

News of Sport.

HOCKEY HAS THE CENTRE OF THE STAGE JUST NOW.

The Fredericton Gleaner Advocates a Questionable Plan --- Moncton Preparing --- Newfoundland Wants to Play --- Speed Skating in Moncton --- News of the Ring.

HOCKEY

A Word to the Wise.

The young man who presides over the sporting columns of the Fredericton Gleaner is a marvel of versatility. He can execute a change of front with an ease and celerity, so great, that, if he were a military commander, he would surely be entitled to all the laurels, bay leaves and other spinnach in sight. But what might be commendable in a warrior is not always to be commended in a scribe—even on the Gleaner.

For many moons he has been loud in his declamations favoring amateurism in sport. He would prize the Gleaner's games of the least taint of professionalism. We agree with him there. But on Saturday this journalistic acrobat executes one of his formal changes of front and referring to the amalgamation of the Fredericton Trojans and Crescents work off the following:

"The amalgamation of the Trojans and Crescents doesn't seem to be working out very well—in fact the chances are there won't be a Marysville player on the team. A left wing and cover point that can play hockey as it should be played are wanted and if Fredericton people were like others there would not be much time wasted in getting jobs for a couple of men to come here."

Perhaps the Gleaner's young man is not aware of it but he is advocating very plain that almost sounded the death knell of hockey in Quebec and Ontario. So far the game in New Brunswick has been clean but the adoption of the Gleaner's suggestion would be but the thin edge of the wedge of professionalism.

Fortunately the Gleaner's sporting man is seldom taken seriously and his present suggestion will, it is to be hoped, go the way of his former efforts. But in view of his childish prattle about the recent meeting of the New Brunswick League it is well that all who are interested in hockey should know just how to write him down in future.

"Consistency thou art a jewel."
(Sporting Ed.)

Newfoundland Wants a Team.

F. H. Donnelly, manager of the St. John's skating rink Co., St. John's, Newfoundland, has written to J. J. Curry, secretary of the C. B. Hockey

Association, with a view to bringing about arrangements by which a Sydney team would go to St. John's this winter, to play a series of matches with teams from that city. Mr. Donnelly agrees to pay the travelling expenses of the team, and their hotel bills while they are in St. John's. The matter will be taken up at the next meeting of the association.—Sydney Post.

Moncton Preparing.

Moncton is getting a team in shape for the provincial league. Tomorrow night there will be a game between seven picked from the four teams in the local league. At the close of the game it is probable that the team will be chosen which will represent Moncton in the N. B. A. L.

SKATING.

Moncton Flyers.

Saturday's Moncton Transcript says: "There promises to be lots of speed skating in Moncton, as there will be throughout the province this season. Already some of the fast ones are getting down to work, and will be heard from before the winter is over."

Local Champion Charles Smith has a brand new pair of blades, made especially for him by C. D. Coles, the well known St. John skate manufacturer. They are a very fast skate, and on them, no doubt Smith will do some fast work. He is already at work getting into shape for the winter's campaign. He is open to skate Merritt, the ex-St. John flyer, or Fred O. Follis, the speedy skater of Eastport, Me., who has such an enviable record.

McKinnon, Gaudet and Melanson three fast half-mile skaters are skating again this year, and will have a few brushes before the winter is over. They will probably take part in the Maritime Province championships.

HORSE RACING.

Canadian Ice Circuit.

Frank G. Smith, writing in the Buffalo Courier about the Canadian Ice Circuit, which opens at Dufferin Park, Toronto, Monday, says:—"Never before were there so many

horses being prepared for the grand Canadian circuit on ice as at present. Horsesmen are commencing to realize that high-class campaigners can earn as much money in the frozen north during the zero season as down the familiar American racing routes in summer, and are preparing their fast steppers for the rich stakes at Ottawa and elsewhere. The Canadian half-mile track ice record is 2.18, made by Flora Hunter last winter. If you own a horse that can stop one mile close to 2.18, and three times in 2.19 over ice, you can win all of the King Edward gold in the Dominion."

Out the Marsh.

The pacer Rambler owned by James Letimer was king of the marsh road yesterday. A large number of noted trotters were out but Rambler led the bunch every time down the road.

FOOTBALL.

Down on the Game.

Consequent on the efforts of the Welsh revivalists, who have inaugurated a campaign against football, several matches in towns and villages of South Wales were abandoned last Saturday.

At Caerphilly, where the Treorky team were playing, the revivalists held a meeting near the football ground and succeeded in capturing two of the home players on their way to the match. The Treorky team were minus five of their usual players, who had been converted during the week.

Miss Maggie Rees, one of Evan Roberts' staunch supporters, stated at Ferndale that she would not be satisfied until she had converted the Welsh international team.

Remarkable scenes characterized Mr. Roberts' revival meeting at Hafod today, which was attended by many visitors from great distances.

The young revivalist was about to speak, and had already said half a dozen words, when a man in the body of the chapel rose and interrupted him. Some effort was made to stop the man, but Evan Roberts checked it.

"The Holy spirit guides," he said; "let him speak." And thereupon the interrupter thrilled the congregation with a force denunciation of football.

"I have been a footballer all my life," he cried, "but it must go. Here and now I vow to renounce it for ever."

THE RING.

Jeffries is out west and has spoken a few words of wisdom in reference to his different fights.

What he says—hot off the giddle—makes a better history of late pugilism than all the many books that have been written. He was the master of all the fighters that met, but his sayings are not concealed and have the earmarks of truth.

"The hardest fight I had," he said, "was with Sharkey. This was partly because I had a bad arm at the time and partly because Sharkey can stand more punishment than any man I ever met. I hit him harder than any man I have fought, and while I broke a few of his ribs I

didn't put him away."

This picture of Sharkey is lifelike. He can be put down with safety as the most rugged fighter outside of Jeffries.

"In all my fights no man hit me harder than old Fitz" continued the champion. "Give him new hands and I would not be sure that I could lick him. He is the most scientific puncher without question that I have met."

Here you have the hardest hitter in the ring, always barring Jeffries, of course.

Jeffries' opinion of Corbett is this: "You can't hit the fellow a hard blow because he won't stand up and fight. When you do reach him he goes down and out like a paper bag. There is no danger of his hitting you to hurt you, and it's just a case of chasing all the time. Yes, it is cleverness in a certain way."

This puts Corbett in the lead as a clever boxer, a man who can tap and get away. Those who are fond of pugilism can hang his picture up on the wall stamped "clever."

"Munroe was the easiest fighter I ever stood up against," Jeffries remarked. "He was scared to death. Perhaps it was stage fright, and this might have taken away whatever knowledge he had of fighting. I could hit him anywhere I liked, and couldn't see where his punch came in."

This is a sad story. Poor old Munroe will have to be labelled a novice. Whether you want to hang him up on the wall is up to you.

Prizes For Boxers.

Six boxing belts and cups will be awarded in England to the champions of the various classes in 1905.

The trophies will be solid gold and silver and will be of a guaranteed value of \$2,500.

This competition is likely to prove a great boon for boxing in England, and may result in bringing out a lot of championship material, who may in time be heard from in this country, where a lot of new blood would be of great benefit to the sport of boxing. The classes announced are as follows: Bantam weight, eight stone (112 pounds) and under striped, and weighed at 2 p. m., on the day of first heats being completed, with this proviso, if anyone is overweight, they may be weighed at the ringside, just prior to the drawing of the names of competitors in the ring at 7 p. m., prompt, on the night of the competition, in costume, for which two pounds will be allowed.

Feather weight, 9 stone and under (126 pounds); light weight, 10 stone (140 pounds); welter weight, 10 stone, 8 pounds (148 pounds) and under; middle weight, 11 stone, 4 pounds (159 pounds) and under; light heavy weight, 12 stone (168 pounds) and under; heavy weight, any weight.

Ring Notes.

Champion James J. Jeffries has asked Jack Munroe, the "Butte Miner," to become his sparring partner. Just now Champion Jeffries is on the road with his company in Davy Crockett.

There is a three-round boxing contest put on during the play and Jeffries wants Munroe to join the company. It is quite likely that Munroe will accept Jeffries' offer and start for the west at once.

Alex. Grogains, who secured the boxing permit for January in San Francisco, is still up in the air about his next card. Buddy Ryan and Jimmy Gardner are now mentioned. Young Corbett and Britt are also on the card and no one seems to know who it will be.

Jimmy Gardner is expected in Chicago shortly. The Lowell boy is now under the management of Ollie Lindh, who will try to get him matches at St. Louis, Milwaukee and other clubs in that part of the country. Lindh is also handling George Gardner. The latter thinks he has still a number of good fights in him and that he can clean up all the light heavies.

Gus Bezenah has challenged Monte Attell, who knocked out Johnny Regan at St. Louis. Bezenah is considered about the best 118-pound boxer in the west, and has met many of the crack eastern and western bantamweights. He has a long string of victories to his credit, and thinks that if given a chance he can take the measure of Abe Attell's promising brother.

When Marvin Hart and Jack Johnson met at the opening of the new year, the latter agrees to stop the southerner before 20 rounds. The men have come to terms and will only await to sign the articles, which will probably be done some time this week. They will divide the gate on a 60 and 40 per cent. basis, and if Johnson does not make Hart quit inside the limit he will get the short end, even if he outshines Hart in every particular.

Despite the arrest of Ted Murphy and the subsequent fuss over his disappearance with Nelson's share of the receipts in his recent fight with Jimmy Britt, he will continue to manage the Dane in his future matches. A compromise has been made between the pair and the bitter enemies of a few days ago are once again fast friends who are satisfied to travel in business partnership as of yore.

Murphy and Nelson met in a San Francisco restaurant and after a few preliminary remarks enjoyed a big dinner together and satisfactorily adjusted all of their differences.

Murphy claimed that he had no intention of defrauding the Chicago pugilist of what was coming to him. He convinced the Battling Dane that he had taken his money with him, fearing that the rising pugilistic star would squander it foolishly.

Two Clever Boxers.

Tommy West, one-time good welter-weight, and now trainer and manager of Twin Sullivan, has arrived in Los Angeles, and is endeavoring to clinch a return match with Kid McCoy for his protegee.

As to keeping his health, West knows the game pretty well, for he has made a study of hygiene and physical culture and is qualified as a teacher on these lines, having, in fact, practiced it in New York and Brooklyn up to the time he left for the coast.

West has some interesting things to say about the boxing game and some of the fighters who have worked their way to the top of the pugilistic ladder.

It was West who introduced what is known as the kidney blow in New

York. It was in 1894, and that is the year that he won most of his fights. He says that in a friendly bout with Joe Choynski in Chicago he got a blow in the kidneys that he didn't get over for two days, Choynski afterward taught him the trick, and when West got back to New York that blow was many a man's undoing. All West's blows were directed to that vital spot, and when a man gets a thorough trouncing over the kidneys it's a long time afterward that he wants to fight again, if ever he does.

In speaking of California fighters, of which West has seen them all, he says that he considers them sluggers more than boxers.

"There is only one good California fighter that has the science," said West, "and that one is Jimmy Britt."

"Britt is a good boxer, and has one of the best styles of defense I ever saw, while the others I have seen in this part of the country are rough-house sluggers, and win by mixing it up."

"When it comes to clever boxers, I think Joe Gans and Tommy Ryan are the cleverest I ever saw in this country. Both of them have the science of the game down fine."

Some people have given Ryan the name of being a hard man to get along with, but I have always found him the opposite. I have helped him in his training, and he has been as liberal with me as any man could ask."

In speaking of the Australian fighters, West said:

"I consider Dan Creedon the cleverest fighter that ever came from Australia. Of course, old man Fitzsimmons was a good and great fighter, but it wasn't science that won for him. He had the greatest bunch of hooks that any man ever had, and he won his fight with hooks and short-arm jabs. That was where he was strong."

"Some men are bad fighters because they hit out of position. A man fighting out of position is just like a horse out of his stride. He won't get anything. There is a right way for doing everything, and righting away from the proper position is a thing that a lot of fighters do, and they make a big mistake in it."

West has his own ideas on training, and thinks that a great mistake that most men make is training too soon after eating. Some of them will go to work soon after a hearty meal and long before their food is properly digested. In that way, he says, they lose the strength that the food should give them and this might be avoided by waiting at least three hours after eating a hearty meal before any work of any kind is indulged in.

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ANNAPOLIS.

Death of Mrs. Thomas Dever --- Presentations --- Hockey League Trophy.

Annapolis, Dec. 31.—The death of Caroline, beloved wife of Thomas Dever, occurred at her home on St. Anthony street, Thursday afternoon, after a protracted illness at the age of 72 years. She leaves a husband, two sons, John H. of Lynn, Mass., and Samuel A. of Boston, and two daughters, Miss Margaret M. Dever of St. John and Mrs. H. H. Ring of Boston. The two daughters and one son were present when she passed away.

The marriage of Miss Fannie, eldest daughter of William LeCain of Round Hill, and Archie L. Burrill of Glenoutsport took place at Rosette, Annapolis County, on Wednesday evening, the 28th inst. The ceremony was performed by Rev. H. D. de Blois, A. M., in the presence of the relatives of the contracting parties.

The offertory at St. Luke's (Anglican) church on Christmas day to the rector Rev. H. Howe, amounted to \$35.05, for charity \$10.00 and an unknown sum for parochial purposes. Mrs. Hew, the organist, was also the recipient of \$5.

A purse of \$78 was presented to Rev. Father Hayes by his parishioners on Christmas day.

A silver cup has been presented as a trophy for the successful team of the De Monts Hockey League by S. W. Pickup.

The death occurred at Digby on Monday of Mina M. wife of Rev. Mr. McGillivray, formerly of Lunenburg, aged 30 years. Deceased was a daughter of the late George B. Bishop, whose death occurred at Digby a year ago Mrs. McGillivray had been married about two years, and has been ill for over a year with consumption.

Dr. A. A. Shafner, of Halifax, has been the guest of his brother at Granville Ferry this week.

"Otty" Savary, barrister of Halifax, spent Christmas with his parents, Judge and Mrs. Savary at their home here.

Prof. Arthur Ruggles of the State Entological School of Minnesota, is spending the Christmas holidays in Nova Scotia, visiting friends in Annapolis and Bear River.

The Misses Ethel and Emma McLaughlan of Lunenburg are spending the Christmas vacation with their sister Mrs. H. D. deBlois.

Messrs Guy Arnaud and W. E. Tupper of Halifax, were the guests of Mr. E. D. Arnaud and wife at Christmas.

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