# 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 Advan-

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 went on to say that he tried hard to do the right thing and be champion in every sense of the word. "After I found out how I stood with the public," Willard continued, "I was more anxious than ever to prove that I was superior to Moran. I think I showed that, but still the people are not satisfied with me as champion. They showed that when I entered the ring at Madisor Square Garden and when I left B. I was given the smallest applause, I suppose that a champion ever received before starting a fight which might result in the change of a title. Moran, on the other hand, was given an ovation which threatened to tear the roof off the building. It hurts me very much to think how I stand and I am going to try my best to make the people see that it isn't my fault that I possess the physical advantages which are mine. All I want now is to rest and I am going to do it for a while,"

#### 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 fistic 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.

In order to be a popular favorite, as every one knows who has come in contact with people in the public eye, they must be consistently gracious. They cannot be friendly to a few and treat the others as lackeys and expect "to get away with it," That is what Willard has done, and if he wishes to become a personal favorite as well as a favorite in the betting in his future fights, he must change his attitude toward the public.

John L. Original If Nothing Else

Originality is a great thing. But enough is sufficient. There are limits to all things of which we have cognizance except the boundless sweep of space. Which leads us to the point in question. John L. Suilivan 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 Middles at Annapolis had the Quakers been able to line up outdoors. Their batting practice had been limited to Weightman Hall, dere Barry Council, Knights of Columbus, for it. Not until they faced the Middies at Annapolis had the Quakers been able 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 com-In the fact that most of their early season opponents have suffered the same winners will receive \$800 in cash besides a handsome gold badge set with diamonds for each member of the team. fort in the fact that most of their early season opponents have suffered the same

cage, such as Cornell, Yale and Durtmouth 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 files 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 Fred Luderus has been playing the same quality of baseban in the South that
he uncorked in the recent world's series with the Boston Red Sox. He has been
1808; E. Harkenrider, Fort Wayne, 1817. slamming the ball consistently and fielding his position with the accuracy that he had last summer in the four games against Bill Carrigan's people.

Pat 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 J. J. Corbett Will Be Present at Good 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. been putting up a remarkable game ever since.

The Phillies and their followers are hoping that "Ludy" will romp down the be toastmaster.

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. Kofoed, writing in the Baseball Magazine, claims that "Kid" Gleason originated inside baseball 20 years ago while he was captain of the New York Giants. Kofoed 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 Jouett 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

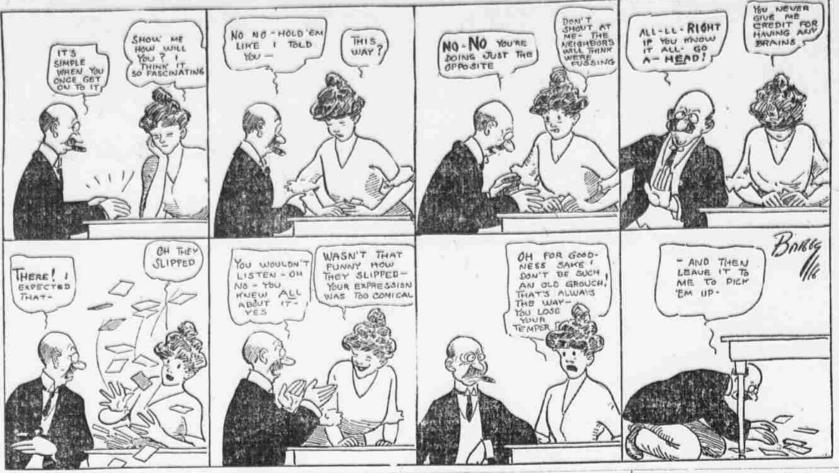
Philadelphia golfers are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the golf handicap list of the United States Golf Association, as this will determine whether any of this city's players are to be debarred from competition in the national amateur championship under the provisions of the rule recently passed 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

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. Fownes, 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.





#### 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 \$11,295.60.

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 new boxing law.

The fact that there were only a few more than 10,000 admissions accounted for would indicate, however, that somebody must have "crushed" the gate on Saturday

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

Three-Corner Tie for First Place in Singles

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

The tournament will close tonight after the close of the singles. Three men today are tied for first place in the singles. Unless the tie is broken today it will be rolled off Wednesday.

FIVE-MEN EVENTS. mimedore Barry Council, K. of C. Chl. 2965; Heine Riehls, Columbus, 2865; nn. Bakery, Rochester, 2893; Thoma 10, Chicago, 1279.

DOUBLES. etz-Hildebrandt, Chicogo, 1273; Harken Doeherman, Fort Wayne, 1273.

INDIVIDUALS. Schliman, Toronto, 685; Shaw, Chicago, 685; Hussman, Cincinnati, 685; ALL EVENTS.

## EDWARDS BANQUET TONIGHT

# Fellowship Affair

Two hundred prominent sportsmen of Philadelphia will banquet Harry D. Ed-wards at the Hotel Walton with a good fel-

Among the speakers will be Hon, Judge Joseph J. Rodgers, Hon, Judge Utley E. Crane, Hon, Judge E. C. Bonniwell, Sena-tor S. W. Salus, W. Freeland Kendrick, E. J. Cattell, Governor William M. Bunn and Thomas Meagher.

The subscription list closed long ago, but there were a few stragglers from the Wil-lard-Moran bout, some Californians, in-cluding none other than James J. Corbett and possibly Tex Rickard, who stated that if he straightens out his accounts he will attend the Testivities.

## ROOKIES AND REGULARS

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Vs.—'I hope, if I have to miny ball that long, that I'll be as most a pitcher at 2 ns Eddle Piank is," said Walter Johnson in an official statement to-

WANAHACHIE.—Captain Larry Doyle, of the Giants, leined the Home Bun Club at Houston, banding one over the fence and get-ting a triple us a taper off. The Giants play tim Tigers today.

CHATTANOOGA. Tenn.—Rain is keeping the Yankees around the festive board where three kings look better than three hits.

MIAMI. Pla.—Big Bill James, whose arm is the subject of much worry in the Braves' camp, cut locae with a few benders of the 1011 type and Manager Stallings is jubilant. MINERAL WELLS, Tex. Terry's four-base wat with two men on in yesterday's game as beested his stock and Manager Rowland lans playing the rookle star at third res-

NEW ORLEANS, La.—The Cincinnati Resis and the Indians clash today in their second game of the series. Fritz Coumbe will face fine Reds. Larry Chapelle and Elmer Smith are having it aip and tuck for the Indians' right garden job.

P. B. & W. R. R. A. A. Carnival NATIONAL A. C. Tamorrow Night BILLY HINES VS. DANNY BICK BOBBY McCANN VS. JOHNNY BOSSI BITZ WALTERS VS. PETE MALONE WILLIE HANNON VS. JOE O'NEILL STANLEY HINCKLE VS. TOSMY O'REEFE BATTLE ROYAL! BATTLE ROYAL! Adm. 25c. Res. 50c. 75c and \$1.

LINCOLN A. C. Geo. Decker FRIDAY NIGHT. MARCH 31 Young Jack O'Brien vs. Joe Phalen EDDIE HAET vs. LEW STINGER THREE OTHER HIGH-CLASS BOUTS

# BACK TO THE CIRCUS FOR JESS WILLARD SYNDICATE

By GRANTLAND RICE

 $J_{
m ESS}$  WILLARD will about serve out | headline him into a plausible contender, the average reign of the heavyweight | but never into a championship. No, it's the circus for the Syndicate now.

without it.

don't all fall for the same brand of bunk.

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.

Five years seems to be the grand averwithout the rest of the tools it gets little age, and it will be at least four years bebut a bloody nose and a sable eye. fore Jess Willard is dethrorned-unless be gets too fat to waddle around the ring and is forced to abdicate on account of surplus

No Match in Sight

It would be foolish to match Pulton, and Tom Jones shot Moran or any other heavyweight with the start another affair. big Kansan for some time to come.

start another affair.

What's the use? Here is a champion 50 or 60 pounds heavier than the next real contender; a champion who is faster, stronger a set-up. In which case, if the minent stinging that will follow.

You can take a Cigar Store Indian and either become a part of the three-ringed show, the elephants and the pink lemonade or arrange a set-up. In which case, if the public falls, it will very justly deserve the eminent stinging that will follow.

the courage that comes with a sure knowledge of superiority.

The man who beats Willard in the next year or two must be a big man and a good boxer; a keen ring general, who can take punishment and who can hit; a man who knows how to use his fists and feet in a skilful way. Where is he? Answer: He isn't.

#### The Lone Shadow

There is now but one shadow above Willard's igloo. That is surplus flesh. He fought Johnson a year ago weighing 245 pounds. He put in five weeks reduc-One May Be Born Every Minute, and there re 507 600 minutes to the year-but they ing for the Moran fight.

Frank Moran looked to be the next best man in sight. He had one chance. That was to take an ax or a shotgun into the He started weighing 272 pounds in his clothes, which means about 262 pounds stripped. After five weeks of hard work he finished weighing 259 ½ 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. That is about all Moran's courage got He would have collected the \$26,000 Willard is going to find it harder and If Moran is the next best man—and he probably is—Willard is so far beyond all real competition that not even the highly commercialized instincts of Jack Curley and Tom Jones should have the nerve to

harder to prune away this surplus flesh. One glance at him five weeks ago was enough to know that he would never fight at 250 pounds again. By the end of another year he will find hard to train below 265 or possibly

Such courage as Moran has is a fine quality. But it wouldn't help the bravest golfer in the world who plays around a 90 to beat Jerry Travers or Harry Var-

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 but to crack in baseball this season. It is none other than the University of Pensylvania Ired men team. When Coach Merritt discussed plans for the coming season he thought that the opening game should be with Bordentown, as has been the case for many years past. But Bordentowa caccied, owing to the poor condition of the diamond.

This will mean that the Quakers start with a college team and with very interpractice, for even if the weather is any able for outdoor work the fields will be in poor shape. Shuman, H. Waish, Smith and Fleming, the battery candidate, have all been speeding up their work is be-

and Fieming, the battery calminates have all been speeding up their work in the gym preparatory to going suffers Rogers, Edson and Brown have both on the receiving end.

If Van Pelt can get more control he make good in the box for the Chestnut R. Academy boys, for he has lots of speed and quite a variety of purgling curves,

The Germantown Academy baseball phope to spend the week in the open. Sutton is very much pleased with the ing of Ed Frutchey, who is a candidat the twirling position.

The Northeast High School Athletic Association will hold a benefit on April 25, is raise funds to finance the Red and Black tesms. This concert will be siven by the three Wesleyan University Munical Clubs, and will take the place of the usual benefits held by the Northeast Boys.

Interclass track meets have been placed on the South Philadelphia High School schedul Manager Harry Topham has completed in list of dual and invitation meets for the regulars.

Captain Hartung, Remmy, Freeman Heart Comerford, Greer, Roberts and Fast an making good on the Friends' Central School bageball squad. Coach Jacoby's boys open the season with Ridley Park High School.

HAVE YOU TRIED A EXCEEDINGLY BETTER Henry's Cigar Co., Philadelphia



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

