

Jersey Boy Earns Verdict in Garden by Wide Margin

Veteran, Great in Defeat, Outclassed and Nearly Knocked Out by New Champion—All Wagers Declared Off When Betting Odds Shift.

By W. O. McGEHEAN.

Mickey Walker of Elizabeth, N. J., became the welterweight champion of the world at Madison Square Garden last night. Mickey, Edward Michael, to give his full and right name, battered Jack Britton, the hero of more than 500 fights, to a standstill for fifteen rounds; he did it somewhat awkwardly, but effectively.

The bell saved him. Touching forty, which is an advanced age for an athlete, Britton came out for the eleventh with all he could gather together and made a gallant stand. For two full minutes he carried the fight to his young tormentor and Walker was for the time bewildered and baffled at the desperation of the veteran. It was magnificent, but it was useless that last display of sheer courage, that attempt to bluff old Father Time himself.

At the end of the round Britton was staggering wearily. He had given the last ounce that was in him and it was useless. Thereafter he set himself to the fight from the floor, from the championship standing on his feet. In the twelfth round Walker landed a wicked left just above the belt and Britton once more sagged slowly to the mat. At the count of nine he pulled himself up wearily and covered up.

Phases Title on Feet.
For three more rounds the youngster with the bright, flashing eyes and the terrific face worried the old man, but he could not send him down again. Britton reeled groggily, his jaw sagged and the whites of his rolling eyes were ghastly, but he would not drop. They might have thrown the towel from his hands at any of the last three rounds, but they let him stay. They let him pass from the championship standing on his feet.

Before the bout started Joe Humphries announced that all bets had been declared off by order of the Boxing Commission and with the consent of the club officials. The sudden and mysterious switch in the betting a few hours before the bout roused the suspicions of the Boxing Commission, and this decision was made as the result of a drum-head court martial at which some well known gamblers were questioned.

The fight itself should be evidence that there is no nod on the new title acquired by Edward Michael Walker of Elizabeth, N. J. Nor was there anything shady in the passing of the veteran, Jack Britton. He took some terrific punishment, punishment that the intention of being beaten would take. He took it gallantly, wearing that rather bored and sad look which he used to wear, winning or losing. Britton has something of what they call the poker face. No vicious light comes to his eyes when he strikes or knock them out. Never has he worn a smile of triumph and never was he felt himself hurt or in danger. To the last his face remained impassive.

Age Descends on Jack.
From the first it was evident that Britton was not the Britton of a few years ago. His age descended upon him suddenly in the ring last night—age always descends suddenly upon professional athletes. It came to Britton as it came to Sullivan and Fitzsimmons, and Britton met it with less emotion than either of the first ring philosopher.

Of course, the new champion is a better man than the Britton of a few years ago. He is a novice. His punch is not heavy, but it is effective enough. He swings and he hooks persistently, but he does not miss one inch and the fact that he has enough force to count. Somehow the straight left of Britton, one of the most wonderful that the ring has known, was not as effective as it once was. The new champion, twisting and hooking, ducked around it and landed to the head and to the body with monotonous regularity. The first sign of impending disaster for the old champion came in the third round, when Walker hooked him to his haunches with a long left that glanced off the long jaw of the veteran.

A Face Like McGovern.
Britton leaped to his feet quickly and the fight with Walker with vigor, but in the sixth round the boy with the terrific face, a face like that of the late Terry McGovern, began to press the veteran and he landed persistently with closer, and to the body. Britton began to tire perceptibly, the spring went out of his feet and the snap went out of his punches.

Walker continued to batter systematically at the faltering veteran, and as Britton slowed down it became evident to the pack at the ringside that a champion was about to pass. Britton growled that comes when a champion is about to be pulled down was heard. Nothing else, only an occasional fragment of foolish advice to the boy with the terrific face. As he weakened visibly under the battering face of the veteran remained impassive. Perhaps there might have been a shade of gloom in it if they were longed for the spring and the fire that was his just a few years ago. But the carrying of that professional expression to the last was a piece of sheer grit, for Britton was facing a dual tragedy, the loss of his title and the realization that he was an old man. Perhaps the latter was the bitterest.

So Passed a Hero.
So passed the hero of five hundred fights and to the best of my knowledge only one of them a dubious one. The last bout with Benny Leonard. It was the memory of this one that caused the Boxing Commission to start the investigation that might lead to cast a cloud around the gallant finish of the welterweight champion, but to my mind that is grossly unfair.

In his defeat last night Jack Britton, late welterweight champion, was as much a figure as I have seen in the prize ring. He staggered out of the chair into which he sagged when the last bell rang and reached out his hand to Walker, the lad with the terrific face and the retrous nose. "I wish you luck, kid," he said. And then there was just a shade of envy in the poker face. He envied Walker his youth, nothing else.

Rumors Stir Fight Board.
There were all sorts of rumors in the front part of the Garden before the bouts started. Then the betting on the main event began to switch with considerable rapidity so that before the first preliminary bout was staged Walker had become a pronounced favorite over the champion. The whisperings reached the ears of the Boxing Commission, especially the alert ears of William Muldoon. Tex Rickard was called into consultation. Abe Attell, who was among those conversing in the lobby, was questioned. Abe replied that he knew nothing ex-

New Welterweight King

Kirkwood's Rivals ARE MAKING MERRY

With Joe Away Australian Golf Pros Get Chance at Open Title.

By KERN S. PETRIE.

The departure of Joe Kirkwood seems to have left Australian golf free from the sinister influence of an overwhelming favorite or dominant figure. While Kirkwood was in the United States last year the professionals of the Antipodes played off for his title—in the annual championship tournament, of course—and a contestant by the name of Le Fevre won. A few weeks ago the 1922 classic was held, and at that time Le Fevre gave place to Charles Campbell. How the experts in Kangaroo-land must be reveling at the absence of the tricolor shot maker.

But if one is to judge from the scoring the Australians are still some little distance behind the American professionals in point of ability. This, of course, has been demonstrated by Kirkwood himself, for while Joe cast his shadow over his opponents every time he started he has never succeeded in causing the players of this country to do much worrying.

Campbell won the Australian title with a score of 207 strokes, and unless Rose Bay is another Lido, which is very unlikely, this would tend to show how wide is the gap between their professional standard and the plane of the experts in this country. Such a score as that which put Campbell on the throne is two shots better than that with which the metropolitan, open was won at Lido by Marty O'Loughlin of Plainfield. But then, the metropolitan after all is only a sectional event. The other meeting under discussion was national in scope. And it is very much to be doubted if Australia has anything in all its broad acres that even remotely approaches Lido for general usefulness.

Le Fevre Loses Title.
Le Fevre, it should be mentioned, made a determined attempt to take the place of Kirkwood as a sort of perpetual winner. He was on even terms with Campbell at the end of fifty-four holes, but a 78 for his last round as against Campbell's 75 left him three strokes behind. He was on even terms with Campbell at the end of fifty-four holes, but a 78 for his last round as against Campbell's 75 left him three strokes behind.

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Bouts of the Week

TO-NIGHT.
102d Regiment—Sunny Lashby vs. Willie Gilligan; Frank Cronin vs. Danny Lyons.
FRIDAY.
Rink S. C.—Gene Tunney vs. Jack Hanlon; 12 rounds.
SATURDAY.
Ridgewood Grove Sporting Club—Best Spencer vs. Johnny Williams, 12 rounds; Jimmy Reese vs. Joe Stanley, 8 rounds; Commonwealth S. C.—Spencer Gardner vs. Kid Buller, 12 rounds.

INDOOR TRACK MEET CURTAIN IS RAISED

Women Compete in Four of Eight Open Events in 'Met' Life Games.

The curtain was raised on the indoor A. A. U. track athletic season last night at the old Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory with a meet held jointly by the Metropolitan Life Insurance A. A. U. and the 165th Infantry. Women athletes were accorded the honor of having four of the eight open events of the program reserved for them, the first time that they are competing under the supervision of the A. A. U. on a board floor.

The feature event for men, a 1,000 yard invitation run, was won by John J. Beagan of the St. Anselm's club, who competed unattached. He finished with an advantage of five yards over Charles Beagan of the St. Anselm's club, who finished second. The runner-up was Charles Beagan of the St. Anselm's club, who finished second. The runner-up was Charles Beagan of the St. Anselm's club, who finished second.

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STECHER'S SCISSORS HOLD FELLS CUTLER

Downs Him Twice in Lively Bout—Nat Pendleton Wins on Foul.

Joe Stecher threw Charley Cutler twice in their wrestling bout at the Pioneer Sporting Club last night. The scissor hold expert was in tip top shape while Cutler was fat and flabby. Stecher obtained his first fall after wrestling fifty-seven minutes with a three-quarter Nelson and a body scissors.

When Cutler went down he was a figured man and the five minutes rest between falls did him little good. Stecher had little difficulty pinning his shoulders to the mat a second time. The second fall came in thirteen minutes with an arm and body scissors.

Nat Pendleton, former Olympic and intercollegiate champion, won over Yussif Hussane on a foul after one hour and 40 minutes of fast and rough milking, in which the contestants appeared evenly matched.

Twenty minutes from the end, with both men showing signs of distress, but Hussane more tired than the youthful American, the "Terrible Turk" took to rough tactics, which culminated in his delivering a right hand punch to the face. Pendleton was thrown out of the ring about ten times during the bout. The men were on their feet for the first half hour. Pendleton attempted to settle the question on the mat, but Hussane resisted.

Pete Jarvis, claimant of the middleweight title, was defeated by Ed Fields in the opening bout, a rolling mill, in ten minutes defeating Fields the decision.

Billiard Results
Charles P. Matthews defeated Joseph Neustadt, 150 to 107, last night in the continuation of the invitation 18.2 ball tournament at Lawler Brothers' Academy. The victor had a high run of 31, and averaged 4.10-35, while Neustadt had a best string of 22 and an average of 3-8-32. Matthews ran 85 points in the first five innings.

L. Mayer was the victor over M. Michel, 25 to 17, last night in the three cushion tournament at Crasfield's room, 125 to 72. The individual high runs were: Mrokan, 29; Church, 27; Clark, 23; Grogan, 22.

Charles Harmon and James Maturo will meet in the final of the tournament to-night, while the other players engage in play-offs for second, third, fourth and fifth places.

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JOCK HUTCHISON,
Former American Holder of the British Open Golf Championship
ON THE LAW OF THE LINKS
By Jock Hutchison
ANSWER TO PROBLEM OF "HITTING FLAG STICK TWENTY YARDS FROM HOLE."
There is no penalty for hitting the flag stick in a match game. Neither player has the right to ask that the stick be removed, but the player playing can send his own caddy to hold the pin if he likes. If the ball hit the pin while his caddy was holding it he would lose a hole. If it hit the pin with no one guarding it there would be no penalty, as the other player failed to exercise his right in asking that the pin be guarded.

PROBLEM OF STANCE IN SAND TRAP.
"While playing in a match recently B was in a bunker. In taking a stance he did not put his feet down lightly, but disturbed considerable sand in making a track in which to stand.
"A claims he had no right to do this. B says that this was within his province.
"Who is right?
L. L."
(Answer to this problem to-morrow, with the problem of dropping the ball.)
SEND IN YOUR PROBLEMS.
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