

1. Leonard and Ritchie Should Clear Up Question of Supremacy in Their Newark Bout To-Night.



NEW YORKERS were quite shocked a month or so ago when news came from San Francisco that the then supposed "has-been," Willie Ritchie, had fought his own Benny Leonard off his feet in a four-round bout there. They could hardly believe their eyes when they read accounts of the "go" of how Ritchie deliberately carried the fight to Leonard with the slightest respect for his vaunted punching power...

What was the matter with Leonard? These New Yorkers asked themselves. Had he gone back, or was the ex-champion just the better fighter? Some local admirers of Leonard figured that Benny was a victim of a "native-son" delusion, for which Price has been noted.

The fight has never been explained to the satisfaction of Eastern believers in Leonard's ability to beat the best of them. Billy Gibson, when he came back East, said the Western reports of the bout were unfair to Leonard and that in another round or so Benny might have stopped Ritchie. When Ritchie reached New York, his version of the scrap was confirmation of the original reports. He said he had beaten Leonard fairly and squarely and that after taking the best that Benny could give him, he himself that he could reveal the performance any time, at any distance.

T O-NIGHT, after in Newark, Leonard and Ritchie meet again, this time in an eight-round bout, and all the controversy over their Frisco meeting should be ended one way or the other. Will the extra four rounds prove Gibson's contention that Leonard would have put Ritchie away in a round or two after the four round limit in Frisco, or will Ritchie, with his well known guile and aggressive tactics, carry the fight to Leonard from the start to the finish as he has been credited with doing in their recent tussle? You would be surprised to know how many well known judges of things pugilistic think that just this will happen. However, it is the favorite with most ring followers, some of whom are willing to bet that he will knock Ritchie out.

T HAT there is a mutual feeling of respect between the boxers is shown by the time they have spent training for to-night's clash. Heretofore Leonard has considered five days plenty for him to get in shape for anybody. This time he has put in nearly two weeks of solid work, boxing with as many as four men one day following the daily road runs around the Central Park reservoir. Ritchie too hasn't been losing any time fitting himself, and it is significant to note that he followed a more strenuous form of exercise than golf and dancing, which he claimed put him in such good condition for the bout on the 24th. However, Willie has been training out three and four sparring partners a day and busting the old punching bag at Billy Grupp's gymnasium.

Ritchie isn't the showy "gym" worker that Leonard is, in fact he always looks bad until he gets into real action. Then he is one of the most satisfactory of ring performers. Leonard is always interesting. In the gymnasium he is, if anything, more of a treat than in actual battle. He takes me that Jim is using his gym in the mornings doing some light work and that his condition at present would surprise any one. Carr says that Willard doesn't weigh over 250 pounds right now, that his stomach is gone and, as far as outside appearance goes, he looks as good now as ever. The only guess is, has he not the old stamina?

FROM what I have heard Willard has a lot of big backing here to beat Dempsey. Evidently his backers are carried away by the advantage of his size over the little fellow. That seems to be their argument. THERE IS ONE POOL HERE OF WILLARD MONEY AMOUNTING TO \$100,000 AMONG SIX MONEYED MEN. ANOTHER WILLARD HIMSELF, FROM WHAT I UNDERSTAND, IS GOING AROUND QUETLY TRYING TO MAKE A LARGE WAGER ON HIMSELF. SOME REPORTS HAVE IT AS HIGH AS \$50,000. Among the average run of bettors here the majority want Dempsey, while the big operators favor Willard, which makes it look as if Dempsey is the rank and file favorite.

Reporters have Willard not worrying. He seems to have plenty of confidence and thinks he can smother Dempsey in about ten rounds. Tommy Walsh was with me and we met Ed Fritzsche and had a talk regarding the probable referee for the big fight. Fritzsche refuses to act in any way and has withdrawn his name altogether. He offers no reason, but it is well known here that he has taken an open attitude against Willard.

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK PRINCIPALS IN THE FIGHT FEST TO-NIGHT By Thornton Fisher



New Record Expected For 1,000 Yard Run In Brooklyn To-Night

Ray, Sellers and Baker in Special Race at 13th Coast Artillery Meet.

By Alex. Sullivan. ONE of the most interesting running races ever arranged in this country is scheduled at the Armory of the 13th Coast Artillery, Brooklyn, to-night, when the 15th Company of that military unit will conduct a memorial athletic meet. The event referred to is the three-cornered special 1,000-yard race in which three of the best men in the world will endeavor to break the record of 2:14, held jointly by the late Johnny Overton and Joe Hay, one of the participants to-night.

Howden the Chicago boy, who recently broke the world's indoor mark for the mile, there will be Jack Seelers, the New York A. C. star, recently uncovered when he won the national 600-yard indoor championship over the best middle distance men in the city, and Homer Baker of the Gloucester A. C. international half-mile champion.

Because of the sensational form displayed by Ray and Sellers lately it would not be surprising if a new mark for the distance will be established. Homer is not to be overlooked by any means, as he has been showing good form.

JUST received some interesting news about Jess Willard. It was sent us by Dan Morgan, who at our request, stopped off in Chicago on his way to St. Paul to get the big champion. Here is Morgan's report on the amateur: "Tried all afternoon to get in touch with Willard, but he was ten miles away at the Essanay film studio doing a movie stunt. Could not reach the big fellow on the phone, but I ran into Howard Carr, who is acting as some sort of an agent for Willard. He told me that Jess is using his gym in the mornings doing some light work and that his condition at present would surprise any one. Carr says that Willard doesn't weigh over 250 pounds right now, that his stomach is gone and, as far as outside appearance goes, he looks as good now as ever. The only guess is, has he not the old stamina?"

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Fistic News and Gossip By John Pollock

Willie Jackson, the local lightweight, made such a great showing in his bouts in San Francisco that he will probably return there next month for four more contests. Frank Bagley received a flattering offer today from the fight promoters after three asking him to bring Jackson back to Frisco for bouts and to let him know when he and Jackson would leave New York. Bagley says he expects to start for the Coast about May 20.

Johnny Dundee, who was laid up for several weeks, has returned to meet Mike Mitchell, the Irish middleweight, for ten rounds at the Ocean City A. C. gym in the afternoon at Milwaukee on May 6. They were to have fought some two months ago, but Dundee was taken ill in Milwaukee on the day of the battle and the bout had to be postponed.

Clay Turner, the Italian fighter, is now looking for two fights. On Wednesday he will be back in the ring against Mike Mitchell, weight of Wm. Holman, for eight rounds at the gym at West of the Army A. C. of Jersey City and on Tuesday evening he goes against Harry Smith, the Pittsburgh light heavyweight, for twelve rounds at the Army A. C. of Jersey City. Turner is a training hand for both bouts at George's gymnasium in Harlem.

Harry Scott, formerly of Milwaukee, but who now claims New York as his home, has been selected to referee two important bouts the early part of next month. The first is between the two newcomers, Jack Holman and Charlie Smith, at the Volante A. C. of Buffalo and on May 9 he judges the contest between Johnny Dundee and Mike Mitchell at Milwaukee. Scott is a very capable referee, he having refereed over 6,000 contests in twenty-one years.

Joe Lynch, the American bantamweight who fought so well in England in the last few months, is due to arrive here from England tomorrow on the steamship Louisville. Joe would have been here sooner, but he spent a few days visiting friends. The manager, Eddie Moran, says he is ready to bet for the fight, which will be held in New York on May 12. Moran is training at Bill Brennan's gym in Harlem.

Willie Moskoff's first fight in the East will be with Harry Greb, the Irish lightweight, for ten rounds at the Vesper Club of Pittsburgh the next part of next month. Moskoff is also expected to meet Billy Miska, the St. Paul lightweight, at Newark, for eight rounds either on May 12 or 15. Moskoff is training at Bill Brennan's gym in Harlem.

Reeling Levisky and Harry Greb will figure in the main bout of twelve rounds at the McKinley Club of Chicago, to-night. The bout will be the first between Greb and Levisky in that city since Fred Pollock and Carl Morris had their controversial battle there on Labor Day afternoon in 1917. If the bout is an interesting one, light heavyweight and heavyweight titles will be used in issue there in the future.

Eight fans of Tulsa, Okla., will have an opportunity of seeing two heavyweights in action tonight in a fifteen-round decision bout at the Tulsa A. C. The big fellows who will figure in the match are Billy Miska, the St. Paul lightweight, and Harry Greb, the Irish heavyweight. The Chicago battle with some knowledge in the credit. Greb has had more such famous bouts as his previous ones.

Manager Charles of the Trocadero A. C. has offered to make Joe Lynch's debut as referee for the main bout of eight rounds at the club's gym on May 6 or 7. Eddie Moran, manager of Lynch, says that Lynch is willing to give Lynch a guarantee of \$750 with an option of 10 per cent of the gate receipts. Moran has turned up the offer.

Hank Gowdy Back Here Exhibiting Contract That Makes Him Wear a Smile

Baseball's Favorite Hero Spending To-Day in Town Prior to Visiting His Folks, and He Is Satisfied With Salary Braves Are Giving Him This Year.

By Hugh S. Fullerton. BASEBALL, passed out of the first stage yesterday with the beginning of the second series. The first meetings of teams indicated little of real strength—only that when a pitcher is in real condition at this time of the year he can stop almost any club.

The switch of teams will give further evidence as to the real strength. The three days of cold and bad weather has nipped the budding form of the Eastern clubs badly and perhaps set the players back two weeks in their effort toward getting into real playing shape. The Southern clubs, of course, profit somewhat by the untimely weather and those that were caught on the road lose.

The Yanks and Giants will resume work to-day after a rather discouraging start the Yanks tackling Connie Mack's revived Athletics, the possible dark horse of the American league race, while the Giants passed through town very rapidly Saturday night to meet Boston, and McGraw left a trail of released players along the way, cutting loose his excess talent and trimming the team down nearly to the player limit.

In spite of the fact that another Sunday without league baseball got past New York, Broadway was not without its baseball sensation. Hank Gowdy, baseball's favorite hero, came back to town after a hasty trip to Boston where he signed a contract which makes the title old thirty a month he has been earning for a couple of years look like pin money. The astonishing part of it to Hank is that he did not have to ask for it and probably wouldn't have had the nerve to ask what the team gave him. He doesn't say how much it was but he is satisfied.

Hank got in from Boston in the morning and strolled up Broadway. He hadn't gone a block before some one recognized him and from then until he dived into hiding to conceal his blush the movement looked like a Victory Loan parade.

Hank is looking in fine fettle and is almost ready to jump back into the spangly again. He is remaining in New York to-day to complete a little business and will rush on to Columbus, O., where the home folks are building victory arches. He wants to see the folks worse than he wants to play baseball, which is considerable wish.

The baseball scribes and others completed their preliminary training Saturday night and Sunday. Saturday night they foregathered at the dinner of the home newspaper men in honor of the newspaper men who went over there, and yesterday afternoon, evening and probably this morning, they finished training at the dinner given by Col. Huston. Everybody is now in mid-season form, the pink and everything else.

With the warmer weather which returned yesterday the quality of the baseball played appears to have improved. The Braves are expected to make his visit home and to get back to the Braves by the time they make their appearance in New York.

Manager Huggins has decided upon quick changes in his team and will make them to-day. Duffy Lewis will be switched into left field and the center field problem will be left open until before game time, although those may move there. Jack Quinn will be sent to the slab to oppose Connie Mack's best bet, Scott Perry, while Heul will catch his first game for the Yankees.

Huggins evidently is determined to get more speed into the club and the switch of Lewis is left probably will

JACK MAULIFFE TO DON GLOVES AGAINST LEONARD

Jack Mauliffe, "only undefeated lightweight champion of the world to retire undefeated and stay retired," will return to the ring after twenty-two years of retirement, according to Jimmy Tewford, who was abroad with Mauliffe as a K. of C. secretary. Mauliffe is going to put the old retired lightweight champion in the ring with the present title holder at Madison Square Garden on Wednesday night, at the big boxing show for the soldiers and sailors," said Tewford last night.

Moran's big success as a manager always has been in developing and training pitchers and judging their condition before a game, and he may come something out of the Red staff after all. Tyler came along well rather soft for a good left-hander and to stop the Cardinals and yet the game boosted Mitchell's hopes, as he seems to have lost Vaughan and Tyler in fair shape and must rely until upon them to carry the club into condition.

The Boston Red Sox flashed Jones against Washington and proved that the expert opinion that Jones is going to be one of the great pitchers of the country was not wrong. He shut the Senators out and exposed their hitting weakness terribly. Chicago moved over to Detroit and kept up its wallowing gut manufacturing thirteen hits.

Gleason's team is tearing into the leather hard this spring, and it is certainly not all due to the weakness of the opposition, since the Yankees are hitting harder than they will, but it is also certain that Gleason has the club playing together again and hustling in a manner it did not do after last June.

Incidentally, the Cleveland Club went to St. Louis. It could not play because of wet grounds, but it went. Which recalls the fact that it did not go there last fall, and that nothing has been done about the matter, although under the league rules any club which refuses to play a game or series is subject to fines and other penalties. However, the matter is finally settled and the club is in St. Louis without even threatening to strike all may be well.

The Giants will have to letter away from home until midweek, when they will come to the Polo Grounds to open their home season against Jack Coombs, while the Robins will fit to the home yard to tackle Boston again. After that there will be a series of four games against each other and there appears to be a tremendous amount of difference of opinion in the borough as to which is the better ball club.

The Giants are planning a big celebration at their opening game Thursday evening at the Amsterdam Opera House, No. 232 West Forty-fourth Street. The standard bearer of the association returned from the other side, where he had been soldiering for Uncle Sam a short while ago, and many surprises are held for his benefit during the evening.

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BILL KELLY GOES MILE IN 1:39.25 AT HAVRE DE GRACE

Trainer Bedwell Has Cudgel Accompany Crack Three-Year-Old in Trial.

(Special to The Evening World.) HAVRE DE GRACE, April 28.—After the race on Saturday at the Havre de Grace track, with the grounds nearly deserted, Trainer Bedwell sent Billy Kelly, accompanied by Cudgel, a mile trial in 1:39.25. Last season's champion carried 120 pounds and Cudgel 130. They finished together, inasmuch as Billy Kelly was conceding weight by the scale to his five-year-old opponent, the honors of the trial were with the three-year-old.

The first part of the trial, particularly the second quarter, was slow. The last five furlongs the horses fairly flew. Billy Kelly was timed by creditable "clockers," the last furlong in 22.2 seconds, a great flight of speed. The six furlongs were covered in a trifle better than 1:14.

An hour previous to this trial Vindeux, a boy owned by Victor-Hellefontaine, had won the Stouehann Handicap, carrying 113 pounds and the light blue, brown cap of Harry Payne Whitney, in fast time. Trainer Bedwell had sent Billy Kelly to race Billy Kelly against Vindeux because the famous gelding was asked to concede the Whitney colt to actual pounds and 12 pounds by the scale.

Vindeux is Harry Payne Whitney's hope for the Kentucky Derby. He started four times last year, but only won one race. In this race he showed plenty of speed. Kaimness spoiled his chance for other victories. At Brookdale Farm this spring he worked a mile and a furlong, over the slowest track, in 1:40.25, a good at 1:37 over the Havre de Grace track.

Jimmy Rowe knew that he had a fine horse and invited Mr. Whitney to come to Havre de Grace and see the colt win. Mr. Whitney in turn invited ten of his friends, men well known in the financial district. They came down in Mr. Whitney's private car, and most time and gave a freight by placing big bets on Vindeux, receiving in return a trifle over even money. Mr. Whitney, it was reported, had \$100 on Vindeux.

Vindeux is one of the best looking three-year-olds in training. He has a fine, resolute way of going and his action is smooth and practically tireless. He is a real horse, and has accomplished if he had met with real opposition in the race can only be conjectured. He did all that was asked of him. He raced Star Hampton into submission early, and opening up a big gap, won as he pleased by nearly three lengths.

Three New York Boys Win A. E. F. Boxing Title.

PARIS, April 28.—In the finale of the tourney for the boxing championship of the American expeditionary forces three New York boys won titles. "Baby" Asher of Detroit won the bantamweight championship of the American expeditionary force by knocking out George Stouehann of Philadelphia in the seventh round.

Johnny Clark of New York scored a victory over Pittsburgh in a technical knockout in the eighth round. Eugene Dunne of New Orleans won the division over Johnny Summers of Brooklyn by the referee's decision in the tenth round.

(Heavyweight honors were awarded to Bob Martin of New York over Fay Kiser of Pittsburgh by the referee's decision in the tenth round.)

Leo Patterson of Joplin, Mo., was awarded bantamweight over "Blond" Graham of Brooklyn, the latter ruled for the lightweight title.

William Kleck of New Orleans was returned to the division over Johnny Summers of Brooklyn by the referee's decision in the tenth round.

MEMPHIS "gets together" with St. Paul. Said Memphis to St. Paul, "We are well met indeed. A common river links us. We should know each other better. Light up this Owl, then settle down and tell me; How goes the business of your furriers? And how your livestock industry—your engine works, your quarries?" And St. Paul made reply, "Thanks, kind Memphis. But what of you? They tell me you have the largest cotton trade in America, that you are the largest hardwood lumber market in the world. I'll say your city is a coming one."

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