

inches. Andres Hoergan, the longest-distance professional jumper in the world, made his record at Banff by jumping 214 feet, and hopes to return this coming winter to beat his record by jumping 225 feet.

The clear, dry air of Banff makes it possible to have a fine open-air skating rink, and beautiful exhibitions of figure skating may here be seen with a wonderful background of snow-clad peaks. Hockey on the ice is a favorite game, and the curling rink is very popular, owing to the strong local Scotch element in the population. The great toboggan slide, half a mile long, is one of the most exciting and fastest in Canada. Dog sleigh races and ski-joring are other sports which add variety to the usual Winter Carnival program in this exquisitely beautiful resort. One exceptionally novel feature is the race for the Amateur Swimming Championship of Alberta, held in the warm sulphur water pool of the Cave and Basin under the eyes of fur-clad spectators. There are several excellent hotels open all the year round at Banff, and the opportunities for having a gay and exhilarating winter holiday are unparalleled. Very handsome cups and trophies are competed for during Carnival week, which usually takes place early in February.

Leaving the Rockies, one comes to the prairies, where again winter produces several climates. In the dry belt of Southern Alberta, the comparative absence of moisture and the warm, dry winds enable the farmers to range their cattle in the open. Yet a city such as Calgary has its cold spells, though not any lack of gaiety. The Palliser Hotel is here the centre of festivities and of brightly social life. Calgary has started a Bonspiel which hopes some day to rival the great Bonspiel at Winnipeg. Curling is perhaps the most popular winter game in the prairie cities, and curling, indeed, reaches its finest flower of perfection in Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba.

There are many reasons why the Winnipeg Bonspiel is the greatest in the world. It is one of the best organized, has nearly every citizen of any account behind it, and offers the best sport that can be found in any place. There is hardly a town or village of any size in Manitoba and Saskatchewan that has not a curling rink of one or two sheets, and nearly every one of them affiliated with the Manitoba association. The growth of the Winnipeg Bonspiel has been so marvellous that, despite the fact that the city boasts of eight clubs which provides for nearly fifty sheets of ice, and that the Chisholm system of draw has helped very materially in cutting down the number of games, it is most difficult for the Bonspiel to wind up in less than two weeks, and for the majority of this time there are five draws a day played.

There are about one hundred and forty clubs in affiliation with the Manitoba Curling Association, giving a membership of approximately five thousand curlers, and each year increases the growth and popularity of the game which has stood the test in Western Canada for so long a period.

The Winnipeg Bonspiel is the magnet that draws every curler of any consequence from the far east, the west and south, all together in social and championship competition in which the very best exponents of the world take part. Winni-