

Tunney Declared in Pink Of Mental, Physical Shape

BY GEORGE KIRKSEY
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SPECTACULAR, N. Y., July 24.—On the threshold of his second defense of the world's heavy-weight boxing championship, Gene Tunney apparently is physically and mentally attuned for the supreme effort of his ring career.

Tunney took the final step today in preparation for his 15-round title bout against Tom Heeney, New Zealand challenger, Thursday night, and looked every inch the champion of the world.

From now until the going change in New York's big American League ball park, Tunney's task will be to conserve the energy he has stored during the last two months of training in his remote village.

For a man who has boxed three times (12 rounds) in the last three years, Tunney is a ring novice. In his final workout today he gave an amazing exhibition of sharp punching, fast footwork and deceptive defensive work.

In action against Harold Mays and Billy Vidabek, the champion appeared to have every ring weapon with which successfully to defend the title.

He punched both sparring partners around the ring, seldom missed a blow and frequently made both Mays and Vidabek look clumsy.

Mays had Tunney near the ropes in the first round, apparently cornered, when he let fly a right swing to the jaw. Tunney cleverly stepped aside and Mays almost plunged through the ropes.

Tunney hit Mays several terrific blows which hurt the rugged New Jersey heavyweight despite the fact that much of the power behind the punches was absorbed in the heavy 16-ounce gloves.

The champion used his right to the body frequently in the four rounds he boxed against Mays and Vidabek, strengthening the belief that he will attempt to wear down the challenger with a body attack.

As Tunney left the ring, he said he was in the greatest shape of his life. He weighed 189 after the workout and expects to scale 190 for the fight.

Outwardly Tunney is in better shape than he was for either of his two bouts against Jack Dempsey. For the first time on the eve of an important bout Tunney is not hampered by a physical ailment. He carried a split lip into his first fight with Dempsey and a bad eye into the battle of Chicago.

English Golfer Wins From Hagen
WAYLAND, Mass., July 24. (UP)—Archie Compston, famous English golfer, emerged victor from the first 36 holes of a 72-hole match with Walter Hagen at the Sandy Burr course here today with a narrow margin of one up.

Hagen, after losing the first 18-hole morning round three up, came back brilliantly in the afternoon, finishing the first nine holes with three up on the Englishman. Compston succeeded in knocking only one from Hagen's lead in the final nine holes of the day's play, Hagen finishing with two up for the afternoon round.

Weather, Gate Receipts, Get On Tex Rickard's Nerves
NEW YORK, July 24. (UP)—Tex Rickard has lost the luck that he found in the roaring camps of the Alaskan gold rush.

For the first time in his long career the promoter seems on the verge of losing money on a prize fight. Word came out of Madison Square Garden tonight that the ticket sale for the championship bout between Gene Tunney and Tom Heeney Thursday night had climbed a bit above \$600,000.

Rickard must make a little more than \$800,000 to break even. Tunney will get \$525,000; Heeney, \$100,000; expenses at the Yankee stadium will total around \$100,000; and incidentals are going to eat up about \$75,000.

After staging five heavyweight bouts in the last seven years and drawing more than a \$1,000,000 each time, Rickard became convinced that the customers would plank down a million dollars every time he put on a "battle of the century."

He overlooked one vital fact, Jack Dempsey, the killer, the magnet that draws the fans, was involved in all five of the \$1,000,000 gates. Dempsey will not be in the ring Thursday night. Instead, two other Irishmen—one a soft spoken student of the classics and the other a mild, genial blacksmith—will be battling for pugilism's biggest prize.

Rickard expects 75,000 persons to swarm through the 48 gates at the Yankee stadium to watch the bout, of these, 10,000 will have paid \$40 each and the balance prices ranging from \$30 down to \$5.

Near second base, where Tony Lazzeri and Mark Koenig play baseball for the Yankees when there isn't a battle of the century on, will be pitched the ring. On that 24 square feet of canvas Tunney and Heeney will slug away for 45 minutes unless one of them unexpectedly knocks the other out in less than 15 rounds.

Now that Rickard's box office luck has departed, his confidence in the gods that rule the weather also is shaken. Usually they have provided clear nights for his bouts, the Philadelphia affair being the outstanding exception. Tonight Tex was dividing his time between weather reports and box office statements. Neither looked favorable.

The closest that any customer can get to the ringside is the fifth row, the first four having been reserved for newspaper men who are coming from England, China, Japan, Australia and the United States.

GLIMPSES OF GENE TUNNEY'S CAMP



Home Team Win In Coast League

SAN FRANCISCO, July 24. (UP)—All home teams of the Pacific coast league won their games today and Sacramento and Hollywood, leaders of the circuit, climbed higher in the percentage column.

The Sacramento Senators opened the split week by winning 8 to 5 from the San Francisco Seals. Seven runs scored in the seventh and eighth innings by the Senators overcame an early lead of the Seals.

Hollywood did its heavy scoring in three innings and came through with a 15 to 3 victory over the Seattle Indians. After tallying once in the first, the Stars added seven runs in the second, three in the fourth and four in the seventh. There were 22 hits made by the two teams with Hollywood turning in 21 of the total.

Oakland and Los Angeles played the closest game of the day with the Oaks winning 2 to 0. Cunningham of Los Angeles, and Dumovich, of Oakland, each allowed but six hits.

The Portland Beavers were defeated by the San Francisco Missions by a score of 7 to 4. The contest was hard fought during the first six innings. By scoring three runs in the seventh inning, the Missions won the game.

Increase Declared in Church Members

WASHINGTON, July 24. (UP)—The membership of the Roman Catholic church in the United States totaled 18,604,850 persons in 1926, an increase of nearly 20 per cent over the total membership of ten years before, which was reported as 15,521,515. The figures were made public today by the census bureau count of religious body membership as a part of its regular decennial ship.

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Club—	R	H	E
San Francisco	5	12	2
Sacramento	8	11	1
Batteries—Thurston and Sprinz; Vinc, Gould and Koehler.			
Club—	R	H	E
Portland	4	9	1
Missions	7	14	1
Batteries—Baecht, Couch and Whitney; Nelson, Davenport and Baldwin.			
Club—	R	H	E
Seattle	3	11	2
Hollywood	15	21	1
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