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NEWS FLASHES.

Sammy McCarthy gets himself in trim for his fight with Billy Kelly for the British and Empire Featherweight title. In a gymnasium over a pub in the Old Kent Road, Snowey Buckingham, his trainer, watches Smiling Sammy tune up for the battle which Bob Gardiner is presenting at the King's Hall, Belfast, on January the 22nd. McCarthy, who hails from Stepney will have a tough opponent in Kelly, a Londonderry boy, but experts predict Sammy will keep his Featherweight crown.

27 year old Sandy Radcliffe defies one of London's coldest days for a spot of ski-ing. Although there's been plenty of snow about, he prefers to make the Thames his speedground; The reason being that there's a £25 bet at stake. The speedboat driver wagered Sandy wouldn't (or couldn't) do it. But, with a rubber suit to keep the chills away, Sandy's proving just how wrong he was.

The driver whips up the pace, but Sandy doesn't put a foot wrong as he comes ski-ing in to win those £25. More conventional, ski-ing takes place at Garwisch in Upper Bavaria where champions from five European countries match their skills against the towering Olympic jump. As usual, Norway and Finland are tipped as likely winners, though the swirling snow may well upset a few predictions.

Now for the winning jump. The Finnish ace, Kallakorpi, makes a mighty leap of about 250 feet - a superb example of daring and skill by Finland's greatest sportsman.