

PARIS SCIENTISTS STILL PUZZLED BY MYSTICAL POWER

Coulon, American Boxer, Sub-
ject of Report To Be Given
Academy of Sciences.

IMITATORS NUMEROUS

Champion Weight Lifter Is
Felled, As Well As Many
Kinds of Theorists.

PARIS, Jan. 6.—Johnny Coulon, an American boxer, has held the limelight in Paris affairs for more than a week now while the greatest French savants are trying to explain why the nation's strongest men are unable to lift a hair's breadth off the floor once Coulon touches them lightly behind the ear and on the right pulse.

After exhaustive experiments before the medical faculty the theory that any mechanical interference, such as displacement of the centre of gravity, has been definitely disproved by doctors and physicists who are almost ready to believe they are on the eve of new discoveries in powers of inhibition or objective suggestion which are possessed by everyone, but have never before been noticed.

Only one husky Frenchman, Cadine, the Olympic champion weight lifter, has so far been able to budge Coulon. This feat is explained by the latter as "in-

tentional," as he did not want to damage Cadine's reputation.

Charles Nordmann, the great military mathematician, who personally conducted a score of experiments, discards the theory of hypnotism, as he found Coulon was just as immovable when the full force was applied as when merely touched. Nordmann inclines to the belief that it is a question of the projection of will power, as he noticed that when the boxer at a given signal ceased to exert his will, he was lifted with the utmost ease, although he had not changed the position of his fingers.

Academy Will Get Report. Dr. Ruffier, one of the earliest interested in the physical phenomenon, noticed on certain occasions that a similar result was obtained when he held merely a sheet of paper or a towel between Coulon and the lifters. The thoroughness of the scientific inquiry which has been made is shown by M. Nordmann's report, which will be transmitted to the Academy of Sciences next month. He shows that Coulon remained riveted to the floor even when the latter formed the central figure in a chain of six or eight spectators, the subject touching merely the persons who formed the extreme ends of the chain.

This, he believes, proved conclusively that there was no question of suggestion or will power in the finger pressure, as even after the pressure was released Coulon could not be moved for several seconds. Electrical experts explain this as indicating a new type of self-induction. Even when the lifter was placed behind Coulon in the above mentioned chain formation the result was always the same.

"We are undoubtedly in the presence of a force both physical and mental in a new category of phenomena not hitherto observed," says M. Nordmann. "Persons do not believe the force to be electrical, but at the same time I must admit it is a force not even slightly resembling anything recorded by the world's scientists in recent centuries. The force is, however, real."

Fencing Expert Also Is Felled. Prof. d'Arsonville of the College of

France, who first canned liquid air, has followed the recent investigations closely, but has not yet advanced a hypothesis. He is inclined to agree with Dr. Ruffier, as well as with Nordmann, the fencing expert, who points out that the force is not of the jin jitsu type, as neither pressure, sudden shock nor interference with the circulatory system is involved. And as it is not a question of voluntary hypnotism, as Coulon does not respond to any ordinary physical tests of this nature, it is believed the future will reveal an ability in every one to direct physical force without exertion, merely by the projection of mind power.

An interesting phase in this thesis is found in the suggestion of certain doctors that Coulon's discovery may even result in the explanation of ancient incidents where vital force restored invalids merely by the laying on of hands, which was used with great effect in the early days of the Christian era and even by certain practitioners in America's early history.

Coulon's one regret is that he failed to make use of his power on the stage before he started the present sensation. He has suffered himself to be grasped by sinewy hands at least a dozen times since he first made his declaration. His eyes have been painfully crushed and grazed almost to the bleeding point after some experiments when investigators, who had been told after his equilibrium by the excessive squeezing of the hands, tried to grasp him.

But if Coulon is not gaining by his experience, other French actors are not letting the grass grow under their feet. At least five vaudeville theatres already have billed Coulon as a new attraction, strong men, who defy the audiences to lift them off the boards a la Coulon. Meanwhile interest in Coulon's feat is growing so fast that it is not uncommon to see passers-by in the streets, unconsciously, after his demonstration that they are as good as Coulon.

CONDITION IS CRITICAL. TORONTO, Jan. 6.—The condition of Sir William Gage, well-known philanthropist, is unchanged, according to an announcement from his residence this morning. The bulletin says: "Sir William's condition is critical, and there has been no change."

HUGE EXPENSES OF LEAGUE WORRY FRENCH WRITERS

Staggering Salaries Compared With Poor Ones of War Heroes.

DEEP CUTS DEMANDED

Germany's Ability To Pay Cannot Be Stretched Too Far, Is Warning.

PARIS, Jan. 6.—That the French press is beginning to realize the burden of the League of Nations, at least from the financial point of view, is shown in a recent article by M. Raymond Recouly in the Paris Figaro wherein he reviews in his customary brilliance of style the case with which international diplomacy of the League of Nations wastes the public's money. His views will undoubtedly coincide with the opinion of many Americans who have taken the time to study the league's organization from the standpoint of its annual cost. M. Recouly said:

"We have often protested against the waste of public money, and the orgy of spending which is raging in the majority of ministries and administrations. These disastrous habits are a legacy of the war. But the war, were it not an excuse, might even have involved as an extenuating circumstance were it not for the fact that the war has been finished for more than two years. Nevertheless the waste continues."

A very remarkable report by M. Nordmann regarding the expenditures of the League of Nations has given us a few figures which are specially impressive and which clearly merit the closest attention of the public.

"One might say of the League of Nations as Aesop said of the tongue that it is capable of much good just as it is capable of much evil. Its greatest fault lies in the fact that it, for many questions is too closely interwoven with the treaty of Versailles. The realization of peace was one thing; construction of a league of peoples was another. The first was born of the past and present; the second, above all, concerns the future. Reason and common sense urge us not to confound the two. But the great idea, the whim of President Wilson, English, finding material advantages in it, sustained it with all her force and secured its adoption."

"Beneficent as it is, the League of Nations is going to be, in any case, a most costly institution. Judge for yourself. It has at its head a secretary-general, Sir Eric Drummond, who receives £20,000 a year, which under present exchange is not far from \$100,000 francs. No ambassador, not even of the richest nation in the world, in the most expensive capitals of the world, attains anywhere near a salary so royal. Let us note, by the way, that one of the articles of the pact stipulates that the secretary-general shall be elected periodically by the league. This stipulation, it is to be hoped that it will be applied shortly. For if these high salaries are to be maintained—and we ardently hope to the contrary—it is better that a certain rotation be established in order that such manna, in comparison with which that of Moses was indeed worthless, does not fall forever on the same heads."

Many Fancy Salaries. "Then come two undersecretaries-general, each receiving £4,000, or more than \$20,000 francs; then another under-secretary acting, on occasions, as secretary-general. This one, one of our compatriots, M. Jean Monnet, is paid £5,000, or nearly \$20,000 francs. I have not the honor of M. Jean Monnet's acquaintance. I am convinced that he is a most distinguished gentleman, whose merits cannot be small, judging by the manner in which they are compensated. But neither his distinction nor his merits would be in the least diminished if his salary were reduced by half; if he agreed to earn but 150,000 francs a year, or as much as the best paid of our ambassadors and two and a half times as much as our ministers."

"Following this we find six directors who are paid 100,000 to 150,000 francs; among these there are two of our compatriots, one of whom, before the war, was a journalist, the other a college professor."

"After the general staff come forty-eight members of various commissions—political, administrative, judicial—with average salaries of from £1,000 to £1,500, then a host of more humble personages who receive from £500 to £1,000."

"We have in France three marshals whose names and glory will dominate history, who by their military genius have saved our country and civilization. Well, there is not the humblest scribe of the League of Nations whose salary is not as high as those of these illustrious soldiers."

"I have reserved for the climax the international labor bureau, which is a dependence of the league. At its head, and dominating by far all the rest, is its director, M. Albert Thomas, with a salary of £26,000—more than \$100,000 francs. When M. Albert Thomas, the Socialist deputy, works, you can see that it is not for nothing."

Need of Serious Revision. "All these salaries, the last more than the rest, are veritably scandalous. It is costing our budget (and France is only one of the twenty odd participating nations) the round sum of three billions a year. In addition, the league has advised us that this contribution will be insufficient and that it will have to be increased."

"Objection may be made that the bad condition of our exchange gives a momentary overvaluation of our contributions. But our franc, alas, everything makes us fear, will require a long time to recover and even if it does, it is not made in pounds sterling the majority of these salaries demand a very serious revision."

FARMERS' CLUBS OF CRUMLIN PLAN TO RAISE MEMBERSHIP

CRUMLIN, Jan. 6.—A campaign for increase of membership was inaugurated at the January meeting of the United Farmers' Club of Crumlin. The scheme was introduced by the president-elect, Mr. H. N. Urrhart, and Messrs. Frank Wilson and William Quinn were chosen as captains, with fifteen workers.

John Freshorn, M.L.A. for East Middlesex, gave a very interesting review of the history of the tariff in Canada since Confederation.

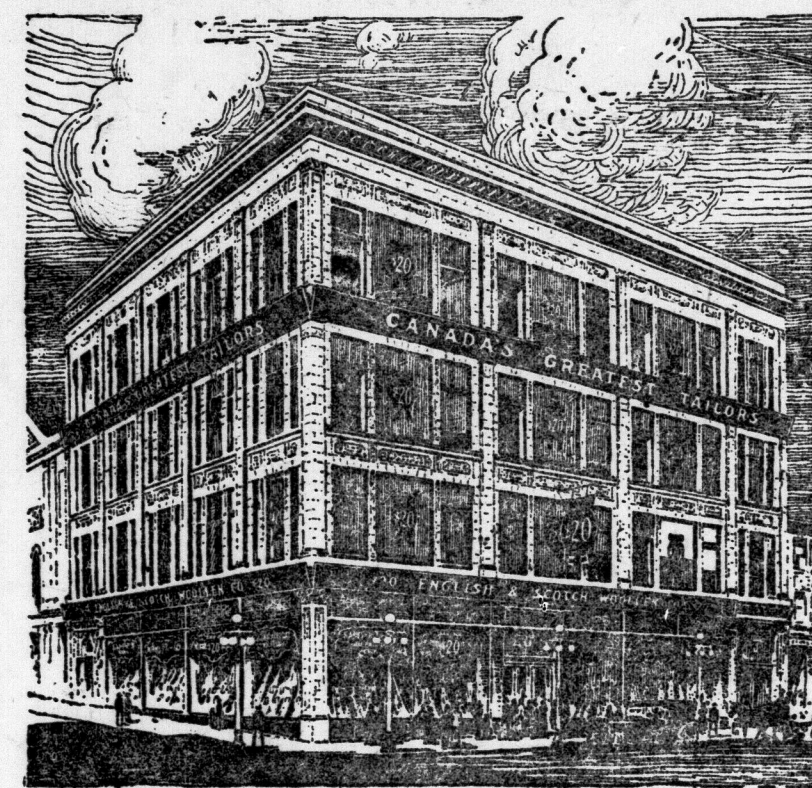
An excellent program rendered during the evening comprised instrumental selections by Messrs. Cullman, J. Collier and Ivan Parkinson; vocal solos by Miss Olive Kenahan and Morley Rogers; Mrs. F. Gee and Miss Rogers acted as accompanists. Readings by Mrs. John Freshorn were warmly appreciated. Reports of the provincial convention at Toronto were given by Messrs. Frank Wilson and Cecil Stamp. Mrs. W. C. Smith, president of the U. F. W. O., presided during the musical program, at the conclusion of which the ladies served refreshments.

McKEOUGH-WOODWARD. Windsor, Jan. 6.—Miss Sewell Woodward of Chatham, daughter of the editor of the Chatham News, was married Monday night here to Grant McKeough, son of W. E. McKeough, also of Chatham. The engagement of the young couple was announced some time ago, and an elaborate wedding was to be a social event of Chatham in June. The wedding was performed by Canon Arthur Carls, rector of All Saints' Church. The young people declared Tuesday they decided they did not want a big wedding. They have gone on a honeymoon to New York.

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