

FEARFUL MONTH AT SEA; SAFE NOW IN PORT



CREW OF THE FINNEAS: J. C. SPEAGUE, BOBBY SIMMONS, MATE.

New York Dec. 20.—Out of the sea, her hull torn or gone, rigging missing and decks swept of all things movable, the Finneas W. Sprague, a three-masted schooner, posted days ago as "missing" in port. At No. 815 St. John's place, Brooklyn, the wife of Captain E. G. Simmonds, master of the schooner, welcomed him as back from the dead, and at the Maritime Exchange there was general rejoicing when the news was known that the vessel was safe in port after being overdue more than forty days.

CHRISTMAS ON THE DELIVERY WAGON

Mrs. Christmas Shopper, haven't you often wondered what became of that little 25-cent china cup you purchased in the large department store from the time you paid your money to the salesgirl until it was delivered to your forty-second cousin in San Francisco on Christmas morning? Few women have any knowledge of how many expert hands handle that little lobby house from the time they purchased the article until the time it appeared for Baby Boy.

There is an interesting story in every one of the thousands and millions of Christmas presents that are purchased in this country. One of the large department stores will send out many thousand parcels each day for several days before Christmas. After the city delivery packages have passed the assortment stage of their journey, they rest in the bins designated for the different delivery routes. At special hours the bins are cleared and the drivers' boys get the parcels. If their count tallies with that of the sheet writer's list, the wagon driver is given a carbon copy and as he delivers the parcels he checks them off.

Here is the little story of a cup that had to be sent ever so many miles away. It is quite typical of the travels of every package, large or small, sent out from the department store at Christmas time. "I was resting at ease with the other crockery on the shelves of a department store," says the little cup, "when two ladies came in and picked me up. One of them said I was just the proper color for Aunt Maria, so they paid the salesgirl for me and directed that I be sent to California. When I was sent to the bundle wrapper the check that went with me was marked 'paid,' and then a bundle collector came around and took me and I never saw the ladies again.

Next the bundle collector gave a receipt for me, together with a great many other packages, and then took us all and dumped us into a chute, which carried us to the basement of the store. There a great many men began overhauling us, and I saw a comb and brush go into a bin marked 'C. O. D.' and a packing horse go into another bin marked 'charge.' I went into the bin marked 'paid.'

YULETIDE HINTS FOR HOUSE KEEPERS

Homemade Christmas gifts are probably more appreciated by the receiver than bought ones. In the last few days before Christmas many of these little gifts can be made. For example, small pieces of muslin or a fancy bag can be constructed in an afternoon, saving the expense of a more elaborate present and giving the receiver as much pleasure, if not more than the latter gift.

There is a great difference between the gifts exchanged a few years ago and those of today. For more than a decade the fancy ran toward expensive, impractical presents—soft, fluffy sofa pillows not intended for actual use; pin cushions that were nothing but a mixture of fine lace and ribbons, etc. Now there are pin-cushions on painter's canvas, pretty to be held and quite practical.

Another novelty that can easily be made at home in a short time is a tomato-

shaped pin-cushion of Dresden ribbon. But any kind of ribbon will answer the purpose. This gift can be produced by any woman who is at all handy with a needle at hardly any cost, and it makes a very pretty addition to any number of expensive presents.

Any housewife can construct a pair of bedroom slippers, or "mules" within a few hours. These require neat sewing rather than skill with a needle. Soft, baby linen ribbon can be used for the purpose. The ribbon is about six inches wide.

A gift can be made the happy receiver of a pair of beaded silk stockings. In the last few days before Christmas these beads of tiny white china can be sewed on the black silk stockings, giving a pretty appearance. The beaded stockings, when purchased at a store, are quite expensive and beyond the reach of the average Christmas shopper's purse.

Designs in burnt wood also make handsome Christmas presents, and these, to the woman who has had some experience in that line of work, are very easy to make, a task of a few hours only.

Any old-fashioned basket, purchased at a small cost, will answer for a work basket when it is properly adorned with ribbons and a variety of decoration. These baskets are among the useful gifts, and any woman who sees appreciates one of them. A sewing apron, adorned with all sorts of frills and not made to look like the usual apron, is also acceptable. In most of the little gifts made by the woman at home is her individuality in the design and the neatness of the stitches that count.

For the woman who makes Christmas an event in the home, candy is a primary consideration where there are children. Candy-making is somewhat of an art, but almost any housewife can manufacture several good kinds of sweets. One of the most delicious of Christmas goodies is candied oranges. Peel and bleach the orange into

sections, not allowing the juice to exude. Make a syrup in the proportion of one pound of good granulated sugar to one pint of water, and let it boil until it will hang in water. Take from the fire and stir the orange carrels in the syrup, using a candy dipper or a two-tined fork. Drain on a fine sieve placed over a platter, so that the syrup will not be wasted.

To make nut fudge, cook together two cups of light-brown sugar, one cupful of thick cream, two squares of chocolate (grated) and a teaspoonful of butter until it gets waxy when dropped into cold water. Then add vanilla to taste, take from the fire and beat until thick and creamy. Spread a buttered paper on a board or nut meats, cover with the candy and cut into squares, when cool.

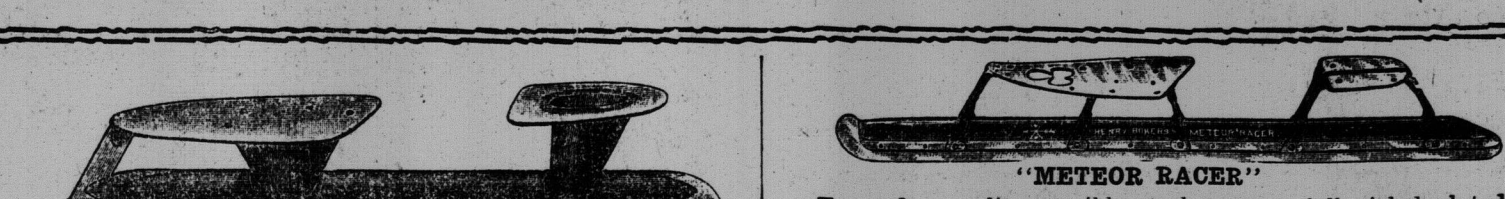
Remember the Christmas dinner, fringed celery makes a very attractive garnish for cold meats and salads, and it is a change from the usual lettuce and parsley garnish. Select well-bleached stalks, and wash and cut into inch lengths. Stick several coarse needles into the top of a cork. Draw two-thirds of each piece of celery through these needles several times, or until the fibres are all separated. Lay in ice water for an hour or two in order that they may crisp and curl.

The arrival of the Christmas cottolions necessitates pretty, fresh dresses for the young girls. There is dainty net this season that may be tucked and draped with festoons and ruffles for the debutantes, and there are bordered chiffons that make most delightful dancing frocks, the flowered border in pastel shades being arranged at the edge of the overskirt, or at the bottom of the tunic.

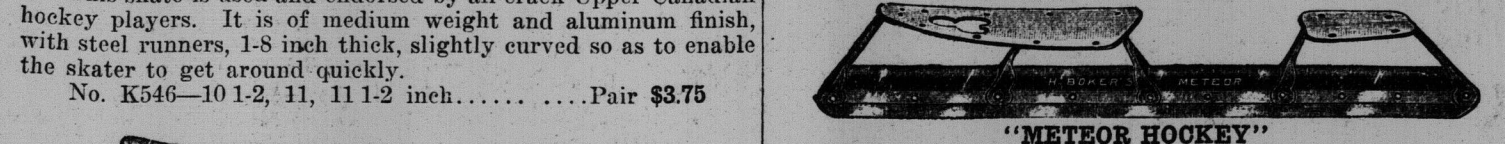
One of the dominant notes in yuletide dress is chiffon, and one cannot go far astray in selecting a satin evening gown, over which touches of metallic lace, narrow borders of fur or roses in the soft, dull, Morocco shades as a trimming.

SKATES

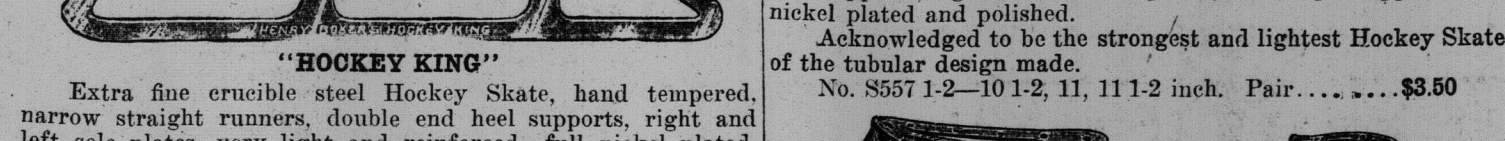
On receipt of price and 30 cents extra to cover transportation charges, we will deliver any skate in this advertisement to any railway station or express office in the Maritime Provinces.



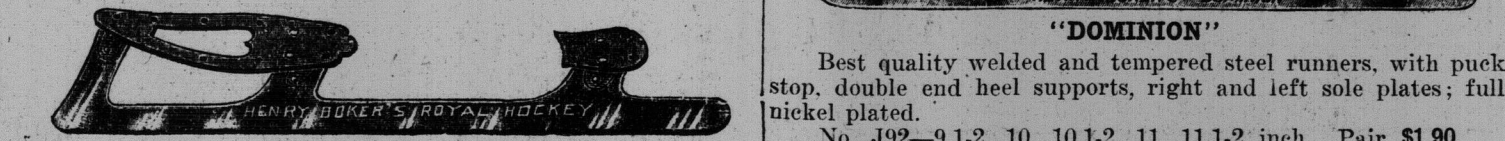
"METEOR RACER" Extra fine quality crucible steel runners, full nickel plated and polished, double heel supports, built for speed and strength. No. R7 1-2-10 1-2, 11, 11 1-2 inch. Pair.....\$4.25



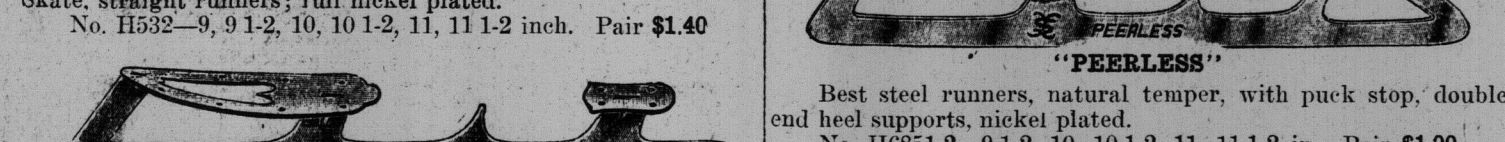
"METEOR HOCKEY" Extra fine quality tool steel runners, fine hand tempered straight tubular pattern with special design supports, double end heel supports, right and left sole plates, with triple supports, full nickel plated and polished. Acknowledged to be the strongest and lightest Hockey Skate of the tubular design made. No. R557 1-2-10 1-2, 11, 11 1-2 inch. Pair.....\$3.50



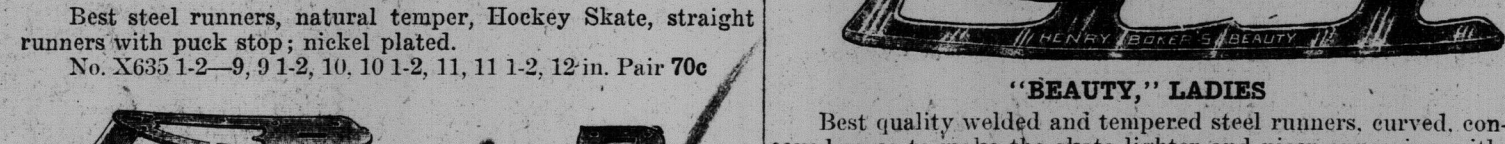
"HOCKEY KING" Extra fine crucible steel Hockey Skate, hand tempered, narrow straight runners, double end heel supports, right and left sole plates, very light and reinforced; full nickel plated. A fine and very popular design. No. R577 1-2-10, 10 1-2, 11, 11 1-2, 12 inch. Pair \$3.25



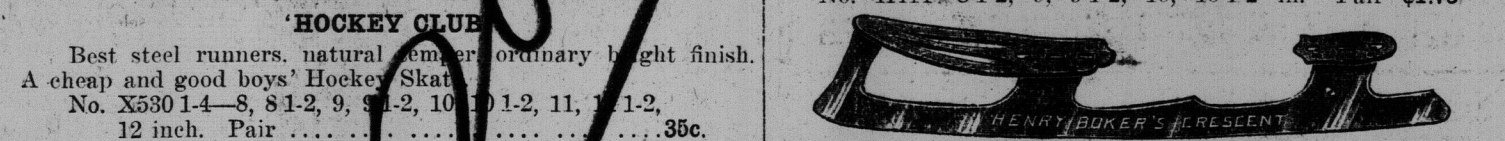
"ROYAL HOCKEY" Best quality welded and tempered steel runners, Hockey Skate, straight runners; full nickel plated. No. H532-9, 9 1-2, 10, 10 1-2, 11, 11 1-2 inch. Pair \$1.40



"VIKING" Best steel runners, natural temper, Hockey Skate, straight runners with puck stop; nickel plated. No. X635 1-2-9, 9 1-2, 10, 10 1-2, 11, 11 1-2, 12 inch. Pair 70c



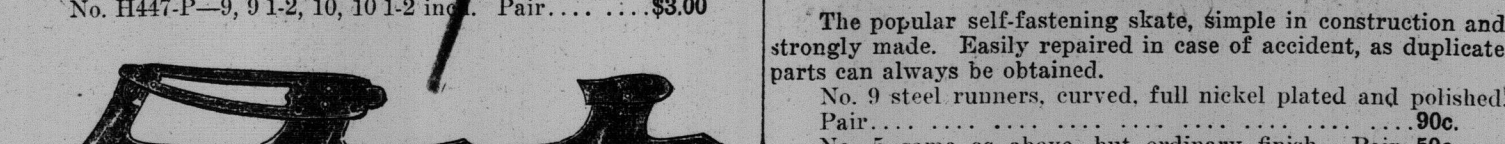
"HOCKEY CLUB" Best steel runners, natural temper ordinary light finish. A cheap and good boys' Hockey Skate. No. X530 1-4-8, 8 1-2, 9, 9 1-2, 10, 10 1-2, 11, 11 1-2, 12 inch. Pair.....35c



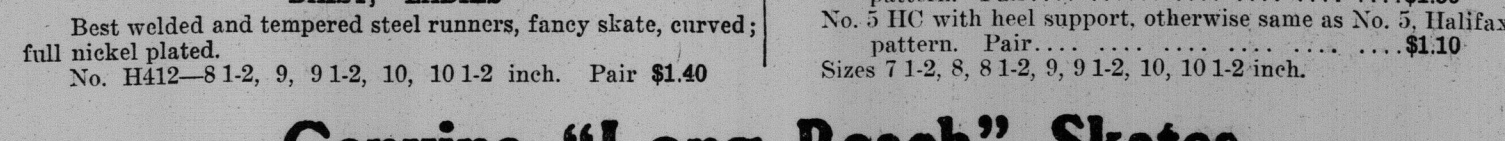
"PRIDE" LADIES Extra fine quality welded and hand tempered steel runners, fancy skate, curved; full nickel plated and fine finish; right and left sole plates. No. H447-P-9, 9 1-2, 10, 10 1-2 inch. Pair.....\$3.00



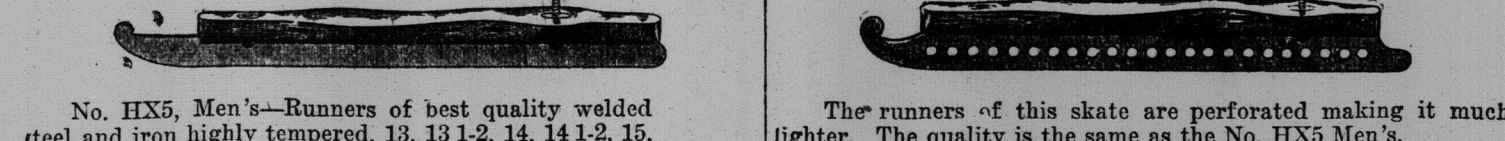
"DAISY" LADIES Best welded and tempered steel runners, fancy skate, curved; full nickel plated. No. H412-8 1-2, 9, 9 1-2, 10, 10 1-2 inch. Pair \$1.40



"CRESCENT" LADIES Steel runners natural temper, curved for fancy and regular skating; nickel plated. No. X415 1-2-8 1-2, 9, 9 1-2, 10, 10 1-2 inch. Pair 70c



"HALIFAX PATTERN" The popular self-fastening skate, simple in construction and strongly made. Easily repaired in case of accident, as duplicate parts can always be obtained. No. 9 steel runners, curved, full nickel plated and polished. Pair.....90c



GENUINE "LONG REACH" SKATES The runners of this skate are perforated making it much lighter. The quality is the same as the No. HX5 Men's. No. H 30-13 1-2, 14 1-2, 15 1-2, 16, 16 1-2, 17, 17 1-2, 18 inch. Per pair, without straps.....\$2.25

No. HX5, Boys—Same pattern, but cheaper grade 12, 12 1-2, 13, 13 1-2, 14 inch. Per pair, without straps.....\$1.40

When ordering skates please observe the following Table Giving Comparative Sizes of Shoes and Skates:

Table with columns for shoe sizes and skate sizes for Misses and Ladies.

Table with columns for shoe sizes and skate sizes for Boys and Men's.

HOCKEY STICKS, hand made from selected stock and oiled. Boys' Expert 20c. Boys' Junior 20c. Men's Amateur 30c. ea. Progress, pinned 50c. each. Goal Sticks 60c. ea.

HOCKEY PUCKS—Juvenile 10c. each. Regulation 20c. each. SKATE STRAPS, inches.....21 30 36 42. Pair.....15c. 20c. 20c. 25c.

SCREWS FOR HOCKEY SKATES.....5c. per package

T. McAvity & Sons, Limited, - St. John, N. B.

KING'S GLOVE HAND. (From M. A. P.) It is not generally known that King George's custom of appearing with his right hand gloved and the other bare has its origin in something more than a mere whim of fashion.

The wearing of a glove on the right hand by a monarch is a distinct survival of the days when the sovereign's touch was held to be a certain cure for all kinds of diseases, especially scrofula.

A woman doesn't mind walking on a crowded street if she has a good carriage.

BOOK SUBSTITUTES. (New York Literary Times.) In a suburban bookshop the other day a woman sought a copy of "The Servant in the House," Charles Rann Kennedy's novella play.

"No, madam," declared the clerk, "we haven't 'The Servant in the House,' but we have 'The Woman's Helper,' a most excellent cook-book."

Quite in line with this was a recent reference in print to "Lost Borders," Mary Austin's story of the Far West, which was recently published as Mary Austin's "Lost Borders."

A STRONG PULL. Two suburbanites were having an argument as to their respective strengths.

"Why," said the first, "every morning before breakfast I get a bucket and pull up no gallons from the well."

"That's nothing," retorted the other, "I get a lost every morning and pull up the river."—San Diego Union.