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TABLE OF CONTENTS

The National Figure Skating Championships.....	5
Most Interesting Criticisms in Letter from Salchow, President of the I. E. V.....	16
C. I. Christenson.....	18
Canadian Championships.....	20
The 1926 U. S. F. S. A. Carnival.....	23
Philadelphia Rinkless Season 1925-26.....	28
The Minto Follies of 1926.....	30
1926 World's Championships.....	33
Lake Placid Championships.....	34
Henriette Sontag.....	39
Minutes of the Meeting of the Governing Council of the United States Figure Skating Association.....	42



TORONTO TEAM

Winners of Canadian Championship in "Fours"

Montgomery Wilson, Miss Cecil E. Smith, Miss Maude E. Smith, Jack Eastwood.

The National Figure Skating Championships

RICHARD L. HAPGOOD

The National Figure Skating Championships, which were held in Boston this year on the 15th and 16th of February, again showed that the standard of Figure Skating in America is making steady progress. In both Free Skating and School Figures, contestants showed a better grasp of skating fundamentals.

Thirty-four enthusiastic competitors gathered in Boston to take part in eight of the nine events on the National program. No club offered a team to compete for the Fours Championship, probably because interest in Fours has lagged during the last year or so, due no doubt, to the added effort and time which is required for Singles and Pairs to reach modern championship calibre.

LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIP OF UNITED STATES

Miss Beatrix Loughran of New York, (1st), retained her title by a safe margin of points. Her School Figures as last year were as near perfect as skating enthusiasts in this country have seen in amateur championships. Her edges were strong, her turns were instantaneous and clean, her circles were round and equal in size, in fact she showed that coordination of every component part of Figure Skating toward which we are all striving. Her Free Skating program as in the past, contained all the elements of difficulty done smoothly and in a vigorous style.

Mrs. Theresa Weld Blanchard of Boston, (2nd), skated as well as she ever has in competition in this country. Like Miss Loughran's style, hers is an essentially individual one. She does not attack the problem of a figure or a program with the same ruggedness as the Champion, yet the result is apt to be more graceful if not as positive. Mrs. Blanchard's Free Skating program deserves special mention not only because of contents but especially for good performance.

LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIP OF UNITED STATES

CONTESTANTS		MISS LOUGHAN New York			MRS. BLANCHARD Boston			MISS VINSON Boston			MRS. CRAMER New York					
Judges		K.	B.	Rob.	Rot.	C.	K.	B.	Rob.	Rot.	C.	K.	B.	Rob.	Rot.	C.
No. Fac- tor																
Figure Rocker																
ROF	4	20.	21.76	22.	20.32	22.2	22.	22.	19.2	16.12	22.2	16.	20.32	20.	18.6	21.7
LOF	4	23.	22.	21.6	21.6	23.5	20.	21.8	19.6	18.4	22.1	18.	20.48	20.	17.4	22.
Counter																
ROF	3	15.	17.91	15.3	15.27	17.55	14.25	17.49	13.5	13.8	17.4	12.	17.67	15.6	15.36	16.05
LOF	3	14.25	17.88	15.9	15.51	17.55	12.	16.86	15.	13.5	17.17	12.	17.04	13.8	13.95	17.17
One Foot Eight																
ROIF	2	10.5	11.22	11.	11.64	11.4	7.5	10.26	9.2	10.24	10.5	8.5	10.4	9.6	10.26	11.1
LOIF	2	10.	11.08	11.2	11.06	11.4	8.5	10.28	9.8	10.4	11.2	8.	10.88	10.6	10.64	11.6
Change Bracket																
ROIF	3	14.25	16.86	15.3	15.54	17.02	14.25	16.68	15.	15.66	17.25	12.	16.56	14.4	14.85	16.05
LOIF	3	14.25	17.01	15.3	16.65	17.55	12.	16.32	14.1	14.94	16.35	15.75	16.86	16.2	15.27	17.55
Three Change																
ROB	3	15.	17.22	15.9	15.42	16.65	15.75	16.74	15.	15.48	16.5	12.	17.01	15.3	13.62	15.52
LOB	3	16.5	17.64	16.5	16.02	16.65	13.5	16.47	15.	14.88	16.35	13.5	16.86	15.6	14.76	16.35
Loop Change																
ROF	4	21.	23.12	22.8	21.2	22.5	17.	22.80	20.	19.6	22.4	21.	22.52	21.2	18.24	22.3
LOF	4	21.	23.32	22.	21.12	23.	18.	22.64	15.6	20.08	22.1	22.	23.76	22.	20.08	23.3
Total School Figures																
		194.75	217.02	204.8	201.35	216.97	174.75	210.34	181.	183.1	211.52	170.75	210.36	194.3	183.03	210.69
Program																
Performance		5.5	6.	5.5	5.5	5.	5.33	5.8	4.8	5.	5.	5.08	5.73	5.06	5.2	5.
Total Free Skating		5.58	5.87	5.5	5.5	5.25	5.5	5.87	5.1	5.7	5.5	4.66	5.63	4.9	5.5	5.
Total School Figure		138.5	148.37	137.5	137.5	128.12	135.42	145.87	123.75	133.75	131.25	121.87	142.	124.58	133.75	125.
Grand Total		333.25	365.39	342.3	338.85	345.09	310.17	356.21	304.75	316.85	342.77	292.62	352.36	318.88	316.78	335.69
Ordinal Ranking		I	I	I	I	I	II	II	IV	II	II	III	III	II	III	III
Result		I	I	I	I	I	II	II	IV	II	II	III	III	II	III	III

Junces K. Mrs. Knapp, New York
 B. Badger, Boston
 C. Chapman, Philadelphia
 Rob. Robertson, New Haven
 Rot. Rotch, Boston

Rulings of 1926, to be inserted on blank pages of the Special Number of "Skating," "Constitution and By-Laws," under Committees as indicated.

COMMITTEE ON AMATEUR STATUS

Resolved that no Amateur Figure Skater be permitted to skate in a public performance where there is a paid admission without first obtaining the permission of the Chairman of the Amateur Status Committee, or any Member of the Committee or the President; and upon the refusal of any of the above named to sanction the performance, that no application for that exhibition shall be made to any other member. (April, 1926)

COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIONS AND RULES

Resolved that any member duly designated as an Association judge and called to act as a judge by a club holding a competition under the Association auspices shall be reimbursed for legitimate expenses at the place of holding the competition and while traveling to and from the place of competition. A statement of such expenses shall be presented to the secretary of the club of which the judge is a member in good standing and after approval by such secretary shall be forwarded by him to the secretary of the club which held the competition, which club shall immediately remit the amount due to the judge. (April, 1926)

Resolved that a small section of the ice surface be reserved for "warming up" during free skating competition, exactly as in school figure competition and that the notices give the net amount of space left for the program performance. (April, 1926)

Resolved that in all competitions sanctioned by the U.S.F.S.A., the judges shall be appointed at least 24 hours before each event; that competitors may present to the Committee in charge of the competition, at the time of selection or up to 24 hours before their event, any protest of a judge or judges for the competition. (April, 1926)

Resolved that any Club or Association desiring to hold a competition under the auspices of this Association should submit a formal request properly filled out and receive a formal sanction therefor; that the Association charge a fee for such sanction which fee shall be \$5.00 for competitions where no charge is made for spectators and \$10.00 where such charge is made. Further that the secretary be authorized to prepare such application blanks and sanction to be used by the Association, and that for fee above set forth a reasonable number of judges' cards be furnished. (November, 1925)

The difficulty of her program was increased this year by an Axel Paulsen jump, a spread eagle, and a spin. Her performance was truly inspired.

Miss Maribel Vinson, Boston, (3rd), was close on Mrs. Blanchard's heels. This young skater, who two years ago won the Ladies' Junior Title, has rapidly advanced into the championship class. From now on she will have to be reckoned with in all contests for the National Title.

Mrs. A. B. Cramer, New York, (4th), skated far better this year than she has in the past, and against such a field of brilliant skaters made an excellent showing.

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP OF UNITED STATES

C. I. Christenson of St. Paul, (1st), won the title for his first time, as a result of painstaking effort to perfect himself in all departments of skating. His School Figures were skated consistently well; each tracing was carefully executed with regard to shape, turns, size, and triple repetition. His Free Skating was performed in a steady and easy style, with two excellent spins, though his jumps were somewhat mediocre and in skating form he was not always strictly international. His program was very well placed on the ice surface, but appeared to lack difficulty for a champion.

Nathaniel Wm. Niles, Boston, (2nd), was very close to the winner. His prescribed figures, though not at his best, were up to standard and marked ahead of Christenson's by a majority of judges. In Free Skating his execution was not all that could be desired, though his program certainly contains most of the elements of difficulty deemed necessary for a championship. Spirals, counter and rocker turns, spectacles, and dances were done almost without a flaw and in good international form, but his jumps were disappointing. It is obvious that the average judge available for competitions in this country, bases an astonishing portion of his judgment upon the completion without technical error, of jumps. A jump of an inch completed in their minds, far outranks a smooth high jump with landing barely missed. With cleaner jumps and harder edges Niles would receive high marks in Free Skating.

Ferrier T. Martin, New York, (3rd), 1925 Junior Champion, successfully bridged the gap between the Junior and Senior classes. His performance in both divisions was much to his credit, but his standard must still be raised considerably before he reaches the calibre of the Champions of the United States.

LADIES' JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Miss Julia E. Honan, New York, (1st), showed a decided superiority over her nearest competitor in both departments of the contest, especially in School Figures, which for a Junior, were traced with remarkable ease and accuracy.

For winning second place Miss Grace Munstock, New York, deserved and received particular credit. Well up in School Figures, she broke her skate on her opening spiral in Free Skating. Later, in spite of using a skate to which she was unaccustomed, borrowed from Mrs. Henry W. Howe, she seemed undisturbed and skated her program splendidly.

Dr. Hulda E. Berger, (3rd); Mrs. M. Herbst, (4th); and Miss Virginia Slattery, (5th); all of New York, caused sufficient irregularity on the judges' cards to show that the contest for these places was keenly disputed.

MEN'S JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP*

Roger F. Turner, of Boston, (1st), gained so great a margin in School Figures, that the title was almost his before the Free Skating. His tracings in School Figures were surprisingly good as to print, size, and triple repetition. His Free Skating was noticeably below the standard of his figures.

Joseph K. Savage, of New York, (2nd), was many points higher in Free Skating than Turner, but his School Figures, though carefully and accurately executed, did not approach those of the winner.

The remaining contestants finished as follows: Heaton R. Robertson, New Haven, (3rd); Thornton L. Coolidge, Boston, (4th); Raymond Harvey, New York, (5th); J. C. Hawthorne, New York,

*Note—See page 15 for Men's Junior Championship table.

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP OF UNITED STATES

CONTESTANTS		C. I. CHRISTENSON St. Paul				N. W. NILES Boston				F. T. MARTIN New York						
		K.	L. H.	Rob.	Rot.	V.	K.	L. H.	Rob.	Rot.	V.	K.	L. H.	Rob.	Rot.	V.
Judges																
Figure	No. Fac- tor															
Circle Eight	4 2	9.5	10.5	8.8	9.06	8.4	8.	10.	7.	9.06	9.	8.	8.5	8.8	8.32	7.02
RIB																
Rocker																
RIF	21A 4	18.	20.	18.	16.44	19.2	18.	16.	16.	18.44	16.16	12.	12.	10.	13.4	15.2
LIF	21B 4	18.	21.	15.2	19.68	18.4	17.	20.	16.	19.56	15.8	11.	8.	10.8	12.2	14.32
Counter																
ROF	22A 3	13.5	15.	11.1	14.85	13.74	12.	13.5	11.7	12.06	12.63	10.5	12.	10.2	12.6	13.2
LOF	22B 3	12.	15.	12.	13.95	13.98	14.25	15.	12.6	13.65	13.08	10.5	15.	9.	11.9	12.
Change Loop																
ROIF	30A 2	8.5	10.5	8.2	10.02	9.	8.	9.5	7.8	8.86	7.94	8.5	10.	6.	10.1	9.4
LOIF	30B 2	10.	11.	8.6	9.86	8.8	8.5	9.5	8.2	9.02	7.86	8.5	10.	8.	9.	7.82
Three Change Three																
ROF	34A 3	16.5	17.25	16.2	15.	14.82	15.75	15.75	15.6	15.3	13.65	14.25	14.25	14.4	12.81	13.53
LOF	34B 3	13.5	16.5	15.	13.95	13.2	15.75	15.75	15.9	15.9	14.13	12.	13.5	12.6	11.85	11.55
Bracket Change Bracket																
ROB	41A 5	18.75	27.5	19.	21.75	23.	21.25	25.	20.	24.25	22.5	11.25	15.	11.5	5.75	14.5
LOB	41B 5	17.5	26.25	18.	19.	19.9	21.25	25.	22.	24.25	20.9	13.75	17.5	15.	9.5	16.15
Total School Figures		155.75	190.5	150.1	163.56	162.44	159.75	175.	152.8	170.35	153.65	120.25	135.75	116.3	117.43	134.69
Program Performance		4.33	4.5	5.4	5.2	4.16	4.83	4.75	4.7	4.8	4.	3.91	4.25	4.	4.3	4.16
		4.75	4.5	5.07	5.2	5.33	4.5	4.5	4.67	5.	4.56	4.25	4.	4.83	4.	4.5
Total Free Skating		108.99	108.	125.64	124.8	114.	112.	111.	112.44	117.6	102.84	98.	99.	105.	99.6	104.
Total School Figures		155.75	190.5	150.1	163.56	162.44	159.75	175.	152.8	170.35	153.65	120.25	135.75	116.3	117.43	134.69
Grand Total		264.74	298.5	275.74	288.36	276.44	271.75	286.	265.24	287.95	256.49	218.25	234.75	221.3	217.03	238.69
Ordinal Ranking		II	I	I	I	I	I	II	II	II	II	III	III	III	III	III
Result																

Judges
 K. Mrs. Knapp, New York
 L. Liberman, New York
 H. Howe, New York
 Rob. Robertson, New Haven
 Rot. Rotch, Boston
 V. Vinson, Boston

UNITED STATES PAIR CHAMPIONSHIP

CONTESTANTS		Mrs. Blanchard-Mr. Niles		Miss Good-Mr. Greene New York		Miss Munstock-Mr. Liberman New York	
Judges		H. C.	Rob. Rot. B.	H.	C. Rob. Rot. B.	H.	C. Rob. Rot. B.
Program		5. 5.	5.25 5.5 5.4	4.25	4.5 4.95 5. 5.25	4.75	4. 5. 4.8 4.85
Performance		5. 4.5	5.15 5.2 5.7	4.75	4.5 5.1 5. 5.5	4.5	4. 4.9 4.8 4.75
Total		10. 9.5	10.4 10.7 11.1	9.	9. 10.05 10. 10.75	9.25	8. 9.9 9.6 9.6
Ordinal Ranking		I 4	I 1 I 1	III II	II II II II	II	III III III III III
Result			I		II		III

Judges: H. Howe, New York; C. Chapman, Philadelphia; Rob. Robertson, New Haven;
Rot. Rotch, Boston; B. Badger, Boston.

U. S. JUNIOR LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIP

CONTESTANTS		Miss J. E. Honan New York		Miss Grace Munstock New York		Dr. H. E. Berger New York		Mrs. M. Herbst New York		Miss Virginia Slattery New York	
Judges		K. C. B.	Rot. Rob.	K. C. B.	Rot. Rob.	K. C. B.	Rot. Rob.	K. C. B.	Rot. Rob.	K. C. B.	Rot. Rob.
School Figures		52.83	60.5 56.9 51.9 54.3	45.	55. 49. 46.1 51.3	40.15	53.75 46.2 48.6 46.3	44.83	52. 47.2 44.5 44.	33.25	46.75 38.3 36.4 41.5
Free Skating		44.4	38. 42.56 35.2 36.	36.8	37. 39.2 33.2 37.6	32.4	36. 39. 33.2 34.4	37.	34. 36.4 30.4 33.24	31.2	32. 38. 34.8 36.4
Total		97.23	98.5 99.46 87.1 90.3	81.8	92. 88.2 79.3 88.9	72.55	89.75 85.2 81.8 81.2	81.83	86. 83.6 74.9 77.24	64.45	78.75 76.3 71.2 77.9
Ordinal Ranking		I	I 1 I 1	III II	II III II	IV III III II III	II III	II IV IV IV V	V	V V V V IV	V
Result			I		II		III		IV		V

Judges: K. Miss Knapp, New York; C. Christenson, St. Paul; B. Badger, Boston;
Rot. Rotch, Boston; Rob. Robertson, New Haven.

(6th); E. F. Brigham, Boston, (7th); H. E. Schleicher, New Britain, (8th); Dr. L. D. Shepard, Boston, (9th).

Surprisingly little variation showed on the judges' cards in the placing. Each followed the other, in most cases, closely and, as a rule, unanimously. It is interesting that Coolidge low in School Figures, topped the field in Free Skating.

PAIR CHAMPIONSHIP OF UNITED STATES

Mrs. Theresa Weld Blanchard and Nathaniel Wm. Niles, Boston, (1st), won this title for the ninth consecutive time. They skated remarkably well in spite of a mishap early in the program when Niles snapped a shoe lace, which must have handicapped him considerably. Their pair is the result of years of concentrated effort and improvement. Instruction from the world's greatest skaters in Europe and elsewhere has perfected its composition and execution, and it may be regarded as typically international. Singles' programs and other pairs have been skated, admired, and forgotten, but any skating enthusiast who has seen the Blanchard-Niles pair possesses a memory which he will probably never lose.

Miss Sidney Good and James B. Greene, New York, (2nd), have rapidly risen from the Junior Pair class in which they were the winners last year. Their program contains much dash and life, and is pleasing to watch, though difficulty necessary to win a Senior Pair competition is lacking.

Miss Grace Munstock and Joel B. Liberman, New York, (3rd), pressed closely on the heels of Miss Good and Greene. The contest between these two New York pairs is always hard to judge as the former's difficulty of program must be weighed against the latter's better style and execution of a much easier one.

JUNIOR PAIR CHAMPIONSHIP

Miss Beatrix Loughran and Raymond Harvey, New York, (1st), skated a very striking and original program which appealed to the spectators and also judges. Their execution was not faultless however, and complete synchronization between the partners was often lacking.

Miss Dorothy Weld and Richard L. Hapgood, Boston, (2nd),

U. S. JUNIOR PAIR CHAMPIONSHIP

CONTESTANTS	Miss Loughran-Mr. Harvey New York			Miss Weld-Mr. Hapgood Boston			Miss Slattery-Mr. Martin New York		
	B.	H.	C.	B.	H.	C.	B.	H.	C.
Judges									
Program	5.43	4.5	3.	5.06	4.5	4.4	4.93	3.75	5.
Performance	4.86	4.5	4.	5.06	4.6	4.6	4.86	4.	5.
Total	10.29	9.	7.	10.12	9.1	9.	9.79	7.75	10.
Ordinal Ranking	II	I	V	I	I	II	I	IV	II
Result	*I			II			III		

CONTESTANTS	Miss Dutton-Mr. Coolidge Boston			Miss Bijur-Mr. Harned New York			Miss Frothingham-Mr. Dickson Boston		
	B.	H.	C.	B.	H.	C.	B.	H.	C.
Judges									
Program	4.16	3.25	4.	4.76	4.	4.	4.23	3.75	3.5
Performance	4.16	3.	4.5	4.53	4.2	4.	3.83	3.75	3.
Total	8.32	6.25	8.5	9.29	8.2	8.	8.06	7.5	6.5
Ordinal Ranking	IV	V	III	V	IV	VI	VI	VI	IV
Result	IV			V			VI		

*Note: Miss Loughran-Mr. Harvey were the winners because they had more first places than Miss Weld-Mr. Hapgood; both pairs had the same (10) in Ordinal Ranking.

Judges
 B. Badger, Boston
 H. Howe, New York
 C. Chapman, Philadelphia
 Rob. Robertson, New Haven
 Rotch, Boston

as they were in 1925, skated a moderately hard program with good style and few misses in execution.

Miss Virginia Slattery and F. T. Martin, New York, (3rd); Miss Gertrude Dutton and T. L. Coolidge, Boston, (4th); Miss Ethel R. Bijur and B. H. Harned, New York, (5th); and Miss Molly Frothingham and B. H. Dickson, 3rd, Boston, (6th) followed, all very close.

This competition caused more divergence among the judges than any. The winning pair was tied as to total of places with the runners-up, each having ten. The tie was broken however, by the winners having three first places which was a majority. Among the remaining contestants too, the judges failed to agree, as their cards showed no couple winning their place unanimously.

FOURTEEN-STEP

Miss Sidney Good and J. B. Greene, New York, (1st), won this title, though apparently very close to the next two couples. The wide swing of the unemployed foot may have influenced the judges in their favor.

Miss Virginia Slattery and F. T. Martin, New York, (2nd), last year's winners, danced with remarkable precision.

Miss Edna Gutterman and F. Gabel, New York, (3rd), were also very good and gained their place over a large field of contestants.

WALTZING

Miss Rosalie Dunn and J. K. Savage, New York, (1st), waltzed with a subtle yet distinct superiority which was apparent to judges and spectators.

Miss Sidney Good and J. B. Greene, New York, (2nd), were very good, extremely close to the winners, as were the third pair, Miss Edna Gutterman and F. Gabel of New York, and the fourth Miss Slattery and Martin. It is fair to say that no better waltzing has ever been witnessed in Boston.

The judges who officiated at the National Championships were Henry W. Howe of New York, Joseph Chapman of Philadelphia, C. I. Christenson of St. Paul, Heaton R. Robertson of New Haven, Sherwin C. Badger of Boston, Charles M. Rotch of Boston, J. B. Liberman of New York, Mrs. E. S. Knapp of New York, Miss Rosalie Knapp of New York, and Thomas M. Vinson of Boston.

It was most apparent in this year's Championships as always, that School Figures are the foundation of all Figure Skating. In all but the Men's Senior Championship, the winner gained his or her title mainly through a superiority in School Figures. Ambitious inexperienced skaters should realize that the best and most satisfactory way to their goal is through a thorough schooling in the figures. Years of competition have proved this, and each year more striking examples go on record.

U. S. JUNIOR MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

CONTESTANTS	R. F. Turner Boston			J. K. Savage New York			H. R. Robertson New Haven			T. L. Coolidge Boston			R. Harvey New York		
	R.	K.	C.	R.	K.	C.	R.	K.	C.	R.	K.	C.	R.	K.	C.
Judges	52.6	57.25	58.25	42.7	50.75	53.5	48.3	54.25	51.	42.2	46.25	45.25	45.1	49.	51.
School Figures	36.4	32.34	33.25	37.45	34.4	34.35	30.8	31.78	32.43	35.7	35.87	35.29	31.85	29.71	32.06
Free Skating	89.	89.59	91.5	80.15	85.15	87.85	79.1	86.03	83.43	77.9	82.12	80.54	76.95	78.71	83.06
Total	I	I	I	II	III	II	III	I	III	IV	IV	V	V	V	IV
Ordinal Ranking	I	I	I	II	III	II	III	I	III	IV	IV	V	V	V	IV
Result	I	I	I	II	III	II	III	I	III	IV	IV	V	V	V	V

CONTESTANTS	J. C. Hawthorne New York			E. F. Brigham Boston			H. E. Schleicher New Britain			L. D. Shepard Boston		
	R.	K.	C.	R.	K.	C.	R.	K.	C.	R.	K.	C.
Judges	43.3	48.5	47.	39.8	44.75	45.	30.	34.25	42.5	21.1	33.	32.25
School Figures	30.8	28.28	28.10	24.5	26.04	30.85	27.5	25.48	31.5	14.	19.81	26.77
Free Skating	74.1	76.78	75.10	64.3	70.79	75.85	57.3	59.73	74.	35.1	52.81	59.02
Total	VI	VI	VII	VII	VII	VI	VIII	VIII	VIII	IX	IX	IX
Ordinal Ranking	VI	VI	VII	VII	VII	VI	VIII	VIII	VIII	IX	IX	IX
Result	VI	VI	VII	VII	VII	VI	VIII	VIII	VIII	IX	IX	IX

Judges R. Rotch, Boston
 K. Mrs. Knapp, New York
 C. Christenson, St. Paul

**Most Interesting Criticisms in Letter from Salchow,
President of The I. E. V.**

To Skating:

I am sorry the presidency of this association does not add to the influence upon the development of skating. The way things go now, are according to my views quite unsatisfactory. The drawing by lot of the compulsory figures in the future will only enable those skaters to take part who are able to go to winter resorts and pay a lot of money for their training—idle rich or belonging to rich clubs—and in such case jeopardizing their future, using their best years skating instead of working, or this system will put out of skating everybody living in a place where there is not an artificial rink.

Sound good amateur sport will be killed if this is allowed to continue and the worse is that no better skating is created. If you look upon the present champions and compare them with those who some years ago were leading you will find that the position, the way they carry their body, their pace and ease is very far below what a champion's should show. The training in absurdum of the School Figures, now necessary for Championship, very often in small rinks, takes away the natural individuality of a skater and does not permit him at all to practice Free Skating. But first of all, it is not only cruel to ask that much of an amateur—practically asking him to give up his usual profession, as skating must take at least three or four hours a day—but this new rule is unwise, it discourages going in for big events, it repels the youth from Figure Skating, it only enables a man or a woman comparatively late in life to enter into important competitions and the result, I fear, will be a lowering of the standard and a kind of monopoly for a few to skate in these competitions,—for those who can afford time because they have the money.

I dare to say that I am impartial as I shall not appear in a competition again. I dare to say that I do speak on a matter which I do understand entirely.

I feel so much for Figure Skating that I can become quite ill when I think of how badly the development shows for the future of this noble elevating sport.

A Champion must be able to skate any School Figure! This is the slogan which has proved much stronger than thought. First of all, did not a Champion before this rule skate all figures very well? Yes, he did. But he was not especially trained on every figure. Was the development one-sided? No it was not! Proof! Hügel, Fuchs, Bohatch, Panin, Thorén, Johansson, Mrs. Syers, and myself, etc.! So this new rule can only hurt skating, it will keep the young skaters from Competitions, it will spoil style, eliminate ease and freedom, it will never do; already its effect shows quite to some extent.

I thought this matter would interest you, and I permit you to use the opinion now expressed in your very good paper.

I shall be glad to meet your Olympic Team again in 1928 and see them skating as admired representatives of your Nation. Hope Mrs. Blanchard and Mr. Niles then also appear on the Team. In the meantime please accept my best greetings and bring my kind regards to all good skaters in your Country, quite especially to Mrs. Blanchard and Messrs. Browne and Niles.

Yours sincerely,

ULRICH SALCHOW.

Stockholm, January 30, 1926.

This letter is particularly worthy of serious attention. Mr. Salchow was eleven years Champion of the World and now is the President of The International Skating Union.

C. I. Christenson

N. W. NILES

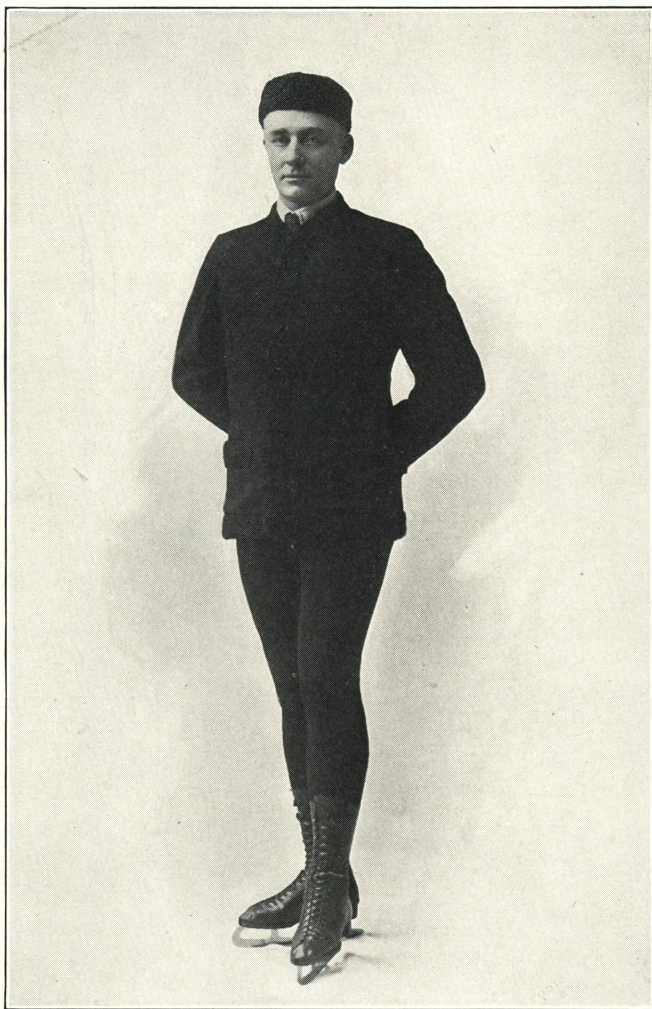
Mr. Christenson was born in 1875 in Norway. At the age of eight his family came to the United States where they have since lived. After a beginning in his boyhood on cranberry bogs and ponds near his early home in Wisconsin, twelve years ago he became really interested and put in his first serious effort in Figure Skating under the tuition of Julius B. Nelson, a Norwegian professional.

According to Christenson himself, his success is entirely due to work, or other than any ability of his own. No doubt hard work did play an important part, but in spite of his modesty we can certainly say that no champion was ever produced with natural talent altogether lacking!

Always as a gymnast and recently as a fancy diver, Christenson has been prominent. This training, together with considerable cycling in the late nineties, no doubt has kept him physically fit for his skating ambitions, at any rate years have not interfered with his being Champion at 51.

Christenson now lives in St. Paul; his constructive interest and his influence in Figure Skating, automatically made him President of the Twin City Figure Skating Club. He has skated in the National Singles Championships six times. Twice, in 1924 and 1925, he has been a Vice-President of the U. S. F. S. A.

Previously in United States Single Championships, he was placed in 1920, 3rd; 4th in 1921; 2nd in 1923; 3rd in 1924; 2nd in School Figures (then injured) in 1925.



C. I. CHRISTENSON
Winner U. S. Men's Singles for 1926

Canadian Championships

JOHN S. MACLEAN

At the Canadian Championships held on February 26th, in Toronto, three out of four titles and therefore The Earl Grey Challenge Trophy for the highest aggregate points, were won by The Toronto Skating Club. The results fully justified the Club in its policy of encouraging young skaters. Miss Cecil Eustace Smith, Miss Jean Adele Burritt, Mr. Montgomery Wilson and Mr. Jack Eastwood are still juniors under 18 years of age, while Miss Constance Wilson and Miss Maude Eustace Smith are recent graduates from that class. The Club has many more promising youngsters who will be heard from in the near future.

The greatest local interest was taken in the very friendly rivalry of Miss Cecil Eustace Smith and Miss Constance Wilson for the Ladies' Championship. The School Figures were back change of edge, back change loop, inside forward bracket, outside forward counter and inside forward rocker. Miss Smith led by a very small margin in all except the left foot counter and left foot rocker. In the Free Skating there was very little to choose between them but Miss Smith was placed first by three judges, while Miss Wilson was placed first by one judge and equal by another. In the aggregate Miss Smith retained the Championship by only 14 points, showing how keen the competition was. Another remarkably close contest took place for third position. Miss Burritt was placed ahead of Mrs. Secord of Ottawa in the School Figures by three of the judges, but was only once ahead in the Free Skating. In the aggregate, Mrs. Secord was awarded the third place by four judges. Both ladies were close after the leaders and were worthy of championship honors if others had not been in the way.

For the Men's Championship, the School Figures, announced shortly before the competition, were back inside edge, back three

change three, back bracket change bracket, back change loop, inside forward rocker and outside forward counter. Notwithstanding an accident which had kept him from skating for the several weeks previous, Melville Rogers showed his former skill and was placed first in all the figures. Montgomery Wilson, still a junior, made a most creditable showing in the School Figures and in Free Skating, two out of the five judges placed him first.

In the Pair Championship the judges were presented with a difficulty which frequently arises in this kind of competition. Miss Constance Wilson and Mr. Errol Morson of Toronto had a varied and extremely difficult programme which they skated accurately and very well. The programme of Miss McDougall and Mr. Bangs of Ottawa was less difficult and varied, but they used a great deal of knee action which though savoring of repetition was very pleasing to the spectators. A very similar contrast was offered by the other two pairs from Toronto and Ottawa respectively. The decision in such cases must rest on a slight difference which can be appreciated only by close observation of the actual skating. The judges themselves, though they were old skaters with great experience in competitions, differed in opinion, three of them placing Miss Wilson and Mr. Morson first, while one placed Miss McDougall and Mr. Bangs first, and the fifth placed Miss Blythe and Mr. Rogers first.

No such difficulty arose in the Fours. The Toronto Team, three of whom were juniors and the fourth a recent graduate, had an unusually difficult programme which they presented with magnificent dash or easy grace as the occasion required. They are all accomplished skaters and it is seldom that a Salchow jump is done in a four with such perfect unison and execution. Their youth, skill and style, produced an effect on the spectators, with which the most critical judge would feel bound to agree.

A word must be said for the admirable way in which the Club managed the competitions and looked after the guests. The detail scores for all the figures by each judge in the different events were posted on a large board in the clubhouse as soon as the announcements were made and were eagerly scanned long afterward by both competitors and spectators. The judges were Mr. C. L. O'Brien and Mr. Norman Scott, of the Winter Club, Montreal; Mr. P. H. Chrys-

ler and Mr. O. B. Haycock, of the Minto Skating Club, Ottawa; and Mr. J. J. Cawthra, of the Toronto Skating Club.

On the following day, Miss Constance Wilson passed the second class, silver medal, test of the International Skating Union; only two other members of the Toronto Club and very few in Canada or in the world hold this honor.

The 1926 U. S. F. S. A. Carnival

THEODORA SOHST

(With additions by N. W. Niles)

Cinderella, herself, could not have been more enchanted by the splendors of the Carnival of The United States Figure Skating Association, given April twelfth at Iceland, than were the spectators. The New York Skating Club has staged three costume parties during the past five years, but this season's Carnival far surpassed all others from every standpoint.

Under the direction of Paul Armitage, the committees in charge of the Carnival spared neither time, effort or expense to make the event a tremendous success. Nothing was left undone. The careful thought and planning devoted to the pageants was reflected in the smoothness of the exhibitions and the enchanting artistic effects attained throughout the entire performance.

The program started with "Cinderella," a fantasy from Fairyland. Clinging closely to the delightful fairy tale, each episode was skated as a sort of pantomime. The children from the club, Mrs. Stowe Phelps' Saturday Morning Class, as little gray mice chased into an enormous trap by a huge black cat, (Dave Ginsburg, professional) were cunning and extremely good skaters. Dr. Decker as King and Mrs. Hartshorne as Queen adapted themselves splendidly to their parts. No one could have been more amusing than W. A. Sands as the stepmother and Mrs. Russell Doubleday and Miss Catherine White as the ugly sisters. They seem to be comedians naturally, who occasionally find their real vocations in fancy dress carnivals. Miss Virginia Slattery, the charming Cinderella, and Ferrier Martin, the alluring skating Prince, were ideal as heroine and hero of the tale.

But the piece de resistance of the pageant, if not of the Carnival, was the Ballet of the Poppies. Under the tuition of Madame Serova, Russian dancing instructress, twelve of the best skaters in the club, including Mrs. Henry W. Howe, Miss Ethel Bijur, Miss Ada Baumman, Mrs. A. B. Cramer, Miss Grace Munstock, Mrs. R. W. Allen and Mrs. Secord, dressed in brilliant red ballet costumes, skated a dance which must rarely if ever, have been equalled by so large a group of ladies. Miss Beatrix Loughran, National Figure Skating Champion, was the premiere danseuse, and a perfect picture in gold gauze ballet costume with a dazzling gold metal thread wig.

Throughout the International Ball, being general skating for all in costume, scenes representing the various groups were interspersed: The Russian Group, "Vodka—Dance of the Russian Peasants" by Messrs. Harvey, Carriere, Liberman and Harned; The Far Eastern Group with Paul Armitage as Potentate, included the inimitable professional comedian Bill Small and a good short incidental single by Saron, one of New York's professionals. After the Dutch Group headed by James A. Cruikshank, Burgomaster, with cunning Toto Phelps as his trained goose, and including a group, Mrs. Kathleen Lefroy of Toronto and E. W. Dutton skating a pair in their midst,—came a picturesque mass effect of ladies "Among Spanish Shawls" which proved most becoming, and effective on the ice.

The next event was a pair by Miss Ethel Bijur and Mr. Harned of the New York Skating Club, in most unusual and lovely costumes. Following this came a very beautiful picture (Porcelaine de Saxe) in which Miss Grace Munstock and Mr. J. B. Liberman posed as two dainty porcelain figures on either side of a large clock; stepping down from this they skated a pair with delightful effect.

The whole evening in fact, was like a treasure hunt, just one gem after another. Boston had several charming singles; Mrs. Theresa Weld Blanchard, many times National Champion, was good as always, and Miss Maribel Vinson, the fourteen year old wonder, gave an extraordinary solo impressing all that few seasons would pass before she would be a champion. Miss Gertrude Dut-

ton, Miss Vinson, Mr. C. M. Rotch, and Mr. T. L. Coolidge presented a Boston "Four," beautiful to watch, done with good speed and international form. Mrs. Blanchard and Nathaniel Wm. Niles in most attractive costumes, skated an excellent pair, splendidly.

Melville Rogers, of the Minto Skating Club, Ottawa, gave a single and, with Miss Blythe, of the same club, a pair; both were exceptionally beautiful and interesting. The pair was new to New Yorkers and his single none had ever seen him do so well. Miss Cecil Eustace Smith of Toronto, performed in a manner thoroughly fitting to her title, Canadian Champion. She skated a single which was really charming.

A most unusual act, very effectively carried out, was next on the program as "An Incident in the Roman Arena." There were three teams in a race, imitative of chariots, three men with a lady driver or the reverse to a team. Though the principals were on speed skates and in no way figure skaters, the spectacle with its most accurate costuming, was greatly enjoyed by all.

But the diamond of the evening was found when "The Birthday of the Infanta" pageant was staged. Exquisite Spanish costumes formed a lovely background for the individual episodes. Over six hundred enormous paper flowers, made by the club members and carried by 50 ladies directed by W. P. Chase, professional, constituted a garden scene in which butterflies, Mrs. Lawrence, Mrs. Bradley, Miss Strauss and Miss Lloyd, in gorgeous costumes skated between the blossoms. Miss Rosalie Knapp was very effective as the Queen Butterfly.

Then from an enormous Sun Dial appeared the Children's Four, (Elsie and Polly Phelps, Martha Turner and Whitelaw Reid) and Miss Marguerite Gatter as a Shadow. This was entitled "The Wee Sma' Hours." Immediately following came twelve singles one right after the other, each preceded by the strike of a clock, representing the "Flight of the Hours" of the half day.

Next the Court Entertainers came forth—first, the Gypsy, a

single by Mrs. A. B. Cramer beautifully skated and delightfully effective in her costume as she drummed a tamborine to the notes of the music. In "My Bubble and I" second, Miss Loughran skated a balloon dance with a giant green balloon, the effect was very lovely. The charming little champion catches the spirit of an interpretative dance on skates and it is a joy to watch her. The third was a Pantomime entitled "A Pair." In this Miss Good and Mr. Greene skated a pair set to a delightful pantomime act; most interesting and well done. George T. Braakman constituted the fourth of the Court Entertainers, with an appropriate costume he acted very well the Dwarf Jester, yet did justice to his good single skating exhibition.

After a very beautiful green and lavender scarf dance by Miss Loughran, Mrs. Secord, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Chase and Miss Swenson, came the much heralded Pavanna. Six couples took part in this Spanish dance which delighted the spectators. Contrary to some of the other numbers, this was distinctly beautiful for other than the pageantry: as two people together are called a pair, this was without question a twelve. It contained the beauty real skaters recognize in difficulty well done, with the charm of true international form.

The professionals, of course, were all good; those who gave complete numbers were: from Boston, Willie Frick in a single and with Cathleen Pope in a pair and Mrs. Muller in single; from Montreal, Peterson and Charlott in a pair, and Katie Schmidt from St. Moritz. Finer exhibitions than these, together in a single evening, it certainly would be well nigh impossible to arrange. To those well read in the sport and devoted to it, the beauty of these skaters' smooth, well varied movements must have been more keenly appreciated than even many of the marvelous scenes for effect throughout the Carnival. The form and smoothness of Willie Frick and the dash of his pair with Cathleen Pope; the professional style and unexpected movements of Peterson and Charlott; the hard edge and variety of program of Mrs. Muller; and the delightful picture made by Katie Schmidt, were most assuredly a feast in themselves for U. S. F. S. A. enthusiasts.

That the Carnival spirit, the spectacle, of this splendid occasion hardly left room for improvement was the unanimous opinion of all. Great credit is due to the New York Skating Club which, through the imaginative genius and untiring effort of Paul Armitage, conceived and made so magnificent an affair possible.

Philadelphia's Rinkless Season 1925-26

JOSEPH M. SPELLISSEY

The closure of the Philadelphia Rink, noted in the December 1925 issue of "Skating," indicated the need of cooperation of all skating sports, if an artificial Rink were again to exist in Philadelphia. At the December Meeting of the Philadelphia Skating Club, a Committee was appointed to forward a Cooperative Association of Ice Skating Sports. The leaders have assented to meet at a Conference Luncheon, where suggestions may be considered and organization achieved towards the end in view. The Annual Dinner of the Philadelphia Skating Club was honored by a guest who stated that under favorable conditions, he desired to promote a new Rink in Philadelphia, after the Sesquicentennial.

It will be readily conceded by all skaters in Philadelphia that the sport was most promoted during the winter of 1925-26 by the Skating Committee of the Merion Golf Club under the Chairmanship of Weaver L. Marston. He mailed to all skaters a very hospitable invitation to make use of The Merion Golf Club Pond, where there was a comfortably heated Club House on the edge of the Pond, music and electric illumination.

Sequent to this action the Philadelphia Skating Class held four Skating Evenings preceded by Dinner at the Club House. These occasions not only served to keep the organization alive, but were much enjoyed by all participants.

The Annual Competitions for 1925—through the courtesy of the Princeton Athletic Association—were held at the Hobey Baker Memorial Rink on the night of December thirtieth, 1925. Success was assured by the presence of Mr. John Lewis Evans, Mr. F. Wharton Hipple, Mr. Charles Myers, Mr. Henry Musser and Mr. H. R. Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Competitions and Rules, as judges.

The Junior Championships, 1925. The John B. Thayer Cup Competition for Men under thirty years of age, resident in the

vicinity of Philadelphia was awarded to Egbert S. Cary, Jr. The Josephine Grant Schwarz Trophy Competition for Ladies junior, same conditions as for the Men's, was awarded to Mrs. Dorothy Cary Wood.

The Competitions for 1926 were held at the Princeton Rink on February 25th. The Thayer Cup was won by Mr. Wilson M. Leary. The Schwarz Trophy for Ladies was not awarded, the event being postponed to the pre-Christmas season.

Both the December and February Contests at the Princeton Rink, were attended by many from the Philadelphia Skating Class, who greatly enjoyed the events. Most everybody made the trip to Princeton by bus. The Rink Management in closing for the season, gave promise of its availability on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the Autumn and early Winter Session of 1926.

The Philadelphia Skating Class is recently the recipient of a very cordial and hospitable invitation from the New York Skating Club, to attend the coming Carnival. Philadelphia skating is especially indebted to the New York Skating Club, not only for its participations in the Carnivals held in Philadelphia but also for their very kind invitations extended to Philadelphia—now Rinkless—to make use of the New York Club whenever opportunity offers.

It is quite possible that the next issue of "Skating" may contain some definite prospect of a Philadelphia Rink.

The Minto Follies of 1926 Ottawa

(This article is written from a standpoint of production, rather than descriptively, with the hope of being helpful to other Carnivals.)

COLONEL E. T. B. GILLMORE

It has been the practise of The Minto Skating Club to hold biennial carnivals. These have been graced by such skaters as Mrs. Blanchard, Niles, and the New York Four, and have taken place in whatever rink the Club was using. The program has been varied in successive events—display skating, pantomime, pageant of ambitious proportions, and comedy as exemplified by a Circus, having in turn been the keynote of production.

Financially these events barely carried themselves, but they built up a reputation most valuable when the Club decided this year to gamble on a more elaborate offering. The winter climate of Ottawa does not lend itself to the comfort of an audience, and possible supporters have often been intimidated by the prospect of two hours enforced quietude in a zero temperature. Despite this handicap, the last two occasions have taxed the accommodation of the Minto Rink, some 1400 persons, and it was felt that added comfort might warrant the extra trouble and expense of a more suitable building.

The Auditorium (artificial ice) was therefore secured—its temperature raised to nearly 60—the orchestra placed on the ice—and the skaters seated around the edge with tables forming a cabaret scene, as in Toronto last year.

The Carnival which resulted showed the endless possibilities of hard work and organization. The main seating accommodation was filled by nearly six thousand spectators, to many of whom, coming in a spirit of unbelief, the performance was a revelation. To quote one typical hockey fan, "I just came to the dern show not to disappoint the girl when the wife took sick, and it sure was the best five

dollars worth I ever got for fifty cents—it's me for the Minto after this. Say, I'd come back a second night!" The universal satisfaction of the audience has firmly established Figure Skating in a hockey-mad community, indicated that the experience of Toronto can be duplicated elsewhere, and placed "The Follies" on the map as an event to be watched for.

The name "Minto Follies" was adopted with such a Carnival in view or to cover future occasions as well as the present. Through the courtesy of the Philadelphia club, the skating cut which adorned their poster in 1924, was reproduced on our program as appropriate to the "Follies" title. With the further permission of the most ancient of skating clubs, the Minto might do well to unite this dainty silhouette to its "trade name."

The sequence of program was arranged to alternate singles, pairs, teams, spectacle and humor, avoiding anti-climax, to rest the orchestra, and to allow the principals time for changes of costume. Races and a football game were included with six Singles, six Pairs, two Fours, an Eight, three waltzes, and four massed spectacles. The items individually were not far superior to those of previous years in Ottawa; but, aided by the cabaret setting and the promptitude of the skaters, the Carnival as a whole easily surpassed former occasions. Twenty-five events totalling two hours and one minute of actual skating, with ten minutes for renewal of ice, occupied but 136 minutes—an average wait of twelve seconds.

Very excellent demonstrations were given by Mrs. Blanchard, Miss Smith, Mr. Niles, and Mr. Rogers, Olympic representatives, also by local Pairs and Fours, and by the Toronto Four all under eighteen years of age, whose program replete with difficult steps, was skated with Minto snap and a finish reminiscent of New York. At Mrs. Secord's suggestion the ladies of the Ottawa Four appliqued cretonne flowers on their black dresses, thus producing a brilliant and very becoming effect with little bother.

Eighty Juniors illustrated "Skating School;" from organized games of the infant tyro through races, eccentric steps and school figures to the Eight, a double four assisted by Seniors. This, the largest team yet attempted by the Minto Club in international style, showed possibilities which may be the genesis of a double eight.

Professional talent was sparingly used, there were but two exponents, Lemaire and Reynolds, who skated a pair and each did a single. Lemaire's spins and jumps were very good and together their pantomime, "Toyland Flirtation," was quite novel but not so effective on a large rink as on the stage.

The large groups,—a quadrille in five interlocking sets, the children, a ballet, and a musical ride, hastily assembled from persons most available,—did not call forth the skating strength of the club. They were presented purely as a spectacle, with no touch of the allegorical, and lacked the imaginative poesy which has marked certain United States carnivals. This crude presentation, however, fully sufficed for the immediate purpose, leaving the club in a position where, as its audiences grow more sophisticated and critical, it may progressively improve its presentations from mere skating displays to finished and artistic compositions. Ultimately, the skating in carnivals may become mainly but a vehicle for artistic expression of poetic conception.

In this the writer, perhaps, speaks for himself as a voice crying in the wilderness—albeit with surety; for having followed a vision of local skating possibilities from the crudities of 1904 to the triumph of "The Follies," he is convinced that in the realm of imaginative production, a more rapid advance will be made. Canadians, given the opportunity, are the same in natural civilization, the same in imaginative temperament, as other peoples, deny it as they may. And, even as, on the sixth of March, the flat skater ceased to despise the "figure," so the latter will learn to emulate the artist. And, elsewhere, as in Ottawa, the skating arena offers certain advantages as compared with the drama, the concert, and the cinema, not possessed by the others, as well as certain limitations,—and its possibilities are as yet immeasurable.

1926 World's Championships

Ladies' World's Championship at Stockholm, Sweden

- 1st Herma Szabo-Jaross, Austria.
- 2nd Sonia Henie, Norway.
- 3rd Kathleen Shaw, England.
- 4th Elsbeth Bokel, Germany.
- 5th Solveig Johansen, Norway.
- 6th Mrs. Thiel, Austria.

Men's World's Championship at Berlin, Germany

- 1st Bockl, Austria.
- 2nd Preissecker, Austria.
- 3rd Page, England.
- 4th Rittberger, Germany.
- 5th Sliva, Czecho-Slovakia.
- 6th van Zeebroeck, Belgium.
- 7th Wrede, Austria.
- 8th Lie, Norway.
- 9th Franke, Germany.

World's Championship in Pairs at Berlin, Germany

- 1st Mlle. Andrée Joli—Pierre Brunet, France.
- 2nd Frl. Scholz—Otto Kaiser, Austria.
- 3rd Frau Herma Szabo-Jaross—Ludwig Wrede, Austria.
- 4th Frl. Lisa Hochhaltinger—Georg Pamperl, Austria.
- 5th Frl. Sonia Henie—Arne Lie, Norway.
- 6th Miss Ethel Muckelt—J. F. Page, England.
- 7th Frau and Herr Hoppe, Troppau.
- 8th Frl. Ilse Kishauer—E. Haertel, Germany.
- 9th Frl. Grete Weise—L. Velisch, Germany.
- 10th Frl. Margit Edlund—Panders Palm, Sweden.

Lake Placid Championships

M. I. WRIGHT

Skillful skaters from two countries vied for honors in the Sixth Annual Figure Skating Competitions held at the Lake Placid Club, January 22 and 23, under the auspices of The United States Figure Skating Association. Stars and Stripes, Union Jacks, and Canadian flags floated in the snowy air above the glistening ice as skaters glided about, their dark formal costumes outlined against the high banks of snow around the rink. Low temperature prevailed and a considerable snowfall added to the picture. Honors went to both countries, though the majority stayed within United States borders.

Miss Cecil Eustace Smith, Canadian Amateur Figure Skating Champion, won the Ladies' Senior. Except, we believe, for Miss Beatrix Loughran, American Champion,—who won the previous Hobbs Trophy outright last year,—Miss Smith gave a more remarkable exhibition than heretofore seen on the Club rink. Miss Loughran who took part in the Club's Christmas festivities did not return for the annual January competitions. Miss Smith's victory gave her the first leg on the new Hobbs Trophy. Miss Ada Bauman of New York, present National Junior Champion, was second.

George Braakman, N. Y. Metropolitan Champion, who was second in the National Single Championship last year, won the Men's Senior for the third time, and so permanent possession of the Hobbs Trophy for Men. Ferrier T. Martin of The New York Skating Club was second in this event and Heaton R. Robertson of New Haven, third.

In the Junior events, the United States skaters won but were very closely pressed by Canadians. First place for Ladies went to Miss Virginia Slattery of New York, who won over Miss Maud Eustace Smith, of Toronto, second, and nine other competitors.



NEW YORKERS AT PLACID COMPETITIONS
Miss Bijur, Mr. Harned, Mrs. and Mr. Howe, Miss Slattery, Mr. Martin.

J. C. Hawthorne of New York, won the Men's Junior, with H. W. D. Foster of Toronto, second.

Henry W. Howe, President of The United States Figure Skating Association, and Mrs. Howe were the winners in Senior Waltzing. Competition in this event was particularly close; matched against these former National Waltzing Champions were the present Champions, Miss Virginia Slattery and F. T. Martin. Judgment of these two couples in the Senior Tenstep was reversed, Miss Slattery and Mr. Martin winning and Miss Bauman and George Braakman second, with Mr. and Mrs. Howe third. Miss Bauman and Mr. Braakman took first place for Senior Pairs over Miss Slattery and Mr. Martin, second, and Miss Bijur and Mr. Harned, third.

Mrs. L. Lefroy of Toronto and E. W. Dutton of New York, won the Junior Pair Skating and Junior Tenstep, and were second in the Junior Waltz which was won by Mrs. Stowe Phelps and J. C. Hawthorne of New York. Alice E. Johannsen of Lake Placid won the contest for Girls under Fifteen; Doreen Canaday of Toledo being second.

On Saturday evening a dinner was given by the Club, presided over by Mr. Hobbs, Honorary President of the Sno Birds. He gave a short address of welcome and later announced the winners. Among several other informal and agreeable talks, Mr. Howe, President of the U. S. F. S. A., spoke on the progress of skating affairs and recommended a closer bond between the Canadian Clubs and our own, with the view of greater unity and weight in dealing with the I. E. V. abroad.

After the dinner all assembled outdoors for the Costume Carnival. The night was fine and clear, and a considerable number from the Lake Placid Club and the Town, lined the sides of Forest Rink to witness the spectacle. No little pains had been taken to decorate the rink with bunting and colored lights, and there was a good band from a neighboring town. After the Grand March led by Mr. and Mrs. Howe and Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, the Carnival itself began with Pair Skating by the Misses Maud and Cecil Smith, whose grace and form in executing a beautiful program was remarkable and much appreciated. A Bull Fight with other humorous sketches arranged by the Sno Birds followed, also "Free Skating as it

ought not be," by Mr. Braakman, all was very clever and most amusing. The general waltzing which concluded the Carnival, was especially enjoyable as it provided an opportunity to skate with partners from other Clubs. All then returned indoors to attend the distribution of prizes.

Men's Senior—

1. Geo. Braakman, New York.
2. Ferrier T. Martin, New York.
3. H. R. Robertson, New Haven.

Ladies' Senior—

1. Miss Cecil Smith, Toronto.
2. Miss Ada Bauman, New York.

Senior Pairs—

1. Geo. Braakman and Miss Ada Bauman, New York.
2. F. T. Martin and Miss Virginia Slattery, New York.
3. B. Harned and Miss E. R. Bijur, New York.

Senior Waltz—

1. Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Howe, New York.
2. F. T. Martin and Miss Virginia Slattery, New York.
3. B. Harned and Miss E. R. Bijur, New York.

Senior Tenstep.

1. F. T. Martin and Miss Slattery, New York.
2. Geo. Braakman and Miss Bauman, New York.
3. Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Howe, New York.

Men's Junior—

1. J. Hawthorne, New York.
2. H. W. Foster, Toronto.
3. R. Bolton, Montreal.

Ladies' Junior—

1. Miss Virginia Slattery, New York.
2. Miss Maud E. Smith, Toronto.
3. Mrs. Lefroy, Toronto.

Junior Pairs—

1. E. W. Dutton, New York, and Mrs. Lefroy, Toronto.
2. H. W. Foster and Miss Maud Smith, Toronto.

Junior Waltz—

1. J. Hawthorne and Mrs. Stowe Phelps, New York.
2. E. W. Dutton, New York, and Mrs. L. Lefroy, Toronto.
3. H. W. Foster and Miss Maud Smith, Toronto.

Junior Tenstep—

1. E. W. Dutton, New York, and Mrs. L. Lefroy, Toronto.
2. J. Hawthorne and Mrs. Stowe Phelps, New York.
3. H. W. Foster and Miss Maud Smith, Toronto.

Singles, Girls under 15 years—

1. Alice Johannsen, Lake Placid.
2. Doreen Canaday, Toledo.

Henriette Sontag

GEORGE HELFRICH

(Translated by Mrs. William Amory)

Many a pretty bobbed head will shake her pretty curly locks with astonishment when she reads that skating was forbidden to ladies in Germany a hundred years ago and that on the ice they could only be drawn on sleds!

“What—and the great enjoyment of skimming along on skates was granted only to men and boys? No, I should not have cared to live in such an age,” the present feminine skaters will cry out. For us modern men too, a rink without the enlivening feminine element is unthinkable. This greatest “theatre,” as Goethe calls it, is also the finest meeting place in the world, a ball room in the open. And all that, our grandmothers did not have in the good old days; a wrongly conceived idea of propriety, fitness, and etiquette forbade to them this most healthful physical exercise and harmless pleasure. Already at that time, there were educators of youth and enlightened men of learning, who raised their voices against this restriction.

Johann Peter Frank writes thus in 1784: “In the Netherlands the feminine sex finds itself strong enough to defy the cold with nimble feet, while our simpering creatures embroider filet behind the stove.”

The great pedagogue G. U. A. Vieth, who had a special fondness for skating and much to say about it, wrote in his book: “Introduction to an Encyclopaedia of Physical Exercises, Halle, 1794,” the following words well worth considering: “Consensus of opinion denies the feminine sex this pleasure as indecorous; but, to my mind, without reason. In my opinion, a girl on skates is a far pleasanter sight than an amazon on horseback. A girl can, in the motions of skating, display much grace, and it is surprising that our ladies, who otherwise understand so well what is to their advantage, do not make use of

this. What could be more becoming to them—than to float along on a crystal mirror, like the divinities of the poets.”

As early as 1790, G. U. A. Vieth complains further: “Together and arm in arm, friends can mutually enjoy all the pleasure which only an excursion can afford, and if, as is certainly seldom the case in Germany, womankind takes part in this exercise, the social pleasure of the skating rink must necessarily be infinitely the gainer thereby. What would the dance be without them! What might skating be with them, since it is already fascinating without them.” Further on we find with Vieth the following words dedicated to the ladies: “and now if you take above all—that which gives the greatest charm to all else and is missing here—a gentle, plump maiden, wrapped in warm, silken furs, and make her fly ahead of you on a light pretty sled, speeding with her down the mirror-clear track as on the wings of the wind, and for the sweet pains are rewarded by a still sweeter smile! Only such a ride as that whose picture comes before me here out of the days of my earlier youth would I wish you, if you had not already tried it—and you would agree with me that a good skating rink under the proper conditions beats all the ballrooms in the world.”

The credit of having opened skating to ladies, if only a narrow circle, belong to Goethe. Goethe, who was an enthusiastic follower of skating, introduced it in Weimar. Frau Stein was his pupil, the Duchess too was admired as a mistress of the art. Berlin with its many rinks still upheld decorum and custom. To break the ban was needed the courage of a prominent personage who must be especially beloved in the capital city. And such, in the highest degree, at the end of the 20th to 40th years of the previous century, was the charming, god-gifted opera singer, Henriette Sontag, Countess Rossi. In the Berlin “beau monde,” everyone swore then by the Countess Rossi. She decreed the fashions. She promoted the most original entertainments. And as she was a passionate devotee of skating; so she brought skating also into vogue. Her example acted as an attraction and was emulated by many; even the ladies of the highest aristocracy laid aside their prejudice against the pursuit of this pleasure, formerly deemed unfitting in their eyes, and essayed the art of skating. History records that, in the winter 1843-1844, the wife of the Sardinian ambassador, Countess Rossi, the once world-famous singer, Henriette Sontag, appeared on the ice. In a costume of

violet-blue fur-bordered velvet, her little daughter on one hand, she was seen to glide like a sylph over the frozen Spree in the Pavilion (one of the best known rinks) admired by all and proud and happy. With that the ban was lifted which barred women and girls from skating.

A few years ago the following news, which came from the French sheets, made the rounds of the leading papers of Germany: "That a memorial was to be placed on the bank of Rousseau Island in the Berlin Zoological Garden, to the famous singer, Henriette Sontag, who, some sixty years before, had charmed the world with the entrancing melody of her voice. But the monument was not to celebrate the unforgettable songstress as a singer, but as—a skater. And the stone was to bear the inscription "To the Countess Carlo Rossi, the former singer, Henriette Sontag, from the grateful women skaters of Berlin."

Minutes of the Meeting of the Governing Council of the United States Figure Skating Association

The Annual Meeting of the Governing Council of the United States Figure Skating Association was held on the 10th day of April, 1926, at 2:30 P. M., at the Bar Association, 42 West 44th Street, New York City.

The President, Mr. Henry W. Howe, in the chair; Mr. Liberman, Secretary.

A list of the members of the U. S. F. S. A. was read and representation by delegates or proxy noted as follows:

<i>Votes</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Clubs</i>	<i>Delegates</i>
(3)	250	Beaver Dam Winter Sports Club	Chas. E. F. McCann Russell Doubleday
(3)	500	Cambridge Skating Club	Arthur M. Goodridge
(2)	under 50	Chicago Figure Skating Club	Paul Armitage
(3)	over 100	Country Club of Brookline	Nathaniel Wm. Niles
(3)	600	East Side Skating Club of Providence	Paul Armitage
(2)	over 50	New Haven Skating Club	Ralph VanName Heaton R. Robertson
(3)	over 300	New York Skating Club	Henry M. Earle Stowe Phelps Paul Armitage

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------|---|---|
| (3) | 300 | Skating Club of
Boston | Theresa W. Blanchard
Nathaniel W. Niles
Richard Hapgood |
| (3) | over 100 | Sno Birds | Charles J. Beck
Henry W. Howe |
| (1) | under 50 | Uptown Skating Club | Mrs. Rosalie Knapp |
| (2) | under 100 | The Shuttle Meadow
Figure Skating Club | Paul Armitage |

No Individual Members present.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting of the Governing Council held on June 7, 1925 and the minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Committee held on November 8th, 1925.

Voted that the minutes of the Council be approved as read, and those of the Executive Committee noted.

Mr. Phelps and Mr. Savage were appointed a Nominating Committee. They presented the following list which was approved and for which the Secretary cast one ballot.

President	Henry W. Howe
Hon. Pres.	A. Winsor Weld
Hon. Pres.	Irving Brokaw
1st Vice-Pres.	N. W. Niles
2nd Vice-Pres.	Carl Engel
Secretary	J. B. Liberman
Treasurer	J. Chapman

A discussion ensued with regard to Mr. McCann's suggestion that the Executive Committee be reduced to 5 or 7 members instead of 16 as at present. Mrs. Knapp stated that this committee was not unwieldy as a quorum was all that was required and that up to the present the meetings had always been well attended and representative. The sense of the meeting was that with a smaller Executive

Committee it might be hard to convene a representative number and it was decided that the present number be continued. The Secretary was authorized to cast one ballot for the Executive Committee and Committee Chairmen as follows:

Executive Committee

Charles M. Rotch, *Chairman*

Paul Armitage	Russell Doubleday
William Arthur	John Lewis Evans
Charles J. Beck, Jr.	Mrs. Edward S. Knapp
Mrs. Charles B. Blanchard	Miss Beatrix Loughran
Mrs. Joseph Chapman	Joseph K. Savage
Ralph G. VanName and officers <i>ex-officio</i>	

Chairmen of Committees

Amateur Status	A. Winsor Weld
Competition & Rules	Heaton R. Robertson
Records	Richard L. Hapgood
Membership	John Lewis Evans
Standards & Tests	Joel B. Liberman
Publicity & Publications	Nathaniel W. Niles

Voted that the President be authorized to appoint any special committees.

The report of the temporary Treasurer, Mr. John L. Evans of Philadelphia was presented by the Secretary in the absence of Mr. Evans.

Voted that the Treasurer's report be referred to an auditing committee appointed by the President. Messrs. Goodridge and Whitney were appointed and after due examination they gave a favorable report; a balance of \$541.54 being shown. The report was adopted *in toto* and ordered placed on file.

The Committees on Standards and Tests, and Membership had nothing to report. Apropos of the latter, the Secretary reported

that the Hippodrome Skating Club of St. Paul, Minn., and the Twin City Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis, Minn., had both rejoined the Association.

Mr. Hapgood, Chairman of the Committee on Records stated that all records of competitions have been received but no records of tests except those from the Skating Club of Boston.

Mr. H. R. Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Competitions, presented a report which was adopted as read; he also read a letter from the New Haven Club offering the dates of February 7th and 8th, 1927 (Monday and Tuesday—full days) for the National Competition.

Voted to award the National Championships for 1927 to New Haven and to accept those dates.

Mrs. Knapp stated that contestants had expressed to her the desire to see their marks as soon after the competitions as possible and further stated that some method ought to be worked out whereby the comparative marks should be sent to each competitor. Mr. Liberman stated that the years this had been done we were unusually fortunate in having an interested skater who worked out comparative tables, placed them on tracing cloth and struck off blue prints. A complete record would take a week of one person's time, but if a professional draftsman were instructed how to make it up the job could be continuously given to him. No vote was taken.

Mrs. Blanchard reported that the paper "Skating" had \$100.00 in the treasury with one number still to be issued. This number will cost about \$300. The price of subscriptions has been raised and the list of subscribers is slightly less. Additional subscriptions were normal, but these were more than offset by lack of renewals, mainly from Philadelphia, Chicago and St. Paul. There being a deficit in the treasury of the publication, Mrs. Blanchard asked that the opinion of the council be obtained as to whether the publication should be continued along its present lines.

Mr. Howe voiced the opinion of all the delegates to the effect that the magazine was one of the most important works of the Association and that everything should be done to keep it alive.

Voted that the magazine be continued with the same high standard as formerly and that any deficit up to \$400.00 be met by the Association as an operating expense; that it be left to the Publication Committee to consider how any increase in revenue necessary should be made. An expression of thanks was voted to the Editors for the work done during the year.

Mr. Savage asked for the opinion of the meeting on the subject of an Intermediate Class. Miss Loughran presented the suggestion that a club competition should determine the entrants for National Junior Competition.

Voted that a committee of 3 or 5 be appointed by the President to inquire into the matter and to formulate a plan for the Intermediate Class and to present a definite recommendation to the Executive Committee.

Mr. McCann introduced a discussion as to whether the Association should continue its affiliation with the International Skating Union.

Voted that the inter-relationship of the two Associations be continued.

Mr. McCann led the discussion concerning the exhibition of amateur figure skaters (members of the Association) between the halves of professional or amateur hockey games where a charge was made and the bulk of the proceeds went to a professional sports promoter. After an extended discussion it was

Voted that no Amateur Figure Skater be permitted to skate in a public performance where there is a paid admission without first obtaining the permission of the Chairman of the Amateur Status Committee, or any Member of the Committee or the President; and upon the refusal of any of the above named to sanction the performance, that no application for that exhibition shall be made to any other member.

Voted that any member duly designated as an Association judge and called to act as a judge by a club holding a competition under the Association auspices shall be reimbursed for legitimate expenses at

the place of holding the competition and while traveling to and from the place of competition. A statement of such expenses shall be presented to the secretary of the club of which the judge is a member in good standing and after approval by such secretary shall be forwarded by him to the secretary of the club which held the competition, which club shall immediately remit the amount due to the judge.

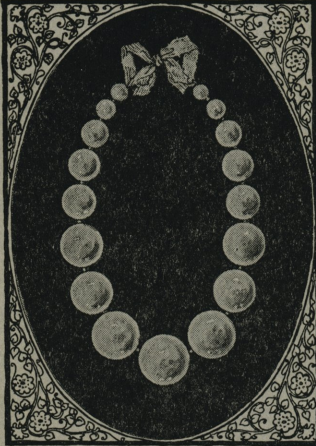
Voted that a small section of the ice surface be reserved for "warming up" during free skating competition, exactly as in school figure competition and that the notices give the net amount of space left for the program performance.

Voted that in all competitions sanctioned by the U. S. F. S. A., the judges shall be appointed at least 24 hours before each event; that competitors may present to the Committee in charge of the competition, at the time of selection or up to 24 hours before their event, any protest of a judge or judges for the competition.

Meeting adjourned at 5.15 P.M.

JOEL B. LIBERMAN,
Secretary.

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