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SAILORS ARE GOOD FIGHTERS

Continued from page one.)

promptly sent his man down. Patton didn't seem to have come expect-
ing that kind of fighting at all. He looked up and shook his head.
Once was enough and the fight ended.

The best fight of the evening, said to have been the liveliest bout
ever seen here, was five rounds between V. Rouchette of the New Or-
leans and R. B. Wagner of the Kentucky. The men mixed things for
every moment of the contest and with few clinches. Wagner rushed
constantly and landed blow after blow, but the other man stood up to
him and gave as good as he received, sometimes better. The crowd
howled its appreciation. At the end both men were ready for more.
Referee Paddy Ryan gave the decision to Wagner. There were howls
of disapproval and cries of "Draw," but the referee refused to change
his decision. The audience showed its sympathy by showering halves,
quarters and dimes on the loser.

The honors were about even, as far as the condition of the men is
concerned and as to blows landed, but Wagner was given the decision
because he was the aggressor, doing most of the leading. The men
went into the contest with an agreement that there must be a decision
one way or the other and with honors even the decision went to the
man who forced the fighting most.

Jack Ward of the Kentucky, champion lightweight of the fleet,
fought Kid de Lyle, Huihui, who was to have met Ward, having injur-
ed his hand in the contest of the previous evening. It was a short con-
test, the soldier being clearly outclassed in reach and condition. In the
third round Ward landed a swing that sent de Lyle to the floor and he
staved there till he was carried to his corner. Ward was still fresh.

Madeiros, the Punchbowl slasher, appeared with a big black eye
received on the previous evening, to fight George Spawn, of the Elec-
tric Light Company. The agreement was a draw if both men were on
their feet at the end of the fight and both stayed with it. The Punch-
bowl man pursued some of his aggressive tactics, but not with quite the
vigor of his former fights. He had had a hard tussle on the previous
evening, and Spawn was soon seen to be a dangerous man to rush.

L. Miller of the Kentucky and Y. W. McKenna of the New Orleans
put up another very good fight, to a draw. The other contest of the
evening was between two boys, who fought with a liveliness that made
the house howl, until one of them found the pace too hot and gave up.

On Christmas Eve the main fight was between Huihui and Jim
Sherlock, a sailor in whom the blue coats in the audience had the great-
est confidence, as shown by their cheers. The Honolulu contingent
shouted for Huihui. The fight was for ten rounds and the crowd agreed
at the end that it was anybody's fight. Jimmy Fox decided it a draw.
Huihui showed his usual lightning quickness in exchanges of blows
and surprised the sailor once or twice with gloves from unexpected
directions, but the sailor did plenty of hitting himself and his pals in
the audience had opportunities to cheer themselves hoarse.

Castro, the youth from Guam, met more than his match in Hummel-
back of the Raleigh. During the last round the sailor rushed Castro
quite hard and the crowd thought Hummelback should have the deci-
sion. The referee, who was also a sailor, called it a draw.

Sailor Gordon and the Punchbowl Slasher fought the other contest.
The sailor showed splendid fighting abilities. As the men squared off
it looked as though the heavy build of the Portuguese and his great
strength would be too much for the bluejacket, but Gordon was too
clever for the slasher. The whirlwind rushes which settled several local
champions were met with jolts and counters somewhat taming in their
effect. In the last round, however, the men were both fighting hard
and evenly, and the decision of draw was generally approved.

**Is Nance O'Neil
Another Trilby?**

(Continued from page five.)

Nance O'Neil's success softened her father's heart and he put aside
his prejudices to go and see his daughter act.

Offers came from Eastern managers and her friends urged the girl
to accept them. They would place her before New York in plays
worthy of her gift and the wonderful power she possessed would be
directed and curbed.

Rankin had done much for her, but he could do no more. She had
passed his ability to develop her talents further. Nance O'Neil had it
in her to become one of the world's greatest actresses, but with strange
persistence she declined to leave his management. Her friends declared
it was gratitude, some said she loved him and others that she had mar-
ried him.

Neither explanation could be accepted. Rankin had given her the
first engagement, and developed her gifts in a degree, but Nance O'Neil
in turn had enriched her manager. His diamonds grew larger and his
appetite for the good things of life increased with his girth.

Rankin was not a romantic figure. He was an old man, fond of his
bottle. As an actor his ability had declined, and his career had not had
a refining influence on his personality. He was not the man to be loved
by a young, beautiful woman, who might compel admiration where she
would. Her infatuation for him, however, seemed complete. She
scarcely moved without him, and in her social life accepted no invitation
that did not include Rankin.

It began to be whispered that the manager exerted a hypnotic influ-
ence over the actress.

Soon theatrical circles were buzzing with the story of a second Sven-
gale and Trilby. Her friends tried repeatedly to free her from his seem-
ing power. They told her she would wreck her career, but Nance
O'Neil would not listen to them, and even refused to discuss plans for
a future without Rankin.

He took her abroad and in London she failed through bad manage-
ment. Her jewels were sold to pay Rankin's debts. In San Francisco
last year she gave up her costumes and even the sealskin coat from her
private wardrobe to pay more debts. But she would not leave Rankin
even when the great Frohman offered to star her in New York.

It was a weird infatuation that she could not resist, and seemed not
to wish to resist, though she was dragged down with the Rankin's fail-
ures until she planned to go into vaudeville, that last resort of broken-
down actresses, when she is only 28 years old, with a power that could
still make her the greatest actress in the world. Now the accusation is
made in open court that McKee Rankin has hypnotized Nance O'Neil
and that she is dominated by his power.

In Chicago yesterday a suit against the actress and her manager to
recover advance expenses furnished by W. B. Cleveland, the theatrical
manager, was heard. Cleveland declared in his testimony that Nance
O'Neil is hypnotized by Rankin.

"It is a second case of Trilby and Svengali," he said. "From the
stage of my theater I have seen McKee Rankin exert his influence over
Miss O'Neil. When he looked at her she forgot her lines, and when he
snapped his fingers at her she would act. He has an undue influence
over her and has kept her segregated from other actors and managers."

The statement that the actress responds to the snapping of Rankin's
fingers may be an exaggeration. But it is true that he dominates her
absolutely. She cannot act if he is not in the theater.

When he speaks to her, she listens raptly and obeys him like a child.
It is a story strange beyond belief, but those who have watched it know
its truth.

Whether or not the spell will ever be broken, and Nance O'Neil will
take her place among the world's greatest actresses, time will tell.

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