

ACTIVITY IN LOCAL BOXING CIRCLES

JIMMY BRITT AFTER CORBETT

San Francisco's Favorite Boxer Out for Game.

Britt Is Willing to Weigh 130 at Three O'clock if Corbett Demands It.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 12.—Jimmy Britt, holder of the white lightweight championship of the world, is pressing Young Corbett rather hard these days for a match. Willie Britt, manager of his fighting brother, announced yesterday that Jimmy would make 130 pounds for Corbett if the latter would agree to a match. Ned Homon, president of the San Francisco Athletic Club, received a telegram from Young Corbett today announcing that he would meet Britt at 130 pounds inside. This weight is a prohibitive one for Britt, as the Californian is taking more chances reducing himself to 130 pounds at 3 o'clock than Britt did when he met McGovern at 125.

"Jimmy will never meet Joe Gans. He made this announcement before he left the amateur ranks, and before Gans was champion. There is nothing significant about this decision on his part. It is not fear, because I tried hard to get Ernie before he lost the championship. As far as Gans is concerned, he is out of it."

"When some white man comes along and bests him, then Jimmy will bring another championship home to California. In the meantime he is open to meet any white man in the world for any amount of money from \$1,000 to \$10,000. As soon as we get through with our theatrical engagements, Jimmy will start to get himself into shape for Corbett, should the latter accept the fight. The offer to the San Francisco Athletic Club, Harry Corbett, president of the Yosemite Club, has called James White, the English lightweight champion, offering him a match with Jimmy."

"If White accepts, the bout will take place in this city in February. It will be an international affair." Britt is perhaps the most successful fighter ever produced in California. His success has been marvelous. Jumping out of the amateur ranks, where he knocked out over 25 opponents in three rounds or less during the two years, he met Tony Irwin and defeated him handily. He next knocked out Tim Heaton, champion lightweight of Australia, and then put Kid Lavigne away in eight rounds.

In his last battle with Frank Erno, whom he knocked out in seven rounds, he showed a remarkable improvement over his former fights. He outboxed and outfought the ex-champion in every round. Britt has earned over \$11,000 in purses alone for his four professional fights, and has cleaned up about \$6,500 betting on himself. Britt's brother and manager is a well-known newspaper man. He has been a steady presence in the featherweight championship of the world for five consecutive years. A combination like this is seldom found in the boxing business. Jimmy Britt, unlike many other fighters, has a steady position as a bookkeeper in his father's big plumbing establishment. His success has not turned his head away from business. Each morning after a battle he is on hand at the plumbing shop, figuring away at his books.

Troubles of a Boxing Show.

"Some of these days," said Billy Corbett, the Philadelphia champion, "I intend to write a few of my experiences in running prize fights."

"I have reasons to believe that for genuine troubles no one can go ahead of the man who conducts a boxing show. Knockers they call the people who try to prevent and injure a contest. It strikes me that some other word will have to be invented to fit the case. Knockers is not strong enough."

"The moment a battle is arranged then comes the tug of war. You hear that the end that man is out to stop the show. Some one goes to the owner of the hall you have engaged and endeavors to have him cancel the lease. Then a wise guy of a councilman in the city comes along and tells you where he stands, comes along with a crimp. Fix it up with these gents and then along comes another fellow, strong, as he thinks, in the ward. He says as many things as he can to his friends and the mill will be stopped."

"A couple of weeks ago every effort was made to prevent me from holding the bout at Kenyon Hall. I had to fight to get into the hall. A man who was a constable ordered me not to enter the hall under the penalty of death. A policeman stood by. He said that I could have the hall, as I had paid for it. I opened the door with my shoulders and then pulled the constable by his hand, his pistol pocket. For this I was sued."

"Once in the hall, I supposed that my friends think I had smooth sailing, but not so. I caught onto a scheme the opponent had. They were going to the cellar and cut off the gas supply. I had to pay a policeman to stand guard of that meter until the show was out."

Tommy Ryan's Fortune.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 12.—Tommy Ryan, the pugilist, sold a flat building here the other day for \$13,000. This is the last move in a series of fortunate investments in Kansas City real estate upon which Ryan has cleared \$17,000 in the last two months. Ryan is much wealthier than he is commonly thought to be. He is worth \$100,000. Ryan cleared \$5,000 in London during the coronation. When he defeated Carter at Fort Erie last September his share of the purse was \$7,000. When he sold his saloon here a year ago he made money. Ryan sold the saloon because, he said, "I ain't intended for the business, and I don't like it, either."

Sporting news, Tracy & Denny, 105 1/2 th.

WHAT OTHERS THINK OF US

Criticism of Baseball Situation From the Badger State.

The baseball war in the far West threatens to become as bitter as the last year between the American Association and Western League, says the Evening Wisconsin several days ago. It seems now that the California League and Pacific Northwest League will make it a war of extermination and drastic measures will be brought into play by both sides. The directors of the Pacific Northwest League will meet at Spokane within a week or ten days and make effective a policy of bitter strife. One of the directors of the Pacific League said in an interview: "This fight against the invaders is to be taken up by the National Association of Minor Leagues, of which the Pacific Northwest is a member. Each league of the association is to select a club of the California League as its prey and seek to secure its best players by offers of higher salaries than they are at present receiving. The clause in the constitution of the association providing a penalty at \$500 for hiring a player from an outlaw league is to be waived and as the members of the association are, generally speaking, in a prosperous condition, it is believed California can be robbed of her stars and the league virtually disrupted. It is intended to authorize the establishment of a club in Portland to be managed and owned by the league itself, in lieu of the one deserting to the California League. If necessary to make a good showing against the invaders, the other clubs of the league will be called upon for players to strengthen the Portland team. The Helena representative at the Spokane meeting was directed to vote financial assistance to the Portland club under a pro rata assessment, if necessary, in order to make a winning fight against the Harris club."

MORAL SUPPORT NEEDED.

"It is to be war to the knife, and I am willing to wager my money on Lucas." This fight will not necessitate the expenditure of any money by the National Association, it means only moral support. It would have been much better if peace had been declared in California, as all the minors would then be working in harmony. It is not too late to bring about an amicable settlement of the war, and President Hickey of the American Association might offer his services toward that end. The California League has been made up of four clubs in the past, but now the officers of that organization think it is time to expand to a six-club league and take in Seattle and Portland, two of the principal supporting cities of the Pacific League. It is a proper move for the California League to make, but then it should be done in a spirit of peace and good will, and not with the opposition. Had the officers of the California League gone to the members of the Pacific League and explained their position, offering a substantial sum for the release of the territory in question, there is no doubt that the thing could have been accomplished without bringing about war. With a substantial amount to put in the treasury the Pacific League people might possibly have taken two lesser cities into the circle and gone about their business in the usual way, but now there will be a bitter war and neither league will make a cent the coming year.

Fencing Experts to Meet.

Signor Generoso Pavese, the local fencing master, who some time ago issued a world-wide challenge to all exponents of the gentle art of carte and tierce, is pursuing alone for his four professional fights, and has cleaned up about \$6,500 betting on himself. Britt's brother and manager is a well-known newspaper man. He has been a steady presence in the featherweight championship of the world for five consecutive years. A combination like this is seldom found in the boxing business. Jimmy Britt, unlike many other fighters, has a steady position as a bookkeeper in his father's big plumbing establishment. His success has not turned his head away from business. Each morning after a battle he is on hand at the plumbing shop, figuring away at his books.

Signor Pavese won a belt emblematic of the championship several years ago by defeating a number of crack fencers in a tourney at Madison Square Garden, New York, and he has since successfully defended his title. Signor Pavese is now, however, an exceedingly clever man with the foil, and in his native land has won numbers of medals and decorations at various tournaments. About three months ago he left Italy for America, and is now connected with the New York School of Physical Culture. He was at one time master of the International Fencing School at Cairo, Egypt, and is well known abroad.

The chief item of interest that local fencers are in the approaching passage at arms is the fact that in Vincenzo Pavese will meet a man who, like himself, is a pupil of the Italian method of fencing. Heretofore in Baltimore Pavese has met only pupils of the French school, and those whom he has vanquished are anxious to see how the little Italian is going to come out when opposed to a master of his own peculiar style. A number of New York fencers will come to Baltimore to witness the bout, as Vincenzo has many admirers in that city. The match will include bouts with foils and sabres.

It is believed in sporting circles that Jack Monrue will make a wise move if he places himself under the tutelage of "Tommy" Ryan, who trained Jeffries for his bouts with Fitzsimmons and Corbett, and, therefore, is in a position to know Jeffries' strong and weak points.

Commissions on California Races Accepted at Portland Club Cafe.

Accepted at Portland Club Cafe, 120 Fifth street. Direct wires from tracks.

ATHLETES AS STUDENTS.

It is refreshing to note that out of 53 students who failed to maintain the standard of proficiency during the fall semester, only one was interested in athletics. It has been the custom of those who do not relish the good and pleasure that result from athletic sport, to attribute failures in college to none but the athlete. Thinking that in time the facilities would entirely eliminate and discourage outdoor pastimes. The showing made to the members of the baseball and football teams of Stanford last season has more than proved to the authorities that wholesome athletics are highly conducive to success in the class rooms.

CASPAR WHITNEY ROUNDLY SCORED

His All-American Football Team Severely Criticized.

The Evening Wisconsin pays its respects to Caspar Whitney and other Eastern football critics in the following story:

"Caspar Whitney, who selects an all-star American football team every year, must have an idea that the game has never been played in the West; that the people in this part of the country are savages. In the January number of Outing Mr. Whitney selects the following all-star team: Graydon, Harvard, fullback; Chadwick (captain), Yale, and Barry, Brown, halfbacks; Rockwell, Yale, quarterback; Bowditch, Harvard, and Shevlin, Yale, ends; Barker, West Point, and Kinney, Yale, tackles; Glass, Yale, and Warner, Cornell, guards; Boyer, West Point, center. He is kind enough to allow Weeks of Michigan a place as substitute and Heston and Sweeley of Michigan favorably mention. He gives the Michigan team fourth place, placing Yale first, Harvard second and West Point third. He places the Minnesota eleven in fifteenth place. For downright conceit, Mr. Whitney takes the cake. Of all the critics in the country, Mr. Whitney is about the most prejudiced and unfair. Why on earth should a man like Caspar Whitney, who sits in his office in the East and never watches any of the Western teams play, select an all-star American team and tell why the men on the Eastern teams are so much better than those of the West? It is ridiculous. He may use a lot of technical terms and try to confuse many of his followers of the game that the East has the West beaten 100 miles. Wisconsin University proved three years ago that the East has no better teams than the West."

BADGERS HELD YALE.

The Badgers went to New Haven and played Yale to a standstill on her own grounds. Then some of the Eastern critics were small enough to claim that Yale had only her scrub team in the field. Such was not the case, for the writer was present at the game and can say that Yale presented her strongest team against the Badgers, and it was only through the rankest kind of a fluke that Yale won just three minutes before the close of the contest. To make the claim that Yale, Harvard and West Point are superior to the Michigan team last season is silly. Had Mr. Whitney seen Michigan play he might have induced himself to think that Yost men were at least as good as Yale. And to ignore Sweeley, who is admitted one of the greatest punters in the country, is also unsportsmanlike. And to give Minnesota fifteenth place shows just how prejudiced the same Mr. Whitney must be. It would be just as fair for some Western street car conductor to select an all-star team and give the places entirely to the West, passing favorable mention on some of the Eastern players. It is too bad that Michigan could not have played one of the Eastern teams last season. There would have been a different story to tell then without a doubt, as many good judges of football (graduates of both East and West universities) who saw the big teams in both sections play, did not hesitate to say that the Michigan team was the equal of any team in the East. Mr. Whitney should confine himself to selecting an all-star Eastern team, and then he might be credited with some fairness."

In order to protect one of the most exclusive residence districts in Pittsburgh from the encroachments of baseball enthusiasts, some property owners of Point Breeze formed a company and purchased the Aaron French property for \$20,000. It was the property on which "Barney" Dreyfuss, president of the Pittsburgh Club of the National League, had an option, and it is said that the citizens paid the shrewd owner of the League champions a cool \$200 for his option.

Owing to the inactivity of George Slosson, the New York billiardist, to reach Paris by January 12, the date set for the "Paris tourney" has been postponed until February 15, on which date Slosson expects to be present.

Accepted at Portland Club Cafe, 120 Fifth street. Direct wires from tracks.

CAPTAIN PIERCE LIKES FOOTBALL

Defends the Game Against Its Violent Detractors.

Capt. P. E. Pierce, U. S. A., chairman of the football committee of West Point Military Academy, was in Pittsburgh for a few days' vacation recently. At the home of his father-in-law, W. W. Young, Capt. Pierce left for Washington, where he went to have a conference with the Navy people regarding the game next year. Discussing the report sent out from Washington that the War Department is contemplating stopping the annual game between the Army and Navy, Capt. Pierce said:

"It is untrue. The War Department has no intention of stopping football, or I would have been notified. I have just come from Harvard, and we have closed with our football game. I have been called East to finish preparations with Annapolis for our annual meeting. Not only will you find West Point and Annapolis mixing it up as usual on the football field in Franklin Field, at Philadelphia, next fall, but you will find a football squad in every army post in the country. It is the soldiers' game—a game for soldiers—and the soldiers will stick to it."

IS A SOLDIER'S GAME.

"When one writes that the big football game is to be called off, as has been written, it provokes but a smile from those who know. Why, that West Point football team is the personal pride of every United States soldier, no matter in what part of the world he may be stationed. The soldiers' money and the officers' money is what supports the squad, and every fellow who wears the blue swells with pride when his football team is mentioned. The same way with the Navy. Every man-of-war in every part of the world sends its contribution to the football team. All the 'jacks' are interested, and they would insist that the game go on."

"Football needs one thing more to make it a perfect college game. That is an annual meeting between the East and the West. Michigan and Yale are such disputing the other's right to the title of college champions. They should have had a chance to fight it out. What a game it would have been! Wisconsin broke up the football game of Michigan and her down. What would Yale have done? What would we of West Point have done? I do not care to answer this question myself, but I will say that I do not think Michigan ever met a team of the caliber of Yale, Harvard, Princeton or West Point. When it comes to the fact, none do overlook West Point. Remember, we held Yale to a tie score. Next year I hope to have my boys beat Old Yale."

"West Point does not get half the credit she deserves in football," continued the football representative of the United States Army. "Down at the Academy, boys do not get a chance for daily practice until November. We have drills every afternoon in October, and the boys do not get a regular line up daily, as do Harvard, Yale and the other big ones. Now, we are forced to meet both Harvard and Yale before the first week of November. We are practically forced to get down to hard, fast work. If West Point had the early line-ups that the big colleges have, we would spring some more surprises on the football world."

A Popular Pastime.

Wrestling, the popular athletic pastime of many countries, is nowhere more popular than it is in Japan, where it is regarded as the National sport. The same as baseball in this country. The Japanese athletes are fine specimens of physical manhood. They follow the sport from childhood, and there are few in the country of the Mikado who cannot handle themselves properly on the mat.

Just what they must look like can be imagined when one learns that the present champion of the empire is about 5 feet 10 inches high, and weighs 400 pounds. His name is Yokozumi, and he is only 40 years old.

At the championship tournaments only the best wrestlers of the empire gather. Sometimes there are 200, and there is as much enthusiasm shown while a match is in progress as at a big football game in this country.

Of Interest to Golfers.

A movement is under way among the committees of the Metropolitan Golf Association and the New Jersey State Golf Association that is of interest to the Westerners. The association has prepared a general handicap list. These lists are prepared from data furnished by the secretaries of the clubs in each association, modified by what the handicappers know of the different links, the value of the Aaron French property for \$20,000. It was the property on which "Barney" Dreyfuss, president of the Pittsburgh Club of the National League, had an option, and it is said that the citizens paid the shrewd owner of the League champions a cool \$200 for his option.

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GOOD BOXERS COMING HERE

Pastime Athletic Club Has Many Offers.

Some of the Best Talent Anxious to Try Conclusions in This City.

The Pastime Athletic Club of this city is in receipt of communications from the following boxers as to securing dates under its auspices: "Kid" Broad, Jimmy Ertt, "Kid" Carter, Jack Johnson (colored), Jack McVey (colored), Billy Woods (colored), Al Neil, Tommy Kelly, Jimmy Handler and Jack O'Keefe of Chicago. Of these enumerated, Jack Johnson and McVey, the colored heavyweights, in view of their past brilliant performances—decisions over Geo. Gardner, Frank Russell and "Toothpick" Kelly—are worthy of special mention.

"Ellick" of the Philadelphia Item recently wrote the club that Jack O'Brien of Philadelphia will shortly visit the West, and will be pleased to box under its auspices.

Dugan to Meet Attell.

OAKLAND, Jan. 12.—Jockey Johnnie Dugan has been matched with Monte Attell at 110 pounds, the men to fight an eight-round preliminary to the Forbes-Long contest, which will take place before the Reliance Athletic Club on January 20. The other preliminary will be between George Brown of the West Oakland Club and a marine from the U. S. S. Albatross.

Forbes will take up his training quarters with Monk Coburn.

Jack Carig Arrives.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 12.—Jack Carig, the promising young lightweight, arrived in this city yesterday, preparatory to his meeting with Rufe Turner in a 15-round contest before the Acme Club in Oakland on the evening of January 22. Carig will go into training at Oakland.

Two preliminaries to the main event at the Acme Club's show on the 22d will be Jockey Worthington and Smalham, who will box eight rounds at 122 pounds, and Frank Raphael and George Brown, who will box four rounds at 149 pounds.

Martin and Johnson Matched.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 12.—Manager McCarey, of the Century Athletic Club, has matched "Denver" Ed Martin and Jack Johnson, the colored heavyweights, for a 20-round contest in this city the first week in February. Martin and Billie Madden are expected to arrive in this city in a few days. Johnson is the heavyweight that recently scored a decision over George Gardner.

Sprinter to Race Abroad.

A. G. Duffy, the holder of the world's 100-yard record of 9.5 seconds, has stated his intention to compete abroad next season. For the past two years Duffy has competed in England, Ireland and Scotland. Last July he won the English championship with yards for which the special reason for Duffy's return to the British Isles next season is the fact that he has won the Sir William Tempest Cup at Bath for the past two years, and if he succeeds in crossing the tape first in the 100 yards, he will become a permanent property. It is valued at \$1,000, and stands 31 inches from the ground. The trophy is also highly valued on account of the number of athletes who have tried to win it.

"Kid" Lavigne Abroad.

"Kid" Lavigne, now in England, is to box Benny Jordan, the feather-weight champion, 20 rounds before the London national Club, on Derby Day. The "Kid" recently closed a successful engagement with a vaudeville troupe in Paris.

No Boxing at Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 12.—Boxers who have cherished the hope that among the New Year resolutions of Mayor Hayes would be a determination to permit limited-round boxing bouts are doomed to bitter disappointment. On the contrary, it seems to be his determination to prevent boxing altogether. Mr. Hayes has had the matter under advisement for several weeks, and, as a result, said today that he did not think he would issue any more permits. Mr. Hayes had been investigating the boxing methods of various cities, especially Philadelphia, and had been strongly inclined to the permitting of limited-round events and drawing the color line. Mr. Hayes had said that he would try to discover some way to permit boxing without the development of brutality, encouraging of gambling or tendency to disturb the peace of the city. After mature consideration Mr. Hayes feels that he cannot so circumvent boxing as to bring about the desired results, and as a consequence he thinks it better not to have any boxing.

Manager Brooks of the Los Angeles Jockey Club has secured Mars Cassidy of Washington to act as starter for the meeting beginning January 21. The handicapper already announced include the Montgomery handicap for 3-year-olds and upward, with \$1,000 added money, the winner to be presented with a silver loving cup; the Potter handicap for 3-year-olds and upward, the angelus selling stakes; the Rosinsky stakes, Nadeau stakes and Caesar Young stakes.

Stove Crosby, the colored cyclone of Chicago, knocked out Eugene Beagah of Cincinnati recently in the fourth round of what was to have been a 15-round bout at a boxing show held at Terre Haute, Ind. A right swing on the jaw put Beagah to sleep.

THE JINGLE OF SLEIGHBELLS IS HEARD THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

All over the country, wherever winter's white mantle envelopes the earth, the jingle-jangle of the sleighbells is now to be heard. The scene pictured in the above snapshot is now to be observed in every city, town and village of the North. All who have experienced the delights of sleigh riding declare it to be the most fascinating amusement on earth.

COMMON SENSE

You use your teeth several times every day of your life and your health depends on the thoroughness with which they perform their work. Why then do you neglect them? If you suffer the slightest pain or notice any decay in any of your teeth, have them attended to at once. We guarantee the highest class of work without inflicting pain.

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Sundays, 10 a. m. to 12 m.

SULLIVAN ON DRAMATIC STAGE

Incidents in the Career of Thesplan Prizefighter.

Ben Harris, John L. Sullivan's latest manager, is back at New York, and thus relates his experiences with the once world-renowned heavy-weight champion:

"I've been up against some pretty rough deals," he remarked, "and have had some interesting experiences in my life, but this time with John L. Sullivan was the limit."

"For the first five or six weeks John was not the soberest man in the world, but we managed to pull off his engagements and did not break contracts. In Detroit, however, the 'champion of champions' broke loose and made the town whirl round on a lamp post."

"Of course, you know he went on a horrible feed that ended in the town hall. Npt a soul came forward of his many friends to help him. He finally sent for me, but I was disgusted with his actions and at first refused to go to see him. Then I thought better of it, and called at the cell. I upbraided him for his actions and told him that the next day they would put him in the Black Maria and cart him off to trial with a lot of bum newspaper men."

"Well, the big fellow laid down on the floor and cried as if his heart would break. I felt sorry for him that he was a whaler, and for which he signed an order for his release. He immediately signed the pledge and for two days he was all right. Then the deluge! I was deluded into the belief that he had turned over a new leaf, and invited all the newspaper men in town to occupy boxes at the theatre and be convinced for themselves that John had cut out the liquor."

"Well, sir, he rolled on the stage like a whalebone, and for which he began his monologue at the wrong end and tried to talk backwards. The audience began to laugh."

"WOT CHU LAFFIN AT?"

"Wot chu laffin at?" said the big fellow.

"This amused them and they laughed some more."

"Say," he yelled, "You mugs make me tired. Youse think I'm workin' for that? Well, I ain't. I'm doin' it for fun, ar? If you don't think it's funny, why—well, you know what you can do."

"Me work?" he continued. "Me? He pulled a roll of yellow jackets out of his pocket and shook them at the house."

"I was standing in the wings. They had sent for me when John began to cut up. I immediately ordered the curtains wound down. They rung it down a drop curtain—but that didn't faze John. He simply walked right around in front of the drop and exclaimed: 'If youse think you can shake me like that, youse ring it down. It takes more than one curtain to keep John L. out of sight of the public.'"

"I ordered another curtain rung down. So help me if he didn't walk right around it and when the stage hands tried to stop him he made a punch at them that frightened the whole crowd to death."

"Now," he cried to the audience, "sit down and be good. I'm goin' to tell you this if I have to come down here an' hold the whole bunch of you in your seats."

"Then I ordered the main curtain rung down and when it came down the big fellow got down on his hands and knees, lifted it up and crawled under."

"Ah there!" he called to the audience. "Ah, there, pals. I'm with you again. Now I will show you a jig step or two."

"Well, we finally got him off the stage and I cut loose. I took him to Toledo first, however, and left him there. No more John L. in mine. There's a lot of money to be made by the big fellow when he's sober, but that condition with him is so infrequent that you can't count on a regular income."

"I'll be a bottle of wine to a jump of cracked ice that he will be back in New York within a week without a cent, unless some burlesque show picks him up for a shine, so, for he has the greatest card in the country. I had him booked up till May 5 at \$500 a week, and he threw it all away for liquor."

"He has a copper with him now in Toledo getting \$50 a week to keep him from drinking. Whenever the big fellow goes into a joint the copper orders the barkeeper not to serve. I introduced this idea of the copper in order to deliver him in Toledo for his engagement there. Now they have kept the copper, and he proves to be a good invention in connection with John Lawrence Sullivan."

Eddie Told said he will surely go to France in the spring. According to the stories told by the American riders who returned from there this winter, the French francs are "very money."