

TOO MANY MANAGERS AND "HOLD-OUT" TACTICS FOR BIG PURSES KILL WILLARD AS IDOL

WILLARD'S MANAGERS ARE PULLING CHAMPION FROM THRONE AS POPULAR IDOL

Money-grabbing Propensities of Syndicate Handling Affairs of Johnson's Conqueror Are Ruining Pugilism's Greatest Favorite

WHEN Jess Willard toppled Jack Johnson from his throne at Havana, Cuba, last April, he immediately became the greatest idol the American ring has ever known.

It was not Willard's fault that he was placed in this position, because if he had not associated himself with the Jones, Curley and Frazier syndicate he would never have had the opportunity to meet Johnson, but this combination are pulling the world's champion from his throne as a popular idol because of their utter disregard for anything that has not a dollar mark in front of it.

After Willard had beaten Johnson, Tom Jones, his manager and the real boss of the Jess Willard syndicate, announced that Willard would take a theatrical tour and star in other ventures counted upon to make money, but at the end of eight months he would be ready to defend his title against all comers.

Willard Does as the Syndicate Bids

However, they did not expect the champion to allow himself to be a mere puppet in the hands of the money-grabbing syndicate, who are now killing his popularity by their methods of squeezing the public for all they can get.

New York will probably fall for the match, and the promoters, who have outbid all rivals for the right to stage it, by guaranteeing the champion the modest sum of \$47,500 for a ten-round exhibition, may make some money, but the general public, aside from the hero-worshippers who want to see the new champion for the first time, would rather see Willard fight a 20-round or finish fight, in which his title would be at stake.

All the American public has to convince it that Willard is a real champion is the fact that he beat Jack Johnson, who was but a shadow of the Johnson who toppled Jeffries from his throne in 1910.

Syndicate May Be at Parting of Ways

Indications are that the members of the syndicate are at the parting of the ways, owing to the disagreement as to whom Willard should meet, Jack Curley, in New York, arranged for the champion to meet Jack Dillon, calling off negotiations for the Willard-Moran bout, but Jones, in Excelsior Springs, Mo., refused to sanction the match made by Curley and immediately made the new agreement to meet Moran.

It would be an excellent thing for Willard if the syndicate did split as the result of the recent disagreement. Financially, he may be a loser, but otherwise he would be better off. Willard has already made enough money off the title to live in ease for the rest of his days.

Philly Official Doubts Yarn About Stallings' Salary

"George Stallings may be getting \$20,000 a year on a new five-year contract, but I don't believe it," says an official of the Phillies. "Why should the Braves, in time of peace, tear up a contract which has two years to run and which calls for little more than half that amount?"

"The magnates are still making the mistake of talking too much big money," continued the official. "You don't hear anything about the financial end of the game coming from the Philly office. The fans don't care a rap about the magnates. They are interested in the players, and the sooner the magnates step out of the limelight the better off the game will be."

St. Louis Fans Want 10-Cent Bleacher Retained

The fans of St. Louis are flooding newspaper offices with letters insisting that the 10-cent bleacher be retained at the American League Park. Ban Johnson says this is impossible and that the old prices will still be in force, but the fans are going over his head and have petitioned Phil Ball, the new president, to "give them a square deal."

This unusual request for the 10-cent bleacher is due to the consolidation of the Browns and Reds. The fans claim that almost the entire Federal League team will play regularly for the Browns and that they cannot see why they should pay 25 and 50 cents for bleacher seats to see them this season when it cost them but 10 cents to watch Plank, Davenport, Jones, etc., last year.

Tom Kelly Signs Two-Year Contract at Alabama

Tom Kelly, who turned out Muhlenberg's greatest eleven in 1913, has been signed to coach the University of Alabama football team for 1916 and 1917. Kelly made a great record at Alabama last season, but it was feared that he would not return, as he had been offered the head coaching position at North Carolina A. and M. After leaving Muhlenberg, Kelly turned out a wonderful scoring machine at the Missouri School of Mines, in 1914, and then switched to Alabama.

Experience Enabled Pearson to Retain Title

That experience is a wonderful asset in any branch of sport was proven conclusively in the match between Stanley Pearson, titleholder, and Danny Hutchinson for the squash racket championship of the State of Pennsylvania. Hutchinson started off like a sure winner, but after winning two straight sets displayed a weakness on back-hand strokes which his more experienced opponent was quick to take advantage of.

Pearson immediately changed his whole style of play, and soon had Hutchinson on the run. The former Penn star, not having the experience of the German-town player, failed to realize that Pearson had fathomed his style, and did not switch his attack. Defeat naturally followed, much to the surprise of a large crowd. Hutchinson was more brilliant and is certain to develop into a wonder at the game when he gains the needed experience.

Peace Commission Overlooked An Important Clause

It is claimed that the peace commission overlooked a clause which was to have been inserted in the agreement signed between the Federal League and Organized Ball, and as a result no provision has been made for players who were with Federal League Clubs last season, but whose contracts have expired. Under ordinary conditions the men would be free agents, but as Organized Ball has refused to recognize several stars as free agents, somebody must be responsible for the mediocre players.

Jim Kelley, who jumped the Pirates for the Pittfeds, raised such a fuss about his future that the magnates decided to find out just where he stood, and discovered that the clause was missing. Kelley claims that some club must offer him a contract for the same amount he received last season, according to the agreement he holds, or the National Commission must make him a free agent. The commission does not want to make players in this position free agents when their releases might be sold, but also does not want to be responsible for a lot of third raters who are in the same position.

NARBERTH HIGH ATHLETES SHOW SPEED IN CAGE

Coach Eshelman Has Fast Quintet—Play Chestnut Hill Next Week

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

It is interesting to note the improvement of the athletic teams at Narberth High School and the success of the basketball quintet, the first to represent the school, which is playing a hard schedule of contests.

Coach Eshelman has a number of excellent players, including such stars as Durbin, the former Haverford boy; Anderson, Hedder, Smith, Downes, McCarter and Harsch. Following the game with the Parkersburg second team today, the Narberth athletes will meet Chestnut Hill Academy at Chestnut Hill next Tuesday afternoon.

The schedule of games follows: February 8—Chestnut Hill Academy, at Chestnut Hill. February 18—Doylstown High, at Narberth High. February 19—West Chester Normal Reserve, at West Chester. February 25—Cumbria High, at Conshohocken. March 5—Abington High, at Narberth. March 10—Bryn Athyn Academy, at Bryn Athyn. March 17—Conshohocken High, at Narberth. March 24—Villanova Prep Reserve, at Villanova.

In Collins, a substitute forward, Coach Philip G. Lewis, of the Germantown High School basketball team, has a first-class player. He showed brilliant form in the game with the Narberth High reserve yesterday afternoon.

What is the status of Schoppa and Shelton at Northeast High? It has not been announced that they will return for the month and students at the high school wonder if they will be in line in the game next week.

Southern High School is unable to open its track season as expected owing to lack of a gymnasium and indoor track for training purposes.

The Temple University basketball team will meet the Villanova College quintet in a game tomorrow night in the Temple University gymnasium.

In the game with the Wilmington High School girls yesterday, the former University of Pennsylvania team was returned the victor by a score of 29 to 12.

St. Albans School has sent a number of star athletes to Penn. The sprinter, Steve Cronwell, the basketball twirler, who is a junior at Pennsylvania, is another. Cronwell has the making of a variety twirler.

WINDNAGLE TURNS SPRINTER TO IMPROVE TIME IN MILE

Cornell Distance Runner Practices Short Dashes to Overcome Weakness at Finish



L. V. WINDNAGLE

AMONG all of Cornell's star track athletes none is more anxious to win an intercollegiate championship than L. V. Windnagle, who runs all distances from a mile to two miles.

But Windnagle has had three good opportunities to snatch an intercollegiate title and is still without it. Twice he has tried for the cross-country championship, but neither time has he succeeded.

But the Tiger won, and his victory explains what is the trouble with Windnagle. The Cornell man lacks that sprint at the end of his race which characterized such men as Jones, of Cornell, and Meredith, of Pennsylvania.

This winter Coach Meakley is training Windnagle for the mile once more. He would work him for the two miles, but here he has Potter and Hoffman, two almost unbeatable men.

MICKEY GALLAGHER BEATS DARBY CASPER

Lightweights Battle Hard for Smoky Hollow Championship at Broadway

Had the world's championship been at stake instead of that of Smoky Hollow, Mickey Gallagher and Darby Casper could not have battled harder than they did through six rounds at the Broadway Athletic Club last night.

It was a rough-and-tumble fight all the way. Both the youngsters were in the ring to win, and at times they became so eager in their efforts to win that they forgot all they ever knew about boxing.

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Why Be a Banker When Boxers Can Earn This?

Table showing earnings per round and per second for Willard and Moran.

C. O'Donnell Gets Offer From Purdue

EVANSTON, Ill., Feb. 4.—The O'Donnell coach of the Everett High School football team, states today that he has received an offer to coach the Purdue University football eleven next year, but has not decided whether he would accept.

Johnny Coulon to Return to Ring

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—Johnny Coulon, former heavyweight champion of the world, today agreed to box Frankie Leahy on February 21 in Columbus, O. The match is for ten rounds, and marks the return of Coulon to the ring after two years' lay-off.

Offers \$10,000 for Chaney-Kilbane

BALTIMORE, Md., Feb. 4.—Al Herford, who was the manager of Joe Gans, has offered \$10,000 for the Chaney-Kilbane fight.

Picture a Collection of 6000 Garments

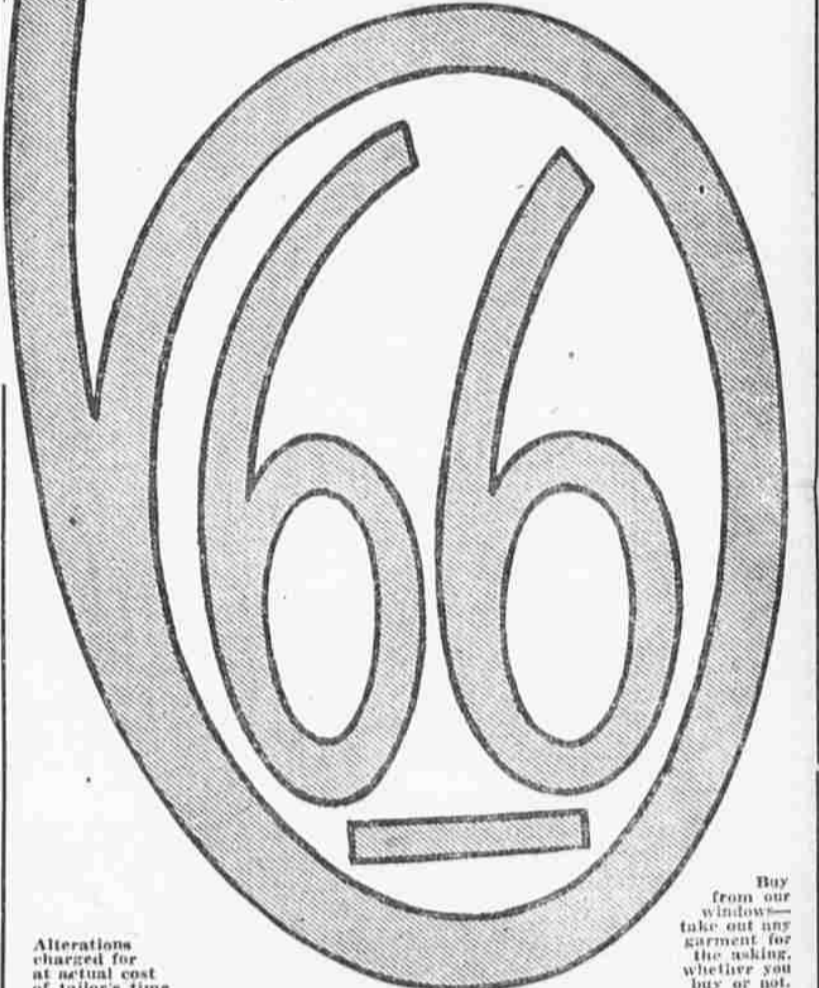
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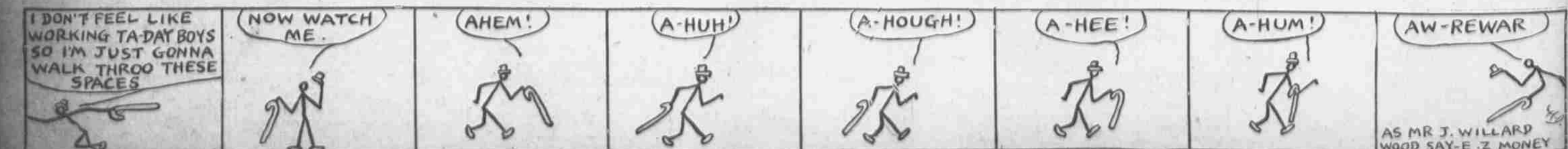
3000 Pairs Pants at These Prices

Table showing prices for 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 pants.

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AS MR. J. WILLARD WOOD SAY-E Z MONEY