

# Late Gossip Of The Sporting World At Home And Abroad

## THE ROUGHER THEY ARE THE BETTER FRED WELSH LIKES 'EM

"Would I rather fight the hard hitters instead of the clever fellows? Well, I should snicker."

Then Freddie Welsh told why:

"You can always make a great showing with the hard hitters. Every body thinks you are going to get your head knocked off when as a matter of fact you never were safer. Only the rankest fluke in the world will take your title away. Another thing, the hard hitters draw crowds. Take Leach Cross, for instance. People pour in to the fights to see him knock somebody cold. How often does he do it? Rarely. On the other hand, you fight a clever fellow like Shugrue or Dundee and they'll run, pop, run, pop, and so on. You can't get near them and they won't stand for a mix."

"The best fights I've put up have been against the dangerous hitters. I know just what to do, just how far to draw away from their killing wallop, and when I counter they are so shown up that the crowd is delighted."

"I don't mind what they say about my fighting. Neither do I care how they decide. They all decided against me in Akron against Griffiths. That doesn't bother me. It's the difference of opinion that stimulates the game. Griffiths is a youngster. He was fighting before his friends, and they were naturally carried away with his efforts, even though most of these efforts were leads and hooks that I unquestionably blocked. But I'd rather be the champion of the world being named than an aspirant for the honors being boosted. I served my time in that boosters club, nine or ten years of it, and I know just how Griffiths felt about it."

"Any time a difference of opinion arises it means another fight. That was the tenth fight I had since winning the championship in September. I fought seven fights in five weeks and I averaged \$5,000 a fight. I started off

here again on January 26 with Beecher, and the Akron fight brought it up to \$5,000 in the week."

"The Ritchie bout will be my best and biggest fight. We will draw between \$25,000 and \$30,000. First, fight Shugrue February 9; then Anderson in Grand Rapids on the 15th; Charlie White, perhaps, on the 25th at Milwaukee; somebody, not yet selected, in Philadelphia at the end of the month; and Ritchie on March 9."

"I have sent for Young Wagner, Tommy O'Keefe and Tommy Langdon, besides having One Round Hogan, for sparring partners. I want to go along two years more. I'll never be knocked out and I'll retire champion. I appreciate the fact that the title will mean a million dollars to me in the future, and I'm going to retire the kingpin long before I even begin to slip. Just as soon as I get all that there is in sight I'll be ready, but I'll slip down well within two years."

"I won the title because I was patient, silent and a stoic. It's natural with us Welshmen to sit the thing out. I'll never forget watching the men of my race squatting around, smoking their pipes. They're all miners. They're used to squatting down in the coal mines for hours at a time, with hardly room to move, picking away at the coal with short little hacks. Then when they come up out of the mines after the day's work and want to rest they squat down until they're almost sitting on the ground. In this fashion they form big circles, all smoking quietly. For hours they will squat there motionless, each alone with his thoughts. Along will come another miner. Down he squats, and the only welcome he gets is 'Hello, Bill'. He joins in the spirit of the thinking. I inherit that spirit, and it was that alone that gave me the courage to wait patiently for my whirl as a world's champion."

## IS JEFF SMITH THE MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPION?



Since "Jeff" Smith recently defeated "Mick" King, Australian fight "fans" assert that Smith is the middleweight champion of the world. Whether Australians have forgotten that there is such a place as the United States of America and that herein we have at least one real fighter, or whether they believe all the Antipodes, it is hard to figure. But if they believe they have any middleweight laurel wreath to adorn the brow of "Jeff" Smith there are others who are prone to take exception.

Aside from the fact that "Mike" Gibbons has a speaking part in the middleweight situation, "Jeff" Smith's record is not so replete with glittering exploits as to boost him to the throne without his fighting for it. Not quite a year ago "Eddie" McGoorty won a decision over Smith in twenty rounds at Sydney. McGoorty is far from being a boxer, and generally when he is stacked against a boxer and the bout goes the limit the decision goes against McGoorty. McGoorty is a "knockout." Then, too, we find that "Mick" King previously won a decision over Smith. The most impressive things about Smith's record are victories over George Chip in 1912 in a fifteen round bout and over "Jimmy" Clabby in twenty rounds at Sydney last year.

## THE LATEST DOPE FROM WILLARD'S TRAINING CAMP

A sparring partner of Jess Willard at the training camp sends out good words about Willard as follows:

Camp Willard, near Yaletta, Texas, Feb. 15.—Willard is developing his "one-two" into a mighty dangerous proposition. He uses it both as a form of attack and defense, leading with a straight left to the face, which is more of an unbalancing his "one-two" into a mighty with a hard right straight from the shoulder. He puts his whole weight and strength behind it, and even with soft gloves on it feels like a southern attack from a northbound mule.

I am often asked what I consider Willard's best blow, and I usually give preference to his fast straight left, but for a genuine, quick-finisher, Walter Monahan is probably the best right combination in a class all by itself.

Willard's wind seems to be in grand shape. After boxing the usual six rounds with Monahan, Hempel, and myself, Jess wrestles for nearly fifteen minutes without a let-up. There is nothing more tiring and wind-taking than neck wrestling. If it is entered into with spirit and vim, and Willard goes after his man as if he wanted to tear him to pieces.

Walter Monahan is proving to be a very valuable asset to the camp.

Besides being a boxer of no little skill he is an expert at massaging. Willard boosted the scales up to the 245 mark the other day, and he put on his flannel bandage before starting his road work. Swathed in fifteen feet of red wool blanketing, he covered six and a half miles of dirt road in less than fifty minutes. His routine of co-workers had a good time in keeping in the distance of him, and were nearly "all in" at the finish. After sweating out under a couple of heavy blankets and a comforter, he again weighed in and found he had lost three pounds. Allowing for an increase of two pounds during the day, it would take at this rate around two weeks to get down to the weight he wants to fight at. If he can make 230 he will not have a surplus ounce on his body, and should be able to stay through the forty-five rounds with ease should the fight go the limit.

Willard is not going to lay back and let the big cinder sat his own pace, as many seem to think he will, but will be on top of him from the first going to the finish. They say that Johnson can beat any one who will bring the fight to him and this may be true. However Jess is going to give him this chance in the hope of either tiring him out or finding an opening for his own good right or left.

## LOCAL BOWLING YESTERDAY

### FIVE MEN LEAGUE.

In a closely contested game on the Vic alleys last night received information from an emissary of Jack Johnson, world's champion heavyweight pugilist, that Johnson wanted to return to the United States. Johnson, who left America while under sentence for violation of the Mann Act, desired to know the attitude of the government regarding his return.

Johnson could be tried on two pending charges or resentenced under the former conviction, it was said, but officials refused to reveal their course of action.

No. 4 Team.			
Riley	39	92	91
Covey	86	88	79
Sweeney	95	77	91
Duffy	89	102	97
Kelly	91	93	86
450 452 444 1346			

No. 6 Team.			
Stevens	78	89	93
Thurston	95	77	94
Garnett	77	90	99
Stevens	86	87	83
McDonald	79	95	98
415 438 467 1320			

### THE CITY LEAGUE.

Last night on Black's alleys in the city league the Sweeps not only captured the four points but also won with a total pin fall of 1,470 crawled well up on the provincial record of 1,496 held by the Ramblers. The individual scores follow:

Sweeps.			
Jenkins	92	95	104
Coughlan	86	116	90
McIlveen	102	90	105
Gambin	107	90	101
Sullivan	88	97	117
476 488 507 1470			

### Tigers.

Belyea	90	99	71
Gilmour	90	91	75
260 86 23 85 13			

## JOHNSON WISHES TO RETURN

Chicago, Feb. 17.—United States officials here today received information from an emissary of Jack Johnson, world's champion heavyweight pugilist, that Johnson wanted to return to the United States. Johnson, who left America while under sentence for violation of the Mann Act, desired to know the attitude of the government regarding his return.

Johnson could be tried on two pending charges or resentenced under the former conviction, it was said, but officials refused to reveal their course of action.

### FOOTBALLER'S NECK BROKEN

As the result of an operation performed on Robert Layfield, at Wilmington, Del., it is expected that he will recover from the broken neck which he suffered in a football game at Bethlehem, Pa., while playing for Johns Hopkins, where he was a student.

The operation showed that while the spinal chord had been injured it had not been severed, and whether the young man lives depends wholly upon whether the chord recovers its normal condition.

The physicians believe that the young man has a fair chance for recovery.

### ACADIA, 2; U. N. B., 1.

Wolfville, N. S., Feb. 17.—The third hockey game of the Intercollegiate League for the Sumner trophy was played between Acadia and U. N. B. here tonight and resulted in a win for Acadia, 2 to 1.

McDonald	87	95	86
Moore	89	103	98
Cosgrove	95	81	103
451 469 433 1353			

H. Sullivan won the daily roll off with a score of 117.

Tonight in the City League the Braves and Ramblers will play.

## UPPER CANADIAN HOCKEY

Quebec 6, Canadiens 2

Quebec, Feb. 17.—Quebec defeated Canadiens here tonight by six goals to two. The line-up: Quebec—Moran, goal; Mummery, point; Hall, cover point; Smith, centre; McDonald, right wing; Crawford, left wing.

Canadiens—Vezina, goal; Dubeau, point; Corbeau, cover point; Pitre, centre; Berlangue, right wing; Fournier, left wing.

### Hockey Players Fight

Toronto, Feb. 17.—A few more disgraceful incidents, such as those which took place in the N. H. A. game tonight at the Arena between Ottawa and Toronto, and professional hockey will have a short life in Toronto. Ottawa won the game, three to one.

The trouble came in the third period. McGillin was looking for trouble and got it. He had several tiffs with Art Ross in which the honors were about even, but the climax came when both players dropped their sticks and used their fists instead. Ross gave McGillin a bad lacing, although the gloves saved him from any real damage. The majority of the players joined in, but the officials managed to quell the disturbance without any further trouble.

This fracas, however, only paved the way for more. During an attack on goal, Wilson went in on the Ottawa net, and charged Benedict. The result was another fist fight, in which everyone took a hand. Both players were sent off for the balance of the game. But with these penalties, and several others previously the teams were forced to play six men a side on account of Toronto's not having sufficient players. The line-up: Ottawa—Goal, Benedict; point, Merrill; cover point, centre, Gerard; left wing, Gerard; right wing, Broadbent.

Torontos—Goal, Holmes; point, Carpenter; cover point, Cameron; centre, Foyston; left wing, Walker; right wing, Wilson.

## "HOME" RUN BAKER HAS QUIT FOR GOOD

Philadelphia, Feb. 17.—J. Franklin Baker, hero of three World's Series, has quit baseball. This was the startling announcement made by Connie Mack, manager of the Athletics, at the 11th annual banquet of the Philadelphia Sporting Writers' Association here last night.

That the announcement was received with blank astonishment is putting it mildly. According to Mack, Baker has definitely decided to retire permanently from baseball.

When Manager Mack was called upon tonight to respond to a toast, he was accorded a wonderful ovation, and as he arose the great multitude sang and cheered and the name of Mack reverberated from one end of the spacious hall to the other. He said: "Gentlemen, I am going to make an announcement, and it is a very important one. J. Franklin Baker has quit baseball. He is now out of it for good."

"I have been anticipating this move for the last two seasons, but was greatly depressed to have him decide upon it just at this time. I need Baker and it goes without question that his place will be hard to fill."

"In order to protect myself and the club I signed Baker to a three-year contract in 1914, but before the home-run hero would sign he had this proviso inserted: 'If at any time I so desire to quit the game, that I can do so and will not be blacklisted.'"

"Well, as I had made seven or eight trips down to his home in Maryland, I concluded that that was the best thing I could do, and I then signed him for three years."

"Baker is going to retire to his farms. Frank has accumulated quite a little money during the last eight years. He has been saving his money and now he is the owner of two big farms in the vicinity of Trappe, Md. He has money invested in other business and has a little run in the bank. He is tired of the game and is sincere

## "PHENOM" PITCHER SIGNED

New York, Feb. 17.—Paul Lewis, a 19 year old semi-professional pitcher of Hoboken, N. J., has signed a contract with the New York Americans. It was announced tonight. In an exhibition game against Washington last season he struck out 18.

Martin McHale, one of the Yankees' regular pitchers, was in New York today and denied that he contemplated going over to the Federals. He said he expected to sign with the New York Americans within the next two days.

### UMPIRE RIGLER SIGNS.

New York, Feb. 17.—Sec. John A. Heydler of the National League announced today that he had received the signed contract of Umpire Charles Rigler, this completing the league's staff of umpires for 1915.

In his desire to sever connection with baseball."

Baker is less than 29 years old and has been a member of the Athletics since 1908. His batting average in both the 1911 and 1913 World's Series with the New York Giants. In 1911 he knocked home runs in two games at critical periods, and in 1913 put the ball over the fence in the opening contest.

Last year his batting average for the season was .336 and he made 12 home runs; but, like the other members of the team, he appeared to be in a slump in the crucial series with the Boston Braves.

More than 400 men were present at the dinner, which was given in honor of "Larry" Lajoie, who returns to the Athletics after an absence of 13 years; "Wild Bill" Donovan and Pat Moran, the new managers, respectively, of the New York Highlanders and the Philadelphia Nationals.

## BIG BOWLING TOURNAMENT FOR BOSTON

Officials of the Atlantic Coast Bowling Association, declare that in May Boston is to have the greatest bowling tournament ever held in the East, and one that followers of the sport will take great pleasure in watching. It will be an interesting spectacle to watch continuous competition on 16 alleys laid side by side. On some of the alleys the best tenpin rollers in the country will perform with the big sphere. On the next set of lanes will be candlepin shooters, and on the other alleys will be men coaxing the little duckpin to fly.

The leading candlepin and duckpin bowlers of New England will compete and a representative of the Atlantic Coast Bowling Association will go to Peoria next month to sign the A. B. C. tenpin stars; and from Peoria his route will be to Washington and Baltimore for the pick of the Southern duckpin shooters.

### COFFEY OFFERED BOUT WITH WILLARD.

New York, Feb. 17.—Billy Gibson, matchmaker of the Fairmount A. C., received a telegram today from Jack Curley, promoter of the Johnson-Willard bout at Juarez, Mex., which contained an offer to match Willard against Jim Coffey, the Dublin Giant. Curley said that he would arrange a bout between Willard and Coffey regardless of whether Willard won or lost the match with Johnson.

### OPEN BEFORE THE OTHER LEAGUES.

New York, Feb. 17.—Before leaving for Pinehurst, N.C., to join Pres. R. B. of Kansas City to Newark.

## COLLINS FEARS ATHLETICS

Chicago, Feb. 17.—Eddie Collins, new White Sox acquisition, arrived in Chicago today and met Clarence Rowland, new Sox manager, for the first time. These baseball men expressed mutual admiration and swore fealty to each other.

"I like Rowland, and unless I miss my guess he should be able to get a lot of baseball out of us fellows," said Collins. "I think Connie Mack still has a great ball club, and I think the Athletics are just as strong as ever they were."

"Many are saying the Boston Red Sox are the players we have to beat to win the American League pennant, but it is my opinion that the club to defeat to win the flag is Connie Mack's Philadelphia team."

"Connie Mack was a member of the liberal school of baseball management. He gave his players wide latitude as a rule, but when a player made a poor move he was always there to tell him about it—always in a kindly way."

The White Sox left tonight for California. Fifty-eight persons composed the party, which was in charge of Sec. Grabner and Manager Rowland.

Ward of the Brooklyn Federals, Pres. Gilmore announced that his league would try to get an early advantage over the National and American leagues by opening the Federal season several days before the other major league openings.

It was declared on authority today that the Federal League has abandoned any intention of coming into New York this season and there would be no transfer of franchises beyond that of Kansas City to Newark.

**"A superb spirit"**

**Buchanan's Black and White Scotch**

AGENT IN CANADA  
D. G. ROBINSON - TORONTO

## Bringing Up Father

