

Will The Weight Hurt Willie Ritchie In His Bout With Rivers?

By TOM ANDREWS

After a week or more of dickering about weights, Willie Ritchie, the light-weight champion, and Joe Rivers, a California boy of Mexican parentage, have finally agreed to meet before Eddie Grassy's club at San Francisco, July 1, in a 20-round contest.

It will be the first championship match that Ritchie has had since he won the title from Ad Wolgast on Nov. 28, 1912, just about seven months ago. Under the rules of former days, it was customary for a champion to fight at least every six months, so that Ritchie has been following close to the old tradition.

The weight agreed on is 134 pounds at ringside on 188 three hours before the contest, which makes it very close to 138 ringside, as a boxer can take on very little good weight in that length of time. When Eddie McCooty fought Mike Gibbons in New York last fall, he agreed to weigh 138 ringside, and the day of the match he weighed him at 2:30 p.m. and he scaled 135 1/2 pounds, while on the same scales at ringside he weighed just 135 flat, showing that he had lost in the interim instead of gained. This was no doubt due to nervousness on his part.

Ritchie is naturally a big light-weight, although he made the 138 ringside for Wolgast without any trouble. However, if he has agreed to make 138 three hours before the contest, which he has, you can gamble that he will make it and be strong, too, for his manager, Billy Nolan, knows the boy better than anyone else and will not permit him to make a weight that will injure him in any way. It is a peculiar fact that the tables are reversed in this match compared with the time when Billy handled Battling Nelson against Joe Gans, for at that time he insisted on Gans weighing 138 ringside with his fighting tops on. Now he is anxious to have Ritchie get the heavy side a few hours before the time of weighing. At that Mr. Nolan may be playing for effect to throw the others off the track. With all this talk about weight and the probability that Ritchie will be weakened in making it, the interest will increase ten-fold, and that is what the foxy Billy wants, for it will mean bigger receipts, and as he is working on a percentage basis, it will be more coin for him. Nolan knows the game, and you may rest assured he will get none the worst of the bargain.

Rivers is a grand little fighter, clever and a good hitter, but he will find Ritchie a much improved boy and harder to beat than when he won the title from Ad Wolgast.

THE MARCONI MATTER

London, June 19.—That this house, after hearing the statement of the attorney-general and the chancellor of the exchequer in reference to their purchases of shares in the Marconi company of America, accepts their explanation of what that such purchases were made, and that they were not mentioned in the debate of October 11 last, and acquits them of acting otherwise than in good faith and reproaches the charges of corruption against the ministers, which have been proved to be absolutely false.

NORTHUMBERLAND LIBERALS COMPLETE ORGANIZATION

Newcastle, N. B., June 19.—The annual meeting of the Northumberland Liberal Association was held here this afternoon. Hon. John P. Burchill presided and W. S. Lodge, M. P., and others addressed the meeting. There was a good attendance. A proposal to make the polling stations the units of organization rather than parishes, was laid over.

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RETALIATORY CLAUSE IN UNDERWOOD BILL

Washington, June 19.—An amendment to the Underwood tariff bill, adopted today by the majority members of the senate finance committee, would give the President of the United States authority to suspend certain rates in the proposed law and to proclaim special rates against nations which discriminate against products of the United States.

The amendment is appended to the clause giving the president authority to negotiate reciprocal agreements with other nations and in some respects resembles the maximum and minimum clause of the Payne-Aldrich tariff law eliminated in the house bill.

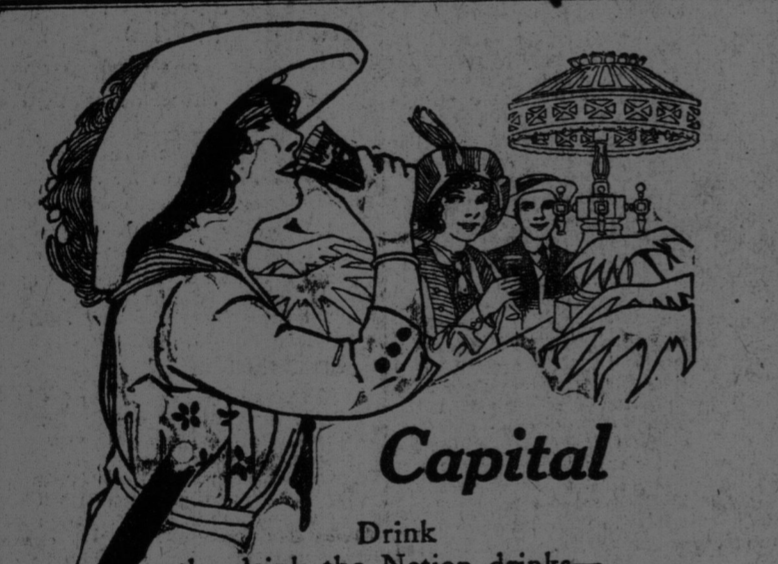
In substance, the amendment would provide that when any nation discriminates against the products of the United States, or imposes restrictions upon United States exports, or does not, in the opinion of the president, reciprocate in the trade relations, the president may by proclamation suspend certain rates and put in effect others.

Only specified articles, it is understood, are to be included under the terms of this amendment, and the retaliatory rates are specified also. Among the articles included in the list upon which the president might suspend rates, are fish, wheat, flour, coffee, tea, earthenware, wines and malt liquors, silk dress goods, leather goods, jewelry, sugar and molasses.

Friedmann Goes Home
Dr. F. F. Friedmann the Berlin physician who announced several months ago that he had a cure for tuberculosis, sailed for home from New York Tuesday. The doctor did not say whether or not he would return.

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C. B. FOSTER PROMOTED
C. B. Foster, general passenger agent of the C. P. R., at Winnipeg, has been appointed assistant passenger agent for the entire line. He will be under C. E. E. Oshers, general passenger agent, and will take up his new office in Montreal on July 1.

TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

At the meeting of the Trades and Labor Council last night a communication was received from the St. John Railway Company in reply to a request for the issue of special workmen's tickets. The company expressed regret that it could not give reduced rates on account of the increased pay given to their employees and for other reasons.

A communication was also received from Mayor Frink in answer to a letter sent him concerning the placing of labor papers in the Free Public Library, stating that he would inform the commissioners of the library that the city commissioners could see no objection to having labor journals on the tables there.

A resolution was moved by the Carpenters' Union in reference to the reorganization of the Independent Labor party. The resolution will be dealt with by the officers of the organization. The picnic committee reported progress. The matter of the Labor day parade was left over till the next meeting until all the unions should be heard from. It was announced that the amount realized in the recent fair was \$384.19.

A motion was carried to the effect that the city commissioners be requested to fill the vacancy left in the school board by the resignation of J. V. Russell with a Labor representative, James Suggue. The various delegates will interview Hon. J. D. Hazen today with regard to fair wages and work on the I. C. R.

ROTHESAY OLD BOYS

At the meeting of the Rothestay Old Boys' Association last evening the following officers were elected: President, F. R. Taylor; vice-president, T. M. McAvity; secretary, H. Mackay; executive, H. B. Gilbert, W. H. Ford, J. H. A. L. Fairweather, M. Bell, R. Mackay, member for synd, W. H. Harrison.

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