

FITZSIMMONS-FIGHTS AGAIN

Ancient Cornishman to Meet Lang at Sydney Next Week.

OLD ONES ARE TO COME BACK

His Return to the Ring Recalls the Memorable Battles with Jeffries—Johnson Says It's a Shame to Allow Best.

While speculation is rife in this country as to the possibility of a rejuvenated Jeffries, Australians are also wondering whether Robert Fitzsimmons can come back when he meets Bill Lang at Sydney in a twenty-round fight for the heavy-weight championship of the Antipodes.

No greater fighter than the ancient Cornishman ever lived. No harder puncher ever delivered a knockout blow. Champion of the world, though a natural middle-weight, Fitzsimmons gradually went back because of advancing years.

When Jack Johnson stopped him in 1907, rounds it was generally believed that the end had come. Fitzsimmons will be 48 years old next June, yet he still considers himself a young man and actually believes he can fight as well as ever.

Confidence was always one of Fitz's best qualities and it seems that he has not lost it. When he met Hugh McIntosh, the Australian fight promoter, in England last fall he said:

"I can fight as well as ever, Mr. McIntosh, and if you'll give me a chance to show the people of Australia 'ow I'll can go I'll make good."

McIntosh quickly saw an opportunity to provide a special attraction for the fight at Sydney and lost no time in signing the ancient Cornishman to meet Bill Lang. He guaranteed Fitz a round trip ticket for himself and his wife and a \$5,000 bonus, win, lose or draw.

Fitz was the champion and he dictated terms that gave him 65 per cent of the gross receipts, win or lose. He regarded Jeffries as a punk pugilist and did not consider him seriously until he actually got in the ring with him.

Comparison of Big Ones. Sporting writers had an chance to compare Jeffries and Fitzsimmons at their training quarters a week before the fight. Jeff was in the hands of Billy Delaney and Tommy Ryan. He had taken off forty pounds of superfluous flesh and was as fit as a racehorse.

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an immense crowd in the old Coney Island Athletic club Jeffries, a magnificent specimen of manhood, stripped at 200 pounds. Fitzsimmons weighed about 150 pounds and looked well, though his intimate friends knew that he was in far from his best form.

Early in the second round that opening came. Fitz rushed in pell mell and Jeffries smashed him squarely in the face with the left. The Cornishman reeled, only to come back again with a blind rush. Again Jeff's left hand crashed squarely into Bob's face with so much force that the blood spouted from his nose, and tottering momentarily, he fell over, striking the back of his head on the floor.

In the ninth round Fitz landed a desperate left swing on the boiler-maker's face. It reached a point high up on the jawbone near the right ear. It was a fearful smash and for a moment Jeff tottered. He was near the ropes and he backed into them. Fitz, weary from his incessant onslaught, paused in his attack and before he could get his feet under him, the referee stepped in and ordered the fight to stop.

It was in San Francisco they met in July, 1902. Fitz trained in real earnest for this affair and entered the ring absolutely confident. He adopted the same old tactics, but centered the greater part of his attack upon Jeff's head.

What would have happened if Fitzsimmons had refrained from boring in with a never ending attack in these battles? Veteran sporting men who remember then insist that if Fitzsimmons had stayed away, boxing or fighting at long range, Jeffries could not have knocked him out.

Johnson flatfooted. Fitzsimmons and Sharkey differ from the negro Jackson in this respect. Johnson is a fast rusher. On the contrary, he is a fast footed, careful, defensive fighter who is an artist at "picking blows out of the air" and using a great right hand upper-cut when the proper opening is afforded.

It is believed to be a sure thing, therefore, that when Jeffries and Johnson meet the boiler-maker will find that he must make the pace or take part in a long, tedious mill. Johnson will make him lead or there will be no real fighting and no prize.

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GOLF IS CURIOUS ASPECTS

Variations from Straight Match or Medal Play is Often Seen.

NEBRASKA SWATTEST A HIT

Combinations to Enliven Week-End and Tournament Games—Swat-fests, Long Driving Handicaps, Obstacle Putting.

Conditions determine what is curious in golf, just as one man's meat is another man's poison. What would be deemed freakish in one set of circumstances may be eminently proper under another, as a New York golfer learned in a match with a self-taught player on a small course in the west.

Curious, too, was the business amusements committee for a week-end golf party last month by a pickaninny caddy. At each stop the caddy and he were a rough deal to the golfer's opponent, although only the caddy could be blamed.

The "swatfests" of the Nebraska clubs are out of the ordinary run. They are swatfests, and the entries, no matter how many, all play together. On the first green, for instance, all who do not hole in 4 drop out of the contest, which by this process of elimination becomes a match between two, and they may play it out or divide the pool as they wish.

To an American it is always curious, awe-inspiring is perhaps better, to play over the grand and wild seaside courses in Scotland, say at Macbratney, and a gentle wonder fills the British visitor who plays on some of our park-like courses, where a slice or pull may send the ball into a parterre of flowers.

A handicap long driving competition was a novelty of the late season near New York, the odds being given in yards and deducted from the aggregate of each player's three drives. It is said to have furnished an amusing entertainment, and on this account alone may be suggested to the club committees that seek variety in the schedules.

Enormous Sum Has Been Pledged by Saratoga Association. NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Officials of the Saratoga Racing association are busy on a stake program for 1910 which will entail the expenditure of \$300,000.

CAMP ADVISES RULE CHANGES Says Some of the Danger Should Be Eliminated. NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 13.—That there should be a revision of the football rules with the view of distinctly minimizing the chance of serious accidents in the game is the statement made here in an interview with Walter Camp, Yale's graduate advisory coach.

THE "OPTIONAL CLUB" contest had its birth last season at the Dunwoody Country club. Before the tee shot the player must name the club he will use for his second shot, and before each succeeding shot the player must name the club he will use for the next shot.

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bogey raised, but kept secret until the cards were posted on certain holes. There is no end to the curious changes that may be tried in occasional handicaps that more than may be sounded on a chime of bells. A frivolity conceived by F. J. Phillips and tried out at the Dyker Meadow Golf club was a four ball medal play competition in which partners were changed on each green according to the high or low strokes recorded.

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a Japanese Industrial Commissioner says that the Union Pacific is the Smooth way. Copy of a Letter from Baron Prof. Naibu Kanda, one of the Honorary Industrial Commissioners of Japan. At Denver, Col., Nov. 14, 1909.

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