

N. H. L. SEASON OPENS TONIGHT IN BIG CITIES

New York, Nov. 14—The whiz of steel over ice, the crack of stick on stick, the dull thud of a player hurtled into the boards, and the roar of the crowd, thrilled with the fastest, cleanest kind of sport action, will roll again tomorrow night through the ice palaces around the National Professional Hockey circuit. The League season of 44 games for each of the ten teams, swinging down through the winter and into the spring for the Stanley Cup play-off series and the crowning of a world champion will open in three Canadian and two United States cities. The world champion New York Rangers, conquerors of the Montreal Maroons in the last title series, swing into action in Detroit, while the Boston Bruins, co-favorites of the American group, tackle Benny Leonard's Pittsburgh Pirates in Pennsylvania.

The remainder of the teams clash in Canadian cities. Those deadly rivals, Maroons and Canadiens, touch off the yearly frenzy in their home city of Montreal. The Ottawa Senators entertain the New York Americans, and the Chicago Black Hawks, almost entirely rebuilt, furnish the opposition for a gala night at Toronto, home of the Maple Leafs.

Expect Big Crowds.

Looking ahead through rosy glasses, officials of the league can see nothing but a trail of shattered records following the teams throughout the grind. They expect to see the record of 1,350,000 paid attendance last season surpassed by a mark that will approach 2,000,000 with corresponding increased gate receipts and financial happiness for players and magnates.

Heretofore, the rivalry between the Maroons and Canadiens has given these two Montreal teams the leadership in attendance throughout the circuit. Last year, 292,000 flocked to the Canadian rink, while 291,000 saw the Montreal Maroons play on home ice.

Capacity Increased.

The opening of a new Madison Square Garden in Boston will give the Bruins added seating capacity, and the Rangers, with the best American attendance of 166,000 last season, hope for far better returns in the coming campaign. Both Chicago and Pittsburgh have improved their rinks.

The Rangers believe they have been strengthened by the trading of Lorne Chabot to Toronto along with a bundle of cash for John Ross Roach, a goalkeeper of the sensational type. The purchase of Butch Keeling from the same club, and the signing of Myles Lane, Dartmouth College de-

DEMPSEY AND FIRPO MAY YET RETURN TO FISTIC ARENA

Return of "Tiger" Said to be Merely Attempt to Bolster Ring Morale However—Comeback of Two Former Kings Would be Great Help to Game—Tiger Jack Would be Welcomed with Open Arms by Fans.

New York, Nov. 15—Talk of Jack Dempsey returning to the ring seems to most observers to be inspired largely by efforts to brace up the sagging fortunes of the fistic game.

They are sagged, especially from the box-office viewpoint, this year to a marked degree by comparison with the heydays of the boom era that started in 1923. That was the year Dempsey and Firpo fought their memorable battle at the Polo Grounds.

By a strange, if not ominous coincidence, Firpo also figures in the come-back talk. It would be an odd turn of circumstances if both the Argentine bull and the old Manassa mauler climbed back through the ropes next year. It probably also would furnish an odder comparison with their fighting powers of 1923.

Revive Interest.

There was only one Dempsey-Firpo fight. No revival of that epic battle could touch the original, any more than the famous Leonard-Tendler lightweight rivalry of the same period could stand being reproduced.

There appears little question, on the other hand, that Dempsey's return to the ring would stimulate lagging interest in the heavyweight. No new figures have come along to capture popular imagination as the former champion did. The ring-around-the-rose appears to be on again in much the same fashion it has been going on for the past few indoor campaigns.

It is no secret that Tex Rickard would have much preferred last summer to have staged a third and final

fence star. The Bruins will depend on their stars, Eddie Shore and Frank Frederickson and a set of fast traveling youngsters.

Pittsburgh are possibly weaker this season owing to the loss of Roy Worters, but Joe Miller who will replace him, has never really been given a fair show in the major league. The onlytime he had a reliable defence in front of him was while subbing for Chabot in the Ranger nets against Maroons in the Stanley Cup play-offs last season. His performance was then of the sensational variety and it is quite possible that Benny Leonard, owner of the Pirates will not miss Worters to the extent feared by some.

Tunney-Dempsey fight than the Tunney-Heeney match that proved a financial as well as an artistic flop.

Jack Hardly Fit.

So long as Dempsey is around the borders of the "racket" there will be insistence that he take "one more" fling. It is a business proposition, and the punch is the main factor involved. It disregards entirely the fact that two additional years of idleness will take just that much more toll of Jack's other old ring assets—speed and stamina. These waned rapidly after the one big shot in Chicago in the seventh round.

Dempsey says he won't fight again and he may mean it. But it is just as well to note that if he said anything else now the winter's ballyhoo would be sadly handicapped. Comebacks always start in the winter. Whether they actually bloom in the spring is something else to guess about.

MARITIME FINALS.

Mt. A. and Caledonia Clash Today in Rugby Semi-Final—Hard Battle Expected—Winners Play Halifax Wanderers on Saturday.

Antigonish, N. S., Nov. 14—The stage is set for the Maritime Rugby semi-final between the Caledonia team, champions of the Cape Breton League, and Mount Allison University intercollegiate champions, tomorrow afternoon. The college team left Sackville last evening for the scene of battle, while the Caledonians will leave Glace Bay early tomorrow morning. A hard battle is expected. Rev. Dr. Boyle, of St. Francis Xavier University, will referee.

The winners of tomorrow's game will play the Halifax Wanderers on Saturday for the championship of the Maritime Provinces. In past years the Caledonia team had gone to Halifax for play-offs. This year, if they reach the final, they will insist on the Wanderers either returning the compliment and coming to Glace Bay, or meeting them on neutral grounds either here or at Truro. In the latter event the Cape Bretoners will probably not return home until after the championship is decided.

It is believed that if Mount Allison is successful that they will suggest Truro as the location for the game with the Wanderers.

FISH IS BEFORE MEAT BY ORDER OF THE QUEEN

From soups to nuts, the order of service in a modern dinner seems to logical through custom that it seems almost sacrilegious to inquire how this order came to be. For example: why not fish after meats instead of before? The epicure replies, of course, that it is because the fish is a light appetizing prelude to the heavier-bodied meats. History, however, is more practical in its explanation.

In 1562, Queen Elizabeth had a law enacted ordering all persons to abstain from flesh and to content themselves with a fish diet three days of the week. The law added that on all fish Wednesdays one flesh dish might be served, provided there were three fish dishes put on the table for actual consumption. To show that he had no disposition to abuse this clause, the Englishman caused the three diets of fish to be set on the dinner table first and refrained from serving the flesh until all had shown themselves good citizens by eating that which the law required.

Elizabeth had made the law for "The maintenance of the Navy," that is, she desired a development of the marine industry that provided her with sailors.

Blinks—Have you ever seen a prize fight?
Jinks—No, I've never seen a prize fight, but I have looked in on a women's afternoon bridge party."

HOCKEY NOTES FROM THE N. H. L.

Montreal, Nov. 14—Canadiens and Maroons will skate out at the Forum on Thursday night, exchange a few dirty looks and then break loose on the rocky trail that leads to the professional hockey championship and the Stanley cup.

The folks who are lucky enough to get into the Forum will probably be wondering whether seven months have really elapsed since the fleet-shod red team and the heavy-treading maroon machine last did battle.

Only one change in the starting line-ups will be noticeable.

Back on the defence of the Canadiens, a veteran will be missing and a youth will be found in his place. Sturdy Martin Burke will replace wily Herbie Gardiner.

Otherwise the teams will be the same.

It will be nothing new for Clint Benedict to start another hockey season. He will be in the Maroons' goal. Red Dutton and Babe Stebert will be on the defence and Jimmy Ward, Hooley Smith and Nelson Stewart on the front attack, the same alignment as when the team left the ice for the final time last spring.

Kitchener, Ont., Nov. 13—Newsy Lalonde, making his debut as manager in the Canadian Professional Hockey League, piloted his Niagara Falls Cataracts to a 4 to 2 victory over the local entry in the first league game of the season here last night.

The Cataracts were faster than the Flying Dutchmen and displayed greater ability in front of the net.

Regina, Sask., Nov. 13—Regina Pat's, western junior rugby champions proved the masters of the St. John's seniors of Winnipeg in an exhibition game here yesterday by the overwhelming score of 40 to 8.

SPORT BRIEFS

Bricker Won.

Guelph, Ont., Nov. 13—Cliff Bricker, well-known Galt marathoner, led a large field of long-distance runners over a 15-mile trek on a muddy road at the annual road meet of the Guelph Athletic Association here yesterday. Bricker was closely trailed all the way by his running mate, Billy Reynolds, who was followed by another Galt entry, Tom Dick.

Goldstein Loses.

Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 13—Jimmy Goodrich, former world's lightweight champion, defeated Phil Goldstein, of Pittsburgh, in a hot ten-round bout here last night. Jimmy knocked Goldstein down for a count of nine in the fifth round and had him in trouble in the ninth and tenth rounds, but could not finish him. Goldrich weighed 142, Goldstein 137½.

Finishes Third.

Ottawa, Nov. 13—Bill Tate of Cherterville won the annual "Burgin" road race here yesterday speeding over a hilly eight-mile course in 45 minutes, 24.15 seconds. P. Simpson, 1927 winner of the event, finished on Tate's heels to place second, while R. Kerresse, Montreal Polytech entrant, was third. All fourteen of the entrants completed the course.

Retains Ring Title.

Chicago, Nov. 13—Charley Belanger successfully defended his Canadian light-heavyweight title last night by winning a 10-round decision over his rival, Harry Dillon, of Winnipeg, in the White City arena here.

The champion won six rounds by a wide margin, while Dillon showed his best attack in the eighth, the only one he won.

Belanger weighed 178½, and Dillon, 175½.

Bob—I hear that Lulu promised you last night that she'd be a sister to you?

Sam (gloomily)—Yes, she did.

Bob—Well, now old man, that makes you a brother of mine. Loan me ten bucks on account of the kinship.

Joe Boob—I don't want to get married for three years.

Hazel Nutt—Why, of course not Joe. I think we ought to get married for five at least.

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