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## ST. JOHNS — N. F. —

### In the Prize Ring.

#### "BUNKUM" SAYS CARPENTIER.

Paris, March 6.—"L' hypnotisme" Carpentier smiled, "C'est la blague!" In other words—bunkum!

So the man who is to meet Dempsey in the widely rooted European belief that Carpentier and his manager, Francois Descamps, hypnotizes opponents in the ring. Descamps tapped Carpentier's right hand said:

"There's the hypnotism, Monsieur." He repeated "hypnotism" scoffingly and then threw back his head and laughed.

But Europe isn't entirely convinced. Stuart Martin, a prominent English sportsman writes the uncanny theory that Carpentier's "unseen partner"—Descamps' magnetic personality—is projected along with Carpentier's confidence in such a way as to convince opponents of defeat.

Martin spurns the theory of outright hypnotism, too, but he says: "Projection of personality has a lot to do with Carpentier's success."

#### Georges Explains Methods.

But in writing in all seriousness in his book, "My methods," published by sport weekly of London, he devotes several pages to his ring psychology. "Self-confidence," he says, going into details as to his various tricks which he uses to supplement this inner assurance of victory, "if not overdone, the most potent agent to success." Developing this theory, he points to Jimmy Burns' belief in "mentally subduing" opponents and points to the subconscious influence of one person over another—the thing that makes the man command your attention when you pass him on the street, while others never notice.

"Many look upon this 'telepathic' communication as merely nonsense," he says, "but it plays a tremendous part in the ring." Carpentier believes that if by "blunt" facts, by well-grounded assurance and self-confidence—and by mental suggestion, he can make his opponent "shaky," then that opponent "is at-

ready on the downward grade."

He adds: "What the occult force is I do not know, but I do know that it exists."

#### Made This One Dream.

When Carpentier met Bandsman Rice, the Englishman, shortly before the war, papers said Rice "appeared as a man in a dream."

Martin says Bombardier Wells, who was beaten by Carpentier, is a victim of a stronger personality.

Whatever the truth the fact is that at the fight between Beckett and Carpentier, the magnetic little bundle of nerves, Descamps, trained his gaze on Beckett almost as soon as the Englishman had entered the ring, and kept it there through the evening. He paid little attention, apparently, to the Frenchman.

Carpentier also appeared as usual with his assurance smiles for friends and perfect confidence. Just as though saying:

"Be with you in a minute—just have to knock this fellow out first."

Descamps is a short, fat, highly strung Frenchman with all his country's "temperament." His movements are quick and jerky. His eyes are small and beady and his gaze and speech are always intense.

He is bubbling over with energy and he takes Carpentier's victories and setbacks all as his own.

Martin insists that there were "two personalities fighting Beckett from the moment he entered the ring—Carpentier and Descamps," and from long contact and training their wills act as one.

Dr. Pierre Faldherly, Carpentier's medical adviser, who superintends his training says: "The secret of it is that Carpentier is a man who studies. All the time before and during a fight he is working with his brain as well as his muscles. During training he makes as close a study of what he will have to contend with as many men do of a mathematical problem."

#### ENGLISHMEN KNOW RULES OF BOXING.

New York, March 6.—For many, many years it was the opinion of nearly all connected with the boxing game that when a fighter left the ring after time was called he automatically disqualified himself. This was the cause of endless discussion when Dempsey jumped over the ropes at Toledo. Referee Picard awarded him the fight in the first round only to reverse his decision on the word of the timekeeper that the ten seconds hadn't elapsed when the bell rang.

Many times it was stated that on a strict technicality Willard could have claimed that fight on these grounds. It seems, however, that there is nothing, and never was anything, in the rules that prevented a fighter from

leaving the ring during the one minute's rest. It was actually during this period that Dempsey left the arena, and for that matter, Fulton did the same stunt at Canton in the Carl Morris fight.

#### A Wrong Idea.

Tex O'Rourke, who is chairman of the sub-committee which has been at work for the past two months drafting the new international rules, is authority for the clarifying of the situation. His attention was called to the prevailing opinion by the story in which Jack McAuliffe laid stress on this particular situation. "It is an impression which seems to be almost universal, but which is nevertheless wrong," declares Tex.

"I had occasion to dig rather deeply into the judicial side of ring history," says O'Rourke, "and in all of the eleven sets of rules which have been produced in different countries since the use of an enclosed ring, there is nothing which would prevent a contestant from going anywhere he pleased during the minute's intermission. The only definite ruling on this point is under section 3 of the new rules, which states:

"Should contestant leave the ring during the one-minute period between

rounds and fail to be back in the ring when the gong sounds to resume boxing, the referee may count him 'out,' the same as if he were down."

"I believe it would be a good idea," concludes O'Rourke, "to straighten out the public on this much discussed technical point."

There isn't the slightest doubt that Tex O'Rourke has cleared up a point that was generally misconstrued. At the same time it may be the means of settling an argument that may arise any evening at some club.

Jack McAuliffe, our own undefeated and retired lightweight champion, will probably shock the army of our slambang mob when he goes on record as declaring that few of them know the first rudiments of boxing. In fact, McAuliffe says that Benny Leonard and Packey McFarland are the only two lads of recent days that know anything of the scientific end of the game. As for the other fighters they don't know anything, according to the old champion.

These views of McAuliffe came about over the many tales of how our fighters would get the "works" in case they fought in England. "I'm Irish," declared McAuliffe, "and perhaps don't love England any too much. But

what I want to say is that any time a man fights in England he gets fair play, for over there they know the rules of the sport. When our fighters lose it's generally on account of their ignorance of the laws of boxing.

#### Referees Know Rules.

"Now take the case of Jack Dempsey possibly fighting Carpentier in London under the management of Charles Cochran," continued McAuliffe, "if the fight is staged there either Eugene Corri or A. G. Angle will act as referee. These two men have records that speak for themselves. When they referee, no fighter with any sense questions them, for they pride themselves on their honesty. And they have been refereeing for many years.

"Going back to our fighters," continued McAuliffe, "it's too bad there isn't some way whereby they could be made to learn to box. In our day we were compelled to learn the fine points. We studied the counter and the lead, and after all that's the whole story in a nutshell. The boy to-day doesn't bother studying the game. If you ask any of them why they feel they wonder what you're talking about. In fact, they don't know how to sidestep."

Then the former titleholder passed a few scathing remarks on the greed of the present day bruiser and went along on his travels.

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#### A Lake of Soda.

There is a lake in British East Africa, Lake Magadi, that is famous for its vast deposits of soda. Until within recent years few people knew of this Lake, for it lies in the midst of a barren and waterless waste; but the railway that was started some time ago by an English company to transport the soda to the coast is now finished, thus opening a way to this curious natural phenomenon.

Ordinarily the lake looks as if it were frozen and covered with a coating of snow partially thawed, then frozen again. The temperature gives the lie to this appearance of roughened ice, for the heat is extreme, and

at mid-day almost unbearable. The soda burns one's feet even through his shoes, and the sharp frosty spikes will pierce any except the thickest sole. After the rains there is a layer of water over the greater part of the lake, which has turned a beautiful shade of pink. By moonlight the scene is weirdly beautiful.

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