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## The 1978 Conspiel in Winnipeg

In a bulletin sent out to the participating provinces, Don called the first event at Winnipeg, March 27th to April 3rd, a Canadian Clergy Conspiel - a *Conclave* for ministers, priests, pastors, professional church workers and their wives; and a *Bonspiel* - a first ever trans-Canada event. This *Conspiel* was to run concurrently with the Silver Broom World Curling Championships held in the Winnipeg Arena. Two hundred books of tickets to this latter event were reserved for clergy viewing. Ice was reserved at the local Highlander Curling/Hockey complex where two games were played per day at times when the Silver Broom was not in progress. Accommodation was arranged at the St. Regis Hotel run by a prominent churchman, Paul Duval. Buses were available to take the visitors to the different venues. Two morning seminars were arranged with Dr. Richard Deering and Professor John Bottinger of the University of Winnipeg on the theme, *A Christian View of Sports*.

A banquet was held on the Friday evening in Greenwood United Church Social Hall when prizes were awarded and a fun time was enjoyed by all. Rev. Prof. Carl Ridd, former basketball star at the University of Winnipeg held the attention of those present with a talk on *A Christian and Sport*.

Following all the tiring activities of the week in connection with the Conspiel and viewing the Silver Broom games, those who hadn't returned home for weekend services, gathered on Saturday morning in Winnipeg's historic Granite rink just across from the legislative buildings on Broadway and Memorial Drive to witness the East/West game. An Ontario rink skipped by Andy McKenzie defeated the *Conspiel* champions from Calgary skipped by Gerry Ward.

Most of those who had come from out of town, stayed on after the *Conspiel* and the playing of the East/West game to see the semi-finals on Saturday afternoon and final game Sunday of the Silver Broom. With the sound of the bagpipes and lowering of the official banner at the closing ceremony of the Silver Broom, many were seen to wipe a stray bit of moisture from the corner of the eye, as was the case also at the closing events of the *Conspiel*, indicating that lasting friendships had been forged and a healthy competitive sport had been enjoyed.

Before the evening closed at Greenwood, a committee consisting of Gerry Ward, Cliff McMurtry, Andy Denholm and Fraser Muldrew, which had earlier been appointed, submitted a report which received general endorsement.

Some of the principal points were:

1. That a national committee be set up chaired by Don Amos to promote interest in interprovincial, and possibly international clergy curling.
2. That we seek volunteers or appoint one key person from each province (two from Ontario) who will serve on the national committee.
3. That, for the present, we concentrate on one national curling event every two years, preferably relating such a bonspiel to another major curling event (e.g. National, World Mens, Womens or Junior).
4. That we accept the invitation of the Calgary clergy to host the next Canadian Clergy Curling event in March 1980, to run concurrently with the Macdonald Brier Canadian Championships.
5. That we ask the Calgary Clergy Curling Club to set up a committee to work out the details for the 'Spiel, working in close relationship with the national group.
6. To give consideration to:
  - a) providing billets or appropriate dormitory accommodation as an option for those coming from out of town.
  - b) a possible travel pool arrangement that would provide assistance for participants with excessive travel costs.
  - c) setting up an attractive optional package which might include a bus tour to the Banff area, visit to an oil field, etc.
  - d) an approach to special names, seeking contributions for the next project.
7. That we favour the inclusion of an East/West Challenge Match for the Observer trophy as part of the week long-event.
8. That in the years when there is no Canadian Clergy event, that the Observer trophy be in the custody of the All-Ontario Coordinating Committee, and that the date of its bonspiel be published well in advance to allow participation by enthusiastic clergy curlers from outside the province.
9. That we undertake to supply the names of interested clergy curlers from across Canada for a future mailing list.
10. That consideration be given to the establishment of an appropriate budget to cover mailing, telephone and other costs, and that participating clergy curling clubs be assessed an amount to be worked out by mutual consent.

Winning first place in the *Conspiel* was a team from Alberta skipped by Gerry Ward of Lethbridge and including Jim Taylor and Ken Howlett of Calgary and Frank McPhee from Innisfail. Second place was won by a team from Winnipeg skipped by Garfield Barber and including Ches Morgan, Tudor Hughes and Jack Waschenfelder. A Vancouver rink skipped by Wes Bray and including Cameron Reid, Gerry and Ruby Payne claimed third place. Fourth was a rink from the Kitchener/Waterloo area of Ontario skipped by Gray Rivers and including Mel Boyd, Peter Bjerland and Alec Rice.

Special awards were made to Wes Bray of B.C. for letting go a *bomber* that took out four opposition rocks and stayed in the house; to Bill Fletcher of Ontario for being the first curler to register for *Conspiel '78*; to Maureen Mayne of Ontario for *Most Congenial Woman*, and to Gerry Ward as *Most Congenial Man*.

### CONSPIEL 1978

ADDISON, Rev. A. Peter and Esther,	Midland, Ontario
ADEY, Mr. & Mrs. Russell,	Winnipeg, Manitoba
ALLUM, Dr. Walter R.	Dundas, Ontario,
AMOS, Rev. Donald C. and Marjorie	Brampton, Ontario,
BARBER, Rev. J. Garfield,	Winnipeg, Manitoba
BJERLAND, Rev. Peter E.	Kitchener, Ontario
BOYD, Rev. Mel and Muriel,	Cambridge, Ontario
BRAY, Rev. Wesley and Betty,	White Rock, B.C.
BUTCHER, Rev. and Mrs. Dennis L.	Winnipeg, Manitoba
CHRISTMAS, Rev. E. Hugh,	Calgary, Alberta
DAVIS, Rev. Bill H.,	Winnipeg, Manitoba
DENHOLM, Rev. Dr. Andy T.,	Hamilton, Ontario
GILLANDERS, Rev. Dick,	Winnipeg, Manitoba
FLETCHER, Rev. Wm. G. and Freda	Napanee, Ontario
GOODGER, Capt. Martin and Margo	Winnipeg, Manitoba
HAMPTON, Mr Nelson and Dora	Winnipeg, Manitoba
HOWLETT, Rev. Ken,	Calgary, Alberta
HUGHES, Rev. Elwyn,	Rexdale, Ontario
HUGHES, Rev. Owen T.	Winnipeg, Manitoba
JEANNEAU, Rev. Fr. Maurice,	Winnipeg, Manitoba
KOEHLER, Rev. Lawrence R.	Winnipeg, Manitoba
LAPP, Rev. Dr. Gordon	Weston, Ontario
LeDREW, Rev. Ralph G.	Toronto, Ontario
LURVEY, Mr Tom	Winnipeg, Manitoba
MAYNE, Miss Maureen	Toronto, Ontario
MARTIN, Rev. Harold and Una	Richmond Hill, Ontario
McINTYRE, Rev. Donald and Helen	Saskatchewan
McKENZIE, Andy and Isobel	Halton Hills, Ontario
McMURTRY, Rev. Cliff and Betty	Winnipeg, Manitoba

McNAUGHT, Rev. Robert and Beulah  
 McNEILL, Rev. Jas. and Lyna  
 McPHEE, Rev. Frank and Ruth  
 MILTON, Mr and Mrs Ralph  
 MOORE, Rev. Wm. J. and Eileen  
 MORGAN, Rev. Ches and Jeanie  
 MULDREW, Rev. Fraser and Marion  
 PAYNE, Rev. Gerald and Ruby  
 REID, Rev. Cameron  
 RICE, Rev. Alec G. and Marjorie  
 RICE, Rev. Fred E.  
 RITCHIE, Rev. Harold  
 RIVERS, Rev. W. Gray  
 SAYERS, Rev. Wm. A.  
 SMITH, Rev. Grant and Enid  
 SCOTT, Rev. Don  
 TAYLOR, Rev. Jas. M.  
 VANSTONE, Rev. R. Bruce  
 WARD, Rev. Gerald  
 WASCHENFELDER, Mr. Jack  
 WHITE, Rev. H. Edward  
 WHITELEY, Rev. Frank  
 WRIGHT, Rev. Reg and Kay  
 ZIPRICK, Rev. Harold and Mrs.

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 Toronto, Ontario  
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