

FIGHTERS, READY, RESTING ON EVE OF GREATEST RING BATTLE

THAT UNDEFEATED HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION, WHO HAS NEVER TAKEN THE COUNT, JAMES J. JEFFRIES.

RIVAL GLADIATORS SEEM TO BE LEAST CONCERNED OF ALL

Odds of 10 to 6 Are Ridiculous in Face of Johnson's Remarkable Showing in His Recent Battles

By WILLIAM J. SLATTERY
[Special Dispatch to The Call]

RENO, July 2.—While the city of Reno is buzzing tonight as it never buzzed before, Jeffries and Johnson are reposing and resting easy, awaiting the tap of the gong that sounds the opening of the greatest and perhaps the last Queensberry battle of them all. The rival fighters are the least concerned of the thousands of human beings who walk the streets fairly beside themselves with excitement.

The multitude is divided into four classes—the Jeffries admirers, the Johnson-shouters, those on the fence and those who believe that the battle will be a frame up. Those in the latter class are few and far between, but still they can be found wandering around and expressing their sentiments. Their numbers are gradually decreasing, due to the fact that the recent moving picture deal convinced most of the skeptical ones that the battle will be fought on its merits and that the best man will win.

BETTING SHOULD BE NEARER EVEN

From the standpoint of any ardent follower of the game, any man who has seen them both in action during the last seven or eight years, it is anything but a 10 to 6 shot, as the odds say. Far from it. The betting should be 10 to 8 in favor of Jeffries, and perhaps even money. Whether public sentiment has made the white man such a pronounced choice or whether the Johnson adherents are afraid of their man or afraid of the price remains to be determined after the championship has been decided.

One thing is certain—those who believe Johnson should win have a splendid opportunity to get rich in a day. They can get plenty of action for their money at 10 to 6. If Johnson has such a wonderful punch and the marvelous cleverness and endurance powers which most of them admit are his, then he is an even money shot. Those who like his chances should not hesitate when the odds are 10 to 6.

BIG JEFF LOOKS GRAND, BUT—

As for Jeffries, it's the same old story, and there is no chance for an argument. He looks grand. He's just as formidable looking a gladiator as the man who laid Jim Corbett, Bob Fitzsimmons, Jack Monroe and the rest of them low.

But— This little three lettered word is the barrier for many of them. But for it they would stake their very lives that Jeffries is going to lay Johnson low and bring back the heavy weight championship to the white race. That "but" is one of the most important factors in the present crisis.

The "but" means, has Jeff enough of his old time stamina, his old time speed, to offset the cleverness and the ring generalship of Johnson? And can he take those wallops on the jaw and come back with a shake of his savage looking head and bore in for more? Alas! There is nobody to answer this question save Jeffries himself, and he will never answer it till he goes a few rounds with the black champion. He can't sord his answer from the gymnasium or from the road.

He will have to make it practical. A fighter's words are never convincing. Neither are those of his trainers and the men closely associated with him. The fighter himself naturally gains his pride, his spirit, for without these requisites he could not be classed as a fighter. His friends become prejudiced because of their close association with him. They can not see why their man will not win. They know his good points, but his weak ones they overlook, partly because they can't see them and partly because they don't want to.

WHERE BLACK HAS ADVANTAGE

The same rows with both Jeffries and Johnson, but the black man has it on the white man for the reason that he has been fighting right along. He has been winning his fights, too, winning them without losing that smile of gold, winning them practically as he pleases. Fighting has been more of an amusement than a serious business with Johnson during the last three years. Jeffries takes it so seriously that many are led to believe that his seriousness is a form of nervousness bordering on cowardice. Johnson takes it all lightly. It's a sort of a casual observer believes this. He is more serious when he attacks that bass viol of his than he is when he mixes it up with any of his sparring partners. He is more lighthearted right now than he ever was when he trained for any of his recent battles in San Francisco.

That both men are in as perfect condition as scientific training can make them goes without saying.

If this fight is not on the level the truth will out, and before very long. If the public is jobbed Monday afternoon then the fans can toss their hats in the air and say farewell to the boxing game forever, for it will be nothing but a delusion and a snare and a hollow mockery of the sport which has

stirred all classes of men for decades.

The people are intense in their seriousness over this wonderful contest. They are here from all parts of the globe and they are trying to convince themselves that there is no chance for anything save a fight on its merits, a fight that is worth traveling over land and sea to witness. It's a maddening question with most of them. They are insane over it.

The man who attempts to pick a winner is confronted with one of the toughest tasks which any pugilistic prognosticator ever went against. If the battle is not on the level then those on the inside are making fools out of the rest of them. If it's on the level then they must figure Jeff for all he was when he quit the ring and figure Johnson on the basis that he has never been extended in any of his recent fights. The fact is, they don't know how good Johnson really is and they don't know either whether Jeffries has even started to come back.

This is one fight that cannot be doped from the workouts of the men. Gymnasium stunts, speed in the training quarters or a flashy front will not give any of us an insight into this contest. It's easy enough to get a line on Johnson and give him the credit for being a far better fighter than his fights show, but what chance has any expert of doping Jeffries?

For these reasons, the odds are ridiculous and they have been made ridiculous because of the prejudice against Johnson on account of his color. He is not a popular fighter, even with those of his own blood. Many of them bet against him because of their hatred for him, but in a battle of this sort the man who hopes to pick the winner must be cold headed, cool and collected. He must fight against any prejudice which threatens to override his better judgment. He must overlook caste hatred,

200 MEN LEAVE ON SPECIAL FOR RENO

Rich Fight Fans on Their Way to Nevada Represent \$300,000,000

Carrying a party of 200 business and professional men of San Francisco, representing a personal wealth of \$300,000,000, the Union Square special, the most luxurious private train that has left San Francisco for the scene of tomorrow's great pugilistic battle, pulled out from the Oakland mole at 11:40 o'clock last night.

The Union Square special is composed of seven Pullman sleepers and baggage coach, converted for the occasion into a buffet car. Specially chartered for the event, the train will be parked at Reno and its 200 passengers will live aboard until the return to San Francisco is made. Dining arrangements have been made so that the members of the party will not have to depend upon the uncertain conveniences of Reno.

Among those who left on the Union Square special last night are many of the wealthiest and most prominent men of the city. Every member of the party is provided with a ring side seat, and the delegation will be one of the largest and most enthusiastic at the fight. The early start guarantees an arrival in Reno in the best of season so that the afternoon may be given to the camps of the two fighters. The train will leave Reno on the return trip so that the members of the party will be in San Francisco before business hours Tuesday morning.

LITTLE HAS LANGFORD MONEY

RENO, July 2.—George Little, former manager for Johnson, said today that he would be at the ringside ready to offer \$10,000 as a side bet in the interests of Sam Langford for a fight with Little's former charge, whether Johnson wins, loses or gets a draw with Jeffries.

SHARKEY STILL WANTS TO FIGHT

Sailor Has Hard Time Squeezing Aboard Train Headed for Reno

Tom Sharkey reached this city yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock and spent the evening trying to secure a berth back to Reno tonight. Sharkey passed through Reno Friday night and did not know the existing conditions or he would not have come to this city. Sharkey still wants to fight. He said so last night and he said he wanted to fight Jeffries.

Chicago Women Enter Golf Trophy Meet

CHICAGO, July 1.—The Seokite country club of Chicago took the lead in the Women's Western Golf association play for the Higgins trophy today, when their score of 13 up on the woman's pair was announced.

Chicago Women Enter Golf Trophy Meet

The Midwestern country club is second at present, 9 up, the San Gabriel club of California being third, 1 up. The Exmoor country club of Chicago and the Los Angeles country club are tied for fourth, 16 up. Complete returns are expected in a few days.



Why Not Provide Substitute Fighters? Asks Dane

By BATTLING NELSON
[Special Dispatch to The Call]

RENO, July 2.—Jack Johnson pulled a surprise today and killed the best press story during the training siege by receiving Tommy Burns, whom he defeated in Australia. Tommy Burns sent his card up, and Johnson said to bring him right up. He extended his right hand with a "How do you do, Tommy? Glad to see you."

Tommy said, "How do you feel, Jack?" "Fine and dandy; never better in my life, and will win, sure," replied the black.

RING ENLARGED FOR JACK

The ring was originally built measuring 22 feet inside of the ropes and that he might get pushed through the ropes and off the platform, insisted on having an extra foot built around the outside of the ropes. This has been done. The press seats were a little too low, but that also has been remedied.

A dozen special trains arrived in Reno today, carrying Pullmans loaded with fight fans. The Pullman reservations will be held on the sidetracks and used in place of hotel accommodations, as almost every available space for transients is now taken up in the hotels and apartment houses.

"SUCKER" BETS PLENTIFUL

Betting is picking up some and a number of sucker bets have been made, as that is all I can term them. I made one bet with James Nevin of \$100 even that Jeffries does not knock Johnson down inside of the fifth round. He also bet \$1,000 with some other party at the same price. I am sure that nothing in the world but enthusiasm for the white

Jack Johnson Meets Burns and Promises Return Match

By TOMMY BURNS
[Special Dispatch to The Call]

RENO, Nev., July 2.—At the urgent request of Hugh McIntosh, I called on Jack Johnson today in his training quarters at Rick's, and to say that I was pleased at the cordial reception accorded me is putting it mildly. Yesterday I was a little bit skeptical about calling on the colored champion, but Hugh McIntosh, who had been out to look Johnson over, had spoken to Jack about me and he said that he would be pleased to have me call on him.

Just as we got out of the automobile and had seated ourselves on the porch Johnson's burly form loomed up on the horizon down the dusty road. The big black was sprinting along the road bundled up in a black sweater, and his shiny head glistened in the light. The perspiration was just rolling off his head and face, and his golden teeth shone through his lips as he made his way up the steps and busted his way through the crowd of spectators, who were craning their necks to get a good view of the man who won the championship title from me in Australia.

EXCHANGE OF COMPLIMENTS

"Hello, Tommy," said Jack with a smile, as he extended his hand to me, "I'm glad to see you."

"You can beat Langford, Tommy, and if the match is ever made I will bet my money on you. This is no bluff, simply because you are here, but when I risk my money you can bet that I mean what I say. Langford has only a one two punch, and as I have fought you both I am in a position to judge," said the negro, as he rolled over on his stomach so that his handlers could massage his massive back.

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San Jose to Battle for Pennant

The second half of the season of the Three C league, which commences July 24, will see San Jose battling for the pennant. The Sodality athletic association, 500 strong, has been given the San Jose franchise.

Mike Steffen, the well known San Jose manager, will be manager of the team, and the game will be played at Luna Park. The addition of San Jose to the league means much to its success. The sixth team in the league has not been selected, but the league directors are desirous of securing either Gilroy, Mountain View, Redwood City or the Olympic club team of this city.

Sunday Salinas and Traffic will meet and San Mateo will play at Watsonville. Monday, Traffic and Watsonville will play double headers, while Salinas and San Mateo will play.

PROMISES RETURN MATCH

"I should like to box you again, Jack," said Ed as he started to get his clothes on. "Sure; I'll fight you again, and will give you the first chance. I'll box you anywhere, in Australia, America or London, and when I get to New York I will deposit \$10,000 to bind the match, spoke up the champion.

"All right; that goes," said I, and shook his hand to bind the bargain. McIntosh and Johnson then discussed the terms of the match. This certainly was a fine bit of luck for me, as I am confident that I can defeat Johnson when we meet again.

WELCH—In this city, July 2, 1910, at her late residence, 209 Thirtieth street, Margaret, beloved wife of the late Michael Welch, leaving notice of death. Michael and Sarah Welch, and the late John, Mary and Catherine Welch, and sister in law of Mrs. John Crowley and Mrs. Charles Welch, a native of Crossroads, County Mayo, Ireland. (Reno and New York papers please copy.)

LITTLE HOPES TO SECURE \$26,500

Former Manager Threatens to Sue Johnson for \$1,200 Diamond Ring

[Special Dispatch to The Call] RENO, July 2.—One of the first men to jump off the morning train which pulled into Reno was George Little, Johnson's former manager, the man who put up his forfeit and the man who claims that he was grossly wronged by the big black champion. Little brought with him the final settlement papers between himself and the champion. He declares that all their business relations have ceased, though he wants it known that Johnson still has a diamond belonging to him and unless Jack consents to return this or pay him \$1,200 for it another civil suit will be on its way, he said.

"Johnson and I have reached an agreement," said Little. "It's all over between us, though I still admire him for a great fighter and I believe that he can win if he tries. I have hedged several of my bets. I am not taking any chances now that I have ceased to be his manager."

\$26,500 COMING TO LITTLE

According to the papers drawn up by the attorney of the fighter and the man who once handled him Little will receive \$16,500 in cash. In addition that \$10,000 which Little put up as a forfeit for Johnson will be returned to him, provided of course that Johnson lives up to his agreement and enters the ring Monday afternoon on schedule time.

Johnson also surrenders to Little diamonds to the value of \$2,400. The ownership of these precious stones caused a whole lot of bitter feeling between the men and had much to do with their estrangement, but Little was firm in his demands and in order to forestall further trouble at the eleventh hour, Johnson consented to make the transfer.

After signing the papers which separated them Little also signed a statement to the effect that the fight was to be on the square and absolutely on its merits so far as his knowledge went. But Little in a way intimates that the task of signing this was thrust upon him and that he was compelled to write his name at the conclusion of the document in order that he might be sure of receiving his money and his jewels.

The only difference between Johnson and Little is that \$1,200 diamond ring. This precious jewel has created a lot of squabbling between them, each laying claim to it. The stone is a beauty, and according to Little, it is worth many times the price stated in the official paper.

Johnson is in possession of the ring and he has steadfastly refused to return it to Little, though the latter says that he only loaned it to the champion. According to the agreement, Little will bring civil action against Johnson for the recovery of the stone unless Johnson consents to return it immediately after the contest. Johnson's friends declare that the champion has no such intention, so this makes it look like more trouble.

\$6,000 ON JOHNSON

Little admits that he had bet something in the neighborhood of \$4,000 on Johnson before the splitup between them became public property. Now he practically admits that he has hedged several bets, which means that he is endeavoring to pull out even, no matter which man wins.

Whether Little knows something or not remains to be known later on. He is reticent, though he admits the truth of the bets.

Little did not attempt to do a Joe Woodman and make himself a guest at the Johnson camp. He spent most of his time chatting and conversing with several old friends from Chicago. Apparently he is satisfied with the deal he made with Johnson, though it can really be seen that he still bears a lot of hatred to the champion who repudiated him just when he had a chance to jump into a glare of limelight which bid fair to give him notoriety for the rest of his natural life.

Races for 4th Arranged By Sausalito Club

Final arrangements were made Friday at the meeting of the Sausalito yacht club headquarters for the handicapped yacht races which will be held under the auspices of the club on the fourth of July.

The course selected is from a stake boat directly off California City to Vallejo and return, a distance of about 29 miles. The white winged sailers will be sent over the line promptly at 2:30 p. m. and the trophy will be a beautiful silver loving cup donated by Commodore Reubold of the club.

The handicap is as follows: Nadia and Pearl R. scratch. Polley and Virginia, 15 minutes. Joyette and Comet, 30 minutes. Oriole, 60 minutes.

The regatta committee is made up of W. L. Sutherland, Dr. H. L. Lacoste and Dr. M. E. Simons.

DIED

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