

A Few Thousand Extra Men On the Border Might Discourage the Common Mexican Idea That It Would Be Easy to Lick the United States

BIG BOXERS READY FOR TOMORROW NIGHT'S BOUT

Willard and Moran Confident of Winning by K. O. Route

SEATING CAPACITY SOLD OUT

Predictions That Attendance Will Be One of the Largest in History of Pugilism.

New York, March 24.—The last arrangements for the boxing bout between the heavyweights, Jess Willard, the present champion, and Frank Moran have been completed, and both boxers have concluded their training.

Moran's fine physical condition has imbued him with supreme confidence. In fact, the blonde Pittsburgher seems over-confident. Moran is so sure of winning that he expects to land a knockout. Moran believes that all that Willard has is size. He has great confidence in his own ability to take punishment, and he is certain that the champion cannot withstand his hardest punches.

Moran is glad that his training is over. He is impatient to do battle with the big champion. "The whole thing is getting on my nerves," said Moran yesterday, "especially the attention and admiration of the people who come in to see me work. They all want to shake me by the hand and ask me how I feel. Most of them tell me that all their friends are praying for me to win and then they give my fight hand another hard squeeze. It makes my hand tired and cramped before I even start to box."

Willard finished his last hard workout Wednesday and appeared to take it seriously. His trainers are just as confident as the assistants in the Moran camp and they declare that the bout will not go over half the ten-round distance before the champion scores a knockout. Willard should go into the ring weighing 250 pounds, having taken off about 12 pounds since he began training.

With more than 85 per cent of the 11,000 and odd tickets sold, it is becoming more evident every hour that the contest will be witnessed by the most representative assemblage of boxing enthusiasts that ever gathered about a squared circle in this country. Owing to the high price of seats, attendance at the bout is beyond the financial reach of the average followers of the glove game. The places have been taken, however, by sport adherents who seldom attend boxing bouts except those between top-notchers in fistiana.

This contingent has been augmented by another group, which, attracted by the glamor of the contest, is taking its first plunge into the fight game. In the two classes are to be found bankers, lawyers, prominent railroad officials, physicians and many other business and professional men who do not, as a rule, pay much if any attention to boxing in New York city. In addition, there will be the usual attendance from the leading country and city clubs, the artist and Bohemian clans.

Not all the advance sale of the high-priced boxes and reserved seats has been made to New York patrons of this type, however, for fully 40 per cent of it has been to out-of-town applicants. Some of the leading clubs of the South and New England have paid for large blocks of seats and boxes. Reservations on incoming trains from these sections and from the middle West are reported to be well bought up by prospective spectators who are planning to arrive at New York either tonight or Saturday morning.

In less than an hour after the gallery tickets were put on sale at the Madison Square garden yesterday every one was disposed of and hundreds of would-be buyers were turned away. There were many disgruntled and disappointed men in line who could not reach the window before the sale was over and some of them complained that the speculators had been favored. The show corporation, which is conducting the bout, announced that any intimation of favoritism in the sale of tickets was preposterous. The management had made every effort to prevent speculators from obtaining a large number of tickets, it was said, by refusing to sell more than two to any one person.

Some doubt appears to exist in the camps of both Willard and Moran regarding the rules under which the bout will be fought. There has been considerable talk about hitting in the clinches and in the breakaway. A study of the contracts which the principals signed with Promoter Rickard shows clearly, however, that the bout is to be conducted under the rules and regulations of the New York state athletic commission. This code differs widely from the marquis of Queensberry rules, which are the standard of both boxing and prize fighting the world around. The Queensberry rules do not restrain a

boxer from punching an opponent at any time during a clinch, and it is understood that the principals must themselves at all times both in the ring and in the breakaways. The New York state athletic commission, on the other hand, distinctly provides that there shall be no hitting in the breaks. The regulations covering these points are as follows: "The kidney punch or blow shall be forbidden in all contests. The backhand punch or blow is also forbidden. The contestants shall break clean and shall not strike a blow while breaking from clinches. Contestants must not hold and hit. Butting with the head or shoulders, wrestling or clinching, or illegal use of elbows, shall not be allowed. There shall be no unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of the contestants. This shall include the use of abusive or insulting language."

The commission has announced that these rules must be strictly observed and that the referee, "Charles" White will be instructed to see that they are obeyed. White has not yet conferred with either of the principals, and is not likely to see them until he enters the ring to officiate. There is considerable difference of opinion as to which of the two heavyweights will be the more handicapped by the observance of these rules. Each can hit hard and quickly if given an opening, either in a clinch or on the breakaway.

CURFEW WILL RING AT 9.15.

Children Will Have 15 Minutes to Vagate the Streets.

At the informal meeting of the village trustees Thursday evening it was decided that the fire alarm bell in the steeple of the Second Congregational church should be used to carry out the provisions of the curfew ordinance adopted at the recent village meeting.

It was thought best that the bell should be rung at 9.15 which would give the children 15 minutes warning of the approach of the curfew limit, 9.30.

The signal will be six strokes of the bell. The warning will be sounded from a fire alarm box by Chief of Police Brazil who will be provided with a set of keys so that he may use any box. It was taken for granted that the chief, who is on duty every evening, would be in the vicinity of some box at the specified hour.

After ringing the curfew the chief will adjust the indicators in the Stark and Putnam hose houses. The indicator at the central fire station on Safford street will be adjusted by William Ryan, the driver of the village team.

It was practically decided by the trustees that the testing of the fire alarm system at 12.05 each day should hereafter be omitted and that the curfew should take the place of the test. Since the meeting of the trustees, William H. Nichols, the electrician who has charge of the system, has suggested that the noon testing should be retained and such a course may eventually be adopted.

The plans made by the trustees Friday evening were not final and there may be changes in the arrangements in the future, if a trial shows that different methods are desirable.

SAYS MINE SANK TUBANTIA

Consul Schilling, Back in Germany Scouts Submarine Story.

Berlin, March 23. (by Wireless to Sayville.)—Richard Schilling, Guatemalan Consul at Stuttgart and a naturalized American citizen has returned to Stuttgart, and in an interview, as given out by the Overseas News Agency, said there was no truth in reports that a submarine sank the Dutch steamship Tubantia, on which he was a passenger. He declared it was impossible that the Tubantia could have been torpedoed by mistake, inasmuch as she was marked with electric signs giving her name and nationality. Mr. Schilling came to the conclusion, from what he was able to observe, that the Tubantia was sunk by a floating mine.

The Sunshine circle will meet in the Congregational chapel Saturday night at 7.30. The subject is the Philippines.

TIRED WORKING MEN

A Local Druggist Suggests a Remedy For Overworked, Run-down Men.

The following letter from Manager Hodess recounts the experience and condition of many Bennington men. Read this letter and our offer which follows:

Brooklyn, N. Y. "I am a general office manager, and became so nervous and run-down in health that I lost my appetite and finally my health broke down completely, largely because of overwork. I tried Beef Iron and Wine, and other remedies without help. I saw Vinol advertised, and soon after taking it I noticed an improvement. I now have a hearty appetite, sleep better, feel better and have gained considerable in weight." Samuel Hodess, 591 Stone Ave.

The reason Vinol is so successful in such cases is because it contains the three oldest and most famous tonics viz.—the medicinal elements of fresh cod livers without oil, peptonate of iron and beef peptonate. We ask every run-down, overworked man in Bennington to try a bottle of Vinol with the understanding that their money will be returned if it fails to help as it did Mr. Hodess. Wm. L. Gokay, Druggist, Bennington, Vt.

TERRIFIC SHELL FIRE IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM

Both Armies Working Artillery to Full Capacity

INFANTRY HAS DAY OF REST

Germans and French Have Both Increased Bombardment of Malancourt and in Woivre Region.

London, March 23.—Except on the front near Gemmeourt and the Bethune-LaBassee road, where the British gained some advantages in fights against the Germans, no infantry engagements have taken place along the line in France and Belgium. Heavy fighting, however, continues between the Germans and Russians on the eastern front from the region of Riga southward.

The Germans northwest of Verdun are keeping up their violent shelling of the Malancourt sector and have again trained their guns on the French front of Bethincourt, Le Mort Homme and Cumieres.

The French have not slackened their bombardment of the Malancourt wood from positions in the Argonne forest, and are also shelling heavily German positions and the roads and railways held by the Germans in the eastern part of the Argonne.

The bombardment to the northeast of Verdun, as well as in the Woivre region, to the east of the fortress, has increased intensity.

Berlin, March 23. (by Wireless to Sayville.)—The Lokal-Anzeiger says that because of the progress made by German troops near Avocourt yesterday the French line between Bethincourt and Malancourt is now menaced. It asserts that the French positions are threatened from the east by the German successes near Dead Man's Hill and from the west as a result of the German victory of the wooded region northeast of Avocourt.

The newspaper points out that Avocourt is only seven kilometers from the important Verdun-Paris Railroad. The intervening distance being covered with woods and hills.

London, March 24.—Heavy masses of Russians are pressing the Germans from the Riga district southward for a distance of seventy miles. While they have gained some advantages, the Russian war office admits that south of Lake Dreswaty the Germans recaptured trenches that the Russians had taken the previous night. The Russians have again pierced the opposing line in the Jacobstat section.

According to the German official communication "not even the smallest advantage against the unshaken German defense," has been obtained anywhere in this great offensive the Russians have undertaken in northwest Russia. While Berlin declares the Russians have ceased their vicious attacks in the neighborhood of Postavy, Russian officials announce the fighting there continues, and that southwest of Lake Narocz the Russian troops have again advanced under a violent bombardment.

The Austrians, combatting the Russians in Galicia and the Italians along the Austro-Italian frontier, appear to be holding their lines without change.

NEW BRATTLEBORO BLOCK

Brattleboro, March 22.—The Holstein-Friesian Association of America has accepted the offer of A. B. Clapp to build a modern fireproof building to cost no more than \$55,000 and lease it to the association at 10 per cent of the cost.

The property on which the building is to be erected this year Mr. Clapp recently bought of E. B. Stewart of Leyden, Mass. It is at the corner of Main and South Main streets. Mr. Clapp wishes to buy the lot on which a house stands on South Main street next in the rear of his new property and a special privilege has been called for April 1.

FIVE MORE SHIPS SUNK

London Reports Two Were Torpedoed at Anchor.

London, March 23.—Five more British, French and Norwegian ships were sunk today. Two of the craft were torpedoed while at anchor, the official reports declare. One life was lost.

So far as is known no Americans were on any of these vessels.

WEATHER FORECAST For eastern New York and western Vermont cloudy and warmer tonight. Saturday snow or rain.

CLASSIFIED. LOST—Package on Main street Thursday evening between the Walbridge corner and the Bennington County National bank. Contained skirt and other articles. Finder please return to the Walbridge store. 7112

DENY ATTACKS ARE FLAGGING

Berlin Military Circles Explain Reason for Pauses in Battle.

Berlin, March 22.—Attempts in other countries to interpret the pauses in the German operations at Verdun as indicative of the waning of the offensive or the exhaustion of German troops denote failure to comprehend German strategy, according to the tenor of discussion in military circles here. Officers say these pauses are only part of the general scheme of operations, and are designed to prepare for the successive stages of the forward movement.

The method has been to make preparation for every attack so thoroughly as to guarantee success with minimum losses. German commanders have purposely avoided a simultaneous attack on the whole Verdun front and have sought local successes in one section after another.

Neither do these officers admit the Germans are fighting to revive the spirits of the people at home, with only a forlorn hope of victory. It is said that these operations are intended to lead to the capture of Verdun and hasten the termination of the war.

The comparative slowness of the movements is based on deliberate choice of the best method of accomplishing the end sought. Reports that the German losses have been unduly heavy in view of the results achieved find no confirmation here. Instead of sending men into battle in close formation for machine guns to mow them down, as is represented in the press of hostile countries, German commanders have been sparing of the lives of their troops.

The results of the operations at Verdun thus far, in regard both to the positions gained and the losses sustained, have been fully in line with expectations.

BATTLE FOR RAILROADS.

Russians Started Offensive When Hindenburg Made First Move

Petrograd, March 23.—Side by side with Verdun, two other names, Vilna and Vileika, are now coming into the forefront of the war. Hindenburg is moving again, but so are Kuropatkin and Evert. Hindenburg began feeling at first on Lake Kanger, near Riga, and then again, on March 17, at the Tverch position, south of Dvinsk, and the result has been finally to bring into motion a menacing Russian offensive.

The Russian advance caused the Germans to a strained counter offensive. The alarm has been given, and now fierce battles are flaring up on the line of lakes that stretches south of Dvinsk to near Molodechno. They are battles for the railways. The Germans are struggling to reach the line that runs from Molodechno through Vileika to Polotsk, and so open the way to Minsk, or to get in the rear of the Dvinsk positions.

The railways run northeastward, whereas the fighting line, with some irregularities, runs in a southerly direction from Dvinsk. This means that in the north, just about Lake Dreswaty and near Vildey, the Russians are at their nearest to the Dvinsk-Vilna Railway, while the nearest point at which the Germans could strike the Polotsk-Molodechno Railway is about Vileika in the south. But the Russians at present have the upper hand. They have grasped the initiative and their attacks have been successful.

The Germans are mainly on the defensive, fighting stubbornly in the region between the lakes to hold the strong positions they so elaborately constructed during the long winter, and are doing their utmost to prevent that smashing blow which would neutralize their operations against Dvinsk and scatter their dream of advance on Petrograd in the spring.

VILLA HOLDS UP A TRAIN

Spanish Merchant Says Bandit Had Force of 1500 Men.

El Paso, March 23.—Garcia Flores, a Spanish merchant of the city of Chihuahua, who arrived here tonight, said Villa had held up a train on which he was traveling at Moctezuma, eighty-five miles northeast from Namiquipa, where the Carranza authorities have isolated the bandit chief with Chihuahua City. He said, "and were near Moctezuma. Wednesday afternoon when we encountered a large force of men. According to my best estimate there must have been 1,500 in all."

"When we reached the station we were amazed to see Pancho Villa himself enter the train. We had supposed he was many miles to the west. He walked through every carriage, declaring that he was searching for Americans and that he would kill any he found."

"I am not fighting Mexicans," he announced, "except the first chief and those traitors with him who have turned Mexico over to the Americans." "Villa stopped to chat with some friends of his who were on the train. He told them that General Herrera had joined him three days since with 2,000 men, fully equipped and armed, who had followed him from Chihuahua City. He finally left the train without molesting anyone, but he took some supplies which he said he needed badly."

While doing their Saturday afternoon shopping tomorrow the ladies should visit the rooms of the Young Woman's club over the Banner office where a food sale will be in progress and where tea and chocolate will be served. Adv.

AMBASSADOR SAYS HERRERA HAS NOT JOINED VILLA

Officially Denied That Chihuahua Garrison Has Revolted

LESS TENSION IN WASHINGTON

Anxiety Somewhat Relieved by Restoration of Radio Communications with Pershing.

Washington, March 24.—Tension in administration quarters over the Mexican situation relaxed yesterday in the absence of official confirmation of the report that 2000 Carranza troops at Chihuahua under Luis Herrera had joined Villa. Conflicting unofficial advices from the border, however, caused the state department to telegraph American consuls at Chihuahua and Durango for immediate reports as to the situation in the Torreón region where Herrera was last reported.

The accumulation of denials of the Herrera report during the day; the safe arrival of the army motor trucks with the expeditionary forces, the restoration of radio communication with Gen. Pershing's forces and the satisfactory progress of diplomatic negotiations with the de facto government served to relieve official anxiety. An official denial from the Carranza authorities at Juarez that Herrera had revolted was presented to Secretary Lansing in Person by Elias Arredondo, ambassador designate of the de facto government. Mr. Arredondo called to continue the conference with Counselor Polk on the proposed protocol between the two governments covering the operations of American troops now in Mexico. The general outline draft of the document has been agreed to and reported to Gen. Carranza, but details remain to be worked out.

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THAT BOY IS HARD ON SHOES. The above is what we often hear from a father or mother coming into the store with the young son for a pair of shoes. We know he is hard on shoes. Every healthy, active boy is hard on shoes. There are no exceptions. In our new line of Boys' Shoes just out of the cases are shoes made to stand the wear and knocks of "That Boy". These shoes even defy wear. They are filled with service, style and satisfaction. Goodness is built into every pair. They are just shining with newness and made for the hardest kind of wear. Come, bring him along, let him test our better shoes. Prices \$1.10 to \$3.00, but the shoes at \$1.50 to \$2.00 are the ones that have the grit. HART'S

SPECIALS for a few days. Buy at these prices while you have the chance, everything is inclined to go higher. REGULAR PRICE 10c EACH Sunbeam Cornflakes, 4 Pkgs. 25c Ritters' Beans, 3 cans 25c Prepared Buckwheat, 3 Pkgs. 25c Rimmels' Cocoa, 3 tins 25c Cafe May Catsup, per Bottle 8c Canned Peas, per Can 8c Canned Corn, per Can 8c REGULAR PRICE 10c EACH Seeded Raisins, 3 Pkgs. 25c Libby's Sauer Kraut, 3 Cans 25c Rose Dale Pineapple, 3 Cans 25c Prepared Mustard, Tumblers each 8c Grandmother Raspberry Jam, per Jar 8c REGULAR PRICE 15c Pure Candy Glass Jars, per Jar 10c Chile Sauce, per Bottle 10c REGULAR PRICE 25c PEACHES IN GLASS JARS, PER JAR 15c B. S. LOOMIS, Cash Grocer, 431 Main St.