

Gossip and Comment

The case of Edward Bassett, the international figure skating champion, who will be seen next week at Bennett's Theatre with Isabel Butler in 'Vaudeville's latest novelty, "Skating on Real Ice," has attracted much interest.

In connection with the appearance of Butler and Bassett next week, the management announce an amateur skating contest for Wednesday evening.

The Eel's mile, paced yesterday over the Ottawa half-mile track, constitutes a world's record for any ice track of any kind, about which there can be no doubt.

Lady May, owned by Burns and Shepard, paced the third heat of the free-for-all at Ottawa last year in 2:27 1/2, equalling the Canadian record, made by Phelon W., Feb. 9, 1907.

Sid Howard, the Calceolonia comedian, has sent in an entry for the amateur contest to be held at the Armory Hall next Tuesday—sent it by native runner.

It is stated in a cable message from Johannesburg that R. E. Walker's time of 10:2.5 seconds for 100 metres, made at the sports held at Pretoria on New Year's Day, will not be accepted as a record, owing to his getting off the mark before the pistol was fired.

Dope killed half a million last year, to quote the optimistic statistician.

Yet should newspapers do up the steady stream of sporting dope countless millions would mourn.

What hurt? What is without his "dope sheet"? What fan does not read baseball "dope"?

Sportsmen are dope fiends. No denying that. Since all saturate themselves in dope it is better to take it externally, not internally.

For didn't Adam gamble with Eve she couldn't pluck the apple? Our first parents followed the wrong dope, and we have had to suffer ever since.

Cuban baseball fans have a unique way of demonstrating their enthusiasm. They grab a star ball player, lift him on their shoulders, kiss and hug him, and act as if they had gone entirely daffy.

The other day a pitcher named Hagerman, of the Topoka, Kan., team, twirling for the Habanos, held the Amnenses with the famous Mendez on the hurling hill, to a tie in ten innings.

Havana is baseball crazy, and the fans are anxious to have the White Sox train there, as they are of the opinion that the Almadenes can defeat the Windy City crew.

The thought that a negro holds the world's championship rankles Mr. James Jeffries, but as he says he is not going to run headlong into a fight without due preparation and have his head battered.

Bob Edgren, who spent last autumn in the vest shooting with Jeffries, told me the other evening in New York that Jeffries was as fit as a fiddle and would find no difficulty in taking off his surplus forty pounds.

SHRUBB NOW FAVORITE

New York Worked Up Over Big Race.

Indoor Games at Armory Hall.

Rough House Hockey at Guelph.

New York, Jan. 22.—Indications point to a record-breaking crowd when Shrub and Longboat meet at the Marathon distance, 26 miles and 385 yards, in the Garden next Tuesday night.

The race is causing widespread interest all over the country, and orders for seats have already been received from sports men in Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, Philadelphia, and other cities.

It is plain that the winner will come a chance to pick up a small fortune in gold. Shrub has already received an offer of 20 weeks in the English music halls at \$1,000 a week if he wins.

Tom Flanagan had a look at Shrub yesterday. "There is," he said, "this about his face that is unmistakably true that denotes that he is trained rightly and shows it. He is all nerves now. It is plain that his work for this trying ordeal is making him trest, but I don't wish to be mistaken, for he looks quite fresh and trained to the minute, at once giving the impression that he doesn't need much more work from now till race day."

Tom Ek was interviewed on the probable result. He believes that, taking conditions as they are, Shrub will win, though he believes that Longboat, trained as he should have been, would have the race at his mercy.

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cover. Fred Toms; rover, Kennedy; centre, Clarke; right wing, G. Toms; left wing, Campbell.

Haileybury—Goal, Wright; point, Baird; cover, Morrison; rover, Gaul; centre, Flood; right wing, Oke; left wing, Berlangue.

YESTERDAY'S SUMMARY. O.H.A. Intermediate. Warton..... 9 Markdale..... 4 Hespeler..... 7 Guelph O.A.C..... 3 Newmarket..... 4 Parkdale C.C..... 3 Lindsay..... 7 Peterboro..... 3 Canadian Kodak 4 Eureka..... 1 Ontario Hockey League. Cobalt..... 10 Haileybury..... 2 Federal League. Smith's Falls..... 12 Cornwall..... 5 TO-DAY'S GAMES. 14th Regiment, Kingston. O.H.A., intermediate—Peterboro' at Lindsay, Bowmanville at Port Perry, Niagara Central at Port Colborne, Ayr at Preston, Seaford at Hamburg, Simcoe at Ingersoll, Paris at London, Orillia at Collingwood.

O.H.A., junior—Whitby at Cobourg, Upper Canada College vs. Eureka B. at Mutual Street Rink (afternoon), Listowel at Mount Forest, Barrie at Newmarket. Intercollegiate Union—McGill vs. Toronto; Queen's at Laval. Ontario Professional League—Berlin at Galt.

A WORLD'S RECORD.

The Eel Stepped Mile on Ice in 2.11.

Ottawa, Jan. 22.—The fastest mile ever shown in harness over ice was made by that great pacer, The Eel, in an exhibition, unpaired, at the Central Canada ice meet yesterday afternoon.

The other two races went in straight heats, the 218 pace stake to Merry Widow, of Ontario, N. Y., who never headed. Jerry, of St. Thomas, duplicated this performance in the 228 pace. Summary: 218 pace, stakes \$1,000. Merry Widow, E. G. Camp, 1 1 1 Ontario, N. Y. Dolly Foster, J. L. Clark, Norval, Ont. 5 2 3 Dan K., R. Kennedy, Ottawa 7 2 4 Honest Billy, J. C. Ward, Toronto 2 2 4 Otto K., D. Peters, Benheim 3 2 5 Jerry, John Barker, Gouverneur, N. Y. 4 6 6 Annetta, Geo. Gregory, Seben, Octady, N. Y. 6 7 7 Time, 2:21, 2:25 1/2, 2:29 1/2. 228 pace, \$500. Jerry, M. Waters, St. Thomas 1 1 1 Paymaster, Nat. Ray, Toronto 3 2 2 The Jap, T. A. Stewart, Deseronto 2 8 5 Wa Wa: H. Leadley, Cooks, Toronto 2 3 3 Waterloo: C. H. Putnam, Ottawa 5 4 4 Gussie Hal, R. J. McBride, Toronto 8 6 6 George D., C. Sears, Ogdensburgh, N. Y. 6 7 7 Dorothy J., J. Leonard, Malone, N. Y. 4 3 4 Time—2:24 1/2, 2:25 1/2, 2:29 1/2. To beat 2:14 1/2. The Eel won. Time by score of 32, 1:05 1/2, 1:39, 2:11 1/2. World's ice record.

ROUGH HOUSE

Hockey Match at Guelph Last Evening.

Guelph, Jan. 22.—Intermediate O. H.A. hockey took a rough-and-tumble turn last evening in the game between Hespeler and the O. A. College team, in which the "farmers" were again defeated by the score of 7 to 3. It was a poor exhibition of hockey on sticky ice, with a tendency to roughness on the part of the players at all times.

A FAST BOUT.

Leach Cross Knocked Out Young Otto in Fifth.

New York, Jan. 22.—Leach Cross last night knocked out Young Otto in the fifth round of a ten-round bout at the Fairmount A. C. The lightweights put up a fast battle and in the first two rounds Otto showed flashes of cleverness and outpointed his opponent.

In the third round, however, Cross landed a heavy body blow that weakened Otto and hereafter he forced the fighting. At the end of the fourth round Otto was bleeding and in the fifth a right swing to the jaw sent him down twice before he was finally counted out.

JEANETTE TO MEET TAYLOR

Joe Jeanette, the negro heavyweight who will probably be matched to fight the winner of the Johnson-Langford mill in London next May, will make his first appearance on the other side on Saturday night, when he meets Bob Taylor, an English heavyweight, in a ten-round bout before the Bowling Palace A. C. in Paris.

Last July Jack Johnson knocked Taylor out in eight rounds at Plymouth, England, so that there is not much eagerness to see what Jeanette can do against the same man.

WELSH AND NELSON

Freddie Welsh, the English lightweight who has posted \$1,000 and wants a fight Battling Nelson for a \$5,000 side bet and the championship, has already signed articles to box Nelson ten rounds in Los Angeles for a loser's and winner's end of 50 per cent. of the gross receipts.

Meanwhile Packy McFarland has gone on record with the statement that he will fight Nelson at 133 pounds ringside and Welsh at 133 pounds at 6 o'clock.

Grafton & Co., Limited CANADA'S LEADING CLOTHIERS

Stupendous Bargains for Men Overcoats and Suits at Almost Half Price

OTHER stores would have to charge more than double these prices for like suits and overcoats. They are extraordinary bargains even here where prices are always a fourth to a third less than in other stores.

Here are the biggest and best bargains in clothing that we have offered in recent years. Men's suits and overcoats—regular Grafton-tailored, high-grade sorts that fit, hang and wear right, in smartest styles and materials—and practically half price for to-morrow.



Men's \$12 to \$16 Overcoats at \$9.98 Men's \$18 to \$22 Overcoats at \$14.98

One hundred and sixty-one overcoats—ninety-three at \$9.98 and sixty-eight at \$14.98—the smartest and best styles and materials including the new "Auto" overcoat in heavy tweeds, black, Oxfords and mixtures in chevots, beavers, friezes, etc. All sizes in the lot but not all sizes in each pattern.

These are broken ranges left from our smartest lines. And one hundred and sixty-one men and young men, will get a great bargain snap to-morrow, they're practically half price—less than half other stores' prices. On sale Saturday only.

Men's \$10 to \$14 Suits at \$7.98 Men's \$16 to \$20 Suits at \$13.98

One hundred and twenty-five suits are in this sale—78 at \$7.98 and 47 at \$13.98—all sizes at each price, but being broken ranges of our best selling lines, there are not all sizes of each pattern. Tweeds, serges and worsteds in newest patterns and colorings and black. All are of Grafton manufacture and fit properly and wear well. Prices are over half less than other stores' prices. On sale Saturday only.

Warm Winter Underwear Mill Clearance Sale

WE cleared thousands of suits of Warm Winter Underwear for men and boys, of three great manufacturers, at about half price.

The greatest Underwear bargains ever offered in Hamilton will be on sale to-morrow. Get yours for next Winter now. All sizes and kinds.

- 50c underwear 29c \$1.00 underwear 68c 75c underwear 49c \$1.25 underwear 75c 85c underwear 59c \$1.75 underwear 98c

Natural wools, fine ribbed wools, heavy ribbed wools, Scotch wools, cashmere finished fine wools, elastic knit wools and fleeced-lined makes.

Grafton & Co., Limited 20-24 JAMES STREET NORTH T. W. BARRY, Mgr. 2 Factories and 7 Stores in Canada

INDOOR BALL

Good Games at Armory Rink Last Night. A fair-sized crowd saw the two championship games in the Armory Indoor League last night. The first was a good one, the opposing teams being the Victoria and Internationals. The implement team won by one run, the score being 7 to 6. The winning run was scored in the last inning.

The second game was rather one-sided, the Nationals being handicapped by the absence of "Pop" Anson Burke and another of the old guard. The Nationals were defeated by the champions by a score of 15 to 3. Following are the scores:

Table with columns for team names and scores. Includes Victoria, Internationals, Nationals, and others.

ROLLER RACE TO-NIGHT

The entries for the comic race to-night at the Alexandra rube carnival are as follows:

- Erza Hoskins, Obefiah Skopole, Silas Cornstassel, Clancy, Masterson, etc.

There is no such thing as the biggest ball, in spite of the fact that most of us want it. There is many a good-hearted fool. The trouble is a man doesn't do his thinking with his heart.

Knocking Down the Pins. Athletic meet at Britannia Rink, will be rolled off as follows: Tuesday, Jan. 26—Sales vs. Malleable. Saturday, Jan. 30—Knife and Bar vs. Machine.