

FAILURE OF HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE BOUT NO SURPRISE

The abandonment of the proposed heavyweight championship boxing bout between Jess Willard, titleholder, and Fred Fulton, challenger, of Minnesota, which was scheduled to be held somewhere in the United States July 4, has been taken more or less agreeably by the followers of boxing. The announcement which came from Colonel J. C. Miller of Illinois, Okla., potential promoter of the big event in pugilism, had been expected for weeks past, and, strange as it might seem for an event of such importance, the eventual turn of events has not occasioned remorse.

Willard's retirement, following so closely the abandonment of the title bout, likewise will be taken calmly by followers of the sport, who have long held the opinion that Willard would not again be seen in a public ring encounter where his laurels were at stake.

BALLPLAYER IS FIRED BECAUSE HE MADE NO ERRORS IN 20 GAMES

There have been cases in baseball, and hundreds of them, where players have been released for having too many errors, but there has been one case in baseball history where a man was released for having no errors. Mike Scanlan of Washington, D. C., the father of baseball at the capital, who has ever been an excellent judge of a player, had a famous player in the past under his charge when he was manager of a ball club in that city. This famous player was Dave Force, second to George Wright as a shortstop of the past. He began his career with Mr. Scanlan and ended it with him. All practical baseball men know that a man who gets older in the game is covering less ground—especially if he is an infielder.

It was the last year of this famous player on the diamond and the erstwhile peerless shortstop that used to get balls that looked to everybody safe, in his later years couldn't gather balls that were hit apparently at him, but

BURNS AND SISLER IN DRIVE FOR SECOND PLACE BATTING HONORS

A drive for second place batting honors in the American League is under way, with Burns and Sisler leading the attack. Burns passed George Sisler during the week ending last Wednesday, and has an average of .355. Sisler is 6 points behind him. "Babe" Ruth continues at the top of the list with a mark of .407, but he has been out of the game because of illness. Sisler continues to show the way to the base stealers with 16. McNamara of Boston tied his team-mate, Shean for honors in sacrifice hitting with 13. Walker of Philadelphia still leads in home run hitting with 6. The leading batters: Ruth, Boston, .407; Burns, Philadelphia, .355; Sisler, St. Louis, .354; Baker, New York, .353; Walker, Philadelphia, .349; Hooper, Boston, .343; Strunk, Boston, .338; Schulte, Washington, .323; Spence, Cleveland, .319; Gandil, Chicago, .319.

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Burns of New York continues to top the base stealers with 17. Lee Magee, of Cincinnati, and Roush, his team-mate, are tied for lead in sacrifice hitting, with nine. Doyle of New York, Wickland of Boston, and Luderus of Philadelphia are in a triple tie for home run hitting with two apiece. The leading batters: Doyle, New York, .424; Smith, Boston, .388; Daubert, Brooklyn, .353; Wickland, Boston, .351; Merkle, Chicago, .350; Kauff, New York, .350; Allen, Cincinnati, .348; Mann, Chicago, .333; Young, New York, .333; Lee Magee, Cincinnati, .322. Fitzgale, St. Louis, .319.

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THE GRAND OLD MAN.



By Robert L. Ripley.
Ty Cobb a Grand Old Man?

The dauntless Georgian is now the Grand Old Man of the American League. Ty is the oldest regular in point of service in that circuit—since the passing of Sam Crawford and the relegation of Terry Turner to the role of substitute. This is Cobb's fourteenth season with Detroit—and yet he may play regularly this year, as game.

It seems unusual that any one as young as Cobb should enjoy such distinction. Ty is thirty-one, and while there are others in the league older in years there is none who has served as many years in major league baseball as the great southerner.

Terry Turner, Cleveland's white-haired boy, joined the league one year earlier than Ty, but Terry ceased to be a regular a few years ago, though he may play regularly this year as the Cleveland club has been depleted by the draft.

Frank Schulte, the famous old Cub, played fourteen years in the National League, and is now working his fifteenth season as a pinch hitter for the Washington club of the American League.

Wallace of St. Louis has played big league baseball longer than any other player, having played over twenty seasons—but not as a regular. Wallace is used as a coach by the Browns, although he is listed a member of the team.

Cobb came from Augusta to Detroit in 1905. He was not yet nineteen years of age, which accounts for the fact that he is the veteran of an organization numbering close to 200 players.

Judging from his batting record of .333 and his base-stealing mark of over fifty in 1917, it would seem that this great athlete is good for many more years as a top-notch player. If he cared to lay ball that long there is little doubt that he could excel the long service records of Wagner and Lajoie.

Sherwood Magee is the real veteran of big league baseball, however. "Sherry" is entering his fifteenth season as a regular, and has without question, played more big league games than any one in either league.

George Paskert is the oldest player in either league—admitting to thirty-seven years. Jimmy Austin and Terry Turner are thirty-six years old, and Magee is thirty-four. Here are some other players who are as old or older than Cobb: Cravath, Archer, Ames, Daubert, Eldred, Moeller, Wilson, Sallee, Herzog, Stange, Shotton, Baker, Nishoff, Doyle, Fletcher, Luderus and Killifer.

Leonard on the Coast.
The Coast boxing fans after getting their first glimpse of Benny Leonard decided that in style he reminded them of Abe Attell when the former featherweight champion was the top of his form. One of those who saw the lightweight champion in his first workout said:

"The lightweight champion, aside from being stockier, looks like our Abe of old, has the same habit of pointing his left foot straight at his opponent, and apparently is just as clever as was Attell, which we realize is saying a lot for the New York fighter."

Leonard showed he has a lot and that the good things said about him are O. K. He is fast on his feet, has a chain lightning left and a snappy right cross. He's a different looking article in the ring and in action than when you see him in his military garb. There's more of the fighting spirit about him.

WHERE ARE JOCKEYS.
It is generally agreed that the present crop of race riders lacks class. There isn't a jockey on the turf today that compares with the once invincible Tod Sloan. You can't find the equal of Willie Shaw, one of the most capable riders that ever climbed into a saddle. Go down the time and recall the days of Walter Miller, who rode more than 300 winners in a single season; Jack Martin, the king of money riders; Fred Tesal, Benny Maher, Snapper, Garrison, George Odom, Willie Sims, Harry Griffin, Lucien Lynne, Joe Notter, Arthur Redfern, Winnie O'Connor, Eddie Tusan, Carroll, a shifting, Milton Henry, Grove Cleveland Fuller, Sam Duggett, the Reiff brothers, Vincent Powers, Jimmy McLaughlin, Isaac Murphy, Herman Radtke, John Bullman, Sewell, Hilderbrand, Tommy Burns, Patey McCree, Spencer, the Ice Man, Nash Turner and McCafferty. These men were real jockeys, high colored and greatly in demand. Incidentally, they attracted the public whenever they secured mounts in the big events.

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The fighter glared significantly at O'Brien and his gang, who never made a move, knowing that Bradburn, who was a terrific rough and tumble fighter, would tear them to pieces.

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NEW BOXING CHAMPIONS PROBABLE AFTER THE WAR

Training Camp Instruction Will Develop Experts and Enthusiasts — Red Cross Glove Bouts Under Mayor's Window in Philadelphia — Other Ring Gossip.

After the Hun has been humbled, and the peace loving peoples of the earth can retire for a night's slumber without danger of being awakened by the explosion of Boche bombs, there promises to be the greatest revival of boxing that ever has marked any branch of vigorous sport. The obvious truth of this assertion is the fact that nearly every soldier of the numerous training camps in America has had enough instruction in boxing by an expert to assure a knowledge of the science, or else to find in him a liking for the sport.

The result is that when Uncle Sam's boys come marching home after hanging a K. O. on the Hun chieftain, there will be an army of boxers ready to contest for the titles in all classes. There also will be an army of boxing enthusiasts who will be anxious to follow up the sport as spectators.

It is quite unlikely that there will be any further change in championships during the progress of the war, for those titleholders who are boxing instructors will be kept extremely busy teaching the recruits during the remainder of the conflict. The champions now in the service, and who will go to the front—Pete Herman,bantam, and Mike O'Dowd, middleweight—will have their troubles holding their titles at the close of the war, for they will lose form through long inaction.

Kilbane, featherweight, and Leonard, lightweight, and Lewinsky, light heavyweight champion, will also lose considerable of their form, even though they do a great deal of hard work in the camps.

The only titleholders who have don't absolutely nothing for the cause are Willard, the heavyweight, and Kid Lewis, welter. It is questionable if either will be in lively demand at the close of the war.

The chances of a new set of boxing champions when an allied peace is declared are excellent, with the indications that some of the new titleholders will be men who went over the top in the great combat over there.

Boxing in Philadelphia.
Boxing is playing a leading part in the Red Cross drive over in Philadelphia, where genuine glove contests are staged on the city hall plaza, just beneath the windows of the mayor's office, in order to produce funds for the

organization. Mrs. E. T. Stotesbury, a leader of the Quaker social set and who is a vigorous worker in the Red Cross cause, was instrumental in the staging of these bouts. The suggestion was made to her by Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, and who acted favorably on it. The result has been live glove fights, large crowds and heavy contributions to the cause.

Question of Courage.
Jimmy Dunn, who was manager of Johnny Kilbane, recently made the surprising announcement that in his opinion a boxer who took the count showed a lack of courage. Dunn added:

"I won't say that a game fighter never takes a knockout—but hardly ever. I am sure that a big percentage of the knockouts we see in the ring are not real knockouts at all. A fighter that is thoroughly game at heart will pull through the toughest sort of a beating before he will refuse to get up from the floor on the count."

This is a direct contradiction of the statements of medical experts, who declare that partial or complete unconsciousness can be produced by a blow on the point of the jaw. Those familiar with knockouts in the ring are well aware that many boxers do not recover from the effects of blows on the jaw for several minutes, and that in other cases the victims of these blows while not entirely unconscious are unable to shake off the drowsy sensation before the referee has counted ten.

A case in point was that of Corbett at Carson. He was not unconscious from the effects of Fitz's solar plexus blow. In fact, Corbett's eyes and mouth were open and he tried to pull himself up on the ring ropes. But the blow had partially paralyzed his nervous and muscular forces and he was unable to pull himself together until ten had been counted.

Dunn's declaration as to lack of game on the part of men who have received knockout blows puts the Cleveland manager and his champion, Johnny Kilbane, in a peculiar position.

When Kilbane was being buffeted about the ring by Benny Leonard and seemed on the verge of a knockout, Dunn tossed a towel into the ring at a time when his man was still on his feet, although groggy and unable to fight back.

Does Mr. Dunn's action indicate his belief that Kilbane is lacking in courage? Peculiar Wager.

One of the most peculiar wagers in the history of boxing was offered by a man who attended the bout between Johnny Ertle and Pat Moore at Baltimore, which was won by Moore on points at the end of 15 rounds.

The better is a race track man at Washington, D. C., and he wanted to wage \$1,000 to \$500 that Moore would win, but he insisted on a provision that in case of a knockout the bet was off. In other words he wanted to bet that Ertle would not outpoint Moore, barring all efforts at a knockout.

It merely bore out the argument that Moore had no punch and simply relied upon his footwork to keep him out of danger, admitting at the same time that Kewpie was dangerous at all times with a K. O. wallop. The Washington man did not get any coin down on the conditions named, but there was plenty of betting outside of that.

One Eyed Connolly Won.
One Eyed Connolly, who was the butt of jokes in pugilistic circles for years was also a punching bag for the rough necks of the clan. One night in Chicago, Connolly was maltreated by a gang of toughs led by a rough person known as Tom O'Brien. Whimpering Connolly went away and hunted up Bill Bradburn, one of the strongest, most courageous pugilists in the history of the sport. Bradburn was a peaceable chap until attacked and then he was a fury. After Bradburn had heard One Eyed Connolly's tale of woe, the fighter said, "Come with me."

Straight to the scene of the attack went Bradburn with Connolly and one or two others following. Arriving at the barroom, Bradburn strode in with Connolly at his heels. Walking up to the bar Bradburn said: "Mr. Barker, this is my friend Mr. Connolly. He is going to have a drink with me and I would like to see any gaiety in this room interfere."

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—BY RIPLEY.

Importation of High Class Breeding Stock Prohibited By Recent Regulation.

There is considerable interest among New Brunswick dog fanciers over the fact that on the official list of goods, the importation of dogs is embargoed except under special license appears "dogs for the improvement of stock." This ruling will not affect St. John as much directly, as indirectly, as most of the dogs brought here for stock improvement purposes come from Upper Canada. Quite a number have, however, been brought from the United States and some few from the Old Country.

The embargo will have the effect of limiting the supply of imported canines for the big Upper Canadian kennels as a literal reading of the regulations seems to indicate that the importation of dogs is at an end until after the war at least. At the present time there are on the way to Canada from England many well known, high priced, dogs and as they were purchased before the present regulations were promulgated it is believed they will be allowed to come in. Future importations are, however, causing the fanciers some thought. As dog shows are under the ban in England during the period of the war and breeding has been greatly curtailed there it was possible for Canadian buyers to pick up good stock at reasonable prices.

As the result of the situation in England American dog buyers have turned their attention to Canada and at the recent Upper Canadian shows several notable sales were made. With the importation of new stock prohibited, however, it is expected Canadian breeders will prefer to retain what they have rather than sell their promising puppies as heretofore.

BASEBALL.
AMERICAN LEAGUE.
Chicago, 2; Philadelphia, 1.
At Chicago—00001000—1 6 1
Philadelphia . . . 00010101—2 8 2
Myers and McAvoy; Sheldenback and Schalk.

Cleveland, 14; Boston, 7.
At Cleveland—00000300—7 11 3
Boston . . . 00000208—4 12 1
Leonard, Bach, Molyneux, Jones, McCabe, Ruth and Schang; Bagby, Groom, Counce and O'Neill.