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WHAT IS LEFT NOW FOR BOSTON SWIMMERS TO DO?

SAM RICHARDS,
Showing the Mask Devised by Him to Protect His Eyes from the Salt Water in His Great Swim Yesterday.

By LAWRENCE J. SWEENEY.

After Boston Light and return—what? Certainly no swim in American waters looms up at present sufficiently "big" or hazardous enough to balk our own Sam. Richards, the manhome South Boston swimmer, should he elect to do so, the additional honors in his adopted country.

Ever since he reached Boston Light for the first time in 1911, Richards has carried the idea that it was possible for him to swim around it. Last year he did make the second successful attempt, but, as he says, he was not satisfied. Each year he has been unable to get down to the light, and, having made further such swims impossible by his departure for England, he was determined to give up the attempt.

Yesterday morning, with scarcely any prearranged plans, other than his own confidence and perfect physical condition, he started from a point as near impossible by breaking at Charlestown Bridge, where 27 bridge and also 27 boats had to be dived on his outward journey.

Whatjis There Left?

So the question naturally presents itself, What is there left for the long-distance swimming fan in Boston Harbor? Perhaps some ambitious youth may swim a mile from Nantasket to Minot's Light, or a mile from Boston to Deer Island Light, off Hingham Harbor, but in the first instance the fixtures would not be considered as anything out of the ordinary, the waste of time and energy, and in the case of Minot's Light, it is a question whether the cold water encountered in the bay would permit of the possibility of success.

Of course, Sam Richard's wonderful stamina and splendid conditioned mind could even hope to reach Minot's, and then swim at the Nantasket Beach baths at the Nantasket and several hours before the closing of the tide to gain a decision, but the task of swimming across the channel with the tide would be a swim that would test the limit of human endurance. It remains to be seen whether a swimmer could ever swim across the foregoing title, even if he could reach Minot's Light and Boston Light and avoid being washed ashore at Nantasket Beach or Scituate before the tide turned. Richards may undertake the swim, but not until that we have seen some other long-distance swimmer in action, long-distance swimming is coming to the front in a manner unprecedented in the history of the sport. To be sure, any one who would undertake the swim would be looked upon as a lunatic by the more conservative element, but the glory is more than worth the risk. Richards has taken the edge off all records so far from the Light, even as Dora Provost has taken the edge off of conquering the Light swim four years ago.

Richards Will Rest.

Now that he has garnered all the local swimming laurels, being the holder of the record of 1h 35m from Charlestown Bridge to the Light, and of the return swim, Richards will rest for the remainder of the year.

Next year, it is safe to say, for the first time, but if some channel dope has anchored in swimming from Sandy Hook to the Battery, New York Harbor, or the 5-mi Portsmouth Club's sturdy tars, reservation may undertake to set a new mark for the Boston Light swim, and if he does Charley Durborow's year's end of reaching a point within half a mile of the Light will be a distance of being wiped off the slate by a distance of great swim across the Delaware River, a swim that would compare favorably with the hour and one quarter Richards is allowed that swim, but now that he is at the light of his capable store, it is more than glad he will go after the record for the Boston Light swim, and next year he may make the attempt.

It is not generally known, but Richards was the first to swim from the Boston Light Channel several years before he swam to Boston Light, and he was the first to swim to the light for that purpose. He was unable to find backing for the attempt, minus he was willing to put up the money himself, and refrain to England since years, however. Even though he was unable to get backing he went to the light and returned without even seeing the bright of the channel.

Richards has a position to make his second nightmare, and his ambition is to swim from the Boston Light to Minot's Light, to which he has brought many friends to see him start, but never stayed with him to the finish. Arthur, and there is no doubt that he would gain scores of swimmers who would gladly accompany him, but for any excuse that might be incurred by any escapade that might be incurred by any escapade that might be incurred by any escapade