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**St. Mary's Score 4-3
 Win Over Sagging Beavers
 To Boost Lead To 6 Points**

HALIFAX, Dec. 22—(CP)—Halifax St. Mary's outplayed the sagging Saint John Beavers 4-3 before a crowd of 3,104 here tonight to lengthen their first-place lead over Beavers in the Maritime Senior Hockey League to six points and their current unbeaten streak to 11 games.

All the scoring was packed in the first two periods. Beavers, starting from the 9-2 thumping they took from Moncton Hawks at Moncton last night, started slowly on the soft ice. Halifax had a 2-0 lead within the first six minutes of play and it wasn't until past the midway mark that Beavers got one back.

Two goals in the space of less than a minute at the start of the second period gave St. Mary's a 4-1 lead and sewed up the contest. Beavers fought back and tied the margin to one goal near the end of the session. But big John Dentley, the league's top netminder who stopped 26 shots to Floyd Perras' 17, was hot in the third period for the Saints.

St. Mary's win was their eighth against three defeats in 14 starts against Beavers this season. For Beavers it was their fourth straight loss and their fifth in their last seven games and it ensured Halifax of the top spot until after Christmas. In the league's last game until Dec. 28, third-place Moncton Hawks, who trail Beavers by 15 points, visit last-place Amherst Ramblers tomorrow night.

Beavers' one-time leaders this season were without defencemen Lorne Smith and Doug Fritz, both on the injured list. That didn't help them as they went their seventh straight game on Halifax ice without a victory. The best they have done here is a tie. Vic Jackson alternated between his regular left wing position and defence.

First Period

- Halifax Schmidt (Steel, Armstrong) 2:01.
- Halifax Hannon (Ford, Powers) 5:41.
- Saint John, Nicolle (Jackson, Demchuk) 10:45.

Penalty: Dowling

Second Period

- Halifax Brennan (Sullivan, Steel) 2:41.
- Halifax, Armstrong (Powers) 3:28.
- Saint John, Drillon (Legere) 8:55.
- Saint John, Heon, 16:05.

Third period
 Scoring: None.
 Penalties: None.

**Eddie Shore's
 Disbanded Hockey
 Players Scattered**

SEATTLE, Dec. 22—(AP)—Players of Eddie Shore's disbanded Oakland Oaks of the Pacific Coast Hockey League have been widely distributed to other clubs.

Most of the players stayed in the Coast League but five have been posted to Shore's American League team, the Springfield Indians.

The Vancouver Canucks got the Unger, centre, and other moves included:

To Fresno—Gordon Duggan, right wing; Ray Glover, centre; Walter Babey, defence, and Ed Marchant, left wing.

To San Diego—Bill Jones, left wing; Stan Jones, right wing and Lawrence May, defence.

San Francisco took Danny Nixon, defence, while Paul Courteau, centre, was sold to Louisville of the United States Hockey League.

Goalie Nip O'Hearn and centre Mike Narduzzi were transferred to Springfield and Shore has similar plans for wing Eric Prentice, defencemen Red Kane and centre Joe Iannarelli.

The Oaks disbanded Monday. Shore finding it impossible to operate in Oakland because of poor attendance and lack of interest in the game there.

**Louis Comments
 On Comeback Plans**

DES MOINES, Dec. 22—(AP)—Joe Louis, former heavyweight champion, said in a telephone interview today that it will take possibly three more months to reach a definite decision on his comeback plans.

Louis, who appeared in an eight-round exhibition at Salt Lake City last night, was interviewed by Tony Cordaro, Des Moines Tribune sports writer.

"I feel good," Joe told Cordaro. "I'm punching good, but I've got to be sure."

"Who will your opponent be if you fight again?" Joe was asked. He replied:

"If I fight, it will be Edward Charles, of course. He's the best heavyweight around and the match will draw the most money."

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WEEK-END NEWS
 SKATING THURSDAY AND FRIDAY NIGHT 8 TO 10
 AFTERNOON SKATING FRIDAY FOR KIDDIES — 4 TO 5:30
 SATURDAY—3 TO 5

NO SKATING SATURDAY NIGHT

THE FORUM

SPORTING NEWS

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**Amherst Ramblers Get
 Two New Defencemen**

AMHERST, N.S., Dec. 22—(CP)—Coach Doggie Kuhn said tonight his last-place Amherst Ramblers of the Maritime Senior Hockey League will have two new defencemen when they meet Moncton Hawks here tomorrow night.

Kuhn said the rearguards are Bill MacDonald of Quebec, a Mount Allison University student at nearby Sackville, N.B., and Reg Crosby, with Maritime intercollegiate champion Acadia University Axemen last season.

Ramblers officials said they were unable to explain the attitude of league-leading Halifax

**Kell First 3rd.
 Baseman To Win
 Battering Crown**

By Jerry Links
 CHICAGO, Dec. 22—(AP)—Detroit's George Kell, first third baseman ever to do the trick today officially was proclaimed American League batting champion by an unprecedented eyelash margin of two-tenths of a point.

Official figures for the blistering 1949 slug race disclosed the Tiger star thumped a bid by Boston's Ted Williams for a fifth hitting crown on the last day of the season, 34.29 to 34.27.

Boston won the team batting title with a .282 mark, 13 points ahead of the champion New York Yankees.

The final accounting released today credited Kell with 179 hits in 522 times at bat, compared with Williams' 194 blows in 566 trips. Kell played in 134 games and Williams in 153.

On the campaign's closing day, Kell collected two hits and defending champion Williams went hitless to be inched into the runner-up spot.

For the injury-plagued Kell, the performance fulfilled the potential with a stick demonstrated when the Bengal ace led all minor league hitters in 1948 with a .398 mark for Lancaster of the Inter-State League.

The best hitting mark for an American League third baseman is the .347 registered back in 1912 by J. Franklin Baker of Philadelphia, but this was far behind Kell's winning 410 mark this season.

Although Williams failed to retain his batting title, the splendid splinter led the league in four specialized departments — home runs with 43; runs scored, 150; total bases, 368; and two-base hits, 39—more than Kell.

Williams won the hitting crown in 1948 with .369. His other title marks were .343 in 1947, .356 in

**Connie Mack Hopes To
 Win One More Pennant**

By CHARLES WELSH
 PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22—(AP)—The lean, lively old gent was talking on his favorite subject and there was a special glint in his eye a sort of golden anniversary glint.

You would never have guessed, looking at him today, that Connie Mack was celebrating — quietly — his 87th birthday. But there was no guessing about his subject, and that in particular to exhibit some of the former strength they had shown in past years.

A definite weakening of the Vics defence in the second period gave the Saints the opportunities they are capable of taking advantage of, when they broke through four times with practically no opposition to bang in four tallies in the game, the first being in the half in particular to exhibit some of the former strength they had shown in past years.

The three quick goals were all worked on at the same play, and defencemen didn't seem to be able to fathom just what was going on before all three goals were in. They all came direct from the centre ice face, Farmer carrying in to the left side of the net and slipping it across in front where Deighen, without a man covering him, just banged them in. At least that was the one in two instances, with MacRae doing the play making honors the last time and Farmer potting the goal by using the same pattern of play.

Young Gene Ward, making his second appearance in interminded performance in the Vics net and made some startling saves in the first period when the Saints were really swarming all around the net, but with practically no protection from his defence in the early second period barrage, never stood a ghost of a chance on the four close-in shots that got past him during the hectic four minutes.

The early barrage shocked the Vics into action however, and tightening their defensive play as well as launching a full scale offensive, gave the opposing net a good working life. Bernard getting both their tallies in the first period, while Farmer garnered one goal and two assists in the second.

**Egg And Poultry
 Marketing Report**

Due to non-renewal of British egg contracts and completion of 1949 contracts, a serious decline in egg prices has resulted throughout the Atlantic provinces, reports Mr. F. M. Nash, District Officer, Poultry Products. Egg prices have decreased ten to eleven cents per dozen. As a result of the loss of British contract, the poultry industry of Canada faces a critical period of readjustment. Prices will be low but if wholesalers and retailers pass these low prices on to consumers, consumption will undoubtedly increase thereby preventing an over surplus of eggs which might still further depress the market.

Operators of grading stations are quoting producers for ungraded eggs AL 30-1, AM 28-9, AP 25, B 26, C 18.

Dealers or wholesalers are quoting for the graded pack as follows: AL 35, AM 33, AP 30, B 31, C 23, and quoting the retailer for AL 39-40, AM 37-8, AP 34, B 35.

Three cents more per dozen is being asked for cased eggs. Retail market is unsettled with some retailers still offering consumers eggs at last weeks prices AL 59-63, AM 57-61, AP 55, B 52 whilst others have reduced their prices and are selling at AL 47-8, AM 45, AP 42, B 43.

Receipts of dressed poultry have increased immensely. Quality has improved and stock being graded packed and placed in storage. Paying prices to producers have been reduced by approximately two cents per lb. and dealers are now quoting producers as follows: Chickens dressed over 5 lbs. Sp. Mfg. 42, AMF 40, B 33, Fowl dressed over 5 lbs. Special 30, A 28, B 26, Capons four cents over chicken prices. Geese and ducks are A 38, B 35. Turkeys dressed up to 16 lbs. A 46, B 43, 16-18 lbs. 40, B 37, 18 lbs. and up A 33, B 30.

Consumers will find the markets

**Bearcats Down
 Meripacs 10-5**

TRURO, N.S., Dec. 22—(CP)—Truro Bearcats doubled up Pictou Meripacs 10-5 in an Antigonish-Pictou-Colchester Senior Hockey League game here tonight.

The win advanced Cats within seven points of third-place Antigonish Bulldogs. Pictou has won only one game in 12 starts. The score was tied 3-3 at the end of the first period but Truro drew ahead 5-3 in the second. Pictou played 10 men against Truro's 13.

HISTORY RECORDS SOURCE
 Britain's Historical Manuscripts Commission, which issues many records to libraries of colleges, corporations and private individuals, was formed in 1869.

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**Sydney Mayor's
 Resignation Read
 At Council Session**

By DON MACKENZIE
 (Canadian Press Correspondent)
 SYDNEY, N.S., Dec. 22—(CP)—City Council tonight accepted the resignation of Mayor Don Jack MacLean, charged with murder.

The Mayor tendered his resignation tonight to a special meeting of the Council of this Cape Breton steel city. There was no immediate indication when an election would be held.

Mayor MacLean stands charged with the murder of 62-year-old Joseph MacKinnon the city's registrar of voters. Mr. MacKinnon's body was found in a south-end alleyway Sunday night. Police quoted two youngsters as saying they had seen a car drive over Mr. MacKinnon's body twice. A blood-spattered crutch was found near the body of the semi-cripple.

Addressed to H. Reid McPherson, acting city clerk, Mayor MacLean's letter, written in his cell at the County Jail, read:

"In view of the unfortunate circumstances attending the death of my life-long friend Joseph MacKinnon, I hereby tender to you, Sir, and to the City Council, my resignation as Mayor of Sydney, and respectfully request that the same be consented to and accepted by the City Council. I feel that my continuing in office may develop into a source of embarrassment to the people of Sydney, to whom I owe a deep debt of gratitude for the trust and confidence they so generously reposed in me during my eight years as

**N. Y. Rangers Sell
 Poile To Bruins**

NEW YORK, Dec. 22—(CP)—New York Rangers of the National Hockey League announced today they had sold Brad Poile, right winger, to Boston Bruins for an undisclosed cash sum and the rights of an unnamed amateur player.

Poile, a native of Fort William, Ont., will report to Boston in time to play at Toronto Saturday.

Chief magistrate.

"I wish to thank the members of the City Council and all of the city officials for their unfailing kindness and courtesy, and particularly for their many years of loyal support and co-operation in all matters pertaining to the welfare and advancement of the city of Sydney.

"Respectfully yours, D. Jack MacLean, mayor."

Mr. MacLean's letter of resignation was read by Deputy Mayor Tony Gallagher.

There was a long silence, then Alderman Seymour Hines said: "Let's get the agony over with." He moved the resignation be accepted and this was seconded by Alderman Gordon Richmond.

**Miners Drive For Top
 Spot Stopped By North
 Sydney Vics In 8-2 Win**

NORTH SYDNEY, N.S., Dec. 22—(CP)—Glace Bay Miners' drive toward a first-place deadlock in the Cape Breton Senior Hockey League was stopped in its tracks tonight by North Sydney Victorias, who lambasted the Coalmen 8-2.

Miners remain two points behind top-place Sydney Millionaires, who meet Vics tomorrow night. North Sydney's victory pulled them within three points of Miners.

Vics monopolized the play tonight except in the first period. They led 2-1 at the end of the first period, widened the margin to 7-2 in the second and topped off the performance with one more in the third.

Goalie Eddie D'Aoust of Miners made 35 stops and drew a misconduct—only penalty of the game—in the middle period for some uncomplimentary remarks to referee Frank Elliott. Dusty Rhodes had 18 stops in Vics net.

Standings

(Including last night's games)

BIG FOUR LEAGUE

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts
Halifax	40	26	8	6	58
St. John	40	22	10	8	52
Moncton	39	16	18	5	37
Amherst	39	4	32	11	11

CAPE BRETON LEAGUE

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts
Sydney	39	17	15	7	41
Glace Bay	39	17	17	5	39
North Sydney	38	16	18	4	36

**First Group Of
 Canadian Athletes
 Sails For Games**

VANCOUVER, Dec. 22—(CP)—Canada's "first division" of athletes sailed today aboard the motorship Aorangi, bound for Auckland, N.Z., and the first post-war edition of the British Empire Games opening Feb. 4.

There were some similarities with the departure of a troop ship as the Aorangi (her Maori name means "cloud-plerer") slipped her moorings.

Flamingo blazers replaced khaki but there were band music, frank waving from the ship's rail, choiced-up friends and relatives on the dock.

"Now we know we have you behind us, we'll do the best we can," said Maj. Jack Davies of Montreal, the team's general manager, in a good-bye message to the crowd.

The party—36 including officials—marched to the pier when the band played "Beer Barrel Polka." Civic officials brought good wishes. A "good luck" telegram was sent by Alexander.

A second contingent of 37 Canadians leaves by air Jan. 17. Of the 73 making the New Zealand trip, 64 are athletes, the rest officials.

1942 and 406 in 1941. Before reaching his peak this year, Kell batted .322, .320 and .304 for the Tigers.

Third place in the 1949 hitting race went to another third baseman, Bob Dillinger of St. Louis with .324. Dillinger last week was traded to Philadelphia for whom Kell played in 1944-45.

Fourth spot went to Dale Mitchell of Cleveland with .317, followed by Bobby Doerr of Boston with .309; Cass Michaels of Chicago with .308; Dom DiMaggio of Boston, .307; and Johnny Peski of Boston and Roy Sievers of St. Louis with .306 each.

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