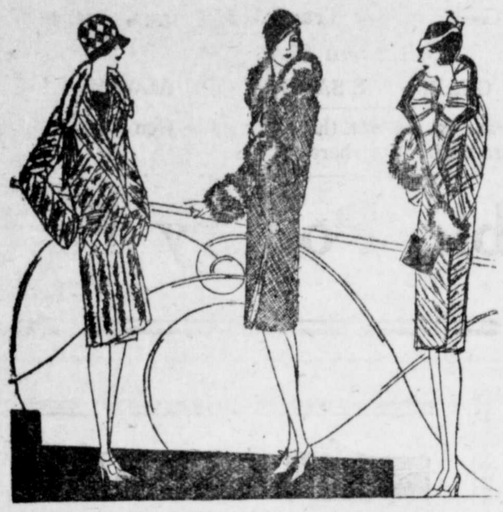
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Man Held For Rock Hall Ferry And Wharf Blaze

John Hutchins, Watchmen, Only Man Near Scene Of Fire When Discovered

Rigid investigation of the fire which destroyed the Baltimore-Rock Hall ferryboat Eastern Shore at Sandy Beach January 4 yesterday resulted in John Hutchins, twenty-eight, of Highlandtown, being held in $5000 bail on an arson charge at Essex Police Station for action of the Grand Jury of Baltimore county.

Hutchins, who lives at 614 South Sixteenth street, was arrested by Detective Joseph F. Dougherty, investigator for the State Insurance Department; Lieut. W. B. Dorsey and Sergeant William Funk of the county police. Pending further investigation of the case State's Attorney H. Courtenay Jenifer refused to comment on Hutchins' arrest.

It is understood that the county Grand Jury will begin their investigation into the charges against Hutchins within a few days. With the burning of the ferryboat, and a section of the pier the lass was estimated at approximately $120,000.

When facts of alleged suspicion connected with the burning of the boat were brought to the attention of the State Insurance Department, Detective Dougherty was assigned to the case. Dougherty several weeks previously had made an investigation concerning a mysterous fire which was discovered aboard the ferryboat while she was lying at her pier at Rock Hall.

What was termed an unsuccessful attempt to fire the boat was made November 4, 1927, according to Dougherty. John Ryan, a watchman employed at the pier at Rock Hall, discovered a burning candle set among a lot of waste in the hold of the steamer, according to detectives. The incident was reported to the authorities of Kent county and to the State Insurance Department. The alleged attempt to burn the boat caused the vessel to be brought to the Sandy Beach pier December 21.

The ferry company is in the hands of receivers and is scheduled for sale. Thursday. According to Detective Dougherty, after the boat was tied up at Sandy Beach Hutchins was employed as watchman with the understanding that he remain on the vessel twenty-four hours a day. There was no fire in the boilerroom of the boat, according to Dougherty.

When the blaze was discovered Hutchins is alleged to have left the pier and subsequently notified the county fire department. When firemen arrived the boat and pier were a mass of flames. The day after the fire Hutchins was arrested and subjected to a grilling by county authorities. What they learned the authorities refused to disclose, but on advice of Jenifer, Hutchins was charged with arson.

SPORTS OF WEEK

WASHINGTON COLLEGE TO PLAY LOYOLA TONIGHT—LOCAL COLLEGIANS DEFEAT PENN ATHLETIC CLUB—OTHER NOTES OF INTEREST

BY POLK T. BRAMBLE

The first basketball game of particular local interest will be played on the floor of the Loyola College team, in Baltimore, tonight, when Washington will visit them for their annual Baltimore contest. This game will give fans a chance to see just what Washington can do against a strong college outfit. They have certainly demonstrated remarkable ability against athletic clubs and northern colleges. However, we doubt if any team they have played this season unless it is Penn Athletic Club, can quite measure up to the usual Loyola College team. Many local people will go over to Baltimore for the game.

Washington College showed real strength against the Penn Athletic Club Saturday night in Philadelphia, defeating them in a closely played contest, in which Washington College demonstrated marked superiority and remarkable ability. The all-round work of the team was exceptionally good.

Monte Munn says he has just begun to fight. After being knocked cold in the last two starts, it appears to use like "finish" has been written indelibily against his name. Grantland Rice, noted sports writer, says he believes he can make good. That's what Rice always says, when they have a diploma or can speak a few words of Latin or Greek. However, prize fighting is just another of those contests where people are not looking for family records or college careers. What the average American wants is practical, honest-to-goodness, lasting results. For instance, such as Lindbergh has been doing during the past few months. The writer, by the way, has never heard it asked what college Lindbergh graduated from, or whether or not he ever saw a college; nor whether his family tree is as large as the gigantic spread of the Wye Oak. The same, by the way, applies to Lincoln, Mellon, Edison, Ford and a host of other real folks.

lar college game, but as a professional sport it seems to thrive best in small towns where the spectators get closer to the players. Football seems to be strictly an intercollegiate game. The professional game has made little progress in four years of hard plugging.

Boxing is of little importance as a college sport. But in the professional field boxing leads the list in popularity and prosperity. Professional baseball has made tremendous financial gains in the bigger cities in the last twenty years, but college baseball is losing prestige.

College and amateur rowing are popular sports, and professional rowing are popular sports, and professional rowing is defunct as far as this country is concerned.

Amateur and professional golf are popular. Tennis is strictly an amateur game. Billiards is largely a professional sport.

Thus it goes. They are all good games, but some of them will thrive only in an intercollegiate atmosphere, others do well in amateur fields and still others flourish best under a professional stimulus.

The chase for an opponent to box Gene Tunney in a heavyweight championship bout goes on. Jack Sharkey, Boston Lithuanian, met Tom Heeney, of New Zealand, at Madison Square Garden last night in a tryout for a challenger.

Tex Rickard, who holds Tunney's contract to select a rival, made known today that he hoped to reach a decision immediately after the fight. For the present, Rickard is going ahead with plans to stage the big spectacle at the Yankee Stadium in September.

Richard said he might conduct another heavyweight championship affair in Chicago, where influential parties have been after him to return.

The year produced a great number of athletic champions and some fine sportsmen. We have read about a lot of new records. Undoubtedly the greatest sportsman of all and unrival athlete in his line is a young American known the world over as Colonel Lindbergh. They used to say that the name of John L. Sullivan was more famous throughout the world than the name of any American President. Probably Lindbergh's name is better known than Sullivan's ever was. As for his record in daring feats and admirable sportsmanship it stands so far above that of any ring champion or other professional athlete that comparisons would be silly.

Some of the sport champions deserve a little applause, even if they are entirely overshadowed by the flying colonel. In their own little lines they are pretty good. Babe Ruth, making a new world home-run record, did more than bat the ball over a few fences. He proved that it pays to train hard and live carefully. The Babe had been careless and had slipped almost out of the picture. But he had the stuff to stick to it and come back better than ever. Bobby Jones has shown himself the peer of all golfers, amateur or professional; has won more championships and has not let golf run away with him. Bobby says he probably won't have time to go to England next summer and try to win the British open again and make it three straight. He is too busy with his law studies and getting started in his profession.

Gene Tunney expects to get $1,000,000 or more for defending his heavyweight championship next Summer, and he expects to have this sum in his hands before he goes into the ring. It was not like that in what the veteran pugilistic fans are wont to call "the good old days."

For instance, there was the first Ketchell-Thomas battle at Marysville, Yuba County, Cal., on July 4, 1907. The recent Loughran-Lomski bout has stirred up discussions of the Ketchell-Thomas feud, and the old-timers are outraged that the gentle passage-at-arms between Loughran and Lomski should be mentioned in the same breath with the furious fights between Ketchell and Thomas.

But, sidestepping the argument on relative fighting ability, the modern lads are far ahead of Ketchell and Thomas in financial instinct. When Ketchell was training for that first Thomas fight he was waiting on table in a Southern Pacific Railroad eating house to eke out his expenses. He was not only working himself, but his manager also worked. He did manual labor. He worked in a boiler shop. Imagine a modern fight manager lifting a hand except for the purpose of raking in his share of the purse!

In any event, the manager worked in a boiler shop, and the fighter waited on table. Probably he did his road work between courses. Perhaps other waiters are doing the same thing today. It seems that way, even at some of our best hotels.

But both Ketchell and his manager had to take time off for the big fight. That left them temporarily bankrupt. And on the morning of the battle a kind friend gave them, by request, a five-dollar bill to relieve the financial crisis.

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Stewart-Warner Radio Wins Two Grand Prizes in Italian Contests

In Italy, land of Marconi, inventor of radio's predecessor, the wireless telegraph, an American built receiver, has twice carried off the honors in competition with every leading European and American brand. The Grand Prize at both the Gonzaga and Padova Fairs was awarded to a well-known radio, built in the United States, in a contest judged on the basis of performance and beauty.

An indication of the extreme values in radio, available to American buyers, is the fact that this receiver, manufactured by the Stewart-Warner Speedometer Corporation, of Chicago, sells in the United States for a nominal price, while many of the competitive European makes entered in the contests sell for extremely high prices.

Unquestionably the American radio fan is fortunate. In America, the land of free speech and free radio programs, a tax on radio sets is unknown. But in many countries across the Atlantic, radio listeners must pay an annual fee to their governments for the support of broadcasting.

In addition, the United States has not only outdistanced European nations with an overwhelming number of excellent broadcasting stations—but in the production of finer receiving equipment, selling at prices that, to our Continental cousins, would seem ridiculously low.

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