# Skaling

Official Publication of the United States Figure Skating Association



Photograph by Mr. H. Kloss.

MISS DOROTHY CALEY, 1937 Champion of Canada and MISS HAZEL CALEY, The Granite Club, Toronto

# United States Figure Skating Association

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Pictures, Inc.

ROBIN HUNTINGTON LEE AND MARIBEL YERXA VINSON.
1937 United States Singles Champions.

Robin is holding the George H. Browne Memorial Bowl for the U. S. Men's Championship which he won for the third time this year. Maribel won the Gertrude Cheever Porter Trophy for the U. S. Ladies' Championship for the ninth time at Chicago.

# The 1937 National Championships

MARGARETTA S. DRAKE
The Figure Skating Club of Chicago

"O Young Lochinvar came out of the west, ..."

Only in this case there were two Lochinvars, and the prize each carried off on his shining blades was a championship title.

Skating history was made in more ways than one at the National Championships in Chicago on February 12 and 13. The Arena, recently converted into an ice rink and new home of the Chicago Figure Skating Club, under whose auspices the competition was conducted, was the setting for the two day event. For the first time in the history of the Association, the Nationals were held away from the Atlantic seaboard. There was a record number of entries and the quality of skating displayed in all events was exceptionally high. But the outstanding feature of the meet was undoubtedly the participation of a contingent of skaters from the Pacific coast and the very fine showing made by them and by mid-westerners. Besides winning the Men's Novice and Men's Junior titles, the same sections of the country claimed second and third places in the Ladies' Novice and in the Men's Junior events, and second in both the Ladies' Juniors and Junior Pairs. The bounds of the figure skating kingdom are spreading ever wider and the newer territories are beginning to be felt as a power in the land.

But the East still keeps a firm hold on its share of trophies, notably in the senior divisions. Here the entries were exclusively from eastern clubs. In the Men's Senior Singles, Robin Lee, a mid-westerner but skating under the colors of The Skating Club of New York, won a close decision over his club mate Erle Reiter, with W. J. Nagle third. Robin skated superbly to retain his title for the third year. He wrenched his bad knee again in the middle of his program, an accident of which most of the spectators had no inkling, for he showed no let down but in fact went on to pull off two double jumps in perfect style. Erle Reiter gave him a very close run and there were many onlookers who felt he might actually dethrone the champion in the final count.



Loaned by The Skating Club of Boston

Miss Maribel Y. Vinson and Mr. George E. B. Hill United States Pair Champions, 1933-1935-1936-1937

Among the Senior Ladies, again all easterners, Maribel Vinson was unanimously awarded her ninth title, though the excellent performances of Polly Blodgett in free skating and Katherine Durbrow in figures showed it took a Maribel to outclass them.

It was almost bound to be a Boston win in the Senior Pairs, with four out of the five entries from that club. Here Miss Vinson and Mr. Hill edged out the Maddens for first place, with Joan Tozzer and Bernard Fox, last year's Junior Pair Champions taking third. Polly Blodgett and Roger Turner apparently had an off night. So did Mr. and Mrs. Bruns, the fifth entry, from Bear Mountain, N. Y., but it was they who brought down the house. Skating less smoothly than they had done in practice, they nevertheless immediately won the backing of the audience, which did not hesitate to express strong disapproval of the lower marks awarded by the judges in loud boos and hisses, and insisted its favorites return to the ice to take a bow.

Boston also took the Ladies' Junior Singles when Joan Tozzer was pronounced winner. Frances Johnson, with the disadvantage of a leg badly spiked just three days before the competition, made sure of second place for Minneapolis over Jane Vaughn of Philadelphia who was third.

The skating in the Men's Juniors was of an exceptionally high order. St. Louis's Ollie Haupt, Jr., in winning, showed himself fully ready for senior company next year. The ease and height of his jumps were spectacular and the smoothness and flow of his dance steps were a joy. Eugene Turner of Los Angeles, in placing second promised to prove a serious threat to eastern competitors, senior as well as junior, before many more championships are past. Gene Reichel skated a fine free program, but like Turner, was comparatively weak in figures.

The Junior Pair event attracted a field of nine couples in which competition was very keen. The crown eventually went to Ardelle Kloss and Roland Janson of New York for a lovely smooth performance of an excellent program. The Detroit entry of Helen Barrett and Ted Harper turned in the most rhythmical performance of the day to win second, with Marjorie Parker and Howard Meredith, New York, third and the Hellmunds of Kansas City a close fourth.

Once more the novice events had the largest entry lists—twelve ladies—seven men. Marcia Zeiget of Philadelphia and Dorothy Snell of Minneapolis had a battle for first place, won in the final count by Miss Zeiget, with Shirley Bowman of Minneapolis third. Outstanding in the free skating in this class was little Suzanne Uksila from Oakland, California, whose program was far above novice standard. One would like to speak of each of the others in turn, for there was much promising talent shown in this group—competent observers remarked that they really were junior class skaters rather than novice.

Probably the sensation of the meet was the free skating of Robert Scott of Oakland, who walked off with the Men's Novice Title. Practically tied, in the figures, with Dwight Parkinson of Dartmouth and Michael Driscoll of Boston, Bob produced a free skating program of much higher than novice calibre, performed with freedom and pace, and outstanding in fine jumps and spins. His first appearance in national competition gives promise that he will be heard from again. Michael Driscoll, second, and Dwight Parkinson, third, skated well but lacked the sureness and ease of the winner.

The National Dance Championship went unanimously to Nettie

Prantel and Harold Hartshorne, with Marjorie Parker and Joseph Savage a close second and Ardelle Kloss and Roland Janson in third place, making it a "New York sweep."

Two innovations marked this year's conduct of the championships. First, was the open marking introduced in last year's Olympics and now accepted procedure in all international competitions. It met with general favor and approbation, from both judges and public. Difficult as it is for judging to be absolutely objective and impersonal, this system is a distinct help toward that end. And obviously the public has much keener interest and enjoyment in a contest which can be followed more intelligently, as this marking makes possible. Partially a result, no doubt, of the open marking, was the publication by the papers, of relative standings of competitors at the conclusion of the school figures, and also the official announcement through the press of the winners in novice and junior events as soon as these results were tabulated, in contrast to the traditional custom of withholding all results until the conclusion of all events and the distribution of prizes on the last night.

For a city with as little knowledge and experience of the technique of figure skating as has Chicago, the reaction and interest of both public and press were most gratifying and augur well for the development of the sport here. There was a surprisingly large number of onlookers all through the school figures, and on Saturday evening for the senior free skating and dance finals the large audience was most responsive—or should I say expressive? At any rate there was no doubt of its interest and enthusiasm. The press, for its part, both in quantity and quality of notice given to the competition, showed a sympathetic interest and an intelligent appreciation of the sport.

Lastly, this article cannot close without an expression of sincere thanks to the U.S.F.S.A. for the honor and privilege of entertaining the Nationals on their first trip west, and to each and every competitor, whose entry helped make the competition one of the best in the Association's history. The Chicago club has gained immeasurably by the experience,—in the opportunity to observe first class skating, in experience in the procedure and conduct of competitions, in stimulation of interest and support, in the widening of our skating horizon to a national outlook, and last but not least, in the associations and fellowship, which among figure skaters, have a flavor all their own. We echo the words of one of our busiest and hardest working committee members, who managed to take time out every

little while to comment enthusiastically "Am I having fun! This is the doggonedest good time I ever had."

So, Nationals, we're glad you came—we hope you'll come again. Meanwhile, with our new rink and the inspiration you gave us—excuse us a moment while we learn to skate!

Readers are referred to rules 28, 29 and 30 in Rules and Regulations for Competitions Booklet for information on the method of obtaining results. There were five judges in each event. This year only the ranking, the total places and the total points in each event are to be given; this will permit printing fuller reports of other events and more news of general interest.—Ed.

|  | Men's Senior Singles   | Total<br>Places | Total<br>Points |
|--|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Mr. Robin Lee, The                  | Skating Club, Inc., New York   | 6               | 977.09          |
|  | Skating Club, Inc., New York   | 9               | 964.92          |
|  | nhattan Figure Skating Club  | 15              | 717.89          |
|  | Women's Senior Singles   |                 |                 |
| 1. Miss Maribel Vinson                 | , The Skating Club of Boston   | 5               | 998.6           |
|  | The Skating Club of Boston   | 11              | 934.36          |
| 3. Miss Katherine Durk                 | prow, The Skating Club, Inc., New York                               | . 14            | 911.56          |
|  | Senior Pairs   |                 |                 |
| 1. Miss Maribel Vinson                 |  |                 |                 |
| Mr. George Hill                        | The Skating Club of Boston   | 5               | 56.4            |
| 2. Miss Grace Madden                   | The Skating Club of Boston   | 11              | 53.7            |
| Mr. James Madden                       | ) orang orac or zoolon   |                 | 20.7            |
| 3. Miss Joan Tozzer Mr. M. Bernard Fox | The Skating Club of Boston   | 14              | 52.5            |
| 4. Miss Polly Blodgett                 | The Chating Club of Poston   | 201/2           | 50.1            |
| Mr. Roger Turner                       | The Skating Club of Boston   | 2072            | 50.1            |
| 5. Mr. and Mrs. William                | n Bruns, Bear Mountain Skating Club                                  | 241/2           | 49.1            |
|  | Men's Junior Singles   |                 |                 |
| 1 14 011 17 11                         |  | -               | 1026            |
| 1. Mr. Ollie E. Haupt,                 | Jr., St. Louis Figure Skating Club                                   | 5<br>10         | 482.6<br>446.6  |
|  | , Los Angeles Figure Skating Club<br>Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis | 15              | 414.7           |
| J. WII. Lugelle Reichel,               | mena okading oldo, Militapolis                                       | 17              | 11 1.7          |



Acme.

#### JUNIOR LADIES AT CHICAGO.

Frances Johnson, Joan Tozzer, Jane Vaughn, Charlotte Walther, Ardelle Kloss.

#### Women's Junior Singles

| 1. Miss Joan Tozzer, The Skating Club of Boston          | 6  | 526.4 |
|--|----|-------|
| 2. Miss Frances Johnson, Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis | 11 | 505.5 |
| 3. Miss Jane Vaughn, Philadelphia Skating Club           |    |       |
| and Humane Society                                       | 14 | 499.2 |
| 4. Miss Charlotte Walther, The Skating Club, Inc.,       |    |       |
| New York   | 22 | 470.7 |
| 5. Miss Ardelle Kloss, The Skating Club, Inc., New York  | 22 | 468.4 |

#### JUNIOR PAIRS 1. Miss Ardelle Kloss) The Skating Club, Inc., New York 49.5 12 2. Miss Helen Barrett Olympia Skating Club, Detroit 13 48.3 Mr. Ted Harper 3. Miss Marjorie Parker The Skating Club, Inc., New York Mr. Howard Meredith 13 49.4 151/2 4. Mr. and Mrs. Eduardo Hellmund, Kansas City Skating Club 48.7 5. Mr. and Mrs. James Lowden, Olympia Skating Club, Detroit 251/2 45.8 6. Miss Frances Johnson Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis 26 45.6 7. Miss Angeline Knapp Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis 351/2 42.5 Dr. Jay Pike 391/2 8. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Preusch, St. Paul Figure Skating Club 41.1 MEN'S NOVICE SINGLES 1. Mr. Robert Scott, St. Moritz Club, Oakland, Calif. 5 214.8 2. Mr. Michael Driscoll, The Skating Club of Boston 12 199.1 3. Mr. Dwight Parkinson, Individual Member, U. S. F. S. A. 196.5 16 4. Mr. Arthur Vaughn, Philadelphia Skating Club 21 182.6 and Humane Society 26 174.8 5. Mr. Leonard Brennan, St. Paul Figure Skating Club 6. Mr. A. Newbold Morris, The Skating Club, Inc., New York 26 175.3 34 153.8 7. Mr. Herman Witz, Newton Figure Skating Club Women's Novice Singles 1. Miss Marcia Zieget, Philadelphia Skating Club 7 and Humane Society 221.3 10 217.1 2. Miss Dorothy Snell, St. Paul Figure Skating Club 24 203.7 3. Miss Shirley Bowman, Hippodrome Skating Club of St. Paul 25 205.2 4. Miss Marjorie Parker, The Skating Club, Inc., New York 25 204.0 5. Miss Suzanne Uksila, St. Moritz Club, Oakland, Calif. 29 6. Miss Mary Taylor, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club 199.8 32 7. Miss Jeanne Schulte, St. Louis Skating Club 200.243 193.3 8. Miss Gloria Haupt, St. Louis Skating Club 9. Miss Margarett McKean, The Skating Club of Boston 44 194.3 47 10. Miss Jennie McKean, The Skating Club of Boston 191.0 54 11. Miss Mary Bendix, Manhattan Figure Skating Club 187.6 50 187.0 12. Miss Virginia Bucher, Kansas City Skating Club

13. Miss Nancy Meyer, Figure Skating Club of Chicago

65

170.8

# Canadian Championships

#### DORIS GALES

The Winter Club, Montreal

The Canadian Championships were held on Thursday and Friday, February 18 and 19, at The Winter Club, Montreal. All the Junior events taking place on Thursday, and the Senior on Friday.

About ten o'clock Thursday morning the Junior Ladies started their figures. There were eleven entries and they all seemed so terribly young to be doing such hard figures. Mary Rose Thacker and Norah McCarthy were certainly outstanding, and they both did beautiful figures. In the afternoon the Junior boys did their figures. Jack Vigeon did almost perfect figures, each one seemed better than the one before, but he was closely followed by Peter Chance and Donald Gilchrist.

The Club was crowded that night everyone eager to watch the Free Skating. It was lovely to see all the girls in different colours and all the boys in black. Mary Rose, in rust red, did a beautiful single with lovely spins and jumps, and Norah McCarthy, in black and white with a black bellhop hat, seemed equally as good. The most spectacular program was that of Audrey Miller, who whirled to and fro, never losing her speed for a second and looking as if she enjoyed every minute. One of the prettiest programs was done by Audrey Joyce, who wore pure white velvet with little buttons all the way down the back. Mary Simpson, in black, also skated beautifully—her jumps were lovely.

The men came next. Peter Chance gave his program in such a carefree manner that he won the hearts of all the spectators. Unfortunately Jack Vigeon had a fall, which seemed to put him off for the remainder of his program. Little Pierre Benoit of Quebec, the smallest contestant, kept well up with his rivals.

There were only five entries in the Junior pairs—Betty Riley and Jack Kilgour—the winners—skated beautifully together. Margaret Symington and Junior Askwith skated smoothly, with plenty of rhythm, and were closely followed by Pat Chown and Philip Lee, who were lovely to watch. Little Louise Turcott and Pierre Benoit did exceptionally well and had some nice lifts.



Loaned by Mayfair.

MISS ELEANOR O'MEARA

1936 Canadian Champion

Friday morning dawned—and we rushed down to watch the Senior Ladies' School Figures. The Caleys were dressed exactly alike in pale blue shorts and yellow sweaters—Eleanor O'Meara in maroon with brown scarf and gloves—Eleanor Wilson in navy shorts and sweater—Veronica Clarke in a black skirt and white windbreaker—Louise Courtney in a nile green knitted dress—and Kay Lopdell in navy shorts and yellow sweater. Eleanor O'Meara's bracket change brackets were lovely and Veronica Clarke's counters seemed almost perfect. When the ladies' figures were finished we had a delightful lunch—(the competitors and officials)—after which the representatives from the visiting clubs thanked our President for his kindness and hospitality. The Senior men began their figures almost immediately, and I really don't know how they were judged as they seemed all equally good.

That night the Club was crowded—people standing in every possible nook and corner. Veronica began the free skating—she was in pure white—and did a pleasing and very graceful program. Eleanor O'Meara in black with gold sequins trimmings, was perfect, and the Caleys dressed alike in black and white gave the most spectacular programs—their spins and jumps could hardly be beaten.

I still wondered after the men had finished their programs just who was going to win, for as in their figures they were all equally good. Wingate Snaith's tricky dance steps appealed to the crowd,

but Osborne Colson's program was full of ease and grace.

We were all looking forward to seeing the pairs and fours, and no one was disappointed. Veronica Clarke and Ralph McCreath were lovely together, their skating was full of speed and precision. Mr. and Mrs. Cruikshank also did a nice pair, they seemed smoother than any of the others. The Junior Champions—Betty Riley and Jack Kilgour did so well that they were placed fourth.

The Melville Roger's Four (Mrs. Davis, Miss Holbrook, M. Rogers, Guy Owen) seemed more perfect than ever before, if that is possible, and the other Minto Club Four (Miss Slater, Mrs. Cruikshank, W. J. Hose and D. B. Cruikshank) did exceptionally well. They all wore Scotch hats which looked very attractive.

The Waltz and Tenstep Competitions ended the program. There was a lovely dance afterwards, at which the prizes were presented by Melville Rogers, President of the Figure Skating Department of the Amateur Skating Association of Canada, and the Canadian Championships were over for another year.

| Men's Senior                                      | Total<br>Places | Total<br>Points |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Mr. Osborne Colson, Toronto Skating Club       | 8               | 1392.9          |
| 2. Mr. Wingate Snaith, The Minto Skating Club     | 10              | 1372.7          |
| 3. Mr. Ralph McCreath, Toronto Skating Club       | 12              | 1377.0          |
| 4. Mr. Philip Lee, Winnipeg Winter Club           | 20              | 1267.8          |
| Ladies' Senior                                    |                 |                 |
| 1. Miss Dorothy Caley, Granite Club, Toronto      | 8               | 1576.1          |
| 2. Miss Eleanor O'Meara, Granite Club, Toronto    | 9               | 1564.4          |
| 3. Miss Veronica Clarke, Toronto Skating Club     | 16              | 1525.0          |
| 4. Miss Hazel Caley, Granite Club, Toronto        | 18              | 1501.4          |
| 5. Miss Eleanor Wilson, Granite Club, Toronto     | 24              | 1446.1          |
| 6. Miss Katherine Lopdell, The Minto Skating Club | 30              | 1329.6          |
| 7. Miss Louise Courtney, The Minto Skating Club   | 35              | 1250.4          |

#### SENIOR PAIRS

| DENIOR I MIKS   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Miss Veronica Clarke Mr. Ralph McCreath Toronto Skating Club   | 5  | 54.4  |
| 2. Mrs. Donald B. Cruikshank Mr. Donald B. Cruikshank The Minto Skating Club  | 15   | 49.3  |
| 3. Miss Mary Jane Halsted Toronto Skating Club Mr. Jack Eastwood  | 15   | 48.2  |
| 4. Miss Betty Riley Winnipeg Winter Club Mr. Jack Kilgour   | 19   | 45.3  |
| 5. Miss Patricia Chown Winnipeg Winter Club   | 27   | 43.7  |
| 5. Miss Patricia Chown Mr. Philip Lee 6. Mrs. Elmore A. Davis Mr. W. J. Hose  The Minto Skating Club  | 24   | 45.6  |
| Men's Junior  |  |   |
| <ol> <li>Mr. Peter Chance, The Minto Skating Club</li> <li>Mr. Jack Vigeon, Toronto Skating Club</li> <li>Mr. Donald Gilchrist, Toronto Skating Club</li> <li>Mr. Sandy McKechnie, Toronto Skating Club</li> <li>Mr. Pierre Benoit, Quebec Winter Club</li> </ol>   | 8<br>11<br>13<br>18<br>25                                    | 830.4<br>796.6<br>795.9<br>762.1<br>691.8   |
| Ladies' Junior  |  |   |
| 1. Miss Mary Rose Thacker, Winnipeg Winter Club 2. Miss Norah McCarthy, The Minto Skating Club 3. Miss Audrey Miller, Granite Club, Toronto 4. Miss Mary Simpson, Winnipeg Winter Club 5. Miss Mary Jane Halsted, Toronto Skating Club 6. Miss Virginia Wilson, Granite Club, Toronto 7. Miss Audrey Joyce, Montreal Winter Club 8. Miss Mavis Berry, The Minto Skating Club 9. Miss Patricia Chown, Winnipeg Winter Club 10. Miss Gillian Watson, Toronto Skating Club 11. Miss Naomi Slater, The Minto Skating Club | 8<br>9<br>15<br>22<br>28<br>34<br>40<br>38<br>40<br>45<br>51 | 868.2<br>851.2<br>796.9<br>775.0<br>760.0<br>738.9<br>721.4<br>624.3<br>717.7<br>696.8<br>687.5 |
| Junior Pairs  |  |   |
| 1. Miss Betty Riley Winnipeg Winter Club Mr. Jack Kilgour   | 7  | 46.6  |
| 2. Miss Margaret Symington Montreal Winter Club   | 13   | 43.0  |
| 2. Miss Margaret Symington Montreal Winter Club Mr. Charles Askwith, Jr. 3. Miss Patricia Chown Winnipeg Winter Club Mr. Philip Lee   | 13   | 42.5  |
| Mr. Sandy McKechnie   | 19   | 41.3  |
| 5. Miss Louise Turcott Quebec Winter Club Mr. Pierre Benoit   | 23   | 38.7  |

| _      |       |
|--------|-------|
| SENIOR | HOTTE |
| DENIUK | LOUKS |

| 1. Mrs. Elmore Davis                             |    |      |
|--|----|------|
| Miss Prudence Holbrook The Minto Skating Club    | 5  | 55.8 |
| Mr. Melville Rogers                              |    |      |
| Mr. Guy Owen                                     |    |      |
| 2. Miss Naomi Slater                             |    |      |
| Mrs. Donald B. Cruikshank The Minto Skating Club | 10 | 46.4 |
| Mr. W. J. Hose                                   | 10 | 10.1 |
| Mr. Donald B. Cruikshank                         |    |      |
| 3. Miss Gillian Watson                           |    |      |
| Miss Ruth Hall Toronto Skating Club              | 15 | 39.0 |
| Mr. Hubert Sprott                                | 17 | 37.0 |
| Mr. Sandy McKechnie                              |    |      |

#### WALTZ

- 1. Mr. and Mrs. Donald B. Cruikshank, Minto Club, Ottawa
- 2. Miss Veronica Clarke Toronto Skating Club
  Mr. Ralph McCreath
- 3. Miss Margaret Symington Winter Club, Montreal Mr. Charles Askwith, Jr.

#### TEN STEP

- 1. Miss Veronica Clarke Toronto Skating Club Mr. Ralph McCreath
- 2. Mr. and Mrs. Donald B. Cruikshank, Minto Club, Ottawa

3. Miss Louise Bertram Toronto Skating Club

The Grey Challenge Trophy was won by the team of the Minto Club of Ottawa.

# Schedule for 1937

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| March | 17-18-19  | Carnival, Toronto Skating Club             |
|-------|-----------|--|
| March | 27-29-31  | Carnival, The Skating Club, Inc., New York |
| March | 30        | Carnival, St. Moritz Club, Oakland, Cal.   |
| April | 2         | Carnival, Niagara Falls Skating Club       |
| April | 2-3       | Carnival, The Ice Club of Baltimore        |
| April | 2-3       | Carnival, The Skating Club of Boston       |
| April | 2-3-4     | Carnival, St. Paul Skating Club            |
| April | 3-4       | Carnival, Cleveland Figure Skating Club    |
| April | 7         | Carnival, The Winter Club, Montreal        |
| April | 8-9-10-11 | Carnival, Figure Skating Club of Chicago   |
| April | 15-16-17  | Carnival, Hershey Figure Skating Club      |
| May   | 1         | Carnival, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club  |
|       |           |  |

# Two Championships and a Visit

THERESA WELD BLANCHARD

The 1937 United States Championships can go down in history as the best ever held from every angle. The official report is given in this issue, but Mrs. Drake has modestly left out many interesting details.

The Chicago Arena is a marvelous place and its existence is largely due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Harry E. Radix, President of The Figure Skating Club of Chicago. An old riding academy, it makes an ideal rink,—nothing has been changed except to install pipes in the ring, which is 250 by 100 feet and well-lit by a glass roof. The seats are in two balconies the length of the rink, a glass-enclosed restaurant and bar is at one end, and the club quarters and dressing rooms are under the balconies. A wide walk, where three or four rows of seats can be installed, encircles the rink at the floor level. The ice is excellent and the floor beneath is painted a pale turquoise blue, giving a most attractive effect.

The club members did a splendid job in caring for the out-of-town skaters, parents, and camp followers of which there were a surprising number. Mrs. Drake and Mr. Abt deserve especial praise for they worked untiringly to see that all the skaters were comfortable, and also entered the Dance Championship and survived the elimination! Mr. Radix was the perfect host and chairman from the official dinner to the judges and officials on Thursday to the wonderful supper dance after the competitions.

These Championships were particularly distinguished by the entries of four young and extremely good Californian skaters. Mrs. Mabel Thorns, runner-up in the Novice two years ago and now teaching in Oakland, was present with her prize pupil, Bob Scott, who ran off with the Novice title in splendid style. Everyone was glad to renew acquaintance with Mrs. Thorns and to meet Mary Taylor, Gene Turner and his mother, all from Los Angeles, as well as the very talented eleven-year-old Suzanne Uksila, daughter of Bob Uksila, Oakland pro, who came with her.

Monday I had lunch with Mrs. Drake and dinner at the rink with Mr. Radix, Mrs. Meyer and her promising young daughter Nancy,



Photo by Mr. Kloss

Mr. Harry E. Radix and Mr. Charles M. Rotch Presidents, respectively, of The Figure Skating Club of Chicago and The United States Figure Skating Association.

Miss Wright, the indefatigable club secretary, Miss Snyder, and Robin Lee, after enjoying a few dances at their club session. The Chicago Club should produce good skaters within a short time as they have superb facilities and two enthusiastic instructors in Norval Baptie and Gladys Lamb, who have done so much for figure skating in America.

At midnight I left for London where I was welcomed next morning by Colonel Hill, director of the London Skating Club and former President of the Minto Skating Club, and whirled away on a most thoughtfully-planned schedule. First we visited the rink where I met a few old friends and then Mr. and Mrs. Labatt gave a lunch at the Hunt Club preceded by cocktails at Mrs. Ivey's. The lunch was limited to nine so we had a real chance to discuss club and carnival problems; ever intriguing topics. The Hills gave a tea for many of the club members, where I had a chance to put faces on names long familiar as Skating's subscribers. Mr. Smith, President of the London Skating Club, remained for dinner and more skating conversation.

From London I went to Montreal for the Canadian Championships and was pleased to find that the Toronto skaters had a private car on my train, so I spent most of the trip catching up on local news from them. The officers of The Winter Club granted me full privileges during my stay and I had a perfectly wonderful time; saw all the skating and met many new skaters as well as renewing acquaintance with many old friends.

Canada, like the United States, is faced with the problem of the number of young skaters anxious to compete. Two rules have recently been passed on junior entries; the first limits the number of times a skater may enter a junior event to three (then they must become a senior or retire) and the second provides that the school figures be drawn by lot as for World Championships but announced six weeks before the competition making the junior championship requirements much higher.

I will not comment on the school figures for I believe it is impossible to form an accurate opinion from the sidelines. In the men's junior free skating Peter Chance was outstanding and well deserved his win, but he was closely pressed by Jack Vigeon who did beautiful figures, I am told. Canada certainly has an unusual group of men skaters, some of whom might easily aspire to world honors in the near future. The junior girls' event was an extremely close battle between Mary Rose Thacker, who finally won, and Norah McCarthy; two very young and very talented skaters. All the junior pairs are young and

show much promise; their programs were interesting and varied, and

were delightful to watch.

Competition in the senior ladies' event was very keen and Dodie Caley deserves high praise for her wonderful accomplishment—jumping from junior champion last year to senior champion this year! Osborne Colson retained his title but was closely pressed by the other senior men. The senior pair event was most interesting to me as it was the first time I had seen any of the couples. Ralph McCreath and Biddy Clarke are a wonderful pair, the personification of strength and grace, and they skated beautifully. Don and Aidrie Cruikshank gave an excellent performance, smooth and flowing. To me, Fours are the high spot of any Canadian competition. The famous Minto Four lived up to its reputation and the so-called Junior Minto Four was a surprise and a pleasure to watch, while the new Toronto Four gives much promise.

Both countries are to be congratulated on very successful and smoothly run championships. The one marked difference is that the Canadian skaters are younger than ours and their juniors are all very young promising skaters. This is following on the lines of European skating and the United States youngsters should take warning and start their competitive careers earlier. The Canadian school figures seemed better than ours; I feel this is probably because most Canadian clubs own their rinks and their members get more ice for practice. How our skaters get even as far as they do under the circumstances is a marvel, nevertheless the United States standard in school figures must be raised rapidly and soon.

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# Mrs. W. D. Wilson Dies Suddenly

Mrs. W. Deleigh Wilson of Toronto, mother of Mrs. Constance Wilson Samuel and Mr. Montgomery Wilson, died from a heart attack on February 11th. For many years Mrs. Wilson was a constant attender at competitions and carnivals in North America and Europe; she accompanied her children on their travels and was well-known to many skaters.

The Editors feel sure all our readers join in extending deepest sympathy to her children.

# The Carnival Merry-Go-Round

EDITED BY RICHARD L. HAPGOOD

The 1937 carnival season was launched in full swing during January and early February with five productions in different Canadian and American cities. Commencing with the annual crowning of the King and Queen of Winter at the Olympic Arena in Lake Placid on January 2, the schedule saw interesting shows in Chicago on January 22, 23, and 24; in Toronto, by the Granite Club, on January 27, 28, and 29; in Detroit on January 30 and 31; and in Providence, R. I., on February 5. Out-of-town stars from the leading skating centres of both Canada and the United States provided the chief points of interest in the different programs, and the background of groups and some exhibitions by local skaters were furnished in each case by members of the local club.

At Lake Placid, Miss Polly Blodgett of The Skating Club of Boston was the principal visiting attraction. The Chicago carnival was headlined largely by the stars from the Granite Club, including Mrs. E. H. Gooderham (Cecil Smith), Mrs. John A. McDougald (Maude Smith), Miss Eleanor O'Meara (1936 Canadian champion), Miss Louise Bertram and Stewart Reburn, Miss Eleanor Wilson, Misses Hazel and Dorothy Caley, Miss Audrey Miller, Mr. Robin Lee (present American champion), and Mr. Harris Legge. This group, except for Robin Lee, constituted the stars of their own carnival at the Granite Club, supplemented by the Ottawa Eight and the New York Four (United States Champions), consisting of Miss Ardelle Kloss, Miss Nettie Prantel, Mr. George Boltres, and Mr. Joseph K. Savage.

At Detroit, the stars were mostly recruited from the Minto Skating Club of Ottawa, which also sent a large delegation of skaters for the background. Mrs. Donald B. Cruikshank (Aidrie Main) skated a single, as a highlander, and the Cossack Four from the Minto Club, consisting of Miss Naomi Slater, Mrs. Cruikshank, Mr. Jack Hose, and Mr. Donald B. Cruikshank featured. At Providence, the stars were gathered from The Skating Club of Boston, the New Haven Skating Club, the Manhattan Skating Club (New York), and the Bear Mountain Skating Club, and these clubs also furnished a num-

ber of skaters for the groups. Among the stars were Miss Maribel Y. Vinson (United States Champion), who did a single and a pair with her partner, George E. B. Hill (they are United States and North American pair champions); Miss Joan Tozzer, Miss Polly Blodgett, James L. and Grace E. Madden, Roger F. Turner, Edward Berkson, Miss Peggy Fahy and Richard Towcey; the Boston Four, consisting of Miss Peggy Stuart, Miss Leslie Eustis, Mr. Willoughby Stuart, and Mr. Richard L. Hapgood; and the Rye, N. Y., Four, consisting of Dr. Hulda Berger, Miss Jean Gullotta, Miss Sally Gullotta, and Miss Eleanor Wick.

The professionals also contributed a considerable share to the programs in different cities. Nathan Walley skated at Chicago and at the Granite carnival. Also at Chicago were Sam Jarvis, Norval Baptie and Gladys Lamb, Eric Waite, and Bobby Lamb Duffy. Douglas Duffy skated at Detroit and Providence, and Jack Dunn, fresh from Hollywood, skated at the Granite Club.



Photo by Mr. F. H. Fleischmann.

THE GRANITE SIX.

Mrs. Gooderham, Mrs. McDougald, Eleanor O'Meara, Eleanor Wilson,
Hazel and Dorothy Caley.

Lake Placid—The annual coronation ceremonies saw the enthronement of Miss Jane Froman, stage, screen, and radio star as "Queen Wa-Ho-Par-Te-Nie", and Mr. Otto Soglow, the famous cartoonist, as "King Tahawus". Exhibitions were given by several members of the Figure Skating Club of Lake Placid, including Helen Carter, Clara Wilkins, Sadie Pelkey, and Lorraine B. Bryant. Several novelties were incorporated into the show by R. H. Macy Company of New York, one of them being "Round the Winter Sports Clock". A huge clock, twelve feet in diameter, was erected at one end of the rink, and as the hands turned, models displayed costumes to be worn for various winter sports during the day. The outstanding event was an International Shipboard Horse Race, in which six models representing Norway, Austria, France, Italy, Canada, and the United States, dressed in characteristic winter sports costumes, acted as "horses", and moved according to the throw of the dice. This was conducted by Mr. R. S. Mecklen. chief purser of the U.S. Lines; the winner selected a lucky number, the holder of this was awarded a winter cruise to Bermuda. all expenses paid by the U.S. Lines.

Chicago—This carnival inaugurated publicly the new home of the Figure Skating Club of Chicago. The first performance was taken over by the Women's Aid Society of Passavant Hospital for their annual benefit. The arena was magnificently decorated, and the Union Jack and Stars and Stripes were hung side by side in the place of honor. In centre ice, on a cushion of royal purple, reposed a mammoth crown, guarded by four "Beef-eaters", dressed in traditional costume. Several interesting groups and ballets were staged, including a ballet of ten girls in silver with touches of red and blue which sparkled like the crown jewels they represented. The Chicago Four. composed of Mr. and Mrs. Eduardo Hellmund (Eleanor Berger), Miss Virginia Bucher and William Swallender, skated in white with black accents and scarlet patent leather belts. "Indian Capers" was an elaborate group composed of a large number of girls and men from the Granite Club, and

the final number was a snow ballet, with Mrs. Gooderham as premiere patineuse, skated to the ballet music from Gounod's Faust.

Toronto (Granite Club)—The theme was the same as that which the club skaters produced at Chicago, with several amplifications. The roster of skaters was swelled by the inclusion of large numbers in each group number, and the skating was re-arranged to some extent so that individual exhibitions were made integral parts of "At the Kit Kat Club, London" provided the background for Audrey Miller's single and an exhibition of jumping by Harris Legge. The inclusion of the Ottawa Eight rounded out the program. An invitation international dance competition was a unique feature of the program. Twenty couples, representing thirteen clubs, competed in a waltz on Wednesday evening and in a fourteen-step on Thursday evening. On Friday evening, the winners exhibited and were presented with trophies. waltz was won by Miss Nettie Prantel and Joseph K. Savage of The Skating Club, Inc., (New York); the fourteen-step was won by Miss Louise Bertram and Stewart Reburn of the Toronto Skating Club. The holding of this competition was quite an undertaking, in view of the fact that six Canadian clubs and seven American clubs were represented. The judges were Mrs. Joseph K. Savage of New York, Mrs. John A. Mc-Dougald of the Granite Club, Mr. Harry Radix of Chicago, Mr. Edgar S. McKaig of Philadelphia, and Colonel A. E. Kirkpatrick of Toronto; Colonel J. G. Weir of the Granite Club acted as referee.

Detroit—The carnival was held at the Olympia Rink, under the auspices of the Olympia Skating Club and the Kiwanis clubs of Detroit. It was the most successful event of its kind ever run in Detroit, for more than 26,000 persons were spectators at three presentations. Because of the demand for tickets, a Sunday matinee was added. The theme was "A World Cruise on the S. S. Olympia", and the groups and background furnished by the Minto Club



Captain's Crew in Fourteenstep Drill.
Olympia Club Carnival.

were drawn largely from the carnival which this club put on last year. The decorations were of a nautical flavor with a large compass and anchor painted in the centre of the deck of the ship, and plenty of lifeboats, buoys, and masts were sprinkled "A Night at Sea" was a waltz number put on by members of the Olympia Club. This was followed by a "Madrid Fiesta" by the Minto Club members. Miss Helen Barrett and Ted Harper of the Olympia Club gave a sparkling performance, depicting Barcelona. Miss Genevieve Trojan gave a brilliant solo representing England, and Mr. Eric Jadicke's single, representing Germany, was very favorably received by the audience. Twelve couples from the Olympia Club skated a fourteenstep drill, as the Captain's Crew. number had been originated by Miss Helen Barrett a year ago, and Roy Hunt, club professional, helped to perfect it for this show. The men wore white flannels, navy blue coats and yachtsmen's caps, the girls wore royal blue satin circular skirts, white satin mess jackets and small blue pill-box hats with red trimming. Mr. and Mrs. James

K. Lowden, showed the spectacular side of pair skating in an excellent Russian number. The Emerald Isle was represented by the the local club's trio, Miss Jane Taggart, Miss Evelyn Denne, and Miss Laura Jane Brown. Genevieve Trojan and Mary Percola did a waltz in costumes of ice blue, representing Odessa, and Miss Percola also took the lead in a Dutch number, assisted by an ensemble of Olympia girls. The grand march, which wound up the program each evening, was led by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Cook.

Providence—"The Ice Fantasies" were held under the auspices of the Providence Skating Club and the Kiwanis Clubs of Rhode Island, assisted by The Skating Club of Boston, Manhattan Skating Club, and New Haven Skating Club. The rink was colorfuly decorated with black cloth along the hockey dashers, speckled with brilliant orange, red, and green spots that looked as if large pieces of confetti had been sprinkled about. The ice was painted with colored lines, centering on a large "K" (for Kiwanis) in the centre. The program opened



with "Winter Revelries", in which the whole cast skated in subdued lights, wearing masks. The children belonging to the Providence Club presented a very attractive group number, which showed considerable progress over what these youngsters had done in previous years. Singles and pairs, mentioned above, were plentifully sprinkled throughout the program. The

Manhattan Skating Club opened the second half of the program with a "Rhythm Group"; the men were dressed in dinner jackets and the girls in white dresses, trimmed with black. Three dance competitions were held: the fox-trot was won by Mrs. Theresa Weld Blanchard and Fred A. Parmenter of The Skating Club of Boston, who were presented the trophy donated by the Mayor of Woonsocket; the fourteenstep was won by Miss Grace E. and Mr. James L. Madden of The Skating Club of Boston, who were awarded the trophy donated by the Mayor of Pawtucket; the waltz was won by Mr. and Mrs. William H. Bruns, Jr., of the Bear Mountain Skating Club, and they received the trophy donated by the Mayor of Providence. The Governor Robert E. Quinn Trophy for the outstanding girl skater on the whole program went to Miss Maribel Y. Vinson of The Skating Club of Boston.

(Continued in April)

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Harry Cross, noted sports and figure skating reporter of the New York "Herald Tribune", was watching a group of skaters at the Sno Birds competition discuss a technical point in the Lake Placid Club lounge. After some minutes of heated comments and illustrative gyrations, said calm reporter Cross, "I've just thought of a cheer you skaters should use at competitions:—'Hip, Hip! Hip, Hip!"

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An Inveterate Side-liner at one of our oldest clubs was talking confidentially to an 11-year-old skater, when another 11-year-old spied the conversation from the middle of the rink and rushed eagerly over, demanding to know what it was all about. The I. S. refused to repeat what she had said, whereupon the second 11-year-old flashed back with, "Well, gee whiz, you might at least tell who it's against".

# California's State Championships

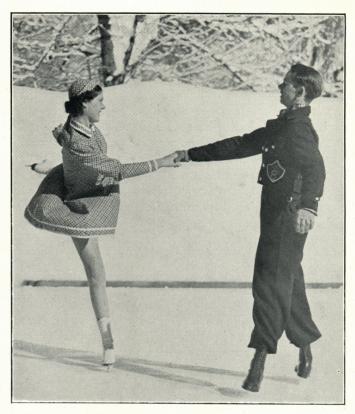
Marian Moreing Yosemite Winter Club

With two feet of snow piled high on the glassy surface of Yosemite's Outdoor Rink, it looked almost as though the California State Figure Skating Championships scheduled for the weekend of January 30th, would go down in the annals of skating as "postponed-due to unforeseen weather conditions." However, with Old Man Winter relenting in severity early Saturday afternoon, an army of workmen, who had been concentrating their shovels and snowplows on the icy roads from the start of the storm, re-doubled their efforts in an attempt to clear the rink for Saturday evening's performance. It was with a sigh of relief that we received the word in late afternoon, that the program would go on as per schedule. Although the School Figures had been set for Saturday morning, the time was turned over to the contestants for practice. Practice consisted of following the plows around the rink, attempting to trace visible figures on the ice; but from the harried looks of the skaters, it was evident that the ice refused to divulge the progress of the diligent contestants.

However, Saturday night found the competitors somewhat reassured, thanks to the results of the workmen's efforts. The rink, though half cleared, gave a slick 30,000 square feet of surface for the events, and the stands were packed with spectators in spite of the near-zero temperatures. The redeeming feature of Yosemite's rink was easily perceptible that evening—a setting of starlit skies, with mile-high cliffs faintly visible under their white capes—a perfect backdrop indeed for the colorful stage of ice which awaited the players.

Forty amateur skaters representing the St. Moritz Club of Oakland, the Los Angeles Figure Skating Club and the Yosemite Winter Club, donned their numbered armbands as the music called forth the first of the evening's contestants.

In the Senior Women's Class, Miss Mary Taylor, youthful Los Angeles figure skater, retained her California state title by the margin of a single point. Close behind her in the final scoring was Miss Barbara Ann Gingg, fifteen-year old skater from the St. Moritz Club, and last year's Junior Champion, with Miss Marianne Lindelof, fellow



Miss Mary Taylor and Mr. Eugene Turner.

Los Angeles Figure Skating Club.

1937 California Singles Champions.

member of the Oakland club, but two points behind the winner. So equally matched in free style skating were these three contestants, that each was awarded a first place by the trio of judges. However, after Sunday morning's School Figure points had been totaled to the Free Skating points, the final award was made to last year's champion and present Pacific Coast title holder—Mary Taylor.

Second event on the evening's program found Ernest Berry, champion of the state of Michigan for eight successive years, and California state champion for the past two years, relinquishing his title to sixteen-year-old Eugene Turner of the Los Angeles Figure Skating Club. Young Turner captured the Men's Novice title two seasons ago, and

added the Men's Junior state title and the Men's Senior Pacific Coast title to his laurels last year. His performance in Yosemite showed a complete sureness, which combined grace and freedom of movement in the execution of Axel Paulsens, spins and jumps.

In the Senior Pair competitions, Therese and Richard Jorgensen, Los Angeles figure skaters, easily captured first place. Their performance coupled absolute unison in individual figures as well as in their pair skating. Jumps and spirals were particularly well done. Miss Barbara Ann Gingg and Lloyd Baxter gave an equally fine exhibition in the Junior Pair competition, taking the first award, with Lois and E. Bingham placing second.

Winner of the 1935 Women's Novice, eleven-year-old Suzanne Uksila exhibited a series of spread eagles and intricate spins that won for her the 1937 Women's Junior title. With complete indifference to the keen competition offered her in this class, the young Oakland skater turned in one of the most spectacular performances of the evening. Miss Helen Hardy, also of Oakland, took second place in this event.

A comparatively new figure in the skating competitions, Lloyd Baxter of the Oakland Figure Skating Club stood head and shoulders above all other contestants in the Men's Junior Class. His skating follows quite closely the easy style of young Turner's, whom he promises to give some very keen competition in next year's meet.

Edna Holmes, an attractive Los Angeles skater, made her first appearance in the state meet, placing first in the Women's Novice Class; while Noel Coffey, another newcomer to the ranks, took the Men's Novice Class. A new event listed in this year's competitions was the Juvenile Class, which found eight-year-old Walter Bainbridge of Oakland giving the most amusing number on the evening's program. Owing to the request from skaters under eleven years of age to establish a class of their own, this Juvenile group was listed on the 1937 program. Ramona Allen, another Oakland youngster who shows great promise as a future skating champion, took the Girl's Juvenile title.

Judges for the meet were Charles G. Peffers of Oakland, Howell Janes of Oakland, and John L. Woods of Los Angeles. Mrs. Edison Holt, of the Skate and Ski Club of San Francisco, was unable to officiate as judge due to injuries sustained on the ski fields shortly before the meet.

At the conclusion of the School Figures on Sunday morning, many



Suzanne Uksila. St. Moritz Club. Junior Champion of California.

of the contestants departed for their homes—others remaining to match their talent on skates by attempting a few ski runs on the Nursery Slopes at Badger Pass, ski mecca of the Park.

One casualty marred the meet; strangely enough it was not suffered on skates or skis. Miss June Rasmussen, novice skater from the St. Moritz Club, suffered minor injuries while en route to Yosemite, when her car skidded on the icy pavement and overturned. She was unable to continue to the Park for the competitions, and will have to save her ambitions for the 1938 meet.

#### MEN'S SENIOR

1. Eugene Turner, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club 2. Ernest Berry, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club

3. Richard Jorgensen, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club

#### WOMEN'S SENIOR

- 1. Mary Taylor, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club
- 2. Barbara Ann Gingg, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club
- 3. Marianne Lindelof, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club

#### MEN'S JUNIOR

- 1. Lloyd Baxter, Oakland Figure Skating Club
- 2. Julian Wright, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club

#### WOMEN'S JUNIOR

- 1. Suzanne Uksila, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club
- 2. Helen Hardy, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club

#### Men's Novice

- 1. Noel Coffey, Oakland Figure Skating Club
- 2. Meryl Baxter, Oakland Figure Skating Club
- 3. Arthur Rude, Oakland Figure Skating Club

#### Women's Novice

- 1. Edna Holmes, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club
- 2. Dorothy Beeskow, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club
- 3. Marion Wood, Los Angeles Figure Skating Club

#### Boys' JUVENILE

1. Walter Bainbridge, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club

#### GIRLS' JUVENILE

- 1. Ramona Allen, Oakland Figure Skating Club
- 2. Phyllis Ann Thompson, St. Moritz Ice Skating Club

#### SENIOR PAIRS

- 1. Therese Jorgensen } Los Angeles Figure Skating Club
- 2. Edna Holmes
  Ernest Berry

  Los Angeles Figure Skating Club

#### JUNIOR PAIRS

- 1. Barbara Ann Gingg St. Moritz Ice Skating Club
- 2. Lois Bingham E. W. Bingham Los Angeles Figure Skating Club

- 1. Florence Sousa Waltz
  William Radcliffe
  2. Edna Holmes
- 2. Edna Holmes Ernest Berry Los Angeles Figure Skating Club

# Midwest Championships

ELEANOR BERGER HELLMUND
Kansas City Skating Club

The Midwest Figure Skating Championships were held under the auspices of the Kansas City Skating Club on Thursday, February 4, at the Pla-Mor Ice Palace. The Midwestern Clubs were well represented and the competition in most of the classes was close and keen.

Several handsome silver trophies were awarded beside the gold, silver and bronze medals. Frances Johnson of the Arena Skating Club of Minneapolis won the trophy for the Senior Ladies, Robin Lee from the Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis, won the silver cup for the Senior Men. Josephine and Len Fogassey of the St. Louis Skating Club, winners of the Waltz Competition, were presented with the T. W. A. silver trophy. Eleanor and Eduardo Hellmund won the Senior Pair Championship and were awarded the Harry E. Radix Trophy, and a silver plaque.

An interesting departure from the previous Midwest competitions was the fact that the competition was divided into Juniors and Seniors (the Juniors comparable to National Novice). This was done in order to give less experienced skaters opportunity for competitive skating. Being an innovation, no entries seemed to come for the Junior pairs. In order to set a precedent, carry out the idea of classes, and add color to the event, Robin Lee and Ollie Haupt consented to get up impromptu pairs with Nancy Meyer and Gloria Haupt respectively. The inclusion of these brilliant skaters in pairs hastily arranged for the occasion, excited much admiration for their good sportsmanship. Their performances went off smoothly and were much appreciated.

While the undertaking was new to the two-year-old Kansas City Skating Club, nevertheless under the leadership of Dr. Nelse Ockerblad, President, the event was conducted with smoothness and dispatch. Our Club was grateful for the sympathetic help extended by Mr. William Cady of St. Louis, a pioneer in the fostering of Midwest competition, and the other judges who kindly consented to serve, Mr. Roy McDaniel and Mr. Carl Gandy of Minneapolis, and Mr. Charles McCarthy of Chicago.

The Club Carnival\* was held that night and the following, featuring

<sup>\*</sup>See April issue for carnival report.



Loaned by Kansas City Skating Club.

#### WINNERS OF MIDWEST COMPETITION.

Eduardo Hellmund, Eleanor Hellmund, Ollie Haupt, Gloria Haupt, Eugene Reichel, Nancy Meyer, Jeanne Schulte, Myra Jean Azbe, Frances Johnson, Robin Lee, Elizabeth Reflow, Bob Slaughter, Virginia Bucher, Josephine Fogassey, Len Fogassey.

the winners of the competition. In the intermission of the first night's performance the prizes were awarded. Almost every one who came for the competition stayed for both evenings of the Carnival. Mrs. Dudley Brown entertained the visitors with a buffet dinner following the first evening of the Carnival and the second evening the Kansas City Skating Club was host to the skaters at a supper dance at the Kansas City Club.

#### WOMEN'S SENIOR SINGLES

- Frances Johnson, Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis
   Myra Jean Azbe, St. Louis Figure Skating Club
- 3. Elizabeth Reflow, St. Louis Figure Skating Club
- 4. Virginia Bucher, Kansas City Skating Club

#### MEN'S SENIOR SINGLES

- 1. Robin Lee, Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis
- 2. Ollie E. Haupt, Jr., St. Louis Skating Club
- 3. Eugene Reichel, Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis

#### SENIOR PAIRS

- 1. Mr. and Mrs. Hellmund, Kansas City Skating Club
- 2. Mr. and Mrs. Fogassey, St. Louis Figure Skating Club
- 3. Frances Johnson Arena Skating Club, Minneapolis Eugene Reichel

#### Women's Junior Singles

- 1. Jeanne Schulte, St. Louis Figure Skating Club
- 2. Gloria Haupt, St. Louis Figure Skating Club
- 3. Nancy Meyer, Chicago Figure Skating Club
- 4. Ruth Banks, St. Louis Figure Skating Club
- 5. Elizabeth Cravens, Kansas City Skating Club

#### JUNIOR PAIRS

- 1. Gloria Haupt Ollie E. Haupt, Jr. St. Louis Skating Club
- 2. Nancy Meyer, Figure Skating Club of Chicago Robin Lee, Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis

#### THE WALTZ

- 1. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Fogassey, St. Louis Figure Skating Club
- 2. Mr. and Mrs. Eduardo A. Hellmund, Kansas City Skating Club
- 3. Miss Virginia Bucher and Mr. Robert Slaughter, Kansas City Skating Club

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# April Issue

We hope to mail the next issue about April 23. It will contain a report on The North American Championships and further carnival accounts. The Personal Column will be included if sufficient items are received.

May will be the last number for this season and will contain details on summer skating at Lake Placid.

# The Interested Spectator Advises

Julius Zeiget

Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society

I am an "Interested Spectator" of figure skating. As I watch figure skaters, the question often occurs to me, "Have our better skaters the Interested Spectator's viewpoint sufficiently in mind in composing their program?" That viewpoint, I hasten to say, is essentially one of aesthetic appreciation, and is the common denominator of all the arts.

There is no denying the thrill one gets in seeing an Axel Paulsen well executed with seemingly effortless effort—at least the first time in a night it is exhibited. However, after the third or fourth acrobatic program has come to an end, we, the "Interested Spectators," are becoming a little bored.

I find myself saying that I could enjoy in one night one program of this sort from Evelyn Chandler and another from Roy Shipstead. I am afraid that that is as much as I could stand and still be an interested spectator. The impression I take away with me of such an exhibition is that of a "great performance," composed of miscellaneous but unrelated spectacular jumps, spins, spread eagles, etc. I come away with little aesthetic appreciation. My nerves have been tingled but my deeper emotions have remained frozen. When less able skaters try such programs, we are usually happy to see that our suspicion that they will surely fall on the next stunt was unfounded.

Now the thought I have in mind is one of approach to the art of composing a free skating program. As is well known, a great artist studies his medium of expression. He knows what he can do with it and what he can't. He strives to avoid having his technique become the end of his endeavor, to become greater than his composition. Being a master technician, he concentrates his mental and emotional processes on his subject matter, the composition that can be most appropriately expressed by and through his medium. If he is an oil painter, he does not try, usually, to make his painting look like a water-color. Sometimes he may, but only as a trick, as an exhibition

of technical mastery, as an achievement for other painters to be envious of.

You will recall that Vaslav Nijinsky, the dancer, was always irritated when he was congratulated upon the extent of his jump. That, to him, was merely a part of his equipment, a technical means to an end, not the end itself. He rightly wanted his jump to be subordinated to his complete dance pattern because it was only a part of the whole.

Many art critics also find fault, justly it seems to me, with the tendency of certain artists to copy in one medium a success an artist has achieved in another medium. By and large such copying is usually wasted effort, if not a failure.

How do these suggestions apply to figure skating? Remember I am writing from an "Interested Spectator's" viewpoint.

If I were a champion skater I would not try to be a Pavlowa or Nijinsky of the ice. Nor would I be satisfied to be the greatest technician of figure skating, either in school figures or in free skating. I should want to be the great artist, if not the greatest artist, of the ice, who combines with a great technique a deep knowledge of the possibilities and limitations of my medium by which I could create compositions or patterns (forget dancing on the ice) that arouse the deepest emotional appreciation and satisfaction.

I was never bored seeing Mr. Grafstrom skate. While he was in danger of translating floor dancing into ice patterns, he was always the artist. My friends who feel as I do about this matter were happy to see "the wares" of Miss Vivi-Anne Hulten when she was in Philadelphia on her last visit. We thought, too, that Miss Maribel Vinson was working along lines which were much more emotionally satisfying than repetitious and unrelated use of jumps, spins and whatnot, no matter how spectacular.

With a little more careful study of the ice medium, I believe that a more scientific use can be made of the possibilities of the ice in beautiful and coördinated patterns. This suggestion applies to groups as well as to individual programs. I think you will find that the "Interested Spectator" is becoming a little bored with too much "Man on the Trapeze" stuff.

# Sno Birds Competition

GEORGE CARROLL

Lake Placid Club, N. Y.

The Olympic Arena was again the scene of the annual Lake Placid Club Figure Skating Competition on Saturday, January 23. The 1937 event marked the seventeenth in this series of competitions held under the auspices of the Sno Birds, the intra-club organization for winter sports. Mr. Bedell H. Harned again contributed his able direction. Saturday morning was given over to school figures. The evening saw the free skating, singles, pairs, waltz and fourteenstep. Unfortunately lack of entries made it impossible to hold either the senior women's singles or the junior men's singles. Miss Maribel Vinson skated an exhibition, and her Norwegian peasant dance in costume was enthusiastically received by the audience.

Women's Junior Singles

- 1. Mary Bendix, Manhattan Figure Skating
- 2. Leonore Drake, The Skating Club, N.Y.
- 3. Sadie Pelkey, The Skating Club of Lake Placid

#### MEN'S SENIOR SINGLES

For Henry W. Howe Trophy

- 1. Erle Reiter, The Skating Club, N. Y.
- 2. Otto Dallmayr, The Skating Club, N. Y.
- 3. Roland Janson, The Skating Club, N. Y.

#### PAIRS

- 1. Polly Blodgett and Roger Turner, The Skating Club of Boston
- 2. Mr. and Mrs. W. P. G. Hall, Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane So-

#### WALTZ—CLASS A

- 1. Nettie C. Prantel and Harold Hartshorne, The Skating Club, N. Y.
- 2. Mary Bendix, Manhattan Figure Skating Club, and Otto Dallmayr, The Skating Club, N. Y.

3. Polly Blodgett and Roger Turner, The Skating Club of Boston

#### WALTZ-CLASS B

- 1. Mrs. R. W. Allen, The Skating Club, N. Y., and J. W. Russell, The Skating Club of Boston
- 2. Dorothy Kern and Dr. E. Clarence Kern of Montclair, N. I.

#### FOURTEENSTEP—CLASS A

- 1. Nettie C. Prantel and Harold Hartshorne, The Skating Club, N. Y.
- 2. Polly Blodgett and Roger Turner, The Skating Club of Boston
- 3. Mary Bendix, Manhattan Figure Skating Club, and Otto Dallmayr, The Skating Club, N. Y.

#### FOURTEENSTEP—CLASS B

- 1. Mrs. R. W. Allen and Calvin Good,
- The Skating Club, N. Y.
  2. Sadie Pelkey, The Skating Club of Lake Placid, and J. Oakley Radway, The Skating Club, N. Y.
- 3. Dorothy Kern and Dr. E. Clarence Kern of Montclair, N. J.

# Whirls Through Foreign Circles

EDITED BY MARIBEL Y. VINSON

The casualty list from Europe—even for a pre-competition period—seems unusually serious this year. First among the injured is Maxi Herber, the charming 16-year-old partner of Ernst Baier and co-holder of the European, World, and Olympic pair championships. During a practise session on the Olympia Stadion at Garmisch-Partenkirchen Maxi was struck by an inexpert skater who had lost control, and fell twisting her knee and ankle badly. Her leg is still in a cast and it is doubtful whether she will recover in time to compete in the world championships at the London Earl's Court Rink, March 2.

If Maxi and Baier are unable to defend, their title seems a surety for the Viennese brother and sister pair of Eric and Ilse Pausin, although Mr. and Mrs. Cliff of England and the brother and sister Szekrenyessy, who are now champions of Hungary, will be battling for the open honor. Eric Pausin, aged 16, and his 18-year-old blonde sister, whose childish figure and

baby face make her look far younger on the ice, are now champions of Austria and were runners-up in the worlds and Olympics last year. There is also a rumor that M. and Mme. Brunet, France's Olympic winners of 1928 and 1932, are returning to competition, but as this rumor circulated last year, the actual championship entry list will be the only proof.

Gweneth Butler, popular English skater, fractured her leg during a practise period at St. Moritz and will be definitely hors de combat for the rest of the season. Gweneth, victim of Olympic grippe last year and other leg injuries several seasons ago, seems to have especially bad luck.

Graham Sharpe, in a New Year's letter to the editor, said that he and Cecilia Colledge and the Cliffs (all the British champions) had just finished a tour of German rinks before Christmas. They exhibited at Berlin, Munich, Dusseldorf, Nuremberg, Garmisch, and then at Paris before returning home. Graham says that, "Cecilia or Me-

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gan Taylor is sure to win the championship this year. I'm going to try hard, but it's

not easy, is it.'

Vienna, where Felix Kaspar of the astounding jumps has just won the Austrian title, feels sure that he will succeed to the world honors Karli Schafer is not defending. It promises to be an interesting contest of Sharpe's beautiful figures vs. Kaspar's spectacular free skating, with Kaspar skating before a home-town gallery. Emmy Putzinger won the Austrian ladies' title just recently.

News in the Paris magazine "Sports d'Hiver" is that Jeff Dickson, Americanborn professional promoter of the Palais des Sports has "imported" Hedy Stenuf, young Viennese Schafer-protege, to compete for Paris. She is training and giving shows there, and Dickson whose professionalizing influence on amateur figure skating is widely known and deplored, is busy "building up" with fine clothes and a high-powered press campaign a new star to take Sonja's place with the Paris public.

On the business side of the news, there is announcement of England's first out-door artificial skating rink at Wembley. (Editor's query: Oh, why are America's rinks of this inexpensive, satisfactory type limited to Spokane, Wash., and Radio City, New York, when the Continent supports

dozens of them?).

Ice dancing tests continue to find increased interest in England. And for the first time the National Skating Association is holding a junior competition to take care of the many lady skaters, and it is taken for granted that this will soon be a national junior championship resembling ours. School figure innovation in this land of school figure skaters has taken the form of a Platinum Class Test, taken and passed by Graham Sharpe at Bournemouth. It consisted of such interesting combinations as rocker eights, counter eights, three-loopthree, bracket-rocker-bracket and similar complicated paragraphs. Let your imagination counter about a bit and you will see that there are endless fascinating possibilities with this sort of test.

Austria is holding its first professional championship and pros from all countries

are eligible.

#### NEWS FLASHES

Karli Schafer has just arrived in New York saying that Cecilia won the ladies' European, Megan was second, and Emmy Putzinger third.

In the pair a miraculous cure of Maxi's injury (which had been very bad indeed) was effected and she and Baier beat the Pausins. The Szekrenyessy brother and sis-

ter were third.

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Schafer said that Maxi is better than ever, both pair and singles free skating, though she is not competing in singles and her figures are not so much. K. thinks Sharpe will beat out Kaspar for his title, though he says Kaspar's figures are much better this year—but so is Graham's free! K. says Cecilia is better than last year; as he put it, she "has more music to her skating now."

Never have seen Karli looking so well—he is a bit heavier and has bright pink cheeks. As he says, "I am married now. I have no plans. This is our marriage trip and we are going to have fun." He and Christa were married in Budapest on Jan. 28. Roaring with laughter, he said he gave six farewell exhibitions, all around and in

Vienna.

Melitta Brunner, the attractive young Austrian who competed here in the 1930 World's Championships and afterwards skated in some carnivals, recently arrived in New York. Melitta turned professional some years ago and has been teaching in London and Switzerland; her interpretive exhibitions have been extremely successful in Europe as she is a trained ballet dancer and combines the best of both arts in her beautiful numbers. She is to appear in the

United States at various carnivals and other exhibitions this spring.

An item in the Boston Transcript states that Cecilia Colledge won the World's Championship in London with 2528.9 points and Megan Taylor was second with 2488.1. Audrey Peppe of New York placed twelfth with 2184.9 points. Further details will probably be available for the April issue.

The European Championships were held at Prague on February 6 and 7. Maxi Herber and Ernst Baier of Germany successfully defended their title against the Pausins of Austria who were second; then followed the Szekrenyessy brother and sister of Hungary; Mr. and Mrs. Cliff of England; Miss Kock and Mr. Noack, Germany; Mr. and Mrs. Cattaneo, Italy; and three other pairs. The first six in the Ladies were Cecilia Colledge, England; Megan Taylor, England; Emmy Putzinger, Austria: Hedv Stenuf, skating for France; Miss Niernberger, Austria; Gladys Jaggers, England; eight other entries. The order in the Men's was Kaspar, Austria; Sharpe, England; Tertak, Hungary; Tomlins, England; Linhart, Austria; Alward, Austria; six other entries.

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## Rockers and Counters

Spokane Figure Skating Club. Our rink is an artificial outdoor one and during January we experienced the coldest winter in the history of Spokane. The inclement weather, plus an unsympathetic management, caused the rink to shut down. When things looked blackest and we had given up all hope of a carnival, the Oakland Hockey Team took an option on the rink and reopened it February 14. Being most kind they permitted our groups to practice almost at will gave extra hours for club sessions, advertised the carnival, and did all in their power to make it a success.

Which it was: we had 1800 the first night and about the same number the second night, the largest crowds ever to attend an ice show here and without question the most enthusiastic. This is interesting as the Arena only holds 2,000.

We presented our show at Grand Forks, B. C., as a sort of dress-rehearsal before our Spokane performances. We also skated for the State College of Washington at Pullman where 4,000 enthusiastic spectators sat through a blizzard to see our show; their rink being created by flooding the baseball diamond.

P. S.

Cleveland Figure Skating Club. There is great satisfaction in accomplishment; first to establish a figure skating club, secondly to develop the club so that maximum skating benefits may be had with the existing skating facilities. The latter accomplishment was brought about through the vision and generalship of our club President, Mr. Howard P. Eells, Jr. The second year the Cleveland Figure Skating Club has a membership of 533. There are 180 Seniors, 333 Juniors and 20 non-skating members. Ormond B. Haycock, the club professional, is taxed to the utmost in endeavoring to satisfy the demands for instruction.

The Toronto Skating Club has staged three carnivals in Cleveland and the keen interest created here is directly traceable to their splendid efforts. A warm friendship has sprung up between the two clubs and a number of our members will attend the Toronto Skating Club Carnival, among them will probably be Mr. and Mrs. Howard P. Eells, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. William Chisholm, II, Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Hallie, Mr. and Mrs. Allan C. House, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Bicknell, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Towell, Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Garfield, Mr. and Mrs. Louis F. Cody, Mrs. Morgan Brannan, Miss Rosamond Robert, Mr. George H. P. Lacey and Mr. Alexander C. Brown, Jr. E. H. B.

Niagara Falls Skating Club. April 2 has definitely been selected as the date for our third annual carnival. There is much ac-

tivity in preparation for this event under the direction of our professional, Norton Wait. For our first carnival, the entire program was furnished by other clubs who kindly assisted us in organizing and presenting the event. Our second carnival was very largely handled in the same way except that we made our initial appearance on the ice in two numbers. This year approximately one hundred club members will take part including the principal characters in the theme to be presented. In membership, our Club has shown a fifty percent increase over last year. W. T. S.

Seattle Skating Club held a meeting at the Olympic Hotel February 3 when the following officers were elected: President, Kenneth Sorrells; Vice-President, Mrs. Myrtle Girten; Secretary, Mrs. Nellie Jensen; Treasurer, Miss Ida Cooper. We find that by holding our meeting following a dinner we have a better attendance and create a social atmosphere. At this meeting Mr. Ivar Lundequist, Swedish Vice Consulate, showed moving pictures of his daughter, Britta, taken over a period of three years. Each season showed a marked development.

Mr. Jon Jonsen, our professional, has been conducting talks on school figures every Wednesday evening which have created a great deal of interest. He has been doing this for the club without charge. It is an excellent method to acquaint new members with figure skating.

N. I.

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# Club Representatives

Club representatives are responsible for sending in items of club news and local activities, and also announcements for the new Personals column. If you have any interesting news items, check up with your representative to see that they are sent in promptly.—Ed.

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Arena Skating Club, (Minneapolis, Minn.), Miss Frances Johnson Bear Mountain Skating Club, Mrs. William H. Bruns, Jr. Brooklyn Figure Skating Club, Miss Daisy Sharer Buffalo Skating Club, Miss Margaret Aikman Cleveland Figure Skating Club, Mr. Edwin H. Brandenburg Duluth Figure Skating Club, Miss Madeline McGee Figure Skating Club of Chicago, Mrs. Lyman M. Drake, Ir. Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis, Miss Vera McNulty Hershey Figure Skating Club, Mr. Gray Playter Ice Birds (Springfield, Mass.), Miss Marjorie Chase International Figure Skating Club of Philadelphia, Mrs. D. Nelson Kansas City Skating Club, Mrs. Eduardo A. Hellmund Los Angeles Figure Skating Club, Mrs. Pauline K. Neuman Manhattan Figure Skating Club (New York, N. Y.), Mrs. F. E. Earing Mountain Beach Skating Club (Williamsport, Pa.), Mr. James H. Mather New Haven Skating Club, Mr. Edwin F. Washburn Newton Figure Skating Club, Mrs. Elbridge Wason Niagara Falls Skating Club, Mrs. G. W. Arthurs Olympia Skating Club (Detroit, Mich.), Mrs. M. Drukenbrod Philadelphia Skating Club & Humane Society, Mrs. Valentine Bieg Playland, (Rve, N. Y.) Mrs. N. I. Follett Ouaker City Skating Club (Phila., Pa.), Mrs. Walter Kile Seattle Skating Club, Mrs. Nellie Jensen Spokane Figure Skating Club, Mr. Paul Smithson Sports Centre Skating Club (Baltimore, Md.), Mrs. C. W. Mitchell St. Louis Skating Club, Mrs. Martin Hyland St. Moritz Club (Oakland, Cal.), Mrs. H. E. Thompson St. Paul Figure Skating Club, Mrs. Arthur F. Preusch Superior Skating Club, Mrs. Frank E. Sullivan The Ice Club of Baltimore, Miss Helen Gardner The Skating Club, Inc. (New York, N. Y.), Mr. William S. Bird The Skating Club of Boston, Miss Olivia Stone The Skating Club of Lake Placid, Miss Alice O'Haire The University of Illinois Skating Club, Mr. W. H. Raynor

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