

HEAVYWEIGHT PUGS ARE LONG ON NOISE, BUT VERY, OH, VERY SHORT ON ACTION

Ted Lewis, a Red Fighter, Gets "Stick" on Knockout Victory, But Achilles-In-His-Tent Willard Gets Column When He Refuses to Fight At All.

By RINGSIDER.

Chicago, Feb. 16.—Heavyweight champions, in these more or less parlous pugilistic days, do less fighting but garner to themselves more space in the public prints than any other class of performers in fistiana's realm. The statement, as the forensic headlines are wont to remark, is made without fear of successful contradiction.

Take the case of Jess Willard to give point to the argument. If Jess had been forced to pay at space rates for the publicity he has received since he sent Jack Johnson into pugilistic oblivion and mounted the throne of the heavyweight kingdom his circus would have been in hock long ago. Yet Jess has had but one championship battle since he became title holder.

Looking at the argument from the other side of the palings, note the case of Benjamin Leonard, whose brow is adorned with the lightweight crown so long worn by Freddy Welsh. Benny, it is true, has not been entirely overlooked by the sport scribes and has been the subject of frequent dissertations. Since he won the title, however, Leonard has engaged in a score of fights of greater or less importance, yet he has not received one-half the publicity Big Jess has achieved by simply lurking in his tent and allowing a flock of challengers to trail him.

Lewis Barely Mentioned. Compared with the heavyweight title holder, how much has been heard of the doings of Ted Lewis, who is generally recognized as the welterweight champion. Lewis gets a "stick" of type when he fights a tough battle, while Willard gets a column when he declines to consider an offer.

In the middleweight division there are several title claimants, yet the fan who would depend on current sports news to keep track of them finds himself unable to learn a thing about what they are doing. The bantamweight champion and title contender also receive a most pecunious mode of publicity in comparison with the length and number of tales chronicling the doings of the heavyweight champion.

Johnny Kilbane, the king of the featherweights, has not had a fight since Benny Leonard tumbled him to sleep in three rounds, but he still clings to his title. Unless Johnny fights pretty soon the boxing fans will forget him, for he is receiving less attention from the sport writers than the "Mississippi Bubble" gets in the financial column.

'Twas Ever Thus. The condition discussed in the preceding paragraph is by no means a new one, although the position of Jess Willard emphasizes it. It has been ever thus. The heavyweight, fighting or inactive, have held the center of the pugilistic spotlight.

This has been demonstrated by the columns that have been written about Bob Fitzsimmons since that gallant old warrior passed away, and the other columns that are now being written about John L. Sullivan, the greatest champion of them all, who died early this month.

Just why this should be so, particularly at the present time, is hard to understand. Benny Leonard or Johnny Kilbane or Mike Gibbons or Pete Herman or any of the headliners of the lighter weight division can put up a more interesting battle against almost any capable opponent than any two heavyweights in the works.

Despite the difference in the class of fighting exhibited, however, the heavyweights continue to crowd the smaller battlers out of the limelight and to monopolize the headlines in the sporting journals.

New Boxing Field. Down in what is known as the Tri-City district along the Mississippi river in Illinois and Iowa, the boxing game is undergoing a spell of prosperity right now that stamps that section as one of the pugilistic centers of the middle west. Rock Island, Ill., and Davenport, Ia., are taking the lead in a revival of boxing, and some mighty good scraps are being staged in that vicinity.

The sport in Rock Island is in the hands of capable officials, who see that it is run in a business-like manner. "Babe" Meador runs the shows and Jack Tighe, an old-time base ball man, is one of his main backers.

Starting at Davenport. At Davenport the sport is just beginning to open up after several dormant years. The last show in Davenport was in 1907 when Packey McFarland and Kid Herman, a brace of Chicago scrappers, staged a 15-round bout. This scrap aroused the ire of the governor to such an extent that he ordered out the militia to stop it. The militiamen occupied ringside seats but did not interfere, and Captain Kulp, in charge of the company, was afterwards court-martialed.

Ben Hutchinson, however, is running a new club at Davenport that is organized under the membership plan. The club is said to have the backing of the authorities and to have reached a membership of 2,500. The first bout was on between Johnny Noye of Minneapolis and Charley Scully of Chicago, a few nights ago, and it was successful.

The revival of boxing in the Tri-City district may eventually take some of the Chicago patronage away from bouts at Racine and Milwaukee, which have been the mecca of Chicago fight fans for many years.

Les Mann Asks Furlough From Army Y. M. C. A. Work. Leslie Mann, outfelder of the Chicago Cubs, who has been doing Young Men's Christian association athletic work with the soldiers at Camp Logan, Texas, has formally applied for release from his work, so that he can rejoin the Cubs in time to go to California with them on the training trip. As Mann is not an enlisted man he expects no trouble in getting his "furlough."

AMERICAN PIN CLASSIC OPENS AT CINCINNATI

Mayor Makes Address of Welcome, After Which Sixteen Teams Start the Ball Rolling.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 16.—The eighteenth annual tournament of the American Bowling Congress was started here tonight when 16 five-men teams, made up of representatives of a number of diversified Cincinnati industries and associations, rolled the first balls at the Hamilton county armory.

The play tonight was but the beginning of a period of three weeks of bowling, during which time expert bowlers from many states and from some sections of Canada will make Cincinnati their Mecca. Proceeding to the bowling tonight, Mayor John Galvin delivered a short address of welcome, while August Herrmann, former president of the American Bowling Congress, answered for the bowlers of Cincinnati, and William Agnew, of Cleveland, president of the congress, responded for the bowlers in general. Among the first sixteen teams tonight was the Forsch club, which claims to be the oldest bowling organization in existence, having been active in the game for 32 years.

The tournament is not the largest in point of number of teams entered that has been conducted by the American Bowling Congress, but it is attracting attention by reason of the unusually generous response from bowling teams everywhere, despite war conditions. The tournament committee estimates that 50,000 bowlers have already answered the call to the colors, and that of these fully 1,500 have at various times participated in the tournaments of the American Bowling Congress. Yet despite this great increase in the number of eligible bowlers, the entries for the Cincinnati tournament are but little below those of previous years.

Six Hundred Teams. Particularly gratifying is the entry list from other cities. Five hundred and eleven such teams entered and 141 teams entered from Cincinnati, making the grand total of five-men teams 652. One thousand four hundred and ninety four pairs entered the doubles and 3,033 entered the singles. Prize money to the amount of \$31,003 will be awarded.

The records that the bowlers will shoot at this year are: Five men teams, 3,061 made by Birk brothers, Chicago, at Grand Rapids in 1917; two-men teams, 1,346 made by G. Satorius and W. Holzschub of Peoria, at Grand Rapids in 1917; singles, 711, made by W. H. Pierce, Pueblo, at Peoria in 1915. Highest individual score, 300 (perfect), made by W. J. Knox, of Philadelphia, at Toledo, in 1913; best average in nine games, 219.1-9, made by Ed Herman, of Cleveland, at Toledo, in 1913; best average in three games, 241.1-3, made by Harry Maggley, of Vancouver, B. C., at St. Louis, in 1911; best high five-men team, for one game, 102, made by Birk brothers of Chicago, at Grand Rapids, in 1917; national championship in all events, 1922, by Ed Herman, of Cleveland, at Toledo, in 1917.

Three Seek Tourney. St. Louis, Detroit and Toledo are the principal contestants for the 1919 tournament. The session of the delegates of the congress will be held from February 20 to 22 and this will be followed on February 23 by a meeting of the delegates to the United States Relief association for formal organization.

Directly following the tournament of the American Bowling Congress the woman's National Bowling association will hold a two-day championship tournament with 32 teams from a number of cities entered. There also will be about 60 two-women teams and more than 100 individual contestants.

Former Golf Champ Is Lieutenant at Camp Dodge. Robert A. Gardner, intercollegiate pole vault champion of America in 1912 and national amateur golf champion in 1915, is a lieutenant in the 338th field artillery at Camp Dodge.

"Bob" Gardner began his athletic career as a pole vaulter at Yale. In 1912 he cleared the bar at 13 feet 1 inch in a field meet at Philadelphia. That mark was beaten a week later when Mark S. Wright went 13 feet 2 1/4 inches in a meet at Cambridge, Mass.

Gardner is a member of the Hinsdale Golf club at Clarendon Hills, Ill. He won the national amateur championship in 1915 on the course of the Detroit Country club from a field of 138 entries, defeating J. G. Anderson in the finals 5 up and 4 to play.

As an added attraction that year Gardner, paired with Chick Evans, played an 18-hole match against Jerry Travers and Francis Ouimet. Gardner and Evans won, 2 up.

McFarland is Candidate For Commission in Army. Packey McFarland, the noted Chicago boxer, was to become a commissioned officer in the army instead of a boxing instructor at Camp Taylor. McFarland is anxious to see service in France and is soon to be examined for a commission.

Three Base Ball Stars Join Holdouts



LEE MAGEE

GROVER ALEXANDER

ROGER HORNSBY

Three of the biggest stars in the 1918 major leagues have joined the 1918 holdouts. The salary question is the main reason the boys are holding out, although Alexander also demands a bonus of \$10,000 for signing with the Cubs. Lee Magee, traded to the St. Louis Browns by the Yankees, is being panned for a fare-three-well by St. Louis fans because he is backward about signing a contract with the Browns calling for a salary of approximately \$3,000. This is a cut from more than \$5,000 from the amount Magee received with the Brooklyn

Federals, the Yankees, and last year with the Browns, who carried over the Yankee contract. There is no reason why Magee should accept a \$5,000 cut in salary, and probably he will not, although the season of 1917 was a poor one for the former Fed star. Magee has saved and invested his money wisely, and will no doubt retire from the game before he accepts the cut.

Grover Cleveland Alexander, who figured recently in the sensational deal between the Chicago Cubs and the Phillies, joined the holdouts early. Alex declared that if he plays with the Chicago team next season he must be paid a salary of \$12,000 a year and a bonus of \$10,000 for signing. If the former Phillie star is successful in getting the salary and bonus he and his battery mate, Killifer, will have cost President Weeghman of the Cubs close to \$100,000.

Roger Hornsby, star shortstop of the St. Louis Cardinals, demands a salary of \$10,000 a year. Hornsby was the first holdout of the year. At the close of the last season he informed the management of the Cardinals that he would not play in 1918 unless he received the increase.

REILLY WANTS SERVICE STARS IN KAYSEE MEET

Kansas City, Feb. 16.—Dr. J. A. Reilly, physical director of the Kansas City Athletic club, recently left for Camp Funston, Kan., contentment of the 89th division of the national army, to confer with Captain Paul Withington, director of the intramural sports at that camp and to try to induce the authorities there to send a big team of track athletes to compete in the annual indoor track and field meet of the Young Men's Christian association to be held in Convention hall here March 2.

Dr. Reilly is also trying to induce the authorities at Camp Grant, Ill., to issue a furlough to Jo G. Loomis, famous sprinter and former representative of the Chicago Athletic association. Loomis enlisted as a private shortly after returning from France, where he served as ambulance driver for about six months on the Verdun front. Dr. Reilly plans to match Loomis with Mahl, the best sprinter of St. Louis.

The athletic director of the local association is also negotiating with authorities at the Great Lakes naval training station in an effort to induce them to enter a team of star athletes in the local meet. He is also considering the possibility of a match between track teams of Camp Funston and Camp Dodge, Ia., as an added feature of the Kansas City Athletic club carnival.

Famous Stars to Represent Navy in Detroit Tank Meet. Great Lakes, Ill., Feb. 16.—Perry McGillivray and "Buddy" Wallen, two of the country's leading natators, will sport the blue of the Great Lakes Naval Training station in Detroit February 22 when the Detroit Athletic club stages the 100, 220 and 150-yard back stroke events in the Central Amateur Athletic union swimming championships. There is every indication that their jacks may add 10 points to their totals in the central standing. They are now ranked behind the Chicago Athletic association and Illinois Athletic club, with 13.

McGillivray, who holds several records, will perform in the 100-yard swim and the 150-yard back stroke. He has few equals at the hundred and also ranks with the leaders in the other event. Wallen is Chicago's long distance swim champion. For the last two years he has won the Chicago river marathon from paddling stars of the middle west. He is carded to perform in the 100 and 220.

The men will be accompanied by Yeoman Harry Hazelburst, who coached the water team of the Hamilton club of Chicago before he enlisted. He is in charge of swimming classes at Great Lakes.

Herman Laubis, formerly of the Missouri Athletic club of St. Louis, will compete if the quarantine is lifted on his barracks in time. Laubis is known for his accomplishments in the Mississippi river marathon.

Rudolph in Class Four; Wife and Two Children. The Boston National League club sent out inquiries to all its players after the fashion of the army questionnaire. Dick Rudolph was among the first to answer. He stated his home address as West Nyack, N. Y., business raising chickens for market, and that he had been placed in class four for the draft because of wife and two children dependent on him.

Woman Swimming Champ Is Made Coach at California. Pretty Ruth Wayson Stackler, champion woman swimmer of the Hawaiian islands, has been appointed swimming coach for the University of California. Miss Stackler holds the record in Hawaii for the 30, 50, 100 and 440-yard swims, and is also the holder of the American record for 30 yards.

HARVARD ALONE STANDS AGAINST WARTIME SPORT

Dean Briggs' Assertion About Athletics Needs Explanation, in View of Other Stands Taken.

Harvard will foster no more intercollegiate athletics until the war ends because it does not "believe in any divided allegiance between preparations for war and athletics."

The United States naval academy, having nothing to do except to "prepare men to become officers in the navy," plans a wider campaign of sports for the coming year.

The United States military academy, training young men to lead American soldiers, makes no cut in its sport curriculum. It continues to find time for athletics and to fit teams for competition against strong foes.

Thomas B. Appleget, secretary of the publicity committee of Brown university, in announcing the 1918 football schedule for the Bruinians, says: "Brown university, in keeping with the wishes of the government, has decided to continue athletics as a valuable part of physical preparedness, in spite of the fact that the athletic season of the academic year 1917-18 alone will result in a loss of \$10,000."

Dean LeBaron Briggs of Harvard lays stress on the fact that a large majority of Cambridge athletes have enlisted or are "preparing to enlist." Friend Appleget says: "Practically every athlete of any prominence at the university has enlisted. Places on the various teams are given to as large a number of men as possible, most of whom are without previous experience. Brown believes that the benefits of wartime athletics should be open to all able-bodied students."

Somehow or other, Dean Briggs' statement seems to need a postscript telling the real reason for Harvard's abolishing athletics during the war.

O'Dowd-Greb Ring Go is Expected to Draw \$15,000. St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 16.—Promoters of the ten-round battle between Harry Greb, the Pittsburgh middleweight, and Mike O'Dowd, claimant of the championship, to be decided here February 25, expect the contest will draw close to \$15,000. The match will be staged at night.

Probably will be the last big match for the boxers, as they are slated to join the army in the next call. Although O'Dowd has received no official word, members of the draft board have assured him that he will be among those who are ordered to Camp Dodge between February 23 and 28. Greb will return to Pittsburgh after the contest to await the decision of the draft board.

Opportunity to Serve Occasion for Gladness. In a letter to the parishioners of Trinity cathedral Dean J. O. Tancock notes his full appreciation of his seven years' stay among them and says concerning his departure for France with the Nebraska base hospital unit:

"I want to tell you how very glad I am of this opportunity of going to France in the service of my country—a country in a threefold sense—England is my birthplace, Canada my boyhood's home and the United States of America is the land of my adoption, hence you see how proud I am that in this opportunity I am serving our people—the great English-speaking race."

Holke Gets \$1,000 Hike In Pay Check by Muggsy. First Baseman Walter Holke of the New York Giants was one player who got a big boost in salary from his club for this year. It was based on the good work he did in his first full season, for John McGraw is not the manager who fails to recognize the worth of a player to his team. Holke's increase is said to have been an even \$1,000 over his 1917 contract.

SHREWD CONNIE PULLS SMARTEST TRICK OF WINTER

Selling Few Stars He Had Only Way Athletic Leader Could Have Escaped Financial Failure.

By JACK VEIOCK. New York, Feb. 16.—Is Connie Mack the wise bird, after all? Did he pull off a smart piece of business base ball when he sold the last of his stars?

In Philadelphia the bugs have been stinging anvils at Connie ever since he let Bush, Schang, Strunk and McInnis get away. The scribes have been predicting that Mack's team will play to more empty seats this season than any major league club in history. Other base ball critics have said this and that, and there hasn't been a bouquet in the whole wave of comment.

But a well-versed base ball man, who knows practically all there is to know about the business end of a ball club, remarked recently that Mack pulled the wisest stuff that has been pulled all winter. Why? Well, here are a few reasons.

Unpopular Anyway. In the first place the Athletics have been unpopular in Philly ever since they started to decline. They have not drawn flies, and Mack has not made any money at home.

In the second place several of the stars Mack sold were dissatisfied with conditions and demanded much larger salaries than he could rightly afford to play.

Again—the Mackmen lost seven or eight players to the various branches of the service, and Mack saw eighth place staring him in the face this year with little or no chance to finish a bit higher.

Sees Chance to Win. Mack got to figuring, very likely, that he would do well to get rid of his dissatisfied players while he could command a big market price for them. He saw a chance to clean up, in one deal, practically twice as much money as he stood to lose on the season.

With no rent to pay at Shibe park, overhead expenses small and the chance to hold a young ball club to salaries averaging \$3,000, Mack saw a chance to make some money on the year through player sales, and he took it.

Even with the stars he disposed of Mack could not have built up a winner. Base ball men in general agree to this. And if some other teams in the American league have good years he stands a chance to make a little dough on the road. Figuring that he would lose money at home, Mack probably had a hunch that he could break nearly even on the season's business and have what he got for his stars in reserve.

Should he break even this year he will have that trusty \$60,000 intact. Not a bad year, what?

Advance Price of Newspapers. Rochester, N. Y., Feb. 16.—Rochester's three afternoon newspapers, the Post-Express, Union and Advertiser, and Evening Times, today announced an advance in price to 2 cents, effective Monday.

COACH HARPER RESIGNS POST AT NOTRE DAME

Hoosier Mentor Will Quit Coaching Game to Devote Time to Stock Raising on Kansas Farm.

Notre Dame, Ind., Feb. 16.—President Dr. John Cavanaugh of Notre Dame has announced the resignation of Athletic Director Jesse C. Harper, to take effect with the completion of athletic schedules arranged for the present scholastic year.

Last March Coach Harper signed a contract binding him to supervise athletics at Notre Dame until the spring of 1920, but that agreement has been mutually annulled to allow him to accept a more attractive business proposition. He has purchased half interest in a cattle ranch in western Kansas, and with the closing of school in June will devote his entire time to stock raising.

Will Quit Coaching. Harper is leaving the coaching game for good, and of his own volition. He has been desiring to secure his release at Notre Dame since his return from Kansas, where he spent three months last summer, but the Notre Dame faculty, though not wishing to stand in his way, has been loath to surrender his valuable services.

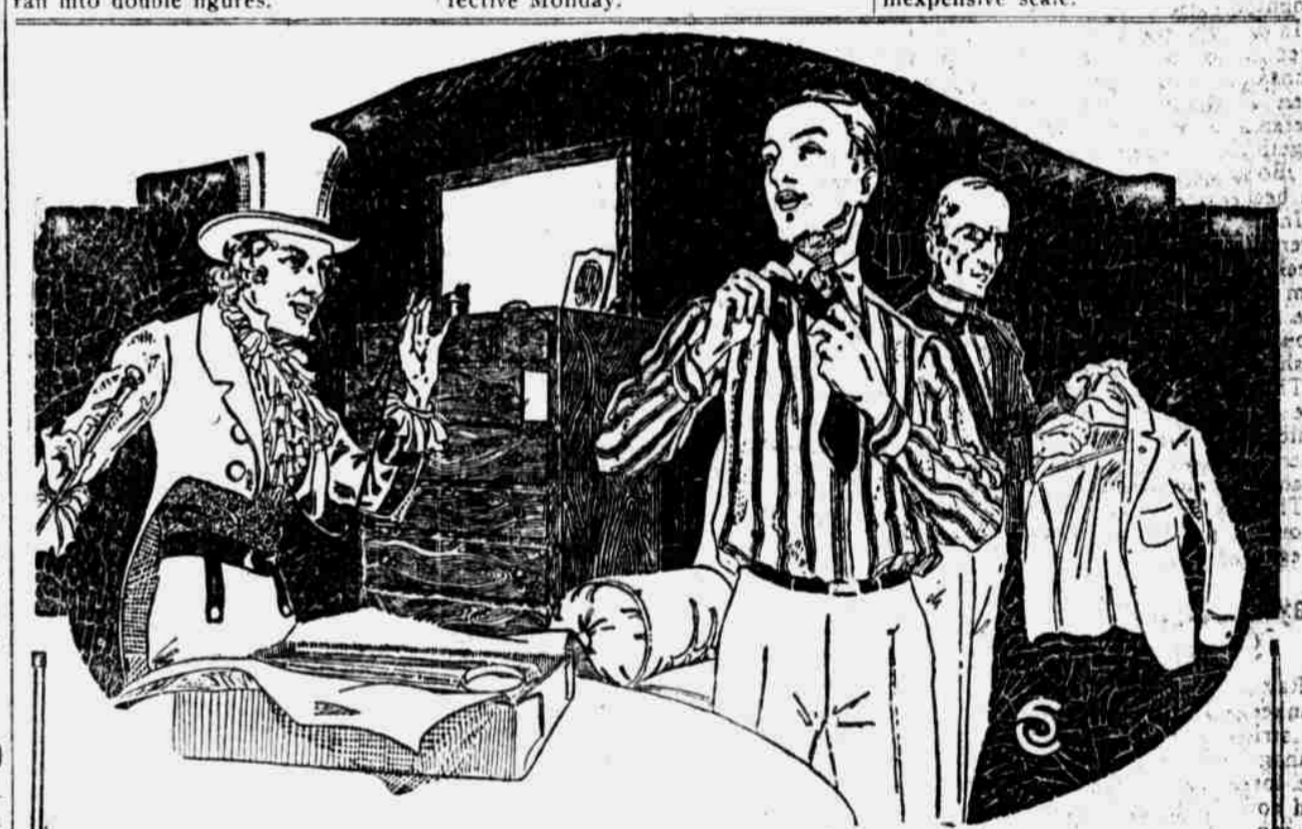
It was thought for a time Harper might be induced to return to Notre Dame each fall during the "foot ball" season, but that plan did not prove feasible, because September, October and November are the busiest months of the year in the business Harper is about to undertake. Coach Harper expresses deep regret at leaving Notre Dame. He said:

"I regret very much that I find it inadvisable to resign my position as director of athletics at Notre Dame. Never have I had such pleasant associations, and if I were to continue my athletic work I would rather be connected with the University of Notre Dame than with any university I know of."

Heaven though I have an unusually good opportunity to go into the cattle business, a business I have been interested in for the last six years, I took me some time to make up my mind to ask the university to release me from my contract, which runs until 1920."

Harper has already arranged an imposing foot ball schedule for next fall. By the time he leaves in June he will have everything in readiness for his successor next September. No one has been chosen by the Notre Dame authorities to take his place.

Big Three to Resume Sport Activities is Forecasted. New Haven, Conn., Feb. 16.—Resumption of intercollegiate sports was forecasted tonight at the end of a conference held here between Dean Briggs of Harvard, Dean McLanahan of Princeton and Professor Corwin, who represents the Yale faculty in sports. It was reported that the sense of the conference was favorable to intercollegiate sports on a simple and inexpensive scale.



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