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SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT

INDEPENDENT OF EASTERN SKATERS

Northwestern Circuit to Operate by Itself.

Preceders Now in St. John Enter for Meet in Philadelphia—Ring Bout—New Records—Campbellton Curlers in Quebec.

(Canadian Press)

Duluth, Minn., Feb. 25—Milwaukee, Ind., St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth, members of the Northwestern Skating Club, plan to operate the circuit independently of the Eastern Association, so F. J. Pratt, president of the "Maple Speed Skating Club" said today.

"The experience we have had with skaters this year has convinced us that it is time that we work independently," said Mr. Pratt. "The unity which always attends the cruise of skaters in northern meets is no reason. Then we have plenty of good skaters in our own territory and we believe that we can develop them and the circuit to a point where the effort of eastern skaters will be incidental."

Pratt, president of St. Paul, views the "Maple" of the Minnesota Skating Association, said that it was not planned to risk away from the eastern association, and that northwest skating officials did plan to build up a circuit which will include the entire time of their season. Philadelphia, Feb. 25—Everett Macomber, outdoor champion and a number of other prominent ice skaters are entering in the American pro skating championship races to be held here March 3 and 4.

Other entries include Bobby McLean and Norval Baple, former world's holders; Art Staff and Edmund many, former U. S. champions; Roy Moore, Don Baker and Benny O'Sickey, former international amateur champions.

Chicago, Feb. 25—Charlie White, Chicago, lightweight boxer, has accepted a challenge to meet Benny Leonard, title holder, in Madison Square Garden, New York, on March 17, so it was announced today. Billy Gibson, manager of Leonard, is expected to submit his terms on Monday when he arrives in New York on New Glasgow, where Leonard is scheduled to meet Mel Moran tonight.

New Orleans, Feb. 25—Better weather as in prospect today for the Benny Leonard-Billy Moran ten round non-decision bout which had to be postponed on account of rain. The Louisiana auditorium, an open air arena, has been reserved for the bout. There is a heavy advance sale of seats.

New York, Feb. 25—Johnny Bagnall, world's bantam champion, has signed to defend his title against Roy Moore of St. Paul, in an eight round bout in Jersey City the night of March 10. Bagnall returned from overseas.

New Swimming Records—Three world's records were broken here last night by winners participating in three central U. A. U. championship events. John Weismuller, Illinois A. C., hung up a new record in the 220 yard swim, free style for senior men, with 1:17.4. Sybil Bauer, one of the Illinois A. C., won the 150 yard open back stroke race for senior women the new time of 1:59.5, while Eleanor Coleman, of the Milwaukee A. C., made the third record when she swam the 100 yard breast stroke in 1:27.

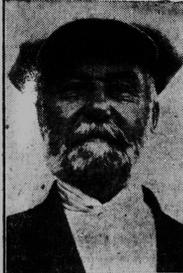
New York, Feb. 25—Ralph Greenleaf, pocket billiard champion, will play 100 consecutive billiards, set a new world's record for high runs and successfully defended his title last night by defeating Thomas Huston, the challenger, 113 to 105 in the final of the "King of the 100" match. The total score was 1,133 to 1,050 and 133 for Huston, renews his high runs were 100, 34, 26, 24 that of Huston 41-53.

Chicago, Feb. 25—Jimmy Blodin of Chicago, won first place in the world's side bowling tournament which closed last night. His record was no surprise as he apparently had the honors tucked away on Thursday night when he finished with 547 14-50. Phil Wolf of Chicago won second place with 515-50, and Mort Lindsay, Campbellton, Conn., was third with 530 11-50, many Smith of Milwaukee, one of the favorites at the opening of the tournament, finished fourth with 525 43-50.

Ottawa, Feb. 25—The Ottawa Senators will be without Geo. Boucher in tonight's game against St. Patrick's in Toronto. Boucher is under the care of the club physician. He sustained a crack in the left ankle in this week's match against the Canadiens, causing his foot to swell. The Ottawa will play "King of the Ring" on the defence in Boucher's place. Montreal, Feb. 25—With four games remaining in the N. H. I. schedule, the Canadiens will take no chances in the series with Hamilton tonight in the ice arena. The Canadiens will start to beat players available and will have a service of a new corner to pro hockey, which has been playing with the "old" corners of Quebec. He is said to be the best man of the Voltigeurs. Should the Canadiens win tonight and St. Pat's to Ottawa, it will leave only two points between the clubs for second place.

I. B. Cutlers in Quebec. Quebec, Feb. 25—In the Holt Renfrew robbery curling matches here last night Campbellton, N. B., rinks fought their way through the first round, but were eliminated thereafter. First Round. Victoria No. 3—George Van Felson, skip, 6. Calcutta No. 2—W. J. Moon, skip. Campbellton No. 2—T. Wran, skip, 13. Campbellton No. 1—R. K. Shives, skip, 16. Second Round. Campbellton No. 2—T. Wran, skip, 6. Pembroke—A. P. Whitehead, skip, 9. Quebec No. 3—J. A. McManamy, skip, 16. Campbellton No. 1—Shives, skip, 8. Chicago, Mass., Feb. 25—Jack Hauser of New York was awarded the

PETER VEREGIN



Leader of the Doukhobors in Western Canada who is reported as announcing a programme which will cause all the children and aged of his tribe to be drowned in the Columbia River.

GET GEMS, BUT MISS DIAMONDS WORTH \$10,000

Bold Robbery in University Street, Montreal—Auctioneer's Safe Forced.

Montreal, Feb. 25—One of the most audacious robberies was perpetrated last night or early this morning when thieves broke into the establishment of Walter Kearns, auctioneer, in University street, and after blowing the safe open, left with more than \$3,000 in jewels. They overlooked \$10,000 worth of diamonds. The cause of the explosion was deduced by a huge pile of carpets and rug piled about the safe.

MAJOR CHANGES IN THE LIQUOR LAW OF QUEBEC

Report of Proposals to be Made by the Provincial Treasurer.

Quebec, Feb. 25—It is learned that a bill which Hon. Jacob Nicol, provincial treasurer, intends to place before the legislature on the present session will propose major changes in the Quebec liquor act.

The proposed amendment it would be possible for the Quebec liquor commission to grant both restaurant and tavern permits to establishments other than hotels, which means that the latter might set aside a special room as a tavern. Beer would be reduced from four per cent in strength, while the restriction providing that the commission shall refuse to grant any permit authorizing the sale of alcoholic liquor upon the grounds occupied by an agricultural or industrial exhibition or a race meeting would be eliminated.

Provision would be made for three month permits for summer resorts. The last change suggested by Mr. Nicol's bill is to the effect that it should not be necessary for the commission or its agent while applying for a warrant or a summons to make a complaint under oath.

VESEL IS WORKING OUT OF ICE TRAP. St. John's, Nfld., Feb. 25—The Norwegian vessel Vesel, fast in the ice of this port for ten days is working out toward clear water and will probably be free in a few days.

REV. M. E. CONRON RESIGNS. Woodstock Sentinel—Rev. M. E. Conron, who has been pastor of the Methodist church here for the last two years, tendered his resignation at a meeting of the quarterly board on Thursday evening. It is understood Mr. Conron wishes to get a transfer to the upper provinces.

Sir Adam Beck Better. Asheville, N. C., Feb. 25—(Canadian Press)—Sir Adam Beck, who is ill here with bronchitis was reported yesterday as being much improved.

Judge's decision in a ten round bout with Frankie (Young) Mack of Hartford, Conn., here last night. Toronto, Feb. 25—Jimmy Goodrich of Buffalo was awarded a close decision after a fast ten round bout with Freddie Jacks of England here last night. They are featherweights.

Johnny Kiesch, 158 pounds of Cleveland, got a knockout decision over Eddie Beattie, 155 pounds of Hamilton, Ont., in the seventh round when referee Mans stopped the bout after Beattie had taken a terrific beating. Victoria, Feb. 25—The Aristocrats came back with a swing last night and defeated Vancouver 7 to 4 in the last game of the regular schedule of the Pacific Coast Hockey League. Halifax, N. S., Feb. 25—Following Dalhousie's clinching of the city league championship last night representatives of the Wanderers and Crescents met and decided to play a two out of three series for the Nova Scotia league championship. It was contended that Amherst and Springhill have retired from that league. It was further agreed that the winner of the Wanderers-Crescents series should challenge Dalhousie for the championship of the province.

BLUEBEARD DIES UNCONFESSING

Landru, Who Killed Eleven Women and a Boy.

Refuses Sacrament and Walks Erect to Guillotine—All Over in Third of a Minute.

(Canadian Press Cable)

Versailles, Feb. 25—Henri Desire Landru, "bluebeard of Cambrai" convicted of the murder of ten women and a boy, gave his life this morning in exchange for the eleven he had taken. The triangular knife of the guillotine fell at 6:05 a. m., twenty-five minutes after the time originally set for the execution.

The delay caused many to express the erroneous opinion that Landru was making a confession. Mysteriously until death, Landru refused to confess to the crime. "It is an insult to a man like me," was his reply. "Had I any confession to make I would have made it long ago," but never did he utter the word "innocent."

Under the sentence of the court he served thirty-four months imprisonment and the twenty-one days of his trial. The slayer refused the sacrament but conversed a few moments with the priest. "I shall be brave, never fear," he told them.

Although the plans for the execution had been kept in the utmost secrecy, crowds began to gather about the guillotine in the afternoon. The dagger of the guillotine was plainly audible in Landru's cell, and when he awoke he heard the sound of hammer as the warden leveled the guillotine against the flickering lights of two square foot fashioned candle lanterns.

The guillotine was erected only a few feet from the main entrance of the jail. At six o'clock the doors of the prison opened and the delegates to the court, the procurator general, the warden of the prison and Landru's two lawyers. Landru appeared clean in dark trousers and white shirt. His beard, which was one of his most striking characteristics, and which has become famous far to thousands through publication of his picture during the progress of his trial, had been shaved, his head shaved, his neck and face were deathly pale.

He walked five steps before the executioner's assistants caught him around the waist and leveled with an axe the heavily weighted knife slid down, and the whole affair was over in less than twenty seconds. Landru never faltered from the time he appeared in the door, he gave the guillotine one look, squared his shoulders, and walked erect, uttering not a word.

The crowd, which had been kept at such a distance that it saw nothing of the details, uttered no cry, and the silence of the district around the guillotine in the nearby barracks, and in the Angelus bells. The platform of execution was raised on a wooden scaffold. He would not say anything for his services. Dr. Prince has the solution of several ghost mysteries to his credit—but he has never met a ghost.

THE SUSSEX PROTEST. Fredericton, Feb. 25—Preparations were being made today by President Sterling for taking a telegraphic vote of the executive of the N. B. and P. E. I. A. H. A. on the Sussex protest, which was held on last Wednesday.

INDICATIONS IN FAVOR OF NEGOTIATIONS. Outlook This Morning as the Nova Scotia Miners Resumed Their Meeting.

Truro, N. S., Feb. 25—(Canadian Press)—Discussion as to whether or not the miners of Nova Scotia should move to re-open negotiations with the British Empire Steel Corporation looking to a wage agreement occupied this morning's session of the convention of the mine delegates of the province. It was forecast that the convention will decide in favor of negotiations.

The belief that the corporation would welcome a peace move was strengthened, it was said, by a new proposition which it is understood the corporation had made yesterday to the miners through John P. White, representative of the International headquarters of the U. M. W. of A. The proposition, it is said, chiefly consisted of an offer to make 95 a day the minimum wage paid detail men. The offer is said to have been turned down by the convention.

The session of the convention continue to be held in secret. WANT TO MEET SHOOTERS. Messrs. F. H. Morris and Jack Learmont, who are in the city with the new models of Martin Firearms, will be glad to meet local sportsmen and show them these fine new products of the Modern Firearms Corporation of Finsbury, Ltd. at the store of Emerson & Pender, next

As Hiram Sees It

"Hiram" said the Times reporter to Mr. Hiram Hornbeam, "Engineer Ross says that when one water power has a head of 95 feet and another 117 feet the average is 106 feet, but that if you have two wheels to operate both the 95-foot head then the average is one third of 95-117 feet or 102 feet. Do you get that?"

"No, sir," said Hiram. "I ain't no engineer, but when I went to school you measured the power by the wheel of the wheel, and how far it had to fall. Whether you had two wheels or three wheels in the power house made no difference at all. An' I'll bet my old boots that's the right way to get at it."

I guess that feller Ross never was down to Musquash an' don't know that the right way to get at it was to be all workin' full force at the same time, nuther. What he don't know 'll take up a lot more space than the Ross Report—yes, sir."

IRISH LEADERS IN LONDON TODAY

Discuss Recent Agreement of Sinn Fein—Collins Reported Ill.

London, Feb. 25—Arthur Griffith and other prominent members of the south Irish republican government were here today to discuss with the British cabinet the recent agreement reached by Sinn Fein national convention in Dublin to postpone for three months the election of a parliament for the Irish Free State.

Refusal of the delegates to talk to newspapers either as to the details of the mission or the identity of the various members of their party left the public somewhat in the dark, but it is believed that the mission is headed by Joseph P. Kennedy, minister of home affairs, in the Dublin cabinet, and that the delegates included Sir James Connolly, minister of finance, and Sir James O'Connell, secretary for colonies, and they may possibly not be accompanied by several other prominent members of the party in the country, although they may alter his plans.

OFFERS TO LAY THE ANTI-GONIST GHOST. New York, Feb. 25—Dr. Walter Franklin Prince, director of the American Institute for Scientific Research, today offered to provide an expense account for a trip to Canada and run down the famous ghost of Antigonish, even if he should be killed at the bottom of it.

HEPHERD AND PHOENIX WEATHER REPORT. Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries. R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service.

Principle Rupert ... 26 44 24 Victoria ... 36 44 34 Kamloops ... 0 20 28 Calgary ... 0 20 28 Edmonton ... 46 20 24 Winnipeg ... 14 4 4 White River ... 24 12 12 Toronto ... 22 22 22 St. John's ... 12 20 22 Montreal ... 12 20 22 Ottawa ... 12 14 8 Halifax ... 8 12 6 Quebec ... 12 20 22 St. John's, Nfld. ... 4 10 26 Detroit ... 22 26 22 New York ... 24 36 24

GENOA CONFERENCE POSTPONED A WHILE IS ITALIAN VIEW. Moscow, Feb. 25—The Soviet foreign minister has received a note from the Marquis Della Torretta, saying that because of the Italian ministerial crisis, it would be impossible to hold the Genoa conference on March 8, as planned. The note added that the Italian government will participate in the conference and endeavoring to fix a definite date with but a short delay.

EXCHANGE TODAY. New York, Feb. 25—Sterling exchange strong. Demand 4 41. Canadian dollar, 2 1/2 per cent discount.

Government Will See That Power Contracted For is Delivered

Asked regarding Mayor Schofield's statement yesterday that the provincial government could not be held responsible for the delivery of the amount of current required by the city from the Musquash development, Premier Foster said that this matter would be taken care of in the contract between the city and the government. He said that the government would see that the amount contracted for would be available.

NAMES ACTRESS AS PLOTTER IN MURDER

Fields' Story Leads to Inquiry in Chicago.

Says Four Were in Scheme to Kill Motion Picture Director—Los Angeles Officials Don't Believe Him.

Detroit, Feb. 25—A motion picture actress who ranks high in the profession was one of the four persons who plotted the murder of William Desmond Taylor film director, according to the story of Harry M. Fields, under arrest here, who served to strengthen Fields' story of his knowledge of the crime.

Fields, according to the sheriff, said that the actress was not present when Taylor was shot and reiterated that the only participants in the scene of the crime were described as Wong Lee, a Chinese who, he said, did the shooting; Johnny Clark, a white man and "Jennie Moore" all of whom, he said, were hired to take their parts in the murder. Authorities have been unable to locate Clark, who Fields is said to have had in his possession at the time of his arrest, bearing the name of "Sam Cooper" and a deposit of \$180 in Chicago on February 2, the date after the Taylor murder.

Los Angeles, Feb. 25—Various stories concerning the murder of William Desmond Taylor, related in Detroit by Harry M. Fields were denounced here as untrue by police officers here who are working on the case. Police detectives, sheriffs, and investigators of the district attorney's office all declared they had been unable to substantiate any statement of the Detroit actor who is presently here as having been made by Fields.

CAPTAIN DEAD ON SCHOONER WAS NOVA SCOTIAN

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 25—Captain Joseph N. Chute, who was found dead on the schooner Lewis Brothers in Florida Straits, was born at Harbordville, N. S., fifty-five years ago, a son of one David Chute of that place. A brother Edward is living in Harbordville. In 1916 Captain Chute attempted a voyage to Australia in the bark Normandy loaded with 279 automobiles. The Normandy was thrown on her beam ends, and subsequently towed into Barbados where she was sold and recommissioned. Captain Chute returned to Nova Scotia, under the name of "Sam Cooper" and was finally destroyed by fire on her arrival at his home.

RATS IN MONTREAL PLAY IN FOUNTAIN. Regular Convention is Held Early Each Morning. Montreal, Feb. 25—A modern revival of the legendary Pied Piper of Hamelin may soon be sought by local authorities to cope with swarms of rats in the vicinity of Place d'Armes, in the centre of the city's business district. Mystery surrounds the place of their origin, but early morning rinks passing across the square have observed myriad tiny foot prints in the surface of the snow. The great number of these miniature marks is an investigation, which disclosed the fact that they had been caused by rats. In the centre of the square is a fountain, and it is about structure that the rinks evidently gambol in the still hours of the night. So far no effort has been made to exterminate them.

CONFESSIOIN IN BLACKHAND CASE. Clerk in Washington Government Department "Anxious to See City Children Provided For."

Washington, Feb. 25—George E. Long, a clerk in the bureau of insular affairs of the war department since 1904, confessed yesterday, according to the police, to the authorship of blackhand letters recently received by Henry White, former ambassador to France and by several women prominent in Washington society. The letters demanded large sums of money and threatened death if the sums were not forthcoming.

Long was taken into custody yesterday, but was permitted to return to his home, where his wife is seriously ill. Long is forty years of age and has three children. No charge has been preferred against him so far. According to the police Long said: "I don't know why I wrote the letters. I may have got my idea from reading of the Gatti case, (a recent blackhand case) but I was anxious to see the children of the city provided for and I thought these rich people might help."

He declared, however, that he never went to the places he had directed the money to be delivered, "and would not have touched it." DEMONSTRATION AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT TOMORROW. Boston, Feb. 25—An international demonstration against unemployment is planned for tomorrow by the workers' party of America. It was said that mass meetings and parades have been planned in the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

GREAT EXPLOSION SHAKES CHICAGO

Thirty Tons of Dynamite in Fearful Blast.

Buildings Rocked and Thousands of Windows Broken, but No One Seriously Hurt—Great Hole in Ground Marks Place.

Chicago, Feb. 25—Chicago and dozens of its suburbs today found out just what caused an explosion which literally shook them to their foundations and caused a frenzy of excitement last night. Thirty tons of dynamite let go in a stone quarry southwest of the city a little before nine o'clock and hundreds of thousands of alarmed residents went to bed not knowing just what had happened to shake their beds up, damage property and give rise to rumors and reports of concerted bombing squads, an earthquake, a falling meteor and disaster to some of the major manufacturing plants.

For an hour after the blast, Chicago and its suburbs were in a fury. The smashing of glass in thousands of windows, the shaking of the buildings and the noise of the explosion gave rise to reports that bombings were occurring simultaneously in many parts of the city. In spite of the large area affected by the blast, only one man was seriously injured, although scores were cut by glass and shaken and bruised. Albert Keadles, the injured man, was operating a crane some distance from the explosion and sustained a broken arm.

The McCook quarry of the Consumers Co. about eleven miles from Chicago's downtown district, contained two powder magazines where dynamite was stored to thaw out and dry. In each magazine 500 tons of dynamite were stored, each case containing fifty pounds. The cause of the explosion probably will be known. It is possible that a case of the dynamite fell on another case or that a rafter fell on a case.

The damage caused by the explosion is estimated at hundreds of thousands of dollars. A great hole in the ground some fifty feet wide and 200 feet long marks the place where yesterday the powder magazines stood.

PREMIER SEEKS TO DODGE REPORTERS

Poincare Would Assure Privacy to Conference With Lloyd George.

Boulogne, Feb. 25—Premier Poincare and Premier Lloyd George of Great Britain were to meet this afternoon for the first interview on the subject of the coming international economic and financial conference.

Mr. Poincare's seal to assure privacy for today's meeting has succeeded in reversing the waning interest throughout France, as such events have succeeded one another so rapidly in the last two years. The premiers will have only about three hours for their first conference, which will be devoted to laying out the details or substance of a document setting forth the conditions under which the Genoa meeting shall be held.

Lloyd George is crossing the channel on the regular Calais day boat and will complete the journey by auto, expecting to arrive here in time for luncheon. Mr. Poincare arrived here at noon. Genoa is receiving less and less mention as the site for the international conference. Even until the arrival of the news train from Paris, Boulogne, although proud of the honor of having the premiers meet here, was not at all sure if, as Mr. Poincare was understood to have so arranged that he could change the place of meeting if pressed too closely by the crowd of reporters trailing him, Calais was mentioned.

FRUIT GROWERS END CONFERENCE. Ottawa, Feb. 25—The dominion fruit growers conference ended the sixth annual gathering yesterday. The chief result of the meeting was the approval of the principle of establishing a national horticultural council to represent all the horticultural interests of Canada, and to speak authoritatively for such interests to the government and the public. The provinces were represented on the provisional council.

Resolutions were adopted changing the grading of apple boxes and expressing appreciation of the co-operation given by the Canadian railways in connection with the fruit industry during the last two years. The conference was held under the auspices of the government. C. W. Baxter, dominion fruit commissioner, presided.

SUPPORT OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN IS PLEDGED. Cleveland, O., Feb. 25—Support of an agreement reached in Chicago on Wednesday by representatives of more than two million union coal miners, railroad employees and longshoremen for closer co-operation of their forces to operate more effectively in protecting union workers in wage struggles, was pledged yesterday for the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen by W. G. Lee, president. CHICAGO GRAIN MARKET. Chicago, Feb. 25—Opening: Wheat, May, \$1.44-1.8; July, \$1.23-1.7; corn, May, 69-84; July, 69-1.8; oats, May, 41-7.8; July, 43c.