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7-16-08

## NEXT MAN FOR DANE

Fight Fans Talk of McFarland's Chances With Nelson.

### GANS TO GET ANOTHER GO.

"Texas" Rickard's Offer of \$30,000 Purse For Pair to Meet on Labor Day Has Been Accepted—Nelson Surely Entitled to Championship.

With Joe Gans finally deprived of the lightweight championship the future battles for those honors come up for discussion. "Who will be battling Nelson's next opponent?" is the question being asked at the various boxing headquarters throughout the country. There are not very many first class boxers in line to take on the Dane, and Paeky McFarland is the choice of the fight fans. Whether he will be the Dane's next adversary is a question. His contest with Freddie Welsh, which resulted in a draw, may have a tendency to have him seek another battle with the Englishman or with others before he tackles Nelson for the honors.

Of course the return match recently made with Joe Gans, scheduled for next Labor day (Sept. 7) at Ely, Nev., should under ordinary circumstances become the Dane's next bout, but there has developed a probability that the fight will be postponed, and that Nelson will take on some other man before clashing with the dusky Baltimorean.

McFarland was given a draw with Welsh by Jim Jeffries and, is downcast over the decision, particularly since Nelson whipped Gans. If he had decisively beaten the Englishman, there is no question but that he would be Nelson's next opponent. Since McFarland secured only a draw the new lightweight champion probably will take on some one else until the Chicago lightweight, whips Welsh, as he says he wishes to do. He is eager for a return match and, as Jeffries wants to stage it before his club, there is a possibility of their getting together soon.

Outside of Welsh and McFarland there are no lightweights who are thought to be made of championship timber, and it is more than likely that no others will be taken seriously until one or the other or both have met Nelson.

It will now be interesting to note the effect on the lightweight situation with Nelson as champion. The Dane is not a clever boxer and is not even a first class fighter, for the reason that he does not know how to hit. But he is an exceedingly tough proposition for any man to stop and is thoroughly game. He loves a mixup, and blows that would stop an ordinary fighter do



BATTLING NELSON, WORLD'S CHAMPION LIGHTWEIGHT.

not seem to trouble him in the least. His habit of keeping his head down makes it very hard to get to his jaw, and many a fighter has broken his hands on his thick, hard skull. Nelson is pretty sure to make every man he fights weigh in at the lightweight limit—133 pounds ringside.

No champion in the world ever had the fights that Battling Nelson has had to get the honors. He has met every good man of his weight in the world. There was no sidestepping in his. The tougher they were the better he liked them; the faster they were the quicker they dropped. Unlike many of the other white fighters, he didn't shy at the great colored man who headed his class.

A story of Nelson's life by himself would undoubtedly be one of the most interesting sporting books ever written. He has in a few years' time worked himself up from a waiter in a cheap New Orleans lunch room to the highest place in the lightweight division of the pugilistic world. And as for money—

well, after the recent fight he remarked that he has saved so much of the vile stuff that he doesn't know how to spend it legitimately.

### BEAUMONT, BOSTON'S STAR.

Now that the Pittsburg team is in line for the National league pennant, what would Barney Dreyfuss give to have Clarence Beaumont back on his team? Beaumont is playing a star game in center field for the Boston Nationals this season. He is leading his team in batting and base stealing, with Bill Dahlen a close second. Dur-



CLARENCE BEAUMONT, CENTER FIELDER OF BOSTON NATIONALS.

ing the greater part of the 1906 season he was laid up with a bad leg and was thought to be all in by Pittsburg. In the early part of 1907 the club released him to Boston. Since joining Dovey's team Beaumont has played a star game in center garden, his leg showing no signs of weakness whatever. President Pulliam says Beaumont is the "handsomest man in baseball today."

### WHO IS CLEVELANDS' JONAH.

Lajoie's Blues the Most Unlucky Team in the American League.

There is no denying the fact that the Cleveland Americans are hoodooed by accidents. Year after year some one or two star players are incapacitated. Several years ago Manager Lajoie was out for nearly an entire season with a bad ankle. Then Bill Bradley had his arm broken and was out of the game quite a long time. Last year Terry Turner, "Nig" Clarke, Harry Bemis and Addie Joss were the victims. Elmer Flick, the Naps' star outfielder, had to quit last summer and only returned to his team the other day.

This year the hospital list has been a large one. Fully eight members of the team have been laid up time and again since the season opened. The most recent member was First Baseman George Stovall, who had his left wrist sprained and several ligaments torn. He will be out for a month or more, and now comes the news that an X ray examination of Terry Turner's arm has disclosed the fact that one of the muscles of his injured shoulder is pressing on a nerve. This causes the shortstop great pain whenever he throws a ball. "Cotton Top" will be of little use to Cleveland this year.

It would be foolish to say that Cleveland is the only club that is crippled each year by accidents to players, for such is not the case, but the truth of the matter is that it is generally the player that Cleveland can spare the least that is hurt, while with the other teams their stars manage to keep in the game most of the time. It is certainly very hard luck for Manager Lajoie.

### Sweet Marie After Saddle Records.

It is possible that before this season is over Sweet Marie, 2:52, the great daughter of the renowned McKinney, 2:11½, will have added several more records to her already long and sensational list. Last season this remarkable trotter did great things on the mile and half mile tracks, breaking records wherever she went with apparent ease, but this season she will be trained to give exhibitions under saddle with the express purpose in view of lowering the present world's record of 2:14¼, made by Charley Mac over the Glenville track in 1904, ridden by C. K. G. Billings. W. J. Andrews has asked H. K. Dèveureux, the well known amateur reinsman, to ride Sweet Marie an exhibition mile at one of the Grand Circuit meetings this season, which he has agreed to do. Andrews has Sweet Marie in training and will prepare her for her season's exhibition campaign, which will consist of harness and saddle events.

## CAN DETROIT REPEAT?

Jennings' American League Pennant Pursuers Going Fast.

### DONOVAN IN GREAT FORM.

"Wild Bill" Evidently Intends to Eclipse His 1907 Pitching Performance—Won Eight Straight—Team Playing Aggressive Ball.

Will Hugh Jennings again land the American league pennant with his scrappy Detroit Tigers? This is the question the fans on Ban Johnson's circuit are pondering over. It is quite early for a prediction, but the voracious, clawed team Hugh Jennings has in charge showed such true gameness, so much pluck on their first eastern trip in climbing from last place to first, or so close to the top they grabbed at it, that they must figure in the calculations.

Then, too, "Wild Bill" Donovan is pitching better ball at this time of the season than he did last. This is saying some. Evidently Bill is out to eclipse his 1907 record, which was a dandy, he winning twenty-four out of twenty-eight games. This season he won the first eight games pitched, and when it is taken into consideration that it was really his twirling that won last year's pennant the Tigers' chances for the 1908 flag are greatly improved.

It was said at the close of last season that Donovan was all in, that he had been overworked and that he had shot his bolt and would never be the same pitcher again. Many people do think that Bill was overworked so much to win the championship of his own league last fall that he was not in his true form to meet the Chicago Cubs, but that does not mean that the Tigers would have beaten the Cubs had Donovan not been right—far from it, for the Cubs, just at the world's series time, outclassed the Tigers.

Donovan is going strong now, and his team is battling strong behind him, and when the Tigers get their old biff sticks to working together they come pretty near to being the real article.

Both Jennings and Donovan got very wrathful with the umpires on their first eastern trip, Jennings especially, and he has had trouble with various umpires since.

He has been under President Johnson's ban so often that now he may have accumulated more sense than he appeared to carry in his red topped noddle since his first sojourn in the east. Hughey is a star on the coaching lines, and fans want to see him out there in every game. The



"WILD BILL" DONOVAN, STAR PITCHER OF DETROIT AMERICANS.

Tigers, too, who are now right on the job, cannot afford to lose their manager's electric personality.

With Cobb, Crawford and McIntyre, Detroit undoubtedly has the greatest batting and fielding outfield that ever represented any team on the American league circuit, and in Davy Jones, who is warming the bench, there's another one who would strengthen most any club in either of the big leagues.

Unless St. Louis makes another big sprint it looks as if Detroit is going to walk away with the pennant again. They have all the confidence in the world, and Jennings is keeping them full of ginger. He keeps them "kidding" each other all the time, and there is a vein of mischief running through the team that shows how well the men are working together in spirit as well as in play.

Dineen in Winning Form. Pitcher Bill Dineen is winning right along for the St. Louis Americans and has done his share to put them in the pennant hunt.

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