

VISIT OF FLEET NORSE CHAMPION TO SAINT JOHN MANY YEARS AGO RECALLED

Harold Hagen Was Wonder On Skates

Harold Hagen, champion professional skater of the world, came to America in the fall of 1883, under contract with H. R. McLellan. Before his arrival he had been matched to skate Fred Breen, champion of America, a series of three races at Minneapolis for \$1,000.00 a side. The winner of two races to be proclaimed champion of the world, as well as winner of the stakes.

felt all claims to remuneration, with the exception of his expenses.

WAS ABLE MAN

Hagen was 6 ft. 1 1/2 ins. in height, weighed 180 lbs. in condition, built like a wedge and as strong as an ox. His skating outfit consisted of 11 pairs of tubular skates, with a slight variation in lengths and thicknesses of blades. He sharpened his skates with a special, home, never permitting them to be ground, and they appeared to the ordinary observer as smooth as the edge of a copper cent.

When he arrived in Saint John, he did not appear as a dangerous foe for our skaters, and especially Fred Breen, who had proven his ability in defeating such skaters as Chas. Lamb, Laidlaw of Halifax and Hugh McCormick. However, Hagen in street clothes was a different appearing person than in skating costume.

On leaving for Minneapolis, McCormick was invited to join the party, and skate some exhibition races in places outside of Minneapolis, such as Duluth, West Superior, etc.

After skating the exhibition races, McCormick asked for a chance to skate Hagen a series of races in Minneapolis for the championship. As this was previous to the Breen race, and as Hagen had beaten McCormick in every race, Hagen thought it very queer, that the request should have been made, and considered that his first appearance in a race in Minneapolis, should be with Breen. With a desire to satisfy Hagen, Hagen was prevailed upon to skate him on the Normanna Track, and generously placed the title at stake. Hagen won and Hagen admitted that youth must be served.

RACES WITH BREEN

The result of his match with Breen is well known. The first race was skated in a temperature 40 degrees below zero and from opposite sides of the rink. Hagen won. The second race was from opposite sides, the temperature being somewhat higher. Hagen won and therefore the match and stakes.

After the Breen match, there was no skater who appeared willing to skate Hagen, as Joe Donoghue of Newburgh, N. Y. had left for home after expressing a desire to turn professional and meet Hagen.

Hagen was brought to Saint John in order to give the citizens an opportunity to see him perform, but there was no chance to secure a large track with out attempting to flood the Shamrock grounds. This was attempted, with bad results. It was impossible to secure an even surface, or to prevent the chills showing in spots. Hagen at first objected to skating there, but afterwards expressed a willingness to skate rather than disappoint the people. The race was skated and Breen won the decision, and Hagen did not appear wor-

Nimble Footed Saint John Boy



JIMMY PRICE

ried, as he felt he could beat any man in the world, under proper conditions and stood ready to back up his opinion.

LOOKED AFTER HIMSELF

Hagen was really his own trainer, his massager, rubbers, etc., were practically dominated by him. In regard to his training he was very strict. He appeared to know what he required and worked hard to acquire that condition which he knew to be absolutely essential to his success.

He arose early and retired early, ate only certain food and at regular hours. Took a certain amount of physical exercise each morning and evening, before and after his regular skating work. Every time, after leaving the ice, he had an alcohol rub, dressed and walked to his hotel.

He was absolutely temperate in everything and the soul of honor. While a professional, he was always skating for his country, and the championship always outweighed any financial benefit which he may have received from his ability as an athlete.

FORMER LOCAL BOY NOW IS DOCTOR IN THE AMERICAN WEST

Much on the same order as Fen Parker's brief by illustrious career in the skating arena was that of Jimmy Price, who is now married and living in the American West. Jimmie was a mere country lad when he made his debut in this city as a flyer. In fact, his appearance on the ice in public was more accidental than purposeful. Once he showed the public and the speed talent what he could do, there was a constant demand for his participation in most events.

LITTLE BUT POWERFUL

As a matter of fact, this well-seasoned town, used as it was (and still is) to have new skating wonders bob up ever and anon, was not long recognizing young Price as a pocket addition of those powerful racers belonging to the upper crust of the icy aristocracy. By this is meant such men as McCulloch, Johnston, the Donohues and that type of skater. Jimmie had a long sweeping stroke, which to all intents and purposes seemed to be fully twice as big as his small body called for.

AN INCIDENT

The writer as a young man was departing himself on a beautiful sheet of river ice at Upper Greenway one New Year's day about 80 years ago, during a holiday visit to relatives. He was equipped with the latest concept in bored-out Beem-skates, and all alone on miles of clear ice, felt like all the world's champions past and present rolled into one. But it was not long before the breeze watted a steady "click-click" from behind. Turning to see where the noise was coming from, a tiny boyish figure hove around a headland half a mile away. The town had sped forward determined not to let this country kid pass him, and furthermore to demonstrate to the youngster what wonderful skates town boys wore. It was only a few minutes when that little speck of humanity from behind slipped past the city fellow at a stroke worthy of a six-footer and in a jiffy was lost around a point quarter mile away. Yes, sir, you guessed right, it was Jimmy Price on his native heath—I mean, ice.

JIMMY A DOCTOR NOW

Price performed on local and Maritime ice for a few seasons, and was also entered in the larger field at Montreal. He won plenty of events and administered defeat to most of the best of them, in due season, but his better business senses overrode his sporting proclivities and he took up business life, finally moving out west, where he is still living, and practicing as a chiropractor with a large practice. Jimmie motored home a few summers ago and was warmly welcomed by all hands. Referring to his transcontinental jaunt, the writer in reviewing old times on the ice, was forced to remark: "Well, Jimmie, I see you're still using that 'long stride' and getting away with it," to which Dr. Price replied: "Yes, I learned that up in the bush a good many years ago, and I tell you it's still a winner."

C. A. Price, wood merchant of this city is a brother of Jimmie Price.

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—say champions

WHEREVER big ice meets are held Nestor Johnson Speed Skates are right to the fore—preferred by champions—who are quick to appreciate these seven big Nestor Johnson features.

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HILTON BELVEA WON HONORS AS SKATER

Hero of Sculling Races Also Sturdy Contender on Ice

Although he won his greatest fame as an international sculler, Hilton Belvea, West Saint John, was a speed skater of considerable ability, and his amateur record of 2:22.5 for the one mile on the Victoria rink still stands despite many attempts to lower it. Belvea's wonderful stamina enabled him to shine at the longer distances and at the peak of his form he was hard to beat. It was only a few years ago that he dropped out of the game.

BEGAN IN 1904

Belvea broke into the skating game in 1904 when he took second place in a three-mile Maritime championship race in the Singer rink here. In 1907 he went to Montreal and got a third in the 800 and second in the three-mile of the Canadian National meet. The same year on the Victoria rink here he skated a dead heat with Morris Wood, then champion of America. He beat Walter at Chatham in a 220 yards event soon after. In 1909 he skated and won against Russell Wheeler, when the Montrealer was in his prime. It was a mile race in the Victoria rink here. This was the year Belvea set up the rink record, it being 2:0ths of a second under the record made by John Nelson.

WAS N. B. CHAMPION

In 1910, he won the New Brunswick skating championships, took three firsts at the Maritime championships and won the city meet as well. In 1911 he beat Leadbetter at Westville, N. B., and was the star performer at the policemen's sports here that year. In 1912 he went to Boston, and there was defeated by "Bobby" McLellan, then the coming champion of America. He turned around and beat McLellan in a pursuit race on the Victoria rink here of that year, skating the mile in 2:24. At that time McLellan was considered one of the greatest skaters in the world. In 1918 Belvea skated an exhibition on the Victoria in 2:24 and the three-mile, getting 9:17 for the latter and coming within two seconds of the then world's record.

MARITIME LEADER

Belvea that same year won the title of Maritime champion again and also cleaned up at the provincial meet in the three-mile event. This was Belvea's last year in competition actively. He entered the mile in the international meet here in 1923 but was unable to place. Although he never won a major championship, he was always considered a dangerous man by the best of them at the longer distances. He had a reputation for fairness and sportsmanship on the rink and through the sculling courses all through his career. He is now operating a rink in West Saint John.

UNDESIRABLE EFFECT

SALESMAN: "There you are, sir. Those trousers look good on you." Modern Youth: "Then I don't want them. I want something that's stylish." —Life

A WOMAN fell and broke her wrist while doing the Charleston dance. Keep on and that dance will soon be as dangerous as football.

WILFORD CAMPBELL HELD MILE RECORD

Back in the early eighties prominent Saint John skaters included Jack Cummings, J. Twining Hart, G. Wilford Campbell, Reg. Bayard, George B. Hogan, Walter Hart, Arthur Magee, Charles Coster and Arthur Coster. Wilford Campbell, after participating in fancy skating for some years, took up speed skating.

The records show that the first speed race that he participated in was in 1880 against Warlock and from that on they met in several contests, the former winning a majority of the events. In 1883 speed skating became quite popular in Saint John and in March of that year a one-mile championship race was held in the Victoria rink. Those competing were Frank Whelpley, Charles Whelpley, George Trites, Bev. Stevens, Warlock, Ring and Campbell. The race was run in heats. Whelpley won the first in 8:20 and Campbell the second in 8:09. In the final Whelpley and Campbell were pitted against one another and the latter won in the fast time of 8:02. This was a new Maritime record and was held until later broken by the late Hugh McCormick.

Advertisement for 'SHANDS' cut flowers, featuring an illustration of a flower and text: 'Say It With Flowers', 'SHANDS', 'Is the Buy Word in Saint John for "Flowers" Cut Flowers Plants.', 'Cut Flowers and Floral Emblems Our Specialty.', 'ADAM SHAND', '53 Germain St.'

Drug Sale

Table listing various drugs and their prices, including Absorbine Jr., Abbey's Salt, Aromatic Cascara, Analgesic Balm, Analgesic Tablets, A. B. S. & Co's, 100 for., Antiphlogistine, Bromo Seltzer, Burdock B. Bitters, Baby's Own Tablets, Beecham's Pills, Bland's Iron Pills, Beef, Iron and Wine, Beyley's White Liniment, Chase's Pills, Castoria, Carbena, Chemical Food, Citrate Magnesia, D. D. D., Dodds' Pills, Egg Emulsion, Enos Fruit Salt, Father John's Medicine, Fellow's Compound, Fig Syrup, Frutatives, Gin Pills, Gude's Pepsio-Mangan, GILLETTE BLADES, Hamilton's Pills, Johnson's Liniment, Kruschen Salts, Lambert's Syrup, Listerine, Mathieu's Cough Syrup, Malted Milk, Neujol, Nerviline, OXO Cordial, Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, Phillip's Milk of Magnesia, Peroxide, Pins, Tar and Honey, Russian Oil, Sloan's Liniment, Scott's Emulsion, Thermogen, True's Elixir, Vic's Vapo Rub, Waterbury's Cod Liver Oil, Wood's Norway Pine, White Pine and Tar, Zam-Buk.

WASSONS 2 STORES, 9 Sydney Street, 711 Main Street

Advertisement for Canada Spice & Specialty Mills, Ltd. featuring an illustration of a Perfect Baking Powder tin and text: 'We Wish—Our Visitors Perfect Weather, The Skaters Perfect Ice, And We Offer—The Public a "Perfect" Product, The Quality Warrants the Name.', 'Canada Spice & Specialty Mills, Ltd.', '93 Prince William Street, Saint John, N. B.'

Advertisement for King Cole tea featuring illustrations of people enjoying winter sports and text: 'WINTER JOYS, We all know the real joy created by the exhilarating sports of Hockey, Snowshoeing and Skating—days of real sport. Another winter joy is the cup of fragrant King Cole Tea—piping hot—freshly made—the choice of discriminating tea drinkers throughout Eastern Canada. A tea that has made famous the name of— KING COLE, Sold Everywhere.'

Advertisement for J. Clark & Son, Limited featuring an illustration of a Chevrolet automobile and text: 'THERE ARE MORE CENTS -In The- CHEVROLET DOLLAR Than In Any Other Automobile Dollar, J. CLARK & SON, LIMITED, 17 GERMAIN ST. SAINT JOHN, N. B.'

Advertisement for The Vaughan Electric Company Limited featuring text: 'Established 1902, Incorporated 1908, The Vaughan Electric Company Limited, Electrical Engineers, Member National Electrical Contractors' Association, CONTRACTORS FOR INSTALLATION OF LIGHTING, POWER, TELEGRAPH TELEPHONE, AND BELL SYSTEMS DYNAMOS AND MOTORS ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES OF ALL KINDS, RADIO SUPPLIES, 94 Germain Street, ST. JOHN, N. B., Frank P. Vaughan, M. Sc., Manager, Telephone Main 319'