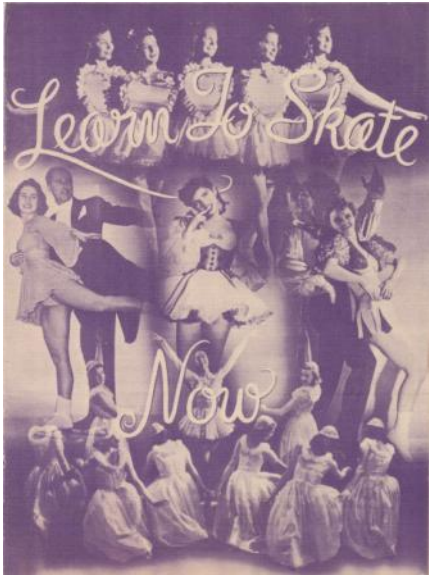


The 1940s....the dream continues....

from *Skating* April 1940

"The St. Paul Figure Skating Club Summer Session will begin Monday, July 8...There will be three sessions each day, seven days a week with no variation in the sessions. No public skating allowed – the entire time will be reserved for figure skaters."



COME ON! LET'S HAVE FUN THIS SUMMER IN SAINT PAUL!

JULY 6th TO AUG. 28th EXCLUSIVELY FOR FIGURE SKATING

Saint Paul Figure Skating Club Offers **8 WEEKS Summer Skating** IN THE BEAUTIFUL, LARGE SAINT PAUL AUDITORIUM ARENA

Eight consecutive weeks of unobstructed summer skating on one of the finest indoor ice rinks in the country... entire arena devoted exclusively to figure skating (not open to public skating)... internationally famous professionals available for those wishing instruction in every type of figure skating... 4 1/2 hours free skating every day... Judge's School in August... opportunity to take official U. S. F. S. A. tests... invitation to skate to the music of a Symphony Orchestra during a portion of Pop Concerts in the Auditorium Annex every Wednesday, Friday and Sat. evenings, July 31st to Aug. 31st, inclusive... skating exhibitions to be combined with well-known recitals by members from the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra... only 13 skaters have risk to excellent gold, platinum and bronze medals... ALL THIS AND MORE in Saint Paul, the Gateway to the Northwest and its 10,000 lakes.

THE AUDITORIUM ARENA IS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN ST. PAUL... within the limits of Saint Paul's two best downtown hotels and only a few minutes ride by the Greenway, open seasonal bus... all other special rates for season skaters.

WE SUGGEST RESERVATIONS AT THE Hotel Saint Paul • Hotel Commodore • Hotel Lowry

SIXTH SUCCESSIVE SEASON IN SAINT PAUL

SAINT PAUL...THE FIGURE SKATING CAPITAL OF THE NATION...APPROVED BY THE U.S.F.S.A.

INSTRUCTORS: COLLEEN DEE FINE, MARY LOUIS PREMER, ROBERT A. UPPGREN, LYMAN WAKEFIELD JR., JOHN S. NIGHTINGALE

from *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, July 18, 1943



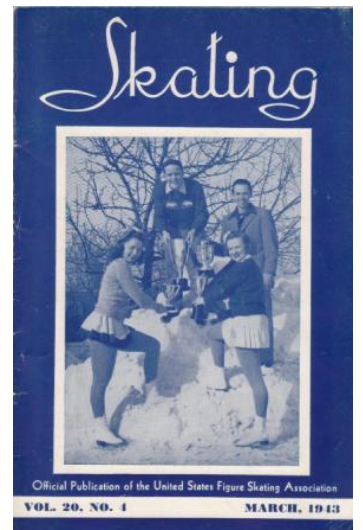
"Nationwide is the fame of the St. Paul Pops Concerts which began as a unique experiment in civic entertainment and which now opens their seventh season with expectation of a total audience of nearly 150,000 persons for the eighteenth show. Literally, the only show of its kind in the world. St. Paul's Pops are staged as a cooperative effort with the city supplying the auditorium arena, the figure skating club providing the spectacular shows, the Civic Opera providing the chorus, and the Musicians' Association supplying the seventy-piece orchestra."

During the 1940s, the Civic Opera Association and Symphony musicians joined the Pops Concerts, which only added to their public appeal. Skaters from the St. Paul Figure Skating Club continued to enjoy skating for the large audiences at the shows and benefited from the confidence building experience. The "Summer Ice Sessions" continued to attract high level skaters who wanted to train with high-caliber coaches.



St. Paul Club members continued to excel in both National and Olympic competition during this decade.

In 1940, the St. Paul Four Janet(Dede) Ahrens, Mary Louis Premer, Robert A. Uppgren and Lyman Wakefield Jr. won the U. S. Fours Championship. In 1941, the Fours went on to win the North American Championship and became the first Americans to defeat Canada in this discipline. They were awarded the Connaught cup which went to the Four from the same club who placed highest at the event. The successors to this group, St.



Paul's Janet Gerhauser, Marilyn Thomsen, Marlyn Thomsen, and John S. Nightingale followed in their predecessors footsteps by winning the U. S. Fours title in 1947, 1948 and 1950 and the North American title in 1949. Club member John Lettengarver was the 1945 U. S. Novice Mens Champion and Madelon Olson was the U. S. Junior Ladies Champion in 1944.

The St. Paul Figure Skating Club's banner year came in 1947 when its competitors won the Harned Trohy awarded to the club with the most earned points in the National Competition. Contributing to the achievement were the St. Paul Four (Marilyn and Marlyn Thomsen, Janet Gerhauser and John Nightingale) who won the title, Senior Lady Dede Ahrens who placed second, Senior Man John Lettengarver who placed second, Junior Pair Champions Harriet Sutton and John Lettengarver, and Novice Mens Champion Marlyn Thomsen.

Dede Ahrens and John Lettengarver went on to skate in the Worlds Competition and the Olympics during the 1940s. Ahrens placed sixth in the 1947 Worlds and Lettengarver Fourth in the 1948 Worlds and Olympics. Gerhauser and Nightingale would have to wait until 1952 for their Olympic fame!

Skater Dede Ahrens would go on to become one of the most recognized national achievers among the women skaters at the St. Paul Club, skating and competing successfully in singles, pairs and fours. At the 1945 Nationals, she was awarded the Oscar L. Richards Trophy for the most artistic freeskating program.

