

INDEPENDENCE DAY IN THE WORLD OF SPORT

By Parker



WILL SPEND TWO MILLION ON BOAT RACE FOR TROPHY

International Yacht Race This Month Will Cost at Least \$2,000,000 — Lipton Spends \$1,000,000.

One of the most important events in the world of sports is an international yacht race for the America's cup. There may be world series in base ball, international polo matches, tennis contests for the Davis cup and other forms of sports, but few of these events create more interest than is centered in a race for the "blue ribbon of the seas." What creates the enthusiasm on the part of millions of people who do not know a boom from a gaff is now one of the wonders of the sporting world. Still it is the case and must therefore be accepted without comment. The only solution lies in the fact that the lay mind is astonished by the tremendous sums that have been spent in races for the America's cup. That men are willing to spend a million dollars to defend a battered piece of silver that originally was worth only 100 guineas appeals to the popular fancy. To make the situation even more unique, the money is gone forever. Not one penny comes back in the way of "gate receipts." Again, once the series is ended, the yachts that raced are only worth what they will bring in junk. Nothing is more useless than an America's cup boat when the series is ended.

Costs Pile of Money. When Commodore Stevens and his associates originally gave the "100 guineas cup" to the New York Yacht club to be a perpetual trophy for international racing, they never dreamed that a race for the bit of silver would cost a fortune. The ever increasing cost is just the result of circumstances. That a cup race was too much for one man to finance first became apparent after Canada had tried unsuccessfully to capture the cup with the sloop Atalanta.

At present, the cost of defending the cup in one contest is considerable more than 20 times the \$20,000 of a generation ago and more than 100 times the cost of earlier races.

The real heavy expense of defending the cup began in 1893, the year Lord Dunraven issued his first challenge. In that year, four can-didates for the honor of defending the trophy were built. Vigilant finally was chosen. It was stated after the series that Vigilant cost something like \$150,000 to build and race. This sum was reduced to possibly \$100,000 through the sale of the yacht, after the races, to George and Howard Gouge, Colonia, Jubilee and Pilgrim, the other three American boats, cost about \$250,000, making an overhead cost of at least \$350,000 for the defense of the cup that year.

In 1895, the New York Yacht club spent \$200,000 to build and race Defender. As there was only one boat built in 1895, this series was not as costly as the previous contest, still Defender was the first cup boat for which there was practically no use after the series. These astounding sums, however, are insignificant when compared with the amounts that have been spent since. Sir Thomas Lipton entered the international yacht racing game.

According to reliable information, Sir Thomas spent \$900,000 in his first attempt to capture the America's cup. That was in 1899. In that year Columbia cost the New York Yacht club \$260,000 to build and race. Defender was used as a trial horse that year, at a cost of about \$60,000. The series cost the club at least \$15,000, of which at least \$2,000 a day was spent for tug-boats and other vessels. In the rough, it cost the organization \$335,000 to defend the cup. Both sides probably expended \$800,000 for the cup series of 1899.

Shamrock II cost Sir Thomas \$450,000. Constitution was built that year at the cost of \$250,000. That year the Irish baronet had his first big armada anchored in American waters. Besides the racing yachts, he had a steamship, tug-boats, steam launches and a steam yacht. When he went back some time later, he had a \$600,000. The cost of the defense that year was equally as high. The Reliance was the defender and was built and raced at a cost of \$455,000. Both

Leonard, Lightweight Champ, Defends Title



BENNY LEONARD.

Benny Leonard, lightweight champion, is a big favorite over Charlie White, title challenger, in their 10-

round bout at Benton Harbor, Mich., tomorrow. Leonard is probably the most crafty challenger in their 10-

the Columbia and the Constitution were put into commission as trial yachts. To maintain these another \$100,000 was spent. The race itself cost the club \$25,000. The total outlay for the defense, therefore, figured up to \$560,000. That race saw the million-dollar mark passed by a good margin.

Too Expensive. At the end of the 1903 series, all hands agreed that an America's cup race was entirely too costly. Finally, the Irish yachtsman got the "bee" again, and after ending several impossible challenges, a race was arranged during the winter of 1913. First, three yachts were built in the United States for the honor of defending the trophy. Resolute originally cost \$120,000. Another \$100,000 has been spent on the craft since it was first launched. Defiance and Vanitie, the other yachts built in 1914, did not cost so much. Possibly each was built for \$100,000. Defiance was withdrawn after a few races, a failure. Vanitie still is in the game and since it first was built, it is safe to say that almost another \$100,000 has been spent on the craft.

The figures do not include the sums that have been spent to race these yachts in 1914-15 and so far of season. Also when one adds on the storage bills that have been paid to keep the craft since 1914, to say nothing of the expense that the New York Yacht club will have to meet to hold the race in July with ocean-going tugs worth \$100 and \$200 a day, against \$75 and \$100 a few years ago, it is evident that more than \$1,000,000 will be spent by American yachtsmen in the present defense of the trophy. Lipton Spends \$1,000,000. Sir Thomas Lipton also will spend close to \$1,000,000 in his present effort to lift the cup. First, there was

FULTON-WILLS BOUT OFFERS A BIT OF ACTION

Slashing Heavies Should Provide Some Real Sport for Fistic Fans — Match Almost Certain.

Fred Fulton vs. Harry Wills, 15 rounds to a decision. Here's a slashing heavyweight match that promoters in various sections of the country have been angling for ever since Fulton returned from Europe. The Minnesota plasterer and his manager, Tom O'Rourke, turned deaf ears to all offers until recently, however, when the match was practically clinched by the International Sporting club of New York. The I. S. C. has closed with both boxers and will stage the bout in July or August as one of its first big fistic attractions. The date and the arena in which the battle is to be staged depend on later developments—the establishment of the State Boxing commission and the completion of the club's palatial new home.

Practically Booked. The uncertainties connected with the bringing together of Jack Dempsey and Georges Carpentier in a battle for the world's heavyweight title led the officials of the International Sporting club to look elsewhere for talent for their first big show, and the Fulton-Wills affair will probably mark the club's initial effort in promoting fights.

No match now in the realm of possibility offers promise of more action than a scrap between Fulton and Wills. The gigantic plasterer and the black panther both stand well over six feet in their socks and both carry more than 200 pounds of bone and muscle. There will be no disparity in weights between these two, such as there would be between Dempsey and Carpentier. It will be mastadon vs. mastadon when they meet, and as Wills has everything at stake in his efforts to break into the limelight and Fulton must live down his own admissions of faking, there is every reason to believe that a



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Coast Swimmer Beats Handicap; Becomes An Expert Natator

Del Monte, Cal., July 3.—Dorothy Becker of Alameda staged a sensational come back in the Del Monte girl's swimming carnival, which was held recently. After being out of swimming competitions for five years, Miss Becker exemplified in her perfect swimming form and splendid physique what may be accomplished by the will to overcome a seemingly hopeless physical handicap.

Miss Becker's honors were none too easily earned and called for the best she had of speed and endurance. She splashed the 50 yard breast stroke in the Roman plunge in the fast time of :42. On top of that, Miss Becker won the 100 yard Pacific association junior cham-

Championship in impressive style in 1:16 3-5. When Miss Becker was 5 years old, her physician announced that, in order to be able to walk at all, the little miss' would require unremitting attention and care, and, in her own behalf, must exercise a strong power of will. He prescribed a combination of open air and salt water treatment, preferably sea bathing, to be consistently followed, not for a day, or a week, or a month, but for year after year.

The little girl almost lived in the water, imitating in a feeble way the physically perfect swimmers of that day, who, knowing the handicap under which she labored and sympathizing with her brave attempts to overcome it, gave her all the assistance in their power to render.

The swimming meet just ended, held under the auspices of the Pacific Association of A. A. U., proved that Miss Becker's recovery is complete.

Suggest New Rules.

The international board of Great Britain, which governs the soccer football code, recently considered a proposition by Scotland that no player can be offside unless within 25 yards of the opposing goal. There was also a suggestion that no player can be offside at a free kick or a throw-in. These are radical projects and the board's rulings will be interesting even though it seems this country will not follow the lead of Great Britain in withdrawing from the international federation.

Boston High Schools Drop Rowing for Other Sports

Boston city high schools have discontinued rowing and will concentrate on foot ball, base ball and track sports.

Sunset Hill Superb Course.

St. Louis boasts, in the Sunset Hill golf course, one of the finest in this country. It has a membership of 450 active and 1,500 associate members. It includes a swimming pool in its club house containing salt water, and the plant represents an expenditure of \$1,300,000.

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Wrestling Fan

Wrestling fan, a man in a suit and hat, looking towards the camera with a serious expression.

THE ROURKES WILL EXPLODE SOMETHING ON THE SAINTS

A man in a suit and hat, looking towards the camera with a serious expression.

HO-HUM NOTHIN' BUT A BALL GAME!

A man in a suit and hat, looking towards the camera with a serious expression.

ONE OF THESE OUGHT TO GET HIM

A man in a suit and hat, looking towards the camera with a serious expression.

DOUBLE HEADER

A man in a suit and hat, looking towards the camera with a serious expression.

THE BIG WRESTLERS WON'T ATTRACT MUCH ATTENTION THIS FOURTH

A man in a suit and hat, looking towards the camera with a serious expression.

AT BENTON HARBOR CHARLIE WHITE WILL TRY FOR LEONARD'S TITLE

A man in a suit and hat, looking towards the camera with a serious expression.

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