NEW YEAR'S WIN—Canadiens goalie Jacques Plante lunges out of his goal to stop a shot by Leafs Brian Cullen (left). Dick Duff (centre) waits for the rebound while Montreal defenceman Doug Harvey attempts to tie up the puck. The last-place Toronto Maple Leafs closed out 1958 with a 2-0 win over Montreal Canadiens in Toronto New Year's Eve. —CP photo.

Habs way out in front, slaughter Rangers 9-1, then tie with Wings

By The Canadian Press

First and last place haven't changed but the rest of the National Hockey League is topsy-turvy. Chicago Black Hawks, in fifth place a week ago, are in second today by a two-point margin.

New York Rangers, in second place Friday on a hot winning streak, are in a slump and barely clinging to third.

Detroit Red Wings, runners-up a week ago, are fourth and Boston Bruins, tied for third last week, are fifth.

TWELVE-POINT LEAD

But to bring an air of normality back to the standings Montreal Canadiens are still on top with a 12-point lead and Toronto Maple Leafs are still in the cellar.

It all came about in weekend action as Chicago beat Toronto 2-1 Saturday and Boston 5-3 Sunday to make it six games without a defeat.

Rangers, who had lost only one game in eight before the weekend, took a 9-1 licking from Canadiens in Montreal Satrday and then lost 4-2 to Toronto at home Sunday.

Red Wings suffered their most humiliating defeat at home since the Second World War Saturday when the hot-and-cold Bruins beat them 8-2, then bounced back with one of their finer games—a 2-2 tie with Canadiens Sunday.

BREAKS TIE

The hero of Hawks' Saturday victory was Eric Nesterenko who scored at 10:17 of the third period to break a 1-1 tie.

The lanky winner got his eighth goal of the season on a pretty pass by Bobby Hull right in front of the Leaf net.

Nesterenko came out of retirement to play with Chicago two years ago after he had been dropped by Toronto and to seal Leafs' chagrin the first Hawk goal was scored by Earl Balfour, another former Leaf.

Balfour's came at 3:45 in the first and Bobby Pulford scored Toronto's only goal nearly seven minutes later to give them a tie that lasted through the second period.

PAIR FOR LINDSAY

Sunday the Chicago win over Boston was made possible by a veteran Ted Lindsay's two-goal display.

Lindsay started the parade with the first goal of the second period and then got Hawks' only goal in the third. Bobby Hull scored in the first and Lindsay's second-period goal was followed by Jack McKenzie's first in the NHL and Tod Sloan's 14th of the season.

Saturday's game in Montreal was a dull affair until moments before the end when Canadiens goalie Jacques Plante, irritated at losing his shutout, cut down Ranger captain Red Sullivan in front of the net.

Everyone got into the resulting brawl except Ranger goalie Lorne (Gump) Worsley. New York's Jim Bartlett got two majors, a misconduct and a $25 fine for his trouble; Plante, Rangers' Lou Fontinato and Canadiens' Doug Harvey got majors.

The Montreal scoring was attended to by Harvey, who got two, Maurice Richard, Tom Johnson and Ab McDonald. Fontinato got Rangers' goal just before the brawl began.

Sunday in New York Rangers and Toronto were tied 2-2 going into the third when Pulford bounced a shot off Worsley's back into the nets and at 10:26 George Armstrong finished it off with a goal into an empty net.

Leafs jumped into a 2-0 lead on two goals by Billy Harris before Red Sullivan and Andy Hebenton tied it for Rangers.

19-year-old wins again in 19th fight

NEW YORK (AP)—Denny Moyer, unbeaten 19-year-old Portland, Ore., welterweight, won his 19th straight pro fight Friday night on a split decision over experienced Gaspar Ortega of Mexico. Moyer weighed 148¾, Ortega 146¾.

—AND SWEDES TOO

STOCKHOLM (AP)—The Russian hockey team Soviet Wings beat the Swedish team Djurgarden If 3-1 in a match for the Ahearne Cup Sunday.

The match took place at the Johanneshov Stadium before 17,000 spectators.

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Russians hammer U.S. icemen

HIBBING, Minn. (AP)—The 34-year-old captain of Russia's touring hockey team scored three times Sunday and the velvet-smooth Soviet squad smothered the United States national team 7-1.

Nicholas Sologubov, a defenceman with a rifle shot, broke a 1-1 tie with a goal from 20 feet out in the second period and then scored twice in the third as the Russians crumpled the Yank defences with a five-goal splurge in the last 20 minutes

Warm rivalry in fight to buy up B.C. Lions

VANCOUVER (CP)—A vigorous campaign is being conducted by private groups here to buy the British Columbia Lions Football club.

Lions, box office hits but a bust on the playing field since they entered the Western Interprovincial Football Union in 1954, had one of their worst seasons in 1958.

Beset by coaching problems, player friction, injuries and sharp criticism from football writers, they finished the season in last place. Lions lost a league-record 10-straight games before getting a victory.

ONE PROBLEM SOLVED

The outstanding problem—a coach for 1959—was solved in early December when Wayne Robinson, 28, line coach of the Grey Cup Champion Winnipeg Blue Bombers last season, was signed.

Shortly after Robinson's signing an offer was made by Nat Bailey, prominent Vancouver sportsman and restaurateur, to buy the club.

Bailey said sound business management, closer links with National Football League clubs in the United States and an experienced general manager were needed to make B.C. a winning football team.

Bailey said his group is willing to put up $110,000 operating capital and follow through on verbal agreements with several NFL clubs to supply players and give B.C. a winning entry.

MUST BE VERBAL

"Because it is against NFL rules for them to sign agreements with any club outside the league, everything has to be verbal," said Bailey.

Four Lion directors were named as officers of Bailey's group: Don Mackenzie, Dick Lane, Frank Griffiths and Fred Dietrich.

THREE OFFERS

The Bailey offer sparked a second from a group headed by ex-Lion director Bill Ralston, head of a construction engineering firm. Coley Hall, hockey and hotel operator here, said he would make a better offer if Lions members decided to sell.

All will be considered at the club's annual meeting Wednesday night, when the question of selling the team is to be put before the membership as an extra-ordinary resolution. This would require a two-thirds majority to carry. There is no proxy-voting permitted among the club's 3,000 votes.

Ralston said:

"I know a number of groups who are prepared to make concrete offers. They're not necessarily against the present method of operating the club, but . . . just stepping in to block that nonsensical offer by the Bailey group."

SURPRISE IF SELL

Ralston said he personally will be surprised if the memberships vote to sell, but if they do "we'll make a concrete offer with a sensible price."

Ralston said that if the clubs is sold the $211,000 profit made by Lions in the first five years would go to pay taxes which would be applied if members made profits on their $20 memberships.

Chiefs massacre Vs 9-0 to jump to third place

KAMLOOPS (CP)—Kamloops Chiefs moved a point ahead of Penticton Vs in the Okanagan Senior hockey loop Saturday night when the defeated the Vs 9-0 here.

The win puts the Chiefs in third place.

Buddy Evans led Chiefs with a hat trick while playing coach Billy Hryciuk netted two. Other Chief scorers were Gordon Tansley, Gerry Prince, Clifford Bristow and Ted Leboda.

Chiefs led 3-0 after the first period and 7-0 after the second.

Despite sub-zero weather, 950 fans turned out to see Chiefs play their first game since being taken over from Kenny Mackenzie by six local businessmen.

The Kamloops team played with more spirit than has been seen this season.

Senior B goalie Melvin Recchi turned in a fine game, substituting for regular Ken Kuntz who left for Regina last week. Kuntz is now returning to the Chiefs and will play in the next Kamloops game.

VERNON (CP) Kelowna Packers, with a five-goal splurge in the final period, dropped Vernon Canadians 8-5 in Okanagan Senior Hockey League action Saturday night before 800 fans.

Players took to the ice swathed in scarves and headgear to combat the 10-degree below temperature. It was so cold that Kelowna's Harry Smith, on being assessed a 10-minute misconduct penalty, asked referee Bernie Bathgate if he could sit the penalty out in the dressing room. He sat in the box.

The Vernon defence finally collapsed in the third session, as Goyer and Kowalchuk, each with two and defenceman Smith brought the Kelowna total to eight, with Vernon replying through Agar and Moro.

Nine penalties, including a ten-minute misconduct, were handed out. Kelowna outshot Vernon 27-25.

Leafs down Warriors 7-2

NELSON (CP)—Nelson Maple Leafs moved within three points of the Western International leaders Rossland warriors Saturday night with a 7-2 decision over the Rossland club.

The near-capacity crowd saw Howie Hornby and Marsh Severyn score a brace each for the Leafs, with singles coming from Mickey Maglio, Lee Hyssop and Reg Taylor. Rossland's two scorers were Alan Lloyd and Gil Desrosiers.

The first period say the Warriors hold the Leafs to one goal at the 55 second mark from Hornby. A tight see-saw battle followed with the Leafs scarcely out of the Rossland end.

In the second period, Maglio picked up a pass from Hyssop and went all the way for the second Leaf counter.

The Warriors saw an opportunity to score shortly after and made it good through Lloyd. Before the second period buzzer sounded Nelson managed to score through Hyssop.

In the wild last frame, the Leafs outscored and outplayed the Rossland club. After 12 minutes of play, defenceman Severyn slammed in two more counters for Nelson, both within 25 seconds.

Bill Taylor went all the way down the ice with Hornby for the sixth Leaf point, to be followed with a Hornby goal just before the buzzer.

Dutchmen represent Canada

KITCHENER (CP)— Kitchener-Waterloo Dutchmen Friday became the first club to be chosen to represent Canada twice in Olympic Games hockey competition.

The Dutchmen were named by the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association to carry Canada's colors at the 1960 Squaw Valley, Calif., Olympic Winter Games.

The Ontario Hockey Association club, which plays in a series with teams from the Northern Ontario Hockey Association, will be trying to regain the title it lost to Russia at the 1954 games at Cortina, Italy.

FINISHED THIRD

Beaten by Russia and the United States, the Dutchmen finished third, a result that shocked the hockey world, long used to seeing Canada win Olympic and world title championships.

The only other defeat Canada has suffered in the eight Olympic competitions was in 1936 at Berlin when Great Britain defeated a combined Port Arthur Bearcats and Montreal Royals squad 2-1 in the final.

The Dutchmen, leading their loop, have four players on the present squad who were with the 1956 Olympic entry. They are forwards Ken Laufman, Jerry Theberge, Don Rope and Jack McKenzie.

McKenzie captained the Olympic team and was named "outstanding forward" of the tournament. He played with Whitby Dunlops last March when they whipped Russia for the world title at Oslo. World title championships are not held in Olympic Games years.

BOWLING STARTS AGAIN

Celco City Bowling League will resume play Wednesday, a league spokesman said today.

A League will bowl at 7 p.m. and B League at 9 p.m.

Fighting cop gets warning from chief

By MURRAY ROSE

NEW YORK (AP)—Eddie Dixon, a fighting cop from Newark, N. J., stakes his future on a 10-round fight Friday night with highly rated Gene (Ace) Armstrong of Elizabeth, N.Y., at New York's Madison Square Garden.

The outcome probably will determine whether Dixon, a 24-year lod army veteran, will try for the jackpot in the ring or give it up for his $4,600-a-year patrolman's job in Newark.

He can't have dual careers, according to Newark police director Joseph F. Weldon. When he heard of the Dixon-Armstrong television match (NBC, Weldon told Dixon he would have to pull out of the fight if he wanted to remain a cop.

WON'T PULL OUT

Dixon first decided to withdraw from his long-sought Garden main event, then said he intended to fulfill the contract and go through with the fight.

Stampeders trim Totems to climb WHL

By The Canadian Press

Calgary Stampeders, victors in one of the five weekend games in the Western Hockey League, seem set to give prairie division laders, Edmonton Flyers, a battle for the top spot.

The Stamps downed Seattle Totems, tops in the coast division, 5-1 Saturday, and moved within four points of the Edmonton squad. But Calgary, with a winning streak, can eradicate the deficit. They still have four games in hand over the Flyers.

In other Saturday results, Spokane Flyers beat Victoria Cougars 3-1 in Spokane, Vancouver Canucks bowed 7-4 before New Westminster Royals and Saskatoon Quakers toppled Winnipeg Warriors 8-7.

In the lone Sunday game at Spokane, the home-based Flyers downed Victoria 5-4.

FOUR-POINT WIN

Under a revised coast schedule, the Spokane win was worth four points instead of the usual two, and moved the Flyers to within a point of third-place Victoria in coast standings.

The Stampeders' win gave them a 41-point record from 31 games, compared with Edmonton's 35-game, 45-point result.

NHL leaders

By The Canadian Press

Standings: Montreal, 22 wins, nine losses, seven ties, 51 points.

Points: Geoffrion, Montreal, 40.

Goal: McKenney, Boston, 22.

Assists: Geoffrion, 30.

Penalties: Lindsay, Chicago, 97 minutes.

Shutouts: Plante, Montreal, 5.

	G.	A	Pts.
Geoffrion, Mtl.	10	30	40
Bathgate, N.Y.	21	24	45
Moore, Canadiens	21	18	39
Litzenberger, Chi.	10	22	32
McKenney, Boston	22	15	37
M. Richard, Mtl.	16	21	37
Howe, Detroit	16	10	37

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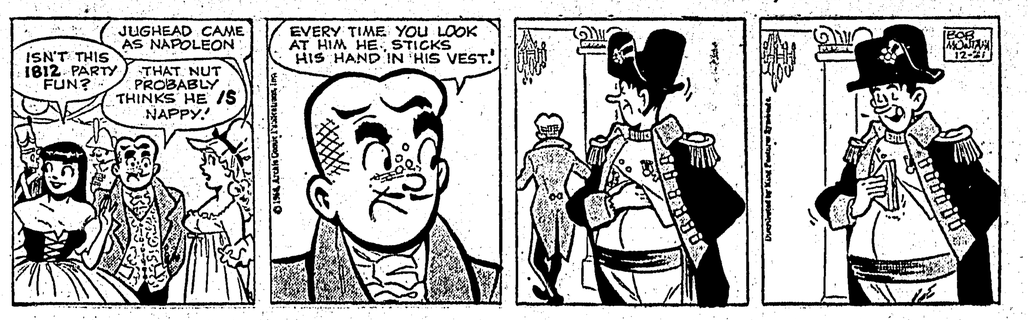

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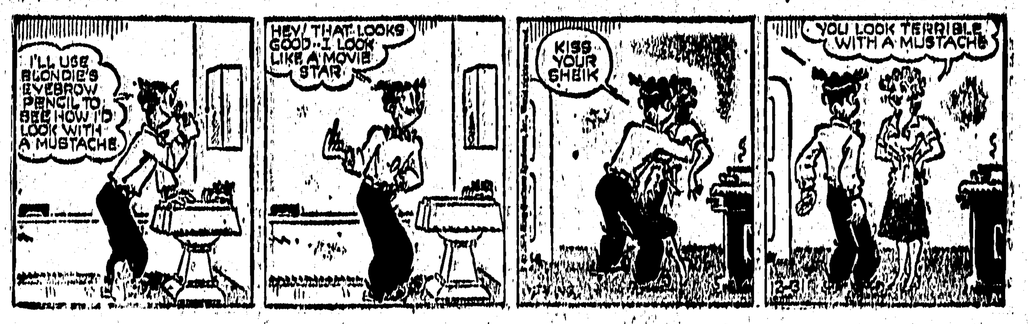
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