

June 3, 1970

OR MISTAKES — DAN MURRAY, PUBLISHER



ALCAN FOLLIES of FSL is playing this week to a full house. Eight pretty girls in the chorus. Mrs. Warren Titus coached the chorus. Miss Sylvia Lohman and Miss Lois Stokke were soloists with the chorus. Director of the follies was Mr. A. H. Mones. *10 MAR 21 1970*

# Alcan Follies

In the days before tv in the North Peace, folks had to make their own fun. Here is the cast of the Alcan Follies

held in Fort St John shortly after the war. The affair was held in the old Elks Hall and this picture was handed in by Frontier Cleaners.

1946

Alcan Follies  
1946



# TimeCapsule



**THIS GROUP** of local stars were so successful in the "Alcan Follies" presentation on March 9 and 10, 1946, that they had to give an encore performance on March 18 and were invited to take the show to Dawson Creek and far Grande Prairie. Headliners in the show were Albert Mones and Lois Stokke (in black face). - AHN Photo files

MAR 21, 1946  
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 IN MAR 24, 1946

**15 YEARS AGO—October 10, 1946 ✓**

MRS. RALPH Pomeroy was hostess last week when she asked friends to meet Mrs. Dorothy Wilson who is teaching dancing here for the Alcan School of Music.

AN ORGANIZATION meeting of the FSJ Musical Festival Assn. was held Tuesday, November 12. R. J. Campbell was again elected president. Other officers included: Mrs. Vern McLeod, treasurer; A. H. Mones, drama director; Mrs. R. J. Carson, music director; Miss Donna Rix, dance director; and Mr. Howard Thompson, recitation and choral speech.

Nov 21, 1946

VISITOR TO FSJ over the Christmas holidays will be Mrs. Dorothy Wilson of Vancouver, the dancing instructress. She will be on hand for the winter follies, to be seen December 26 at the Carlsonia Theatre.

Dec 5, 1946



# Final Entry Date

# Musical Festival May 1st

Apr 25, 1946

**136 ENTRIES MAY 9, 1946**  
**FESTIVAL DIRECTOR**  
**RECEIVED BY**

Final word May 2nd in Fort St. John with Mrs. J. R. Carson, Director of Music for the forthcoming Musical Festival revealed that one hundred and thirty-six entries have been received throughout the district for the contest of May 20th and 21st.

This response is considered to be extremely good in view of the fact that this is the first Festival organized north of the Peace, and on that account was later getting under way than the committee in charge expected.

Grande Prairie, an established affair, has not more than two hundred entrants annually, the News understands.

**FESTIVAL RESPONSE**  
**ENCOURAGING, SAYS**  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR**

Final entry date for the Fort St. John Musical Festival has been set for May 1st. According to Mrs. J. R. Carson, Musical Director for the festival, response has been gratifying.

In the adult classes there are only a few entries for solos, small ensembles and choir work, but responses from the intermediate classes are encouraging. Solos and duets, both in music and elocution, one-act plays and choral speech entries bring the total to about twenty.

In the Junior classes, the same categories are represented, along with rhythmic bands, and there are over fifty entries.

According to districts so far heard from, the breakdown goes like this: Dawson Creek, 40 entries; Charlie Lake, a dozen entries; and Fort St. John, so far, approximately 30 entries.

Major Bullock-Webster, of Victoria, has been chosen by the Drama Festival Committee at that point to adjudicate for Dramatic entries, May 20 and 21.

Active for many years in dramatic and Little Theatre circles in this province, Major Bullock-Webster brings a wealth of experience and practical knowledge to his adjudicator's post. He has acted with both American and English companies, has directed, produced and written dramatic productions. He has a thorough knowledge of stage-craft, and has done journalistic criticism as well as a great deal of adjudication. He holds certificates in the Royal College, and Trinity College in Bloucourt.

The Music adjudication will be the responsibility of Mrs. Newcombe, of Peace River.

It has been arranged with the restaurant owners of Fort St. John that rates will be secured for meals for children attending the Festival.

**Interest Grows In Festival As Committee Finishes Plans**  
**MORE DETAILS ON FESTIVAL MAY 20 AND 21**

As the date of the Fort St. John Musical Festival approaches enquiries are being received in batches by the secretary, asking for details on a variety of questions. The committee in charge of the Festival has asked that some of these enquiries be given publicity so that as many as possible of the candidates will know what to expect when they reach St. John.

There will be no loudspeaker for use of elocution, dramatic, or vocal entrants. Hugh Mortimer, official accompanist, will be available for practice before the Festival if those requiring his assistance will inform him ahead of time as to when they will be ready for a run-through. Dramatic entries are informed that they will have to provide their own grease paint.

There is adequate dressing-room space for dramatic participants, but the committee would like to point out to directors that if props are needed for productions, the stage committee in Fort St. John should be immediately informed.

The Women's Institute of Fort St. John have arranged billets for entrants. The Committee asks that your group get in touch with the Festival secretary, Mrs. Janet Williamson, well in advance, instructing her as to how many billets will be required.

Entrants to the Festival will receive free tickets to all preliminary sessions. All other than prizewinners will be asked to buy tickets only for the Grand Finale, the night of May 21st, when prizes and certificates will be presented. Cost of these will be fifty cents to everyone. Interested friends and spectators will be expected to pay fifty cents per day (twenty-five cents for children) for preliminary sessions.

St. John Musical Festival, May 20 and 21, to adjudicate drama entries from the British Columbia section of the Peace River District.

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**BULLOCK-WEBSTER TO ADJUDICATE DRAMATIC ENTRIES**



Attend the Musical I May 20th and 21st  
 MAY 9, 1946

## ENTRIES FOR FESTIVAL INCREASES TO 166

Plane Seat Secured  
 For Drama  
 Adjudicator. *MAY 16, 1946*

Three beautiful silver trophies, the first of several to arrive from "outside" silversmiths, grace the windows of Fort St. John stores this week so that all may see with what esteem the coming Musical Festival is held by business men and other citizens of Fort St. John.

The Festival, sponsored by the local lodge, B.P.O. Elks, is to be held here May 20 and 21, in the Town Hall and Carlsonia Theatre.

By the time mail posted before the deadline, May 1, was received by the Secretary in Fort St. John, entries had jumped from 135 to 166—all but a handful of classes outlined were represented.

Fears were allayed that the drama adjudicator, L. Bullock-Webster, chairman of Community Drama for the Province, would be unable to attend owing to his inability to secure a seat on the plane from Prince George. Mr. Bullock-Webster hopes to take this opportunity for a trip into the Peace River Block to organize the district into dramatic groups and to look after other business to do with his department in Victoria. Representations were made to the C.P.A. through Reg. Paull, local agent, so that the Victoria official will arrive in time for the Festival.

Mrs. Knox McCusker has been chosen to act as secretary to Mr. Bullock-Webster during the judging sessions.

under. Pauline Bazeley, 16, Fort St. John.

Boys' Vocal Solos, 7-11 years, Leonard Soman of Charlie Lake; and 12 to 16, Leonard Sutherland of Charlie Lake. Senior Piano-forte, open Mrs. J. R. Carson of Fort St. John. Senior Piano, 21 and under, Lillian Dufresne, 16, of Fort St. John. Junior Piano-forte, 7 and under, Dorothy Stewart, 7, St. John; 9 and under, Trevor Cuthill, St. John; 12 and under, Grace Forster, St. John; 16 and under, Lorna Roche, St. John; 12 and under, Audrey Powell, 13, of Charlie Lake.

Junior Pianoforte Duet, 9 and under, Dorothy and Mernie Stewart, St. John; 11 and under, Sylvia Foster, 10, St. John, and Gwen Tucker, 8, St. John.

END

# Twelve Shields and Cup Awarded Festival Winner

**EVELYN JONASSON, OF DAWSON CREEK, WINS THREE TROPHIES; MANY WIN CERTIFICATES AWARDED FOR MARKS OF 82 OR BETTER.**

The Fort St. John Cooperative Victory Trophy was awarded to Fort St. John School, Grades 8 and 9, for town school chorus with highest mark.

King Gething and Peace River Coal Mines Shield was awarded to Charlie Lake School for best rural school chorus.

Gordon Moore Trophy was awarded the Dawson Creek School, Grades 1 to 3 and 4 to 6, for the best town school choral speech entry.

Fort St. John Public Utilities Shield was awarded to Charlie Lake School for best rural school choral speech entry.

The Wilson Freightways, of Dawson Creek, presented the Dramatic Art Shield, which was won by the North Pine School, for best one-act play.

The Bowes & Herron Grand Trophy Shield, for the highest mark made by pupil or group, to go to the school of that pupil or group, was won jointly by Evelyn Jonasson, of Dawson Creek, and the Stewart twins, Marna and Dorothy, of Fort St. John. The shield goes to each town for six months.

Mr. and Mrs. Vern McLeod's Cup for best vocal solo, 16 years and under, goes to Evelyn Jonasson, of Dawson Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Pomeroy's two Cups for folk dancing and folk singing went to the four Dawson Creek Scots dancers (Dolores Thoreson, Marion Dunham, Mona Milward, and Ellen oberts; and the Folk Singing Cup went to Miss O. G. Blonsky.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Broderick's Cup for the best solo performance in music, 18 years and under, went to Evelyn Jonasson, of Dawson Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Cuthill's Cup went to Mrs. J. R. Carson's rhythm band, Fort St. John.

Mr. and Mrs. Hal Roche's Cup for the best solo performance in elocution, 18 years and under, was won by George McDonald, of Dawson Creek school.

### CERTIFICATES WENT TO THESE CANDIDATES

Certificate winners, those who secured a mark of 82 or better, included: Marion McFarlane and Marjorie McFarlane, girls' vocal; Carman Fairman, boys' recitation; Thora Mitchell, for both girls' recitation and girls' vocal; Dorothy Stewart, piano solo; Mana Stewart, piano duet; Gwen Tucker, junior piano; Sylvia Foster, junior piano; Leonard Soman, boys' vocal; Jacqueline Robinson, girls' vocal; Grace Foster, girls' piano; Kenneth Webb, boys' vocal; Dawson Creek School, choral speech; Anne Dingle, girls' recitation; Evelyn Jonasson, girls' vocal; Zeata Sharp, girls' recitation; June Parker, girls' vocal; Vera Smerl, girls' vocal; Marion Patrick, girls' vocal; Eileen Harte, girls' vocal; George McDonald, boys' recitation; Mona Milward, Ellen Roberts, Marion Denham, and

Dolores Thoreson, folk dancing; Mrs. J. R. Carson's pupils, rhythm band; Fort St. John School, chorus; Lorna Roche, piano solo; June Swenson, girls' recitation; Jean Cosens, girls' recitation; Ronald Wilson, violin solo; Charlie Lake School, chorus; Pauline Bazeley, girls' vocal; Dawson Creek School, one-act play; North Pine School, one-act play; Presbyterian Church Choir; Miss O. G. Blonsky; Mesdames Jarvis, Foster, McKenzie and Kennedy, ladies' vocal quartette; Mrs. J. R. Carson, piano solo; Miss M. Storrs, ladies' oratoria and ladies' vocal duet; Mrs. R. D. Symons, ladies' vocal duet; and Rev. John R. Carson, vocal solo.

### OTHER WINNERS:

Girls' Choir, 18 years and under, Mrs. M. E. Barrett, Dawson Creek. Ladies' Quartette, Mesdames Foster, Jarvis, McKenzie and Kennedy, Fort St. John. Ladies' Trio, Mesdames Jarvis, Kennedy and McKenzie, Fort St. John. Ladies' Duet, Mesdames Foster and Carson, Fort St. John. Girls' Trio, Pearl Racine, Annette Barrett and Eileen Hart, Dawson Creek. Girls' Vocal Duet, Vera Smirle and Audrey Kirstin of North Pine. School Town Chorus, Grades 4 and 5, Fort St. John; Grades 6 and 7, Pouce Coupe; and Grades 8 and 9, Fort St. John. Rural School Chorus, Charlie Lake School. Baritone Solo, Rev. J. R. Carson, Fort St. John. Ladies' Folk Song, Miss O. G. Blonsky, Landry School. Girls' Vocal Solos, 7 years and under, Marion McFarlane, Pouce Coupe; 7-11 years, Jacqueline Robinson, Charlie Lake; 12 to 16 years, Evelyn Jonasson, Dawson Creek, and 18 years and



# Musical Festival Committee Winds Up Year Reorganization Meeting Planned September 15

## PROCEEDS AMOUNT TO ALMOST \$400

The Fort St. John Musical Festival Association and Dramatic Guild wound up the 1946 season at a meeting held June 5 at the home of the president, J. R. Campbell. Bills were passed for payment, and other affairs settled, and the meeting learned that almost four hundred dollars had been taken in between entries and door fees. The government's grant, not yet received, is exclusive of this sum.

An honorarium was approved as a token of appreciation for the services of Mrs. Janet Williamson, who acted as secretary. Letters of thanks were instructed written to the Royal Canadian Air Force, who supplied entertainment for the children during the final Festival concert, and to others who contributed to the success of the affair.

The committee regretted that in the matter of trophies no mention was made at the time of award of engraving the legend of the award on the shields and cups. Letters will be sent to all winners, instructing them as to when and where they may send their trophies for inscription, cost of which has already been looked after by the donors.

A re-organization meeting of the Festival Committee has been tentatively set for September 15, and it is hoped that next year's effort will get under way in the fall—so that syllabuses and other details of competition will be in the hands of competitors a matter of months—instead of weeks—ahead of competition dates.

**WINNERS.**—These children were winners of various entry groups in the recent Fort St. John Musical Festival. Left to right, they are: **George MacDonald**, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. MacDonald, of Pouce Coupe. George gave the best boy's recitation and won the cup donated by Mr. and Mrs. Hal Roche, of Fort St. John. He is in Mark Bernard's Room, Grade 8, Dawson Creek School. **Leonard Soman**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Soman, of Charlie Lake, was winner in the Boys' Vocal Solo, 7 to 11 years. **Jacquelin Robinson**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Robinson, was another Charlie Lake winner, she being awarded first place in the Girls' Vocal Solo, 7 to 11 years. **Audrey Kirstin** is in Grade 10, a pupil of H. E. Travis, of North Pine. With **Vera Smirl**, same grade and school, the two won for North Pine the Girls' Vocal Duet.



**PRESENTATION OF GRAND TROPHY SHIELD.**—Bert Bowes, of Bowes & Herron, donor of the Grand Trophy Shield, is shown here presenting the award to the little Misses Dorothy and Mernie Stewart, of Fort St. John. The little girls are aged 7 and 8 years, the daughters of Mrs. Edna Stewart. They won the Junior Piano-forte Duet for 9 years and under. They tied with Miss Evelyn Jonasson, of Dawson Creek, who won the Girls' Vocal Solo Class for 16 and under, and with the only folk dancing entry, also from Dawson Creek, whose dancers included the Misses Delores Thoreson, Marian Dunham, Mona Milward and Ellen Roberts. Since the trophy was to go to the school of the pupil attaining the highest mark at the Festival, it will be kept in Fort St. John for four months, and Dawson Creek will have it for the balance of the year. All three entries won a mark of 86.

