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In the Prize Ring.

HAD BOUT WITH CARPENTIER.

Joplin, Mo., Feb. 3.—James Bronson, manager of Bob Martin heavyweight boxing champion of the American Expeditionary Forces, said last night that he had no information other than press reports of Jack Dempsey, in said to have sent him, attacking his alleged methods in "boosting" Martin in opposition to Dempsey.

"Kearns is running in circles," Bronson said. "The letter to which he refers was only a copy of the resolutions adopted by the Pueblo, Col., post of the American Legion and an announcement of a bonafide offer I have received from promoters there to stage a fight between Martin and Carpenter."

"Kearns" telegram, as reported in press dispatches, evidently takes more exception to the resolutions than to any word or act of either mine or Martin's. These resolutions were passed without my knowledge or advice. The first word I received from there was the offer of a \$75,000 purse for Martin's services in a bout with Carpenter, and a copy of the resolutions was attached.

Matched Previously.

"As a matter of fact, Martin was matched with Carpenter before Dempsey won the Championship. Martin, the American representative at the Inter-Allied games, through the system of drawing used, was to have met the French soldier champion, who was representing France at the soldier Olympiad. A few days before the bout was scheduled to take place it was announced that Carpenter had injured his hand, so Journet, a stablemate of Carpenter, was substituted, and with Descamps in his corner, Martin knocked him out in three rounds. "As for Kearns' charges that I have attempted to use my influence with the American Legion, or have tried to trade on my own achievements in France, they are absolutely without foundation. I have never attempted to 'boost' Martin's stock with former soldiers in any way. They know him and his record and have followed his every fight and the actions taken by dozens of legion posts came to us as big a surprise as it did to Kearns."

TOLEDO GETS WILDE-MASON FIGHT.

Toledo, Feb. 4.—Ad Thacher promoter of the world championship fly-weight bout between Jimmy Wilde, the British title holder, and Frankie Mason, American claimant, will go to Milwaukee to-morrow to confer with Dave Hughes, Wilde's manager and to complete arrangements for staging the event here some time during the latter part of this month.

George Biemer, Mason's manager, who arrived here to-night from Ft.

Wayne, informed Thacher that Mason will meet Wilde in no place other than Toledo. This was because of an agreement between Thacher and Mason that the bout if held anywhere, would be held in Toledo, it was said.

Biemer also signed Mason's end of the agreement. Mason now is at South Bend, Biemer said, and will come here as soon as the final contracts are signed. Thacher also announced that Wilde will come at once to Toledo to compete his training.

The weight is to be 108 pounds at 8 o'clock, the afternoon of the fight. The agreement calls for a no decision bout, it is understood.

The promoter is figuring on staging the fight in the Coliseum, providing it can seat 6,000 spectators. He put in his time to-day arranging a blueprint of the floor space.

W. O. MCGEEHAN PICKS DEMPSEY FOR WINNER.

"A Tale of Two Fighters," a comparison of the war records of Georges Carpentier and Jack Dempsey—or rather the lack of Dempsey's war record—is the subject of an article by W. O. McGeehan in the January issue of The Home Sector, a magazine dedicated to the service men of the country. McGeehan is well known in San Francisco, where for a number of years he was connected with the sporting department of The Chronicle.

Later McGeehan was made sporting editor of The New York Tribune. He wields tremendous influence in sporting circles of the East. It was McGeehan who had much to do with the sentiment against Les Darcy when that Australian left his own country without enlisting and came to America to fight.

As a Spanish-American war veteran and a captain in the American army in the recent world's war, McGeehan feels keenly that men of the Dempsey type should not have enlisted. He has taken up the cudgels against Jack Dempsey.

The article in part is as follows:

Less Fit Took His Place.
When the United States entered the world war in April 1917, Jack Dempsey did not amount to much pugilistically. He had lost in one round to Jim Flynn, the ring-scarred veteran of many a losing battle. Dempsey afterward knocked out Flynn in a round.

It never occurred to William Harrison Dempsey, 22 and physically fit, that the United States army should interest him. The posters screamed at him from the dead walls and hundreds of colored lithographs of Uncle Sam pointed to him declaring, "The army wants you." But Dempsey did not take any of this as personal. Neither did Jack Kearns, who was a "sporting character" in San Francisco before he took up with Dempsey as the future heavyweight champion and the

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At any rate, Dempsey never at any time displayed any surpassing interest in the army or in the war. While the first American troops were being rushed overseas, Dempsey started to box his way to fortune and to considerably more notoriety than has been accorded Fock or Pershing.

Slim, narrow-chested boys, with the divine fire in their eyes and bending under regulation packs marched away and were hurried overseas to die in order that the country might be made safe for Jack Dempsey to achieve his ring career. With over 4,000,000 men under arms, Dempsey, the physically perfect, the unencumbered, the professional fighter, escaped the call and escaped the draft.

Understand that I do not feel bitterly toward Dempsey, nor do I believe that many ex-soldiers feel bitterly toward him. Their attitude is more that of wonder that he lacked the imagination to see the incongruity of fighting petty ring battles while over there was the sublime opportunity for fighting man. I do not hold that Dempsey is a poltroon. He lacked the perspective, and the newspapers helped him hold his distorted vision of the ring and the battlefield.

At the time the United States entered the War Dempsey was at the age when most young men saw the vision of the Great Crusade and dreamed the dream of heroes from Achilles to Roosevelt. But the heroes of Dempsey's limited vision were Sullivan, Fitzsimmons and Jeffries.

War Hero Should Win.
When Dempsey and Carpenter meet, if there is any poetic justice extant, the war hero should win. But he will not. I have seen Dempsey box once when he scored Jess Willard with a punch that fractured Willard's jawbone. He sent that great giant out of the ring with his jaw dislocated, a

few ribs fractured and his face beaten to a jelly in just three rounds. Unquestionably he is the most formidable of the heavyweights of several decades. He is king of the living gladiators.

I think that this tale of two fighters, which must remain unfinished until that meeting takes place, will end in a tragedy. It will bring ironical laughter and decision upon eternal justice if it ends as I think it will. What a picture that will be—Dempsey, the dullard who could not see the vision of the holy fight, gloating over the prostrate form of Georges Carpentier, allied soldier.

It has been asked of me, "Why do you hound Dempsey?"

I am not bitter over Dempsey. I think I understand and I pity him for his blindness, for when this foolish adulation of the ring fighter is swept aside, Dempsey will realize what he has missed, and he will suffer.

But I recall the first company that I equipped for a quick trip overseas. With that little group of the finest youngsters God ever touched with His hand there was one boy of 17. He had lied gloriously to get into the service. He was a frail child with a face as delicate as a girl's, but he had the courage of a man. When I saw him bowed under the pack that he had just learned to roll a day before, trudging off to join that first contingent of crusaders, I felt a few emotions that no company commander is permitted to feel in the regulations. And I vowed to myself then and there that if it should happen that I ever met any who should have been in this boy's place, I would say so as forcibly as possible.

And it should be said, For who can tell when the time may come again when the United States will need Carpentiers and the call find only Dempseys.

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Thomas A'Kempis.

"Here in the service of the Lord Thomas A'Kempis lived and wrote 'The Imitation of Christ.'" are the words that appear on the foot of the monument to the author recently erected at Zwolle. In a gentle spot, surrounded by ancient oaks and firs, and with shrubbery around, this monument stands on a hill which was presented for the purpose by the van Royen family. The monument is in the shape of a cross with the monogram of Christ and the symbols of the four evangelists. The inscription on the main part is "In Cruce Salus." Many subscriptions were received for the monument as soon as the plan was suggested in 1916. Queen Wilhelmina was among those who gave.

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Geography a Deterrent.

This school story concerns a little girl who could not grasp her lessons in geography. The teacher had tried various means to impart knowledge—all in vain, however, and as a last resource she one forenoon punished the girl. Perhaps the punishment "fitted the crime," but the girl's mother thought otherwise and in the afternoon she bounced into the school

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Whenever General Pershing visits his home town of Laclede, Mo., he invariably hunts up "Aunt Susan," Susan Hewitt, for a hunk of apple pie. She remembers "John" when he was three years old. She says he resembles his mother. He always insisted on Aunt Susan being at all his receptions.

A New Idea.

A British gunner, who had successfully passed a blacksmith's course, was home on furlough wearing the hammer and pincers on his arm, when he was accosted by a civilian, who asked what the decoration was for. "Oh," replied Tommy, "I'm an army dentist!"

"I see," said the civilian. "Of course the pincers are for extracting teeth. But what is the idea of the hammer?"

"Well, you see, it's like this. Some of the chaps are a bit nervous, so we use the hammer to chloroform them," was the reply.

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