

Alive .. Alert
Up to the Minute

NEWS AND VIEWS ON SPORTS

Local .. Provincial
World in General

The Fight Game Not as Big a Gold Mine as Reported

Every now and then upon turning to the sport sheet of the Blade stories of the big money some boxers make a fortune so soon that any one who has a crack in his doubled fist undoubtedly sees visions of himself crumming bank bills into a travelling bag as he leaves a rope-ringed arena to the acclamation of hundreds of admirers.

The Minnesota plunger seeking to get a crack at Jess Willard's heavy-weight championship crown—slapping dope on the walls of houses for years—wonder is not slowing-away banknotes in travelling bags, banknotes, tin cans, or anything else. They're lucky if they keep from going back to the blacksmith shop.

It's a hard, rough road, this business of getting anywhere in the ring, as any champ will tell you, and the ones who get the coin are in the minority. Most of 'em just get a smell of it. Of course the big fellows drag down lots of it when they get to the top of the ladder, and it's worth trying for.

Experience of One Boxer
But for the benefit of those who have not yet made the debut they may be contemplating, let them consider the case of Art Magrill, an Oklahoma fighter, just back from Australia.

Magrill has many interesting things to relate about his journey to Kangaroo land, especially about the methods employed by the promoters in "doing" the boxers out of their "jack." Magrill claims he was signed for five bouts with a guarantee of a trip over \$400 a match, with a percentage privilege.

But before Magrill was able to leave the boat at Sidney he was informed that he would be obliged to pay a government tax of 25 per cent. on all the money he had with him or which he might make in his engagement. When American boxers leave the United States they are furnished with first class transportation tickets, but after their first battle the promoter deducts 25 per cent. of the difference between the first and second class passage.

When fighters are engaged in this country, says Magrill, they are signed for bouts at Sidney and Melbourne, but when they travel back and forth between these two cities they are obliged to pay their own railroad fare.

This means another cut in their bank roll.
Gets Guarantee With Crimp in It
Magrill got his guarantee, as promised, but it was minus the 25 per cent war tax; \$75, the difference between first and second class passage; less the railroad fares between Melbourne and Sidney, and when he was ready to sail for home his return tickets were cancelled at the last minute.

The captain of the boat happened to be short-handed and Magrill was able to work his way back as a kitchen hand. He says he does not know why his transportation was cancelled, as the boat was just about ready to leave when he was notified of the cancellation.

While abroad Magrill split up with his manager, Bert Connors, who handled him in this country.

You may say that Magrill didn't do so badly after all, but what are the comparatively few dollars he picked up—from a ring-standpoint—for all the trouble he went to and the time he spent accumulating the coin?

What with the regulations on the game and the expense attached to it, it appears after all that the best way to get the magrate route is the slow but sure way after all.

Baseball Fans are Coming to Life

With big league clubs all training now for the coming contest which promises to be the biggest in the history of baseball, the Hot Stove League is getting ready to close the winter season and move toward the diamond and watch the boys timber up.

The New York team of the Hot Stove League is making itself heard, however, before adjournment of the season. From that city the experts are turning their eyes to the Chicago Americans. The experts are saying that the White Sox are due to win the flag. But as the White Sox have looked this way before, only to turn out the other way, they are using the White Sox as an example of the inaccuracy of doping baseball.

The Chicagoans never have been articulated with the parcels of hard luck that have laid low the hopes of other baseball clubs. They struggled along last year with a few hard knocks and the average run of good luck, but they weren't equal to the task of distancing Detroit and Boston in the drive for a pennant.

Big League Games to begin April 11

Western Nationals Start in East, Eastern Americans in West

The baseball season of 1917 will be opened by American and National league clubs on April 11, with the Boston Americans, world's champions, playing in New York, and the Brooklyn National league pennant winners playing at home with Philadelphia. Other opening games are: National—New York at Boston; Pittsburgh at Chicago and St. Louis at Cincinnati.

American—Washington at Philadelphia, Chicago at St. Louis and Cleveland at Detroit.

In the National league the last games will be played October 4 by Brooklyn at home with Boston, and by New York at Philadelphia.

The American league season will close on the same date with the Red Sox playing Washington in Boston.

The western clubs of the National league go east first this year, and correspondingly the American eastern teams come west.

ALASKA DOGS BREAK RECORDS
Nome, Alaska.—Fred Ayer won the annual 25-mile dog team race, thereby gaining possession of the silver trophy cup presented by John Borden, wealthy sportsman of Chicago, and \$1,000 prize money.

The trail was fast and his time of 1:55:46 broke all records for the distance.

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Paid \$15,000 for Joe Wood

Cleveland Bought the Player Outright from Boston at This Figure

New York—Joe Wood, who refused to play with the Boston Americans last year on account of salary difference, was sold to the Cleveland Americans for \$15,000, and has signed a contract with Leo Fohl's team. It was a straight sale and no other players were involved. Robert McRoy, business manager of the Indians, came to New York and made the deal with Harry Frazee, the new Boston owner.

Wood has not pitched since 1915, when he was troubled with a sore shoulder, which caused his trouble with the Boston management. Joe's refusal to sign with the Red Sox last season cost him nearly \$10,000. He was offered a salary of \$7,500 and would have collected a share in the world's series money.

Wood is said to be satisfied with the sale, as he is eager to play on the same team with Tris Speaker. The two were close friends when they were together on the Hub team.

Wood has been in the American league since 1908. He was purchased from the Kansas City club for \$3,200. The Blues bought him from Hutchinson for \$300.

Irving Bacheller, having finished the manuscript of a new novel and turned it in to his publishers, and having closed an extended and successful lecture tour, has gone to South Carolina to play golf. He will not return to New York until late in April.

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Has Carload of Real Troubles

Grant Hugh Browne, the new promoter of fights at the Madison Square Garden in New York, surely has been the victim of the bucks. He scheduled a Darryl-McCoy match. The public laughed, but the boxing commission refused to permit the fight. He booked a Darcy-Dillon bout. The public approved, but the governor refused to allow the fight. Now there is a chance that Browne will have to give up the garden.

Browne is a millionaire. He owns vast properties—including a magnificent estate in Goshen, N. Y., and two race courses in Canada. He has been engaged since the beginning of the war in shipping horses and mules to France. He has averaged 500 a day for the last two years.

Browne is a colorful man. He was once a professional ball player in Fort Wayne in the capacity of pitcher. He was one of the first college men to ever take up the game professionally, and in those rough days the ball players were a hard lot, and made it rather tough for young "Educated" Browne. He finished with baseball as a member of the Chicago Reserves in 1884.

At present he is the owner and president of the Devonshire Park race track in Windsor, Ont., and the owner and honorary president of Montreal race track. He has offices in Paris and London in connection with his financial affairs. He bought supplies, munitions and ships for the United States government at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war. He was paymaster for the Venetian forces in Mexico a few years ago.

"I merely took up the boxing game for fun. Of course, if I can help pay for the lights I shan't kick. You see, some friends of mine bought Madison Square Garden. All being sportsmen, they thought if I took charge and continued the boxing end of it that I might save the game. Here I am. If I can make the boxing end of it pay 6 per cent. of the expenses of the Garden, you will see the old place remodeled next year into the finest athletic arena in the world."

CLEVELANDS FOR 1917 ARE BUNCH OF GIANTS
Ten Are Six Footers and Seven Are Only an Inch Shorter

Leo Fohl, manager of the Cleveland, will lead a team of giants this year. On his roster are 10 six-footers and seven players 5 feet 11 inches.

Clark Dickerson, a recruit pitcher from Dothan, Ala., tops the bunch. Allen Gould, the Muscatine midget, is the smallest. Dickerson is 6 feet 2 inches, while Gould stands 5 feet 6.

There is not a 200-pounder in the squad, Gandil, 195, being the heaviest. Gusto comes next with 187, while Morton, Klepfer and Chapman are close up.

Seventeen states and two provinces combined to provide birthplaces for the Cleveland. Pennsylvania leads with six, Klepfer, Turner, Covaleskie, O'Neill, Coumbe and Miller. Fohl and Wambrans are Ohioans. Roth and Howard boast that Illinois was their native state, while Kansas turned out Lambeth and Billings. Tris Speaker and Dickerson are sons of Texas.

Here's where the others were born: Bagby in Georgia, Boehling in Virginia, Gould in Iowa, Morton in Alabama, Smith in Tennessee, Petty in Oklahoma, Chapman in Kentucky, Evans in Mississippi, Gandil in Minnesota, Gusto in California, Kevanagh in New Jersey, Allison in Michigan, Graney and Daly are foreign born. Graney hailing from Ontario, and the Daly was born in New Brunswick.

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SYNOPSIS
The town of Mount Mark, the attention of the world has been attracted to it. It has been assigned to this Methodist diocese and immediately improved by bystanders. Including the minister's family are well the paragon; they have been living in town since a young girl still in her school days. She is now a young woman and is a real home have been since the death of their mother. She is now a young woman and is a real home have been since the death of their mother. She is now a young woman and is a real home have been since the death of their mother.

CHAPTER
Practising Ec
It was a dull day early Prudence and Fairy were by the window of the "We must be sure to scraps out of the way gets home," said Prudence fitting together pieces of furry material. "It has since father wore this she will not recognize