

SPORT NEWS GLEANED FROM WORLD'S CENTRES

JOE PAGE IN THE LIGHT; IS TERMED "A WIRE PROMOTER"

Magazine Writer Reviews Organization of Eastern Canada League.

In the January issue of the Baseball Magazine a lengthy article appears from the pen of John J. Ward which eulogizes Joe Page for his ability as a promoter and for the success that attended his efforts in organizing the Eastern Canada League. As Mr. Page is well known in this city and has been associated with a number of big sporting ventures the article which follows should be of general interest.

By JOHN J. WARD.

The prospect in virgin territory is always an interesting character whether he is seeking for gold in deserts and inaccessible mountains, or hunting for rare orchids in the jungles of South America. There is always a spice of romance, a tang of adventure to his operations which fires the fancy of Joe Page is just such a prospect. Everybody knows Joe Page. He lives at Montreal and anywhere else that is giving fancy hopes to carry him. He has as many iron in the fire as fingers and toes. He scouts for Comiskey when not otherwise occupied. He represents the Spalding Sporting Goods house. He has an intimate connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway. He was responsible for the annual excursion of four picked baseball scribbles into the Canadian wilderness or as spectators of Canadian sports. Lastly, he is the organizer and president of the Eastern Canada League of professional baseball clubs. And it is that particular phase of his manifold activities that we will here discuss.

The Eastern Canada League was Joe's pet hobby. To a certain extent he has planted soil that others had once plowed. He chose Montreal, which once had a club in the International League. But he also explored virgin territory. He made ball clubs prosper where ball clubs were unknown before. As a pioneer in baseball promotion work the organized leagues should give Joe Page some prominent medals like the Iron Cross or the Legion of Honor. Not that Joe is looking for such recognition. All he asks from anybody is an even break and he'll generally go a little more than his half of the distance to make that break possible.

Joe had in mind a league of six cities, but there seemed to be a great dearth of available cities. Just such a full-fledged league of four cities, Quebec, Ottawa and Three Rivers. These four clubs were Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa and Three Rivers. There is probably no more risky or ambitious venture than launching a minor league. Baseball history is strewn with the wreckage of just such circuits. But Joe has an unflinching spring of optimism in his nature. Things that are difficult, if not impossible, for most men, are merely interesting to Joe Page.

Following the logic of the born promoter, Joe set about launching his new league. That was for the season of 1922. He went to his four selected cities, each in turn. He sought out the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade or any other social or business gathering which would bring him in touch with the leading men of the community. To them he represented his venture as a purely business proposition. Membership in a live baseball league would give their town \$50,000 worth of free advertising in a season. It would promote industry, turn the wheels of progress, add zest and pep to idle institutions. In short, it would put their town on the map.

The arguments of Joe Page were convincing, primarily because they were true. Baseball owes much to American enterprise, but American enterprise owes much to baseball. The four cities of Page's choice succumbed to his persuasive eloquence. Club owners were found willing to let Joe manage the league and they obtained help and cooperation. The league was launched. Joe was chosen as the first president. It was an honor, nothing more, for no salary was attached; a brand new minor league had other things to think of besides paying salaries to its presidents. The first season passed with credit. Last year, in spite of numerous problems, the Eastern Canada club owners were able to make a dollar on their investments and the future seems reasonably assured.

Joe Page discusses the problems of a league president with philosophical calm. It takes more than mere problems to ruffle Page. "It's a business," he says. "A curious business, no more difficult than others. You have plenty to worry you, if you are inclined that way. I am not. Of course, there are bound to be disagreements with owners and players. Every owner has his troubles and they cloud his vision sometimes. He loses sight of the larger welfare of the league in trying to gain his own ends. But that's merely human nature, I suppose. "We had one rather bad case because an owner seemed to be utterly lacking in knowledge of baseball methods. He finally quit the job, leaving little behind him except bills. I had to come to the rescue and raise \$5,000 to straighten out the tangle. I offered to give up my own salary for this purpose, but we were finally able to unravel the problem.

"Of course, we haven't everything we want. We need better grounds at Montreal, which has become one of the great cities of the Continent. Besides, we are hampered by Sunday closing laws, so we really use two parks on Sunday. We have good ball parks at Quebec and Ottawa, however, parks that seat about 5,000 spectators. The park at Three Rivers seats 3,000. "We have aroused a good deal of interest in baseball. The French Canadians are beginning to like the game. They don't always understand it very well, but they get a kick out of it just the same. What a French Canadian particularly likes to see is a high fly. This interests him much more than a

Why the Mystery? MORE BEHIND STAR SPRINTERS' THREAT TO QUIT THAN A CONCERT SINGER'S JOB

New York—Track and field enthusiasts are puzzled by the announcement that Bob McAllister, "The Flying Cop," is to quit the cinder path for a concert career. "I'm going to be a singer," McAllister explained, and without further comment walked from the office. The air is rife with reports that McAllister has no serious intentions of going into concert work, and the feeling exists that he has some other reason for retiring.

Some time ago McAllister was suspended for six months following a verbal altercation with A. A. U. officials. It is believed this still ranks in his chest.

GAMES IN CITY BOWLING LEAGUES

Results of Last Evening's Candle Pin Matches on Local Alleys.

THE CITY LEAGUE.

In the City League on the Victoria alley last night, the G. W. V. A. team, the Blacks, took all four points from the Atlantic Sugar Refiners' five. The scores follow:

| Team | Score |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| G. W. V. A. | 82 83 86 89 88-2-3 |
| Blacks | 78 83 100 129 86-1-3 |
| Atlantic Sugar Refiners | 88 100 81 272 90-1-3 |
| Yemassee | 100 80 100 280 83-1-3 |
| Akerly | 85 81 100 266 82-2-3 |
| Henderson | 106 87 83 286 85-1-3 |
| Total | 455 441 472 1368 |

The line-ups follow:

Central Capt. East St. John. Forwards: A. Sterling (8) A. Barnes (13) R. Reid (4) A. Barnes (13) Cunningham (1) B. McKay (1) Cava (2) John Bean (2) Woodroffe (2)

CLERICAL LEAGUE.

In the Clerical League on the Victoria alley last night, the N. B. Telephone Company, Ltd. team took all four points from the Atlantic Sugar Refiners' five. The scores follow:

| Team | Score |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| N. B. Telephone | 82 83 86 89 88-2-3 |
| Blacks | 78 83 100 129 86-1-3 |
| Atlantic Sugar Refiners | 88 100 81 272 90-1-3 |
| Yemassee | 100 80 100 280 83-1-3 |
| Akerly | 85 81 100 266 82-2-3 |
| Henderson | 106 87 83 286 85-1-3 |
| Total | 455 441 472 1368 |

G. W. V. A. HOUSE LEAGUE.

The St. John's team took three points from the Montreal team in the G. W. V. A. House League last night on the Yvettes alleys. The scores follow:

| Team | Score |
|------------|-----------------------|
| St. John's | 78 83 100 129 86-1-3 |
| Montreal | 88 100 81 272 90-1-3 |
| Yemassee | 100 80 100 280 83-1-3 |
| Akerly | 85 81 100 266 82-2-3 |
| Henderson | 106 87 83 286 85-1-3 |
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BOSTON HOCKEYISTS WON

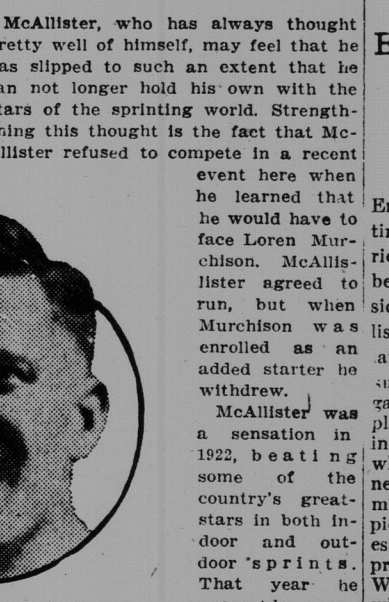
New Haven, Conn., Jan. 23.—The Boston Hockey Club defeated the New Haven hockey team 2 to 1 last night.

brilliant play by the shortstop. Babe Ruth would go big at Three Rivers. The owners are rabid fans. I sat in the front row of the grandstand last season and made some chance remark. Whereupon one of the owners accused me of being a double-dealer for the other club. I was finally able to mollify him, however.

"Of course the Eastern Canadian League isn't a full-fledged major by a good deal. We have to watch expenses very carefully, but we don't omit anything which is really necessary. We have the double umpire system, with good, competent umpires, and we have a good crowd of ball players, too.

"The chief problem of the minor league president, as I see it, is trying to keep his owner from going crazy with the heat. An owner naturally wants to build up his ball club and the only way he can think of doing this, off-hand, is to spend money. We have a salary limit and it's lived up to, but it's hard to keep owners reconciled to that salary limit. Still, it's their only salvation. They can make money if they keep expenses down. If they don't they are almost certain to get into debt and debt means discouragement, and sooner or later in the minors, an abandoned franchise, if not a wrecked league.

"In order to stimulate interest we have divided our season into two parts. The winner of the first half pennant plays the winner of the second in a sort of elongated world's series of 15 games. Ottawa won the first half pennant and Montreal the second, and Montreal won the final play-off by the closest possible score, eight games to seven.



McAllister, who has always thought pretty well of himself, may feel that he has slipped to such an extent that he can no longer hold his own with the stars of the sprinting world. Strengthening this thought is the fact that McAllister refused to compete in a recent event here when he learned that he would have to face Loren Murchison. McAllister agreed to run, but when Murchison was a sensational in 1922, beating some of the country's great stars in both indoor and outdoor sprints. That year he won the national senior and junior 100-yard titles outdoors. A year ago he created a new American indoor record for 150 yards, ending the distance in 14.5 seconds.

Y. M. C. I. HOUSE LEAGUE.

In the Y. M. C. I. House League contest last night the Yvettes took all four points from the Blacks. The scores follow:

| Team | Score |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| Yvettes | 78 83 100 129 86-1-3 |
| Blacks | 88 100 81 272 90-1-3 |
| Yemassee | 100 80 100 280 83-1-3 |
| Akerly | 85 81 100 266 82-2-3 |
| Henderson | 106 87 83 286 85-1-3 |
| Total | 455 441 472 1368 |

EXHIBITION GAME.

Last night on the Imperial alleys, the C. P. R. Export Department team took all four points from the Yvettes. The scores follow:

| Team | Score |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| C. P. R. Export | 82 83 86 89 88-2-3 |
| Yvettes | 78 83 100 129 86-1-3 |
| Atlantic Sugar Refiners | 88 100 81 272 90-1-3 |
| Yemassee | 100 80 100 280 83-1-3 |
| Akerly | 85 81 100 266 82-2-3 |
| Henderson | 106 87 83 286 85-1-3 |
| Total | 455 441 472 1368 |

COMMERCIAL LEAGUE.

The Opticians took four points from Emerson & Fisher, Ltd. at Black's alleys last night. The scores follow:

| Team | Score |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Opticians | 82 83 86 89 88-2-3 |
| Emerson & Fisher | 78 83 100 129 86-1-3 |
| Atlantic Sugar Refiners | 88 100 81 272 90-1-3 |
| Yemassee | 100 80 100 280 83-1-3 |
| Akerly | 85 81 100 266 82-2-3 |
| Henderson | 106 87 83 286 85-1-3 |
| Total | 455 441 472 1368 |

THISTLES TO CURL AT ST. STEPHEN

Six rinks from the Thistle Curling Club will go to St. Stephen to play the local curlers on Thursday afternoon and evening. The Thistle curlers will return to St. John on Friday at noon and will play the St. Andrew's Club in St. John on Saturday.

THISTLES WIN MATCH.

A match game was played last evening between the Thistle and Carleton Curling Clubs, six rinks competing. The Thistles won out by a total of 91 to 81 points. On their home ice Carleton won by a total of 47 to 46 points, but on Thistle ice they were defeated by a total of 46 to 34.

CHAMPION WILDE ENDS RING CAREER

English Flyweight Title Holder Says He Has Definitely Retired.

New York, Jan. 23.—Jimmy Wilde, English flyweight champion, has retired definitely from the ring and carries with him into his retirement the best wishes of many friends on both sides of the Atlantic. Very few English boxers have enjoyed as much popularity as Wilde and the secret of his success rests in the fact that he always gave the public full value and stepped into the ring. His rugged features when almost battered into unconsciousness by Pancho Villa, when the pair met for the world's flyweight championship in New York earned the highest commendation from the American press. There are many contenders for Wilde's crown, but the next champion will have to be something above the average before he can hope to equal his predecessor's status in the boxing world.

WOULD SUPERVISE SALE OF TICKETS

Introduces Bill in Legislature to Put a Stop to Speculation.

Albany, Jan. 19.—Asserting that if speculation in tickets can be stopped, boxing may be saved in New York State, Assemblyman John P. Nugent, New York Democrat, has introduced a bill under its provisions, each promoter will check this bill. The measure provides that the State Athletic Commission shall have complete supervision over the sale of tickets for all professional fights. The bill, at all times would have access to the books of the fight promoters so far as they relate to the sale of tickets. Under its provisions, each promoter would be required to furnish the Commission with a list of places other than established box offices where the fight tickets are sold.

"If my bill is enacted into law I am sure it will put the speculation in fight tickets out of business and will save boxing in New York State," Assemblyman Nugent said. "Under its provisions an inspector would be assigned by the Commission to supervise the sale of all tickets to fights. This places direct responsibility on the Commission to see to it that tickets do not fall into the hands of speculators.

"At present there is no way of checking upon how the promoters dispose of tickets, and this is a serious matter of responsibility for the sale of the tickets regulated with the Commission, any collector between the promoter and the spectators would be stopped.

"Complaint is often made that when a promoter is where the promoter has a chance to double-cross every one. The gate receipts are estimated on the total value of the tickets dropped into the ticket box, and the promoter pays off accordingly. He does not pay off on what the spectators get for the tickets. Consequently no one knows how much is cleaned up on some of the fights by the promoters," Assemblyman Nugent continued.

Under the terms of the Nugent bill, a promoter who refuses to furnish the Athletic Commission with information or gives out false information will lose his license for a period of one year and be subject to a fine running as high as \$5,000.

The bill persists at the Capitol that the only man in the Legislature who can prevent the boxing law from being repealed is Senator James J. Walker, Democratic leader in the upper house, and father of the statute. At present Senator Walker is saying nothing about his attitude on the repeal of the law, except that he is too busy with more important subjects to give any thought to boxing.

A KNOCK-OUT

Newark, N. J., Jan. 23.—Jack Zivic of Pittsburgh, knocked out Al Belmont of New York in the fourth round of a ten round bout here last night.

SAYS FIGHTER FAKED KNOCKOUT

Toronto, Jan. 23.—Lou Marsh, who refereed the fight Monday night between Jack Riddick, Winnipeg, and Homer Robinson, Pittsburgh, which Riddick won in the sixth round, has reported to James P. Fitzgerald, secretary of the Boxing Commission that a disqualified Robinson for taking a knockout.

SAYS KEITHS PAID \$250,000 TO STOP ALL COMPETITION

Lawyer Alleges Threat by Albie to Follow Competitors West.

New York, Jan. 22.—The Klaw & Waller Exchange and the Shubert were paid \$250,000 to cease booking vaudeville acts for ten years from February, 1908, to February, 1918, according to a deposition of Marc Klaw, submitted in evidence at the trial of the \$525,000 damage suit brought by Max Hart against the B. F. Keith, Vaudeville Exchange, the Orpheum Circuit and Excelsior Agency and others before Federal Judge A. N. Hand.

Mr. Klaw revealed that contracts amounting to \$1,500,000 were taken over by the Keith interests, including the United Booking Office, this making the cessation of a very active competition which made both sides spend large sums of money. Mr. Klaw declared he did not recall if penalties were fixed in event of violation of the contract, but his firm accepted it because they considered the terms satisfactory.

"Do you know whether any acts that you booked were stolen by the Keith interests?" asked Martin W. Littleton of counsel for Hart. "I do not recall any now," answered Mr. Klaw in his deposition.

Not Financially Interested. "Have you at any time been interested financially or otherwise in the B. F. Keith interests?" asked Martin W. Littleton of counsel for Hart. "I am sorry to say no," answered Mr. Klaw.

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THUNBERG OF FINLAND VICTOR IN INTERNATIONAL SKATING RACE

Davos, Switzerland, Jan. 23.—The international skating races opened here with the 500 and 5,000-meter speed contests. The 500-meter race was won by the European champion, Thunberg of Helsinki, Finland, in 43.4 seconds, which is two-fifths of a second slower than the world's record. The 5,000-meter contest was won by Shupinub of Sweden in 8 minutes 52.5 seconds with Thunberg one second behind. Beckli, the Viennese figure skating expert, is not attending the meet having strained an ankle while training.

MONTGOMERY DID MEET CHAMPION

Boxed Johnny Wilson When He Held the Middleweight Title.

When Jim Montgomery, Irish middle and light heavyweight champion of Ireland, passed through this city a few weeks ago enroute from England to New York a lengthy article appeared in The Times giving details of his record. The Irish champion had a large book of clippings from leading papers throughout the United States and it was from these that the information printed was selected. Owing to reports current throughout the city The Times feels that it is only fair to its readers to know that the record as published was authentic. Three different clippings gave details of a bout between Montgomery and Johnny Wilson, then middleweight champion of the world, and all three writers were unanimous in the opinion that had a decision been allowed Montgomery would have been middleweight champion of the world. Among those mentioned as having been defeated by Montgomery were: Spike Sullivan, Mike Ahearn, New Sam Langford, Eddie Dixon, Jim Monahan, Billy Hinners, Dan Lynch, Fred Dyer, and Silent Martin. There were others too numerous to mention.

Charles De Bates, who is to meet Montgomery, has a record of 25 knockouts and has scored many victories through decisions.

WILLIE HOPPE BACK IN LEAD

Chicago, Jan. 23.—Willie Hoppe, defending his title as world's 182 lb. bantam billiard champion, last night came from behind and led young Jake Schaefer, 1,000 to 739 at the end of the second block of their 1,600 point match. The final block will be played tonight.

TYS CLUB PLANS

Detroit, Jan. 23.—Eighteen practice games have been scheduled by the Detroit American League Club to begin from behind and led young Jake Schaefer, 1,000 to 739 at the end of the second block of their 1,600 point match. The final block will be played tonight.

CLEVELAND GOES BACK

Eveland, Minn., Jan. 23.—Cleveland dropped to third place in the western group of the U. S. A. H. L. when the easterners lost their game with Eveland 3 to 2 here last night.

MARKS IS VICTOR

New York, Jan. 23.—George Marks won the decision over Buck Marks in a ten round bout last night. Marks, who weighed 116 1/2 lbs, was matched to meet Pancho Villa.

EIGHT ROUND DRAW

Knoxville, Tenn., Jan. 23.—Wild Bill Reed, Ohio heavyweight, and Captain Bill Roper, of Miami, fought an eight round draw here last night, according to newspapermen.

Arena Friday Night (January 25th) Arena

Sussex vs. St. John

Also GYROS vs. LAW STUDENTS Big Game Starts 8 p.m. sharp. HOLD THIS NIGHT OPEN

50 cent tickets on sale at deForest's Tobacco Store, Prince William street; Baillie's, King Street; Herman's, Charlotte street; Phonograph Salon, Limited, King St. Boxes 75 cents. Phone Arena 5067.

TWELVE BANDS AT ARENA TONIGHT

GAME AT SUSSEX WAS A THRILLER

The St. John Team Lost, But Put Up a Fast Exhibition.

Playing a superior brand of hockey to any displayed so far this year, the St. John hockey team both surprised and pleased Sussex last evening, although they were defeated by a score of 5 to 3. From the play-off until the termination of the third period the St. John boys fought hard and forced the fast Sussex sextette to extend themselves to win. The first period ended 3 to 2 in favor of the home team, the second period 4 to 3. The last period was bitterly contested and while Sussex succeeded in securing another goal the St. John boys had the better of the play in the closing stages. Another battle royal is expected when the Sussex team plays a return game here Friday evening. The line-up of the teams last evening follows:

| Team | Position | Player |
|--------|------------|------------|
| Sussex | Goal | St. John |
| Sussex | Defence | G. Leclair |
| Sussex | Defence | Murphy |
| Sussex | Defence | Richard |
| Sussex | Defence | G. Gilbert |
| Sussex | Right Wing | J. Gilbert |
| Sussex | Right Wing | Tardivel |
| Sussex | Left Wing | Kiley |
| Sussex | Left Wing | Rathburn |
| Sussex | Left Wing | Short |

CLAIM GOAL WAS NOT REGISTERED

Frederick Team Refuse to Play Overtime at St. Stephen.

St. Stephen was awarded the game in the border town last evening when Frederick refused to continue play when ordered to do so to break an existing tie, 2-2. A dispute started over a goal in the second period, when Vanstone drove a fast one at the Frederick net and the puck went right through the twine. When the goal judge signalled that it was a counter the referee faced off the puck on the right wing instead of in centre. This resulted in a protest and at the end of the game the visiting team refused to continue.

ALL PITCHERS TO GO

Cleveland, Jan. 23.—The Cleveland baseball club has ordered its recruit pitchers, as well as the veterans, to report to Hot Springs for early conditioning before going to the training camp at Lakeland, Fla. It is customary for some of the club's pitchers to send their regulars to the Arkansas resort but this is said to be the first time that a pitcher has ordered its entire training staff to go.

FULTON TO MEET GODFREY

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 23.—Fred Fulton, Minneapolis heavyweight, has been signed to meet George Godfrey, negro, at Philadelphia Feb. 4 in a ten round bout.

TOMORROW NIGHT AT ODDFELLOWS HALL

Dance

Montclair Orchestra EVERYONE WELCOME 6:30-1:24

MUTT AND JEFF—A DISCUSSION OVER AN OBJECT IN "NO MAN'S LAND" IN MEXICO

