

**Determined Stand of Canadian Yacht Club Brought Out in Telegram to Commodore Pritchard, in Which Canadian Club Demands Acceptance of Challenge and Return of the Trophy**

In a telegram to Commodore Thomas B. Pritchard, of the Rochester Yacht Club, under date of October 27th, the Royal Canadian Yacht Club, of Toronto, comes out in a curt demand that its challenge be at once accepted or the trophy representing supremacy of the Great Lakes forfeited. It is hard to find an excuse for the wording of the message.

The telegram in question forms a part of the report of the Rochester Yacht Club committee on negotiations with the Royal Canadian Yacht Club for a race in 1907, and with its publication is likely to occur a change in feeling on the part of younger members of the club, who wish to accept the demand, regardless of local conditions:

The report of the committee follows in full:

To the Rochester Yacht Club:

Your committee appointed to confer with the committee of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club to arrange details for a Canada's cup contest, heretofore, beg to report as follows:

One meeting with the Royal Canadian Yacht Club committee has been held here at Rochester, and several letters and telegrams have passed between us.

The Royal Canadian Yacht Club insist on a race in 1906, and we have urgently endeavored to have the precedent of allowing a year to intervene between contests continue, but without success.

As the matter now stands, the Rochester Yacht Club has until November 26th to decide as to whether it will defend the cup in 1906 and establish the precedent of having a race every year for this cup or give it to the challenger, and your committee would respectfully recommend that the club prepare and submit to the Royal Canadian Yacht Club suitable conditions for a race in 1907 and, in the event of their not being accepted, present them the cup for the reasons following:

1st. During every year when a cup contest has been held, interest in Lake Yacht Racing Association events around the lake and local races and cruises has been dead and attention is given only to the cup races until the inter-club racing formerly had has practically ceased.

2d. We do not consider it fair or sportsmanlike for the club holding the cup to be forced to race in its defense every year, and do not think it to be for the best interests of yachting on our lakes to deviate from the custom heretofore followed and establish such a precedent.

3d. Because we feel that the Rochester Yacht Club should devote its energies toward promoting Lake Yacht Racing Association races and local events; and the further improvement of our club property and the procuring of suitable anchorage and harbor accommodations.

The several communications passed between the two clubs are as follows:

Toronto, August 30, 1905.  
Hon. Secretary, Rochester Yacht Club, Rochester, N. Y.:

that was too often for the case on our lakes.

As it is this cup race, the L. Y. R. A. racing year it centralizes the interest of our clubs (the challenging and the all the other clubs on Lake Ontario, practically dead, all because no general racing could be held around the lake on any of these cup races. The Rochester Club is desirous during the coming year devoting its energies toward improving local yachting conditions also, such as harbor and clubhouse facilities, and if the burden of defending this cup is thrust upon us in 1906 it would mean that these plans would have to be abandoned.

You will remember that when we were challenged for the cup your club requested that we allow a year to intervene between the races, according to the precedent already established, and because your club did not wish to take up the defense so soon after the previous contest, our club at that time granted your request.

In view of the foregoing circumstances we trust that you will lay this matter before your members and agree to a date in 1907, instead of forcing the matter for next year.

This would enable all the clubs to get together at the coming meeting of the L. Y. R. A., and arrange for a good rousing series of association races and revive the interest in inter-club racing here on the lake, which has been allowed to die out in the past few years.

Trusting that we may hear from you at your early convenience, granting our request, we are,

Yours respectfully,  
ROCHESTER YACHT CLUB,  
T. B. PRITCHARD, Commodore.  
October 28, 1905.

Toronto, Oct. 31, 1905.  
Rochester Yacht Club, Rochester, N. Y.:

Dear Sirs: You have a definite challenge from this club for a race in 1906, and we regret very much that we cannot meet your wishes. We await like definite action on your part in the terms of the deed of gift. This club considers that the date of the challenge is August 30th, and that really the sixty days have now expired.

Yours faithfully,  
ROYAL CANADIAN YACHT CLUB,  
E. PORTER, Secretary.

All of which is respectfully submitted.  
T. B. PRITCHARD, Chairman;  
L. G. MABRETT,  
F. T. CHRISTY, Committee.  
November 2, 1905.

Commodore Pritchard last night expressed himself on the action of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club as follows:

"It is a great surprise and disappointment to me that the Royal Canadian Yacht Club committees have taken the arbitrary stand they have in regard to the proposed races. It is acknowledged by nearly everyone, Canadians as well as ourselves, that the cup races detract from the general yachting events to such an extent that practically no attention is paid to them, and if these cup contests

is instructed by the Executive Committee to write

Dear Sir: The Executive Committee of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club is desirous of racing again for the Canada's cup, and that the Royal Canadian Yacht Club hereby challenges the Rochester Yacht Club to race for the said cup during the season of 1906, the race to be between yachts in the 30-foot class. We would be glad if the Rochester Yacht Club would appoint a committee to meet a committee from this club to arrange the conditions and discuss details, at the earliest possible date.

Yours truly,  
E. PORTER,  
Secretary.

Royal Canadian Yacht Club, Toronto, Ont.  
Gentlemen: We are in receipt of your esteemed challenge for a race for the the "Canada's Cup," and beg to advise you that we are pleased to accept same—subject to year, dates and other conditions being mutually agreed upon by the committees appointed from our respective clubs.

Our committee will consist of, F. B. Pritchard, L. G. Mabbett, F. T. Christy, and we will be happy to meet such members of your club as you may appoint here in Rochester at any time which will suit your convenience after September 18, 1905.

Yours respectfully,  
ROCHESTER YACHT CLUB,  
F. B. Pritchard, Commodore.  
September 8, 1905.

Toronto, Sept. 26, 1905.  
T. B. Pritchard, Esq., Commodore, Rochester Yacht Club, Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Sir: Referring to our challenge for Canada's Cup under date of August 30th last we hereby name August 11, 1906, as the date for the first race, the other races to be sailed on consecutive days thereafter (Sundays excepted) until the series is completed.

Yours truly,  
E. PORTER,  
Secretary.

Royal Canadian Yacht Club, Toronto, Ont.  
Gentlemen: When your committee was requested that the coming race for Canada's Cup be held in 1907, and it was agreed that you would take the matter up and let us hear from you, but up to date we have had no reply.

are to be held every year, it certainly will be a great mistake.

"I do not think it fair or sportsmanlike to compel the members of any club to go through every year what our members have been called upon to go through during the past season. We were forced to give up our cruising and our usual club racing and spend all of our time and a great deal of money in preparing for the past contest and the entertainment of the visiting yachtsmen. It cost the members of the Rochester Yacht Club about \$20,000 for the event.

"This of course was a pleasure for us this year, but it would be far from pleasant to have it for a yearly occurrence. We have demonstrated the fact that we are not afraid to race, as we have gone after the cup twice and won it each time, and have also successfully defended it. It is now a matter of principle that we are standing for. We think we are right in our position, but the committee does not care to take the responsibility of the final decision, as we believe it is a matter which should be settled by the club at large.

"While the Canada's cup is an important trophy, it is by no means the only thing to be considered in yachting, and the welfare of yachting as a whole and of our various organizations must be considered. This series may not be as popular as would be a permanent trophy and an agreement to race under any conditions proposed, but I believe we should look to self-preservation first and a popular, disinterested opinion later."