

Fight Followers Expect July Fourth Contest to End Inside of 12 Rounds

Dempsey With K. O. Record Has Gone Limit in Several Bouts—Moran and Others Have Withstood Attacks of Willard's Southpaw—Old Timers Unable to Pick Probable Winner of Toledo Fight.

By DAMON RUNYON
Universal Service Staff Correspondent.

Toledo, O., June 28.—It's rather an odd circumstance, but nobody in these parts seems to give the possibility of this Willard-Dempsey matter going the full 12 rounds the slightest "tumble," as they say in the classical language of the sporting fraternity.

All hands apparently take it for granted that it will be well inside the limit, by a knockout, or otherwise. At least there is never the faintest suggestion in all the oceans of gossip that both men may be on their feet at the finish.

And yet this possibility assuredly exists. It exists just as strongly in the hearts of the big fight ever staged. Like everyone else, I am looking for a short fight, and a merry one, but like everyone else I am basing that idea on the expectation that Dempsey will lug the battle to Willard right from the kick-off.

May Try Waiting

Supposing Dempsey fails to do that? What then, good gentlemen? Is it seems improbable that Dempsey can change his style, but supposing he discovers in the first few rushes he is certain to make that he cannot get past the long left of Willard without having his nose plastered all over the map? Would it be reasonable to expect Jack to keep on rushing? Would it be good sense for him to keep plunging again at that sort of barrier?

Not All K. O.'s

Dempsey has knocked out a lot of queer-looking parties in fact-time, but he also has engaged in a number of squabbles which went the limit. I will remember hanging over a ticker wire waiting for a "K. O." flash that never came. It was the night of his fight with Billy Miske in St. Paul.

There is no single incident in Willard's fistic career on which to base the thought that he may end this, or any other fight, quickly. He is positively a malingering in battle. Slow to begin, he is dilatory in finishing.

People who expect Jess to stop Dempsey, use as a foundation for that expectation the fact that Jack is a mark for a left hand. A very ordinary pro fighter can hit him. Willard has a good left but don't forget that Willard swatted a lot of persons with that left and failed to bring them down.

Southpaw Not Fatal

Tom McMahon, Gunboat Smith, Boer Roedel and others weathered it. Granting that it wasn't so good in those days, there is Frank Moran who lived under the Willard southpaw when it was supposed to be at its best. Surely Dempsey is as stout as any of these.

Willard has said that he intends taking some of the battle at least to Dempsey. It seems inconceivable that Jess can bring himself to forcing a fight, yet it was equally inconceivable that Jack Johnson could do such a thing. Jack was strictly a waiter, yet at Havana he went

shuffling after Jess in a manner which astonished all beholders. If Dempsey starts any waiting on July 4th, the crowd is pretty apt to spur Jess to some action. But if they both wait—well, I can imagine they'll see it back there in New York before the 12 rounds are over.

With a decision depending on the result, however, whether there is a knockout or not, it is pretty certain that one or the other will manifest aggressiveness. That counts in the summing up.

Moran in Toledo.

Speaking of Frank Moran, as I did in few paragraphs back, he arrived in Toledo last night. The Pittsburgh blondy is as blonde and voluble as ever. He looks in such good condition that I was not surprised when he whispered to me his intention of taking a jaunt to gay Paree. He'll be in the city in New York before the 12 rounds are over.

May Try Waiting

"I'm not picking the winner of this one yet," said Frank. "I've got to go out and look the boys over first. I want to see 'em sweat. Can't tell a thing about 'em until I see 'em sweat."

"Get-Rich-Quick" John J. Ryan had \$25,000 on tap at the Boody hotel to bet on Jack Dempsey, and had permitted the folks to pick off about \$11,000 of it in small chunks. Each day the former owner of Reilly's, through wit joy in happening these days in a great big stadium—Pershing Stadium—in the small suburb of Paris, Joinville-le-Point.

Masterson Stops Bets.

Then along came Bat Masterson, burling boisterous his admiration of the Pottawatomie cow poker. John J. listened intently. He recalled that he and Bat had been at the ringside together that sweltering afternoon when Sullivan met Kilrain and on other occasions of fistic import too numerous to mention.

Fourteen Nations Entered.

The fighting cream of 14 nations, the wealth of the athletic blood of the world, is gathered here to compete in a simple "carnival" for the honor of being the world's best soldier athlete. And America, early reports say, is leading the field.

Old John L. is dead. But his spirit lives on. Those words were spoken at Stockholm, 1918, when he scored other than American competition—particularly German—being mounted in letters of gold by such athletes as "Bob" Simpson, "Pat" Ryan, William Sylvester, Earl Eby, C. E. Johnson, Charlie Padlock and Sol Butner and a hundred other American cracker-jacks.

Reverting back to the possibility of the fight going the limit, what a jolly old time those two judges and the referee are going to have sorting out a decision. If the thing is at all close it may be established that the delegates to the peace conference were nice agreeable gentlemen, and easy to get along with after a bit.

It cannot be said that the judges idea made much of a hit with the fistic followers, especially the old timers. It is an experiment. A fight of this importance is scarcely a time for experimenting.

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Willard and Dempsey Physically Compared

Physical Charts and Photographs of Jess Willard and Jack Dempsey, Who Meet for the Heavy-weight Title at Toledo, July 4.



1,500 AMERICAN ATHLETES ENTER PERSHING MEET

Yankee Boxers, Trackmen and Physical Culture Exponents in All Lines Ready for Opening Today.

By KARL LEE.

A great little thing that would have made the heart of the late James E. Sullivan, king of American athletes, thrill with joy in happening these days in a great big stadium—Pershing Stadium—in the small suburb of Paris, Joinville-le-Point.

One thousand five hundred American athletes, every one of them red blooded fighters, who either have already or had stood by ready to compete in a simple "carnival" for the honor of being the world's best soldier athlete. And America, early reports say, is leading the field.

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Fast Games Should Be On Tap Among Amateurs Today

Muny Association Clubs Have Had Twilight Games and Practice in Past Week and Will Probably Produce Some Snappy Playing on City Diamonds This Afternoon.

By WILLIAM O. BLOZIES.

Today's local amateur baseball league contests in practically all of the leagues, affiliated with the Municipal Amateur Baseball association will be of great interest and the many thousands of followers of the municipal pastime will no doubt witness plenty of fast and snappy playing.

Should the McCaffreys fail to appear, they will be barred from playing in the association for two years. Under the management of Al Vernon, who recently returned from France, the Bowen Furniture team will be seen in action against the Omaha Printing company aggregation at Elmwood park, west diamonds at 3:30 o'clock. The Bowens started the season in great shape and for a time it looked as though they would make a clean sweep; but luck turned and now they are in fourth place in the City league race.

Miller park will be the battleground where the Union Outfitters Co. and the Willard Storage Battery, also of the City loop, will cross bats at 3:30 o'clock. Manager Parcel of the Outfitters announced that Nufer will be his choice in today's game and is confident his aggregation will add another game to their long strings of victories.

Benny Leonard Gets More Than \$7,000 for Outpointing Dundee

New York, June 28.—Champion Benny Leonard received over \$7,000 for outpointing Johnny Dundee in a six-round bout at the open-air boxing show of the National Athletic association at the Philadelphia National League base ball park two weeks ago. Benny fought for 37 1/2 per cent of the gross receipts, while Dundee battled for 27 1/2 per cent which made his net \$5,200.

Galaxy of Stars.

New York.—More 3-year-olds stars are making a bid for supremacy this year than ever before in the history of turfdom. Half a dozen of the youngsters are almost on a par. They are Sir Barton, Billy, War Admiral, Uncle Sam, Eternal and Dan Patch. In addition, Milkmaid, Penrose, Elin Queen and Sweep are going strong.

Friday's Title Battle at Toledo Will Draw \$1,000,000

Willard and Dempsey Championship Fight Will Draw More Money Than Any Bout Yet Staged and Promoter Rickard Will Probably Make No More Than on Other Shows.

Toledo, June 28.—Jess Willard, The Kansas giant, will defend his title of world's heavyweight fistic champion against the challenger Jack Dempsey, of Utah, here next Friday afternoon. Both Willard and Dempsey have been earnestly training in this vicinity for several weeks past. Never once has anything untoward or undone in order to get himself into the best possible condition for the encounter, the outcome of which will mean so much for the victor. By winning from Jack Johnson at Havana, Cuba, four years ago, Willard was placed in position to begin building up an immense fortune and should Dempsey capture the title there is no telling how much wealth he may accumulate in these days of high finance, when sport promoters talk of the "sky" as the limit for big events.

John, the Barber, Asks Carpenter to Meet Willard or Dempsey

New York, June 21.—John J. Reischer, presiding at the head of a syndicate of oil magnates of the fields of Tulsa, Okla., has called Georges Carpentier, the French heavyweight champion as well as the European titleholder, an offer of \$50,000 to meet the winner of the Willard-Dempsey fight at Toledo next month. Reischer, it is reported, has been in communication with the French representatives relative to bringing Carpentier to this country for the past month. According to the latest advices, Reischer will sail for France a few days after the fourth of July.

Sal' Tambourine to Go if Drive Is Successful

Philadelphia.—Passing the Salvation Army tambourine for coin will be a bit of the past if the \$10,000 drive now being waged here and in four surrounding counties goes over the top. No longer will the street corners, dance halls and other public places be the magnet to draw the Salvation lassie's solicitation, according to Col. Richard E. Holz, who said that if the money is raised all effort will be directed toward ministering to the poor and afflicted.

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Gotch's Former Mentor to Bring 'Lion of India' to America This Fall

Gama, "The Lion of India," will be in America by next October and those big wrestlers had better duck under cover. Emil Klank, former manager of Frank Gotch and Yusuf Mahmoud, who knows wrestling talent like no other party we can recall, now has a man on the ground in Calcutta and is making final arrangements for passports and other governmental business in connection with the American invasion of the foreigner.

Klank and his friends have syndicated the proposition and are going on the nut to the extent of \$15,000, to bring this Gamma person to America for a tour. Klank saw this bird in action in London some six years ago, when he was there with the pictures of the Gotch-Zbyszko match. He saw Gama beat the older Pole in 2 hours and 37 minutes and Dr. Roller in 48 seconds. He says Gama has Stecher beaten when it comes to putting on a scissor.

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