

WILLARD FISHING FOR BIG WAD; MAY BE CORNERED BY DEMPSEY

New Orleans May Be Scene of Championship Battles If New York State Fails To Pass New Boxing Law; Jess May Meet Carpenter In Preference To Jack; Dempsey Holds Key If the French Fighter Fails.

FOLLOWING the news that Promoter Tortorich, of New Orleans, had decided to offer \$10,000 to Champion Jess Willard to box 20 rounds with Jack Dempsey in the Crescent City early in March, came inside information that Willard wants to box under the management of Tex Rickard. It is understood Willard has been in direct communication with Rickard for several weeks, with the idea that the famous promoter can match him with Georges Carpentier, the French heavyweight champion.

If Carpentier visits America he will probably be under contract to Rickard and with the possibility of first meeting Willard. From a money making point of view, however, a championship fight between Carpentier and Dempsey, followed by a scrap between the winner and Willard would probably appeal to Rickard. But before any definite move is made, it is necessary to settle either of these matches, doubtless would wait for the possible enactment of a new boxing law in the state of New York.

Signs of Times Indicate Many Good Bouts In Store For The Hungry Fight Fans At Early Date

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 28.—There are signs and signs that peace is coming, now that the armistice has been signed—sugar on the table, the coming home from "over there" of the boys, and others.

Among those to list the intentions of Charlie White, who has been busy in putting the punch into the rookie embryo of the S. O. T. C. at De Paul university here. With the disbanding of this organization, Charley has failed to find his interesting his only remaining activity being cheering up the sufferers from shell shock quartered at Fort Sheridan, Ill.

After Leonard. Now, now that the war for the safety of democracy has been fought and won, Charley proposes to get in shape to put on a few battles of his own. As preliminary, he is boxing a few of his students, getting ready to entice Benny Leonard, champion, into matches of the kind of training stunts in the army he has taught upward of 100,000 men the art of wrestling the gloves. He instituted the system at Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill., and later was transferred to Camp Crozier, Battle Creek, Mich. From there he went to Fort Sheridan, and has been there ever since, though many changes have occurred during his stay at that post. As well, he has accepted several side issue jobs like that at De Paul.

There was a reason, then. It having been established that our English friends only took to baseball to please us and they don't really care for the game, effort now are being made to interest them in basketball, with some success, according to reports. But we have come to doubt all reports in connection with the English taking to anything that bears an American brand in athletics.

McCrede Back From Woods. Walter McCrede, last season manager of the Salt Lake team in the Pacific Coast league, has returned to Portland after two months spent in a logging camp and his return to his old stamping ground convinces the scores that the career of something must be done toward placing Portland and Seattle in the 1919 Pacific Coast league circuit.

Higgins Drops Two. Manager Miller Huggins, of the New York Yankees, has erased Jack Fournier and John Hummel from his list. The Chicago White Sox made a prior claim to the former, while Hummel was only taken on temporarily and the Yankees have no intention of making a deal with San Francisco for his services in 1919.

Does Nap Mean It? Cleveland, O., Dec. 28.—Napoleon Lajoie, for 29 years ennobled to be one of the world's greatest infielders, yesterday announced his retirement from professional baseball. Last season Lajoie managed the Indianapolis team of the American association.

Minnie Beats Christie. Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 28.—Billy Minnie, of St. Paul, outboxed G. Christie, of Milwaukee, in every round of a ten round no decision catch weight boxing contest last night.

Advertisement for Ford cars, featuring the text 'Ford service for owners of Ford cars, is one of the important elements of the great Ford organization. Ford owners can get real Ford service only by coming to the authorized Honest Ford dealers, where there are at all times Ford workmen, genuine Ford materials and the standard low Ford prices. If you want to get all there is, and the best there is, in your Ford car come to us with it for the genuine Ford service. Prompt attention every time. Tri-State Motor Co. J. W. KIRKPATRICK, Gen. Mgr. Authorized Agents. West San Antonio & Leon Sts. Phone 4200

A Handy Man Around the House



GIBLETS BY ROY EMIK

THE Mexican Methodist basketball tossers have set a standard in the game that is almost ideal. To tell the story in short, the members of this team are always ready to play and spend their time playing. There is no wrangling, no "crabbing" on their part. Any objections they have are stated by their captain to the active officials in just as even tone as would be used in buying postage stamps. If no referee is acceptable to the team opposing them, they are acceptable to them. Nor do they afterwards howl about his decisions. Fighting opponents play is not on their record. During the season of 1917-18, when it was apparent that they had nothing but a series of drubbings coming in the latter part of the season, they played every day for a week, and they never once started out with a remarkable record, the most pleasing part of which is their conduct on the floor.

Crack Utility Player In Aero Naval Service Gets Bid From Giants. New York, Dec. 28.—Arthur Shafer, "Temperamental Tillie" they called him—may return to the Giants next season. The former third baseman of the Polo grounds is being sought by the New York Giants.

Shafer is at present at the University of Washington naval training station, and up to the sailing of the ship was learning to drive a hydroplane. He enlisted in this section of the service last August and expects to be mustered out before the new year.

"Tillie" whom McGraw considers the best utility player that ever donned a uniform, quit the Giants at the close of the world series with the Athletics in 1912. At the time he was one of the fastest base runners in the game and could hit equally well from both sides of the plate, his batting average always hovering around the .300 mark. When leaving the Giants he declared he was quitting the game because the strain of playing every day was too much for him. He has since then been in the employ of the United States Army, where he has been in the line of duty for two and a half years more or less, but has not been playing his regular job at the Polo grounds, of his big league job.

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STROLLS THROUGH SPORTS BY WILLIAM F. KIMM

SONG OF ACTION. Tell us set in cheery numbers that the trouble now is over—tell us not the whole world slumbers and has been turned out to clover! Tell us work for every mortal who is old enough to strive. We are still without the portal and confusion rules the hive. Though we've done with war's commotion and have paralyzed the Hun, there is work across the ocean that is howling to be done. Though we've put the punch in Prussia till all German brains revolve, there is chaos still in Russia that will take long years to solve. There is work to do in Belgium and work to do in France, where sin for years ran rampant and the devils held their dance. And while making this allusion to the track left by the fray, have you thought of the confusion in the baseball world today? Have you thought of all the pitchers who, anticipating harm, went to work making dreadnaughts and got the shipyard arm? Think of all these earnest athletes we shall have to reconstruct, on account of the profession they attempted to conduct! They will try to train their "souphons" back into mid-ocean form and perhaps they will be awkward till the weather's good and warm. Think of all the active fielders who are crippled fore and aft from the colds they've contracted waiting daily in the draft! Yes, it was a ripping ruction and they paralyzed the Hun, but the work of reconstruction—that has only just begun. It will all be done, however, for the Yankees shine, we guess, when it comes to swift endeavor and to ultimate success!

SPORTOGRAPHY BY "Gravy"

JOE JENKINS, of the White Sox, one of the first players to go into the service after war was declared, was a commission just before the armistice was signed. He was a sergeant before he left Camp Gordon, Ga., several months ago for France. During October Joe took charge of his company in the Navy Reserve force about a year ago, was trained at Pelham and assigned to the transport Northern Pacific. He has made several trips to France, returning recently when the ship brought in a large number of wounded soldiers. Sandy expects to be kept in the service until the task of bringing back the wounded fighters is completed.

Shafer May Go Back To Giants. Arthur Shafer, "Temperamental Tillie" they called him—may return to the Giants next season. The former third baseman of the Polo grounds is being sought by the New York Giants.

Members of New York A.C. May Again Enter Championship Tourneys. New York, Dec. 28.—As was expected several weeks ago, the New York Athletic club, at its annual meeting to be held on January 31 will take action regarding the late New York A. C. has not been represented in championship competitions of any kind, save trap shooting, and although it had not gone into service, its chief efforts were directed towards providing wholesome recreation for the army and navy. With this object in view it held numerous athletic meets through the summer of 1917 and 1918 and in the winter of 1917-18 and also directed athletic and boxing tournaments at various training camps and military posts. It has engaged this winter to hold a series of indoor track and field meets which shall be in part for men in service and in part for civilians.

Willard's Birthday. Jess Willard will celebrate his 31st birthday tomorrow, as he was born in Pottawatomie county, Kansas, December 28, 1887. He is now 31 years old and has been a professional fighter for more than a dozen years. He is a native of Illinois, and his mother was from Kentucky. Jess is a surprising note was born in a house, but he didn't stay in it any longer than he had to. The out of doors appealed to him very strongly and as a mere kid he became a cowboy and "bronco buster" but he had to give that up as he grew older because his feet dragged on the ground and impeded his pony's progress.

It was about eight years ago that Jess decided to become a fighter. He was then in Oklahoma, where Carl Morris was being boomed as the coming champion and hope of the white race. After looking over Morris, Jess decided he could do at least as well, and perhaps a little bit better as a box fighter. Willard did a little training in the Oklahoma gym, and where the experienced fighters took great delight in using the good-natured cowboy as a punching bag. He was a good boxer, for Jess it was hard to break as a safe. At length, in the tenth round, Jess managed to land a good one, and it knocked Fink clean out of the ring. The referee said it was a foul, and gave the victory to Fink.

Since winning the championship from Jack Johnson in 1914 Willard has been in the oil business. He is at present engaged in the oil industry in Texas. In fact, he has done a lot of things—except fight.

Murphy-White Battle. Australian Billy Murphy and Tommy White fought a 12 round draw at San Francisco on this date in 1912. Billy had won the world's featherweight title about three years previously by knocking out "The Army" or "The West" or "The Hellcat" soldier, but soon lost the honor. White, a Chicago lad, never held a title, but he has better than lots of boys who have held the featherweight crown.

TRAPSHOOTERS LACK HISTORIAN; DEEDS OF FAMOUS SHOTS LOST

ONE thing trapshooting needs above everything is a historian. We have often wondered why the Interstate Trapshooting association as the leading organization for the promotion of the sport, hasn't made an effort to chronicle and exploit the wonderful feats that have been accomplished by the scotchers at the traps. There is a sport that has been increasing in volume for more than a quarter of a century, hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent in promotion work, yet no one has taken the time nor the trouble to keep a record of the wonderful achievements nor the accurate progress of the beautiful pastime. It is not impossible to go back and ferret out the great shooting performances of 30 years or more ago, for the records have been close at hand, but the records have been lost. 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