

A Grand Success.

The 19th annual concert and ball given by the societe l'Union Canadienne Francaise, took place Monday night, and was a grand success in every respect. The receipts were very satisfactory, and the Societe made well. The entertainment occurred in the opera house, and offered a unique attraction, namely, Louis Cyr, the strong man. Mr. Cyr arrived in Claremont Saturday, accompanied by his daughter Miss Emelina Cyr, and his 11-year old niece, Miss Roseanna Cyr, both of whom assisted in the entertainment. Mr. Cyr is certainly a marvel, and his feats of strength were watched with breathless interest by the audience that filled the opera house to its capacity. His niece is also remarkably strong, and did some astonishing tricks with weights and dumb-bells. Mr. Cyr's most spectacular feats were lifting a barrel of flour from floor to shoulder, without use of his knees, and lifting with his back 3600 lbs.

The program was interspersed with a recitation and song by Miss Emelina Cyr.

Following the entertainment in the opera house was the dance in the town hall, where there was another crush that taxed the capacity of the floor. Not only was there a large local turnout, but many visitors were present from surrounding towns, and a special train from Newport brought a large contingent, to take part in the annual final merry-making previous to Lent.

Excellent music was furnished by the Claremont orchestra, and everything combined to make the Union's 19th annual one long to be remembered.

The ball was managed by the following committees:

Floor director, Peter A. Nolin; Aids, Emile Collin, James Fontaine, Fred Marcotte; Introductory, Edward Labrecque, Sr., Joseph Landry, Remi Fecteau, Windsor, Joseph E. Sylvester, Bellows Falls, Wilfrid Morrow, Newport; Reception, Israel Giguere, W. P. Nolin, F. M. Bell, Edward Labrecque, Jr., Louis G. Landry; Arrangements, Pete A. Nolin, Emile Collin, Joseph Landry, Israel Giguere, Edward Labrecque, Sr.

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LOUIS CYR'S CIRCUS WILL BE AT COTE ST. PAUL FRIDAY

On Friday next Louis Cyr's circus will visit Cote St. Paul, giving a performance at eight o'clock in the evening. There will be a grand parade at five o'clock in the afternoon, headed by the Ville Marie band, with many other attractions. An excellent list of specialties is comprised in the circus programme, chief amongst which, of course, is Mr. Cyr himself, whose gigantic strength has made him famous all over the world. With Mr. Cyr in feats of strength are Horace Earle and Mme. Bedard, said to be the strongest woman alive to-day. The Sheppard brothers will give a wonderful exhibition of equilibrist work, while the acrobatic turns will be supplied by the famous Jaccou family and the Jourdan family. Other attractions are Charley Fox, contortionist; the Bedards in ladder balancing, etc., clowns, etc. The large tent is lighted with gas and furnished with every modern accommodation. General admission, 25 cents. Reserved seats, 35 cents.



Decarie, new World's Champion.



Cyr, retired World's Champion.

DECARIE AND CYR ARE EVEN

Each Wins the Four Contests Chosen by Himself With Ease.

CRIES OF FAKE WERE HEARD

After the Match Cyr Relinquishes Claim to Championship of World.

Louis Cyr, the veteran champion heavyweight lifter of the world has at last relinquished his laurels and handed the honor over to younger hands, done for, but not defeated.

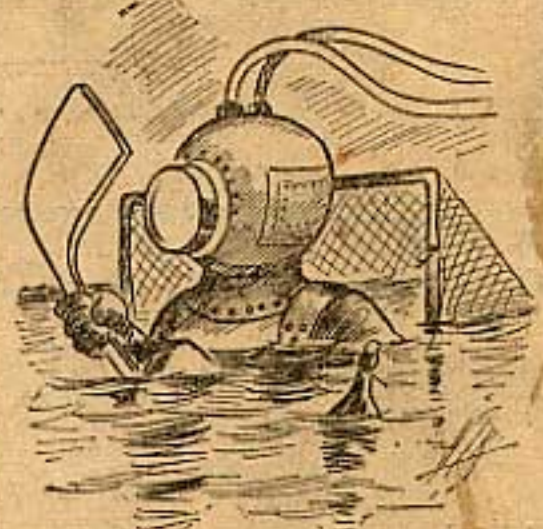
The test last night at Bohmer Park between Cyr and Decarie, the promising young French Canadian, turned out a draw, much to the chagrin of the many supporters of Cyr, who turned out with the expectation of seeing the old champion trim his opponent in as simple a way as of yore.

Cyr won the four tests proposed by himself while Decarie took the other four of his own choice, and although cries of "fake" resounded several times throughout the hall, it was probably a fair enough test.

Decarie won the first test, that of raising a dumbbell to full arm length with the feet placed together. Decarie lifted the first time 135 pounds and Cyr followed with 151 1-2. Decarie came back with 171 1-2. There were cries from many parts of the hall that Decarie had not lifted the bell according to the rules, but the decision of Referee Dulmet was given in his favor.

Cyr won the second, successfully lifting with swing, a 151 1-2 dumbbell. Decarie failed on the first attempt. In the third both Cyr and Decarie lifted a 139 pound dumbbell from a sitting position on a chair. Decarie successfully performed the feat with one weighing 151 1-2 and Cyr, after making a protest that the bell had not been raised properly, yielded the test to his opponent. Cyr then lifted the 238 pound barbell. Decarie declining to make the attempt. The sixth test was to raise a dumbbell at full arm's length over the head with no restriction as to the position of the feet. Decarie led off with a

AT BANKERS' HOCKEY MATCH.



If they will play in water, the goalkeepers' comfort should be looked after.

265 pounder, Cyr replied with one of 210 and Decarie, in a second attempt, successfully handled one of 220. Cyr dropped out.

The raising of the two dumbbells aggregating 227 pounds, formed the sixth test proposed and performed by Cyr. Decarie again declined the issue. For the seventh, the raising of the dumbbell at full arm's length an unlimited number of times. Decarie put up one of 151 pounds five times. Cyr succeeded in raising it four and the test was yielded to Decarie.

In a final ordeal Cyr lifted on his back a weight of 2,579 pounds and Decarie gave it up after the first attempt.

A MODERN SAMSON.



LOUIS CYR, Who Relinquished His Title of Champion Strong Man of the World to Hector Decarie, of St. Henri.



Louis Cyr Relinquishes His Title of Champion Strong Man of the World

Though Louis Cyr was not beaten by Hector Decarie in weight-lifting contests at Bohmer Park last night for the championship of the world, he could not beat Decarie and, accordingly, he announced that he would relinquish to the "Pride of St. Henri" the title he has held for so many years. Cyr, in explaining his reasons for giving up the title, stated that he was in his forty-fifth year and that the infirmities of advancing years would not permit him to indulge in athletic contests.

His competitor, Decarie, is only twenty-four years old and of seemingly slight build. He has been a "strong man" for some years, however, and has made good in all his contests. He has been after Cyr for some time to give him a match, but certain conditions could not be met and a contest could not be arranged.

That the reappearance of Cyr in the athletic arena created a wide interest was evidenced by the fact that over 3,500 people were present at last night's tests. Cyr was the favorite, and when he did not excel Decarie there were clamorings among the spectators. Then the big man made a speech from the stage and soothed the angry feelings of his admirers.

The contest was anything but exciting, though the crowd found the announcements worth listening over. It was claimed that Cyr established two world records by raising a 258-lb. barbell above his head and by elevating two dumb-bells, weighing 165 lbs. and 122 lbs. respectively, at the one time.

Each of the competitors won four events—those which he named himself. Decarie won the first test, that of raising a dumb-bell to full arm length with the

feet placed together. Decarie lifted the first time 125 lbs. and Cyr followed with 151½ lbs. Decarie came back with 171½. There were cries from many parts of the hall that Decarie had not lifted the bell according to the rules, but the decision of Referee Oulmet was given in his favor.

Cyr won the second, successfully lifting, with swing, a 161½ lb. dumb-bell. Decarie failed on the first attempt. In the third both Cyr and Decarie lifted a 122-lb. dumb-bell from a sitting position on a chair. Decarie successfully performed the feat with one weighing 151½ lbs. and Cyr, after making a protest that the bell had not been raised properly, yielded the test to his opponent. Cyr had the choice of the fourth, and it was then that he lifted the 258-lb. barbell, Decarie declining to make the attempt. The sixth test was to raise a dumb-bell at full arm length over the head with no restriction as to the position of the feet. Decarie led off with a 205 pounder, Cyr replied with one of 210, and Decarie, in a second attempt, successfully handled one of 220. Cyr dropped out.

The raising of the two dumb-bells, aggregating 227 lbs., formed the sixth test proposed and performed by Cyr. Decarie again declined the issue. For the seventh, the raising of a dumb-bell at full arm length an unlimited number of times. Decarie put up one of 151 lbs. five times. Cyr succeeded in raising it four, and the portion of the crowd that looked for a win from the old champion cried "fake" and "you could lift it if you wished, Louis," but the test was yielded to Decarie.

In the final contest Cyr lifted on his back a weight of 287½ lbs., and Decarie gave it up after the first attempt.

THE PASSING OF CYR

Hands Over Claim to Heavyweight Lifting Title After Match With Decarie.

CONTEST RESULTED IN DRAW.

Before Record Crowd Each Won the Four Tests Proposed by Himself.

The match for "the heavy weight lifting championship of the world" between Louis Cyr and Decarie, at Schner Park, last night, resulted in a draw. There were eight tests and each of the strong men successfully performed the four which he named, while his rival was in each case unsuccessful.

Upwards of 3,500 spectators witnessed a slow and tedious performance, the match starting, after three-quarters of an hour delay, at 8.15 o'clock, and being concluded shortly before midnight. It was a larger gathering than has so far turned out to any of the big wrestling events of the year and one that was enthusiastically partisan to the veteran Cyr.

It was a case of youth pitted against age and the veteran of many a weight-lifting contest came out of the ordeal with remarkable success. Cyr is now in his forty-fifth year, while his opponent last evening numbered but twenty-four summers. Despite this, it was claimed for Cyr that two of the feats which he performed last night were pounds better than the record of the champion at the big tournament in Paris two months ago. He successfully raised to full arm length over his head a barbell weighing 288 pounds and he also raised, at the same time, two dumbbells weighing respectively 105 and 122 pounds. The former feat, it is said, beats the Paris mark by two pounds and the latter by six. Both of the ordeals were declined by Decarie.

At the conclusion of the match, Cyr stated that he was well aware that with increasing years his powers were on the decline, and while the night's match had ended in a draw he wished to announce his retirement from the athletic world. In so doing he passed the title of world's champion on to Decarie, a French-Canadian like himself, and an athlete of great promise. He stated that he had done his best and replied to cries from the crowd that he could have beaten Decarie if he wished by saying that they seemed to forget that he was now past forty-four years of age.

Decarie won the first test, that of raising a dumbbell to full arm length with the feet placed together. Decarie lifted the first time 135 pounds and Cyr followed with 151½. Decarie came back with 171½. There were cries from many parts of the hall that Decarie had not lifted the bell according to the rules, but the decision of Referee Quimet was given in his favor.

Cyr won the second, successfully lifting, with swing, a 151½ dumbbell. Decarie failed on the first attempt. In the third both Cyr and Decarie lifted a 135 pound dumbbell from a sitting position on a chair. Decarie successfully performed the feat with one weighing 151½ and Cyr, after making a protest that the bell had not been raised properly, yielded the test to his opponent. Cyr had the choice of the fourth and it was then that he lifted the 288 pound barbell, Decarie declining to make the attempt. The sixth test was to raise a dumbbell at

full arm length over the head with no restriction as to the position of the feet. Decarie led off with a 205 pounder, Cyr replied with one of 210 and Decarie, in a second attempt, successfully handled one of 220. Cyr dropped out.

The raising of the two dumbbells aggregating 227 pounds, formed the sixth test proposed and performed by Cyr. Decarie again declined the issue. For the seventh, the raising of a dumbbell at full arm length an unlimited number of times. Decarie put up one of 151 pounds five times. Cyr succeeded in raising it four and the portion of the crowd that looked for a win from the old champion cried "fake" and "you could lift it if you wished, Louis," but the test was yielded to Decarie.

In the final ordeal Cyr lifted on his back a weight of 2,875 pounds, and Decarie gave it up after the first attempt.

LOUIS CYR COMES HOME

Champion Strong Man in Town Looking for Old Rival.

A Request for a Wife With Blue Eyes and Blonde Hair —Other French News.

Louis Cyr, the "champeen," the strong man of strong men, whose sole name is enough to get Little Canada on its feet, and who once turned away 600 people from a hall door because there was no more room for a sardine there, calmly floated into Joe Dextra's barber shop yesterday, and announced his intention of soon holding a match here with his rival, Hector Decarie.

Cyr has not been here for six years. The last time he came, the enthusiasm among French sports was almost delirious, and again on that occasion he "turned 'em away."

Cyr, though he has never been beaten, is no longer champion of the world, as readers of Canadian sporting news know. He was unable to beat Decarie, though Decarie could not beat him, at the famous match held between them at Sohmer park in Montreal two months ago, and which was declared a draw. Cyr then relinquished his title to Decarie, though Decarie has not yet got to be known by it.

Louis Cyr was once an operative in this city, and the first realization he had of his strength was in private matches arranged in Joe Dextra's shop, between Cyr and one Michaud, who then had quite a reputation as a Samson.

Cyr afterwards went to Canada to live, later to return in all his glory as the world champion of heavy lifters, and to fill halls to overflowing with his former Lowell fellow citizens.

Joseph Dextra of this city was Cyr's manager for many years, arranging all matches he held in this city, and taking care of his mail, which all came here to Dextra's shop.

Cyr today, at 44, is a rich man, holding mortgages on nearly all the farms in St. Jean-de-Matha, where he has elected domicile, and runs a big farm of his own.

Cyr's progress through Merrimack street caused a commotion yesterday. At first his enormous bulk attracted eyes, then as he neared the French quarter, more and more recognized him as Louis Cyr, and interest waxed warm.

THE DAY'S FRENCH NEWS

The Whist Tournament and Other Matters of Interest.

Hector Decarie, who is to give exhibitions in heavy lifting with Louis Cyr in this city, will arrive here on the 13th, and both men will appear at C. M. A. C. hall on April 16 and 17. Interest is great among French sports about the coming event.

Decarie and Cyr have entered into a one-year contract, and are going to Europe together in June. They are first going to Paris, where they will appear at the hippodrome in July.

J. O. Champagne of this city is their manager, and will go to Europe with them.