

FRED CASE HERO OF STIRRING RESCUE

(Bathurst Northern Light)

The keen frost of the past two weeks made splendid looking ice on the calm waters of the rivers around Bathurst, and although it was known that the freezing process had not lasted long enough to make the ice perfectly safe, yet many of the young people were out and as a result many narrow escapes from drowning were reported.

None of the venturesome youths had a narrower escape from a watery grave, however, than fifteen-year-old Aurel Normandeau, of East Bathurst, who, with a companion, went once too often on the unsafe surface of the Nepisiguit River not far from the pulp mill and iron bridge. At this point the water runs very smoothly and very deep, and when the two men broke through the ice on Thursday of last week their chances on life looked very slim, for a while.

Normandeau's friend was singularly fortunate in being able to clamber back on to the thicker ice and thence to safety, but all Normandeau's efforts to extricate himself only resulted in the breaking of the thin ice and his rapid exhaustion in the icy water. His lusty cries for help brought a number of people of the vicinity, but none were able to get near him and stood looking helplessly while the young man's strength ebbed away and his body became chilled and numb. Mr. Fred Case, a well-known foreman at the pulp mill, heard the cries while engaged in his work, and, guessing the cause of the uproar, hurried across the bridge. When he reached the scene of the accident, he saw at once that Normandeau could not hold out much longer, so without the least hesitation he plunged into the icy water, and reaching the now utterly exhausted youth, started a wonderful fight to shore and safety. Time after time he had to break the ice with his arm while supporting the almost unconscious youth with the other, and the small crowd of spectators watched the slow but painful struggle with a feeling of intense anxiety and suppressed excitement.

Hope gained strength as the two figures gradually and painfully neared the shore, but once, when Normandeau slipped under the ice and his gallant rescuer went after him, the hearts of all around sank as it looked to be the end of the heroic struggle. Hopes rose again, however, when the two figures succeeded in extricating themselves from their fearful position under the ice, and a great shout of relief and joy was heard when the almost lifeless pair finally reached the shore. Both were chilled and exhausted, and willing arms quickly conveyed them to their homes. Normandeau recovered rapidly from the effects of his gruelling experience and was able to be about the next day. His rescuer did not come out of the experience so well, however,



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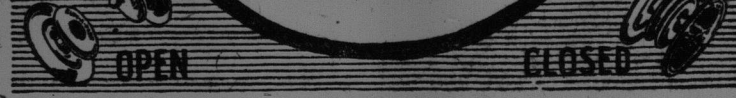
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ACTIVITIES EXTENDED

having suffered severely from the exposure and from painful cuts in his arm caused by the sharp ice. Mr. Case is now able to resume his duties, however, and it is hoped will soon be fit as ever. Witnesses of the gallant rescue state that it was a case of exceptional heroism and deserving of public recognition as there is no doubt that young Normandeau would have lost his life if Mr. Case had not gone to his rescue.

Steps are therefore being taken to have the case brought to the attention of the proper authorities so that an award befitting the occasion may be made.

London, Dec. 9.—(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)—The bureau established in Reval by the relief workers of Canadian Jewry, is now in a position to guarantee the transmission of money and letters to Soviet Russia, according to a despatch from that city. In its work, the bureau will co-operate with the Soviet Relief Committee of Moscow and the relief commission in Soviet Russia representing Canadian Jewry.

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MICROBE PERIL LURKS IN KISS

Chicago Health Inspector Issues Warning Against Indulgence in Osculation.

Chicago, Dec. 10.—Kissing is a serious matter, but health authorities seem unable to stop it. Health Commissioner Robertson issued a solemn warning to the youth of Chicago and those of more mature years, who incline to osculation, that forty thousand microbes find lodging on every pair of lips.

He endorsed a recent announcement to the same effect, made by a distinguished Viennese specialist.

"It is no joking matter," said Dr. Robertson. "No matter what we say, people will continue to kiss each other. The best we can do is to show the extreme danger of kissing at times, when pneumonia, tuberculosis and diphtheria are prevalent. Any one of these maladies

can be communicated by kissing. In fact breathing the air of pneumonia patients may infect the visitor."

FAMILY BUDGET IS GRADUALLY DECLINING

Ottawa, Nov. 25.—(A. P. Correspondence).—A slight decline in the cost of the weekly family budget of staple foods in Canada is announced by the labor department. The average cost was \$16.53 at the middle of October, as against \$16.95 in September; \$14.21 in October of last year, and \$13.93 in October of 1914.

The general price movement continued downward.

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