CARNIVAL OF THE SKATERS

Merry Throng in a Variety of Disguises at the Ice Palace.

Lively Competition for Gold and Silver Watches Offered as Prizes for Effective Costumes—The Names of the Winners.

The skating season at the Convention Hall Ice Palace practically closed last night with the grand masque carnival, although, in order to accommodate the surplus crowds that thronged the palace during the past week, three extra sessions have been arranged for to-day. The carnival was a reproduction of that which wound up the season last year, and nearly a thousand people were in attendance, either on the ice or in the seats around the ice surface.

The scene would have passed very well for a Mardi Gras festival. The costumes of the merry skaters were varied in hue and tone. From the magnificent costume of the snow queen, down to the omnipresent tramp, all grades of society were represented. The queen of the clouds skated alongside his majesty of the internal regions; Little Cuba, Uncle Sam, and a Spanish soldier sailed by together, Gypsies galore and clowns without number were on hand, and all of the usual types of a masquerade ball were seen, fresh from the costumer's.

Prizes of gold and silver watches were given by Managing Director Tom Horne for the best costumes. The first ladies' prize was awarded to Miss Lena Beagle, who was gowned in a costume of white satin, and fur, representing the Snow Queen. The second ladies' prize went to Miss Edith Marean, who was decked in a full suit of cards as the Card Queen. Mr. F. D. Lewis took the prize for the best gentleman's costume. He was garbed as Mephistopheles, and by an unique arrangement, he was clad in an armor of incandescent lamps. The second gentleman's prize went to Mr. Thomas Wade, as a Dutchman. The prize for the most grotesque costume was awarded to Mr. R. F. Le Mat, who represented a colored waiter, and skated speedily around the rink with a glass of beer and a sandwich on a tin platter, tilted at an alarming angle. The judges were Mr. Peach, Mr. R. M. Dobbins, and Mr. Oscar Woodward.

Some of the other maskers on the ice were Mr. John Brauner and Mr. Frank Butts, as the two dromios; Mr. Charles Shinnell, as a summer dude; Mr. Butts as a colored lady; Mr. Arthur Crawford, as a colored dude; Mr. Earl Marean, as a clown; Mr. E. L. Wight, as Cuban Libre; Miss Ada Lombard, as a Spanish beauty; Miss Daisy Osborne, as a fancy dancer; Miss Bessie Dawes, as a gypsy; Miss Violet Dalton, as the Lorelei; Mister Morris Walsh, as the yellow kid, and Mr. Victor Craigien, as a clown.