

Hans Hansen Biography

Hans Hansen was born in Norway in 1890. His family moved to the United States when he was 5 years old. He married a Swedish girl named Ida. They had 3 children together, Betty, Dorthy and Henry. His extended family includes 12 grandkids. He died in 1977.

Hans Hansen began his ski jumping years as a young boy. He jumped at a place in Minneapolis know as " Chute's Pasture". After learning the sport on this 40 ft jump he moved to the Keegans Lake Jump over looking Keegan Lake in Glenwood Park. Hansen moved to competition in 1908 and won 5th place in an amateur tournament in Hudson, WI. He entered his first national tournament in 1910 as an amateur. In 1912 National's in Cary, ILL as an amateur he defeated the professional winner by points making him the overall winner. As years progressed, his talents and performance increased, so he was no longer considered an amateur. He then entered the professional class. This class was made up for the top performers in the country. As later reported this class was paid some expense money when they came to the different tournaments. Hardly enough to cover expenses. However, because of the controversy over this class during the 1924 Olympics in Chamonix, France, it was discontinued soon after the Olympics.

Feb 9, 1921 at a professional long jump competition in Revelstoke, Canada, he had the longest jump ever recorded of 235 ft but fell and broke his collar bone. The next year in the same event he jumped 221 ft 6 in to claim the uncontested reported world record. There was controversy over the record. Henry Hall had previously jumped 229 ft but fell before the official fall line. The fall line set by the organizing committee was not far enough out by the official rules.

Before the 1924 Olympic tryouts in Minneapolis, MN he was considered one of the top jumpers in the Nation which set the stage for the coming Olympic tryouts. As it turns out he made the Olympic team bound for Chamonix, France. However, his professional statis was in question along with Anders Haugen and Ragnar Olmvedt by Sweden. With the threat of being disqualified from the Olympics Hans Hansen decided to not go to Chamonix. The other two decide to go nomatter what. As it turns out the country of Sweden was not contesting their professionalism but a swed by the name of Fitzgerald had reported to the secretary of the American Olympic committee that he had competed against him in professional meets. The official ruling was the three athletes were eligible to compete.

In the months after the Olympic tryouts Hans Hansen made a Western trip for three major compititions. Hans won at Denver and Dillion, Co. He was second behind Lars Haugen at Steamboat Springs,Co with a jump of 210 ft. This set the record for the worlds longest jump by an amateur.

Then in the 1930's, he began sommersaulting of ski jumps. He became quite well known for doing this daring feat. He would be invited to jumping events to show his expertise.



Minneapolis Ski Jumper Claimant of World Title

Hans Hansen Says His Mark
of 221 Feet 6 Inches Is
Standing Record.

Hans Hansen of Minneapolis, claimant of the world's professional ski jumping championship, is preparing for an arduous season on the slides of the United States and Canada. Already he is taking advantage of the heavy fall of snow and testing out his runners on the Glenwood park hills.

The world's championship is disputed by Hansen and Henry Hall, the dispute going back to the tournament at Revelstoke, B. C., last winter. Hansen leaped 221 feet, 6 inches, and stood for what he claims is the record. Hall negotiated 229 feet and was given tentative recognition in the records although this mark has not been approved because Hall fell on a deadline informally established by the judges. International rules, Hansen says, do not allow a deadline, a jumper being required to stand until the finish of his run to be eligible.

TO ENTER BIG MEET.

This matter probably will be settled at a meeting of the American Ski association during the national tournament at Cary, Ill., this winter.

Hansen will enter the national meet, as well as tournaments at Calgary, Banff and Revelstoke. Ski tournaments are in great favor in Western Canada and the leading professionals of America are drawn to the meet. Henry and Karl Hall, Anders and Lars Haugen and Barney Billy of Coleraine, Minn., probably will be seen in action at all the big meets.

Hansen has been in competition since 1908, when he won fifth place in an amateur tournament at Hudson.

As a boy he received his initiation on a tiny makeshift slide at what was known as Chute's pasture



HANS HANSEN.

between 9th and 10th aves. and University ave. and 2nd st., s. e. "Lefty" Ryan and Ed Devold were among his chums. After he negotiated a 40-foot jump there he graduated to Glenwood park and Keegan's lake and then entered tournament competition.

DEFEATED PRO CHAMPION.

Hansen entered his first national tournament in 1910 as an amateur and he has not missed a national meet since. In 1912 as an amateur he defeated Ragnar Omtvedt, professional champion, in points at Gary, Ill. Omtvedt at that time held the record of 192 feet.

Hansen has been prominent in the organization of the Municipal Ski club, which is entering its second season. He has acted as an instructor at the Glenwood park slide.

World's Best Jumpers to Compete



Some of the best ski jumpers of the world and practically every prominent jumper of the United States and Canada will compete here when the national ski tournament opens Saturday. Here are four of the best. They have all held championships at one time or another and each has had his turn at holding the record for the longest standing jump. They are, left to right, Hans Hanson, Clarence Hall, Henry Hall and Anders Haugen.

May Protest Three members of

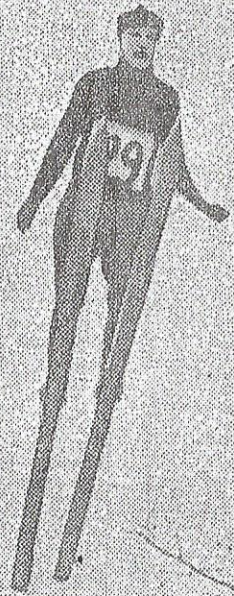
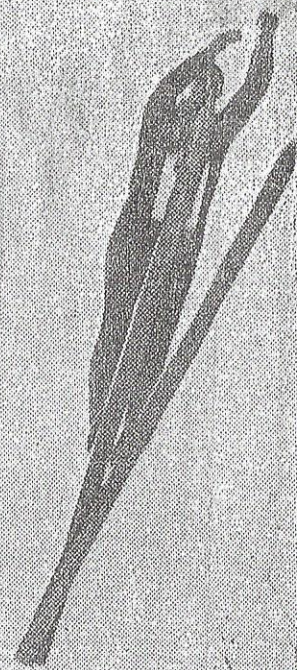
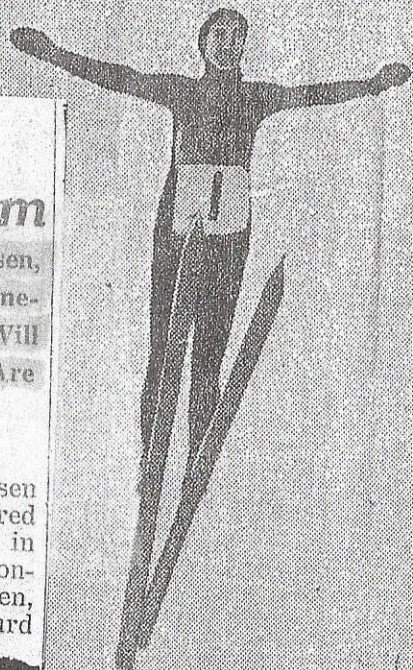
Three Named to Jump for U. S. on Olympic Ski Program

Alternates Will Be to France With Team

Charge May Be Entered Against Hans Hansen, Haugen and Ragnar Omtvedt—Julius Blegen, Minneapolis, and Harry Liehn, Chicago, Will Jump for U. S. If Regular Members of Team Are Disqualified. Blegen Breaks Record for Glenwood Slide.

By GEORGE EDMOND

Members of the United States Olympic ski team, chosen at the Glenwood slide yesterday, may be barred from the Olympic games which will take place in France, in February, it was learned today. Professional charges against Anders Haugen and Hans Hansen, and Ragnar Omtvedt, Grand Beach, Mich. Sigurd Overby, is the other member of the team.



The Journal camera caught these three members of the United States Olympic ski team in the jumps that won places on the team for them at Glenwood park yesterday. No. 1 is Anders Haugen, Minneapolis, who broke the record for the Glenwood slide with a leap of 123 feet. Hans Hansen, Minneapolis, who holds the United States amateur jump record of 210 feet. No. 20 is Sigurd Overby, St. Paul, cross-country champion of the cross country run in the tryouts Saturday.

U. S. to Send Revamped Ski Team to Olympics

Anders Haugen, Minneapolis Star, to Go Despite Challenge — Three Substitutes to Be Named to Avoid Possible Difficulties.

New York, Jan. 12.—America will be represented by a ski jumping team in the Olympic winter sports at Chamoniix, beginning the last of this month, it was announced today after Olympic authorities had received cabled permission from the French Olympic committee to submit entries up to January 15 to replace the three members of the team whose eligibility has been questioned.

Eligibility Is Questioned.

The upset in plans for the skiing team, due to sail next Wednesday for France, came unexpectedly and as a result of information that three of the athletes—Anders Haugen and Hans Hansen of Minneapolis and Ragnar Omtvedt of Grand Rapids, Mich.—might have their eligibility questioned because

of alleged competition in professional events. No official complaint was filed, according to J. W. Itubien, secretary of the Olympic committee, but it was felt that substitutes should be named to obviate possible difficulties abroad.

Haugen intends to accompany the team, despite the uncertainty of his status, and Omtvedt, it was said, also may go. Their cases then may be pressed before the international Olympic authorities at Paris to test their eligibility. Hansen will not go abroad.

Amateur Standards Clash.

Variance in eligibility standards prescribed by the National Ski association, which selects the American team, and the Olympic committee, is held to be responsible for the present situation. Haugen is the present national ski-jumping champion.

Sigurd Overby of St. Paul is the only remaining member of the original team. Substitutes for the others probably will be Lemoine Batson of Eau Claire, Wis.; Harry Liehn of the Norge Ski club, and John Carleton, former Dartmouth jumper, who is now at Chamoniix.

Extra Jumpers Make Trip Tonight to Guard Against Any Ineligibilities

Seven of the best skiers in the country will make up the Olympic ski party which leaves Minneapolis tonight at 8:30 o'clock for New York where they will sail next week for Chamoniix, France, to compete in the Olympic games.

Some May Lose Out

All of these men are not sure of sailing, however, owing to the many complications that have arisen during the last three days regarding the Olympic team.

Some of the members, who qualified for the Olympic team have been protested by Sweden. The matter is being investigated and it will take several days before things are straightened out.

B. G. Leighton of the Olympic committee is sending seven men to New York to be on the safe side so he will be able to send a team in case the regular members are barred at the last minute.

The men in question are Anders Haugen, Hans Hansen and Ragnar Omtvedt. It will be impossible to determine whether they are ineligible to compete until they get a chance to read the international rules when they arrive in New York.

Mr. Leighton feels sure that they will be O.K.'d by the committee and that they will be able to proceed with the regular team to Chamoniix, France.

Ineligibles To Return

In case the men are declared ineligible they will return to their homes and the other men will leave for the big event. Mr. Leighton stated that the seven men would compete in an exhibition meet at New York Sunday and that if enough money was made that the entire group would go but otherwise the alternates would have to return to their homes.

Julius Elegen, local skier, announced today that on account of his business he would be unable to leave with the Olympic team tonight and that it would be impossible to get away later in the week to make the trip.

The men that will leave tonight are: Anders Haugen, Hans Hansen, Ragnar Omtvedt, Sigurd Overby, Harry Liehn, Barney Riley and La Moyne Batson.

Anders Haugen will have to go to New York by the way of Washington where he will have to stop and have his naturalization record checked up before he is given his passport to France.

The Municipal ski club and the Outing Association will be on hand at the Great Northern depot tonight to give the members a big sendoff when they leave for their long journey.

SKI TEAM TO BE SENT TO FRANCE, 24 OFFICERS DECIDE

French Olympic Committee Cables United States Permission to Submit Entries up to January 15—Haugen and Omtvedt Intend to Make Trip

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Haugen intends to accompany the team, despite the uncertainty of his status, and Omtvedt, it was said, also may go. Their cases then may be pressed before the international Olympic authorities at Paris to test their eligibility. Hansen will not go abroad.

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TO REPRESENT U. S.

Secretary Rubien Says Haugen and Omtvedt Are Eligible for Olympic Games.

BRIARCLIFF STAGES JUMPS

18,000 Persons See Olympic Athletes Perform on Track Made of Imported Snow.

After witnessing with some 18,000 other persons the ski jumping exhibition on a track constructed of snow brought down from the Adirondack Mountains especially for the events at the Briarcliff Lodge, Briarcliff Manor, N. Y., yesterday afternoon, and conferring with Mayor George E. Leach of Minneapolis, manager of the American ski team, Frederick W. Rubien, Secretary of the Amateur Athletic Union and the American Olympic Committee, made the official announcement of the athletes who will represent the United States in the Olympic ski events to be staged at Chamonix, France, from Jan. 29 to Feb. 4.

The American Olympic ski team will be composed of Anders Haugen, Minneapolis, national champion ski jumper; Sigurd Overby, St. Paul; Lemoin Batson, Eau Claire, Wis.; Harry Lien, Norge Ski Club, Chicago; Ragnar Omtvedt, Grand Beach, Mich., and John Carleton, former Dartmouth star, who is already at Chamonix. Their entries will be cabled to the French committee today, Secretary Rubien announced.

Haugen, Omtvedt and Overby were members of the team originally selected to represent this country at Chamonix, but all except Overby were declared ineligible because of alleged professionalism after a protest by the Swedish Olympic Committee. However, after a perusal of the records of the men, and after questioning Haugen thoroughly as to his status, Mr. Rubien said that he is satisfied the men are clear from any taint of professionalism and that they will be accepted in good standing on arrival abroad.

Skiers Explain Situation.

Secretary Rubien said:

"I have gone into the matter of Haugen's and Omtvedt's records thoroughly and Haugen has cleared up the matter by explaining how the charge of professionalism came to be made. It has been the custom in the past to differentiate between expert skiers and those who are just taking up the sport by designating them as professionals and amateurs, respectively, instead of in classes, A, B and C, according to their ability. Two years ago this practice of so classifying the men was discontinued, but because both Haugen and Omtvedt performed in the professional class under the old custom it was at first believed that they were ineligible to compete in the Olympic games.

"I am now fully satisfied as to their status as amateurs. They have never received money for their performances and I am sure that they will be accepted as the representatives of the United States in France."

Omtvedt has not yet arrived here and it is still uncertain whether he will accompany the team when it sails for France on Wednesday. However, the entries which will be sent to the Olympic authorities today will include Omtvedt in the 50-kilometer event and the jumping team. The entries for the 50-kilometer race will include, besides Omtvedt, Overby, Carleton and Haugen. In the 15 to 18 kilometer races Haugen, Batson, Overby and Lien will represent the United States, while the same four will be named to wear the American shield in the combined races. The jumping entries will be Haugen, Overby, Omtvedt and Batson.

HER SWEDEN NOR FRANCE WILL PROTEST SKIERS

J. 1-17-24
Haugen, Hansen and Omtvedt Accompany Alternates to France and Will Jump for U. S.—Restoration to Amateur Standing Admitted

Chicago, Jan. 17.—According to Julian T. Fitzgerald, chairman of the winter sports committee of the American Olympic committee, the haze which has surrounded the case of three skiers named as members of the American Olympic team and then accused of professionalism has been cleared.

After a long conference with Mayor George E. Leach, Minneapolis manager of the American team, Fitzgerald said it was not Sweden nor the French Olympic committee that had protested against Ragnar Omtvedt, Grand Beach, and Anders Haugen and Hans Hansen, Minneapolis, but that a Swede, whose name Fitzgerald did not know, had informed Frederick Rubien, secretary of the American Olympic committee, that he had competed against the three men in professional meets.

It was on the strength of this complaint that the charges of professionalism were given such wide circulation. It is known that the three skiers in question did compete in meets where cash prizes were given but they were compelled to pay their own expenses and in some instances the cash prizes were insufficient to cover their actual expenses. So, in reality, the prizes amounted to expense money. It is quite a complicated technical point.

It was when this point was established that the three men were permitted to accompany the team which sailed from New York with the three alternates who were named to represent this country in the event of Omtvedt, Haugen and Hansen being barred from competition on the other side. The alternates are Sigurd Overby, St. Paul; La Mione Batson, Eau Claire, and Harry Leihn, Chicago.

In connection with Czecho-Slovakia's protest in the ski competition after the Finnish competitor, Mattila, had fallen, the jury ruled that a skier falling 200 feet down a precipice without breaking his neck was entitled to have the Olympic rules stretched in his favor. It therefore refused to entertain the Czech protest and confirmed the result of the military ski race, placing Finland second.

Mattila broke a ski in his fall and obtained a new one, instead of repairing the damage, as specified in the rules governing the competition.

GOOD TRIP FOR SKIER

Hans Hansen Won Two
Tournaments and Set a
Record at Third.

CLAIMS AMATEUR MARK

Hans Hansen, captain of the Minneapolis Municipal Ski club, returned from his western tournament trip with many scalps attached to his belt. He entered the tournaments at Denver, Steamboat Springs and Dillon, Colo., winning two of them and establishing a record in the third.

He won the meet at Denver, Feb. 25, without any competition. At Steamboat Springs March 2, Lars Haugen won the tourney but Hansen made the longest standing jump of 210 feet. As he recently was reinstated as an amateur, the jump stands as a new world's amateur record, beating the former record held by Nels Nelson by several feet.

The tournament at Dillon March 11 was hampered by a snowstorm, preventing any record-breaking jumps. Hansen took the tournament honors and the longest jump of 175 feet. Lars Haugen made a 135-foot leap but disqualified when he fell. As an added feature at the last meet Hansen thrilled the crowd with a loop-the-loop exhibition.

Because Henry Hall's world's record jump of 229 feet made at Revelstoke, British Columbia, has been in dispute ever since it was made two years ago, Hansen claims the record with a jump of 221 feet and 6 inches made at the same time. The dead-line on the Revelstoke slide was the cause of the controversy, as Hall fell while passing it. The line had not been determined correctly by the officials of the meet and should have been placed several hundred feet further down the course, which would have disqualified Hall unquestionably.

HANS HANSEN SETS NEW RECORD FOR GLENWOOD SKI SLIDE; JUMPS 114

Hans Hansen, Minneapolis skier, set a new record for the Glenwood slide yesterday when he jumped 114 feet. Officials of the club predict that this mark will not stand long as the slide is faster than ever.

Members of the Municipal Ski club will go on a ski hike Wednesday morning. The start will be made from the Glenwood slide at 9:30 a.m.

Hansen Makes Longest Jump at Grand Beach; Riley Leads in Points

1-28-24
Grand Beach, Mich., Jan. 27. — Barney Reilly, an Irishman from Coleraine, Minn., beat the Norsemen at their own game when he took first honors in Class A events at the second annual tournament of the Grand Beach Ski club today with 259 points. The longest jump of the day went to Hans Hansen, Minneapolis, with 115 feet, three more than Riley's longest jump. Olaf Skogen, Chicago, was conceded the best form in both classes.

HANS HANSEN IS WINNER OF SKI MEET AT DENVER

Hans Hansen of Minneapolis won the interstate ski tournament yesterday at Denver Colorado yesterday when he scored the highest number of points in the Class A event. There were 55 skiers competing in the meet according to word received today.

Hansen was also credited with the longest standing jump in the special event establishing a new record for the hill. Hansen will compete at Steamboat Springs on Friday.

Anders Haugen placed first in the Class A ski tourney held at the Itasca Ski club at Coleraine yesterday. Haugen finished with a total of 313.13 points.

The longest standing jump was made by Redier Lund when he leaped 139 feet. Barney Riley and Anders Haugen both leaped 145 feet but fell.

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