

Delay of Ritchie-Murphy Bout May Result In Larger Receipts

"Harlem Tommy" Can Afford to Wait a Month Longer for Battle He Has Sought for a Decade—New York Is Eager to See Ritchie in Action Again.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—It is hard to say whether Willie Ritchie or Tommy Murphy is entitled to the greater portion of sympathy as a result of delaying their bout.

fighters and their managers as it will probably greatly increase the gate.

In the meantime Tommy Murphy will have to console himself with the thought that Ritchie is a man of his word and he can afford to wait a month longer for the match that he has already waited for more than a decade.

Ritchie Due in New York. The postponement may mean that Ritchie will be seen in at least one or two fights in New York between now and the date set for the battle with Murphy. When he left here several weeks ago Willie promised to come back here for the holidays, and if anything should prevent, the local

By James J. Corbett Former Heavyweight Champion of the World.

sports will be a very much disappointed bunch. Ritchie is one of the greatest hits made by a boxer in a New York ring since the days of the Horton law. His great battle with Leach Cross is still the talk of the town, and any bout arranged for him—if a worthy opponent is selected—will mean the biggest house both in numbers and dollars that has turned out to see a boxing match here in many years.

There are several boys who would be popular matches for the champion in a local sense. Freddy Welsh would satisfy. So would Jack Britton. Packey McFarland naturally would be the greatest card for no boxer stands better with the New York public than the stockyards' champion, but if what they are telling about Packey's weight is true there is no more chance of his boxing Ritchie than there is of a meeting between him and Johnny Coulton.

Welsh has a great "rep" here and everywhere. He is the champion of England, and a great boxer. Britton is also well thought of and deservedly so. McFarland, of course, is regarded as the class of both the light and welter-weight divisions.

Young Shugrue, a Comer. Still if I were a New York promoter and Ritchie had agreed to box under my management I would not select any of these boys for the first bout. Young Joe Shugrue, the Jersey lightweight, would be my trump card.

While he has been boxing in the lightweight class hardly more than a year Shugrue has met and defeated a number of the best boys. Probably he would have accomplished a strong debut to have donned the pose doffed by Harvard. Perhaps the change may suggest an explanation of the reversing of the success of the two institutions in athletic events.

Michigan's attack is chiefly built on Craig, a ground-gainer, while Harvard's will depend against a strong defensive team, on Bricker's goal kicking. Necessarily no adequate comparison can be made when two widely varying items constitute the chief factors of scoring power.

It Has "Come" at Last. Wolgast, who is and always has been a true 133 pound ringside lightweight, is just now doing a "come-back" stunt. At the age of 25 there is little doubt that he is still able to cause some flurry among the few candidates in the field willing to made the 133 pound figure.

Eight now Rivers is about the only star man who has demonstrated he can make the weight and be strong. And Wolgast got to Rivers for the "kayo" once.

Wonder This Amuse You? At a recent meeting I would think a large, bold ha, ha! was coming after that Cincinnati story that "the board of directors of the Remington Typewriter Co. had decided to respect the 'Tinker deal' and demanded that it be set aside."

Welsh's Chances Are Small. I am not trying to injure Freddy Welsh's chances for a match with Ritchie. Apparently the only chance for him is a bout over the 30 round route. Ritchie is expected to be taken by Harry Pollok, Freddy's manager, since the Vancouver fiasco and unless he is protected at the expense of the English champion in a no decision affair of 10 rounds.

As for Freddy he realizes that every year that passes makes him just one year older. He has spent about the latest part of a 12 month in this country so far as making boys of any class is concerned. His manager, has done plenty of press agenting for Freddy, but he has not framed up the bouts that will turn his fighter's fame into money. Ritchie's attitude toward Welsh is certainly one excuse, but then why doesn't Pollok match him with Jack Britton or some of the other good ones in the meantime? Success over a boy such as Britton would mean a popular demand for a contest with Ritchie that the American champion could not afford to ignore.

Packey McFarland is said to be disgusted by the criticism levelled at him in the recent bout with Jack Britton. As near as I can figure it out the chief cause for complaint is the Milwaukee patrons of the many art and the critics have for abusing McFarland lies in the latter's failure to knock Britton out instead of contenting himself by outpointing his fellow artist from Chicago.

Milwaukeeans evidently would prefer a rough and tumble fight to an exhibition of clever boxing. That being the case Packey will probably give the brewery city a wide berth in the future, for in spite of his great skill his exhibitions are not calculated to please those who delight in slugging matches.

McFarland has been censured for not watching in as agreed upon. It seems to me the boxing commission, or their authorized agents are as much at fault as McFarland. One can hardly blame a fighter for taking advantage of an opponent in matter of weight when he is allowed to get away with it. "A match well made is half won"

Harvard Adopts Democratic Pose; Gains Better Standing

Crimson's Conservatism Canned, Harvard Goes to Opposite Extreme, and Yale Seems to Have Taken Up Snobbery; Athletic Successes Are Likewise Reversed, Possibly For That Reason.

BY JOHN E. WRAY.

S. T. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 19.—Noted for unusual conservatism in the past years, Harvard university athletic authorities have taken the opposite tack of late, to the great improvement of the institution's showing in the world of sports.

No move that could have been made by the Crimson directors tends more to prove the progressiveness of the Cambridge school than the attempt of the athletic board to schedule a football game with one of the big western institutions, Michigan being now the preferred team.

Time when the Harvard nasal organ would have tilted 45 degrees at the mere suggestion of contaminating itself through association with western schools.

In fact, Harvard appears to have taken Yale's place as representing democracy in big schools, and Yale seems to have donned the pose doffed by Harvard. Perhaps the change may suggest an explanation of the reversing of the success of the two institutions in athletic events.

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The board of directors disapproves Garry Herrmann's Tinker deal. The board of directors is Garry Herrmann.

Therefore, Garry Herrmann disapproves his own act. For many years the Cincinnati board of directors has occupied the same relative importance to Herrmann that the ant does to the elephant. Also, it stands about the same chance of crowding out Garry.

More Money at Home. Promoters who are trying to bring Georges Carpentier to this country do not seem to be reckoning on the wonderful popularity of this fighter in Europe, and on the sums he can draw there. Carpentier made \$10,000 as his share for meeting Bombardeur Wells, a bout which lasted one minute and 12 seconds. He has been offered \$10,000 to show here.

Carpentier would have grave difficulty beating several of our oncoming heavyweights, such as Al Palmer, since so poor a fighter as Al Palmer stung the Briton in quick time.

Beating John at His Own Game. Incidentally John Bull must have felt humiliated to have monsieur Crapaud step into his own country and beat him at his own game. For boxing in France is new, dating from the time when Frankie Erne and a few other Amer-

Brittons Plan To Control Boxers Will End Disputes Over Titles

BY THOMAS S. ANDREWS.

ENGLAND is making a definite move toward establishing a board of control of professional boxing. The recently established International union, which had its origin in France, must get the credit of awakening the London National Sporting club to a sense of its responsibilities, for it is quite certain that the British palladium of the professional boxing world would not have taken up the idea but for the big advertisement the union gained by barring out Jack Johnson from the world's championship.

Army and Navy Cooperation. Negotiations are now proceeding between the club and the Royal Navy and Army Boxing association to compile and frame rules to govern the game throughout England. If the board becomes an established fact it will not seek jurisdiction outside of that country, but it is safe to assume that a reciprocal agreement between it and the international union will soon be fixed up.

How the proposed board will affect the outside clubs and promoters remains to be seen and rests largely on the rules it may formulate. It cannot, of course, possess any legal status and it will have no actual means of enforcing any of its restrictions and suspensions upon the outside clubs, though it is not likely that they will offer any serious opposition.

As all championship battles are decided at the National Sporting club in London and the Army and Navy association already has control of boxers belonging to the two defensive serv-

ices of the country, it follows that the projected board will have under its thumb a large majority of British professional boxers and they will naturally think twice before flouting the supreme authority.

No Witches on the Board. Curiously will range round the names of the members to compose this controlling body, but I am informed on good authority that it will not contain any of the critics. There are several reasons against including writers on boxing matters, the principal being the deep rooted jealousy that exists among them. It would be a difficult task to select a writer that would not arouse a storm of protest from his brethren and for this reason alone it would be advisable to pass over the writers.

If the conference comes to a successful issue it is likely that the first president of the board will be Lord Lansdowne. He is the most widely known of all British sportsmen and stands for everything that is straight and clean in sport. Manager Bettinson, of the London National Sporting club, will most likely be the business head and he will also have the assistance of Eugene Corri, the famous British referee, and John Bernard Angle, who was in the boxing game before most of the present day fans were born.

Anyhow, it is certain to comprise all the wise heads of the boxing world on the other side and will be a step towards a much desired international federation and one that will carry some weight. Now it is up to the Americans to get busy on a similar organization.

Cardinals Need More Hurlers Teams Has One Seasoned Pitcher

BY W. J. O'CONNOR.

S. T. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 19.—Cardinal fans who were pleased to learn that manager Huggins had rid his team of so-called malcontents, are beginning to wonder how what the small manager will do for pitching talent next campaign. With the exception of George Suggs, the Cincinnati discard, Huggins has only one seasoned pitcher, and, fortunately, he is a star.

Harry Sallee, of Hugginsport, who won almost half of all the victories scored by the Cardinals last season, probably will be asked to shoulder the burden again next campaign, as much more must be expected of Sallee than Han can carry to get from the recruits—Polly Ferritt and Bill Deak.

Of course Babe Robinson, late of Pittsburgh, is a southpaw of great promise, but Robinson, even last year, while with a first division club, had not reached that stage of development where he was considered a regular curvist. He is, though, almost a finished product, and should prosper against those clubs that show a weakness for portable fingers. Sallee, on the other hand, is equally effective against right handed swatters.

Still Weak in Pitching. But it is the pitching staff which will worry Huggins again next season, unless the Cardinal manager can snare another hurler of rank. Too much should not be expected of Deak, even though he did show well at the window last season. Deak lacks big league experience and his inexperience surely

will handicap him. Ferritt, who in no wise prospered last season, looked every bit as good at Deak in the fall of 1912, only to flake out in the heat of the championship race.

Hauser is Badly Needed. Huggins has little use for Butler and Dolan, two of the ex-Pirates. Hug intends to play second himself, leaving Butler without a permanent assignment unless Hauser falls. But if Hauser comes through, the fans would welcome a deal that would send Butler, Dolan and a few others to another club in exchange for a pitcher who could take his regular turn on the hill. The most glaring weakness in the local club is in the box.

The passing of Mike Mowrey will be a distinct surprise to those persons who were positive a year ago that Huggins, then a debutante manager, would be able to handle the flame-tipped third sacker. Mowrey didn't "get on" very well with Bressman, although he played better ball for Roger than he did for Huggins.

However, it was when Huggins succeeded Bressman that the knowing ones expected Mowrey to show improvement. Huggins and Mowrey had been roommates. They came here from Cincinnati and Huggins boasted upon assuming managerial control that he would be able to keep the third sacker within bounds. But alas, Hug presumed too much. After one year's effort, the Cardinal manager has fired his former pal and branded him a "troublemaker."

Surely it isn't an easy task to manage men.

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