

IN THE REALM OF SPORTS...

COLORED BOXERS MIGHT WIN ALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Oakland, Calif., Feb. 19, (ANP) Believe it or not there is a chance that every boxing championship might be held by a dark skinned fighter within a year's time, if the boys are given a crack at the title in their respective divisions. And of the eight boys to be mentioned, seven of them are Colored, (one already being a champion) the other being a Filipino, with a skin blacker than some of the Negro leather pushers in question.

I start off with Joe Louis, who is generally recognized in all boxing circles, except that in which James J. Braddock resides, as the Uncrowned Champion. That the Brown Bomber is figured to add Braddock to his list of victims when they meet is proven by the fact that in all corners of these United States, a "White Hope" is being sought to "regain the title" for the white race.

Next is our current title holder, John Henry Lewis, who rules the light heavyweight (175 pounds) ranks. While Eastern scribes believe the local boy will enter the ring as a short-order in the betting when he meets Jack McAvooy for the title in New York on May 8th, in case he loses, we have a top notch contender in Al Gainer. The New Haven, Conn., boy has wins over Braddock, Lou Brouillard, Al McCoy, drew with Rosenbloom and holds two victories over Bob Olin, from whom Lewis won the crown.

NEW STAR ARRIVES

In the next division, the lightweight (135 lbs.), a new star has the spotlight. He is Pedro Montañez, a colored Puerto Rican who scored such an impressive victory over Al Roth the other week in New York that big-time sport editors dubbed him the "Joe Louis of the lightweights." It was Pedro's ninth straight win since arriving and Roth classed as a No. 1 contender, received a worse beating than when he lost to the champion, Tony Canzoneri.

We are forced to return to the West Coast when discussing the featherweight (127 lbs.) title aspirants. Another boy from the movie section, Henry Armstrong, who is California champion. Armstrong has whipped all the boys of his class here and is now fighting lightweights to keep busy. Freddie Miller is the N.B.A. title holder, but is not recognized here or in New York and efforts are being made to match the pair while Miller is on the Coast, but the Cincinnati boy ducked the match by claiming he could not make enough money. The California Commission has asked the N. Y. boxing fathers not to recognize Miller until he meets the Negro flash.

While he is not recognized entirely, Sixto Escobar, another Puerto Rican defeated Lou Salica to gain the bantam weight (118 lbs.) crown in the eyes of the N. Y. Commission. In most sections he is classed as the champ, but has failed to garner the N. B. A. sanction.

In the flyweight (112 lbs.) class Small Montana, a dark skinned Filipino, defeated Midget Wolgast in a local ring to capture the title. Incidentally his real name brings back reminiscence of a great Negro fighter, being Benjamin Gans.

Farfetched? Yes, but possible.

GORILLA COMING BACK

In the middleweight (160 lbs.) ranks, we have two challengers for Babe Risko's belt. They are William "Gorilla" Jones and Oscar Rankin, Los Angeles boy. With two recent kayo verdicts over the tough Tait Littman, Jones probably gets first call, especially as he is now a tablemate of Joe Louis. Rankin's win over Jack Gibbons places him a close second to the Akron boy.

While Barney Ross is looked upon as the most secure crownholder, we find Leon Zorrilla of L.A. as a contender in the welterweight (147 lbs.) class. Zorrilla, whose right name is Willie Collins, is now seeking a match with Al Manfredo, State champion. Peter Jackson, now the California lightweight king, might also do better in the above division since he has knocked out the former welterweight champ, Ceferino Garcia, who recently went 20 rounds with Ross without being knocked down, but lost two decisions.

Red Menace Scares Robert S. Abbott Mayor's Emissary

Chicago, Feb. 20—(ANP)—The roseate dream of John P. Davis for a National Negro Congress flowered into fulfillment Friday night in the Armory before approximately 2,500 persons who had braved zero weather and disregarded countless wild rumors.

Early in the evening the roseate dream gave every promise of being a horrible nightmare. The trouble started early in the day when finances were found to be hopelessly inadequate to meet unexpected and unanticipated expenses. The serpent had not, however, then offered the apple. That came when the Communist party offered the much needed cash. The Party and Comrades, confident that their offer would be accepted had meanwhile set up a press room complete with the official weapon, a mimeographing machine, and a headquarters room from which the dictates of the Red Revolution could flow and control the Congress.

Col. Wm. J. Warfield of the Eighth Regiment, however, declared that Moscow would not rule as long as he headed the Regiment. He thereupon issued an edict that there was to be no Congress at all. This caused great perturbation among the faithful, for this manifesto was issued at 7:30 p. m., only a half hour before the time set for the presentation of the gavel of wood from the desk of Frederick Douglass to the Chairman of the meeting, Charles Wesley Burton, attorney, social worker and former Congregational pastor. After great effort enough money was obtained from non-Communist sources to enable the meeting to open. But Comrades had been incarcerated by the minions of the law in the ensuing confusion.

The troubles of the evening were not over, even after the meeting was started. A place on the program had been reserved for the presentation of the Mayor of the city of Chicago, Edward J. Kelly, by Robert S. Abbott, editor of the Chicago Defender. Inasmuch as the Mayor is sunning himself in Miami he sent in his place Judge Joseph Burke of the circuit court. But the judge never spoke for a while and Mr. Abbott were ushered into the room that the Comrades had fitted out as a press room. Mr. Abbott in glancing about the room let his eyes fall on some of the printed material scattered there. In horrified tones the editor said that he would never allow his good friends to participate in a Red meeting. An SOS to the speakers' platform brought Dr. Julian Lewis on the run to persuade Editor Abbott to proceed with his introduction. Dr. Lewis is associate professor at the University of Chicago and head of the Society for Medical Aid to Ethiopia who was present to introduce the visitor from Ethiopia.

The Editor was adamant in his refusal, despite the earnest pleas of Dr. Lewis. Meanwhile, Dr. Lewis did some thinking and decided that he wouldn't introduce the Ethiopian as had been announced earlier.

It was little wonder then that John P. Davis opened his remarks with what he called a candid statement that the Congress "will not be dominated by

THINGS THEATRICAL

By Franklin Frank for A. N. P.

DIARY OF A COLUMNIST

To Dave's Cafe and there to learn that Joseph Richardson Jones, their new producer, can't emcee his own revue. Jones is an NBC writer and star and the radio bigshots won't let him appear in public at a night club—Then to look over Earl Partelle's first show under new colors and learn the golden blonde boy is ailing although working. At the DeLisa he has brought out what is currently the best spectacle of the South Side—From there to the Grand Terrace where Congressman Arthur W. Mitchell sits with his party. Fletcher Henderson's swell music helps a show top-heavy with dancing. With the clock lazily along, to the Annex where a quartet of clever chorine do a stand-out hoofing number on four huge dice. One of Clarence Weems' smooth ideas—Finally by jitney cab driven by a cow-boy, yawningly to home and bed.

From the mail bag a letter from Buffalo. Bernice (Tanya) Bruce is as great a sensation at Buffalo's Vendome as she was in Chicago, which is saying plenty. She gives three of her amazing contortion appearances daily—7:30, midnight and 2 a. m. At the rate she is going she will be on Broadway or in

any political party." He continued with a pledge of "all that I have I give to the cause of these Negro people. He stated further that the Congress was a congress of American citizens who believe in the Constitution and the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments thereto. Mr. Davis also asserted that the movement embraced every religious faith. He called on the forces of righteousness to rally to the cause.

Mr. Davis apparently hoped that his remarks would set at rest the rumors and buzzings that have persisted since the early announcement of the Congress. These rumors had the congress everything from a preliminary Republican convention inspired and financed by the Liberty League to a meeting of the Communists of America under a new name that would join the long list of organizations affiliated with the party. Time and further progress of the convention alone can answer what has assumed the proportions of a Great Enigma, to which only one person holds the answer.

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the films before the year passes. And she is only 18. Tsk! Tsk! Tsk!

ORGANIZE ENTERTAINERS

From Washington writes David H. Peter to tell me of poor pay meted out to performers in the Capital City, some drawing as little as \$7 weekly. He is currently attempting to organize entertainers there for the bettering of conditions generally along lines suggested by this column two weeks ago. This ought to be done by some responsible person in every town with professional performers in any numbers. This, of course is preparatory to forming a national organization with possible affiliation with the A. F. of L.

There is no reason why each city could not have a standard minimum rate of pay for each kind of entertaining, such as chorus girls, singles, etc. This can be done effectively only with unity. An individual performer can't buck the shrewd cafe owner unless that entertainer has a big name or unusual bargaining ability. I want to hear from more of you on this idea. Write to Franklin Frank, Associated Negro Press, 3507 South Parkway, Chicago.

I LIKED LAST WEEK

Jean Brady's husky warbling. A classy singer, this girl. The Buck and Bubbles imitation by those two amazing juveniles, Kenneth and LeRoy. Best thing in the new Dave's Cafe revue.—Dorothy Derrick's expressive gestures with her singing. Wasp-waisted Valda's acrobatic dance routine. By the way, is it true the motor companies got their ideas for floating power from watching Valda's educated hips? —The Gypsy scene closing the first section of Sammy Dyer's revue at Grand Terrace—Geary Johnson's truckin' with Bullfrog singing. One of the few boys around town with a style all his own.

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Drop Charges Against Four Baltimore Boys

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 12—(ANP)—An alleged attack upon the colored youths, white matron of Cheltenham Reformatory which resulted in four colored youths inmates of the institution, being held, were dropped this week according to the local NAACP.

The boys were released after Thurgood Marshall, attorney, acting for the NAACP, investigated the alleged charges of rape.



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