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In the Prize Ring.

NEW YORK STATE WILL HAVE BOXING BOOM.

New York, May 3.—These are great days for boxing! When Governor Smith signs the Walker bill boxing in this state will begin to boom in a way that will throw all former records in the shade. Despite continual opposition from professional reformers and many a hard wallop from those who posed as friends of the sport, boxing has continued to grow in popular favor or steadily ever since the days of bare knuckles and finish fights.

With the passing of ring battles with the raw 'uns and the advent of the Horton law, boxing gained many friends and followers. Years later the Frawley law with its athletic commission and ten round no decision bouts brought about another tremendous boom.

Although many of the greatest battles in ring history were fought under the Horton law, they did not draw so well in those days. But boxing gained so many followers during the period that elapsed between the death of the Horton law and the advent of the Frawley law that under its provisions ten round no decision bouts

frequently drew more money than the biggest of the Horton law championship contests.

Since the Frawley law was killed boxing continued to grow, and now it comes back in better guise than ever. The way New Yorkers have flocked over to New Jersey when any bout worth while was scheduled, indicates how great is the interest in the sport.

It is a difficult matter to get the New York fan to leave his regular habitat. That was shown during the days of the Frawley law. New Yorkers would not take the comparatively easy journey to Brooklyn, and most of the big clubs that opened on the other side of the bridge died an untimely death for lack of New York patronage.

Yet, despite their natural distaste for travel, local fans have braved the discomfort of the long trip to Newark and other Jersey cities, so keen is the interest in the sport. All winter the Jersey clubs have played to packed houses and a great percentage of the crowds came from New York. This was shown by the unusual sparseness of the crowd that saw the last set of bouts in the Hud-

son tubes kept many New Yorkers away.

Jersey promoters are inclined to look upon the no decision clause of the law in that state as their biggest asset now that New York is to have real boxing. They predict that New York will not get the champions to fight for decisions except on rare occasions, and that if the fans want to see the leading contenders and the title holders in action they still will have to patronize Jersey.

However, it is not likely to work that way, except in a few instances. New York can easily afford to pay higher purses than any other city, and if the stars refuse to fight here, they will soon lose their popularity. If a champion continues to dodge liberal offers to box in New York in favor of cheaper purses in Jersey the fans will not take long to get on to him. He will lose so much of his drawing power that he will not be a big card anywhere.

CARPENTIER READY TO FIGHT.

New York, May 4.—Francis Dempsey, manager of Georges Carpentier, the European heavyweight boxing champion, issued a statement tonight as to the French boxer's position regarding a match with Dempsey. The statement follows:

"There seems to be a false impression and various contradictory stories regarding the intention of Georges Carpentier appearing in America in a real boxing contest. I have managed Georges since he took up boxing ten years ago. There is no question as to his ability or courage. He fears no one. For the last five years various American cinema producers and showmen have made me offers to have Carpentier appear in America. During the war Carpentier steadfastly refused to earn any money. He never once asked for even a temporary furlough for his own profit. At last the war was over. Carpentier not only gave his services and did his duty by his country, but it so happened that his home town, Lens, where all his investments were located in various properties, was ruined by the Germans. He was broke. The Beckett fight and a few European engagements, and the cinema with Robertson-Cole and now the tour with Jack Curley, will start to replenish Carpentier's coffers.

"I really and truly feel that we are entitled to make this tour. Anyway, judging from the princely salary, for which we are contracted, it must be that the public wishes to see Carpentier.

"Regarding a fight let me make this very plain. C. B. Cochran has got my signature to a contract for Carpentier to fight Jack Dempsey for the world Championship. However, I am released, both morally and legally from that contract and privileged to box Dempsey for any other promoter, who can come to

me with Jack Kearns' signature to a set of articles. In other words, I am waiting for the man to bring me such a contract with Jack Kearns, and I assure you it will not take more than a few minutes to do business. Certainly we are after the championship fight and, no matter what anyone else thinks, Carpentier and myself are absolutely confident of a chance to win the title. I am not issuing any challenges nor chasing Kearns around or hampering him in any way. In the first place, the public does not desire such procedure, and at this time Kearns and Dempsey are on the verge of a trial in the United States courts. I would feel it an insult to both of them and to the public to force the issue. I understand that in a very short time the trial will come off and the matter will be settled one way or another, and I will say that our plans and procedure depend entirely on this outcome.

"Carpentier prefers to fight rather than anything else, but while there is a chance left to secure a championship fight with Dempsey, we will naturally waive all other bouts for the big one.

"Regarding our tour under Curley's management, my contract simply calls to furnish the services of Carpentier. It does not matter to us, nor have we anything to say whether these appearances are held in theatres, clubs or in a circus. That part is entirely in the hands of Curley."

JIMMY WILDE'S EARNINGS.

New York, May 4.—Jimmy Wilde, the greatest chunk of fighting machinery ever shipped to this country by England, has collected \$60,500 for eight bouts in this well-known country since his arrival last November.

For losing his initial affair to Jack Sharkey in Milwaukee, he drew down \$11,000. His win over Johnny (Babe) Asher in St. Louis, netted him \$5,000, the smallest purse he has received in the States to date. His three-round knockout of Mike Ertle in Milwaukee rewarded him \$6,000. He was reimbursed \$5,000 for stopping Mickey Russell in the seventh frame in Jersey City. For meeting Patsy Wallace in Philadelphia, \$6,000 more flowed into his coffers. His end for successfully defending his world's flyweight title against Frankie Mason in Toledo, totalled \$11,000. Young Zulu Kid was instrumental in adding another \$6,000 in Windsor to the little Briton's earnings. At Camden, where he halted Battling Murray in the eighth round the other evening, he drew \$7,000.

An average of \$7,700 for a scrap isn't bad money nowadays, all things considered.

FORMER TITLE HOLDER TO MEET BECKETT.

Southampton, May 3.—Joe Beckett, the English heavyweight, has signed articles to meet Tommy Burns, the

French-Canadian fighter, one-time holder of the heavyweight title. The day of the match has not yet been decided upon.

BOXER DROPS DEAD.

Bridgeport, May 4.—Louis Sulle, 18 years old, this city, dropped dead in the boxing ring at the Acorn Athletic Club last night, after he had sparred 42 seconds with "Young" Saxon, a 17 year old boxer. Persons at the ringside said that no heavy blows had been struck and Medical Examiner Garlick reported no evidence of external injuries on Sulle's body. Saxon, who said his real name

LOOKING FOR AN AMERICAN HEAVY.

New Orleans, May 5.—Tex O'Rourke, of New York, representing the International Sporting Club, which, according to O'Rourke, plans to develop a "rally representative American champion heavyweight boxer," left here yesterday for Bogalusa, La., to select several lumbermen for training.

The club, O'Rourke said, proposes to select a number of promising

candidates from among the five "strenuous" industries—lumbering, steel manufacturing, shipbuilding, mining and farming—take them to a training camp near New York, pay their expenses and a salary at least 25 per cent. greater than they formerly received, and train them for a year. At the end of that time, a series of elimination contests will determine the champion, O'Rourke said.

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JEFF HAD HEARD THAT SAME SPIEL A DOZEN TIMES BEFORE.

By Bud Fisher.

