

UP-TO-DATE AND NEWSY

R. Edgren's COLUMN

Harry Wills, the Best Black Heavyweight Since Peter Jackson's Time.

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THE big man beat the good little one again last night. Harry Wills outclassed the great Sam Langford and did it by virtue of having a foot of height, a yard of reach and several useful pounds of weight in the best of it.

If Manager Jim Buckley could only afford a little katechism over his new black champion he could make a mint of money. He'd have the one man in the world fit to fight Willard with a chance to win.

Harry Wills is a phenomenal heavyweight, by all odds the most prevailing black man I've seen in a ring since Peter Jackson's time. While it is a matter of course he hasn't Jack Johnson's remarkable skill, he has many things that Johnson lacked. He's aggressive and willing to take any kind of a chance. He's a harder hitter than Johnson and much shifter and faster of foot. He's cunning, and with little he backs in skill will come with more ring experience.

Physically, Wills is like a bronze statue. He might have served as a model for a Greek hero of the heroic times. About 5 feet 5 inches tall, weighing over 200 pounds, extremely broad shouldered and with limbs in perfect proportion, he is a natural fighter as the jungle tiger. That's why, with little ring experience, he was able to beat the craftiest and most powerful black champion of the day.

Sam Langford was in pretty good condition. He showed the result of hard training, although he was a bit out of shape and close to the 200-pound mark in weight. He fought ten rounds at a terrific pace, undergoing a constant battering and was dangerous to the last moment. Sam landed many fierce swings and hooks in Wills' jaw during the ten rounds, but only succeeded in rousing the champion to a state of retaliation. When hit hard, Wills always laughs. He seemed to like it. The only time he was shaken was in the ninth round, when Langford swung two to his jaw in quick succession. This time Wills stopped smiling for a moment and took care to block Sam's arms so that he couldn't land another.

From the start of the fight Langford tried hard to force his way in so that he could swing an overhead blow to the head. He kept trying to get away with short straight lefts and followed with shooting rights that threw Sam's head back between the shoulder blades. He danced about lightly, avoiding Sam's rushes. He landed ten blows to one sent home by the Boston Tar Baby, and he shot them in like a sharpshooter, seldom missing his target. When Sam was aggressive Wills just caught his arms, pressed them down, and gave him a shove that flipped him back out of range again. It was the first time Langford ever met his master in plain strength. At the end Sam had a well-worn face and a half-closed left eye. Wills was unmarked.

So many stories have been told to illustrate the defeat of big fighters by smaller ones that it's about time some one should note that big fighters some times do up the smaller one. Other things equal, the big man has an immense advantage in a boxing bout. Wills beat Langford last night because he was too big and strong for Sam, but he wouldn't have done it without being equal to Sam in speed and craft.

In ring history there are scores of examples in which size won battles. One of the most famous, of course, was the championship fight between Jeffries, a huge novice, and the wonderfully clever middleweight and heavyweight champion, Fitzsimmons. Strength won that fight for Jeffries. Again, Jeffries' beat Tom Sharkey and stood in his ribs, by virtue of superior size and strength. Sharkey was the more aggressive fighting man.

Sharkey, when he came ashore for the first time, fought and beat Joe Choynski. He knocked Choynski out of the ring twice, and Choynski was one of the cleverest and best fighters of his time. He never expected to be beaten by a raw sailor. Sharkey had a weight advantage of about twenty pounds.

Kid Carter could always whip Joe Walcott, who was known as the "Giant Killer." Carter simply swarmed over him and used his superior size and strength to its best advantage.

Big Jim Corbett, when champion, fought little Charlie Mitchell, whose skill made him recognized as a "boxing champion of England." Corbett rushed at Mitchell furiously and knocked him out without giving him a chance to offer any real resistance. Mitchell, although he'd fought Bullman, was actually a welterweight.

Then there was the fight between big Jack Johnson and little Tommy Burns, for the title. Burns was a wonderful fighter of his size. He had heavy weights, but Johnson was too big, too strong, and ready to use every advantage size and strength would give.

The battle isn't always won by the little marmalade with the deadly torpedo. Sometimes the big battleship gets in a shot, and then it's all over.

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK

SOME BIG ONES WHO WHIPPED GOOD LITTLE ONES

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Schoolboy Team Travels From East Aurora, Ill., To Play Hamilton Here

Western Champions Meet Eastern Champions at Brooklyn To-Day and a Most Interesting Football Battle is Anticipated.

JUST think of a schoolboy football team travelling all the way from East Aurora, Ill., to play here! Well, that's what the high school eleven of that town has done. The Westerners, who have held the championship for two seasons now, meet Hamilton Institute, the undefeated local schoolboy eleven at Washington Park this afternoon and an interesting battle is promised.

The East Aurora eleven became so excited over showing of their team that when Hamilton sent an intimated to play here they readily volunteered to defray all the expenses of their team. However no such thing will be necessary, as the team will be paid sufficient money out of to-day's receipts to cover any bills it may incur.

Seldom has there been such interest in a schoolboy game as there is in this one. Moreover, seldom has a schoolboy eleven travelled so far to meet an opponent as has East Aurora. Furthermore, rarely have two teams of this size met at Christmas as these two, so you can't wonder at the great interest aroused by to-day's contest.

The East Aurora-Hamilton game is a sort of a miniature Chicago-Cornell game. The boys from the West are unusually big for schoolboys. They have a team that averages about 160 pounds. The biggest man on the team is Capt. Albert Pike, who plays full-back. He is regarded one of the best schoolboy players ever developed in this country. He is six feet tall and weighs 180 pounds. He has been picked as the All-Illinois fullback by all critics.

The East Aurora backfield is rather light, but very speedy. They have done most of their scoring through tackle plays and runs around the end. In the nine games that East Aurora has participated in this season it has rolled up 400 points to the 15 of its opponents. The Joliet, Ill., team was the only eleven that succeeded in scoring a touchdown against it, and that was only because of a fumbled punt.

Hamilton made an exceptional record this season. The team has beaten the best of the high and prep schools in this vicinity. Alfred Neary, who played football with the Rochester University several seasons ago, coached the Hamilton eleven and this season has developed an eleven which can play a dandy open game.

Most of Hamilton's scoring this year was due to the forward passes thrown by Quarter Back Cravat to his ends and backs. Cravat finds it easy to hurl the football far and accurately. The other stars of the team and the positions they will take are:

SEVENTH REGIMENT MEET CARDERD FOR TONIGHT. The Seventh Regiment will hold its games in its armory to-night. The entries in the one-mile inter-collegiate relay race include teams from Fordham, Columbia and Manhattan Colleges. These teams are made up of the following runners: Fordham—Francis McLaughlin, George McDonough, and Takahashi; Columbia—Noonan, Fisher, Jones, Wetzel, Magdolna and Scarsia; Manhattan—Helfman, Foy, McEntegart, Timony, McLaughlin and Dunn.

Ed Rens of the Mohawk Athletic Club will be on scratch in the open A. A. U. one-mile walk. He is the champion walker of the United States, and his clubmate, Alexander Jessup, will be at the other end of the handicap men.

Racing at Yonkers Again. The Empire Racing Association will hold its meeting at the Empire City track of Yonkers, and not at Belmont Park, as was the case last season, as the result of President James Butler's victory in his suit to break the lease held by the National Fair and Exposition Association. Justice Morschauer has granted the decision in the Supreme Court at White Plains.

Refereeing Boxing Bouts Isn't All At Which Charley White Excels

Veteran Judge of Boxing Follows Glove Game for Sport Only, Most of His Time Being Taken Up by Giving Expert Opinion on Works of Art and Arranging Details of Democratic State Committee's Business.

By Roseman Bulger. ALL three of them had ring-side seats. One, a born New Yorker, had brought the man from Herkimer County and the other from the fashionable section of Fifth Avenue as his guests to a Harlem boxing club. Whether of the visitors had witnessed a star boxing match.

When the main bout was announced the man from Fifth Avenue evinced an unusual interest in the referee. "What is this to be—some sort of a joke?" he asked of his host. "Joke? What do you mean—joke?" "Why, the referee," he said. "That isn't a regular referee. He isn't the same man that was refereeing a while ago. I know that fellow. He's my art collector."

"No," spoke up the man from Herkimer. "You just be wrong. I know that man in my art collection. He is the member of the Democratic State Committee who makes a visit up to our county every summer on political business. I've seen him there lots of times." "You fellows must be blinded by the smoke," laughed the host. "That's Charley White, the best known boxer-referee in America. He isn't an art collector and he is not the politician that goes to Herkimer."

"If you don't think he is," the guests in the audience said, "you can win a bet against me." "Through the aid of a newspaper man the trio met Charley White after the bout was over and they are still in doubt as to who shall pay for the meal."

ONLY AMERICAN WHO EVER REFEREED IN LONDON RING. Charley White is not only the best-known referee in this country and the only American who ever refereed at the National Sporting Club in London, but he is also an active worker for the Democratic State Committee and is one of the best judges of pictures in New York.

"You didn't think I made my living out of refereeing?" he asked the man who had never known him in his other roles. There was a time when it might have been all right, but I would hate to depend upon the collector of boxing matches nowadays for my livelihood."

As a matter of fact the boxing game is Charley White's purely and simply a sport. He loves it, but it is simply a profession. In many ways Charley is a remarkable man.

At an art exhibition there is nothing suggestive of the prize ring about him and he discusses the various pictures with all the technical thoroughness of a European critic. Among those who know, it is said that Charley White is one of the best appraisers of paintings, both as to financial and artistic worth, in this country.

He has acted as the purchasing agent for the greater part of many of the new acquisitions of the prize ring in New York. Any time there is a sale of fine paintings you can rest assured that Charley White will be present. If there is a bargain in sight some big collector will reap the benefit of his astuteness. He gets a commission for making these purchases and occasionally he steps out and buys an old master on his own hook for speculative purposes.

In his home Charley has what is said to be the best collection of horse heads of all kinds in New York. He also has by far the most complete collection of interesting lithographs of boxers extant. In his office, the other day, he proudly exhibited a lithograph of Terry McGovern when the little fellow first began to attract attention as a boxer, and it is the only lithograph of his kind in all New York.

Johnston Placed First On Tennis Honor List; Williams Second Again

Young Champion of Coast Gets Highest Ranking After Sensational Work in Winning National Title Last Summer.

THE Executive Committee of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association will make known the ranking of tennis stars some time to-day. Although the meeting last night at the Waldorf-Astoria was conducted with great secrecy, it was learned that William M. Johnston, the young expert of San Francisco, is sure of first place on the tennis list. Johnston won the championship in sensational style last August at Forest Hills.

Richard Norris Williams 2d, of Philadelphia, who was beaten by Johnston, will get second place and Maurice E. McLoughlin, of California, comes in third. Karl H. Behr of New York is expected to be placed fourth. The other six places in the honor list will probably go to Theodore A. Bell, Frederick H. Alexander, Watney, Arthur, all of New York; Clarence J. Griffin of San Francisco and Nathaniel W. Miles of Boston.

McLoughlin held the place of honor since 1912. He was placed No. 1 last year even though he didn't win the championship. This was because he was beaten only once in 1914, when he lost the title to Williams. Johnston has had his ups and downs since 1913, when he first got a ranking among the first ten. He was placed fourth, but last year he dropped out into sixth place. This is the fourth consecutive season that Williams has ranked second.

Those present at the meeting were: Robert D. Wrenn, President of the association; A. L. Hoskins, Vice President; Edwin F. Torrey, Secretary, and Richard Stevens, Treasurer. The delegates present were C. F. Watson Jr., Watson M. Washburn, Craig Biddle and George T. Ades. Some minor changes were made in the constitution and by-laws and a nominating committee appointed. The annual election of officers is set for a meeting at the Waldorf on either Feb. 4 to 11. Resolutions pertaining to the death of Anthony F. Wilding were drawn up and a copy will be sent to Australia.

SEASON FOR INDOOR CYCLE RACING GETS ITS START TONIGHT. Sprint races, the forerunner of the six-day bike race every year, will open the indoor racing season in Madison Square Garden to-night, when the stars of the cycling world will compete. A mile match race between Marcel Dupuy, Percy Lawrence and Joe Fogler has been added to the program.

Victor Linart will ride in the ten mile final of the motor paced event. As world's champion behind pace, Linart declined to ride any elimination heats, but insisted on his right to go in the final. Only heat winners Clarence Carman and Bobby Walther should have a crack at first money against Linart. Linart will also ride a mile time exhibition behind pace. There will be amateur and professional events in addition to the features referred to above.

Ted Lewis Wins in Dayton. DAYTON, O., Dec. 4.—Ted "Kid" Lewis, the English lightweight, was awarded the decision over Young Neil, a local fighter in a fifteen-round bout here last night. Lewis was too fast and clever for Neil, and after the tenth round he took things easy, only using a "left-hand jab in Neil's face.

AMERICAN NATIONAL TOURNEY—Presto, 815, vs. Hudson, 950; Presto, 815, vs. Rosemont, 901. K. of C.—Knickerbocker, 855, vs. Nativity, 875; Mystic Rose, 775, vs. Nativity, 456; Mystic Rose, 775, vs. Columbia, 672; German Savings, 835, vs. Chase, 792; German Savings, 716, vs. Columbia, 520. Crotona Three-Man—Mt. Hope, 875, vs. Oneida, 617; Bedford Park, 875, vs. Mt. Hope, 517.

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EDITED BY ROBERT EDGREN

BOXING CLUBS 'SHADING' STATE' COMPTROLLER

The figures of the attendance at boxing exhibitions in this city have been manipulated to defraud the State of its license fees and bonus of their percentage of the receipts, according to a statement given out to-day by State Comptroller Eugene M. Travis.

An examiner from the Comptroller's office, with six assistants, attended all the bouts in this city in October. They were seated in various parts of the houses and used pocket meters in getting the exact attendance figures in six subdivisions of the houses. Invariably the actual attendance was found to be larger than the box office records showed, but the basis for the 71-2 per cent. tax and the shares of the contestants. The examiners also reported that the clubs made a lot of money by transferring spectators from cheap seats to high priced seats on the payment of sums to the owners.

So-called press tickets, supposed to be complimentary, the comptroller reports, were on sale on the street outside several of the clubs, although, no accounting for such sales was made by the clubs. In one instance 12 press tickets were reported issued for an unimportant bout which hardly had as many lines of notice in all the newspapers taken together. The attention of the comptroller was called to the situation because the Ocean Athletic Club at Brighton Beach reported only 25,000 paid admissions, while the newspaper reporters estimated the attendance at from 45,000 to 45,000. The receipts of the state under the boxing law since it went into effect July 25, 1911, to Oct. 1 this year have been \$14,000. The boxing contribution has only one unpaid inspector at bouts and he is charged with the duty of weighing in the fighters at the same time that he is supposed to be counting the entering spectators.

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