

Lay Off Johnson-Willard Fight! Don't Bet a Cent, Fullerton's Warning To Boxing Fans

Expert Reviews Questionable Features of "Battle For Heavyweight Championship of The World," and Can't See It as a Contest For People to Get Excited Over



Jess Willard

How Jess Willard looks in training—Poses of white heavyweight who is to fight Jack Johnson, taken in training quarters near El Paso, Texas.

(By Hugh S. Fullerton.)
Whether Jack Johnson and Jess Willard fight at Juarez or Havana on March 6 or any other date, here is the next tip on the battle: Don't bet a cent!

The conditions surrounding the match are, to say the least, suspicious, the recent betting among those alleged to be close to the principals and the promoters is more so, and the entire atmosphere is bad. There are rumors and gossip among the sporting fraternity that hint at a big job being pulled off. I have heard it stated in several ways, but whether or not the match is on the level it is the best one of recent years to avoid in a betting sense.

Jack Johnson is not now, has not been in the last two years and never will be weight. He has not fought "on the level" in a long time. His match with Jim Johnson in Paris was a cross between a joke and a scandal, and his match with Frank Moran was as bad.

Johnson went into the ring against Moran in wretched condition, bloated rather than fat, and showing the effects of the life he has led for years. There is no evidence that he has slowed down in the pace he has been keeping. Those who saw him in London recently say he was still going as rapidly as his purse would permit.

Then he took a long sea voyage to South America, and those aboard the ship report that he did not see him training, and that he was living as high as possible on ship board. The same report comes from the vessel that brought him from South America.

He has no training force, no sparring partners and he has done very little work. It is reported in Chicago among negroes and others who have been close to the big cotton-field that Jack is broke and needs the money. On that basis, reports have gone out that he has agreed to "hop" to Willard.

In justice (or, rather in reason), I must say I do not believe Johnson would lay down to anyone. He is an ignorant, conceited, spoiled negro. His vanity is beyond belief. If anyone could persuade him he would not lose his standing, he would be willing enough to hold him. I doubt whether money, even, would tempt him to throw away his title.

Nothing would be gained by arranging for Willard to lay down. Nine-tenths of the fight fans believe that Johnson, if he is even half way in condition, can whip Willard.

From a sporting standpoint the fight is a joke. Johnson, in the condition he was when he fought Jeffries, could beat four Willards in an evening.

Some one has kidded Willard into taking himself seriously. He is a very bad, very awkward and strong fighter. He is old—from a ring standpoint. His footwork is a jest, and the only redeeming feature is that he is willing and a hard worker. He can hit almost as hard as Eddie McGoorty can, and has about one-half the skill in delivering blows.

In plain English, if Johnson is in fit physical condition to punch a bag eighteen minutes, he can whip Willard.



Jess Willard
New Picture of White Hope Jess.

who only change is to avoid being beaten until the negro gets so weary he cannot hold up his arms or move his legs.

The day after the "fight" (if it ever takes place) the entire country will be saying these same things. Why not say them now instead of "bunking" the public into thinking a great battle for the heavyweight championship is to be fought?

ALLEGES CORRUPTION IN HOCKEY

Harry Mummary, a big Quebec player who has made an affidavit that he was offered \$10,000 in Toronto to "throw" the game between Quebec and the Shamrocks. President Emmett of the N. H. A. wants the police authorities to take action.

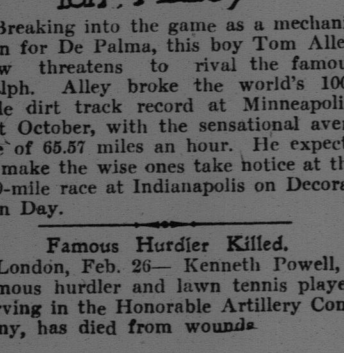
Scott Act Violation
E. H. Cody, of Minto, N. B., was fined \$100 at that place on Saturday on a charge of violating the Scott Act. The case was the result of a campaign by Rev. R. H. Slavert of the Temperance Alliance, who is said to have caught Cody "with the goods."

BROKE INTO THE GAME AS DE PALMA'S HELPER

Breaking into the game as a mechanic for De Palma, this boy Tom Alley now threatens to rival the famous Ralph. Alley broke the world's 100-mile dirt track record at Minneapolis, last October, with the sensational average of 66.57 miles an hour. He expects to make the wise ones take notice at the 60-mile race at Indianapolis on Decoration Day.

Famous Hurdler Killed.
London, Feb. 26—Kenneth Powell, a famous hurdler and lawn tennis player, serving in the Honorable Artillery Company, has died from wounds.

Tom Alley



WOLGAST ROASTS RING CHAMPIONS

Former Title Holder Pays His Respects to Freddie Welsh—Says He is a Joke

Chicago, March 1.—"What do I think of the present day lightweights? Everybody seems to be asking me this question," says Ad Wolgast. "There is no such thing as a 128 pound division. You may call them lightweights, all right, but as far as making the weight is concerned, the class is a joke. I can name all the real weightmakers on one hand, and, as for the rest, including Freddie Welsh, they belong in the welterweight division. Welters or lights, I still think I can beat them."

"Welsh, above all champions, is the biggest joke of them all. Bat Nelson hung the title of chess champion on me after I faced him; but, believe me, the Battler never saw the Englishman in action. He's the biggest frost fighting in the ring today, or any other day."

"Charlie White is a good boy, but he lacks the 'pep' to make a real 'boss' of the division. I am ready to meet him any time some promoter says the word. He sneaked through on a popular decision when he met me before."

"White has everything a fighter needs except the ambition to fight. I always have said that he cares too much about his looks to be a top-notch, and I still think so. But give him a little aggressiveness and the old fighting instinct and he would be a 'boss' any time he looks up with Welsh in twenty rounds I'll take a ticket on Freddie. In ten, things must be different."

"Willie Ritchie is impossible. He never was a great fighter and he got the luckiest kind of a 'break' when he won the title from me on a foul. Outside of Welsh he is the best preliminary boy that ever sneaked to the top without having the necessary championship ability. Both of these fellows would have made fine battlers against such men as Nelson or Gans—perhaps."

"I do not know much about Joe Shugrue, but I suppose he is like the rest of the no-decision champs. They fight around the old home town all their life and pile up scores of paper verdicts without taking part in a real contest. The no-decision laws certainly have made fortunes for a lot of 'ham-and-egg' boys. There is a lot of difference between a popular and referee's decision."

FULLERTON'S OWN COLUMN

Who are not acquainted with that Chapin, Ill. man who did not know there was a war; but it's 8 to 5 he's a golf fiend.

Eddie Collins now understands how Curcio would feel with an Uncle Tom's Cabin troupe.

The recruit pitcher who reports to a new manager weighing 210 pounds and in the condition of a bowl of jelly usually is the one to get mad if the critics hint he is not an intellectual giant.

A Tip
Ned B.—We don't know a thing about that Juarez fight, but confidentially we wouldn't bet a counterfeit peso piece on Willard even if George Stallings was managing him.

Extry, Extry
San Francisco—Ben Johnson says there will not be any Federal league in existence next spring.
Now if Frank Baker swings a hoe as he does a bat the corn crop of Maryland is due for a big jump.
Home Run Baker made a record home run that time.

Presentation to Major Markham
At a gathering at the home of H. V. MacKinnon last evening Major A. J. Markham, commander of A. squadron, 6th mounted rifles, was the guest of honor. On behalf of the Standard Publishing Company, Hon. J. B. M. Baxter presented to him a pair of field glasses. Major Markham has been in charge of the circulation of the Standard since the paper was established.

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SPORT NEWS OF A DAY; HOME AND ABROAD

CURLING

Won Semi-Finals.
The semi-finals for the president's trophy were played in the Thistle curling rink last evening. The scores:—
F. P. Elkin H. Warwick
R. McKendrick T. H. Belyea
F. J. Likely F. P. McPherson
D. R. Willett W. A. Shaw
skip..... 18 skip..... 9

W. R. Barnes D. Currie
L. P. Archibald W. E. Demings
E. S. R. Murray H. N. McAlpine
S. W. Zainer
skip..... 14 skip..... 7

The finals will be played during the week.

BOWLING

Wins Roll-Off.
The daily roll-off on Black's alleys yesterday was won by Bert Smith with a score of 112.

Three String Prize.
A. Bailey won the prize, on Victoria alleys, yesterday for the three highest strings. His scores were 126, 104, 107-383.

HOCKEY

Star Players to Enlist.
Sprague Cleghorn, of the Montreal Wanderers, and Jack Laviolette, of the Canadiens, two of the best known players in the National Hockey Association, are planning to enlist with the Borden Armored Battery at the close of the hockey season.

Cleghorn and Laviolette have already made enquiries with regard to joining the motor-cycle section. Both the hockey players are motor-cycle racers, and participated in races all over eastern America in the last two summers.

Laviolette is an automobile driver as well as a motor-cycle racer. Cleghorn, who is the most spectacular hockey player in the National Association, confines his racing efforts to the motor-cycle, and is probably the best rider in Montreal.

BASEBALL

Training Pitchers.
Harvard pitching candidates are subjected to a test for accuracy by Doctor Frank Sexton, baseball coach. The coach erects a backdrop six feet high, and about nearly as wide, with an opening corresponding to the limits within which called strikes would pass after crossing the plate. The pitchers deliver balls at this hole, and are scored on their successes and failures in locating it. Doctor Sexton pitched for the old St. John Shamrocks.

Blanding May Retire.
Detroit, March 1.—Fritz Blanding, a star pitcher of the Cleveland American League team and a University of Michigan graduate, says he does not expect to report to Manager Birmingham this season. Blanding did not report to accompany the Indians south.

LUDECKE WON WRESTLING MATCH



Harry Ludecke.

In McDonald's gymnasium last night about fifty wrestling fans assembled to witness a match between Harry Ludecke and an "unknown." The latter was a foreigner from New York, but failed to put in an appearance. Promoter McDonald explained that he had received word from him that he was held up by the immigration authorities, therefore he had decided to substitute his star pupil, Pauly Vasilliff, a Bulgarian. Some of the spectators were dissatisfied and demanded their money back, while others hissed them and called them poor sports.

The first match of the evening was between two locals O'Toole and Brooks and went fifteen minutes to a draw. The former had to concede considerable weight to his opponent, but despite this forced the match from the very beginning. He is a clever wrestler and exceptionally quick. Brooks also did well and gives promise of developing into a good wrestler.

The second match was a sparring exhibition between two of McDonald's pupils, Levine and Sullivan. They boxed three two minute rounds. They were both clever and received considerable applause.

The main match of the evening between Ludecke and Vasilliff was then started. For eighteen minutes the men went at it and during that time gave a fine exhibition. Ludecke won the fall with a head scissor and arm hold. His opponent is only a young fellow about 140 pounds in weight, and only a novice at the game, therefore his work called forth the plaudits of the assemblage. He is a clever and game wrestler and is expected to develop into one of the best men of his class in Canada. Dan McDonald is given credit for developing much clever mat artists in the short time he has had his school open. During the match the Bulgarian hurt one of his arms and his friends advised him to discontinue as he might injure it seriously. McDonald then announced that he awarded the match to Ludecke.

Is 83 Years Old And Her Heart Does Not Bother Her. Thanks to MILBURN'S Heart and Nerve Pills.

Mrs. J. McLaren, Commanda, Ont., writes us under date of February 9th, 1914. "Sixteen years ago I took bad with my heart and nerves, and was not able to do anything. I tried a good many doctors, but they did me no good; in fact one doctor gave me up to die. I heard about Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, and I thought I would give them a trial, and after using a couple of boxes I saw that I was improving. I kept on using them for quite a long time. I am eighty-three years old and my heart does not bother me at all."

"I am raising a little girl who was never very strong, and the doctor said that she had palpitation of the heart, so I started to give them to her. She is now twelve years old, and they are doing her more good than I can possibly tell you. I would advise anyone who has a weak heart to try Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, as they have done wonders for us."

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"THE JITNEY IN ST. JOHN"—A furore has been caused in the states by the introduction of the "Jitney." See it today at the Gem. Other views of current interest in Pathe Weekly, including "SCENES FROM THE WAR ZONE"

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