

About 1911 the District of Oak Bay recognized the importance of parks in the district, and became seriously interested in the purchase of the Oak Bay Park, including the Tennis Club facility.<sup>4</sup> Discussions began with BCE, who favored the sale. Negotiations for sale and purchase of the playing fields continued, probably interrupted by the First World War, and were complete in 1923. The fields became known as Windsor Park. At the same time that negotiations for the sale of the park were underway, the Club members and the Company searched for another location for the Tennis Club.<sup>3,4</sup> A lot on Bowker Avenue was purchased in 1912 and an adjoining lot on Cavendish Avenue, purchased in 1913. These two lots may have also been considered for a turn-around site for the street-cars. Fortunately the Club was favored. The location was well served by street-cars or trams, the principal means of transportation at the time, because of its proximity to the popular Willows Fair Grounds, with its arena, horse track and exhibition buildings.

Two courts and a clubhouse were completed in 1923. This occurred six years prior to the area been zoned for single family residences. A third lot, adjacent on Cavendish, was purchased in 1937, and a third court added in 1938. The court surfaces were clay, requiring regular moistening, rolling and relining. Club members performed these duties and others. The original net posts were cut from railroad track, with a locally made winch fixed to the top of one post and a roller on its partner post. The Company continued to be supportive, paying the taxes, utilities and large repair or construction tasks.<sup>3</sup>

Unfortunately World War I interrupted the momentum, many members joining the services diminished membership and the Club was only just able to justify itself. It was not until 1933 that the situation noticeably improved due to the untiring efforts of D. G. White, then chief company accountant. The unrelenting raquetiers persevered. The Club Tournament continued.<sup>3</sup>

### Mixed Doubles



Mr. A.T. Goward and C.T. Teasdale presenting Trophy to Mr. and Mrs. R.B. Mathews  
Four time winners: 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940<sup>7</sup>



Ron Mitchell  
and  
Rita Nevard  
1946, 1947<sup>7</sup>



Major R.B. Travis and Ann Travis  
"Bob" home on leave.<sup>6</sup> 1940<sup>6</sup>