

LEONARD SO OUTCLASSED THOMAS BOUT SHOULD HAVE BEEN STOPPED BEFORE IT STARTED

GAMEST BOXER IN PHILADELPHIA SUFFERS HIS FIRST "KAYO" WHEN THOMAS FALLS BEFORE LEONARD

Only 41 Seconds Before Final Gong and the Iron Man Is Knocked Off—Assimilated Unmerciful Beating; Was Floored Three Times

By LOUIS H. JAFFE
WITH the finish of last night's bout at the Olympia club only forty-one seconds away, the gamest boxer who ever stepped into a Philadelphia ring was battered helplessly to the floor. Charley Thomas suffered the first knockout of his career when Leonard administered a merciless mauling, and in almost every round ripside spectators yelled to the referee to stop the bout.

Thomas Floored Three Times
After assimilating punishment on other human beings could have withstood, Thomas was knocked partly through the ropes with a right-hand punch flush on the jaw. No other boxer would have gotten to his feet again in the habit of going to the floor, no matter how hard hit, and he regained his feet in a jiffy. Leonard stood ready, and a short snappy right hand left Thomas on the floor the second time. He fell crumpled in a heap and it took Charley three strokes of the referee's arm to get up. Again Leonard was at Thomas' side, and this time a right hand which would have felled an ox knocked the hapless boxer halfway out of the ring.

Almost every one present, even the bloodiest, dyed-in-the-wool fans in the gallery, shouted in protest "Stop it! Stop it!" Half the crowd was on its feet to see the game boxer suffer his first real knockout, while many turned their heads the other way. It was a terrible sight. On June 8, 1915, Thomas' manager threw a challenge into the ring in the seventh round of a bout with Charley White at Boston, admitting defeat, and the Philadelphia boy had been knocked out by a single right hand. Leonard was knocked out by a single right hand three times, and there wasn't a man in Thomas' corner who showed enough human intelligence to save the game young man, who would never admit he was beaten as long as he could stand on his feet.

Thomas' Guard Was Down
Both times when Thomas came up for the second time he was struck with the right hand of Leonard before Charley could get his arms up. A man doesn't have to be knocked out to be knocked out. And Charley Thomas was knocked out before he could get his arms up. It was through a right hand he went down the first time and only semi-conscious when he got up just before the final blow.
While Thomas was beaten from the start, it was in the ring trying his utmost to

WEATHER UPSETS TRISTATE TENNIS
Large Number of Forfeited Matches Probably Will Be Reinstated
The Tristate Tennis League, which has enjoyed nearly ten years of competitive play with good fellowship and sportsmanship, had Saturday's schedule somewhat marred by a change of weather. Fortunately, they were confined to only one match, but unfortunately they occurred in the most important match in the entire schedule of the Tristate and Suburban League competitions, that between Germantown A and Cynwyd A teams.

BASEBALL FANS MAY BE TAXED
Magnates Hope to Enact Law for Added Individual Charge for Game
SUCCESSFUL IN CANADA
NEW YORK, May 8.—American fans probably will have to pay baseball's share of the war tax. Magnates in all leagues are bending their energies toward the enactment of a Federal law which will require the payment of a stamp tax before a fan passes the gate. They claim the requirement of tax on a city's gate receipts has been suggested, would ruin many clubs. Baseball, in fact, would have to go out of business in some sections.

AMATEUR BASEBALL NOTES
PATER A. A. has Memorial Day, a. m. and p. m. open and would like to arrange games with the League. 1414 Locust street.
Rockwood baseball club has May 12 and 19 open for some good amateur home team playing with the League. 1414 Locust street.
Pounding A. A. has Memorial Day a. m. and p. m. open and would like to hear from Pinner. 1414 Locust street.

WOMEN'S PLAY FOR GEIST CUP WILL BE HELD FRIDAY
Contrary to the general opinion, the women's play for the Geist Cup will be held Friday at the Overbrook Golf Club, just as was announced in the original schedule.

Harvard Class Off School Meet
CAMBRIDGE, Mass., May 8.—The Harvard scholastic track meet, which was to have been held Saturday, was called off by the Harvard Athletic Association. Only three hundred and thirty entries.

Penn Charter's Color Meet Postponed
The annual color meet of Penn Charter school, scheduled for May 10, owing to the weather, will be postponed to May 12.

LEONARD-THOMAS BOUT BRUTAL; SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ARRANGED

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL
Sports Editor Evening Ledger

PERHAPS last night's bout at the Olympia A. A. can be considered a bout for the boxing game, but if it is, the bout will send it to the bottom. Henry Leonard and Charley Kid Thomas boxed in the windows and it looked like a race between a Parkland and a Ford. To carry it further, it resembled a battle between a full-grown strong man and a child. For seventeen and one-half minutes this gory spectacle was staged before a crowd of 5000, and the audience witnessed the most uneven battle ever presented in a local ring. Thomas didn't have a chance from the time he entered the arena until he was battered into insensibility near the end of the sixth round. It was not a boxing match. It was a brutal exhibition of punching, with one man inflicting all of the punishment and the other trying in vain to stay off a knockout. To me it was a pathetic punching party, only a boxer was used instead of a punching bag.

Thomas also is a boxer and one of the gamest men who ever stepped into a ring. He, too, earns his livelihood in the squared circle, but this does not mean that he should step out of his class to do so. He knew there was but one chance in a million to win from Leonard; his handlers knew it and the matchmaker of the club was aware of it. He had boxed Henry once before and learned then that he was no match for the New Yorker. The bout to him meant the payment of so much money to take a beating and he entered the ring for that purpose.

This is no attempt to discredit Thomas. He evidently needed the money and got it. Leonard, too, does not deserve reproach. He was asked to box Thomas, and it was purely a business proposition. He knew that he had something "soft," and it was an easy way to earn \$1250. He did what was expected of him and he did not relish the job.
The real blame rests on the shoulders of the man who made the match. He was not deceived, for he saw the same pair box at the same club a year ago. Then it was a one-sided battle and only a question of how long Thomas would stay. Jack Hanlon is a good matchmaker, but he made a big mistake and made it with both eyes wide open.

Broderick Rallies and Wins
Thomas was routed and staggered several times before Leonard finally succeeded in knocking Charley down in the sixth and in that round, with less than a minute to go. Thomas' game Charley Thomas—had to succumb to Nature and feel the sting of a knockout, dreaded by every man that draws on a pair of gloves in the twenty-four ring. But he fought a fearless battle, and several times brought the crowd to its feet when he stood toe to toe with his opponent.

MEASURE WINS, 126 TO 28
HARRISBURG, Pa., May 8.—Pennsylvania is to face a State Athletic Commission if Governor Brumbaugh goes along on the plan. The House last night by a vote of 126 to 28, passed and sent to the Governor the bill defining and regulating boxing, sparring and wrestling contests and creating a commission of three members to carry out the provisions thereof. There was no debate. The bill, earlier in the session, was defeated in the Senate only to be reconsidered and sent to the House with a list of amendments.

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OUT OF THE GAME
Hi Myers will be unable to get into Brooklyn's line-up as a result of an injured right shoulder, suffered in trying to make a hard catch. Gilholley, of the Yanks, suffered a like injury here.

Bingles and Bungles
The Mildness of May
The Yankees were said to have won and drawn. A pitcher's win was called and each and every "win" was counted as a "win" today. "My pitcher's win" was the only one that counted.

Yesterday's hero—Babe Ruth. He won his sixth straight game of the season, showing Walter Johnson, 1 to 0.

The Cardinals laid off White today. He did it the night before last.
Tris Speaker's first game since he was traded to the Indians' defeat at the hands of the Yankees.

TRISTAM AND TYRUS WOULD HAVE BEEN SWATTING AROUND .500 WHEN .400 HITTING WAS ALL THE RAGE

Counting Free Passes as Safeties Would Have Made Prime Waiters Like Huggins and Bush Shine Around .350 Mark

By GRANTLAND RICE
The 1917 Color Scheme

Blood and flame—
No the world burns red
Where the glow of the game
Hovers over the dead;
Flame and blood—
Where the red drifts curl
And the crimson flood
Is an endless whirl;
Flame and blood by the hill and stream,
Blood and flame in the dreams we dream,
Where out the road that is pushing red
The earth drives on to its fate ahead.
Win or lose—
That's a whim of Fate—
For none may choose
When the Red Gods wait
Through the gush and flash
From the endless war
Where the great guns crash
And the flesh sports gore;
Flame and blood are the flowers life
That bloom alone in the yards of life,
Where out the road that is pushing red
The world drives on to its fate ahead.

Of wondering attention has been called to recent mention of those .400 hitters of 1887.
"Can't overlook the fact," writes a non-combatant, "that in those primeval days a base on balls counted as a hit. No wonder they were up there around .440 or so. Where would Cobb or Speaker be today if a base went as a base hit?"

There's something in this idea, at that. Speaker last season collected 211 base hits and eighty-two passes. His average, according to modern rules, was a paltry .355. If they had been given credit for eight-two passes, as the old-timers were, his average would have been lifted to .467.

Given credit for bases on balls, Ty Cobb in 1911 would have batted .489, in place of .420.
Last season Bert Shotton batted .282. But Bert also collected 131 passes, which under the 1887 system would have lifted the Browning star up around .400. Quite a difference.

Miller Huggins and Donnie Bush would have been .350 hitters the greater part of their careers if free passes had been scored as bases hits. Accumulating a batting average over the free-pass route is about as difficult as collecting a meal over the free-lunch route.

The Veteran
In the summer of 1861 a drummer boy, at the age of fifteen, enlisted in the First New Hampshire Regiment. Later on he completed the war's term as a cavalryman.
This man is still an active force in baseball, and on Wednesday of this week he celebrates his seventy-first birthday. We refer to Frank C. Bancroft, business manager of the Cincinnati Reds and one of the leading figures of the profession for exactly forty years.

"Old Banny"
Old Banny, still a kid at seventy-one, managed the New Bedford club in 1878, and won the New England League pennant. That was thirty-nine years ago.
In 1879 he went to Worcester and had Jim Murray for his team captain. There he turned out Harry Stovey, Arthur Irwin, Len Richmond, Charley Bennett and Al Hunsinger.
In 1881 he handled Detroit, and there he brought on such stars as Ned Hanlon and Charlie Bennett.

It was in 1884 that Banny, managing Providence, won the first world series ever played. His Providence stars beat the Metropolitan champions, 6-0, 7-1 and 11-2. These games were played on the old Polo grounds just thirty-three years ago. Banny had Radbourne and Sweeney for his pitchers, two of the greatest that ever faced the wood.

In 1881 Banny went to Cincinnati, and for twenty-six years he has traveled the circuit with the Reds and has handled the cash in more than 4000 ball games. Today he is still on the job, one of the most popular and one of the most competent men in baseball has ever known—a kid at seventy-one.

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