

JESS WILLARD REALIZES THAT HE IS NOT POPULAR AS HEAVYWEIGHT RING CHAMPION

WILLARD MUST CHANGE ATTITUDE TOWARD PUBLIC TO EVER BECOME POPULAR

Jess Declares His Unpopularity Is Due Solely to His Natural Physical Advantages

JESS WILLARD is partly correct when he asserts that the reason for his unpopularity with the American fighting public is his gigantic size. "Only a few days ago," declared Willard before leaving New York, "did I find out that I was really not a popular champion and the only reason that I can attribute this to, is that I am so big. I can't help being big and having the natural advantage over my opponents and I think the fans ought to realize that."

Willard Will Have to Change His Style

While Willard was unquestionably sincere in what he said about the reason for his unpopularity, he did not go all the way nor did he give all of the reasons. His general attitude toward the fighting public has been one of utter disdain. It is possible that he did not mean to be that way, but he was, and that is the main reason why ninety per cent. of the audience in New York Saturday night would have liked to have seen Moran knock out the big Kansan.

John L. Original If Nothing Else

Originality is a great thing. But enough is sufficient. There are limits to all things and to the point in question, John L. Sullivan exhibited a capacity for originality almost unprecedented in boxing circles when he gave Frank Moran the decision over Jess Willard.

John L. was quite a fighter in his day. But this is 1916. He is no longer a fighter and if that one decision can be taken as a criterion he is no longer a judge of fighters and fights. The former champion states that Moran won because he carried the fight to Willard in every round. But he carried it only as far as Jess' left glove, which prevented with pendulum-like regularity any attempt to carry it closer. Yes, he carried to Jess all right, but the Kansan politely returned it.

It appears that the once-great heavyweight has lost both his logic and his eyesight, for his deductions in reaching a Moran conclusion are almost as erroneous as his statements of the events which he declares occurred in the ring Saturday evening at Madison Square Garden.

Which leads us to conclude that if John L. cannot pick them any better before a fight than he does afterward, he is our idea of nothing to get excited about in the way of a ring prophet. In other words he appears to be the Hughey Fullerton of the prize fight game.

Penn Needs Baseball Cage

University of Pennsylvania athletes still need a great deal in the way of athletic equipment, but there are few needs more pressing than an indoor baseball cage. The preliminary season just closed has furnished the strongest argument for it. Not until they faced the Middies at Annapolis had the Quakers been able to line up outdoors. Their batting practice had been limited to Weightman Hall, which is entirely too small for this sort of practice. Naturally they were beaten and they will feel the handicap for some time to come, though there is some comfort in the fact that most of their early season opponents have suffered the same misfortune.

This perennial difficulty could be eliminated by the construction of an indoor cage, such as Cornell, Yale and Dartmouth possess. At the three universities named the indoor cages contain full-size infields, heated and well lighted. The only kind of practice the men cannot indulge in here with midsummer freedom is to chase flies in the outfield.

Pennsylvania has been handicapped for years in this respect. Such a cage could be used not only for the baseball team, but is almost as essential for the track team. One of the reasons that the Quakers cannot develop consistent hurdlers, jumper and vaulters is that the candidates for these events must train in cold, poorly lighted quarters.

Between the baseball and track teams it would seem that such an indoor cage would prove a profitable investment. Captain Luderus in World's Series Form

Fred Luderus has been playing the same quality of baseball in the South that he uncorked in the recent world's series with the Boston Red Sox. He has been slugging the ball consistently and fielding his position with the accuracy that he had last summer in the four games against Bill Carrigan's people.

Fat Moran seems to have not only made Fred do the best work of his career for one year by naming him captain, but has extended that period of playing efficiency to the present year and coming National League campaign.

Last winter Luderus went to his home in Milwaukee, where he kept in perfect condition until the spring training call was sounded by Fitchburg's first citizen. It took the Phillies' captain only a couple of days to get in playing shape and he has been putting up a remarkable game ever since.

The Phillies and their followers are hoping that "Ludy" will romp down the 1916 season's stretch in the van of batsmen. He was beaten out last year by Larry Doyle, of the Giants, by a margin of a few points only.

Gleason "Invented" Inside Baseball

J. C. Kofoid, writing in the Baseball Magazine, claims that "Kid" Gleason originated inside baseball 20 years ago while he was captain of the New York Giants. Kofoid says: "The Giants and Anson's Chicago Colts were fighting it out. In the eighth inning, with the score 9 to 6 in favor of the Giants, the Colts filled the bases with two out and Jimmy Ryan at bat."

"In those days Ryan was one of the greatest sluggers, and a long hit then was bound to tie the score. Gleason, ever alert, saw that the comparatively weak-hitting Decker was next at bat. He ran over to Jodel Meekin, who was on the slab, and whispered something in his ear. Meekin seemed amazed, but called Catcher Wilson, and the three had a conference, with Gleason doing most of the talking.

"Then, to the astonishment of every one, Meekin deliberately pitched four balls so wide of the plate that Ryan had not a chance to touch any of them. A moment later he fanned Decker, winning the game. It was the first time on record that a twirler deliberately passed a man (forcing in a run) to take a chance on a weaker hitter."

Association May Bar Local Golfers

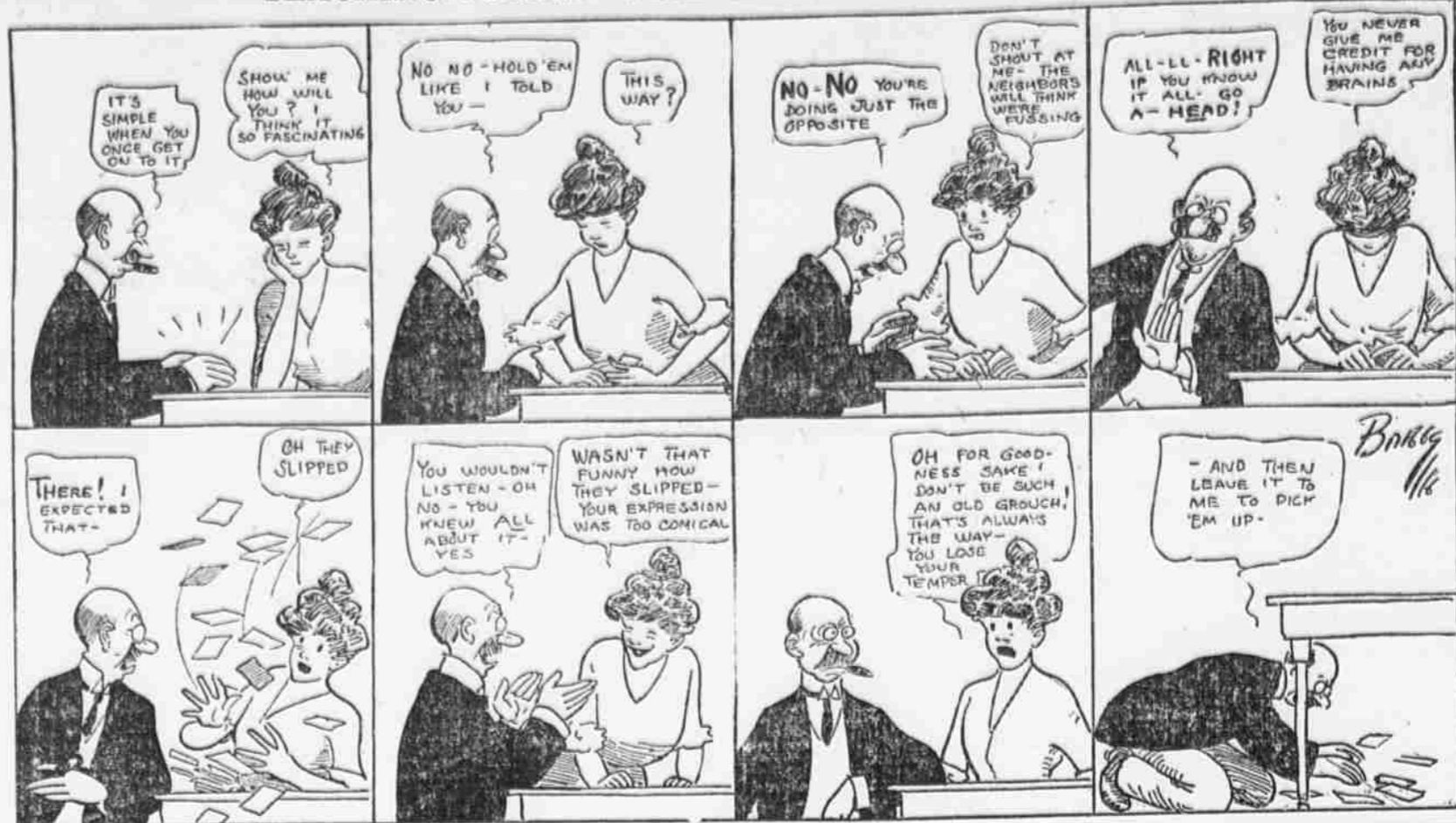
Philadelphia golfers are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the golf handicap list of the United States Golf Association, as this will determine whether any of this city's players are to be debarred from competition in the national amateur championship under the provisions of the rule recently passed by that body. President Woodward has stated that no announcement of the men to be barred will be made, but that only those whose names appear in the handicap rating will be eligible for the event. This is taken to mean by the local golf officials that the men left off the list are automatically barred.

It is not believed that any of the local players will be barred under this rule, though there is some question as to whether George Brooke, the former Penn coach and all-around athlete, may be held out of competition. Last year the Philadelphia Association barred him, owing to his football-coaching activities, although in national racquet and court tennis championships he is regarded as an amateur.

Only one Philadelphian will be raised in handicap, it is believed by local officials. He is Hugh Willoughby, of the Merion Cricket and Racquet Clubs. Willoughby was a 4-handicap man last season; but he won the Philadelphia championship and then this winter took the Florida championship with such ease that he will probably be rated at 3 on the new list.

Last season W. C. Fowles, of Pittsburgh, former national champion and now playing from Pine Valley, was low handicap man in the Philadelphia district. He was handicapped at 2 strokes locally, and the national rating gave him the same figure. There were at least a dozen local men placed by the Philadelphia Association at 4. It is not likely that more than four or five local men will be on the national eligible list, however.

TEACHING FRIEND WIFE TO SHUFFLE THE CARDS



Willard-Moran Receipts of Fight Total \$150,608

NEW YORK, March 28.—The official returns for the Willard-Moran bout, according to the Boxing Commissioners, total \$150,608. The State will receive \$11,295,600. Chairman Wenck, of the Boxing Commission, issued a statement in which he praised everybody connected with the management of the affair. It is the largest amount ever received at one haul under the new boxing law.

COMMODORE BARRY BOWLERS WIN FIVE-MAN A. B. C. EVENT

TOLEDO, O., March 28.—The Commodore Barry Council, Knights of Columbus, team of Chicago, are returned the winners of the A. B. C. five-man event for the second time, with a score of 2905. The winners will receive \$800 in cash besides a handsome gold badge set with diamonds for each member of the team.

EDWARDS BANQUET TONIGHT

J. J. Corbett Will Be Present at Good Fellowship Affair

ROOKIES AND REGULARS

CHARLOTTEVILLE, Va.—"I hope, if I have to play ball that long, that I'll be as good a pitcher as Eddie Egan," said Walter Johnson in an official statement today.

P. B. & W. R. R. A. A. Carnival

LINCOLN A. C. Geo. Decker FRIDAY NIGHT, MARCH 31. Young Jack O'Brien vs. Joe Phalen

BACK TO THE CIRCUS FOR JESS WILLARD SYNDICATE

By GRANTLAND RICE

JESS WILLARD will about serve out the average reign of the heavyweight king. Corbett, as heavyweight champion, ruled five years; Fitzsimmons ruled four; Jeffries' term of active service was five years, while Johnson maintained his supremacy for the same period.

The Lone Shadow

There is now but one shadow above Willard's ligow. That is surplus flesh. He fought Johnson a year ago weighing 245 pounds. He put in five weeks reducing for the Moran fight. He started weighing 272 pounds in his clothes, which means about 362 pounds stripped. After five weeks of hard work he finished weighing 259 1/2 pounds at the ringside. On the night of the fight he looked about as he did five weeks ago. The thick rolls of meat were still there.

PENN CHARTER TO OPEN SEASON WITH PENN FRESH

Quakers Have Hard Game On Schedule This Week. Fields in Poor Shape

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Penn Charter has a hard nut to crack in baseball this season. It is none other than the University of Pennsylvania freshmen team. When Coach Merritt discussed plans for the coming season he thought that the opening innings should be with Bordentown, as has been the case for many years past. But Bordentown canceled, owing to the poor condition of the diamond.

Manager Georges Malis has arranged to have much rest for his new baseball team.

The Germantown Academy baseball players hope to spend the week in the open.

The Northeast High School Athletic Association will hold a benefit on April 25.

Interclass track meets have been placed in the South Philadelphia High School schedule.

Captain Hartman, Remmy, Freeman, Hearn, Comerford, Greer, Roberts, and Fane are making good on the Friends' Central School baseball squad.

HAVE YOU TRIED A "LORD CIGAR" EXCEEDINGLY BETTER

MURAD THE TURKISH CIGARETTE Everywhere Why? REMEMBER - Turkish tobacco is the world's most famous tobacco for cigarettes. The surest test of all - Judge for yourself - compare Murad with any 25 Cent Cigarette

EVENING LEDGER MOVIES - IF YOU HAD EATEN A MELON, HUGHEY, YOU WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BECOME MELONCHOLY

