Jamie Whyte and his sons made the call
Gilmartin, Andy Gilles and Francis Dykes
And numerous others too long to recite.

Their memories are dear, as Sportsmen sublime,
They led in a way that is hard to define
We bless their names, all gallant men
For the challenge they set us, all down the line.

Elbow out, and Elbow in, gave us the thrill,
We don't hear it now, but in memory still
We sweep her up. Don't let it die!
Bring it into the house is the Skip's reply.

So tonight we praise the men of the past
Who started this Club and carried it fast.
We're proud of the Day and Proud of the name
The New York Caledonians shall always remain

CONNECTED WITH FAME.

Robert D. Pryde

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



January 25, 1946

The Douglas-Griffith Bonspiel last weekend was a decided washout for Ardsley. As you know, we had three rinks entered and not one of them survived the first round. This is a particularly bad record considering our success of former years, but it may have its beneficial effects in that in future matches overconfidence will not rear its ugly head. The gory details of the opening round are -- the rink skipped by Bart Eddison was defeated by St. Andrews skipped by Jimmy Ingram 16-9. Ad Hastings' rink fared little better, being defeated by St. Andrews skipped by Pappy Blake, 12-9. The old master, Willie Cuthbertson of Caledonia, took Cuyler Stevens' rink 18-12.

In the Griffith medal, Ardsley did little better. Bart Eddison's rink, now skipped by Bill Kimbel was defeated by Utica No. 1, 15-13 in a very spectacular finish. Incidentally, Utica No. 1 went on to win the Griffith Medal. The Hastings rink got by Schenectady, 15-11 and then was put out by Utica, 13-12. Cuyler Stevens won his first match from Farmington 16-9, but then succumbed to the nine old men, 13-6. The Country Club won the Douglas, and as stated before Utica won the Griffith.

In spite of the fiasco over the weekend, the dinner on Tuesday night had no funereal aspects. It was more like a wake. Prexy Shaw was on his way to Florida for his health or some other reason, and Alec Blanton took over. The high spot of the evening was the informal talk by Bill Kimbel who has now succeeded to the title of Father and Mother of the Ardsley Club. Bill presented the Windler Medals to last years winners. The Windler Cup has now been engraved with the winners up-to-date, and the Club faces a crisis in that there is no more space on the cup for future winners. In the absence of George Williams, the great Hastings accepted the O-O-O Cup. Also, as advertised, the medals for the Ardsley Competition were given out.

Following the dinner, the final of the Consolation in the Ardsley Medal was played. Walt Howlett won quite handily by a score of 13-3 over Buck James. While Walt and Steve Lovekin played very well, the success of Walt's rink was undoubtedly the sterling play of the two substitutes. Jack Valentine was curling in rare form and was topped only by the No. 2. Modesty forbids my mentioning his name. Buck James with Bart Eddison, Arnold Fraser-Campbell, and Charlie Townsend really never got started.

The Windler Competition starts Tuesday. The rules are very simple but must be followed. There can be no postponing of matches or juggling of the schedule. This means that the skip must make arrangements for his rink to be present and, if necessary, find a substitute before going to the Club. If a skip is not going to need one of his players, he should notify the man in order that he may accept the position of a substitute on one of the other rinks, or be prepared to come to the Club to watch only, as the ice will be filled. Every man on the rink must have the opportunity of playing at least two games. Other than these few rules and the fact that matches will be

ten ends with a twelve end final, play will be as usual.

Attached are the Windler Rinks, and in the opinion of Duck Soup the Curling Committee has done an outstanding job in balancing the rinks. Also attached is the schedule for the matches. Keep the schedule as it will not be reprinted.

Cuyler Stevens has very kindly called our attention to a booklet, entitled, "An Analysis of the Art of Curling" which he says is very interesting and very helpful in its basic instruction. Cuyler will accept orders for the booklet at \$.35 or orders can be placed direct by writing to Mr. H. E. Weiman, P. O. Box 100, Levis, Quebec, Canada.

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

WINDLER RINKS

No. 1

Blanton
Weston
Hockmeyer
Valentine
Wurster
Graaskamp

No. 2

Eddison
Howlett
Upjohn
Stevenson
Warner

No. 3

Fiske
Robinson
Sothorn
Townsend
Rumpf

No. 4

Hastings
Lovekin
Baker
Wells
Dean

No. 5

Stevens
James
Gish
May
Van Alstyne

No. 6

Sutphin
Shaw
Gould
Koehl
Fraser-Campbell

SCHEDULE

Jan. 29th	1 vs 3	2 vs 6	4 vs 5
Feb. 15th	1 vs 6	2 vs 4	3 vs 5
Feb. 12th	1 vs 5	2 vs 3	4 vs 6
Feb. 19th	1 vs 4	2 vs 5	3 vs 6
Feb. 26th	1 vs 2	3 vs 4	5 vs 6

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



February 1, 1946

Once upon a time the Ardsley Curling Club met and curled in silence, the reason, our ex-silent leader was sick abed with the flu. Duck Soup is sorry to report that Captain Eddie has been stricken by the flu, but is glad to say that he is on the mend although unable to go to Utica.

Last Tuesday night in the cathedral silence, the first round of the Windler Cup was played. It was an evening of one-sided matches. Alec Blanton was snowed under by Guy Robinson's rink by a score of 12 to 8. In defense--and it was very weak--the old master, Jug Ogden, skipped the rink except for the number one play. Walt Howlett and his rink played a fine game to win from Dunc Sutphen 16 to 3. Because we didn't make it clear last week, Walt is in a hot streak and curling "out of this world." As Jock MacFarlane said, "Walt, you are catching on to the game."

In another match Ad Hastings won from Cuyler Stevens 16 to 7. It was a better match than the score would indicate.

Next week -- well look at your schedule.

Windler Matches are 11 ends and not 10 as reported in last weeks Duck Soup. The matches last week were played on the basis of 11 ends so it is even all around.

Two rinks left on Thursday for Utica. After much confusion and turmoil the following make up the rinks as of this date:

Stevens	Hastings
Shaw	Howlett
Sutphen	Weston
Valentine	Stevenson.

Wish us luck!

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



February 7, 1946

The Ardsleys at Utica did a lot of curling even if they didn't bring home the bacon.

Hastings, with Weston, Howlett and Stevenson entered the "Mitchell". First they beat the Caledonian "Willies", then the Hartfords, then St. Andrews skipped by the great Ingram--only to meet defeat in the finals at the hands of Ward Murray of Utica, who won it last year from Ardsley's Stevens in the finals.

Stevens' rink entered both "Mitchell" and "Allen"--winning a toss from Hastings to achieve that honor--God help them! Stevens, with Shaw, Sutphen and the alien Charlie Chandalian (to quote the Utica press) did all right the first day, putting Mahopac out of the "Mitchell" and Schenectady out of the "Allen". Next morning they put the Country Club out of the "Allen" to reach both semi-finals. Playing both matches Saturday evening they succumbed to "The Willies" in the "Allen" and were swamped by the champion Utica rink in the "Mitchell". St. Andrews then beat Caledonia to win the "Allen", more power to them. Once again the Utica Curling Club did a masterful job as hosts.

Windler Cup Standing

	Won	Lost	Percent		Won	Lost	Percent
#4. Hastings	2	0	1.000	#3. Fiske	1	1	.500
#1. Blanton	1	1	.500	#5. Stevens	1	1	.500
#2. Eddison	1	1	.500	#6. Sutphen	0	2	.000

On Tuesday night, Stevens nosed out Robinson (skipping for Fiske) 8 to 7 in a well curled match. Hastings defeated Howlett, (skipping for Eddison) in a runaway 16 to 4 match. Blanton took Shaw (skipping for Sutphen) over the hurdles to the tune of 11 to 3.

DISTRICT MEDAL

Ardsley will be represented in the District Medal Matches by 2 rinks.

1. Hastings, Blanton, Shaw, Sothern. 2. Eddison, Stevens, Howlett, Weston.

Both first round matches at 2 P. M. Saturday, Hastings versus St. Andrews and Eddison versus Caledonia.

Yours truly,

SHAW batting for WESTON

DUCK SOUP

February 21, 1946

Last week's issue of Duck Soup was omitted for a number of reasons, the most important one being the absence of my secretary from the office last Friday. Strange as it may seem, when she is out the wheels stop turning.

History has a habit of repeating itself and this was borne out in the district matches a week ago Sunday. As in the case of the year before, the two Ardsley rinks met in the finals. The varsity, consisting of Ad Hastings, Skip, Alec Blanton, Al Shaw and Harold Sothern, who were more or less the favorites, were taken by Bart Eddison's rink of Stevens, Howlett and Valentine in a hair raising finish. The Hastings' rink went out in front in the early ends only to be caught and passed by the Eddison rink who then held on grimly to the final. It was a fine match and everyone curled in top form.

The last time Joe Simmons was in town he gave me some clippings from a Chicago newspaper which had an article with a heading, "Better than a Hole In One." The article went on to tell about an eight end being scored in a local competition. It stated that one man, who had been curling for sixty-one years, had only seen five eight ends. The point of the story is that in Schenectady last weekend an eight end was scored. We regret to state that our own Cuyler Stevens was skipping a rink which was on the receiving end of this unhappy experience. Al Shaw and Bill Gould with a Schenectady lead were the other participants. The rink lost both first rounds of the Gordon and Mohawk Medals.

Two more rounds of the Windler Cup have been played since the last Duck Soup and Ad Hastings continues in the first position. Following is the up-to-date rating of the teams. It should be a great match next Tuesday when Blanton and Sutphen fight it out for the .000 Cup.

Hastings	1000	Blanton	250
Stevens	750	Eddison	250
Fiske	500	Sutphen	250

The Dykes rinks for this weekend have been chosen and they follow below. Each rink curls at twelve o'clock on Saturday and there is a dinner Saturday night for the contestants. The finals will be on Sunday afternoon and we hope it will be an All Ardsley final.

Ardsley 1

Howlett
Baker
Weston
Hockmeyer

Ardsley 2

James
Sothern
Valentine
Wells.

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



March 1, 1946

JAMES' RINK WINS BROOKLINE MEDAL

Buck James' rink won the Brookline medal last week by the very narrow margin of a quarter of an inch. In the final end against St. Andrews, St. Andrews lay two shots and missed the tying stone by less than an inch. Previously Buck and his rink of Sothern, Valentine and Wells had lost their opening match and then defeated another St. Andrews rink to reach the finals in the Brookline. An interesting sidelight was the comment of the senior skips behind the plate glass that the sweeping on this rink was the best seen at St. Andrews in a long time. The juniors may not be so good at curling but they sure can sweep.

The Ardsley No. 1 with Howlett, Skip, Baker, Weston and Hockmeyer did not do too well. The opening match in the Dykes was lost, placing them in the Brookline where one match was won, and then they lost to the St. Andrews rink which was in the finals.

WINDLER RESULTS

The last round of the Winder Competition ended in a tie for both first and last positions. The Stop Hastings Movement went into high gear when Eddie Fiske returned to skip his rink for two ends, and then the boys carried on to win 13-8. At the same time, Cuyler Stevens' rink won from Dunc Sutphen to put Cuyler in a tie with Addie, and Dunc Sutphen in a tie with Bart Edgison for last place. Bart won this dubious distinction by succumbing to Alec Blanton's rink 11-5.

Hastings	800	Blanton	400
Stevens	800	Eddison	200
Fiske	600	Sutphen	200

CLOSING DINNER MARCH FIFTH

The Closing Dinner and election of officers for 1946-47 will be held on March 5th at 6:30. After the dinner, the finals in the winder and the .000 will be played. A Nominating Committee consisting of Robinson, Chairman, with Baker and Gish, will present a slate of officers but nominations from the floor will be entirely in order.

GORDON INTERNATIONAL

Ardsley is entering one rink in the Gordon International to be held at Utica this weekend. The rink will be Ad Hastings, skip, with Blanton, James and Sothern. We expect that this group will contribute many stones to the American score.

SOCIAL NOTE

Donald Duck was able to confirm last week the reported engagement of our most eligible batchelor, Charlie Upjohn. Charlie blushing admitted that he expected to step off the deep end some time in April. Our only regret is that the occasion will not come during the publishing life of Duck Soup as it has always been our ambition to be a social editor and describe in detail what the groom wore. Congratulations to Charlie!

DECEMBER VOUCHERS

If you have not picked up your vouchers for the December House charges, they are available at St. Andrews. January, February and March vouchers will be ready later this month.

Russ Weston,
Secretary.

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



March 8, 1946

The rink skipped by Cuyler Stevens won the Windler Cup in a play-off with a rink skipped by Ad Hastings. Cuyler's boys got the jump in the first few ends and never let up, with the result that the final score was 16-4. On the winning rink besides Cuyler, were Buck James, Bill Gish, and Bill May. Incidentally, Bill May curled like a veteran in spite of the fact that he was playing in the position he dislikes the most. Addie's rink was composed of Bud Baker, Bill Dean and Dick Wells. An interesting angle is that Ad was able to tie for first place in the regular competition in spite of the fact that his regular number three was never able to curl for him.

In the .000 Cup competition, Bart Eddison won the trophy in an extra end. Dunc Sutphen and his rink pulled up even in the twelfth end and won four stones in the extra end, to win 17-13. Dunc had Al Shaw, Bill Gould, and Al Koehl helping him; while the proud possessors of the new Upjohn Medal, in addition to Bart, are Walt Howlett, Charlie Upjohn and Jim Stevenson.

It is interesting to note, that while all Windler matches were eleven ends, at the end of the ninth end when they were trailing, Al Shaw went out and dug up an old regulation which showed that play-offs for the .000 Competition should be twelve ends. By this bit of strategy, the boys were able to pull the match out of the fire.

CLOSING DINNER

At the Closing Dinner which was very well attended, officers for 1946-47 were elected. Al Shaw and Alec Blanton will continue as President and Vice-President respectively, Al Koehl is the new secretary (thank God!) and Jug Ogden is the new treasurer. Henry Kelly, as usual, gave a short talk and, as usual, we were all impressed with his profound wisdom and his unlimited vocabulary.

Medals from the Caledonian Anniversary were given to those attending the Caledonian Dinner.

WILLIAMSON MEDAL

The Williamson and Kitchel medals will be curled for at St. Andrews on March 16th and 17th. St. Andrews has very kindly invited one Ardsley rink to participate. The rink is as follows: Fiske, James, Robinson and May.

Next Tuesday there will be curling, and one sheet of ice will be reserved for point curling for those that like this game. This will wind up our season.

The next issue of Duck Soup will be the last and will not be published until after the Williamson and the Royal Caledonian in Canada in order that the results of these two competitions may be included. I will save the valedictory speech for that issue.

Russ Weston, Secretary.

Duck Soup

for Ardsley Curlers



April 4, 1946

Having just had lunch with our prexy (which by the way, he bought) the mood is right to make up the last, the final Duck Soup.

My apologies to all in delaying so long, but without the Friday deadline it was hard to get at.

Speaking of apologies, another is due for omitting mention of the Gordon International at Utica. As you all know, the Americans won by a large margin and Ardsley contributed more than its share of the total. The one dark spot of the Bonspiel was the accident of Harold Sothorn. He was so excited and tense that on the first stone, or maybe it was the second, he forgot to let go and his back just couldn't take it. Internationally, he is now known as "one-shot." It was a tough break and Donald Duck extends his sympathy. Addie, Alec and Buck carried on with heavy hearts and the help of the top skip of Utica as their lead.

Misfortune struck again for the Royal Caledonia. Bart Eddison, the day before he was to leave for Montreal, developed a lame arm and had to call the trip off. Cuyler took over as skip, and with Walt Howlett and Bill Gish, started out. They picked up J. A. Moffott from Montreal Caledonia as a three and started off with a bang by winning their first match. The second they, unfortunately, lost and that was that. Cuyler reports that as usual the curling in the finals was superb.

In the Kitchel and Williamson matches at St. Andrews, Eddie Fiske and his rink did very well. They reached the final in the Kitchel (the main event) and lost by only one stone to Jimmy Ingram and his varsity rink. Eddie says that Buck and Guy curled their usual fine game and that Bill May behaved like a veteran, putting all his stones right where they should be.

Having skipped so well at St. Andrews, Eddie took a few of the boys to Montreal for the Lord Elgin. This time he had Al Shaw, Honorary Phil Weld and Vic Hockmeyer. In their three matches they came out with a plus score although they won only one. It must have been a great Bonspiel, judging by their stories. Vic was able to trade only fifteen buttons and had to come home with extra Ardsley buttons. Perhaps Vic will start a "traders' school" for those who want to know how it is done.

In the early part of the season Ad Hastings made the first challenge for the Kimbel Plaque. He won that match and was successful in turning back the next four challenges. Cuyler was the fifth challenger and he took it away and was successful in defending it through the end of the season. Addie, however, having won the most matches gets the medal for this year. It is interesting to note that this is the first time Ardsley has won the plaque, and also that an Ardsley rink held it for the entire year.

Bills went out about a week ago and somehow the return address was omitted. Please send your checks to Charlie Upjohn, 12 East 41st Street, New York City. Also, please send them in soon as the treasury is low and they should pay St. Andrews.

Looking ahead -- the Iceless Bonspiel will be held some time in September at Farmington. You will have full particulars on this in plenty of time. It has been suggested that the Ardsley Ducks get together for a dinner and golf some time in June. Talk this over and let Al know how you feel about it.

Looking back -- it has been a good year. We won some of the competitions and we came close in others. Every man on every rink was playing his best regardless of the score. The result was even greater respect for our Club from the others in the circuit. I think we can be proud of our record this year. In the Club matches the same spirit prevailed with the game coming first and winning coming second. The enthusiasm for curling and for Ardsley was fine, and as Bill Kimbel said, there can be no doubt of the future.

Much of the credit for this is due to Al Shaw. He worked hard to make the season a success. Charlie Upjohn, although he still has a lot to do, was a fine treasurer. One man who has spent considerable time and effort without it being apparent to many in the Club is Cuyler Stevens. He has in the last year made a great deal of progress in compiling the history and arranging the memorabilia of the Club. Cuyler will continue this work as historian next year. The Curling Committee deserves its share of credit. Rinks were chosen carefully and with the view of giving everyone a chance. It isn't an easy job and it is generally a thankless one, so for once, here's thanks to the Curling Committee.

One last remark and then I will sign off for good (did I hear a chorus of good -- good) and this is addressed to Al Koehl, our new secretary, bless him. Cuyler told me it would fun to be secretary. Well it was in a way, but get set for the Friday deadline. You will be copy chief, production man, Art director and mailing department all in one. And the client on Monday is really something.

Best of luck during the summer and here's to the 46-47 season!

Russ Weston,
Secretary.