

Jack Dempsey, Heavyweight Titleholder, Remains Unchallenged as King of Boxing World

Benny Leonard Continues Sway In Own Sphere

Johnny Wilson, Jack Britton and Johnny Kilbane Also Retain Laurels for 1921

By Fred Hawthorne
The broad, herculean figure of Jack Dempsey, heavyweight champion of the world, is the most impressive memory of the prize ring during the year of 1921, not only to the 90,000 persons who saw this snarling, relentless fighting man batter down the frail Georges Carpentier at Boyle's Thirty Acres Park in Jersey City last July but also to untold thousands both in this country and in countries overseas who had read of Dempsey's exploits.

So great, so masterful is Dempsey in his profession that there is no man in all the world who figures to have a chance of dethroning the champion. Attempts were made during the year just closed to bring forth a logical opponent for this modern Goliath of the ring, but Dempsey battered down all opposition so quickly, with such savage ease, that he has stood since the Carpentier battle an invincible champion with no new worlds to conquer.

After his victory over Jess Willard at Toledo, the battle in which he won the world's championship, Dempsey met various other "contenders" for his laurels, among them Bill Brennan of Chicago, in a bout at Madison Square Garden. This affair was a great disappointment to Dempsey's friends, for the champion was slow in action and a mark for Brennan's long left jab, taking a grueling beating from his opponent for eight or ten rounds. Dempsey finally won with a knock-out in the twelfth round.

Nobody on the "outside" ever did know the real facts of that fight of Dempsey's. There were those who insisted Dempsey was doing his best, but that he had gone back at Brennan, and others who declared the champion was merely stalling, with the Carpentier bout in view. This is the more logical conclusion when the results of the battle with the courageous Frenchman are taken into consideration.

Many Notables at Ringside
There will probably never again be such a tremendous gathering at a prize fight as that which greeted Dempsey and Carpentier in the Rickard immense arena in Jersey City on that day in July when a world's championship was at stake. The gate receipts totaled almost \$1,500,000, and many of the most notable men in the United States were close to the ringside when the bell started the men off on their scheduled twelve-round fight.

When they came to the center for instructions by the referee, Dempsey's great bulk, his beetling black brows and his hairy chest, as contrasted with the young Frenchman's slender lines and fair skin, formed a striking study in opposing types.

The result of that battle is now history to the world over. For one fleeting moment, in the second round, Dempsey trembled on the brink of defeat, when Carpentier shot a terrific right to the tip of the jaw. Dempsey tottered back on his heels, dazed, unseeing. The French champion, seeing his golden opportunity, tried to end matters with a tremendous uppercut, but the blow barely grazed Jack's jaw, and the American immediately fell into a clinch with his head cleared.

From then until the end of the fight was all Dempsey's. Driving Carpentier before him with merciless drives to the body, the world's champion quickly battered his adversary into a state of helplessness. His margin of superiority was so clear that even those who came to root for the Frenchman were compelled to admit that Dempsey was the greatest fighting human of the age.

Color Line Bars Wills
Dempsey has done no fighting since then, for no suitable opponent has appeared who looks like a logical contender. Tom Gibbons, of St. Paul, a fast, heavy-hitting fighter, who has piled up a long list of quick knock-outs in the last twelve months, is being groomed to meet the champion, and it may be that he will be able to accomplish what neither the gigantic Willard nor the smaller Carpentier was able to bring about. Harry Wills, the great negro heavyweight, who would probably press Dempsey closer than any other man, was barred by the color line.

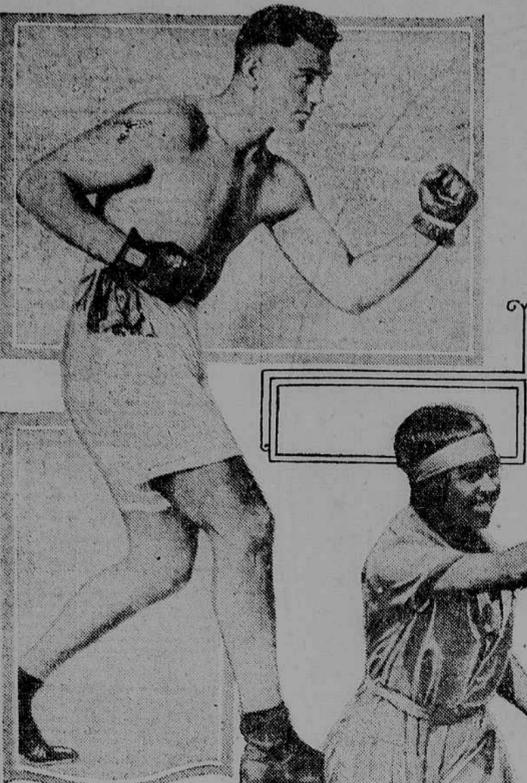
Carpentier, though disappointed in his great ambition by his defeat at the garbled fists of Dempsey, still retained his title of light heavyweight champion of the world, won through his victory over Battling Levinsky a year ago last October.

The middleweight class, poor in material since the death of Stanley Ketchell, showed even less promise during 1921. Johnny Wilson, of Boston, a left-hander far below championship caliber, is still regarded as leader of the division by a majority of ring followers, although Bryan Downey, of Columbus, was recognized as the champion following his bout with Wilson in Ohio in 1920. These two met in a return match in New Jersey on Labor Day, no official decision being rendered, although the prevailing opinion appeared to be that Downey had the better of a very poor bout.

Jack Britton still clings to his welterweight crown in spite of his advancing years, primarily owing to the lack of real class in this division. The veteran, however, is one of the most skilled boxers in the ring to-day, and were he a few years younger would probably hold the title for another five years.

Lightweight Contenders Scarce
Benny Leonard went through another year of championship supremacy without seeing another contender who seriously threatened him. Leonard, the lightweight king, Joe Wells, who was battered down in fourteen rounds, and Ritchie Mitchell, who lasted six rounds, gave Benny trouble in any of his opponents in recent years. Ketchell scoring a knockdown early in the fight, after taking a terrific amount of punishment at the hands of the champion. Unless he suffers a serious decline in his powers Leonard appears in no danger of losing his title in the year about to begin.

Another change in the hands of the championship laurels through 1921 was Johnny Kilbane, of Cleveland, the featherweight titleholder. Although Kilbane has been past his best fighting form for the last two or three years, he has been able to stand off all assaults on his crown, largely because of his surpassing skill and keen ring generalship and partly owing to the extreme caution with which he picks his opponents.



JACK DEMPSEY. Photo by KAPLAN

Polo Cup Brought Back to U. S. After Brilliant Victory

Great American Team Regains Classic Trophy From the English Team

The outstanding feature of the year in polo was the winning back of the International Championship which was lost to England at Meadow Brook, L. I., in 1914. As a result of the victory at Hurlingham Field, London, last June, the Westchester International Polo Cup was returned to this country and will probably be a subject of competition in 1922.

The American team that brought back the classic trophy consisted of the veteran, Devereux Stillburn, captain and back; Louis Stoddard, No. 1; Thomas Hitchcock Jr., No. 2, and J. W. Webb, No. 3. In winning the championship the American four won two successive victories, the first by the score of 11 to 4 and the second by 10 to 6. The international trophy has been in competition since 1886. Matches were decided by the best two out of three games.

The trophy was bought by subscription by the Westchester Polo Club, of Newport, R. I., and by agreement between the committee of the Hurlingham and associated clubs was recognized in 1912 as the polo championship for teams of four. By winning the cup last summer the United States achieved its fourth triumph, evening up the score with the British, who had previously won it four times.

Two kings, one former and one future monarch, and about 25,000 spectators, including most of the nobility of England, saw Captain Stillburn's team regain last June the laurels lost to the United States in 1914. Stillburn, although not in the best of health at the time, played the most brilliant game of his career and was easily the star of the contest.

One of the big surprises of the Hurlingham polo battles was the performance of the American ponies, which had been in training in England for two months prior to the playing of the polo games. It was generally supposed that the horses would prove the weakest link in the American machine, but when the contests got under way it was evident that they were equal, if not a trifle superior, to the English ponies.

The team that defended the trophy for England was made up of Tompkins (captain), Barrett, Wedhouse and Lockett.

Joe Moore Tops Ice Skating List for 1921 Speed Season

Joe Moore, the nineteen-year-old local boy who won the international speed skating championship at Lake Placid last February, tops the list of ice performers during the fiscal year in a jaunt. Joe has competed in numerous races since his great achievement up state and except in handicap affairs has been undefeated.

This slender youth, who has risen from office boy at a local rink to king of all skaters, left no doubt in the minds of the experts as to his right to the world's title, for he shattered two records that had stood for years. Joe raced the half mile in 1:17.3 and skinned over the mile route in 2:48 and won the 1000-yard race in 1:10.2. He defeated the best fields that have competed for the title in years. He represented the 181st Street Ice Palace.

Norval Baptie, who defeated a fine field on the ice at Winnipeg. Baptie is an American.

Open Game Largely Responsible For Popularity of Football

Teams That Combined Running Attack and Forward Passing, Such as Notre Dame, Enjoyed Greatest Success of Year; Many Attendance Records Broken

By Ray McCarthy

The great American collegiate game of football has developed to such an extent that no longer is it the pastime of any particular group of colleges nor is it confined to any section of the country. It is now a full-fledged national game, and as such is being played by thousands of

Iowa University, their conquerors by 10 to 7, were ranked as the best in the Middle West. Statistics prove that Notre Dame did the better playing in that struggle, although it lost.

But the point is that both Notre Dame and Iowa, two of the best teams in the country, shone because of a great running attack, coupled to forward passing game that was sound, scientific and well designed. There was no haphazardness about the forward passing of the Notre Dame eleven. The players of that eleven made the pass go because they used it confidently and they put on a running attack.

In due time the other teams will do the same. Penn State's passing game was not so good as that of the South Bend students.

In the Far West California, which is reported to be one of those all-around teams, was the best eleven of the season.



WILLIAM T. TILDEN 2119

American Fencers Prove Supremacy Over Englishmen

Triumph of U. S. in International Bouts Is the Highlight of the Year

America's supremacy at fencing, which was established at the recent Olympic games, was given a severe test during the year, but despite fine performance of the British team which invaded this country last month in an effort to lift the title, the representatives of the United States were victorious. This, perhaps, was the highlight of the season, which was productive of keen competition under the guidance of the American Fencers' League of America.

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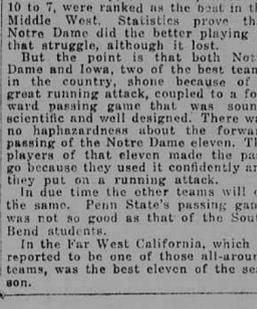
Ludlow Sets New Mark In Motorcycle Races
Several good performances were noted in during the year in the motorcycle racing field. Fred Ludlow was credited with world's records at one, five and ten miles in a championship race at Syracuse. His time for ten miles was 7 minutes 38.50 seconds. The old mark was 7 minutes 39.40 seconds. Ludlow's record for a mile was 44.05 seconds, against the old mark of 45.40 for five miles 3 minutes 45.74 seconds, against 3 minutes 50.80 seconds.

Early in the year Harry Heide and George Ellis established a new road record, Boston to New York, in a sidecar. Their time for the 249-mile run was 8 hours 8 minutes 52 seconds, an average of 28.11 miles an hour.

Many Teams Use Combination
The majority, however, made good use of both departments of the game. And the teams that combined the two scientifically stood out above all of the others.

The past season saw a return to the running game by many of those eleven that did nothing else much but forward pass. It also saw the conservatives incorporate the forward pass as an integral part of their game. The radicals of both sides are now convinced that there is something in each game and that the combination is the best kind of attack.

The team, to our way of thinking, that displayed the best all-around game of the year, was Notre Dame, of South Bend, Ind. The Hoosiers with



WILLIE PLANT

Van S. Hyde Ranks As Season's Best At Squash Tennis

Tom Coward, of Yale Club, Wins Junior Championship; Cordier Formidable

Squash tennis, the indoor four-wall court game made popular by the various university clubs which were also responsible for the formation of the National Squash Tennis Association, has made great progress of late. With several new courts in this section and numerous clubs entering the league the sport bids fair to expand even more rapidly this year.

Pillmore Van S. Hyde, of the Harvard club, won the American amateur championship in February, defeating Jay Gould, of the Columbia club, in a hard three-game match. Hyde's performance was particularly impressive, for he spanned a gap of two years and demonstrated that once in a while they do come back. He won the title in 1918, but did not compete in 1919 and 1920.

A. J. Cordier, the 1920 champion, was eliminated by Gould in the titular struggle, but he has shown fine form in recent matches and may be a strong contender for the title this year, which will be decided next month. The Harvard club ranks first in the team race with a fine record, with Yale the runner-up, as was the case in 1920.

Class B or junior championship was won by Tom Coward, of the Yale club, after one of the closest tournaments in the history of the sport. Coward, a youngster at the game, later won the open scratch tournament, defeating Cordier in the final round, and the Yale player will be one of the favorites for the national championship.

The ranking of the first ten, as announced by the N. S. T. A., follows:
1—F. Van S. Hyde, Harvard Club
2—Jay Gould, Columbia Club
3—A. J. Cordier, Yale Club
4—A. Dana, Harvard Club
5—H. R. Miskel, Princeton Club
6—R. E. Fink, Harvard Club
7—Thomas Coward, Yale Club
8—H. Bull, Harvard Club
9—J. W. Appel, Harvard Club
10—A. W. Willey, Princeton Club

Whittall Leads at Skiing

Skiing was seen as an intercollegiate sport last year and at the championship meet held in Montreal, R. Whittall, a student at McGill University, was the winner. F. Carlton, of Dartmouth, although he broke his arm in a preliminary leap, was awarded second honors.



ALFRED GOULET

Goulet, Walthour and Kramer Show Way to Bicyclists

Great Long Distance Rider Won Annual 6-Day Race Practically Singlehanded

The names of Alfred Goulet, Frank L. Kramer and Bobby Walthour Jr. stand for all that is greatest in professional and amateur cycling during the year of 1921. Goulet, by his magnificent performance in the December six-day race at Madison Square Garden, when, paired with Maurice Brocco, he won the annual classic, stamped himself as the greatest long-distance rider who ever pedaled a wheel.

Riding practically alone in the last hour of the race, Goulet won thirteen point sprints out of eighteen starts, besides playing a leading part in the "jam" that caused Reggie McNamara and Eddie Madden, among others, to lose two laps in the last half-hour of the grind.

Kramer, who won his first national professional sprint championship title in 1919, has clung to his laurels almost continuously ever since, and in 1921 he accomplished the virtually impossible by winning again, though beyond the forty-year mark.

Young Walthour, following in the wheel tracks of his more illustrious father, the famous "Dixie Flyer" of a dozen years ago, proved himself a chip of the old block by winning the national amateur sprint championship at the Newark Velodrome last summer. Besides bearing many marked physical characteristics of Bobby Sr., the son has much of the speed and the ideal racing "sea" of the father. Immediately after winning the amateur crown Robert Jr. turned professional and is now riding daily on the banked tracks in Florida.

American Swimmers Shattered Many Records in Past Season

American swimmers wrote history in bold characters during the year 1921. In every branch of the sport records were shattered right and left. World national, collegiate and scholastic standards suffered wholesale cuts at the hands of both men and women swimmers.

The outstanding features in competition for men were the iconoclastic performances of John Weissmuller, of the Illinois A. C., and Pua Keoloha, of Honolulu, in free style sprinting; Norman Ross, of the Illinois A. C., and Ludy Langer, of Honolulu, in middle distance swimming; Stephen Ruddy, of the New York A. C., and Robert Skelton, at the breast stroke; Warren Keoloha, of Honolulu, at the back stroke.

Weissmuller, a youth of seventeen, was the find of the year. Leaping most unexpectedly to the fore in the early summer, he swept everything before him. His greatest achievements, 100 yards in 52.35 seconds, in a 60-foot pool, and 150 yards in 1 minute 27.25 seconds in a 75 foot pool, beat all previous records in these distances and rate with the foremost feats in the annals of swimming. Keoloha, barely eighteen years old, did wonderful work, also, equalling the long-standing world record of 53 seconds for the century straight-away in open water.

Ross placed to his credit a long string of American and international records. His most noteworthy performances were a 40-yard swim in 5 minutes 4.45 seconds and one mile in 22 minutes 38.15 seconds, both in 60-foot baths. Langer lowered a number of middle distance marks, also, topping his record of 55 seconds for the standard work with a 50-meter world's standard of 6 minutes 43.5 seconds.

Ruddy and Skelton bettered the breast stroke American records for championship courses, the former lowering the 220-yard figure to 3 minutes flat, the latter the 440-yard time to 6 minutes 37.25 seconds, and Warren Keoloha did sensational work with the back stroke, cutting the international open water marks for 100 and 150 yards to 1 minute 6 seconds and 1 minute 47.25 seconds, respectively.

In swimming for women four amazing feats were chronicled. Miss Ethelda Bleibtrey, at the time representing the New York Women's S. A., did 100 yards in 1 minute 3.5 seconds, and Mrs. Charlotte Boyle Clune, of the same club, did 220 yards in 2 minutes 47.25 seconds, while Miss Sibyl Bauer, of the Illinois A. C., brought down the world's back stroke records to 1 minute 16 seconds for 100 yards and 2 minutes 6.45 seconds for 150 yards.

Miss Bleibtrey and Mrs. Clune accounted for many national and world records besides, and others who broke listed marks were Miss Mariechen Wehslau, of Honolulu; Miss Gertrude Ederle, of the New York Women's S. A.; and Miss Margaret Woodbridge, of the Detroit A. C. Miss Ederle, a fourteen-year-old marvel, was the year's find in swimming for women.

Team laurels for both indoor and outdoor seasons were won by the Illinois A. C. in national championships for men and by the New York Women's S. A. in competition for mermaids. Individual all-around title honors went to Norman Ross, Mrs. Charlotte Boyle Clune, indoors. Ludy Langer and Miss Ethelda Bleibtrey, outdoors.

America Still Ranks Supreme In Lawn Tennis

Defence of Davis Cup and Play of Tilden and Mrs. Mallory Features

By Fred Hawthorne

There were three outstanding features in the season of lawn tennis during the year just closed. First was the successful defence of the Davis Cup by the United States; second, the retaining of the world's hard and turf court singles championships by William T. Tilden, of Philadelphia, and third, the notable return to the heights of Mrs. Molla Mallory, who not only retained her national singles title, winning it for the sixth time, but also defeated Miss Suzanne Lenglen, of France, the world's champion, in the national tourney at Forest Hills.

Second only to these features in importance was the remarkable rise in the tennis world of Vincent Richards, an eighteen-year-old student at Fordham University. Paired with Tilden, Richards won the national championship doubles at Longwood and forced his way into the "first ten" in the singles, by virtue of his amazing tournament record during 1921.

Tilden, Williams and Kumagai were among those who fell before the skill of the young wizard of the courts, and in the national singles tournament at the courts of the Germantown Cricket Club, of Philadelphia, Richards forced William M. Johnston, of California, into a desperately fought five-set match before bowing in defeat.

It was the Japanese team of Ichiji Kumagai and Zenzo Shimizu that came through the Davis Cup preliminary matches to face the United States in the challenge round at the West Side Tennis Club, and although in one or two instances the little Oriental made some of the best tennis of the year, the issue close, there was never any real doubt as to the final outcome.

Japan Made Fine Showing
Tilden, Johnston and Williams, representing the United States, played with such speed and skill as to establish the superiority of the American game over all the rest of the world. Australia, after losing to Japan in the final round, made a fine showing in the men's national singles, and in the East-West matches in Chicago J. O. Anderson defeated Tilden in a five-set match and proved his right to be ranked close to the leaders in international tennis.

The girls' national junior championship at the hands of Miss Lenglen, the French hard-court champion at St. Cloud, and also being defeated for the world's turf-court honors at Wimbledon in June, returned to this country and won every important match in the East, not a single defeat marring her unrivaled record. Entering the national tourney at Forest Hills in August Mrs. Mallory was not among the three or four greatest players in this country who were figured as Miss Lenglen's most formidable opponents in America's defence of the cup.

Yet, after making her way through the preliminary rounds, the defending national titleholder faced the French girl before a tremendous gallery. The first set was hard fought, but she won before Mrs. Mallory finally won, after playing the greatest tennis of her brilliant career. Her determination to conquer her bitter rival, backed up by relentless aggressiveness and burning speed, formed a combination too great for Miss Lenglen to overcome, and the latter, who was suffering from indisposition throughout, went down quickly before Mrs. Mallory at the start of the second set, defaulting after the first game.

Tilden Greatest Singles Player
Tilden established and confirmed his supremacy among all the winners of the world, both by his great victories at St. Cloud and at Wimbledon, and also in the successful defence of his national singles title at Germantown, when he overwhelped William E. Johnston, of Philadelphia, in the final round. Previously he had defeated Johnston in a furiously contested match.

The girls' national junior championship was won by Miss Helen Wills, of Berkeley, Calif., a fourteen-year-old phenomenon, who easily outclassed her field at Forest Hills, besides defeating some of the greatest women players in the country.

Richards retained his national junior championship on the turf courts of the Longwood Cricket Club, while Frank T. Anderson, of Brooklyn, just graduated from the junior ranks, won the national indoor honors. Roland Roberts, of San Francisco, took the national clay court championship title, and Phil Nier, of California, won the national intercollegiate title.

Aside from the position of world supremacy established by America in lawn tennis, the game increased tremendously throughout the civilized world, until it now disputes with golf for the distinction of being played by more people than any other sport.

New World's Record By U. S. Motor Boat

The United States successfully defended the Harmsworth Trophy, the classic prize of the year in motor boat racing, when the British challenger, Maple Leaf VII, sank after the first heat and automatically withdrew. Miss America II, piloted by Gar Wood, won the event in especially fast time, making an average of 71.01 miles an hour. Gar Wood also set a new world's record for the fastest performance of the year when he established a new world's average for a mile at Miami, Fla. His world record average was 71.04 miles an hour, made in the Gar Jr.

Babe Adams Makes Remarkable Record

BABE ADAMS, veteran pitcher of the Pittsburgh Pirates, who first started his major league career back in 1908, established a remarkable record for the season of 1921, according to the official averages recently released. Adams ranked second only to Doak, of the St. Louis Cardinals, in pitching effectiveness, finishing the recent campaign with the low average of 2.65 earned runs per game. Based on percentage of games won he tied for first place among the National League pitchers, winning fourteen contests and losing only five, for a percentage of .737.

The most noteworthy feature of Adams' work during the season was his unanny control. He took part in thirty-six games and issued only eighteen bases on balls. He did not make a single wild pitch nor did he hit a single batsman with a pitched ball. In addition he also compiled the longest winning streak of the season by gaining nine consecutive victories.

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