

BAYES-GRAY SCRAP TO BE YEAR'S BEST

(By Will Carver)
With the Dempsey-Sharkey affair safely out of the fan's interest, Matchmaker Plant is prodding around for the best material available for his card of July 27th. Bobby Gray, now matched with Phil Bayes for the main event of this fight, aroused Bayes and his friends by his very earnest efforts to secure this return to the Salem boy. Bayes held Gray to a draw in the Mount Angel affair last week, but Gray insists that with full three minute rounds he can make Bayes tired of his contract long before the tenth comes up.

Gray feels lucky because of his tiger-like rush in the second round when he knocked Phil down without a count. Just what Gray's chatter will amount to will be tested when Phil starts in to show him just what is a real scrap. Bayes does not have much to say except that he is sure that he can send Bobby back to the Silver Creek country a sadder and wiser gent.

Phil's friends concede that Gray did get to the Salem lad for a brief moment early in the bout but point out the fact that Bayes earned most of the rounds and had Gray wobbling in the seventh and eighth cantos when he hit Bobby with everything, but the corner posts and drew bean coupe gore from the hope of Mount Angel.

All in all, it is going to be one peach of a fight. There will be much more doing than if Alfie Taylor had been matched with Bayes. Taylor's "hiding behind the crouch" style of fighting has never been popular in Salem. In addition to this the boys who claim to know, assert that Phil now stands more of a chance to best Taylor than Gray. Gray has been through 300 mills and has ten to spare.

Now for a word for Phil Bayes. Many of the good sports who should know better are going around hinting that Bayes laid down at Mount Angel. Phil Bayes has always fought for the glory of getting there and has never held back or faked for anyone. Bayes went to Mount Angel in the same frame of mind as many of his followers. He had an idea that Gray would be easy and tripped into the ring with this impression.

Bayes nor anyone else is going to frame things for such a nice wallop on the chin as he received in that second round. Phil started in to do things and it was just a case of two good men fighting, each for his own decision. Bayes has always been on the square with Salem fans and deserves their support. He has taken some of his worst beatings and has won some of his best fights here. And it might be said that in at least three fights he has received rotten decisions, decisions that were so putrid that even his non-supporters were sports enough to admit it.

The first prelims have not yet been selected by Plant but the semi-final will be a worthwhile event with Ted Fox and St. Fluke making their best play for the consideration of Joe Levy, Portland's matchmaker, who is said to have promised a match to the winner.

These two Polk county lads are good. Fox has boxed in the Salem ring since he was knee-high to a grass hopper, but on the 27th he will have to fight a comparative newcomer but a lad who has taken nearly every battle he has stepped into.

Regrets Plunge



Helen Walwright, above, internationally known swimmer, has announced at New York City that she would start an action to have her marriage to George Holland, theater organist of Oklahoma City, Okla., annulled. The swimmer is said to have left her husband two hours after they were married at Dallas, Tex., while she was on a tour.

FIGHTER'S MAIL BRINGS ODDITIES

By Edward J. Neil
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, Saratoga Lake, N. Y., July 21.—The "fan mail" of Jack Dempsey, whose colorful personality has gripped the fight loving public as strongly as any man in fistic history with the sole exception of John L. Sullivan, is inspiring, exasperating, and pitiful.

Hundreds of letters and telegrams pour in to him daily. All are handled by his secretary. Most of them wish Jack luck in his comeback effort. Some tell him plainly that he is a "no good bum." A few want definite information that he will conquer Jack Sharkey in the Yankee Stadium.

In the last category are at least two letters Jack would like to be able to answer if it were possible. The first was from a mother of

two children, one of whom must undergo an operation, asking if Jack would advise her to bet \$100 on him in the coming fight inasmuch as the operation required twice that amount. Time was precious, the mother wrote, and that was the only immediate way open to double the sum on hand.

In the letter were two slips of paper. On one was written: "You can do it safely," on the other: "I would advise you not to do it." Jack was asked to return one slip or the other "because my little boy's health is involved and not because I would hesitate to place my money on you under ordinary circumstances."

The second in faulty handwriting, came from a washerwoman who was ill and unable to earn her usual \$3 a day scrubbing floors. She had two rings that could be pawned, she said. Would Jack "please write whether he would win?" Just yes or no.

CONFIDENCE-PLUS SHARKEY'S SECRET

By ALAN J. GOULD (Associated Press Sports Editor.)

NEW YORK, July 21.—Confidence-plus—that's Jack Sharkey. No aspirant for heavyweight championship honors ever climbed into a ring with more assurance, expressed and otherwise, than the Boston Lithuanian. If he whips Jack Dempsey tonight at the Yankee Stadium, thereby gaining the right to fight Gene Tunney for the title, it will merely be a fulfillment of Sharkey's own predictions.

"Dempsey," Sharkey has said, "is made to order for me. I will beat him sure. And Tunney? He will be easier than Dempsey." Confidence, plus his unusual

fighting equipment, has carried Sharkey rapidly up the fistic ladder, less than a year. When other heavyweights were side-stepping the so-called "dark menace," Harry Wills, Sharkey went about besieging promoters to match him with the negro. He finally convinced Humbert Fugazy to do it, but there were few if any experts who had any idea Sharkey would upset the giant ex-stevedore at Ebbetts Field last October.

After crawling through the ropes that night, Sharkey stuck out his chin in an aggressive manner, gave Wills what is generally known as the "eye," then walked over to the radio and declared: "Hello folks; I'll lick Wills sure as shooting tonight!"

It is well-known ring history that Sharkey did "lick" Wills, scientifically and thoroughly, although the decision went to him on a foul in thirteenth round.

Sharkey was "made" by his decisive victory over Wills, who was thus eliminated from the picture as a heavyweight contender a fortnight after the downfall of Dempsey before Tunney at Philadelphia. Again last winter, when Mike McGuire was on the high-road of a sensational come-back, bowling over such men as Paul Berlenbach, Sharkey showed no fear of Michael's new-found punch.

"It's a shame to fight such an old man but I'm willing to do it if no one else will," Sharkey commented. Mike proved a tougher nut to crack than even Sharkey figured, however. The Bostonian won on a technical knockout in the twelfth round. Had the fight been limited to ten, McGuire might have taken the decision.

But Sharkey, at least, showed his ability to "take it" in this bout, absorbing Mike's hardest

wallops without even a hint of going down.

Sharkey lacked none of his customary vocal vigor before his outdoor battle with Jimmy Maloney, fellow Bostonian, at the Yankee Stadium in May. "Maloney always has been made to order for me," Sharkey asserted. "I'll knock him from here to Hell." It is a matter of record that Sharkey did just that, polishing off the chubby Irishman with neatness and dispatch in five rounds.

If confidence is half the battle, Sharkey, the experts agree, already has that part of it "in the bag."

Touching! The president of the college looked up questioningly at the man who had entered his office and now stood regarding him gravely.

"And what can I do for you, sir?" he inquired.

"I don't suppose you remember me," the visitor began, and seeing the look of doubt on the president's face, went on: "I am Polard, of the class of '07. The year I left school I was very hard up and you lent me ten dollars. And I told you that when I had made good I would come back and remind you of it and pay it. So—"

"Go on," said the president, beaming.

"So, here I am. You don't happen to have another ten-spot on you, do you?"



Photo by Kennel-Ellis. Dr. C. A. Eldridge

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