

## The Ottawa Canoe Club and the New Edinburgh Canoe Club, 1901-1918

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The first two decades of the twentieth century were turbulent ones for the Ottawa Canoe Club. For a few years it remained the dominant club in Ottawa and then it lost membership to new clubs. One of these clubs, the New Edinburgh Canoe Club emerged as the leading club in Ottawa with individual paddlers and war canoe crews who were among the best in Canada. In 1914 the Ottawa Canoe Club and the New Edinburgh Canoe Club merged to form the Ottawa New Edinburgh Canoe Club. The clubs merged on the understanding that they would build a new and larger clubhouse but these plans were delayed by the outbreak of the First World War.

The club year books for 1903-04 and 1904-05 give a more rounded view of the club's activities than is available from the newspapers of the day which focus on competitive paddling. At the beginning of the season in 1904 the club had 206 active members and 22 life members; a year later it had 205 active members and 20 life members. The club's receipts in 1903 amounted to \$1718.46; about \$800.00 came from membership fees; rental of racks, lockers, and canoes brought in \$387.00. The club's major expenditures for 1903-04 were the caretaker's salary, \$320.00; rent of clubhouse, \$240.00; and property and building expenditures, \$187.90. Two new canoes (fours) cost \$90.00 and a canoe for rental purposes cost \$22.50. Total expenditures for the year were \$1659.07. Among the club assets were 141 shares in the Ottawa Canoe Club House Co. valued at \$10.00 each. In 1904 receipts increased to \$1969.59 while expenditures rose to \$1966.03.<sup>1</sup>

The entertainment committee reported that three dances had been held in 1903 and five club hops were held in 1904. The committee also sponsored, in association with the swimming committee, a Moonlight Excursion but the weather failed to cooperate and it was not a financial success. The club house was also used on a regular basis for private dances. While there was some grumbling in the 1904 report that a large number of members had not shown sufficient interest in supporting these events, the 1905 report argued that an enlarged or entirely new club house was required.<sup>2</sup> The club had an active swimming program. In 1903 the club swimming committee organized the Dominion swimming championships. The swimming championship was dominated by Charles (Karl) Ruberl representing the New York Athletic Club. Ruberl was an Austrian born swimmer who had won bronze and silver medals in the 1900 Olympics. Joseph Wilson of the Toronto Swimming Club provided his closest competition.<sup>3</sup>

The 1904 year book included an article on "Camping and Canoeing" which extolled the virtues of camping and identified Camp Ko-Ko as a camp which had been established by four members of the OCC in 1895. Initially it was a tenting camp on the Gatineau about a mile north of its mouth but in 1900 a permanent cottage structure was built at the camp.<sup>4</sup> The 1905 year book contained a number of photographs of club members vacationing in Algonquin Park. One of the club members, John R. O'Connell, was a professional artist and illustrator. He kept a photo album of club activities during the years 1904-1909. The

album includes photos from Camp Ko-Ko and other wilderness camps and fishing scenes in Algonquin Park as well as paddling regattas and swimming meets. The album, which is illustrated with O'Connell's own drawings, provides an insight into the range of activities which the campers enjoyed.<sup>5</sup>

The club continued to be a social centre for Ottawa and in September 1901 it hosted the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall (the future George V and Queen Mary). After descending the timber slides at the Chaudiere Falls the royal couple were paddled to the OCC clubhouse where they watched a special regatta. The highlight of the regatta was a war canoe race in which 7 boats took part; the winner was a crew from the Grand Trunk club, followed by Britannia, with the OCC boat coming in third.<sup>6</sup> The club also benefited from ties to Ottawa's business community. From 1896 to 1905 David MacLaren, a member of the MacLaren lumber family, and the President of the Bank of Ottawa, served as commodore. He was a generous patron of sport and donated the David MacLaren Challenge Cup for war canoe championships; between 1897 and 1904 it was won four times by the OCC and four times by the Britannia Boating Club. From 1902 to 1905 G.P. Brophy was vice-commodore and from 1906 to 1913 he served as commodore. Brophy was a long time superintendent of the Ottawa River Works, one of the founders and directors of the Ottawa Electric Street Railway, and a director of the Ottawa Electric Company.<sup>7</sup>

The first few years of the twentieth century were good ones for the OCC paddlers. In 1900 H.B. Cowan won the men's single blade singles, half mile, Canadian championship, while E.H. Clayton and P.N. Mainguy won the men's single blade tandem, half mile. In 1904 the OCC hosted the Canadian Canoe Association championship and won the overall Canadian club championship. The OCC also played a major role in the first decade of the Canadian Canoe Association – E.A. Black was commodore in 1900, J.M. Hurcombe in 1903, W.F. Boardman in 1904 and Dr. O.K. "Kenny" Gibson in 1907 and 1908.<sup>8</sup>

Both Britannia and the OCC held open regattas in 1901 with Ottawa winning the majority of the races and Carleton Place doing well in the senior fours and singles. The two clubs' war canoes also raced in the Canadian Association of Amateur Oarsmen regatta on Lac Deschenes with Britannia winning by two feet in a half mile race. The CCA returned to Brockville for its second regatta with clubs from Montreal, Brockville, Smith's Falls, Carleton Place and Ottawa in attendance. Because the railways had refused to run excursion trains, attendance was lower than expected, and the weather was cool and cloudy with rather rough water. E. Dier of the Brockville Rowing Club opened the meet by winning the double bladed race. E. Dey and M. Neate of the OCC won the senior tandem race easily when two of their opponents swamped. The Grand Trunks then won the green fours and C. McLean of the Grand Trunk Boating Club (GTBC) won the senior singles. Seven war canoes started – Brockville Bohemians, Brockville Rowing, Brockville YMCA, Britannia, OCC, Smith's Falls, and Carleton Place. Britannia and the YMCA took an early lead with OCC close behind. About half way down the course, the YMCA and Britannia boats collided twice and the YMCA boat veered off and collided with the OCC boat. During the collision one of the YMCA crew took a swing with his paddle at the OCC stroke, R.W. Patterson, cutting his head badly. Other blows were

exchanged before the boats separated. Meanwhile the Bohemians had passed the melee and crossed the line first with Britannia close behind. The senior fours race was run immediately after the war canoe race and the OCC and Britannia crews, who had been in the war canoe race, were delayed in reaching the start line. Race officials refused to delay the start with the result that only the Grand Trunk and Carleton Place canoes raced with Grand Trunk winning. After the war canoe race, Ottawa launched a protest and it was decided to rerun the race; although most of the crews were willing to race, the Bohemians refused. As a result the officials cancelled the race and decided to rerun it at a later date; in the end it was run during the royal visit. The Ottawa papers were irate with the result - the *Ottawa Citizen* called it "A Rank Decision Against the Ottawas."<sup>9</sup>

The race was rerun in September as part of the regatta staged for the Duke and Duchess of York and Cornwall. Seven clubs, Britannia, Smith's Falls, Carleton Place, the OCC, Brockville Rowing, Brockville YMCA, and the Grand Trunk Boating Club sent war canoes. Throughout the race the GTBC led, with Britannia gradually drawing even. With only yards to go the GTBC boat put on a final spurt, defeating Britannia by about a foot and a half. The OCC boat with R.W. Patterson in the bow and Archie DeM. Bell in the stern came in third, about 6 feet behind Britannia. The winning time was 3 minutes and 36 seconds.<sup>10</sup>

1902 was an active year for paddling in the Ottawa area. On 26 June the Northern Division ACA championships were held at Carleton Place. Because of high winds most of the races were not run on the first day of the meet although at 7:00 PM the mile war canoe race was run with the Grand Trunk crew winning. However, the race was protested and was rerun the next day. The Grand Trunk crew refused to paddle again and the rematch was won by Smith's Falls with Britannia in second place. The Grand Trunk won both the half mile and quarter mile war canoe races. M. Neate of the OCC won the singles, single blade, and he and E.E. Dey won the tandem half mile with turn.<sup>11</sup>

Britannia held its 7<sup>th</sup> annual regatta on 19 July. The OCC war canoe defeated the Britannia Boating Club crew by half a length. Neate, Dey and Lawless of the OCC came first, second, and third in the open canoe singles. Britannia did better in the boys and green paddling categories, winning most events.<sup>12</sup> A band was on hand to entertain the crowd and the Britannia club held a dance in the evening to round off the event.

The OCC held its regatta on 26 July and the Britannia Club carried off most of the prizes. Its war canoe won by a good margin with the OCC second and the new Rideau Club third. M. Neate won the single blade open again while he and E. Dey won the tandem; however there was some confusion as, although they raced for the OCC it was said after the race that they had intended to paddle for Britannia. Apparently they had a disagreement with the OCC<sup>13</sup> and when the Britannia club hosted the CCA championships on 10 August 1902 both Dey and Neate paddled for Britannia.

New races at the intermediate and junior levels were added to the CCA regatta in 1902 and the senior single double bladed race was dropped from CCA competition although double bladed races were still sometimes run at club regattas. The format introduced in

1902 - single, tandem, and four man single blade races over a half mile for senior, intermediate and junior classes plus war canoe races over half mile and mile races – continued until 1932 when some double bladed races were reintroduced. The intermediate class was abandoned after the Second World War.

The 1900 and 1901 races had included a half mile war canoe race; the 1902 regatta added a one mile war canoe race for the Fulford Cup. Senator George Fulford made his fortune in the patent medicine business selling “Dr. William’s Pink Pills for Pale People.” A native of Brockville, he was a strong supporter of local institutions including the Brockville Rowing Club and the Brockville Y.M.C.A. In 1901 he donated a \$100 silver cup for a war canoe tug of war but clubs were reluctant to race for it, fearing that a tug of war would damage their canoes. Fulford agreed to change the dedication of the cup to a mile war canoe race, with a turn, for the Canadian championship. The cup remained in competition until 1979 and the mile war canoe race was generally the last, and most prestigious, of the races in regattas.

The first competition for the cup was held at the CCA championships at Britannia in 1902. The *Ottawa Journal* described the race:

The one mile race with turn for the Fulford cup, established this year as a perpetual event was another star feature of the afternoon. The start and finish was made in front of the club house. As the crews lined up for the word it was seen that there were five entries, viz: O.C.C., Smith’s Falls, G.T.B.C., Y.M.C.A. Brockville, and Britannia B.C. The Brits got the better of the start and soon had a length over its field. Grand Trunks settled down to work and soon caught them and turned their buoy first. Britannias followed soon after, then came Smith’s Falls, O.C.C. and Y.M.C.A. One hundred yards from the finish it appeared as though the Grand Trunks had the race easily. In the last 50 yards, however, the Brits started to paddle and gained so fast that had the distance been 10 yards further they would have won. It was a brilliant finish and only won by the Montrealers in the hardest kind of struggle.<sup>14</sup>

The Grand Trunk Boating Club and the BBC dominated the 1902 championships. The GTBC won the senior fours, the junior singles and tandem, the intermediate tandem and the mile war canoe for the Fulford Cup. Counting all recorded races (some third place finishes were not recorded) Grand Trunk took 31 points compared to Britannia’s 22. However, the *Ottawa Journal* headline proclaimed “Britannias Are CCA Champions.” Britannia had won the half mile race, which at the time was considered the championship, as well as the senior single (Edgar Dey) and the senior tandem (E. Dey and M.C. Neate). It placed second in all of the junior events, the double blade single, and the mile war canoe race. In the senior events Britannia accumulated 16 points compared to Grand Trunk’s 12 and on the basis of the system later used by the CCA to determine club champions, it would have been the club champion in 1902. St. Lambert won the junior fours while D. Green of the OCC won the senior double bladed race.<sup>15</sup>

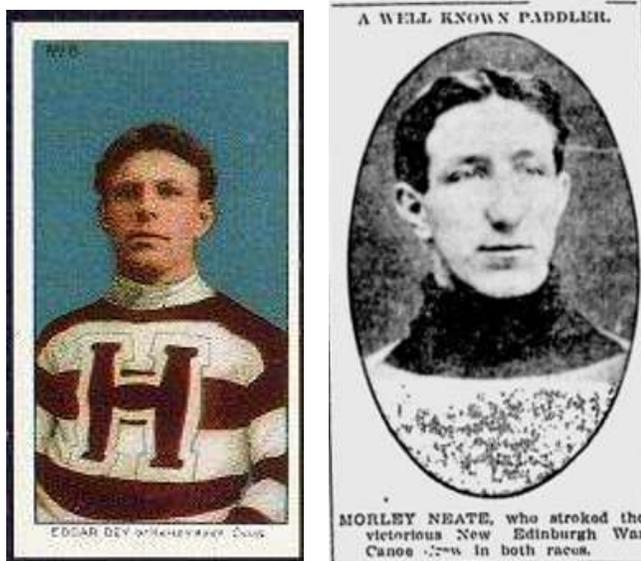
On 18 July Ernest A. Black died of typhoid fever. An employee in the Department of Finance, he had been active in the O.C.A.C. and in fraternal organizations. He was the captain of the OCC from 1898 to 1901 and was the first commodore of the CCA.<sup>16</sup>

During the summer of 1902 some young men who camped at Mooney's Bay acquired a war canoe "Bobs" from the OCC and began practicing. C. Clendenning, Bob Craig, the McDonald Brothers, C. Sutherland and F. Morse, most of whom had paddled with Britannia, were identified as prime movers in the new club.<sup>17</sup> They organized the Rideau Canoe Club; in 1905 the club incorporated and built a fine new clubhouse on the Rideau Canal at the foot of Fifth Avenue. The clubhouse was designed to house both canoes and motor launches which were growing increasingly popular in Ottawa.<sup>18</sup> Initially the Rideau club was not a serious threat to the two older clubs but in the 1920s it became the most successful club in the capital and won three overall Canadian championship burgees in four years - 1924 to 1927.

The last of the Ottawa area clubs, the New Edinburgh Canoe Club was organized in the spring of 1904. The "boys of Rideau Ward" had been successful in football and hockey and it was thought that they should be able to hold their own in a war canoe. An article in the *Ottawa Citizen* in 1923 suggested that some OCC members felt that "There was too much 'fuss' and not enough athletics in the old club." They hoped to expand the club's activities into other sports – rugby, hockey, etc., and when their ideas received little support from the executive they formed the NECC and built a small floating boathouse a ways upstream from the OCC. The article identified Alf. Stitt, Wm. Johnston, H. Sims, F. Courtenay, W.T. Crowe, Horace Merrill, J. Bryne, F. Cherry, Geo. Snelling, Chas Snelling, Eddie Gerard, Jack Ryan, Leslie Tubman, Morley Neate, Edgar Woolsey and Frank Dave as being prominent in the new club. Beginning with 40 members in 1904 (when the OCC had about 220), the club had had 125 members by 1905; it was completely focused on racing and had no pleasure canoes.<sup>19</sup> The executive elected in 1905 included H.J. Sims, president; M.C. Neate, secretary; and F. Courtenay, treasurer. The club's first war canoe crew was stroked by Morley Neate, an experienced paddler from Britannia (and previously the OCC), and captained by Edgar Woolsey, an equally experienced paddler from the OCC.<sup>20</sup> During the 11 years of its existence the NECC was very successful, winning the men's open war canoe, one mile race for Canada in 1909, 1910 and 1911, and placing second in the half-mile race in 1908, 1909, and 1910.

The new clubs provided competition for the OCC and drew some of their paddlers from it. Two of the OCC's most successful paddlers were Edgar Dey and Maurice 'Morley' Neate. The Dey family owned a boat and canoe building company in Ottawa. Neate was the son of a grocer in New Edinburgh. Dey won the boys singles at the Britannia regatta in 1900 and he and Neate won the doubles. In 1901 they won the Canadian men's tandem championship.<sup>21</sup> At the Northern Division of the ACA championships in Carleton Place in 1902, Neate and Dey won first and second place in the singles competition for OCC and together they won the tandem half mile.<sup>22</sup> In the middle of the 1902 season they moved to the Britannia Boating Club. They paddled for Britannia at the 1903 OCC regatta and won the open tandem; Dey won the open single<sup>23</sup> Both Dey and Neate played

hockey as well. Dey turned professional in 1906 and played for the Stanley Cup champions, the Ottawa Hockey Club, in 1908-09. He died in 1912 as the result of an injury suffered playing for the Halifax Crescents.<sup>24</sup> Neate played for the W.C. Edwards hockey team and for the New Edinburgh team. He died in 1950.<sup>25</sup>



1. **Edgar Dey and Morley Neate.**  
[http://www.haileyburycomets.com/Edgar\\_Dey.html](http://www.haileyburycomets.com/Edgar_Dey.html),  
 27 August 2015 and *Ottawa Citizen*, 5 July 1910.

In addition to competing with other paddling clubs for membership the OCC had to compete with other summer sports. Both the *Ottawa Citizen* and the *Ottawa Journal* provided coverage of a wide range of summer sports – lacrosse, cricket, baseball, rowing, the turf, golf, shooting, yachting, tennis, cycling and athletics - at the local, national and international level. Judging by the extent of coverage lacrosse and baseball were among the most popular summer sports.

The OCC began the 1903 racing season with only a few returning paddlers but after a determined canvas of the city it elected 72 “desirable candidates” and was able to field two war canoes. In four trial races held in June the OCC defeated Britannia once and lost to Britannia once and to the Rideau Club twice.<sup>26</sup> Following one defeat by the Rideau Club the *Ottawa Citizen* commented that the OCC paddlers would not practice regularly and were in poor shape.<sup>27</sup> The OCC doesn’t seem to have participated in the ACA’s Northern Division meet held at Brockville on 1 July but several of its members – J. Anderson, J. Johnstone and J. and E. Curran - did very well at the Orillia Canoe Club’s Dominion Day regatta.<sup>28</sup>

The OCC held its 21<sup>st</sup> open regatta on 25 July with competitors from both Britannia and Rideau present. E. Dey and M. Neate placed first and second in the singles and first in the doubles; the OCC managed a third place in both events. J.B. Lawless of the OCC won the double blade canoe race with Dey coming in second. Britannia dominated the regatta, winning eight events while the OCC won three. The war canoe race had to be restarted

after the Gatineau ferry crossed the course; in the second start the Britannia boat finished in the very fast time of 3 minutes and 2/5 seconds with Rideau coming in second and OCC third. At one point the races had to be suspended when a boom broke and logs came down the river; at another, races were stopped by a heavy rain squall.<sup>29</sup>

The 1903 CCA championships were held at Longueuil on 1 August in front of 2000 spectators. Although choppy water forced the postponement of four events until the Grand Trunk Boating Club's regatta, seven events were held with the GTBC winning four events and three other Montréal area clubs winning one each. Dey and Neate, BBC, managed second place finishes in the senior and intermediate singles races. The GTBC won both the half mile war canoe race and the Fulford cup (one mile race) with Britannia coming second and Rideau third in both races. The OCC had a war canoe in both races but did not place.<sup>30</sup>

Paddling competitions were not all completely serious. Late in August 1903 the New Edinburgh Athletic Club (or Board Club) held a special regatta on the Rideau River in which "youthful athletes" competed, paddling boards or planks in lieu of canoes. The war canoe event and the fours were not pulled off because some of the boys did not show up.<sup>31</sup>

The loss of paddlers like Neate and Dey hurt the OCC but it was able to recover and have a very successful season in 1904. At the Britannia regatta on 16 July with the four city clubs present the OCC war canoe won the Rosenthal Cup for the quarter mile dash while Britannia won the half mile war canoe race and took permanent possession of the Smith trophy.<sup>32</sup> A week later at the OCC regatta the Ottawa war canoe crew was able to fend off a strong challenge by the Brits to win the McLaren Cup in spite of the fact that two of its regular paddlers were off sick. Equally important, Horace Merrill, a relative newcomer in Ottawa paddling, was able to beat M. Neate handily in the senior singles and Merrill and M. Eastcott won the senior tandem race. Britannia won the open fours. A. Pratt won the junior singles for the OCC.<sup>33</sup>

The *Ottawa Journal* identified the crews of the four war canoes at the OCC regatta: OCC War Canoe – Dr. OK Gibson stroke, G. Mumford, J. O'Connell, J. Folley, G. Hamilton, M. Eastcott, H. Merrill, G. Perley, A. Pratt, E.S. Sherwood, W. Kirkpatrick, F. Nutting, G. Babin, N. Plant, A.A. Pinard, Capt.; Britannia – H. Percival, stroke; G. Boyce, F. Ashfield, G. Burland, F. Thompson, W. Burns, F. Morse, E. Mitchell, W. Mason, C. Crabbe, M. Skuce, F. Turnbull, L. Skuce, J. Boyce, E.R. McNeil, Capt.; NECC - Maurice Neate, stroke, Jos. Rankin, Chas. Snelling, W. Johnston, F. Courtney, W. Mills, W. Crowe, O. Marquay, W. Neate, G. McIntosh, J. Donaldson, Geo. Snelling, W. Dunning, J. Ryan, Edgar Woolsey, Capt.; Rideau – C. Clendenning stroke, J. Hill, H. Fauster, A. McCracken, C. Courtman, B. McGiffin, G. Sims, W. Carter, W. Armstrong, A. Ault, F. Musgrove, J. Aubrey, M. McGuire, J. Cameron, Capt.

The Northern Division regatta of the CCA was scheduled for 6 August at Britannia but was postponed until the following Saturday due to high winds. The OCC won the Smith Premier Typewriter Co. Cup for the half mile war canoe race as well as the Rosenthal

trophy for the quarter mile. Overall the OCC won 5 events, Britannia four, and the NECC won 3. M. Neate won the senior singles for NECC while H. Merrill and Eastcott won the senior tandem paddling for OCC.<sup>34</sup>

On 20 August 1904 the OCC hosted the CCA’s annual championship. In addition to the four Ottawa clubs four clubs from Montréal were in competition – the Grand Trunk Boating Club, St. Lambert, St. Stephen’s and Longueuil. Eleven events were run. Austin Pratt, OCC, won the junior singles and Horace Merrill, OCC, won the senior singles by several lengths. The Grand Trunk boat was favoured for the half mile war canoe – the championship of Canada - but the OCC won it by only a few inches with St. Lambert second and Grand Trunk third. The Grand Trunk club went on to win the one mile race for the Fulford Cup. J. Ryan and M. Neate, NECC, won the senior tandem with Davidson and Johnson of Lachine winning the senior tandem. The junior fours were won by NECC (C. Snelling, Jos. Rankin, A. Gerrard, and G. Snelling) while the Grand Trunk won both the intermediate and senior fours. Lachine won the intermediate single. The last race of the day, the one mile war canoe, was won by Grand Trunk with OCC coming second.<sup>35</sup>

The *Ottawa Journal* reported the following overall results:



	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Ottawa	3	3
Grand Trunk	3	0
New Edinburgh	2	3
Lachine	2	1
St. Stephen’s	1	1
Britannia	0	2

2. "Ottawa 1904/ 1/2 Mile War Canoe/ Championship/ Won by/ Ottawa Canoe Club. Source: Rideau Canoe Club.

1904 was the first year in which the CCA declared an overall club championship. The club championship was awarded on the basis of the results in the senior singles, tandem, and fours races and the two war canoe races with three points being given for a first place finish, two for a second and one for a third. The OCC took 10 points in these categories with the GTBC in second place with seven.<sup>36</sup>

Although the regatta was a success for the OCC paddlers it was not a complete success. It rained heavily for much of the day and events were delayed – by the end of the day races were an hour and a half behind schedule and by time the last war canoe race finished it was so dark that the judges could only see the winning boats. A quarter mile dash had been scheduled for the regatta but was scratched to save time. The *Ottawa Journal* suggested that the officials had been lax in enforcing rules which penalized paddlers who were late at the starting line. The course itself was criticized. For the first time races were run against the current and without a turn. Races were started downstream, near the head of Kettle Island and finished opposite the boathouse on the Quebec side of the river. Spectators saw only the finish of the race and not the start. It was also believed that the current “decidedly favoured” the boats on the Quebec side of the course.<sup>37</sup>

All clubs faced problems in organizing races and meeting the expectations of spectators. The *Ottawa Citizen* described a regatta organized by the Victoria Yacht Club at Aylmer as a “tedious affair” which started an hour and a half late and involved long waits between races. A sports writer in the *Journal* noted that clubs relied on gate receipts but that people were tiring of paying for races they couldn’t see. Racing canoes were designed with straightaway courses in mind but a race with a turn allowed the race to start and finish in front of the spectators.<sup>38</sup>



**3. Ottawa Canoe Club, Champions of Canada, 1904. Note the change in style of canoes. Source: Topley Studio / LAC /Mikan No. 3412208.**

Arthur A. Pinard, the captain of the Ottawa war canoe had been a successful paddler in the 1890s. Born in 1872, he joined the civil service and eventually retired in 1930 after 12 years as the secretary of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. He returned to paddling in 1904 to lead the Ottawa war canoe through a successful season for what seems to have been his final major competition. Major Pinard was also a founding member of the Ottawa Ski Club, a director of the Ottawa Amateur Athletic Association and a recipient of the Silver Wolf medal for his work with the Boy Scouts.<sup>39</sup>



Horace Merrill (1884-1958) who won the senior singles the CCA championship in 1904 was an outstanding paddler and hockey player. Born in 1884 he was a member of the Rideau Canoe Club's first war canoe crew. Paddling for the OCC in 1903 he came second against William Neate in the green singles at the OCC regatta. He also formed part of the second place fours crew. In 1904 he had matured and defeated M. Neate in the open single at the OCC regatta.<sup>40</sup> In 1906 he switched to the New Edinburgh club and took second place in the senior singles at the CCA championship.<sup>41</sup> In 1908 and 1909 he took the title as Canadian singles champion. In 1907 he was captain of the NECC war canoe crew which defeated the reigning Canadian war canoe champions from Britannia at a club race at the Rideau Canoe Club regatta. In 1908, 1909 and 1910 he lead the war canoe crew to second place finishes in the half-mile Canadian championships. The crew came second in the mile race in 1908 and finished first in 1909, 1910, and 1911. In 1912 he served as rear commodore of the CCA.<sup>42</sup> Merrill played hockey for the New Edinburgh Hockey Club from about 1904 to 1910<sup>43</sup> and was a member of the Cliffside, the first Allan Cup champions in 1909. From 1912 to 1920 he played with the Ottawa Senators; in his last year with the Senators they won the Stanley Cup. In a remarkable display of his attachment to both hockey and paddling, when he married Phyllis Parker at her parents' home, the house was decorated in red, black and white.<sup>44</sup>

The first major regatta in Ottawa in 1905 was the CCA Northern Division meet held at the Rideau Club's site on the Rideau Canal. The war canoe races were run in heats, presumably because the canal was relatively narrow, and, because of fouls, the races were reported to be unsatisfactory. Britannia won the half mile war canoe race: the OCC war canoe won a quarter mile dash against the Rideau crew – Britannia and the NECC did not enter. Merrill won senior singles for the OCC and the OCC crew won the senior fours. The regatta also saw the first motor boat race to be run in Ottawa.<sup>45</sup> The 9<sup>th</sup> annual Britannia regatta was held on 11 July; again Britannia won the half mile war canoe race while the OCC won the quarter mile dash.<sup>46</sup> At the 23<sup>rd</sup> OCC regatta the Britannia war canoe won both of its races and in the half mile for the McLaren cup it posted the fastest time made up to date, 2 minutes and 55 seconds. Britannia won the open fours and Dey of Rideau won the double bladed, single, event. Overall, the OCC won three events, the Britannias three, the Rideaus two and the NECC one. NECC won only one race, the

CCA Championship St. John's, 1905		
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
GTBC	5	6
St. John's	2	0
St. Lambert	1	1
BBC	1	1
NECC	1	1
St. Stephens	1	0
Rideau	0	1
Longueil	0	1

intermediate singles; however, the fact that it fielded two war canoe crews suggests that its membership of 125 was very active. The *Ottawa Citizen* remarked that the OCC crew was not "in the shape that faithful practice would have left them." The *Ottawa Journal* noted that the starts had been delayed by the passage of a tug with a boom of logs and by difficulty in getting the boats to the start line.<sup>47</sup> The CCA championships were held at St. Johns, Quebec, on 29 July and the Grand Trunk crews won both war canoe races with Britannia coming second in the one mile race. Britannia also won the intermediate fours.

Ryan of NECC won the intermediate singles and Morley Neate came second in the senior singles; the OCC did not place in any of the races. The Grand Trunk club was the overall winner and CCA club champion for 1905.<sup>48</sup>

Of the clubs which were active in the CCA at this time the Grand Trunk Boating Club and the Rideau Canoe Club were to win the CCA club championship six times each; Gananoque has won the title three times and Ottawa (New Edinburgh) has won it twice.

The mention of a motor boat race at the Rideau Club's 1905 regatta marks a trend in water sports. In the decade after 1900 motor boats became increasingly popular and in 1909 the Ottawa Motor Boat Association was organized. A report on the New Edinburgh club stated that Dave Esdale had made his "speedy gasoline yacht" available for the use of the club's coaches. In 1910 the OCC decided to have a motor boat section; the club trophies include a cup won in Victoria Day motor boat races by W.J.B. White's "Vivien." The Rideau Aquatic Club built a large boathouse to house motor boats adjacent to its clubhouse in 1912.<sup>49</sup>

1906 marked a decline in the OCC's fortunes. Horace Merrill, the club's most successful paddler, switched to the NECC and the OCC's war canoes failed to win any major races. The BBC's 11<sup>th</sup> regatta was dominated by Britannia with five first place finishes and the Carleton Place Canoe Club with four firsts. NECC took two - M. Neate won the senior singles, Crowe and Neate won the gunwale race - and the OCC took none. The OCC did not even have an entry in the senior singles.<sup>50</sup> At the OCC's 24<sup>th</sup> annual regatta the Britannia club again dominated events. Britannia won both war canoe races and the green fours and senior fours. NECC took five firsts - green singles, Crowe; green tandem, Abbott and Askwith, open singles, Crowe (on a foul); and gunwale race, Burns and Askwith; tilting, Neate and Neate. The weather was ideal, but reporters noted that the OCC course was not the best - there was too much traffic on the river and bark, logs and sawdust from the Ottawa mills drifted down the river.<sup>51</sup> The Rideau Canoe Club organized the 7<sup>th</sup> annual CCA regatta at the Victoria Yacht Club on Lac Deschênes on 11 August. In the mile war canoe race Britannia and Rideau were in the lead until the last quarter mile when they "came together" and the Chateauguay boat overtook them and won, taking the Fulford Cup from the Grand Trunk club which had held it for four years. In the half mile race Britannia won by a length, defeating the Carleton Place crew who were paddling in a canoe which had been loaned to them by Britannia. Overall the Grand Trunks took four first places, Britannia, Carleton Place, and St. Lambert two each, and Chateauguay, New Edinburgh, and Toronto one each. Horace Merrill, paddling for New Edinburgh came second to Brownrigg of the Grand Trunks in the senior singles. The OCC did not figure in any of the reports of the race.<sup>52</sup>

The appearance of a five man Toronto contingent at the CCA championships in 1906 was a first. When the CCA was organized only clubs from eastern Ontario and the Montreal area participated. The Toronto Canoe Club, with several hundred members, and other clubs from central and western Ontario as well as active clubs in Winnipeg and Halifax remained outside the CCA. Distance and the cost of travel, especially the cost of transporting war canoes and their large crews, may have played a role in limiting the growth of the CCA but by 1906 the association had proved its viability and the appearance of the competitors from Toronto marked the beginning of a broader affiliation of canoe clubs. Although Toronto area clubs, and those along the St. Lawrence River,

continued to be active in the ACA they played an increasingly important role in the CCA and in Canadian canoe racing. From 1908 to 1914 the Toronto Canoe Club dominated paddling, winning the CCA club championship every year. In 1915, another Toronto club, Balmy Beach, edged out the TCC to win the club championship.<sup>53</sup>

Although the Toronto Canoe Club, with about 600 members in 1909, was much larger than the OCC, its history closely paralleled that of the OCC and ONECC. Organized in 1880, it was the first canoe club in Toronto; its paddlers were known as the Red Ringers. Initially it rented a boathouse; in 1893 it built its own boathouse. In the nineteenth century it was active in the American Canoe Association and did not join the Canadian Canoe Association until 1907. For eight years it dominated the CCA but gradually other Toronto clubs, Balmy Beach and Parkdale, ended its pre-eminence. In 1913 the TCC began to plan for a new clubhouse but it was unable to build until after the First World War. During the 1920s growing debts forced the club to sell off some of its land and cut back its activities to purely aquatic events. In 1939 the club was re-organized as the Toronto Sailing and Canoe Club. The change in name reflected a change in focus and in 1967 the club abandoned competitive paddling while sailing continued to grow.<sup>54</sup>

1907 was another difficult year for the OCC. It started with the death of W.F. Boardman in January. Boardman had been active in Ottawa sports – the captain of the OCC and commodore of the CCA, he was also president of the Ottawa Harriers and a former captain of the Ottawa Rowing Club.

In June the club received an influx of members from the Cliffside, the Ottawa hockey team. Among them was a well-known hockey player, Chic Henry. Four years previously Henry had played for a hockey team in Pittsburgh and had received the “usual remuneration doled out to players.” He applied to the CCA for reinstatement as an amateur but although his application was supported by both the Rideau and the Ottawa clubs, the CCA refused to accept him as an amateur.<sup>55</sup>

The Ottawa race season opened with the Rideau Club’s third regatta on 13 July. The NECC club pulled an upset, defeating Rideau to win the war canoe race; the BBC crew which held the Canadian championship was eliminated in preliminary heats. In other races the BBC and OCC each managed three firsts – A.C. Pratt won both the senior singles and the double blade for Ottawa and Black and Gisborne won the junior tandem.<sup>56</sup> The OCC held its regatta on 27 July; in addition to the Ottawa clubs, the Grand Trunk club and the St. Lambert Club were present. The GTBC finished first overall – the *Ottawa Journal* reported the following scores:

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Total
GTBC	3	5	3	22
NECC	4	1	0	14
BBC	1	1	3	8
Rideau	0	0	2	2
St. Lambert	0	2	0	2
OCC	0	0	0	0 <sup>57</sup>

NECC won four events: Smith and Graham won the green singles; Burns, Gerrard, Mckenzie, and Graham won the green fours; Ryan and Craine won the open tandem; and the quarter mile war canoe for the Rosenthal Cup. The quarter mile race had to be run a second time due to a faulty start; the *Citizen* gave a dramatic account of the final yards of the race:

...one or two hundred yards from the finish, Grand Trunk, Britannia, and St. Lambert's were side by side in the center, Rideaus, Ottawas and Britannia seconds having fallen in the rear. "Brits, Ottawas, Rideaus Grand Trunk" screeched the spectators while New Edinburgh supporters seemed downcast. But suddenly up the Ottawa with the speed of an auto came the New Edinburgh boat, the men keeping perfect stroke, their heads bent and paddles rising and sinking with the clock-like regularity.

"New Edinburgh come on." The cry went up again and New Edinburgh responded bravely, Grand Trunk, St. Lambert's and Britannia were close to the mark but nothing could stop that New Edinburgh boat. On it came, passing St. Lambert's and Britannia seconds. Neate was seen in the bow keeping up a steady stroke. "Spurt, New Edinburgh, spurt." Again the crowd screeched. "Come on Ottawa, Rah rah Britannia and Hustle Rideaus." Soon the race narrowed down to a struggle between New Edinburgh, Grand Trunk, and Britannias. Fifty yards from the finish, Capt. Merrill, who had been devoting most of his efforts towards steering, also bent over his blade. "Now, Morley: let her go." Merrill had given the signal for a spurt at last. Neate responded beautifully, his paddle increasing its motion. Every man in the New Edinburgh boat put forth every effort he could command and quickly the New Edinburgh boat poked its nose in front of the others. Britannia, Rideaus, and Grand Trunk were working like beavers but New Edinburghs were determined to carry off the laurels and crossed the line fully a length in front of the Grand Trunk men with the Brits a foot or so behind the latter.<sup>58</sup>

The Grand Trunk club won the McLaren trophy for the 1/2 mile war canoe race.

The regatta was judged a great success with hundreds of people on the clubhouse balconies and more in the two barges drawn up on either side of the clubhouse. The OCC failed to score a single point, prompting a limerick in the *Journal*:

Said a young man much noted for "gall."  
"The old Ottawa clubs had a fall."  
Quoth a member, "Young chap,  
Give us none of your yap.  
We're the daddies, my lad, of them all."



7. Ottawa Canoe Club, probably the 1907 Regatta. Source: LAC, J.R. O'Connell Album

Ottawa was also unsuccessful at the Britannia regatta which was swept by the Carleton Place club. The CPCC won six out eight events; Britannia took the quarter mile war canoe dash and Horace Merrill won the open single for the NECC.<sup>59</sup> A few days later Carleton Place hosted the Northern Division Regatta of the CCA. Carleton Place, on the basis of its performance at Britannia, had been expected to dominate the meet but the NECC won three firsts – open single, H. Merrill, senior tandem, E. Gerard and D. McKenzie, and senior fours, Gerard, McKenzie, Burns, and Graham. NECC also had three second place finishes. Carleton Place had two firsts and two seconds; Rideau, one first and one second and Britannia one first and one second. Britannia won the war canoe quarter mile while Carleton Place won the half mile. Again, the OCC failed to place.<sup>60</sup>

CCA Championship, Dominion Park, Montreal, 1907			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
GTBC	2	2	3
TCC	3	2	0
CPCC	3	1	0
Chateaugay	1	1	0
St. Stephen	1	1	0
BBC	0	2	0
OCC	1	0	0
Rideau	0	1	0
St. Lambert	0	0	2

The Carleton Place regatta was a warm up for the 1907 CCA championships held at Dominion Park, Montreal, on 10 August. Six Ontario clubs, including Toronto, and five Montreal area clubs took part with over 400 individual entries. Over 15,000 visitors attended the regatta and saw Carleton Place defeat 10 other war canoes to win both the mile and the half mile races and win them with room to spare; the CPCC also won the intermediate singles race. Toronto had three first place finishes and the Grand Trunk club had two; nevertheless the CCA shows the Grand Trunk

club as club champion. The OCC's junior fours, E.A. Black, F.H. Gisborne, Whyte, and L. Burpee, brought the club its only first place finish. The NECC failed to place.<sup>61</sup>

Prior to the 1908 season the NECC and the OCC discussed a merger which would bring \$3000 worth of OCC assets and 300 members together with \$800 and the membership of the NECC. The talks foundered on the question of a name – the OCC proposed the Ottawa Canoe Club and the NECC membership refused to abandon its name. The *Ottawa Citizens'* source on the discussions went on to say "There is a mistaken idea in some quarters that we are down and out as it were, but as a matter of fact, the Ottawa Canoe Club is better off today than ever before financially and in the racing department has

better prospects than it had at the opening of the season of 1904 when we ended up by winning the championship of Canada.”<sup>62</sup>



8. CCA War Canoe Race, Dominion Park, Montreal, 1907. Source: LAC, J.R. O'Connell Album

Despite this confidence in its prospects, the OCC did not have a successful racing season in 1908. In the local contests – Rideau, Britannia, and the OCC – it won a single race. New Edinburgh, by contrast had an excellent season, winning 12 out of 24 events at the three local regattas. At the Northern Division trials, held at Carleton Place on 1 August, the NECC won five events – G. Coyles won the junior singles, Ingram and Bangs won the junior tandem, Merrill and Crowe won the senior tandem, Merrill, Neate, and Crowe took first, second and third in the senior singles, and Smith, Abbott, Coyles, and Bradley won the junior fours. Carleton Place came second overall, winning both war canoe events. The OCC managed three third place finishes and placed fourth overall. The

	CCA Championship, Britannia, 1908			Total
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
Toronto CC	5	3	1	22
NECC	1	4	2	13
Island ACC	1	2	3	10
GTBC	2	1	1	9
Parkdale	2	0	0	6
St. Stephen CC	0	1	1	3
BCC	0	0	1	1
Chateaugay CC	0	0	1	1
CPCC	0	0	1	1

Northern Division clubs were much less successful at the CCA regatta held at Britannia on 8 August. The Toronto Canoe Club won five events and the overall title; the Parkdale club won both war canoe events and the Island Aquatic Club won the intermediate tandem event. The Grand Trunk Boating Club won two events and H. Merrill, paddling for NECC, won the senior singles. It was the only win for an Ottawa area club. By dint of four second place finishes the NECC managed to capture the

second place position overall at the regatta. The Carleton Place war canoe, which might have been expected to do well, capsized before the races and two of the crew nearly drowned and were unable to compete. The remaining paddlers withdrew from most events, including the half mile war canoe race. Although they recovered to paddle the mile war canoe race they only managed a third place finish.<sup>63</sup>

The competitive paddling season was short, beginning early in July and effectively ending with the CCA championship in early or mid-August. Although the competitive

season was short, it could be intense; in some years paddlers slept over at the clubhouse during the paddling season so that they could have morning practices. In 1909 NECC had a camp up the Gatineau where paddlers slept before paddling down to the club to take the streetcar downtown. There were also club regattas (as opposed to invitational or open regattas) outside of this season and it is likely that recreational canoeing enjoyed a longer season. Once the paddling season had ended some of the all-round athletes such as Neate, Merrill, Ryan and Pulford would begin practising for the fall football season and with the beginning of winter would move on to hockey. The OCC and Britannia also supported competitive swimming and the OCC regularly hosted Canadian amateur swimming championships. At the meet in 1908 Gordon Johnstone, an OCC member, broke all Canadian records for the 100 yard swim.<sup>64</sup>

Organized swimming in Canada dates from the formation of the Toronto Dolphin Club in 1875 and the Montreal Swimming Club in 1876. The first official Canadian Swimming Championships were held at the Ottawa Canoe Club in 1898. At a meeting in Montreal on 1 May 1909 the Canadian Amateur Swimming Association was organized and on 14 August CASA held its first championship meet at the OCC.<sup>65</sup> The field was limited to clubs from the Ottawa and Montreal area; the western affiliates of CASA had not been able to attend the meet. C.M. Daniels, “the human fish”, of the New York Athletic Club did not appear although he had been registered. Johnstone retained both the 50 and 100 yard titles and the Montreal Athletic Association won both the relay and the 440 swim. R.M. Zimmerman of the Montreal Swimming Club won the diving competitions.<sup>66</sup> The OCC held the CASA championships again in 1910 and Johnstone retained his Canadian titles in the 50 and 100 yard swims although in the 50 he tied with an American challenger, G. South of New York City. Two OCC swimmers, A.E. Black and F.H. Gisborne, placed first and second in the Ottawa City 100 yard championship race. Black also placed first in the high dive, beating Zimmerman of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association. The Toronto Swimming Club had a team at the meet; although they only managed one third place finish, in the 200 yard relay, their participation did expand the range of the championships.<sup>67</sup> The OCC hosted the CASA championships again in 1911 and Johnstone retained his title in the 100 yard swim and came second to L. Earl of the Montreal AAA in the 50 yard event. Montreal swimmers also won the 200 yard relay and the 440 yard swim.<sup>68</sup>

Born in 1889, Gordon Simpson Johnstone was an outstanding OCC athlete. In addition to being one of the best swimmers in Canada, he was a successful paddler, the captain of the one of the OCC war canoes in 1913 and 1914. He played fullback for the Ottawa Football Club when it won the Inter-Provincial Union Championship, he played baseball with the OAAC and hockey with the Cliffside in the interprovincial union. Johnstone enlisted in 1916 and served overseas with the Eastern Ontario Regiment for two years before being wounded. He died of his wounds and pneumonia on 4 November 1918 in Buxton, England.<sup>69</sup>

1909 was another disappointing year for the OCC paddlers but was an excellent year for New Edinburgh which won 23 out of 35 events in four local regattas. Britannia won seven events, Rideau two, and the OCC two.<sup>70</sup> F.N. Gisborne won both the junior and

senior singles for the OCC at the Rideau Canoe Club's regatta. The NECC, which did not have its own clubhouse, held its first annual regatta on the Rideau Club's course where it won six out of seven events.<sup>71</sup> Its war canoe, with Horace Merrill as Captain and Morley Neate as stroke, won every Ottawa area race in 1909.

	CCA Championship, Toronto, 1909			Total
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
Toronto CC	6	2	1	27
NECC	3	3	2	26
Parkdale	1	2	0	11
Island Aq.	1	0	2	7
Rideau	0	2	0	6
GTBC	0	1	1	4
St. Lambert	0	1	0	3
Orillia	0	1	0	3
OCC	0	0	1	1

NECC was less successful at the CCA championships, held for the first time in "the west," that is on Toronto Bay. Horace Merrill won the senior singles for NECC while M. Bangs scored an upset win in the junior singles. The Parkdale Canoe Club defeated the NECC war canoe in a very close finish in the half mile but the NECC war canoe came from behind to defeat Parkdale by a full length and win the Fulford Cup for the one mile. The half mile was paddled in 3:08 and the mile in 5:11.

Overall, the Toronto Canoe Club finished first in the championships with six firsts, two seconds and one third; NECC placed second with three firsts, three seconds and two thirds. No other Ottawa area club had a first place finish at the championships; the Rideaus picked up two seconds and OCC had one third place finish – Black and C. Trotter in the junior tandem.<sup>72</sup>

NECC was briefly involved in the amateur/professional controversy in 1909. Jack Ryan was a successful paddler with NECC in 1904 and 1905 but in 1908-09 he played a season with the Cobalt Silver Kings, a professional or semi-professional hockey team. Although he maintained that he had never received money for participation in athletics, he forfeited his amateur status by the rules of Canadian Amateur Athletic Union which held that amateurs could not play with, or against, professionals. Canadian Canoe Association rules were less stringent and he was re-instated by the CCA; however, he remained a professional under CAAU rules. He remained a member of NECC and in 1909 applied to be re-instated as an amateur. Although the request appears to have been refused at this time, he did return to paddling as captain of the NECC war canoe in 1912.<sup>73</sup>

Professionalism became the chief issue at the 1913 meeting of the CCA. The Toronto area clubs suggested that the CCA affiliate with the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada but the Ottawa area clubs argued that affiliation would bring the CCA no benefits. The meeting turned down the motion to affiliate with the AAUC but it also refused a request by the Grand Trunk Boating Club that it re-instate some GTBC members who had "dabbled in semi-pro city league hockey." The CCA left it to the Eastern Division to deal with the re-instatement. Apparently this meant getting a clean bill of health from the AAUC; until this was done the members of the Northern and Western Divisions would refuse to paddle against them. Horace Merrill resigned as rear-commodore of the CCA because he had recently turned professional.<sup>74</sup>

In spite of the disappointing results in 1909, the OCC executive reported that 1909 had been a prosperous year with expenditures of \$1,722.27 and receipts of \$1,771.21. At the annual general meeting it was suggested that the clubhouse should be enlarged and that accommodation should be provided for motor boats; both questions were referred for further study.<sup>75</sup> In May of 1910 the OCC named Francis H. Gisborne, Jr., and A.H. Symes as its war canoe captains. Although Gisborne was only 19 years old he had already won some contests and had paddled in the war canoe for several years.<sup>76</sup>



9. A page from J.R. O'Connell's photo album, 1909. Source: LAC

The NECC continued to dominate Ottawa paddling in 1910. NECC won 24 out of 35 races at the four Ottawa regattas, including all of the war canoe races. Ottawa placed second with five first place finishes. Fred Gisborne won two of the senior singles races for OCC, placed third in the Northern Division trials, and was disqualified following a collision in the Rideau Regatta.<sup>77</sup>

The Northern Division trials were held at the OCC (as was the NECC regatta) and the OCC introduced an innovation in the war canoe races. It was a common complaint that regattas often ran far behind schedule. One of the reasons was that it often took some

time to get them away to a fair start – this seemed to be a particular problem with the war canoes. At the OCC two barges were anchored in the river about 160 feet apart and a wire stretched between them. Small boats were fastened to this wire and the occupants of the boats held the stern of the war canoes until the signal to start was given.<sup>78</sup>

CCA Championship, St. John's, 1910				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Total
Toronto CC	7	0	2	23
NECC	1	2	3	9
St. Johns	1	1	0	5
Parkdale	1	1	0	5
St. Stephens	1	1	0	5
GTBC	0	2	0	4
Pointe Claire	0	1	1	3
Island Aquatic	0	1	1	3
St. Lamberts	0	1	1	3
Britannia	0	1	0	2
Rideau	0	0	2	2
Valois	0	0	1	1
Buffalo	0	0	0	0
OCC	0	0	0	0

Nearly a hundred Ottawa paddlers travelled by special train to the CCA championships which were held at St. John, Quebec, on 6 August. The day began poorly for the Ottawa paddlers with no wins until the last race of the day. Even the New Edinburgh war canoe was defeated in the half mile when the TCC crew put on a last minute spurt. In the last race of the day, the mile war canoe, the Ottawa crews saved the city's pride; New Edinburgh came first, Britannia second and Rideau third. The Toronto Canoe Club once again took the club championship, winning seven out of 11 events.<sup>79</sup>

Whatever glory Ottawa paddlers gained from their sweep of the mile war canoe races at St. John soon had to be shared with the Ottawa Rowing Club which, after sweeping the Canadian Henley regatta, won the senior eight oared race at National Rowing Association's championship in Washington, D.C. In winning what was effectively the North American championship the ORC crew defeated boats from the Toronto Argonauts (second place), the Philadelphia Vespers and the New York Athletic Club. Harvey Pulford, the captain of the ORC eight, had been a top ranked paddler with Britannia and the captain of its war canoe in 1900.<sup>80</sup>

The club constitution was revised in 1910. The revisions appear to have been minor but the constitution does provide information on the club executive which included two honorary positions and 10 functional positions. G. P. Brophy was Commodore and A. A. Dion was Vice-Commodore. Both the commodore and vice-commodore were honorary positions – the active head of the club was the Captain, Walter Rowan. W.T. Lamb was Secretary Treasurer. The executive committee consisted of J.M. Hurcomb (Property), W.W. Moore (Racing), L.A. Burpee (Swimming), J.E. Wilmot (Entertainment), C.G. Keyes (Motor Boating), G.E. Babin, and F.H. Gisborne, Jr. The club had four classes of member, honorary, active, life and junior (for boys aged 14 to 17). Fees were \$5 for members and \$2 for junior members. There were no female members but each member (excepting juniors) could obtain season passes for two ladies. The clubhouse was to be open from 7 AM to 11 PM daily and canoes were available for rental at \$1 per day.<sup>81</sup>

Apparently 1910 was a successful year financially for at the annual general meeting in 1911, the executive announced that the club was seriously considering building a new clubhouse to accommodate all the members. It was investigating a site at Bronson's

Point, about 500 yards east of the existing clubhouse. Among other advantages the river was wider and the current weaker at the proposed location.<sup>82</sup> In June 1911 the OCC applied to the Ottawa Improvement Commission (the forerunner of the National Capital Commission) for permission to lease land at Bronson's Wharf. Initially the Commission's response was favourable but the project did not move ahead.<sup>83</sup>

Receipts for the year 1910 had been about \$2000.00 with a balance remaining of \$25.48. C. Keyes, chairman of the motor boat section, reported that the fleet had numbered 18 in 1909 and could reach 50 if accommodation was available. The racing committee announced that in 1911 all races, except for war canoe races, would be run with a turn. The swimming section chairman noted that a special effort was being made to encourage swimming and that a medal would again be given to the club member swimming the three and a half miles to Duck Island; in 1910 this had been awarded to C. Mortureux. Mortureux was to lead the club through most of the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s.<sup>84</sup> The club also awarded spoons to male members swimming the ¾+ mile from the old Gatineau Bridge to the clubhouse in under 17 minutes; for women the maximum time was 25 minutes. Miss Molly Black received one of the spoons for swimming the distance in 21 minutes.<sup>85</sup>

NECC continued to dominate Ottawa paddling in 1911; in four local regattas it won 14 out of 21 events. There were some signs that NECC's dominance was weakening. At the Rideau regatta, traditionally the opening regatta of the Ottawa season, the NECC war canoe was defeated by the Rideau crew in the ¼ mile dash; a week later the Rideau crew won again at the Britannia regatta but were disqualified for "persistent jockeying and misconduct at the start."<sup>86</sup>

The resurgence of other Ottawa clubs, and perhaps the aging of the NECC club, became clearer at the Northern Division trials held at Rockcliffe on 29 July. As a result of a new CCA ruling, junior events at club invitational regattas were only open to members of the host club. However, at the Northern Division trials, and at the CCA championships, the junior events were interclub events. At the Northern Division trials, NECC won the senior singles, the senior tandem and both war canoe races; Britannia won the junior tandem, the junior fours, the intermediate tandem and the intermediate 4s. The OCC won the intermediate singles and the senior fours while Rideau won the junior singles.<sup>87</sup>

	CCA Championship Britannia, 1911			Total
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
TCC	5	4	3	26
GTBC	3	1	2	13
Britannia	1	1	0	5
NECC	1	1	0	5
Kew Beach	1	1	0	5
Island Aquatic	0	1	1	3
Lachine	0	1	0	2
Rideau	0	1	0	2
St. Lambert	0	0	2	2
St. Johns	0	0	1	1
Point Clair	0	0	1	1
OCC	0	0	1	1

At the CCA championships held at Britannia Bay, Toronto continued its dominance, winning 26 points out of a possible 64 and defeating NECC in the half mile canoe race. Grand Trunk took second place with 12 points and Britannia, NECC, and Kew Beach tied for third with five points each. The Rideau Club took two points and Ottawa took one. Most satisfying for the Ottawa participants was that the NECC won the prestigious mile war canoe race with Britannia coming second, narrowly defeating the Toronto crew. As well, C. Stinson and O. Miller of

Britannia won the junior tandem event.<sup>88</sup>

Usually the CCA championships marked the end of the competitive paddling season, except for club regattas, but in 1911 the Britannia and Rideau war canoe crews decided to go to Toronto to paddle in a Labour Day race at the Canadian National Exhibition. Paddling against four Toronto clubs, the Rideau crew was competing with the TCC club for the lead when one of its crew fell out of the race; TCC went on to win and the Britannia club failed to place.<sup>89</sup>

1912 marked the end of an era for the NECC. An article in the *Ottawa Citizen* noted that Jack Ryan might succeed Horace Merrill as the captain of the NECC war canoe provided that he could be reinstated as an amateur.<sup>90</sup> At the same time Morley Neate retired as stroke on the NECC war canoe. Ryan did replace Merrill and W. (Billy) Burns replaced Neate as stroke on the NECC canoe.

The Ottawa *'Citizen's* account of the Rideau Aquatic Club's regatta on 6 July 1912 provides some details on the operation of regattas at that time. It noted that "Paid attendance was anything but encouraging" and that betting was brisk on quarter mile event.<sup>91</sup> The NECC won the half mile easily but in the quarter mile Rideau and BBC tied with NECC in third position. In a runoff the Rideau club beat Britannia by a couple of lengths. Most events at the qualifying meet for the CCA, held at Britannia, were postponed due to heavy seas – Ab. Fournier of the BBC won the senior singles and Ken Cassells won the junior singles. A week later NECC won both war canoe events.<sup>92</sup>

At the CCA championships hosted by the Toronto Canoe Club on Toronto Bay, Toronto paddlers cleaned up – the TCC took five firsts including both war canoe races. The mile war canoe race was won in a time of 6.16. The Winnipeg Canoe Club, in its first appearance at the CCA championships had two first place finishes while the Island Aquatic Club, the Grand Trunk Boating Club and Point Claire each picked up one first. The NECC took a third in the half mile war canoe, Britannia took a second in the intermediate tandem, and the OCC took a third in the junior tandem. Gravenhurst, with a hastily assembled and unpractised crew, placed second in both war canoe races. In

	CCA Championship, Toronto, 1912			Total
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	
Toronto CC	5	2	3	22
GTBC	1	3	2	11
Winnipeg	2	0	1	7
Island Aquatic	1	0	1	4
Gravenhurst	0	2	0	4
Kew	0	1	1	3
Pointe Claire	1	0	0	3
Britannia	0	1	0	2
NECC	0	0	1	1
Parkdale	0	0	1	1
OCC	0	0	1	1
Valois	0	0	1	1

analyzing the loss, the *Ottawa Citizen* argued that the Ottawa crews lacked the modern boats and did not show the “condition” shown by their opponents. It also suggested that the Ottawa crews would have to abandon their “obsolete short strokes in favour of the long, bounding, strides developed with such remarkable success by the local clubs.”<sup>93</sup>

Due to scheduling conflicts with the Northern Division trials, OCC did not hold its regatta until after the CCA championship. The regatta combined

swimming and paddling events. Britannia, Rideau, and NECC all sent war canoes to the regatta and NECC won both races. Other paddling races were limited to junior events, most of which OCC members won. In swimming, Gordon Johnston won the 50 yard race and Arthur Black won the 100 yards for the Ottawa championship.<sup>94</sup>

In the winter of 1912-13 both NECC and the OCC had hockey teams, OCC in the intermediate city league and NECC in an inter-city league. OCC also planned to field a baseball team in the summer of 1913.<sup>95</sup>

The balance among Ottawa area clubs continued to change in 1913. NECC won nine firsts in four local regattas, while Britannia won seven, OCC won four and Rideau won two. Carleton Place returned as a significant paddling competitor, winning four firsts including the half mile war canoe race in the Northern Division trials which were hosted by Carleton Place on Mississippi Lake. At the first regatta of the season, held by the Rideau club, the NECC war canoe failed to win either the half mile or the quarter mile race. In the half mile race, Rideau eliminated NECC in the first heat and in the finals for the half mile Rideau beat the OCC crew by about 18 inches. In the quarter mile race Rideau won again but because the OCC canoe had fouled the Britannia boat, the race was rerun and Britannia came first with Rideau second. Ottawa and NECC collided near the line and came in together.<sup>96</sup>

The OCC marked its return as a significant paddling force by winning three of five major events at its own regatta on 19 July 1913. The regatta opened with a win for the NECC – A. Fournier, who had switched from the Britannia club to the NECC, won the senior singles with Bradley, also paddling for the NECC, coming second. In the half mile war canoe race OCC took an initial lead but was overtaken by Rideau; the swell from a passing launch slowed the Rideau boat “allowing Ottawa ahead. Rideau then got into an eddy and blew up.” with Ottawa winning. This was Ottawa’s first win in the half mile since 1904 and it allowed the club to reclaim the McLaren Cup from NECC which had held it since 1909. The Ottawa crew was Gordon Johnstone (Captain), Fraser, O’Dell, Forsythe, A. Ramsay, Lally, Revelle, Short, Cassidy, Roughsedge, H. Ramsay, Anderson, E. Dunn, May, and Cunningham (stroke). Gisborne and Short won the senior tandem for

Ottawa, defeating the favoured team from Britannia and Short, May, Gisborne and Revelle won the senior fours. In the last race of the day, the war canoe quarter mile, NECC beat Ottawa by inches; Johnstone, the Ottawa captain, had started his sprint a bit too late. Rideau came third with Britannia, which had almost swamped early in the race, coming in fourth. The regatta was rounded out with a tub race, a gunwale race, a tail end race, a quarter mile single race for boys, and diving exhibitions. The day concluded with a “bonnet hop” and the presentation of prizes.<sup>97</sup>

CCA Championships St. Johns, Quebec, 1913				
	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Total
TCC	7	1	3	26
Parkdale	2	5	0	16
Kew Beach	1	1	1	6
GTBC	0	1	3	5
Britannia	0	1	1	3
Island Aquatic	0	1	1	3
Gravenhurst	1	0	0	3
Valois	0	1	0	2
Ottawa	0	0	1	1
Balmy Beach	0	0	1	1

Once again the Ottawa area clubs were unsuccessful at the CCA championships held at St. Johns in Quebec. The TCC increased its dominance, taking seven out of 11 firsts; the only first place finish by a club from outside of Toronto was by D. White of Gravenhurst in the intermediate singles. Britannia’s junior fours came in second and its senior tandem, C. Miller and C. Stimson, placed third. In the mile war canoe race NECC led at the halfway point but two hundred yards from the finish the NECC boat was passed first by

TCC, then by the Parkdale boat, and finally by the OCC war canoe which placed third, a half-length ahead the NECC crew.<sup>98</sup>

The Toronto Canoe Club’s win in 1913 marked its sixth straight victory; it went on to take another club title in 1914. In the spring of 1914 Con Kuhn, the commodore of the Northern Division, offered the opinion that the reason for Toronto’s dominance was attributable to the canoes they used. Toronto paddlers used the Dean canoe which was broader and more stable than the Dey canoes used by Ottawa paddlers. As a result Toronto paddlers could put every ounce of strength into driving the canoe forward while Ottawa paddlers had to watch their boat and often shipped “all kinds” of water except when the course was absolutely calm. He thought that with a broader canoe Ottawa, with 300 to 400 active paddlers, should be able to “...bring back the laurels lost in recent year.” He did not take into account the fact that the Ottawa paddlers were divided among four clubs while the Toronto Canoe Club had about 600 members without considering the membership of Island Aquatic, Parkdale, Balmy Beach, and Kew.<sup>99</sup>

The OCC closed “one of the most successful seasons of its history” with a hop attended by about 25 couples who danced to the music of Tippins Orchestra. The article recording the event mentioned that Mr. John White was the caretaker of the clubhouse; his predecessor, William Bebb, had been caretaker for 15 years before his death in 1912.<sup>100</sup>

In May of 1913 the Montreal *Gazette* reported that the OCC had decided to demolish its clubhouse and build a new one at a cost of \$15,000.00. Later in the season the *Ottawa Journal* reported that the club would build a new clubhouse on the existing site at a cost

of \$20,000.00. It was said that the existing building was too small and that the new one would have double the accommodation and would have a modern motor boat house.<sup>101</sup> The NECC had never had its own clubhouse – in 1913 it was based in a boathouse “...immediately below the pavilion at Rockcliffe...” - and in June it applied to the Ottawa Improvement Commission for permission to build a clubhouse on the river below the “old Bronson dock.” The OIC replied that it would be willing to grant permission for one clubhouse but not for two and suggested that the OCC and NECC amalgamate.<sup>102</sup> On 3 October the clubs held separate meetings and agreed to amalgamate in order to acquire a site from the OIC. It was anticipated that the new site, which was not far from the existing OCC clubhouse, would have room for a baseball diamond, tennis courts and for a bowling green. The name agreed upon, the Ottawa New Edinburgh Aquatic Club reflected the concern of the NECC members that their history would not disappear; the use of the term Aquatic Club, rather than Canoe Club, may have been intended to leave the door open for the Ottawa Rowing Club to join the new club.<sup>103</sup>

Within a week of being informed that the clubs had decided to amalgamate, the OIC responded “...it will not be possible, at present, to give you a site for a Clubhouse on Bronson Bay.” because the Department of Justice was of the opinion that it would not be “legitimate” for the Commission to lease or sell lands which it held for park purposes.<sup>104</sup>

Although this decision must have been both a surprise and a disappointment, the clubs continued to work towards amalgamation over the winter of 1913-1914 and in March of 1914 issued a prospectus for a new club, the Ottawa New Edinburgh Canoe Club. The organizers proposed building a clubhouse costing approximately \$20,000.00 on a site to be provided by the OIC at Bronson’s Wharf on the Ottawa River. The building would be built on concrete piers with a steel frame and would contain a ball room 70’ by 40’, a kitchen, dining room, locker rooms, etc., and racks for two hundred canoes and skiffs and accommodation for about forty motor boats. It was planned to finish the building so that it could be used in the winter. The club also planned to establish tennis courts on adjacent land. A finance committee had been formed and it was intended to raise \$10,000 by 1 May. If this could not be done the plan to amalgamate the two clubs would be abandoned and they would continue to operate separately. The prospectus included a brief financial plan. It was anticipated that annual revenue would be \$5,975.00. Two hundred annual memberships, 200 summer memberships, 100 winter memberships, and 100 junior memberships would provide \$4,200.00 revenue annually. The rest of the revenue would come from fees for 200 racks, 250 lockers, 35 motor boat slips and gasoline sales and refreshments.<sup>105</sup>

The fund raising campaign was launched in April and within a few weeks F.D. Burpee, the campaign chairman, had obtained pledges from about 140 individuals for \$10,000 towards the construction of a new clubhouse. This was enough for the amalgamation to go forward and an inaugural meeting was held on 29 April 1914. Sir P.D. Ross was elected as the first commodore and A.A. Dion as the vice-commodore. Colonel Courtenay was elected captain and George Snelling was secretary treasurer. The executive included W. Crowe, F.D. Burpee, M. Neate, G.R. Dodge, C.E. Mortureux, W. Beves, and J.R. O’Connell.<sup>106</sup>

A new company, the Ottawa New Edinburgh Clubhouse Company, was incorporated on 22 July 1914. The company, which was to build and own the new clubhouse, had an authorized capital of \$50,000 divided into 2000 shares. Its subscription list was opened on 16 February 1915; the list soon included the names of many prominent Ottawa figures such as W.Y. Soper, W.C. Edwards, T. Ahearn, the Honourable George Perley, the Honourable Charles Murphy, and several members of the Southam family. It also included many active paddlers: W.J. Johnston, W.T. Crowe, C.E. Mortureux, Horace Merrill, F.H. and L.R. Gisborne, and M. Neate.<sup>107</sup>

Why (and even if) the OIC had changed its position on the grant of land at the time the prospectus was issued is not known. It may be that because the building was to be built on a water lot, the legal implications were different. As well, the OIC wished to acquire the lease to the property occupied by the club since 1894 and the club was willing to surrender the old lease in return for a lease to a new site. Finally, the club, by deciding to build on the water had partially bypassed the OIC; although the OIC controlled the riparian rights on the Ottawa River near Bronson's wharf, the riverbed itself was owned by the Province of Ontario. In 1914 the clubhouse company prepared a petition to the Ontario Minister of Lands and Forests asking for a grant of a water lot of 378,831 square feet on which it would erect a clubhouse. The petition stated that the company had raised \$15,000.00 towards building the clubhouse; that it required a grant of land in order to secure a mortgage of \$6,000.00 to complete the financing.<sup>108</sup> Because the OIC owned the riparian rights over the water lot, the company had to obtain the OIC's support for the application. The OIC decided that it would itself acquire a water lot on the river and would then lease it to ONECC.<sup>109</sup> The OIC applied to the Ontario Minister of Lands, Mines and Forests to purchase a water lot; the Minister agreed to the sale of 8.71 acres at \$10.00 per acre and the patent was issued early in January 1915.<sup>110</sup>

In January of 1915 L.A. Burpee sent plans prepared by C.P. Meredith, a well-known Ottawa architect, for the new clubhouse to the OIC.<sup>111</sup> The plans were approved by the OIC and on 1 March 1915 the clubhouse company signed a 21 year lease to the water lot for a rental of \$1.00 per year. The company agreed to pay all charges, taxes, rates and assessments on the lot. Any buildings erected on the lot had to be approved by the OIC.

#### SPACIOUS VERANDA.

In front of the long canoe room and facing the river is a veranda 117 feet long by 14 feet wide. From this veranda two hoists will operate to raise and lower the canoes.

On the second floor the chief room is the ball room which will be 99 feet long by 35 feet wide. By means of a folding partition a portion of this room, 16 feet wide and 35 feet long, may be screened off and used as a gentlemen's smoking room on ordinary occasions. The ball room has a musicians' platform at one end and in the center opposite the sliding entrance doors is a big cosy fireplace, which is set in an angle nook so that it will not obstruct the floor for dancing purposes. The entrance hall on this floor also has a fireplace and will be treated with a beamed ceiling. To the right of the entrance hall is the buffet, 25 feet by 11 feet, and beyond that the kitchen. To the left is a large ladies' room with toilet adjoining. Large glazed double doors open out of every room onto the verandas which completely surround the building. These verandas will form a magnificent grand stand from which to view the annual regattas of the combined clubs. The veranda facing the river is 14 feet wide. A large portion of the ball room and other rooms on this floor is arranged so that they can be shut off from the remainder of the building and used for entertaining during the winter months.

#### CLUB RESIDENTS.

On the third floor sixteen large rooms are provided for the members who reside at the club, together with ample toilet accommodation, including showers. On this floor, again, great care has been taken so that there will be no badly ventilated corridors. The main corridor, running the length of the building, has doors at each end, opening onto small balconies. Accommodation is provided on this floor also for the club employees.

The exterior of this building will be finished in stucco which will give a more solid and dignified appearance than the customary clapboarding. The roof will be finished in shingles. The building has been designed on simple lines, avoiding the use of any features or ornaments which could not be regarded as part of the building or as performing some useful purpose. The architect of the building is Mr. C. P. Meredith.

## NEW CLUB HOUSE WILL BE FINEST IN CANADA

### Plans Prepared for Building at Rockcliffe. Campaign for Funds Under Way.

The erection of a splendid club house at Rockcliffe for the Ottawa-New Edinburgh Canoe Club now seems assured. Plans have been prepared and an active campaign is under way for the financial support. Ten thousand dollars is required by May 1 and half of this amount has been subscribed by friends and admirers of these two popular aquatic clubs which are proposing to unite their forces.

#### FINEST IN CANADA.

The club house will be one of the finest in Canada and it is the intention of the executive to spare no pains to achieve this end. The proposed location of the club is on the Ottawa river, about 300 yards below the present Ottawa Canoe Club house, near the site of the old Bronson wharf, in beautiful Rockcliffe, and few clubs can boast such an ideal location. The building will be built upon a pile foundation and will be framed up of steel beams and columns, filled in with wooden partitions between the steel. By thus making the actual structural members of the framework of steel, larger spans and a more open effect will be obtained in the interior of the club house, as well as adding very materially to the rigidity and durability of the building. From the veranda two small staircases will lead up to the gallery and down to the platform on the water level. The advantage of these staircases is that it will be possible to communicate with the different galleries without walking completely round the building to the main stair at the rear.

#### MANY CONVENIENCES.

On the first floor is the large room for canoes and skiffs, 117 feet long by 35 feet wide. This floor is reached by a bridge from the shore, opening into an entrance hall from which stairs rise on both sides to the upper floors. Two large well lighted locker rooms are provided on this floor, one 33 ft. by 16 ft. and the other 50 ft. by 16 ft. On this floor, as in all parts of the building, ample precaution has been taken to ensure free circulation of air throughout the various rooms. Adjacent to the locker room is the men's toilet room, containing six showers. A flight of stairs runs direct from the toilet room down to the swimming platform underneath the club house. In addition to the general locker rooms a number of large private lockers are provided on this floor.

#### SPACIOUS VERANDA.

At the request of the company, the lease could be extended for 21 years.<sup>112</sup> As part of the agreement, ONECC agreed to transfer the lease to its existing clubhouse to the OIC; the OIC agreed that ONECC could occupy the old clubhouse until the new one was built.<sup>113</sup>

Although it was not included in the lease, ONECC had discussed with the OIC the possibility of establishing tennis courts adjacent to its new clubhouse; the OIC deferred any decision on this application until after the clubhouse had been completed.<sup>114</sup> Concrete piers and the steel frame of the building were installed over the winter of 1914-1915 but, with construction costs soaring during the war, it was decided not to complete the building and until 1922 ONECC operated out of the old OCC clubhouse.<sup>115</sup>

The clubhouse was not built until 1923; nevertheless, the union of the two clubs took effect for the 1914 season with the Ottawa New Edinburgh Canoe Club's crew paddling in red, black, and white jerseys.<sup>116</sup> The first notable event of the 1914 season was a 200 mile race for tandem canoes over a course from Mont Laurier on the Lièvre River to Ste. Rose north of Montreal. Nine canoes entered the race, including one from ONECC paddled by Roughsedge and Kingsland. The Rideau Aquatic Club, represented by Bob Gamble and Fred Thompson, took an early lead which it never relinquished and completed the course over three days including compulsory rest stops.<sup>117</sup>

The 200 mile race had been run for the first time in 1913 from Carillon to Ottawa and back for a challenge cup donated by Grahame Brown of Montreal. It was run again in 1915 over a course which ran from Prescott to Kingston and then along the Rideau Canal to finish at the Rideau clubhouse in Ottawa. Bob Gamble and Durand represented the Rideau club – Fred Thompson, Gamble's partner of 1914 was "at the front." Gamble and Durand finished first with an elapsed time of 56 hours including 18 hours of compulsory rest stops at Kingston and Merrickville. Roughsedge and Kingsland paddled for ONECC in the race but did not finish in the top three.<sup>118</sup>

The day after the completion of the 200 mile race in 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was assassinated and by the 4<sup>th</sup> of August Britain and Canada were at war with Germany and Austria. The mounting speculation over war through July may have pushed reports on paddling out of the newspapers – in any case only a few reports on the 1914 paddling season have been located. The Northern Division finals for the CCA were scheduled for Lac Deschenes on 25 July but because of stormy weather only four events were completed; the remaining events were run off on 31 July at Rockcliffe. ONECC took 5 firsts out of 11 events including a win by Gordon Smith in the senior singles. Britannia took four firsts including the half mile war canoe race. Carleton Place won the mile war canoe race.<sup>119</sup> At the CCA championship, held at Rockcliffe, 1 August, the TCC won five out of 11 events with Toronto area clubs winning another five events. The only Northern Division club with a first place finish was Britannia which won the mile war canoe race. ONECC came third in the mile war canoe race and second in the junior and intermediate tandems.<sup>120</sup> ONECC ended the 1914 season with a swimming meet on 5 September for city championships.<sup>121</sup>

The season in 1915 was slow to start; an *Ottawa Journal* article on 25 June reported that activity at the four Ottawa aquatic clubs was only beginning to pick up. War canoes were practicing three times a week. The new ONECC clubhouse had been started but construction was suspended while additional money was raised to complete its construction debt free. The *Journal* noted that the Balmy Beach club was organizing a regatta which included a ladies' war canoe race and suggested that the Ottawa clubs might organize a ladies' war canoe as well.<sup>122</sup>

Social life at ONECC continued. The *Journal* reported that there would be weekly dances; the Brits on Tuesdays, ONECC on Wednesdays and Rideau on Thursdays. The *Citizen* reported that Tippins orchestra would play at Rockcliffe and, in a departure from old customs, the "latest dances" would be allowed.<sup>123</sup>

The Britannia regatta was held on 17 July with Britannia taking 20 points, ONECC 17, and Rideau and Carleton Place three each. Ernie Dunn of ONECC won the senior singles and was part of the crew which won the senior fours. ONECC placed first and third in the quarter mile war canoe race. ONECC also came in first in the half mile war canoe race but was disqualified. The race (and the regatta) was run in rough water and the half mile race was described as a fiasco. The ONECC first crew was leading by a length with 75 yards to go when Doug Munro fell out of the boat. ONECC continued on, finishing two lengths ahead of the Britannia boat which swamped within five yards of the finish line and failed to finish. The ONECC boat was disqualified and the Britannia second crew was declared the winner. The ONECC second crew also lost a crew member overboard but they stopped to pick him up and were given second place. In addition to the regular paddling races the regatta featured a swimming competition and several novelty canoe competitions including tilting, hurry scurry, tub race, gunwale race, greasy pole, and "surf riding".<sup>124</sup> The Northern Division trials of the CCA were held at Carleton Place on 24<sup>th</sup> July. Overall ONECC won 25 points, Britannia 19, Carleton Place 17 and Rideau 4. ONECC had five first place finishes, Britannia three, and Carleton Place three. The Carleton Place war canoe, which had not been at the Britannia meet the previous week, won both the mile and the half mile war canoe races. The winning time in the mile race was 7:56.<sup>125</sup>

CCA Championships Toronto, 1915	
	Total
Balmy Beach	16
TCC	13
ONECC	11
Island AA	5
CPCC	5
Grand Trunk	5
BBC	5
Parkdale	4
St. Lambert	2

The CCA 1915 championships held on the Toronto Canoe Club course marked the end of the string of club championships for the "Red Ring boys" of the TCC which had started in 1908. Balmy Beach won the club championship with 16 points followed closely by the TCC with 13 points and by ONECC with 11. ONECC's third place finish was a surprise to the odds makers who had predicted a sweep for the Toronto area clubs. Ernie Dunn of ONECC won the senior singles, defeating the "veteran" Reg Bloomfield. Dunn and Ray Tubman went on to win the intermediate tandem. Most gratifying for Ottawa fans was that the ONECC war canoe won the half mile war canoe race, beating the Balmy Beach boat by inches. In the mile war canoe race the ONECC crew led until near the finish when a final spurt by the Carleton

Place canoe put ONECC in second place. Perhaps the most encouraging result of the 1915 regatta was that the honours were widespread; four clubs, Island Aquatic Association, Carleton Place Canoe Club, Grand Trunk Boating Club, and the Britannia Boating Club, shared fourth place with five points each.<sup>126</sup>

ONECC's championship war canoe crew in 1915 was E. Perney, stroke, B. Bunnell, T. Storey, D. Monro, A. McNaughton, R. Tubman, C. Forsythe, E. Dunn, A. Stalker, D. Stalker, J. Tubman, C. Miles, Roy Anderson, and Billy Crowe, Captain.<sup>127</sup>

The war made it increasingly difficult to operate paddling clubs as senior members joined the armed forces. By April of 1916 over 60 ONECC members were at the front and the club launched a membership drive. In May the CCA decided to suspend championships for the duration of the war and the Toronto clubs decided not to hold regattas. The clubs in the Northern Division decided to continue operations but there were no national championships until 1919.<sup>128</sup>

In spite of the decision to continue functioning, changes had to be made, and there seem to have been fewer purely paddling regattas in the Northern Division. In June ONECC organized a 20 mile race for tandems. The course began at the boathouse, went up the river to East Templeton, portaged to the Blanche River, paddled down it to the Ottawa and back to the boathouse. Dunn and Gisborne won the race. On 24 July 1916 Britannia held a "Great Aquatic Carnival" which combined paddling, rowing, sailing diving and swimming. ONECC won two war canoe races, a half mile race and a 200 yard sprint. Ernie Dunne of ONECC won a 100 yard canoe sprint and he and Gisborne won the senior tandem race. Britannia won an 8 oared race against the Ottawa Rowing Club. A team from the 207<sup>th</sup> Regiment won the swimming relay. In August ONECC paddlers won the 15 mile marathon organized by the Rideau club. At the Northern Division meet, held on the Rideau Canal on 19 August, ONECC took 8 out of 11 events, including both the half and quarter mile war canoe races. Ernie Dunn of ONECC won the senior singles race and was in the winning senior tandem, senior fours and war canoe races.<sup>129</sup>

In 1917, as enlistments continued to draw away members, Britannia was only able to hold a club regatta and had to call on its sailing members in order to field two war canoes. The ONECC regatta, although nominally an open regatta, was essentially a club regatta. The Northern Division regatta held at Rockcliffe on 11 August had something of the pre-war enthusiasm. ONECC took six of eight paddling events including senior singles, half mile and quarter mile war canoe, junior fours, senior tandem, and senior fours; Rideau took the junior singles and the junior tandem. Britannia had several seconds and thirds and the Ottawa Rowing Club sent fours and eights down for two races.<sup>130</sup> In reporting on the regatta, the Ottawa *Citizen* noted that because of the condition of the clubhouse, spectators would not be allowed on the galleries. A new club, the Woodroffe Canoe Club, participated in the Northern Division regatta and on 18 August it held its first regatta at the foot of Roxboro Avenue. Britannia won the half mile war canoe race while Rideau won the quarter mile; ONECC took the open tandem and senior singles. There was a girls' singles race, a mixed tandem, a tub race, tilting and swimming and diving contests.<sup>131</sup>

In November 1917 word was received that Lt. Lyall Robertson had been killed in Belgium; he had been captain of the OCC war canoe in 1913. A few days later Flight Lieutenant Erland Perney was reported missing in action; a member of NECC, he had stroked the ONECC war canoe which won the half mile Canadian championship in 1915.<sup>132</sup>

The 1918 season began with the “annual High Falls cruise” early in June. Seven tandem canoes left the club on Saturday and arrived at Poupore on the Lievre in the evening. They continued to High Falls on the Lievre where they spent Sunday night. On their return they passed through Lassalette, Dodge Lake, Green Lake and several other lakes before reaching the Blanche River at Templeton. Ray Tubman and Ernie Dunn were the first to arrive back. Later in June ONECC organized a regatta as part of the reception for the Blue Devils or Chasseurs Alpines, a corps of elite French mountain troops who were touring North America after the U.S. entry into World War I.<sup>133</sup>

ONECC held its club regatta on 22 June 1918; three war canoes took part including one crewed by older members including Morley Neate, Billy Crowe, Guy Boyce, Archie Atkinson, and Jack Bradley with Horace Merrill as captain and Eddie Gerrard as stroke. They went down to defeat at the hands of the ONECC senior canoe captained by Jack Dunn.<sup>134</sup> In July ONECC organized a 20 mile race starting at the clubhouse, paddling down the Ottawa River to the Blanche, then up the Blanche to Ste. Rose with a 1.5 mile portage to Templeton and then back up the Ottawa to the clubhouse. Ernie Dunn and Ray Tubman won the race with a time of 3 hours and 3 minutes including a half hour rest stop.<sup>135</sup> At the end of July ONECC hosted a Great War Veteran’s Association meet with participation from Rideau, Carleton Place, and Britannia. ONECC won the junior singles, junior and senior tandem and fours, and the quarter mile war canoe, while Britannia won the senior singles, the half-mile war canoe, junior fours. The surprise of the regatta was Cliff Tressider of Rideau’s defeat of Ernie Dunn, the Canadian champion of 1915, in the senior singles. The regatta included a girls’ tandem race, a greasy pole, and a senior fours rowing race.<sup>136</sup>

On 5 August Carleton Place hosted a Red Cross benefit regatta. Although junior level races were held they were only open to CPCC members; at the senior level Carleton Place, Britannia, ONECC, and Rideau took part. Ernie Dunn of ONECC won the senior singles, Dunn and Tubman won the senior tandem, and Tubman, Vanesse, Powers, and Dunn won the senior fours. Carleton Place won the half mile war canoe race with Rideau second – both Britannia and ONECC were disqualified. Britannia finished by winning the mile war canoe race and with it the Cramm trophy. The Cramm trophy is a bit of a mystery – according to the *Ottawa Journal* it was intended to replace the Fulford trophy which Carleton Place had won “permanently” in Toronto in 1915. However, there is no mention of the Cramm trophy in Fred Johnston’s *100 Years of Champions: The Canadian Canoe Association 1900-2000* which notes that the Fulford Cup was retired in 1979. Within a month of winning the trophy Britannia’s clubhouse burned and it may be that the Cramm trophy was destroyed in the fire.<sup>137</sup>

Later in August Britannia held regatta which included a mixed tandem, a passenger race and a “skip” race as well as three senior men’s events two war canoe races. ONECC won the men’s events and a quarter mile war canoe race but was defeated by Britannia in the half mile war canoe event. The 1918 season closed with an open regatta held by the Rideau club. ONEC and Britannia split the honours in the war canoe races with Britannia paddling in Rideau boats as their boats and paddles had been destroyed in the boathouse fire. Ernie Dunn, in what was probably his last race in Ottawa, won the senior singles.<sup>138</sup>

Ernie Dunne was the dominant paddler in Ottawa during the war years. He began racing in Toronto in 1912. He was a member of the winning TCC war canoe crew in 1914. He moved to Ottawa in 1915 where he joined ONECC. In 1915 he defeated the veterans, Reg Bloomfield and Aubrey Ireland, in the senior singles at the CCA championship. He and Ray Tubman also won the intermediate tandem. At the Northern Division meets in 1916 and 1917 he repeated his wins in the senior singles. He also won the Craig-Cameron trophy for the 15 mile race in 1915, 1916, and 1917. In 1918 his dominance was challenged by Tressider of Rideau but he retained the Northern Division senior championship and also won the senior championship with Tubman. Over the winter 1918-19 Dunn left Ottawa “for the west” and passed out of canoeing history.<sup>139</sup>

Dunn’s partner, Ray Tubman, was part of a prominent Ottawa sporting family. His older brother, Leslie had paddled with ONECC before the war; he was commemorated by the Perney-Tubman Challenge Cup. Another brother, Reed, was an all-round athlete. A cousin, Robert Elmer Tubman, better known as Joe, paddled with a winning ONECC war canoe and won the intermediate singles at the Northern Division meet in 1916. After serving overseas Elmer returned to Ottawa and paddled successfully at the divisional level for a year or two before turning to rugby. He played briefly for the ONECC team in the city league before joining the Ottawa Rough Riders where he played from 1919 until 1929. In 1925 and 1926 he led the team to successive Grey Cups.<sup>140</sup>

About 140 club members enlisted during the war. The club created a “Service Flag” with 126 maple leaves, eight of them red for club members who had been killed. On 25 July 1918 the *Ottawa Journal* published the names of those commemorated on the flag; it admitted that there were about a dozen more individuals who had not been added to the flag.<sup>141</sup>



Ottawa New Edinburgh Members Who Enlisted

\* Killed or missing

L. Avery	Dr. G.P. Howlett	Dr. V. Pinard
Roy Anderson	E.B. Hawken	C.E. Putman
W.F. Bryce	R.L. Hill	Gordon Ramsay
F.D. Burpee	F.B. Inkster	Harold Ramsay
N.T. Barry	L.W. Jackson	L. Rainboth
C.E. Berry	O. Joliat*	A.K. Robertson
E. Bedard	G. Johnstone	Jack Ryan*
C.E. Berry	C.E. Jones	J. Roughsedge
W. Blakely	N.W. Kinglands	Eric Roy
J.C. Burgess	S. Kelly	Ivan Roy
J.F. Bergeond	I. Kelly	C.E. Revel
H.H. Bishop	C. Kendall	C.B. Snelling
E. Benedict	I.R. Kendall	C.G. Shaw
W.A. Blue	R. Lawrence	H. Sharpe
A. Black	G. Lanctor	John Slinn
W. Bradley	C.W. Milks	W. Slinn
Reg Brunel*	W.W. Matthews	N.J. Slater
M. Bray	E.F. Marchand	M.D. Short
J. Clark	Arthur May	M. Short
Gordon Clark	F. Lorse May*	Herb. Short
K. Cassels	J. Ross Mills	Gordon Smith
R.N. Cameron	R.D. Matheson	R.E. Sproule
H.A. Dupre	Terry S. Maunsell	D. Stalker
H.T. Dansereau	S. Mansell	E.N. Soper
J. De Salaberry	T.P. Murphy	Harry Tubman
R/ De Salaberry	Douglas Munro	Leslie Tubman*
C. Emond	Joseph Munro	Ray Tubman
C. Erskine	J.H. Munro	E. Tubman
Harold Fraser	M. Morris	W.H. Turner
C.F. Foad	D. McCarthy	C. Thackray
T.K. Gerard	A.A. McNauaghton	W. Thackray
D.N. Gill	D.H. McLean	C.N. Verner
T. Grierson	P.R. O'Dell	H.R.J. Watts
W. Garvock	J.H. O'Dell	F. Wooff
G.S. Gisborne	W.J. O'Reilly	Gordon woods
Jack Grew	E.D. Perney*	H.R. Welch
D.N. Grant	E.J. Paulet	P.A. Wood
A.L. Goodall	J. Powers	P. Woolcombe
R. Hodgetts	George Powers	
A. Helmer*	E.C. Plant	

Ottawa Canoe Club Executive, 1901-1918				
	1901	1902	1903	1904
Commodore	D MacLaren	D MacLaren	D MacLaren	D MacLaren
Vice Commodore	GP Brophy	GP Brophy	GP Brophy	GP Brophy
Captain	EA Black	JM Hurcomb	WF Boardman	WF Boardman
Secretary/Treasurer	RW Nichols	LA Ray	W Rowan	W Rowan
Treasurer				ES Sherwood
Executive	WF Boardman		OE Culbert	WM Eastcott
	WF Clayton		KF Claton	OK Gibson R
	A deBell		MO Klotz	JM Hurcomb B&P
	J Hurcomb		DAJ McDougal	JE Klotz Sw
	W Mainguy		RW Nichols	MO Klotz YB
	GT Mumford		FT O'Connell	EC Plant Ent
	RW Patterson		ED Steele	
Source	OJ19010308	YB 1905	OJ19030306	OJ19040308
	1905	1906	1907	1908
Commodore	D MacLaren	GP Brophy	GP Brophy	GP Brophy
Vice Commodore	GP Brophy	WJ Johnston	AA Dion	AA Dion
Captain	WF Boardman			HC Henry
Secretary/Treasurer	W Rowan		W Rowan	WT Lamb
Treasurer				W Rowan
Executive	AE Bradbury Ent		F Beard Ent	AE Black
	OK Gibson R		HC Henry R	FD Burpee
	JM Hurcomb B&P			OK Gibson
	MO Klotz YB			JM Hurcomb
	H Merrill Cr			FB Hopkirk
	FB Hopkirk Sw			MO Klotz
	FG Bronskill			
Source	OJ19050324	Constitution, 1910	Constitution, 1910	OJ19080403
	1909	1910	1911	1912
Commodore	GP Brophy	GP Brophy	GP Brophy	GP Brophy
Vice Commodore	AA Dion	AA Dion	AA Dion	AA Dion
Captain		W Rowan	W Rowan	W Rowan
Secretary/Treasurer	WT Lamb	WT Lamb	WT Lamb	CG Keyes
Treasurer				
Executive		GE Babin	AE Bradbury	S Blais
		LA Burpee Sw	S Blais	RM Courtenay
		FH Gisborne, Jr	G Johnstone Sw	JM Hurcomb
		JH Hurcomb H	JM Hurcomb	WT Lamb
		GGKeyes MB	GGKeyes MB	JR Mills
		WW Moore R	E Linton	JR O'Connell
		JE Wilmot	JR Mills Ent	JG Ogilvy
Sources	Constitution, 1910	OC19100324	OJ19110331	OJ19120328

	1913	1914	1915	1916
Commodore	GP Brophy	Sir PD Ross	Sir PD Ross	Lt Col RM Courtenay
Vice Commodore	AA Dion	AA Dion		AA Dion
Captain	Col. Courtenay	Col. Courtenay		CE Mortureux
Secretary	G Loveday	G Snelling	Burpee	JT McElroy
Treasurer	W Blue			
Executive	Danceraau	W Beves		G Audette
	Keyes	FD Burpee		JW Bellamy
	Lamb	W Crowe		E Dunn R
	Lemair	GR Dodge		GR Dodge
	Meredith	CE Mortureux		L Lally
	Pinard	M Neate		A Tremblay
	JR O'Connell	JR O'Connell		WJ Tubman
	OJ19130327	OJ19140429	OJ19160323	OJ19160323
	1917	1918		
Commodore				
Vice Commodore				
Captain	CE Mortureux			
Secretary/Treasurer	JH Larocque			
Treasurer				
Executive	R Anderson Ent			
	G Audette			
	AE Bradbury			
	WT Crowe			
	E Dunn R			
	D Gill MB			
	L Lally Sw			
	AD Watson			
Source	OJ19170329			
B&P – Building and Property; Cr – Cruising; Ent – Entertainment; MB – Motor Boats; Sw – Swimming; R – Racing; YB - Yearbook				

New Edinburgh Canoe Club Executive, 1905-1913				
	1905	1906	1907	1908
President	HJ Sims			Wm Johnston
Commodore				AE Stitt
Secretary	MC Neate			GL Snelling
Treasurer	F Courtenay			F Courtenay
Executive	F Askwith			W Crowe
	Chas Amery			J Cherry
	WH Carlton			D Courtenay
	Jas Cherry			D Edsdale
	CG Keyes			G McIntosh
	J Ryan			JT McElroy
	AE Stitt			N Merrill
	C Snelling			MC Neate
	A Sutherland			R Thackray
				EC Woolsey
Source	OJ19050407			OJ19080403
	1909	1910	1911	1912
President	WJ Johnston	W Johnston	WJ Johnston	TJ Courtenay
Commodore			AE Stitt	AE Stitt
Vice-presidents	W Iveson	W Iverson	W Iveson	W Iverson
Vice-presidents	D Courtenay	AN Gill	DN Gill	DN Gill
Vice-presidents	DJ O'Donoghoe	JT McElroy	JT McElroy	IP Byrne
Secretary	GL Snelling	G Snelling	GLSnelling	GL Snelling
Treasurer	F Courtenay	FJ Courtenay	FJ Courtenay	JTMcElroy
Executive	J Byrne	J Byrne	J Byrne	IP Byrne
	J Cherry	J Cherry	J Cherry	J Cherry
	W Crowe	W Crowe	W Crowe	W Crowe
	JT McElroy	W Bryce	W Bryce	W Bryce
	G McIntosh	E McIntosh	G Graham	G Graham
	H Merrill	H Merrill	H Merrill	H Merrill
	LC Neate	MC Neate	MC Neate	MC Neate
	M Stalker	M Stalker	W Stalker	M Stalker
	B Snelling	C Snelling	B Snelling	B Snelling
	EC Woolsey	TR Rankin	TB Rankin	TB Rankin
		J Ryan	J Rankin	J Rankin
		W Slinn	W Slinn	C Burns
				H Ingram
				J Ryan
Source	OJ19090403	OC19100513	OJ19110518	OJ19120513
	1913			
President				
Commodore				
Vice-presidents				
Vice-presidents				
Vice-presidents				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Executive				

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- <sup>1</sup> M.O. Klotz, ed., *Year Book of the Ottawa Canoe Club, 1904*; *ibid.*, 1905.
- <sup>2</sup> M.O. Klotz, ed., *Year Book of the Ottawa Canoe Club, 1904*, p.26; *ibid.*, 1905, p.28.
- <sup>3</sup> M.O. Klotz, ed., *Year Book of the Ottawa Canoe Club, 1904*, p.23.
- <sup>4</sup> M.O. Klotz, ed., *Year Book of the Ottawa Canoe Club, 1904*, p.27-29. City of Ottawa Archives, (AO), A2010-0014, Box 1, MG29-4-1, Ottawa Canoe Club. Constitution Adopted 3 June 1897. Revised 23 March 1910.
- <sup>5</sup> Library and Archives Canada (LAC), John R. O'Connell Collection, MIKAN NO 198676.
- <sup>6</sup> This visit is described in more detail in a separate paper.
- <sup>7</sup> *Ottawa Journal (OJ)*, 8 April 1916. "Splendid Business Career is Closed;" *OJ*, 5 April 1913, "G.P. Brophy Pioneer of City Dead."
- <sup>8</sup> C. Fred. Johnston. *100 Years of Champions - The Canadian Canoe Association 1900-2000*. (Queens University, Kingston. 2003)
- <sup>9</sup> *OJ*, 22 July 1901, "Britannia's Annual;" *Toronto Globe*, 5 August 1901. "Sculls and Shells. The C.A.A.O. Regatta;" *ibid.*, 29 July 1901, "Regatta Was a Success;" *ibid.*, 12 August 1901. "Regatta Resulted Unsatisfactorily;" *Ottawa Citizen (OC)*, 12 August 1901. "A Rank Decision Against Ottawas;" C. Fred. Johnston. *100 Years of Champions - The Canadian Canoe Association 1900-2000*. (Queens University, Kingston. 2003); *OJ*, 23 September 1901, "The War Canoe Race Paddled."
- <sup>10</sup> *OJ*, 23 September 1901, "The War Canoe Race Paddled;" *OC*, 23 Sept 1901, "The Royal Party..."
- <sup>11</sup> *Toronto Globe*, 28 June 1902, "Canoeing."
- <sup>12</sup> *OJ*, 21 July 1902, "Regatta a big Success."
- <sup>13</sup> *OC*, 28 July 1902, "Canoeing"
- <sup>14</sup> *OJ*, 5 August 1902, "The Brits Won All the Canoe Events;" *OJ*, 12 August 1902, "Britannias are CCA Champions."
- <sup>15</sup> *Montreal Gazette*, 11 August 1902. "Annual Meet of the CCA. GTBC Does Well;" *OJ*, 11 August 1902, "Britannias are CCA Champions."
- <sup>16</sup> *OJ*, 19 July 1902, "Late E.A. Black."
- <sup>17</sup> *OJ*, 9 July 1902, "New War Canoe Crew."
- <sup>18</sup> *OJ*, 31 May 1913, "Rideau Aquatic Club Organized by a Few Enthusiasts in 1901"
- <sup>19</sup> *OC*, 4 August 1923, "Ottawa-New Edinburgh Canoe Club Will Open New Home this Afternoon;" *OJ*, 15 June 1904, "Got a New Canoe;" *ibid.*, 24 June 1905, "Canoeing. New Edinburgh Club Active."
- <sup>20</sup> *OC*, 11 April 1904; *OJ*, 15 August 1904, "The Northern Division of the C.C.A. Regatta;" *OJ*, 18 July 1904, "Britts Regatta is a Great Success;" *ibid.*, "New Edinburgh Canoe Club."
- <sup>21</sup> *OC*, 23 July 1900. "Canoeing"; Johnston. *100 Years of Champions*.
- <sup>22</sup> *OC*, 28 June 1902, "Sporting. Canoeing"
- <sup>23</sup> *OC*, 27 July 1903, "Canoeing".
- <sup>24</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edgar\\_Dey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edgar_Dey).
- <sup>25</sup> *OJ*, 29 September 1950, "'Morley' Neate Well Known Athlete Dies in Hospital."
- <sup>26</sup> M.O. Klotz, ed., *Year Book of the Ottawa Canoe Club, 1904*, pp.14-17.
- <sup>27</sup> *OC*, 9 July 1903, "Canoeing".
- <sup>28</sup> *Toronto Globe*, 4 July 1903, "Canoeing Big Regatta at Orillia."
- <sup>29</sup> M.O. Klotz, ed., *Year Book of the Ottawa Canoe Club, 1904*, pp.19-21; *OC*, 27 July 1903. "Canoeing."
- <sup>30</sup> *TorontoGlobe*, 4 August 1903, "Canoeing. Canadian Canoe Regatta;" *Montreal Gazette*, 1 August 1903, "4<sup>th</sup> Annual CCA Regatta at Longueuil"
- <sup>31</sup> *OJ*, 25 August 1903, "Board Club Champions."
- <sup>32</sup> *OJ*, 18 July 1904, "Britts Regatta is a Great Success."
- <sup>33</sup> *Year Book of the Ottawa Canoe Club, 1905*, p.1905; *OJ*, 25 July 1904, "The Ottawa Regatta".
- <sup>34</sup> *OJ*, 15 August 1904, "The Northern division of the CCA Regatta;" *OC*, 15 August 1904. "Northern Division CCA regatta a Success".
- <sup>35</sup> *OJ*, 22 August 1904, "Canadian Canoe Association Gives Good Races;" *OC*, 22 August 1904, "Ottawa War Canoe Champion of CCA."
- <sup>36</sup> Johnston. *100 Years of Champions* - p.383, note 20. According to the *OC*, 22 August 1904, "Ottawa War Canoe Champion of CCA," only first and second place finishes were counted.

- <sup>37</sup> *OJ*, 22 August 1904, "Canadian Canoe Association Gives Good Races"; *OJ*, 23 August 1904, "In the world of Athletics".
- <sup>38</sup> *OC*, 1 August 1904, "Britannias Ahead in Both War Canoe Races at Aylmer"; *OJ*, 1 August 1904, "A Splendid Regatta on Lake Deschenes."
- <sup>39</sup> *OJ*, 7 May 1957. Major AA Pinard, 84, Former Alderman Dies." An individual trophy cup awarded to Pinard as captain of the victorious OCC war canoe was sold at auction in 2015.
- <sup>40</sup> *OC*, 28 July 1902, "Canoeing"; *OC*, 27 July 1903, p.4. "Canoeing"; *OJ*, 25 July 1904. "The Ottawa Regatta."
- <sup>41</sup> *Montreal Gazette*, 13 Aug 1906, p.8. "Chateaugay Surprise".
- <sup>42</sup> *OC*, 15 July 1907, "NECC War Canoe Won"; Johnston, *100 Years of Champions....*.
- <sup>43</sup> *OC*, 24 December 1910, "Merrill out with New Edinburgh Rideau Ward Team to be Strong"
- <sup>44</sup> *OJ*, 7 April 1910, "Merrill-Parker."
- <sup>45</sup> *OC*, 10 July 1905, "Canoeing".
- <sup>46</sup> *OC*, 13 July 1905, "Canoeing".
- <sup>47</sup> *OC*, 24 July 1905, "Canoeing"; *OJ*, 24 July 1905, "Great Sport at Rockcliffe".
- <sup>48</sup> *OC*, 31 July 1905, "Canoeing".
- <sup>49</sup> *OJ*, 5 April 1911, "Motor Boats on Increase;" *OJ*, 24 June 1905, "Canoeing;" *ibid.*, 6 April 1910. "Ottawa Canoe club will open its Clubhouse next Saturday;" *OJ*, 13 March 1912, "Regatta on Saturday, 6 July."
- <sup>50</sup> *OC*, 23 July 1906, "Brits Provide Great Afternoon of Sport".
- <sup>51</sup> *OJ*, 30 July 1906. "Fine Regatta at Rockcliffe"; *OC*, 30 July 1906, "Great Day For Canoe Races".
- <sup>52</sup> *OC*, 13 August 1906, "Annual Meet of CCA Big Event at Aylmer"; *OJ*, 13 August 1906, "Brits Capture Half Mile Race"; *Montreal Gazette*, 13 Aug 1906, p.8, "Chateaugay Surprise".
- <sup>53</sup> C. Fred Johnston, "Fast Paddles and Fast Boats: The Origins of Canoe Racing," in John Jennings, *The Canoe: a Living Tradition*. (Toronto: Firefly Books, 2002), p.233; *Toronto Globe*, 9 August 1915, "Points Trophy for Balmy Beach Club".
- <sup>54</sup> Trevor Payne, *The Red Ringers: Toronto Canoe Club/Toronto Sailing and Canoe Club, 1880-1980*.
- <sup>55</sup> *OC*, 4 June 1907, p.5. "Crisp News for paddlers"; *Montreal Gazette*, 9 July 1907, "Paddlers Bar Pros."
- <sup>56</sup> *OC*, 15 July 1907, "NECC War Canoe Won".
- <sup>57</sup> *OJ*, 29 July 1907, "Grand Trunks Win Old Boys Trophy".
- <sup>58</sup> *OC*, 29 July 1907, "Summer Carnival Opened Saturday Promising Great Week for Old Boys".
- <sup>59</sup> *OJ*, 1 August 1907, "Brits Won the Quarter Mile."
- <sup>60</sup> *OJ*, 6 August 1907, "Fine Regatta at Carleton Place".
- <sup>61</sup> *Montreal Gazette*, 12 August 1907, "Exciting Finishes. Canadian Canoe Championships..."; *OC*, 12 August 1907, "With the Paddlers." The recording of third place positions is inconsistent but the CCA shows the GTBC as being the club champion in 1907. *100 Years of Champions* shows R.D. Ewart, not White, as a member of the junior fours.
- <sup>62</sup> *OC*, 11 June 1908, "With the Paddlers".
- <sup>63</sup> *OC*, 13 July 1908, "With the Paddlers"; *OC*, 20 July 1908, "Britannia Regatta"; *OC*, 27 July 1908, "With the Paddlers"; *OC*, 3 August 1908, "With the Paddlers"; *OC*, 10 August 1908, "Toronto Paddlers won Majority of Events".
- <sup>64</sup> *OJ*, 26 June 1909, "Rockcliffe;" *ibid.*, 4 June 1913. "Canoe Men Rounding into Shape;" *OC*, 31 August 1908, "Swimming. Ottawa Club Races".
- <sup>65</sup> [www.swimmanitoba.mb.ca/.../Swimming%20History%20and%20Fun%20Facts.pdf](http://www.swimmanitoba.mb.ca/.../Swimming%20History%20and%20Fun%20Facts.pdf). Accessed June 17, 2011.
- <sup>66</sup> *OC*, 16 August 1909, "Gordon Johnston Again Wins Two Canadian Championships".
- <sup>67</sup> *OJ*, 15 August 1910, "Gordon Johnstone Swam a Fast 100 yards".
- <sup>68</sup> *OJ*, 14 August 1911, "Johnston Retains Sprint Honours".
- <sup>69</sup> Book of Remembrance website.
- <sup>70</sup> *OJ*, 5 July 1909, "New Edinburgh Won Six races in First Local Regatta"; *OC*, 12 July 1909, "Rideau C.C. Annual Regatta Proved a Great Success"; *OC*, 26 July 1909, "New Edinburghs Again Won both War Canoe Races"; *OC*, 3 August 1909. "Canoe Meet Great Success".
- <sup>71</sup> *OJ*, 5 July 1909, "New Edinburgh Won Six races in First Local Regatta".
- <sup>72</sup> *OJ*, 9 August 1909, "Three Championships were won by New Edinburgh CC"; *Toronto Globe*, 9 August 1909, p.7 "Canoeing. The CCA Regatta".

- <sup>73</sup> *OJ*, 27 July 1909. "Jack Ryan May Paddle at Meet;" *ibid.*, 28 July 1909. "Amateur Trouble in the C.C.A.;" *ibid.*, 8 July 1912, "New Edinburghs and Rideaus Won Exciting War Canoe Contests." *OC*, 26 June 1912, "Jack Ryan Captain;" *OC*, 30 July 1909, "Paddling against Professionals."
- <sup>74</sup> *Montreal Gazette*, 1 May 1913, p.14 "Opposed to Affiliation;" *ibid.*, 5 May 1913, "Split May Result in CAA."
- <sup>75</sup> *OC*, 24 March 1910, "Ottawa Canoe Club Annual."
- <sup>76</sup> *OC*, 20 May 1910, "Ottawa Canoe Club Captains."
- <sup>77</sup> *OC*, 11 July 1910, "Close Exciting Races Marked Opening of Paddling Season"; *OC*, 18 July 1910, "New Edinburgh Repeated Wins at Britannia's 15<sup>th</sup> Regatta"; *OC*, 25 July 1910, "Northern Division CCA Regatta Resulted in Another Great New Edinburgh Sweep"; *OC* 2 Aug. 1910, "Rideaus, Ottawa, and Brits did well at New Edinburgh Regatta".
- <sup>78</sup> *OC*, 25 July 1910, "Northern Division CCA Regatta Resulted in Another Great New Edinburgh Sweep."
- <sup>79</sup> *OC*, 8 August 1910, "Ottawa finished one two and three in War Canoe Race at St. John".
- <sup>80</sup> *OC*, 15 August 1910, "Ottawa Rowing Club Finished First in Senior Eight Oared Race at Washington"; *OC*, 23 July 1900. "Canoeing".
- <sup>81</sup> AO, A2010-0014, Box 1, MG29-4-1, Ottawa Canoe Club. Constitution Adopted 3 June 1897. Revised 23 March 1910.
- <sup>82</sup> *OC*, 30 March 1911, "Ottawa Canoe Club may Erect Fine New Clubhouse at Rockcliffe"
- <sup>83</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), W.T. Lamb, Sec. Tr., OCC, to Sir H. Bate, Chairman, OIC, 5 June 1911; *ibid.*, Extracts from Minutes of the Commission, 1 May 1911 and 23 August 1911.
- <sup>84</sup> *OC*, 30 March 1911, "Ottawa Canoe Club May Erect Fine New Clubhouse at Rockcliffe."
- <sup>85</sup> *OJ*, 17 August 1912. "Young Lady Swam Well."
- <sup>86</sup> *OJ*, 10 July 1911, "Northern Division Clubs off to a Good Start at the Rideau Regatta"; *OJ*, 17 July 1911, "New Edinburgh Paddlers Cleaned Up".
- <sup>87</sup> *OC*, 31 July 1911, "New Edinburgh Took Both War Canoe Races at Qualifying Meet of CCA Northern Division".
- <sup>88</sup> *OJ*, 8 August 1911, "Visiting Paddlers Sweep Majority of Events in Annual CCA Regatta".
- <sup>89</sup> *OC*, 19 August 1911, "Paddlers Will Resume Practice"; *Toronto World*, 5 September 1911, "One More For TCC".
- <sup>90</sup> *OC*, 26 June 1912, "Jack Ryan Captain".
- <sup>91</sup> *OC*, 8 July 1912, "New Edinburghs and Rideaus Won Exciting War Canoe Contests".
- <sup>92</sup> *OC*, 22 July 1912, "Heavy Seas on Lac Deschenes Spoiled Qualifying meet of CCA";
- <sup>93</sup> *OC*, 5 August 1912, "Toronto Crews Again Clean up in Canadian Canoe Assoc. Finals".
- <sup>94</sup> *OJ*, 12 August 1912, "Ottawa Canoe Club Held Successful Meet Saturday."
- <sup>95</sup> *OJ*, 28 February 1913, "Aberdeens Champion of League;" *ibid.*, 14 March 1913 "New Edinburgh Expect Stiff Game with Brockville Tomorrow Night;" *ibid.*, 11 April 1913, "Ottawa Canoe Club will Enter Team in Baseball League."
- <sup>96</sup> *OC*, 7 July 1913, "Big Shake-Up of Paddling 'Dope' at Rideau Regatta".
- <sup>97</sup> *OJ*, 21 July 1913, "OCC Made Sweep at Regatta"; *OC*, 21 July 1913, "Ottawa Canoe Club Wrests Maclaren Trophy from New Edinburgh and wins majority of events at Great Regatta."
- <sup>98</sup> *OJ*, 5 August 1913, "Toronto Makes Clean Sweep at CCA Finals".
- <sup>99</sup> *OJ*, 7 April 1914, "Toronto Paddlers Use a Broader and Steadier Type of War Canoe."
- <sup>100</sup> *OC*, 25 Sept. 1913, "Closing Hop at OCC;" *OJ*, 9 August 1912, "Obituary. William Bebb."
- <sup>101</sup> *Montreal Gazette*, 1 May 1913, p.14 "Opposed to Affiliation"; *OJ*, 21 July 1913, "OCC Made Sweep at Regatta".
- <sup>102</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), A.E. Stitt to D. Murphy, 12 August 1913; *ibid.*, Sec. to Stitt, 2 September 1913.
- <sup>103</sup> *OC*, 4 October 1913, "Amalgamation Decided Upon".
- <sup>104</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), Secretary to R.M. Courtney, Pres., Ottawa Canoe Club, 7 October 1914.
- <sup>105</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), R.M. Courtney *et al*, 26 March 1914.
- <sup>106</sup> *OC*, 23 April 1914, "Ten Thousand Mark May be Reached Today;" *OJ*, 29 April 1914. Ottawa CC and New Edinburgh Join Together."
- <sup>107</sup> City of Ottawa Archives, A2010-0014, Box 1, MG29-5-28, Stock Book.
- <sup>108</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), ONECC Clubhouse Company Ltd., Petition, 22 September 1914.

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- <sup>109</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), Secretary to E.L. Newcombe, Deputy Minister of Justice, 23 September 1914; *ibid.*, Secretary to R.M. Courtney, 29 September 1914.
- <sup>110</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), Secretary to W.H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Mines, and Forests, 29 September 1914; *ibid.*, Secretary to W.T. White, Minister of Finance, 10 December 1914.
- <sup>111</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), L.A. Burpee, ONECC, to Kearns, OIC, 25 January 1915;
- <sup>112</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), Indenture between OIC and ONECC, 1 March 1915.
- <sup>113</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), L.A. Burpee, Sec. Tr., ONECC, to W. Kearns, Sec., OIC, 10 March 1915.
- <sup>114</sup> LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), L.A. Burpee, Sec. Tr. ONECC, to Sec. OIC, 31 May 1915; *ibid.*, Sec. to L.A. Burpee, Sec. Tr., ONECC, 9 June 1915.
- <sup>115</sup> *OJ*, 30 April 1915, "Annual Meeting of the Northern Division of the CCA Tonight;" LAC, RG34, Vol.222, File 102-0(1), "Memorandum Regarding the Rebuilding of the Ottawa-New Edinburgh Canoe Club," April 1923.
- <sup>116</sup> *OJ*, 26 July 1915, "Ottawa Paddlers Won Majority of Events. Carleton Place Captured War Canoe Races".
- <sup>117</sup> *Ottawa Gazette*, 27 June 1914, "Sturdy Rideau Tandem finished First in Two Hundred Mile Canoe Marathon. Gamble & Thompson Carried Off the Honours".
- <sup>118</sup> *OJ*, 5 September 1913. "Two Hundred Mile Race to Ottawa;" *Toronto World*, 3 Sept. 1915, p.8 "Rideau Canoe Ahead in Long Race"; *New York Times*, 13 Aug 1915, p. "Canada's Canoe Race"; *Toronto World*, 6 Sept. 1915, p.8. "Rideaus of Ottawa Won Two Hundred Mile Race by Two Hours".
- <sup>119</sup> *OC*, 27 July 1914, "Stormy Weather Again Interfered with Northern Division Regatta. Brits won half mile War Canoe Race"; *OJ*, 1 August 1914, "Carleton Place Was Winner of One Mile War Canoe Race Yesterday Afternoon"
- <sup>120</sup> *Montreal Daily Mail*, 3 August 1914, "Toronto Paddlers Again Carried off Majority of Titles".
- <sup>121</sup> *OC*, 7 September 1914, "Regatta Was a Success."
- <sup>122</sup> *OJ*, 25 June 1915, "News From Ottawa's Four Aquatic Clubs."
- <sup>123</sup> *OJ*, 25 June 1915, "News From Ottawa's Four Aquatic Clubs;" *OC*, 12 June 1915, p.8 "Ottawa Canoe Club Hops."
- <sup>124</sup> *OJ*, 19 July 1915, "Brits and Ottawa-'Burghs' Clubs Each Won Four Firsts at the Britannia Regatta".
- <sup>125</sup> *OJ*, 26 July 1915, "Ottawa Paddlers Won Majority of Events. Carleton Place Captured War Canoe Races".
- <sup>126</sup> *Toronto Globe*, 9 August 1915, "Points Trophy for Balmy Beach Club"; *OJ*, 9 August 1915, "Ottawa New Edinburgh Club Made fine Showing at CCA Meet".
- <sup>127</sup> *OJ*, 26 July 1915, "Ottawa Paddlers Won Majority of Events. Carleton Place Captured War Canoe Races". This is the crew from the qualifying race at Carleton Place. The report of the race at the championship in Toronto in the *OC* on 9 August 1915 is illegible.
- <sup>128</sup> *OC*, 12 April 1916. "More Members are Wanted;" *OC*, 8 May 1916, "Paddlers Vote to Hold Meets as per Usual. Northern Division will Have Regatta in Ottawa u Under Auspices of Three Clubs;" *OC*, 15 May 1916, "Canadian Canoe Assn. Votes to Cancel Annual Regatta; F.J. Mulligan is Commodore."
- <sup>129</sup> *OJ*, 3 July 1916. "Dunn and Gisborne Won Canoe Marathon;" *ibid.*, 9 August 1915, "Ottawa New Edinburgh Club Made fine Showing at CCA Meet;" *OJ*, 24 July 1916. "Great Aquatic Carnival a Success in Every Way;" *OC*, 14 August 1916, "Rockcliffe Boys Win Marathon Canoe Race;" *OJ*, 21 August 1916. "Burghs Cleaned Up at Northern Division Meet."
- <sup>130</sup> *OC*, 23 July 1917, "Britannia Regatta Proved Big Success;" *OJ*, 28 July 1917, "Ottawa Burghs Regatta Today;" *OC*, 13 August 1917, "ONECC Made Its Customary Sweep in CCA Regatta on Saturday."
- <sup>131</sup> *OJ*, 20 August 1917. "Brits Winners Win War Canoe."
- <sup>132</sup> *OJ*, 5 November 1917, "Lt. Lyall Robertson Falls in Battle;" *ibid.*, 30 November 1917, "Flight Lt. E Perland is Reported Missing."
- <sup>133</sup> *OJ*, 4 June 1918. "Dunn and Tubman First to Finish;" *ibid.*, 28 June 1918, "Chasseurs Delighted by Welcome to the Capital."
- <sup>134</sup> *OC*, 21 June 1918. "First Regatta on Rockcliffe Course;" *OC*, 24 June 1918, "Heavy Showers Failed to Stop Ottawa New Edinburgh Regatta. Seniors Won War Canoe Races."
- <sup>135</sup> *OJ*, 15 July 1918, "Dunn and Tubman Won 20 Mile Race."
- <sup>136</sup> *OJ*, 29 July 1918, "Ottawa-Burghs and Britannias Divide War Canoe Honours at G.S.V.A. Regatta."

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<sup>137</sup> *OJ*, 29 July 1918, "New Cup Donated War Canoe Title." *OJ*, 6 August 1918. "Britannias Become the First Holders of the New Cramm War Canoe Trophy."

<sup>138</sup> *OJ*, 19 August 1918. "War Canoe Race Won Fourth Time by Birks;" *OJ*, 2 September 1918, "Rideaus Hold Final Regatta of the Season."

<sup>139</sup> *OJ*, 9 August 1915, "Ottawa New Edinburgh Club Made fine Showing at CCA Meet;" *Toronto Globe*, 9 August 1915, "Points Trophy for Balmy Beach Club;" *OJ*, 16 August 1915, "Dunn and Tubman Won 15 Mile Race;" *OC*, 5 September 1917, "Ernie Dunn Making Great Paddling Rep;" *OJ*, 15 July 1918, "Dunn and Tubman Won 20 Mile Race;" *OJ*, 29 July 1918, "New Cup Donated War Canoe Title."

<sup>140</sup> *OJ*, 21 August 1916, "Burghs Cleaned Up at Northern Division Meet;" *OC*, 21 July 1919. "Rockcliffe Crews Made Big Cleanup. Captured five out of eight events at Carleton Place Regatta on Peace Day;" *OC*, 28 July 1919, "Ottawa New Edinburgh Club Again Proved Big Winner in Northern Division CCA Event;" *OC*, 26 December 1935. "R. Tubman Chosen Western Manager of R.K.O.Theatres;" *OC*, 6 July 1954. "Joe Tubman Promoted with the Railway;" *OC*, 7 August 1920, "Ideal Conditions Promised for Championship Regatta at Carleton Place Today."

<sup>141</sup> *OJ*, 25 July 1918, "Grand Record Ottawa-New Edinburgh in Country's Service."