

Boxing Follows are Unduly Swayed by Their Hero-Worship. Failing

It Blinds the Majority of Fans Who Can See Nothing But a Champion—The Johnson-Jeffries Bout an Example

When Billy Madden was one of the leading managers of boxers he played a system that was a great success. In making matches for the boxer in whom he happened to be interested Madden always looked about for a man with a big reputation who had grown slightly past his prime. "If you want to gain prestige, pick out the old-timers and leave the young fellows to me," was Madden's advice to his clients. "The public never understands that a champion has gone back until he has been licked. There is a lot of hard work in beating a young strong fellow, and much easier and far more profitable to grab the old-timer who is on the slide."

Fred Fulton made the mistake of his life when he tackled young Billy Miske recently. If Madden had been handling the tall plasterer he would have passed up Miske and waited for Frank Moran. For holding Miske even Fulton got nothing but a lot of roasts, although Miske really is the liveliest heavyweight in the ring just now. Next month Fulton will face Frank Moran for 20 rounds at New Orleans, and if he beats the old timer he will receive a great deal of credit.

As a matter of fact, Fulton deserved more credit for his showing with Miske than he will receive if he stops Moran. The Pittsburgher has won only one bout in over two years and then his victim was a third-rater. But Moran has twice fought for the championship, and although he was ignominiously defeated on each occasion, the mere fact that his name has been associated with a championship match is remembered while his numerous defeats are forgotten.

Revere Title Holders

There is no doubt that hero worship of this sort is a good thing for boxing, as it keeps interest in the sport alive, but it results in some strange conclusions being drawn regarding the prowess and ability of the fighters. Practically every one in the least interested in boxing is influenced by it, and ring history shows that the "experts" have been so dazzled by the glare of the title that they have made the most astonishing mistakes in their predictions.

One of the most curious mistakes boxing experts ever made was in thinking that Jim Jeffries, after being retired for several years, could come back and defeat such a perfect-fighting machine as Jack Johnson was at the time of the Reno battle. Jeffries himself knew that the task was too much for him, and it was not until he had been coaxed for a whole year by the press of the country that he consented to the match. While Jeffries was training for the mill he was studied closely by hundreds of experts, yet

with very few exceptions they decided that the white man was a cinch. If these men had not been blinded by the halo that hovers over a champion they would quickly have noted that in his daily bouts with his sparring partners he showed nothing worth while. The fact that he refused to have any young, strong sparring partners in his camp would have been regarded as highly significant. But hero worship so completely warped their judgment that they refused to pay any attention to the facts in the case.

The famous Corbett-Sullivan battle was another noteworthy case of hero worship carried to extremes. There was Corbett, trained to perfection, with a world of speed and skill, opposed by a wind-broken old veteran, and yet Corbett was not supposed to have a chance! Sullivan was favorite at 4 to 1, and even at those ridiculous odds many of the leading fighters of the day backed him to the limit of their bank rolls.

Title Affects Opinions

Even more curious is the way opinion suddenly changed regarding Jess Willard's prowess after he had won the title. Before that event Willard's record was not a brilliant one by any means, and the public thought so little of him that although it had paid \$270,775 at the gate in the hope of seeing the unpopular Johnson defeated by Jeffries, who was too old to have a chance it refused to take Willard seriously. And yet Willard, with youth and strength in his favor, certainly figured better than Jeffries for at Havana Johnson was the worn-out veteran.

That Johnson was made favorite was not altogether surprising, since Willard's record was so unimpressive that it was a question whether the veteran's skill would not more than balance his lack of youth and stamina. The bout proved that Johnson was too far gone to make his defence count; but why Willard should now be considered unbeatable is far from clear.

Stamina the Real Factor

The general opinion seems to be that Willard beat Johnson because he was too big for the black, but the truth of the matter is that he was too young and strong for the champion. Willard's great height and reach did not stop Johnson from hitting him with everything he had in stock. It was the white man's ability to shed punishment that won for him and not his size. However, the conclusion is drawn that Willard now is too big for such men as Billy Miske or Fred Fulton. And yet he is not an inch taller or longer in the reach than he was when he lost a referee's decision to little Tom McMahon.

Why Willard's size should count



"FARMERETTES" GET A TASTE OF REAL FARM LIFE. The picture shows Miss Margaret McCrimmon receiving her first lesson in grooming a horse, the tutor being Mr. J. Shaver, of "Sunnybrook" farm. Standing a little in the rear is Mr. George Putman, the head of the Women's Institutes in Ontario.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM COLONIES

Bonar Law in British Commons Acknowledges War Donations

By Courier Leased Wire. London, Feb. 7.—(Via Reuters' Ottawa agency)—Right Hon. Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, announces the following further war contributions from British colonies and dependencies:

Bahamas £10,000; Barbadoes, £40,000, as a free gift, making £80,000 altogether; Basutoland, £50,000 for airplanes; British Guiana, sugar valued at £17,000; Gold Coast, £200,000 in ten annual installments; Nigeria offer to pay one per centum on £5,000,000 war debt; Zanzibar, £50,000 for airplanes; Hong Kong, \$5,000,000 from loan and revenues; Mauritius, 1,000,000 rupees to be used for airplanes.

The list does not include the cost of local campaigns borne wholly or partly by Nigeria, Gold Coast, East Africa, Uganda and Nyassaland, not to mention contingents for active service. It also does not include the over-payments of the military contribution, the refund of which was waived by the Straits Settlements, Mauritius and various other colonies. It also does not include the contributions of the government to specific purposes, such as the national relief fund.

The thanks of the King have been conveyed to the donors, but the treasury again records its appreciation of the spontaneous and generous contributions.

NO CONSCRIPTION YET IN S. AFRICA

Voluntary Recruiting Will be Renewed—To Increase Soldiers' Pay

Cape Town, Feb. 7.—(Via Reuters' Ottawa agency)—Regarding the recruiting conference, reports of which were cabled yesterday, a resolution urging the government to enforce the principle of conscription generally or to apply it to British-born, found some support, but it was negated in favor of an amendment recognizing the impossibility of enforcing conscription under the prevailing conditions in South Africa. The amendment, however, pledged the conference to redouble its efforts to obtain recruits voluntarily.

Col. Menzies, acting defense minister, emphasized that it was not a lack of courage that made General Botha refuse to advocate conscription. A resolution carried unanimously recommending that the pay of overseas soldiers be increased to five shillings daily, Col. Menzies, however, said he believed that the majority in parliament were not in favor of the increase, but he added that parliament would be asked to make a substantial contribution to the war. He also promised that the government would seriously consider increasing the repatriation allowance.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION

By Courier Leased Wire. Quebec, Feb. 7.—The legislature again refused to adopt compulsory education yesterday. Hon. J. De Carle, provincial secretary, claimed it was not necessary as Quebec occupied second rank among the provinces in school attendance. British Columbia being first.

T. D. Bonchard, St. Hyacinthe, who initiated the debate, claimed the provincial secretary's comparison was faulty. The figures on school attendance in Quebec were based on the children from 5 to 16, while in Ontario the age limit was 21.

Mr. Bonchard also demanded uniform text books and that the government should provide the schools with the flag, so that French-Canadian children would know it.

Arthur Sauve, leader of the opposition, contended the question of educating children could be left to the conscience of the parents. Compulsory education would violate the rights of the parents.

PASSENGER SHIP SUNK IN CHANNEL

Fourteen Military Passengers and Eighteen Naval Lost

By Courier Leased Wire. London, Feb. 7.—(Via Reuters' Ottawa agency)—In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. Houston, Hon. H. J. MacNamara, under secretary of the Admiralty, stated that one of twenty and twenty-five military and naval passengers, 34 and 18 were respectively lost owing to the enemy recently sinking a channel passenger ship bound for a French port. He also stated the captain was the only survivor out of 25 aboard a steamer from Ireland to Liverpool Bay. The steamer carried 400 head of cattle and 200 sheep. Mr. Houston asked whether a steamer had been sunk in Liverpool Bay on January 26 with a loss of 12 lives, 156 cattle, 361 sheep and 143 pigs. Mr. MacNamara admitted that the details of the cargo were stated. He added that the percentage of losses of vessels making the voyage from Ireland to Britain was extremely small compared with the number of voyages.

THOUGHT WILLIE WAS TOO VIOLENT

Halifax Lady Mistook Mont Blanc Explosion For Artillery Fire

By Courier Leased Wire. Halifax, N. S., Feb. 7.—Addressing the Overseas Club, Lieut. Col. McKelvey Bell, A.D.M.S., at Halifax, formerly of Ottawa, who saw two years service at the front, said that there were very few incidents which could provoke laughter in the grim disaster which had visited Halifax but he had heard of one. It was at the expense of an artilleryman of this garrison who lived with his mother, an aged lady. The officer was leaving the house on the morning of the explosion and as he parted from her at the door, he said:

"We are going to have artillery practice this morning and if you hear explosions don't be afraid, it's all right."

Half an hour afterwards the Mont Blanc blew up. The old lady was thrown across the room and out of a window. When she recovered sufficiently to speak, she said:

"If Willie carries on like this he will lose his job."

Edinburgh Castle will commemorate Scotland's part in the war. In the House of Commons the Chief Secretary for Scotland announced that the famous historical landmark sitting on a rock overlooking the Scotch capital, would be converted into a National Museum. It is one of the oldest buildings in the British Isles, its first mention being of its capture in 625 by Edwin, the Saxon King of Northumbria. It is from him that Edinburgh is said to have got its name. The castle subsequently sustained many sieges, narrowly escaping complete destruction in Cromwell's time.

NERVOUS DYSPESIA, GAS OR INDIGESTION

Each "Pape's Diapepsin" digests 3000 grains food, ending all stomach misery in five minutes.

Time it! Pape's Diapepsin will digest anything you eat and overcome a sour, gassy or out-of-order stomach surely within five minutes. If your meals don't fit comfortably, or what you eat lies like a lump of lead in your stomach, or if you have heartburn, that is a sign of indigestion.

Get from your pharmacist a fifty-cent case of Pape's Diapepsin and take a dose just as soon as you can. There will be no sour risings, no belching of undigested food mixed with acid, no stomach gas or heartburn, fullness or heavy feeling in the stomach, dizziness or intestinal griping. This will all go, and, besides, there will be no sour food left over in the stomach to poison your breath with nauseous odors.

Pape's Diapepsin is a certain cure for out-of-order stomachs, because it takes hold of your food and digests it just the same as if your stomach wasn't there.

Relief in five minutes from all stomach misery is waiting for you at any drug store.

These large fifty-cent cases contain enough "Pape's Diapepsin" to keep the entire family free from stomach disorders and indigestion for many months. It belongs in your home.

SCHUBERT CHOIR

Can you imagine the boom of cannon and crackle of rifle fire and the whirr of aeroplanes being reproduced in music?

The program of the Schubert Choir for their concert on Feb. 13th in the Grand Opera House includes "The Spirit of England's War Trilogy," "The Spirit of England" and is being given simultaneously on that night by the Mendelssohn Choir of Toronto and the Schubert Choir of Brantford. It is divided into three parts. The first part, "The Fourth of August," depicts the opening phases of the war and the spirit with which England took up arms on that fateful day.

The second part, "To Women," is a glowing tribute to the spirit of willing sacrifice which has characterized the women, no less than the men. Elgar's musical setting of this part intensifies and forces upon the senses of the hearer the wonderful and sometimes pathetic meaning of the words.

The third part, "For the Fallen," is a replete with honest pride in the achievement of England's fallen heroes.

The three parts, together with a musical work which is probably the finest ever written by an Englishman.

The plan opens to subscribers at Bales, Drug Store on Monday, Feb. 11th, and to the general public on Feb. 13th.

GRANTED LEAVE

By Courier Leased Wire. Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 7.—It is officially stated that General Benson, officer commanding military district number six with headquarters at Halifax, has been granted extended leave and that during his absence Major-General Leonard will command the district, still retaining his position as Inspector-General for Eastern Canada.



RELIGIOUS SERVICE UNDER WAR DIFFICULTIES. Canadian soldiers leaving a building used as a church on the western front.

Who's a better prospect than pa

"I UNDERSTAND IT, MA. OUR SON-IN-LAW HAS GOT T' DEMONSTRATE THAT HE CAN EARN \$5000 A WEEK'S TIME BEFORE HE CAN GET THAT THERE LEGACY HIS UNCLE LEFT HIM. AIN'T IT A BODY TIME HE WAS GETTIN' BUSY?"

"CEDRIC HAS BEEN BUSY, PA. HE'S SECURED A POSITION WITH THE 'WHEEZER' AUTO CO."

"NOW ALL HE HAS TO DO IS TO SELL TWO 'WHEEZER' CARS AND HE MAKES THE \$500 IN COMMISSIONS."

"ALL HE HAS TO DO? WHY THAT 'WHEEZER' CAR IS AN ANFUL PIECE O' JUNK. TH BEST SALESMAN IN TH WORLD COULDN'T SELL TWO O' EM IN A YEAR!"

"SO? WELL, CEDRIC HAS A PARTY IN MIND TO WHOM HE WILL SELL THE TWO CARS THIS VERY AFTERNOON!"

"TH POOR FISH!"

"I'LL TELL HIM YOU'RE HERE HE HAS THE CONTRACTS ALL READY."

"HUH?"

THAT SON-IN-LAW OF PA'S

By Wellington

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