



# SPORTS PAGE



## The Girls' Softball League Teams Are To Play Indoors

The Forum Secured For All Games of League This Summer.

Indoor softball is to be played in Saint John this summer, with four girl teams competing in the Forum. The Girls' City Softball League has decided that it will baffle the elements and play under cover. The first game will be played on or about April 20 and it is expected that the games will attract large crowds.

The teams in the league are the Red Sox, Rangers, High Grads and Generalettes. Miss Marion Belding has been selected league president.

The ice has already been removed from the Forum and work on the softball diamond is progressing. The members of the different teams have been out to practice and it is expected they will be in mid-season form when the opening game breaks loose.

## Early Salmon Run On The Miramichi Brings Fishermen

Party From United States Already on Streams of New Brunswick.

Fredericton, N.B.—Early season salmon angling on the Southwest Miramichi is already under way. Occurrence of unusually early spring freshets and consequent breakup of the river ice cleared the channel by the latter days of March and salmon are now taking the fly in good style.

The season in New Brunswick generally is two weeks in advance of the normal dates and parties are now going direct to the Miramichi by motor-car. At the present time a party of four is enjoying the sport of salmon angling at Kenmore Camps, Boisetown. In the group are Dr. Harold B. Woodward, Bristol, Conn.; Jack Pelcher, Terryville, Conn.; Philip Pond, Terryville, Conn.; and Homer Longevin, Hartford, Conn. Good catches are reported.

### A GOOD IDEA

Mrs. Hillbilly — "Jerry, you ought to get for the smaller children for Christmas some sort of toys that they can't break up."

Jerry Hillbilly — "Uh-huh! I thought I'd go around to the junk yard next time I'm in town and see if I can't find a few second-hand anvils for them. What do you think of the idea?"

### PARAGON OF VIRTUE

Mother—"You good-for-nothing! Why don't you take a pat-tern from your father?"

Son—"What has he done?"

Mother—"Why, he has just got two years off his sentence for good conduct."

### MEN!

Your Easter Hat IS AT

ARMSTRONG'S

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127 Charlotte Open Evenings

## Dempsey Defeated Sharkey By His Indomitable Courage

Knocked Out Boston Gob in Seventh Round—Given Greatest Ovation in Ring Annals—Bout Had Many Dramatic Moments.

By RAY HANSEN

SHORTLY after Jack Dempsey lost his heavyweight championship crown to Gene Tunney another heavyweight contender, Jack Sharkey, the Boston Gob, began making quite a name for himself, and was pressing for a title match with Tunney. In the meanwhile the former champion was staging a comeback as he was eager to regain his lost crown. As a result a match was arranged between Sharkey and Dempsey and was held in New York, July 21, 1927. It will be recalled by fans that in this bout Jack Dempsey's dogged determination alone saved him in the early rounds and later, in the start of the seventh round, he literally smashed his way back into the pugilistic horizon and earned the right to meet Gene Tunney in a return match for the crown.

No less than 82,000 fans assembled to see the Boston sailor and the former champion meet. The sudden climax to this highly dramatic battle had that vast throng deliriously excited and the ovation tendered Dempsey was said to have been unequalled in ring annals.

In the first round Dempsey did not seem able to get going. Sharkey landed hard right and left smashes to Dempsey's head and jaw. The vicious left and right hooks had the former champion stunned and badly shaken and a fusillade of punches towards the close of the round had him groggy. The bell undoubtedly saved Jack.

When the boxers went to their corners Sharkey stretched out cool and confident while Dempsey's handlers worked frantically over him. In the second round Dempsey came out slowly from his corner and was met by Sharkey, who drove his right to the jaw. Dempsey fought des-

perately and sent some hard punches to Sharkey's body, but the latter again landed on Jack's chin and for a short hit landed at will. As the bell sounded both men were slugging in the centre of the ring.

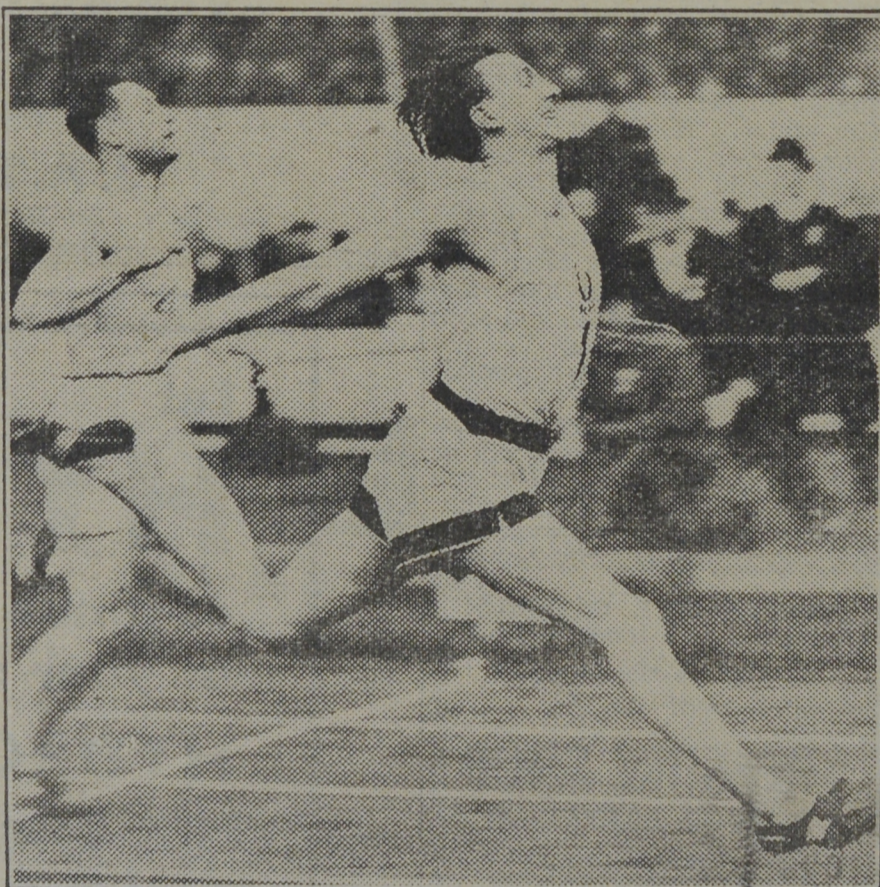
When the third round started Dempsey was showing the grit which made him so famous. He was bleeding quite badly from a cut under one of his eyes. He started in to weaken his opponent and take some of the sting out of his punches by concentrating on the body. As a result Sharkey did not appear so confident when he got up to start the fourth round. The former champion was beginning to find himself and right from the start went after his opponent. He drove Sharkey around the ring with fierce punches to the body and then shot his left to the chin and right to the body. Sharkey fought back savagely and when the round ended Dempsey's eye was bleeding quite badly.

In the fifth round Dempsey was showing his old time punishing ability and had Sharkey spitting blood from solid smashes to the head. In the sixth Sharkey drove Dempsey's head back with a terrific right uppercut to the jaw. This was considered the hardest blow landed by either boxer up to that time. Dempsey was hurt, but not sufficiently to slow him up to any extent. When the bell sounded and the former champion dropped his hands and was about to start to his corner Sharkey deliberately hit him in the face. This brought an outburst of wrath from the vast throng who resented this un-sportsmanlike action.

It may have been due to this blow that Dempsey became a veritable killer. For as soon as

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## PLEASE PAGE MR. MERCURY



PENNINGTON, of Oxford College, seems to emulate Mercury as he wins the hundred yards' race at the Oxford-Cambridge Sports Meet at the White City Stadium, London, England. With this terrific stride he completed the distance in 10.2 seconds.

## SPOTS of Sport

By RAY HANSEN



HOCKEY IS PRACTICALLY OVER FOR this season and from now on interest will be centred on baseball. The major leagues are working back north and are getting ready for the grand opening. Many of the players are reported to be in almost mid-season form, while others are taking it easy so as not to suffer any strained ligaments or sore arms. Speculation on the respective strength of the clubs runs high, some close followers of the sport predicting that Cleveland will be the team to beat in the American League this season and the Chicago Cubs receiving the call in the National. Others favor Detroit or the Red Sox in the American and Pittsburg or the Giants in the National. From a local standpoint the International League will be closely followed particularly if Lloyd Stirling holds on with the Toronto Maple Leafs. His friends here are confident that with more practice he will shake off that third inning jinx which has been following him in the south. On March 31 he pitched against the Albany Senators and for two innings did not allow a hit, but in the third he lost control and allowed three hits and a fielder's choice which netted his opponents two runs. In the fifth a home run and walked resulted in another pair of tallies. His next effort was against Buffalo. Details of the game are not available at the time of writing, but the Buffalo team secured twelve hits off Lloyd and Lucas and won out by a score of 10 to 4. Recent comments in one of the Toronto papers were not very encouraging. The sport writer doubted if the Saint John boy would make the grade. Despite this fans are hoping that Manager Boone will realize that Stirling worked right up to the time he reported for spring training and that weather conditions in this part of the country will not permit a player to get any practice. This is a mighty serious handicap for pitchers. In many parts of the States players have facilities for indoor practice under ideal conditions. They naturally have a big edge on a Maritimer and can round into shape much more quickly when they reach the training camp. Stirling has not struck his stride, but if he can only hold on for a few more weeks there is no reason why he cannot hold his own in the International League. His many friends here are pulling for him to make the grade.

THE INTENSE INTEREST MANIFESTED IN THE N. H. L. playdowns is almost beyond belief. Hundreds upon hundreds of local fans will pass up almost any type of entertainment so as to be either home or in some place where radio broadcasts bring in a play-by-play description of the game. Local fans are well versed in their hockey lore and are conversant with the doings and the personnel of the major league clubs. As a result they can follow the play so closely they get a "great kick" out of listening in to a word picture of the battle. The series between the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Boston Bruins, followed by the semi-final between the Toronto club and the New York Americans, had local fans worked up to fever heat. The final battle between the Leafs and Detroit was a subject of conversation wherever fans congregated. At the time of writing the Red Wings were favorites to win although the Canadian contingent was expected to give them a great run for the money. While on the subject of hockey an announcement from Halifax that Jack Conn had been elected honorary president of the Wolverines Social and Athletic Club contained much of interest. Halifax fans apparently are determined to get back in the game and are bent on banding together a team capable of making a bid for the Allan Cup. It would not be surprising to find hockey staging a real comeback in the Maritime Provinces next season.

THE YOUTH OF SAINT JOHN SEEM TO BE GOING IN strong for basketball. Popularity of the game would seem to be increasing and the achievements of local teams would indicate that there is a wealth of talent in this city. Provincial honors were won by the Skylarks and the Y. M. C. I. Juveniles, while other local groups were also proving themselves clever and aggressive players. If this interest maintains there is no reason why Saint John boys could not develop teams capable of winning Dominion honors. This city has turned out champions in many lines of sport. Skating and rowing head the list, while Archie Walsh, who was a world's champion bowler and a resident of Boston for many years, was born in the North End. In basketball the Trojans on more than one occasion came within an ace of clinching a Dominion title. Saint John also turned out some leading boxers, Eddie Connolly being the most outstanding. From this it will be seen that this old Loyalist city can boast of real talent and citizens would do well to encourage our youth in all lines of athletic endeavor.

EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE IN SPORT YOU RUN ACROSS something unusual. During a recent amateur show in Toronto a boxer, named Harry Greb, had the audience convulsed with laughter. He was fighting an opponent, O. Mattussi, a serious-minded youth who was in there to win. Greb clowning him into knots, slapping, pushing and wind-milling to such an extent that the Sarnia youth became so bewildered he proved an easy prey. At the end of the first round Greb sent the crowd into a fit of laughter when he insisted that he work over his second instead of the latter working over him. He gave him water and waved a towel in his face. His idea was to impress the throng that he was fresher and in better shape than his second. This feat was novel and made a big hit with the fans. If Greb has some real fighting talent along with his ability to burlesque there is no doubt he will make a big hit with fans whenever he appears on a program. Boxing fans enjoy a laugh as well as anyone.