

SIX-DAY RACING NOT SO TRYING

FIVE BOXERS IN RUNNING FOR HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE

Winner of Tom McCarey's Tournament at Los Angeles Will Have Good Claim to Championship — Palzer, McCarty, Willard, Morris and Smith Most Prominent Candidates for Honors.

Copyright, 1912, by The Press Publishing Co. (The New York World). L PALZER and Luther McCarty are to meet soon in Los Angeles, where Promoter McCarey is holding a series of heavyweight bouts for the double purpose of getting the coin and bringing out a new heavyweight champion.



When this series is over the final winner will have as good a claim to the championship as any one. He will be the best of the present heavy-weight crop.

The heavy weight situation is peculiar. It is a situation never before seen in connection with any sport. Jack Johnson, once heavyweight champion, is barred from competition in any boxing club situated in America, France, Australia or England.

So far as boxing is concerned, he might as well be dead. Pugnistically, he does not exist. So he is no longer recognized as champion.

This leaves the title without a claimant who can establish his right to it without further fighting. Al Palzer has about as good a claim as any one, as he knocked out Wells, champion of England. However, Palzer's claim amounts to little as yet, as he has not met a number of other good heavyweights right here in America. He has not fought Luther McCarty, Jess Willard or Carl Morris or Gunboat Smith. Any one of these men might have a chance to trim him.

McCarty has a decision over Morris, and a few days ago he knocked out Jim Flynn. But he has a number of good men to meet. The same can be said of each aspirant to the crown.

ONE of the most promising heavyweights in the whole lot is Jess Willard, a former champion, who came here several months ago to take up fighting. Willard had two or three bouts in the West. He came here without a "record." When he was introduced at two or three fights in New York everybody laughed. Willard certainly looked like a good joke. He wore a wide, pleasant smile, and stood six feet six in his socks. When he was at last given a chance, however, he showed himself to be anything but a joke. His last fight in New York, a few months ago, was with Luther McCarty, and to the amusement of the spectators the smiling giant outboxed, outfought, outpunched and out-gamed McCarty, winning the bout with ease. His tremendous reach gave him one advantage. McCarty is a right-hand, close range fighter. Willard labored his head off before McCarty, but he was able to get away with a few (slow) punches that made the real hit. He unpoked an uppercut that nearly lifted McCarty from his feet every time it landed. That uppercut was delivered with a speed and force that made it a very dangerous punch. Unless Willard were to say about that championship. After fighting McCarty he retired to some quiet corner for a while and went on studying the game. When he came out again a week or two ago he knocked out tough Sailor White in a couple of rounds. That's better than the best of White. Willard's ability as a puncher was shown in the fight with McCarty. At the end of the ten rounds Willard had a puffed eye from a swing that had landed on his left cheekbone. Aside from that he didn't show even a bruise. But McCarty, in the picture, was a member of the ring, was "beaten to a pulp."

ALL of these new heavyweights are youngsters with comparatively little ring experience. McCarty was a globe trotter before he ever thought of fighting. He was a cow-puncher, a sailor, a bridge builder—a lot of other things. Between jobs he "bobbed." That is to say, he satisfied his longing for a change of scene by roaming around the world, and, not being possessed of a bank, he didn't pay out much money in railroad fares. When he began fighting he had his full growth, his matured strength. He started well, and after half a dozen Western engagements leaped suddenly into fame by knocking out Carl Morris. There is a story, seemingly well authenticated, that Morris was jobbed in the count in that fight; that he got a "5 & 5" count, and that he was waiting to get up at "nine" when the official unexpectedly yelled "ten." However that may be, McCarty knocked Morris down, and that indicates the possession of a genuine championship punch. Before that nobody had succeeded in even jarring the Oklahoma giant.

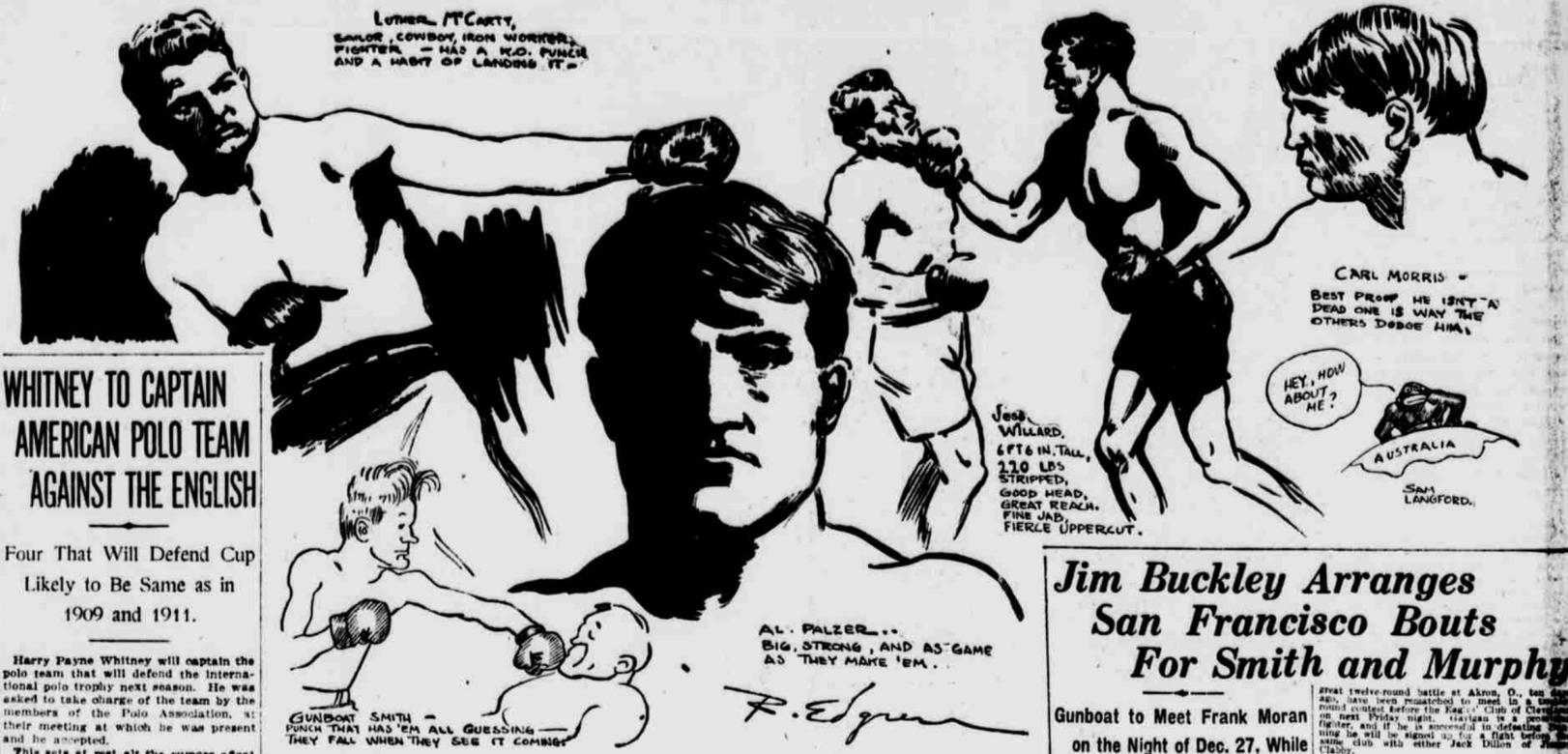
At Palzer, the Iowa farmer, who fights McCarty next, has done more work in the ring. He has defeated a number of good men. Tom O'Rourke knows fighters, and Tom O'Rourke obstinately refused to match Palzer against Carl Morris when Morris was fighting well here in New York. However, Palzer has been coming along. He defeated Bombardier Wells of England in three rounds. Palzer got no glory with that victory, it must be admitted. Wells gave him the most terrific beating in a round and a half that any heavy-weight ever took in that short time. He knocked Palzer down and all but cut him. He had a big, A feeling and a commanding about the ring. Still, that brought out the qualities in Palzer that may make him a champion. He showed a bulldog gameness in getting up after taking an amazing beating, and pushing in and pushing in more until he wore Wells down and beat him. Palzer is a giant in strength. He never will be a clever boxer. He hasn't either craft or quick-

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK

AMERICA'S MOST PROMISING HEAVYWEIGHTS

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EDITED BY ROBERT EDGREN



LUTHER MCCARTY, SENIOR, COVBOY, IRON WORKER, BOXER — HAS KO. PALZER AND A HOBY OF LANDING IT.

CARL MORRIS — BEST FIGHT HE'S HAD IN DEAD ONE IS WAY THE OTHERS DOBBE HIM.

AUSTRALIA — SAM LANGFORD.

JESS WILLARD, 6 FT 6 IN. TALL, 120 LBS STRIPPED, GOOD HEAD, GREAT REACH, FINE JAB, FIERCE UPPERCUT.

AL PALZER — BIG, STRONG, AND AS GAME AS THEY MAKE 'EM.

GUNBOAT SMITH — THEY FALL WHEN THEY SEE IT COMING.

WHITNEY TO CAPTAIN AMERICAN POLO TEAM AGAINST THE ENGLISH

Four That Will Defend Cup Likely to Be Same as in 1909 and 1911.

Harry Payne Whitney will captain the polo team that will defend the international polo trophy next season. He was asked to take charge of the team by the members of the Polo Association, at their meeting at which he was present and he accepted.

This sets at rest all the rumors about recently that Mr. Whitney would not take part in the games with the English challengers.

From reliable sources it is learned that the men who are likely to defend the cup next spring are those who won it at Hurlingham, England, in 1909, and held it so well at Meadow Brook in 1911—Lawrence Waterbury (No. 1), J. M. Waverly (No. 2), H. P. Whitney (No. 3) and Deweyan Milburn (No. 4).

The Polo Association took no action on the challenge which the Hurlingham Club sent over from England ten days ago, and which arrived here on Monday. The thing of paramount interest was: Would Mr. Whitney captain the team? When that matter was settled the members heaved a sigh of relief and satisfaction. For Mr. Whitney is the crux of the situation. Without him the cup would still be in England, and without his skill, counsel and advice in the games here the English invaders would have taken it back with them in 1911.

The matter of arranging dates for the games was laid over—likewise was the acceptance of the challenge—until the next week, which will take place early in June, will be granted.

Arrangements which are now under way are fully carried out the Meadow Brook Club and grounds will present a most attractive appearance next June. When the international polo matches are played between the English and American teams.

One of the things which has received the most attention is the polo fields, not only in the vicinity, but all of those in the vicinity, so that the visitor can have all the opportunity for polo practice between games and before the first match is held.

There will be two practice fields at Meadow Brook, one at Robert Bacon's, one at J. S. Phipps's, two at the Piping Rock Club, and if necessary one at Greenvale and one at the Rockaway Hunt Club.

Each rider is allowed \$65.50 a day for his training expenses. This pays for the food consumed as well as for the trainers' wages. The riders' every whim in the matter of food and nourishment is supplied. They begin the week feasting on steaks and chops and chickens, and they wind up the grind on a malted milk and champagne diet. They do not begin to get the champagne until Thursday, and then they get as much of it as the physician in attendance thinks they can stand.

The six-day bike racer is a prodigious feeder. About the only time they are not eating or chewing on some form of nourishment is when they are sleeping. After the third day they do not eat on solids. The variety of liquid foods is almost without number. The basis of almost all of them, however, is milk. The Frenchman, the smallest rider in the race, has gained 14 pounds and all the other contestants have gained from one to two pounds.

The 1912 six-day race has been notable because of the scarcity of accidents. Indeed, there was only one damaging spill, when Jacob Magin broke his collarbone. The remaining riders are not even bandaged.

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Many of the riders maintain their own training staffs the year round and are almost always in condition for a race. Years of experience have taught them how to go through the grind sound as a fiddle and heavier at the finish than when they were in the saddle. The draw look in their eyes and faces is not due so much to physical drain as lack of sleep. The Turkish bath and sleep pretty well around the clock; then sit down to three pounds of roast beef or four pounds of chicken.

When the race was run in single shifts—that is, without relief, the contestants riding as individuals and not as teams, there was some small basis for these horrible yarns. But of late years there has been a big change in conditions, and this last race has run on as nearly scientific principles as it is possible to conduct such an enterprise.

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Six Day Riders Gain Weight on Champagne Diet for Week.

Race at Garden Not as Barbarous or Cruel as It Looks, Contestants Suffering Only from the Lack of Sleep.

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Jim Buckley Arranges San Francisco Bouts For Smith and Murphy

Gunboat to Meet Frank Moran on the Night of Dec. 27, While Tommy Will Face Frankie Burns on New Year's Afternoon.

BY JOHN POLLOCK. UNBOAT SMITH, the big Californian heavyweight who has been putting away all the other "heavies" that he has been meeting at the local clubs for some time, and Tommy Murphy, the fast lightweight of Harlem, are matched for fights in San Francisco. Jim Buckley, manager of both fighters, clinched the bouts for his men to-day by accepting the terms offered him by the fight promoters of the Pacific coast. Smith will hook up with Frank Moran, the Pittsburgh heavyweight, for twenty rounds on the night of Dec. 27, while Murphy will take on Frankie Burns, the clever California lightweight, for twenty rounds in the heart of the city of "Frisco" on New Year's afternoon. Murphy and Burns will battle at 135 pounds, weight in at the ringside.

Although Luther McCarty stopped Jim Flynn in the sixteenth round of their battle at Jim Flynn's club, he was successful in securing a decision for the fight. The fight was a close one, and the referee, who has been meeting at the local clubs for some time, and Tommy Murphy, the fast lightweight of Harlem, are matched for fights in San Francisco. Jim Buckley, manager of both fighters, clinched the bouts for his men to-day by accepting the terms offered him by the fight promoters of the Pacific coast. Smith will hook up with Frank Moran, the Pittsburgh heavyweight, for twenty rounds on the night of Dec. 27, while Murphy will take on Frankie Burns, the clever California lightweight, for twenty rounds in the heart of the city of "Frisco" on New Year's afternoon. Murphy and Burns will battle at 135 pounds, weight in at the ringside.

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