

MCGRAW GAINS ON NEW FIGHT VERSION

Assertion Made That Some Other Grill Room Gladiator Fractured Slavin's Skull.

AIR FULL OF BOTTLES

Lambs Club Keeps Silent on Booze Battle and Victim Cannot Talk.

A report that John C. Slavin was injured accidentally while trying to make peace between John J. McGraw and William J. Boyd during their encounter in the grill room of the Lambs Club, tended yesterday to increase the mystery surrounding the injuries of the popular comedian, who has been in St. Luke's Hospital in a critical condition for the last twenty days.

This report held that neither McGraw nor Boyd was conscious of Slavin's injury, as both men were occupied entirely in matters more immediately related to themselves at the time. Neither does it appear who could be responsible for one or two bystanders are said to have participated in the fight to the extent of hurling bottles and other convenient missiles, and Slavin, whose injuries consist of a fracture of the base of the skull, a scalp wound, a lacerated tongue and two missing front teeth, is said to have come accidentally within range of some of these.

In connection with this report it was surmised yesterday that Slavin's collapse before McGraw's doorway at 109th street and Broadway was brought on by a sudden hemorrhage. It was pointed out that despite the fracture to his skull, which was slight, Slavin might have been able to enter a taxi and ride up town with McGraw and Winfield Liggett before losing consciousness, especially as it is probable that a half hour did not elapse between the time of the grill room scuffle and the time when Liggett, according to his statement to the District Attorney, "saw Slavin lying on the sidewalk with blood coming from his mouth." Liggett has stated that he got the impression at the time that McGraw had struck Slavin, but this was merely because he was at a loss to account for the man's sudden collapse and could think of no other immediate explanation.

Details of Fight a Secret.

Both Boyd and McGraw have stated that Slavin's part in the fight was merely that of peace-maker, and the house committee of the Lambs Club issued a public statement on the day following the fight stating that Slavin, as far as the members could learn, was not struck in the club house, and that he left the place "in normal condition." The Lambs Club, however, has refused to date to furnish the public with the details of the grill room battle, and the District Attorney has refused to make public a stenographic copy which the

club gave him of the testimony taken at an inquiry conducted by the house committee.

Officials of the Lambs Club also have refused to comment upon the stories of bottle throwing in connection with the brawl, or McGraw's story that it was a blow from a carafe that knocked him out. In fact both the club and officials have clamped a tight lid of secrecy upon the affair, and public officials have appeared unusually desirous of keeping the full details of the case from leaking out.

The story of the altercation which led up to the grill room "free for all," as told by the person who is sponsor for the statement that Slavin actually did receive his injuries in the clubhouse, contains many points that have been omitted from accounts heretofore given out.

It makes it appear that the prelude to the fight was a heated dispute over the defeat of William Lackaye by John Emerson for the presidency of the Actors Equity League. McGraw is said to have entered the clubhouse in a state of intoxication when this was at its height.

New Version of How.

While the baseball man with a little group of friends was consuming various brands of liquor in one part of the room this argument is said to have turned to a discussion on the ability of English actors and a comparison of them to the stars of the American stage. Some mention was made of the Englishmen who supported Miss Ethel Barrymore in "Deceit" last season.

Then came the row between McGraw and the insurance agent, the flow of strong language and the rebuke from Boyd, who objected to such talk in the presence of the women cleaners. McGraw, whose ire had been aroused by the eulogies of English thespians, is said to have mistaken Boyd for an Englishman, and to have retorted that he didn't care to take advice from any son of Albin.

It was then that the fight occurred and that some bottles and articles of furniture shifted from their accustomed positions.

Efforts to obtain a statement from the Lambs Club yesterday upon this matter were futile. For several days past it has been impossible to get any public statements from the organization on any phase of the McGraw-Slavin matter because of the action of the council of the board of directors in forbidding discussion of the affair with outsiders. The report that Slavin was injured in the place, however, is said to have the support of at least one member who was in the grill room at the time and witnessed the fray.

The condition of Slavin, who is in a private room in St. Luke's Hospital, still fails to show improvement. Although nearly two weeks have elapsed since the man was injured, he has been unable to give an intelligible version of the affair or to indicate in any way who was responsible for his injuries or where he received them.

William J. Fallon, counsel for the Giants' manager, conferred yesterday with James Shevlin, prohibition enforcement agent at the Custom House in regard to McGraw's statement that he had purchased and helped to consume four quarts of whiskey prior to his fight with Boyd.

The matter of this conference was kept secret, but afterward Mr. Shevlin said that he would continue his investigation until he found whether McGraw bought liquor of the Lambs Club or from bootleggers operating in the club. Mr. Fallon said: "McGraw has no complaint to make against any one."

GET RAIN INSURANCE FOR VACATION BLUES

If Money Will Help You Forget Bad Weather, Here's Your Chance.

ENGLAND STARTED IDEA

Rates Based on Amount of Dampness You Think Will Spoil Your Trip.

Anybody going on a vacation can now take out insurance against rain. The muggier the skies and wetter the holiday the happier he must be if he is a soul whom money consoles, for he has a rain check in the form of an insurance policy, and when he gets home he can cash it. The more it rains the more cash he gets. He can insure himself against rainfall at a premium of so much per inch or fraction thereof, and if he is able to estimate in dollars and cents the worth of the fun he counted on having it on the sun phone he can cash that too.

No Yankee brain conceived this new-fangled idea in insurance. It comes from Merric England. Henry W. Ives, insurance broker of 5 Nassau street, went to England recently and found the papers full of "rain insurance." Business firms were taking group policies for their employees as an inducement to contentedness, and an advertisement for themselves.

The circulation manager of a magazine was announcing in type: "Five pounds for you if it rains. Five pounds is what you get if your holiday turns out wet." The free policy protecting the holder against rain at any resort for one week was to be awarded to the reader who sent in the best rhymed couplet the first line of which must end with "sun." "We can't prevent rain from falling, but we can offer you money consolation," the advertisement said.

Two Forms of Policies.

Rain insurance is not new. For some time a British company has been writing policies of any sum per day or per week, based on the amount of the premium, for managers of enterprises whose success depended upon fair weather.

Henry W. Ives & Co. began issuing such policies in this country last spring, extending them to cover losses to cotton crops, contractors and county fairs. Now they have added vacation rain insurance. The rates are based on the probabilities of precipitation in any given part of the United States or Canada as they are shown by records of the United States Weather Bureau for the last ten years.

"There are two forms of policies," Mr. Ives said yesterday. "Suppose a business man is going to the Thousand Islands for fifteen days. He figures that his expenses, with loss of pleasure in case of rain, comes to \$100 a day. We give him a policy insuring him against an inch, or half an inch, or a fifth of an inch, or any amount of rainfall in any twenty-four hour period. If the specified amount of water comes out of the clouds within the specified

125TH STREET WILL HAVE A CARNIVAL

All Harlem to Take Part in October Fete.

That New Yorkers generally may not fall into the way of thinking of 125th street as a way station on the New Haven, Harlem is preparing for a week of celebration from September 25 to October 2 worthy of a "hundred million dollar thoroughfare." From Third avenue to the Fort Lee Ferry the street and its extension—Manhattan street—will be elaborately lighted and decorated. Band concerts and other outdoor entertainments are planned.

The men of Harlem who are arranging the celebration ask the city's attention to the fact that 125th street is New York's greatest community shopping center; that 1,000,000 people live within easy walking distance of the street; that more than 100,000 pedestrians traverse it daily; that every one of the eighteen streets and avenues by which it is crossed has transportation facilities except one, and for this an application for a bus route now is pending.

It is the only thoroughfare running from the East River to the Hudson River north of Fifty-ninth street. It does an aggregate retail business of about \$20,000,000 annually. It has ten theatres.

INNOCENT 'CONVICTS' LEAVE AUBURN FREE

Had Served 14 Months on Eight Year Term.

Frank Pezulich and Frank Speltrach, two Croatians who served fourteen months of a term of eight years after being convicted unjustly of participation in a holdup March, 1919, were released from Auburn prison early yesterday. They spent last night in this city.

Neither of the men can speak English and they made no comment on their cases. Justice Burr in the Supreme Court last Saturday granted their release on certificates of reasonable doubt and Judge McIntyre of General Sessions ordered their release. It was the first time in the history of the prison that prisoners left without a keeper. Both men deposited \$1,000 each for bail. Their formal release probably will take place in October.

NO MURDER CLUE ON TORSO OF WOMAN

Victim Killed Probably a Long Distance From Jersey Piers.

An autopsy performed yesterday upon the woman's torso that was found floating off one of the Jersey Central piers in Jersey City on Tuesday led the officials to conclude that the woman had been murdered six or eight weeks ago, but gave no clue as to the manner in which she met her death. They think it possible that the crime was committed quite a distance from the place where the discovery of it was made, and that the fragment found in the water had drifted a number of miles before being picked up.

The examination of the scant evidence of the tragedy was made at the morgue at 400 Communipaw avenue, Jersey City, by both New York and New Jersey officials. County Physician Bert Daly of Bayonne performed the autopsy in the presence of Dr. Arthur P. Hasking, Assistant County Physician, and of Dr. Otto Schulte, County Medical Examiner attached to the office of the District Attorney of New York city.

In speaking of the result Dr. Hasking said: "There was no mark of violence on the torso. The woman was not shot or stabbed to death, unless by a head wound. Her organs were healthy. She had been dead six or eight weeks. She was probably between twenty and forty years of age; married but childless; about five feet, six inches tall; about 130 pounds in weight, and white."

UNHURT IN 3 STORY FALL; DROPS ON CAT

But Tabby, Cushion for Mary, Aged 3, Is Killed.

Mary Rosel, 3 years old, climbed to the sill of a window of her parents' home at 82 Second avenue last night and sat there watching the passers-by three stories below. She lost her balance and plunged headfirst into the yard.

There was a loud screech as she struck there, and persons who witnessed the accident thought that she was dead. An investigation showed the child's head had struck a large black cat that was asleep in front of the house and that she had suffered no injury. The cat was crushed to death.

BERGDOLL GETS FOUR YEARS' HARD LABOR

Found Guilty of Desertion in War Time.

Erwin Rudolph Bergdoll, brother of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, fugitive slasher, must serve four years at hard labor at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., the military prison. Major-Gen. Robert Lee Bullard approved yesterday the decision of the court-martial that tried Erwin Bergdoll and found him guilty of desertion in war time. Lieut-Col. Charles F. Cresson, trial judge advocate, made public the decision.

Col. Cresson said that Bergdoll would be taken at once to prison. In addition to the prison term Bergdoll forfeits army pay and allowances and is dishonorably discharged from the army. The finding of the court caused surprise, in that Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, who is still at large, having given the authorities much trouble, was sentenced to only one year more than Erwin, who gave himself up July 21.

Erwin Bergdoll pleaded not guilty to the charge and made his defence upon the contention that he was a farmer in Broadal, Delaware county, Pa. He had, however, made out a questionnaire and gone through all regulations of the draft until the day before that set for his physical examination, when he refused to appear.

24 PAY FINES FOR SMOKING ON FERRY

Five in Automobile Assessed \$20 Each; Others \$10.

For smoking in automobiles on the municipal ferries to St. George the fine is \$20. Five men, arraigned in Tombs Court yesterday, received that punishment and a severe lecture besides. Magistrate Charles N. Harris said he considered there was great danger in smoking on ferries and that the cases of the quintet were especially serious because they were smoking in automobiles during the ride over.

Nineteen men, summoned for smoking in other parts of the ferry, were fined \$10 each. The notices recently posted on the municipal ferries say smoking will be permitted only in the men's cabin.

YOUTHS DIG UP LOOT, CONFESS ROBBERIES

Brooklyn Band Admit Barging Scour of Homes, Police Declare.

Three boys who, according to the police, have confessed that they bargled between twenty and twenty-five houses in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn during the last two weeks, were arrested yesterday by Patrolmen Burton and Fink of the Parkville avenue station. The police say that they have obtained from the boys the addresses of seven houses which they entered yesterday, two on the day before, and other which the boys robbed during their short criminal career.

The prisoners, who are charged with burglary, said they were George Pasquale Damico, 18, of 279 Dean street; Christian Gabrielson, 16, of 413 Fifty-second street; and James A. Rold, 17, of 54 Forty-eighth street, all of Brooklyn. A gardener working on a neighboring lawn saw them enter the basement of the home of Dr. M. E. Burrall in 1409 Albee road yesterday afternoon. He notified Patrolmen Burton and Fink, who followed the boys into the building. Burton came upon Damico hiding in a closet, he said, and handcuffed him after a hard fight.

The other two boys fled from the house, pursued by Patrolman Fink. After a chase of several blocks down East Fourth street, Fink caught the boys and took them to the Parkville police station. There, the police say, the boys confessed and took detectives to vacant lots at Fort Hammar road and Forty-ninth street, and at Eighth avenue and Sixty-eighth street, where they dug up several watches and other articles of jewelry as well as considerable clothing.

The police also said they found other loot in the home of Damico. The total loss to the owners of the homes burglarized has not been determined, as most of them are closed for the summer and the owners are away from the city. The police believe, however, that it will amount to several thousand dollars.

TALES OF RICORO

industry as being one of the oldest and greatest sources of our national prosperity.

"I was costumed as the traditional 'Wooden Indian,' because the Indians discovered tobacco, and because their wooden counterparts were so long recognized as the sign of tobacco. To heighten the realism, I carried a bunch of dummy cigars.

"I was awarded first prize, and after the presentation, I was naturally a bit flustered. 'Oh, for a real cigar!' I remarked to one of my friends, who had tried to disguise himself as a cotton bale.

"'All right, 'Chief Big Smoke' he chided, 'try one of mine.'

"I lighted up the cigar he gave me—and, well, take my word for it—it was marvelous! 'I understand better than ever why the tobacco industry thrives—when it is possible to make cigars as rich as excellent—as this,' I remarked.

"—Or, rather, you understand why the United Cigar Stores thrive when they offer values like this eleven cent Ricoro," he corrected. "You're out of date, Old Wooden Indian—wake up to the real wonders of tobacco!"

"Wake up? The news that I could buy such fine cigars for eleven cents would have made a real wooden Indian sit up and take notice. And I—well—I danced like a live one at my discovery!"

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the "Self-Made" Cigar

Sooner or later, you'll discover Ricoro. The tale of Ricoro's goodness is told by smokers wherever rare and mellow cigar quality is recognized and appreciated.

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A dozen shapes and sizes—10¢ to 20¢.

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Buy them by the Box of 50—\$5.50
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The Uncharted Sea

By John Fleming Wilson

Is a wife ever justified in deserting her sinking ship?

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