

# Christmas

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## In the World of Sport

### "JIMMY" WILDE AVERS HE WHIPPED SHARKEY

#### The English Flyweight Champion Says Public Sentiment Adverse.

Jimmy Wilde, although accepting the verdict of the press in good spirit, has a complaint to make, and wishes to be heard. Jimmy thinks that public sentiment influenced the decision in his bout at Milwaukee with Jack Sharkey, and he is so positive of his victory that he doubts very much whether Sharkey would even be considered by English match-makers for a trip overseas and a bout in London.

"I understand that all the decisions have gone against me," said Wilde, "but I am positive, beyond a doubt, that had the bout been held in England, I would have won easily. I did not think there was any doubt about it, even though I did not box as good as usual. Let me ask you a few questions.

"Who landed the cleaner blows? Who did all the forcing of the bout? Who was it that did the clinching and sought the clinches?"

To the first two, to be fair, it must be stated says a correspondent, that Wilde carried the brunt of the attack and landed by far the cleaner blows. To the last there can only be one answer. Sharkey it was who sought the clinches and clinched whenever he could bring his weight to bear. Then Wilde continued:

"I know I was not in the best of condition for the battle. But even so I think I won, and won handily. Sharkey's blows were mostly on my elbows and around my head and shoulders. He crossed and shook me once in the third round, but I was never in danger and was never bothered by his blows."

### AMERICAN COLLEGE LEAGUE FAVOR HOCKEY

A New York despatch says: Leagues for teams in college athletics are not favored particularly by the authorities in the various institutions. Only in a few of the minor sports are they allowed, or are they possible. Nevertheless, nothing else would boost the most excellent game of hockey in the colleges to the height which it deserves like a revival of the old league. Hockey is played mostly by the New England colleges, but it is rapidly growing in favor among others. A league of college hockey teams would heighten the interest and competition in this sport.

Prospects for an exceptionally big year in collegiate hockey are particularly bright this winter. Many colleges are taking up the game for the first time, while others are resuming where they left off when the call to arms was sounded. As in football, many former hockey stars will be back and will try for places on the Varsity teams.

### TOMMY SMITH SEEKS JOB

#### He Was Once the N. H. League's Best Scorer.

Old Tommy Smith is on deck again. He is looking for a job in the National Hockey League.

How the mighty have fallen remarks the Montreal Herald. A few years ago, Smith was the best sharp-shooter on the circuit. While with the Quebec team, the last member of Ottawa's great athletic Smith family twice led the league in scoring. He could have commanded his own salary then with any team in the league.

Smith's last engagement was with Canadiens in 1916-17. He made his exit in a blaze of glory, for in the final saw-off match of that season, at Ottawa, he shared a loose puck and popped in the counter that gave Canadiens the title and made it possible for them to go west. On the western trip, Smith and Manager Kennedy didn't get along at all. "You wouldn't be here if it wasn't for me," said Smith one day after Kennedy had remonstrated with him for some breach of the club rules, to which Kennedy replied: "We wouldn't be here if it wasn't for Vesina. He stopped ten for every one you scored."

Smith was out of hockey last year, apparently having decided to retire, but now he has written to the Quebec Club to say that if he is wanted, there is no other team in the circuit he would rather play with, but that if the Bulldogs do not want to use him, he would like his release, in order to play with some other outfit.

The referees won't worry if Smith never plays again. Tommy is one of the trickiest and most persistent outside looters in the country, and sets on the nerves of the other clubs, with the result that the referees is in constant hot water.

### STILL AFTER JOHNSON

#### American League Insurgents to Battle in Courts.

Retaliating for what is termed the "steam roller" tactics of Ban Johnson, president of the American League, and the club owners supporting him, the New York club of the American League has started legal machinery in motion to oust Johnson from the league presidency or from using any funds belonging to the league. They declare that there is no contract with Johnson for a long term of years.

Lalonde Signed. "Newsy" Lalonde, the veteran hockey player, has turned in his contract to George Kennedy, manager of the Canadiens team in the N.H.L. for the tenth successive year. Lalonde will again be captain of the team. So far the following men have signed Canadiens contracts: Lalonde, Donald Smith, H. McNamara, Berlinguette and Vesina.

Hamilton Spectator: "The Toronto professional team is counting on Roach and McCarthy as two of its members, but they will have to keep on counting as far as 'Mickey' and 'Mac' are concerned, for if they are not declared eligible to play in the O.H.A., they will not play at all. They do not altogether like the way that the pro. players wield the pick-

### BASEBALL IS SAFE.

#### Johnson's Attorney Discusses American League Possibilities.

No danger to the structure of organized baseball or to the championship season of 1920 exists in the factional fight of the American League, according to George W. Miller, attorney for President Johnson, to whom the American League executive referred all questions on his return from New York to Chicago.

The only damage the belligerent three club owners can do in the next baseball campaign, Attorney Miller said, is to refuse to open their parks and enter teams in the race. This action, he said, is not anticipated.

"The American League will continue to function in the interest of clean sport," Attorney Miller said, "in spite of all efforts to hamper President Johnson in the performance of his executive duties.

"After the three dissenting club owners have had time to cool off, another meeting will be held in legal form, and whatever business is necessary to conduct the coming baseball season will be transacted. That meeting will be called by the President, and the time and place will be designated by him."

### Why They Were Angry.

They will have their joke at the poor wrestlers. A New York paper says: Zbysko and Stecher were reported as very antagonistic before last night's match. The antagonism arose over the fact that each had won from the other an even number of falls in their last half dozen matches, and they couldn't decide on whose turn it was to win. What added materially to their antagonism was the additional fact that they were wrestling for the "championship of the world"—which belonged to a third party. That made 'em madder, of course.

### French Star Coming.

Mlle. Suzanne Lenglen, the marvelous girl tennis champion of France, and who claims the ladies' championship of the world, is going to visit America next year. It is possible that she will play in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal, according to the plans mapped out for her tour. Mlle. Lenglen is said to be the most remarkable tennis player that ever stood on the famous Wimbledon courts in England.

### Exciting Hockey Expected.

Cobourg Hockey Club will enter an intermediate team in the O. H. A. this season. Considerable material is available, and the boys are getting down to hard practice. With Port Hope, Bowmanville, Whitby and other old-time teams in the fray, some exciting hockey is expected in the district.

### Hockey Notes.

The N.H.L. ratified the sale of the Tecumseh franchise and allowed the name changed to St. Patrick's on Saturday. Canadiens come here on December 31st, one day later than the schedule calls for.

Alf. Skinner and Harry Meeking, late members of the Toronto pro team, left for the coast last night, where they will play hockey this winter. Skinner will be with Vancouver and Meeking with Seattle.

Joe Malone, of the Quebec team, left for the ancient city on Saturday night. This removes any doubt as to where the famous sharpshooter is going to play this winter. The St. Patrick's would have liked to secure him.

According to Geo. Kennedy of the Canadiens, Howard McNamara has signed to play for the Montreal team this winter. Eddie Carpenter, who formerly played for Toronto and Seattle, has sent in his contract, also Didier Pitre is once more on the job. Bert Corbeau has not been signed yet.

Corbett Denny is not going to the P.C.H.A. this winter. At the last moment President Frank Patrick found it necessary to call off arrangements with him which would have seen him playing with Victoria this season. Apparently the N.H.L. registered an objection to his taking any more Toronto players, which he

considered it wise not to overlook in view of his successful raid in which he got Adams, Meeking and Skinner.

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