

HOW IT LOOKS TO US

By Lou Skuce



RITCHIE SHOULD WIN EASILY FROM HARLEM TOMMY MURPHY

Takes on New Yorker on Wednesday Night—Freddie Welsh Has Best Claim For a Bout With the Lightweight Champion—Jim Corbett's Fight Gossip.

By James J. Corbett.
Former Heavyweight Champion of the World.

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—(Special to The Sunday World).—Willie Ritchie, lightweight champion, will be seen in the ring again the coming week. Only this time San Francisco sports and not New Yorkers are to have the privilege of watching the sterling little battler perform.

Ritchie boxes Tommy Murphy at Jim Corbett's club next Wednesday, December 10. Out California way where Tommy has fought several corking twenty-round battles, the sports are anticipating a great contest. Here in Murphy's home town the opinion prevails among the "talent" that the bout will prove the easiest task Willie has undertaken since copping the title.

Ritchie is one of the best balanced chumps I've met in a long time, and I do not think him the sort to overrate his own or belittle another's ability. However, I happen to know he does not regard Murphy as his most dangerous rival—not by a good deal. Still, as he told me, he was morally bound to meet the New Yorker, and as Californians have a very high regard for Tommy's fist prowess he will be well paid for his time and trouble.

Should Be Easy for Champion. My own opinion is that Ritchie's youth and skill will prove quite too much for the veteran. While I realize that Murphy is a tough customer, and one of the gamiest in the ring, everything considered I will not be surprised if the champion stops him before the limit. I am not predicting any such result, however, as I appreciate that it is not such an easy matter to accomplish as all that. The dope, tho, favors the champion's success, and if he puts up the same kind of battle he showed local fans in the Cross bout Murphy will be exceedingly fortunate to be there at the finish.

Ritchie is getting better right along. He is the intelligent breed of boxer, and will benefit by every fight he has until the time comes when nature calls a halt. On the other hand Murphy, always a bit short of championship class, has seen his best day, and is on the toboggan.

Therefore it does not seem a difficult matter to call the winner of next Wednesday's match, does it?

In view of the results of recent important lightweight battles it begins to look very much as if the championship title will remain in Ritchie's possession for some time to come.

Each Cross defeat by Joe Rivers practically eliminates the title, and from the contention for the title, and at the same time was not successful in satisfying light followers that the Mexican would have a chance in another battle with the champion.

Cross' defeat was no surprise to anyone who saw him take a grueling from Ritchie two weeks before the Rivers bout. At his age Cross cannot assimilate much punishment and come back in so short a time for battle with a strenuous customer such as Rivers has proven himself on occasion.

Ritchie has already demonstrated superiority over the "Greaser." Good judges who saw Willie beat Joe last summer have told me that Rivers does not "belong" in the ring. Of course that can only be proved by bringing the boys together again, all the there is no denying that Willie won decisively enough last time.

Furthermore, I am informed that it is no sure thing Rivers would consent to another match with Ritchie should it be offered him. It is thought Willie has the "Indian sign" on Joe, and that Joe knows it.

Welsh and Britton Next.

With Cross and Rivers out of the running for the time being opposition to the champion's claim on the title will have to come from Freddie Welsh or Jack Britton—always reckoning Packey McFarland out of the argument—or possibly Young Joe Shugrue or Jimmy Duffy, the Buffalo sensation. And from what I hear about Britton lately Jack is finding it is ringside no more to his liking than McFarland does. If that's the case, it is a pity for it puts a mighty good man out of the running for the lightweight title.

It appears to have a better

enough, and hard enough to stop him in a ten round contest. But in a long match—well, I believe Ritchie is too firmly seated on the lightweight throne to be pried loose by Welsh or any other lightweight now before the public.

Britton in Deep.

Jack Britton went over his head in Brooklyn the other night. Foxy Dan Morgan who represents Britton seldom makes mistakes in matchmaking, but when he agreed to let his stable star box Mike Glover, of Boston, ten rounds at 140 ringside, thinking he had picked a lemon, Sir Daniel pulled a "bone."

Glover evidently is one of the classiest welters in the country. Any 140 pound boy who can outpoint Britton so cleverly in a limited round bout must have class to spare. For quite a little while Glover has been pastoring local promoters for a match with Packey McFarland at 140 pounds, but everybody naturally figured Mike was shooting a bit too high, and advised him to first go "get a rep" which would warrant him in asking for a bout with a man the calibre of the great Packey. Now, since his grand display of ring work against Britton, while Packey has not yet been approached by boxing agents, he will not be prached to a bout with Glover. He has been keeping in splendid shape lately by boxing exclusively at that which makes it look as if he intended to devote his efforts to that division for the future of his career.

Glover may be just the fellow who can put McFarland to the test. Naturally Mike Gibbons would be our choice, but at that he may be too heavy for the stockyard's champion. Glover and McFarland would scale about the same figure at their best, and judging from what he did to Britton the Boston man would extend Packey more than any other fellow has been able to do in recent years.

Make a Kid Happy at Christmas

OPENING AT MOORE'S ALLEYS.

At Moore's west end alleys on Monday evening, the house league will get under way for the season with eight well balanced teams of trundlers. There is every indication of a great race for the handsome prizes put up by the management. The opening fixture is White Elephants vs. Tigers. Schedule of following games will appear later.

EXCITING CONTESTS IN T.B.C. LEAGUES

The past week was an exciting one for the T. B. C. Five-pin League at the college alleys, surprises coming thick and fast nightly for the top notchers, and as the standing will show the race now is the best in the history of the league.

The biggest surprise was the downfall of the Champion Stanley, who lost all three games to Flying Post, while the week previous the class of the league last season were handed to the short end of the count in two out of three games by Senators. Woodgreens were also stopped in their flight for the top, Charley Wilson's Toronto doing the trick in two out of three games, and with the strong millionaire outfit just able to nose out the second division Paragons in the odd game. It can be plainly seen the close and exciting race there is now bound to be for the winning of the first series. Other second division teams are Rexallites and Sewer Pipes, and, altho jointly occupying the bottom rung. They will make it interesting for all comers to the end of the series.

In the T. B. C. Business Men's Ten-pin League all rollers are now warming up to their work, and as a result some big counts were put up during the past week. Charley Boyd, for R. S. Williams, tallied 629, while Bill Steele for Maybee & Co. was only 18 pins down for a 610 collection. This is nice work on the club's newly re-planned drives, and reflects the highest credit on the rollers above mentioned. In team rolling R. G. McLean's have the most games to date, getting a trio of counts around the 900 mark in their previous week's engagement, therefore, with the first five teams in his race only within a game or two of one another the league should make almost as exciting a finish to their first series as the five-pinners. Following is the standing of the leagues:

T. B. C. Five-Pin League—	
	Won. Lost.
Nationals	7 2
Senators	6 3
Flying Post	9 3
Woodgreens	8 4
Millionaires	8 4
Stanleys	5 7
All Stars	5 7
Torontos	6 7
Canallies	2 6
Paragons	4 8

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T. B. C. Business Men's League—	
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WANT TO ENTER A LEAGUE.

The S. T. I. B. Club wish to enter a team in any hockey league in the city, average age 17 or 18. Any league having a vacancy please communicate with D. Campbell, 14 Saunders avenue.

Are You a Good Fellow?

TRAINER PAYS WELL FOR HIS MISTAKE

LONDON, Dec. 6.—An action for libel, brought by an apprentice jockey named James McMahon, of Ayr, against Capt. William Vandeur, of Stamford, Lincolnshire, was settled. For the plaintiff Mr. Marshall Hall, K. C., said the defendant had written a letter which, if it had been accurate, would have been very injurious to the plaintiff. Counsel for the defendant was prepared to say that his client had acted under a mistake, and wished to apologize for it, and withdrew the accusation. The defendant consented to judgment for the plaintiff for a substantial sum and costs, and the money to be paid to the public trustee.

Mr. J. B. Matthews, K. C., said Captain Beatty had written the letter on the strength of certain information he had received, but, after investigation, felt that he had acted under a mis-

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take, and was in the wrong. He wished to make a full apology, and had agreed to pay the plaintiff a hand-

some sum, the amount of which would be endorsed on counsel's brief. Judgment was given accordingly.

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