

## Bout With Ritchie Will Give Real Line on Welsh

Former Champion to Meet the Present Titleholder on Thursday Night Before a New York Club—Americans Look to Ritchie to Turn in a Victory.

By Iconoclast.  
NEW YORK, March 6.—Willie Ritchie is down to less than 140 pounds for his bout with Freddie Welsh on March 11. This indicates that Ritchie will not have much trouble making weight despite the rumors that drifted back from California regarding his poundage.

However, the fact that he is within reach of the 135-pound mark is no proof that his long period of idleness has not seeped much of his speed, endurance and hitting ability. With the exception of one four-round affair at St. Louis, Ritchie has not entered the ring since he lost his title to Welsh in London.

Ritchie is not given to dissipation, and he probably has taken good care of himself. But in order to make a good showing against his conqueror he must be keyed up to his best. He lost to Welsh because he was less speedy, and his eye for distance was less keen. These are just the qualities that are needed most by a long absence from the ring.

Ever since Ritchie undertook to manage himself he has made a hash of his affairs. Any manager with a grain of business sense would have steered clear of the London match that cost him his title. Then Ritchie made another mistake, in retiring so long that excess flesh has accumulated. Now that Welsh is sliding Ritchie should be in his best form, ready to seize the tottering crown.

Instead of that he finds himself no better off in the matter of condition than the veteran Englishman. The most Ritchie can expect to accomplish in the coming bout is to secure the popular decision. As this would be no more than several others have done it would not create any great sensation. But it would indicate how far Welsh has gone back, and it might lead to a real battle over the twenty-round distance.

So far Welsh has been able to handle Ritchie with ease, the latter being unable to pierce his defence. But of late Welsh seems to have lost much of his cunning, and if Ritchie performs up to his old standard he will be able to land more often than he did before. As Ritchie's right cross is a more dangerous blow than that carried by any other lightweight, something may happen if he connects. Judging by past performances, however, the chances of a knockout are not worth mentioning. No real champion has ever lost his title in a no decision bout, and from the present outlook it will be many years before such a thing does happen. If Welsh is ever stopped in one of these affairs it will be a very lucky blow that does the trick, for the moment he is in danger Welsh goes altogether on the defensive. He cares very little whether he is outpointed or not, and for this reason his opponents get little chance to catch him wide open.

In twenty rounds with a decision at stake, Welsh would have no such advantage. He would then be forced to keep out in front instead of playing safe. In that case Ritchie might have a chance to regain his lost title, but in ten rounds he will hardly get any further than Sluggo, White, Grif, and others who have found Welsh easy picking.

## Brooklyn Superbers Are Not To Be Despised This Year

Wilbert Robinson Has Fine-Looking Squad and They Should Be Well Up in the National League Race.

By W. A. COLLINS.  
NEW YORK, March 6.—Thirty members of the Brooklyn National League team will be training at Daytona, Fla., in a few days. Manager Wilbert Robinson must drop nine of these players before May 1, so that there will be some tall hustling to remain on the payroll. The leader of the Dodgers will have fifteen pitchers, four catchers, seven infielders and four outfielders on the trip. Dalton, the big center fielder, is the only one of the southpaw, and Fischer, the catcher, will not be with the team this year, as they have gone to the Federal League.

Big Ed Pfeffer is the Dodgers' star pitcher. With the experience he gained last year, he probably will show steady improvement. The other veteran boxmen are Nap Rucker, Pat Regan, Raleigh Aitchison, Elmer Brown, Charles Schults and Jack Coombs. Robinson insists that if Rucker and Coombs "come back" the team will be in the first division all the way. The new pitchers are said to be the pick of the minor leagues. They include Appleton, of Port Worth; Cadore, of Wilkesbarre; Chabek, of Harrisburg; Dell, of Seattle; Donald, of Waco; Goodbrod, of Oshkosh; Howell, of Chattanooga; and Sherrod, of Newark.

All of the Dodgers' new pitchers come with good records. Donald of Waco won thirty games and lost four in the Texas League last season. The record of Appleton of Port Worth, in the same circuit, was fifteen victories and seventeen defeats. Chabek of Harrisburg led the Tri-State League with twenty-eight victories and three defeats. Cadore of Wilkesbarre, in the Eastern League, won sixteen and lost thirteen. Dell of Seattle, in the Northwestern League Club, was successful in eighteen games and was beaten in twelve. Howell won nine and lost eleven with Chattanooga, in the Southern League. Goodbrod, of the Wisconsin-Illinois League, won twelve and lost five. Sherrod of Newark helped to win the pennant with a record of eleven victories and three defeats. Sherrod Smith won eight and lost twelve with Newark.

## With the Bowlers At Central Y.M.C.A.

Fivepin bowling reached the high water mark the past week at Central Y.M.C.A. On Monday Eaton's dropped two by narrow margins and on Wednesday the Dormitory came to life with a vengeance and took two from the Leaders. Ross Orr was high with 481, followed closely by Henry Yeigh from the National Council Y.M.C.A., and Bill Hattie, but the best bowling for fivepins since the allies opened a year ago was staged on Thursday night when Doctor Winter and the Triangles hooked up with the Woodgreens for the leadership of the league.

The Triangles had it over the Woodgreens like a ton in the first game, hitting 74 with the Woodgreens 57. The second game started just as the first and was nip and tuck all the way, Woodgreens winning out in the tenth frame by 7 pins, 74 to 73. Jake Greenberg hitting the high game for the league with a 255 count for the Triangles, and Philpot of the Woodgreens showed the Ottawa Business Men left little life in him since playing basketball two weeks ago by hitting 205. The Woodgreens also won the last game by a big majority.

The race in this league is getting very tight, as will be seen by the standards between Woodgreens and Triangles. In Thursday night the Dormitory League got going when the teams up as follows: F.M.S. Iron Dukes, H.M.S. Tigers, H.M.S. Lions, H.M.S. Invincibles, and the big guns kept booming until near 12. After howling they went up to room 15 for a "winner feed." Green of H.M.S. Lions

was high for the night with 176 for a single and 451 for three. On Friday night the Business Men were lined up by Go-forth's Skyrockets took two from the Dalies, and Tovey's Canadas took two from McLean's Surprises. Anderson won the high game prize for the night with a 181 count. The standing of the different leagues follow:

Woodgreens	Won	Lost
Triangles	25	11
Leaders	20	16
Carltons	19	14
Batons	18	18
Dormitories	18	27
Dormitory League	Won	Lost
Tovey's Canadas	8	4
Dumling's Dalies	8	4
Go-forth's Skyrockets	6	4
Pave's Oskandas	4	4
Hall's Invincibles	4	4
McLean's Surprises	3	6
Bellamy's Druels	3	6
Robertson's Irondukes	3	6
H.M.S. League	Won	Lost
H.M.S. Lions	2	1
H.M.S. Irondukes	2	1
H.M.S. Invincibles	1	2

## IRISH ARE RESPONDING SPLENDIDLY TO CALL

Canadian Press Despatch.  
LONDON, March 4.—There are 450,000 men of Irish birth or descent in Great Britain who are of military age, and 125,000 of them have already joined the army, according to figures prepared by the secretary of the Irish National League. This proportion, he asserts, is much larger than can be shown by any other nationality.

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## BOYS AND GIRLS BUSY AT CITY RECREATION CENTRES

Indoor Athletics Hold the Board—Girls' Standing Broad Jump a New Feature—The Doings at McCormick, East Riverdale, Morse Street and Moss Park Centres

The week's doings at the City Playgrounds show activities in every department.

McCormick Recreation Centre.  
Much interest has been taken in the special athletic events, the standing broad jump and the potato race. The girls' standing broad jump is a decidedly new feature on the City Playgrounds, and judging from the enthusiasm with which it was greeted, it is likely to become a permanent one.

Local triathlon competitions have also been held during the past week, both in junior and senior classes. This game promises to rival billiards, of which the McCormick boys are so proud.

Our Saturday night entertainment is becoming extremely popular, especially since the boys and girls are doing their share in the entertaining. This Saturday the sailors' horripole and Swedish singing games are the specialties for the girls.

The McCormick Centre Circle meets next Wednesday. This meeting is to be in the form of a quiz party. The members are looking forward to this, and are preparing a special surprise.

The final in a Basketball House League are to be played off next week.

Unusual activities have held sway at McCormick Recreation Centre during the past week. Every night has seen a feature started, with the result that the class is conducted every Monday evening for the benefit of the boys and girls of the playground. Already a large number are learning.

A circulating library has also been added to the many departments at this busy centre, and from the well-filled bookcases scores of interesting and educational books are being loaned to the boys and girls. So popular has this library become that plans are being laid for its enlargement and improvement next season.

Progress, for every class, are fast making their way into the finals, and some very exciting games have been witnessed in the juvenile section. Jack Fleming looks like the winner, and in the junior North Clarke appears to have the edge on his rivals. The seniors have not yet reached the stage where a winner could be picked.

Last Saturday evening at the moving picture performance the boys and girls, on special features between the reels, the boys building pyramids and the girls dancing.

The gymnasium looks like a big league training camp these days, with some of Toronto's best ball-players working out the kinks. An indoor baseball league has been formed for the benefit of this fraternity, and some great games have been staged.

Comical events: 1. baseball league; 2. volleyball league; 3. spring billiard tournament; 4. triathlon league.

Moss Park Recreation Centre.  
This has been a strenuous week at the Moss Park Centre, with the marble tournament running full swing in the building and the finals for the hockey championships on the ice, with the gymnast classes running every evening, and the indoor athletics on Saturday.

The billiard match between Sam Rosen and Andrew Choate on Tuesday evening created considerable excitement among the club's players, over seventy-five boys witnessing the contest. It was a big feat, but Choate played the steadier game and won quite handsily by 500 points to 405.

The indoor baseball league, too, is attracting attention, not only of the boys who are playing the game, but each team has its particular followers, who turn out to cheer their favorites on to victory. Two good games were played on Thursday evening, the first between the Maple Leafs and Ontario, the former winning by 19 runs to 5.

The second game was close and keenly contested, the Canadians defeating the Beavers 8-1.

There will be indoor baseball teams entered in all divisions of the Playground League, which begins this coming week. The boys who are trying to make the team are working hard with this end in view.

There is still room for more boys in the wrestling classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and any of the boys of this centre who intend to compete in the championships to be held at the end of this month should not fail to attend these classes and get all the instruction possible before that time.

Marbles, marbles everywhere, that is the impression that one gets upon entering the front of this centre. Marble week has proven itself to be well of the boys, and the numbers who are engaged in rolling the small spheres (including the supervisors, large and small) are doing well. The boys are enjoying this great boys' game, and visitors to the playground are also enjoying the progress and action of the boys who are playing the game.

Close to a hundred boys took part in the games at the centre Friday night. The Junior Basketball House League played their scheduled games. In the first contest Kelley's team had an off night, while having no trouble plugging up a large score on him. The second game resulted in one of the most exciting games ever played at the centre. Galway and Sands were the opposing teams, and at two times the score read 19 all. After two minutes overtime Wilson dropped in a clever side shot, and Galway came out on top 21-19. Gardner and Garland met in the last game. Gardner's team hung on a comfortable lead through the final score being 19-11 in Gardner's favor.

## PLAYGROUND HOCKEY CHAMPION TEAMS

Winners Declared in Every League—Moss Park and St. Andrews Win Groups

The past week has been a strenuous one for the City Playgrounds hockey boys. Winners have been declared in every league as follows:

Senior A League—Moss Park.  
Senior B League—St. Andrews.  
Intermediate—East Riverdale.  
Junior—Oshkosh.  
Juvenile—East Riverdale.

Final standing:  
—Senior A League—  
Moss Park ..... Won. 6  
Elizabeth ..... 5  
McCormick ..... 4  
O'Neill ..... 3  
Leslie Grove ..... 1  
Oler ..... 0  
St. Andrews ..... 0

—Senior B League—  
St. Andrews ..... 5  
Oler ..... 4  
McCormick ..... 3  
Moss Park ..... 2  
East Riverdale ..... 1  
Leslie Grove ..... 0

This week the Playground Indoor Baseball Leagues open. All senior games are to be played on Oler floor, while the other leagues play home-and-home games. The boys are already preparing for the outdoor baseball and there will be a very strong senior Playground League, with McCormick, Oler, Moss Park, Elizabeth and St. Andrews as probable entries. The boys are lining up well and prospects are bright for one of the strongest senior leagues in the city.

The club's players, over seventy-five boys witnessing the contest. It was a big feat, but Choate played the steadier game and won quite handsily by 500 points to 405.

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