

HART BACKS OUT ROOT IN VELETH

Louisville Man Wins Heavy-weight Championship Among Fighters.

ROOT PROVES GAME LOSER

Resounding Blow in the Stomach Doubles Up Chicago Man—Huge Crowd Sees Fight in Arena Under Blazing Sun.

RENO, Nev., July 2.—In a furious 12-round fight that was witnessed by an excited crowd of 5000 people, Marvin Hart, of Louisville, knocked out Jack Root, of Chicago, here this afternoon. The contest took place in the great arena, a mile east of the city of Reno, and for nearly an hour the men fought under a blazing sun that was almost prostrating.

The decisive blow was landed by Hart in the twelfth round. Root, who was tired but still fighting gamely, led hard for the head with his left and as he missed Hart sent a terrific right-hand blow to the pit of the stomach. The smack of the blow was heard all over the arena, and when Root fell gasping for breath the spectators knew that he would never rise within the count. As the eighth round was called, Root raised himself on his hands with his mouth open, dragged himself to a kneeling position and then collapsed. His seconds carried him to his corner, where he recovered in about three minutes.

Square Fight, Says Root.

"It was a square fight and I have no complaint to make," he said, weakly, after he had revived. "The best man won."

Hart announced that he stood ready to meet all comers, barring negroes. The fight opened with both men fighting desperately. Root, finding as Hart became angrier at the infighting in the clinches. Clinches were frequent and, though it was agreed that there was to be a clean breakaway, both men fought viciously with short-arm blows every time they came together. Hart striking for the kidneys, while Root smashed at the stomach. Before the end of the fourth round both men were sweating profusely and their eyes were almost closed. Root seemed to suffer most from the altitude. He spat blood every time he went to his corner, having received several vicious blows in the mouth. Several times he was carried to the ropes by the furious rushes of Hart, who repeatedly led his head during the fighting in clinches and Referee Jeffries was compelled to break by main force.

Hart Knocked Down Once.

At the close of the seventh round, when honors rested evenly, Hart dropped from a heavy right on the point of the jaw. The gong sounded before the blow was delivered, but no foul was allowed, as there was evidently no intent to violate the rules on the part of the Chicago man. At the end of the tenth there was no Root money in sight. Root fought viciously, but his blows lacked steam. Hart rushed his man at every opportunity, taking left and right eye punches in order to land on the heavy and kidneys. Root clinched frequently and hung on, breathing heavily, until compelled to break.

Hart's Decisive Blow.

Both men responded with a rush at the opening of the twelfth round. Hart first and forced the fighting, rushing Root almost to his corner, where each rained blows to the body. It was during the infighting that the knockout came and not until after Root recovered was its exact nature known. Root stating that it landed on the pit of the stomach as he led for the head with his left.

For Heavyweight Championship.

The fight was for the relinquished heavy-weight championship of the world. There was a liberal sprinkling of women in attendance. The men stepped into the ring about 20 pounds apart. In weight, Root scaling 170, while Hart weighed 190. The feature of the fight, aside from the battle itself, was the initial appearance of J. J. Jeffries, retired champion of the world, as referee. Jeffries, who is now in the Los Angeles bootmaker, received \$1000. Harry Corbett, the stakeholder, was at the ringside with the club's \$5000 in pocket.

Celebrities at Ringside.

Among the celebrities at the ringside were Harry Corbett, Jack Welch, Billy McConnell, Bill Gallagher, Attorney-General Swann, Nevada; Sam Davis, Lou N. Houseman, of Chicago; Senator F. G. Newlands, Lieutenant-Governor Allen and wife, of Nevada; H. L. Bagley, "Doc" Smith, Walter Young, of North; Dr. Samuel Myers, Mayor O'Conner, of Reno; Colonel Martin Brady, Al Herford, Warden Considine, of the Nevada Penitentiary; Dan Noonan, Sheriff Powell, of Washoe County; District Attorney Craig, of Nevada, and the entire constabulary and police arms of Washoe and the City of Reno.

At Sheephead Bay.

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