

STEELE FAVORED TO DEFEAT RISK

Fans Expect Middleweight
Championship to Change
Owners Tonight.

By FRANK GORRIE
(Associated Press Sports Writer)
SEATTLE, July 10.—(AP)—The biggest fight spectacle of the Pacific northwest since Jack Dempsey out-punched Tommy Gibbons in Montana 13 years ago, was ready for production outdoors here tonight with Champion Eddie (Babe) Risko, risking his middleweight crown in a 15-round battle with Freddie Steele of Tacoma.

It was considered a real risk, too, for the Syracuse mauler, as he took a bad beating from Steele in a non-title bout here last March.

The latest odds were 10 to 7 in favor of the two-fisted Tacoma slugger, and many northwest fans were predicting the crowning of a new champion—part of an annual event in the middleweight division the last five years. Six different battlers have held the title since Mickey Walker vacated the throne in 1931.

\$75,000 Gate Expected
A crowd of 40,000 was expected to jam the Seattle baseball park for the big show. Several thousand fans planned to come from Steele's home in Tacoma with a hope of cheering their protégé to victory.

Promoter Nate Druxman, keeping one eye on the weather as he checked over last minute details, predicted a gate of \$75,000. He had cause for some concern after the weatherman forecast "unsettled conditions."

He admitted he already was "in the clear" on the fight even though he guaranteed Risko \$26,000 and Steele \$10,000.

At the weighing in, exercises this afternoon the champion was expected to scale just under the limit of 160 pounds and Steele three or four pounds less.

"I'm not going to fool around trying to box Steele this time," said Risko. "I'm going to toss a lot of leather and if I don't stop Freddie, it will because they carry me out."

The Tacoma boy, who hasn't lost a fight in four years and has scored 26 knockouts in 86 bouts, said, "all I want is a chance for one punch."

BUNTS
and
BINGLES

Charley Stanton, city editor and No. 1 sports writer for the News-Review, has coined a new name for the Legion Juniors. He calls them "The Huskies." We do not wish to take issue with Charley in this matter, but it seems to us that, particularly in the sports world, a name is usually chosen to typify an ambition or to designate a characteristic of the team or individual. Then why "Huskies" in this instance?

The dictionary gives several definitions for "Husky." In sports, however, we associate the name "Huskies" with teams typifying the characteristics of the Eskimo dog. They are sturdy, tireless, vicious, vindictive and dependable in a pinch to deliver the goods. They are fighters. Fight to the last ditch. Never say die. Never give up. Hard fighters. Smart fighters.

Huskies is a splendid name for a baseball club. We wish we could agree that our club should be called "The Huskies." We just can't because we have seen them deliver very little fight. They are not a fighting club. They need to be instilled with the fighting spirit. The only spark of fight we have seen them show during the whole

year was in that fatal eighth inning Sunday when they really tried to stage a comeback. The only fault was that the fight didn't last long enough.

As individuals we believe this club to be the best ever to represent Douglas county. Individually they are fine lads and hard workers. As men they give all they have and fight, but for some reason or other they haven't as yet developed that old team spirit that has won many and many a game for teams who had little else. We still hope that Charley is right. That they are Huskies—potential Huskies. That they will fight as a pack and fight hard.

Every fan has been marveling at the way "Bill" Vleck has been handling the assignment at first base. He has been doing a mighty sweet job of it. In the two games over the weekend he handled plenty of hard chances with only one error. Some were disappointed to see this one error. It was, however, one that can happen to any ball player who is on a team that

has got worked together many times. As we saw it, the error happened about this way:

A few plays before there was a hit down first base line. Andrews, who was pitching, should have covered first base but forgot to do so until too late. The man got on safely. Then came this play—at most exactly like the one before. Vleck went after the ball, as he should have done. Just before the ball was safely trapped in his glove, he remembered that Andrews had failed to cover the bag on the other play. He wondered if he had forgotten this time, too. He looked up to see. "The ball went by—and that was that. He didn't get the ball to throw to Andrews, who, this time, was standing on the base waiting for it. Old coaches in all forms of sport have a phrase they keep repeating over and over to their proteges. "Keep your eye on the ball."

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