

Between the Ropes

Captain "Tiger Joe" Moran, the Syracuse steamroller, never boxed before he entered college. Coach Simmons discovered him in his freshman year and immediately picked him for the Hill mit team. Undeclared in dual meets, he has knocked out twenty-five men in his twenty-nine fights.

Word comes from Syracuse that Al Wertheimer, Orange featherweight champion, thinks Captain Johnny McAndrews is the best 135-pounder entered in the tourney. He also has great respect for the Yale welter, Captain Del Genio.

Incidentally, Al must be as skilled with words as he is with his fists. Immediately after the finals here, he will leave for Syracuse in order to participate in an intercollegiate debate Sunday morning. Several weeks ago he supported the cancellation of war debts as a member of the Syracuse varsity debating team.

Tony Balash, Syracuse 165-pounder, is a half-brother to Steve Haliko, one of New York state's outstanding lightweight professionals. Tony left a sick-bed to enter the National Collegiate here last April, but lost to Sam Zemmurray, of Tulane. Before entering Syracuse, he had won seventy-two out of seventy-four amateur fights, losing to Ring Larson in the semi-finals of the national A. A. U. championships at Boston in 1920.

Roy Simmons, coach of the 1932 championship Syracuse team, was a varsity boxer for the Orange back in 1925, but lost the intercollegiate title in the finals. One of the best-liked coaches on the campus, he is also backfield mentor for the football team and spends some time coaching lacrosse.

Al Grayber, one of the referees for the tourney here, and Leo Houck, Lion boxing coach, nearly met in a professional middleweight fight in 1916. A clipping from a Pittsburgh newspaper in October of that year says that Houck, who was scheduled to fight Grayber, had injured his knee in a football game and would be unable to enter the ring.

Herb Ross, Syracuse welterweight and loser to Al Lewis in the finals of the intercollegiate last year, was one of eleven Liberal Arts seniors elected to Phi Beta Kappa at the New York institution recently. Herb took up boxing when friends chided him for being a "sissy."

Middleweight Crown Once Held by Houck

Nittany Boxing Coach Captured World's Title in 1911

Leo Houck, former Lancaster professional boxer and present Lion ring coach, won the middleweight boxing championship of the world from Harry Lewis in Paris, France, on the night of May 3, 1911.

Houck had already beaten the Philadelphia middleweight twice in America, but Lewis' manager had publicly termed the decisions "flukes." This nettled Leo, according to an article appearing recently in a Lancaster newspaper, and he and his manager went to Europe to force Lewis to a showdown.

After agreeing to all sorts of conditions about weight, purse, and referee, Houck's manager finally arranged a twenty-round bout. The result, according to an observer, was the best fight ever witnessed in France.

At the opening bell, Leo shot in a straight left which caught Lewis in the mouth. He continued with left jabs until the fifth round when he swung a terrific right uppercut which landed on Lewis' chin and made it bleed. The right uppercut was used by only two men in the ring at that time, but Leo proved the effectiveness of both it and a straight left.

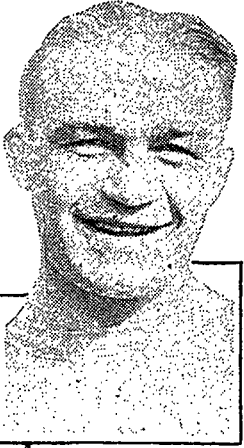
More right uppercuts in the ninth round sent the Philadelphian to the ropes, and he had to clinch to save himself from a knockout. In the seventeenth, Leo shot in straight lefts which bounced Lewis' head back as if his neck had hinges.

Realizing that the only way he could win now was by a knockout, Lewis stepped out of his corner in the nineteenth and began giving Houck all he had in hard rights and lefts to the face. Leo took a terrific punishment in that round but his excellent physical condition withstood the onslaught.

Lewis had played himself out, and in the twentieth round Houck in turn tried to score a knockout. As the final bell rung, Leo was pummeling him on the ropes. When Referee Maitrot patted Houck on the back as the winner, there was a tremendous ovation.

That night Leo was the toast of Paris cafes. As he and his managers left the scene of the fight, sidewalk crowds cheered "Bravo, Leo! Bravo, Houck!" The victory was celebrated at the Excelsior Cafe, where Leo ate dish after dish of strawberry glacee,

Lion Ring Mentor



HOUCK

the only thing that seemed to satisfy his parched lips and mouth.

Upon returning to his hotel, Leo found numerous congratulatory messages and cards awaiting him from American officials in Paris, newspaper sports editors, London business men, and other friends. "It is not likely that a champion in any branch of sport has ever received so much spontaneous commendation from men of rank in all walks of life," concludes the writer who covered the fight.

Although he still acts as a referee for numerous bouts, Leo gave up professional boxing in 1922 when he became coach here. He has guided the Lions to four intercollegiate team championships and twenty-one individual crowns.

Al Wertheimer Known as Best General in Ring

Al Wertheimer, Syracuse's national collegiate featherweight champion and the unanimous choice of five coaches as the all-time 125-pounder, is generally known as the best ring general in collegiate ranks today as well as being noted for his effective left jab.

Al is a senior this year and is undefeated in the college ring. He has a victory and a draw with Dave Stoop, 1932 Lion captain, to his credit, as well as a decision over Mike Zeleznock last month, and a knockout victory over Herb Minnich, 1932 Lion featherweight.

Other ring honors to which the Syracuse athlete may lay claim include the Niagara district championship, runner-up in the national A. A. U. championship in 1929, Eastern intercollegiate champion for the past two years, and captain of the Orange mit team last year. In addition, he is now treasurer of Syracuse's senior class and interfraternity council, as well as an active participant in intercollegiate debating.

Pointing out that Wertheimer is the sort of boxer often overlooked by the spectator seeking sensationalism, the *Daily Orange*, student newspaper at Syracuse, characterizes him thusly: "The master workman of the college ring, he is the cool, calculating type of ringman who always has a definite objective for every punch and knows exactly where he is every minute of the time." Al seldom tries for haymakers, since he is usually content to outpoint his opponents.

3 LETTER MAN GETS LEAD

Christie Harris, Boston University three letter man, member of the football, basketball, and baseball teams this year, will play the juvenile lead in an English drama, "Lilies of the Field," to be presented before students there March 30.

Lion Mat Squads Average Only One Loss Each Year

35 Wins, 7 Defeats, Tie Recorded During 7 Seasons

With the close of the current season Penn State wrestlers under the tutelage of Coach Charlie Speidel have established an average record of one defeat per season, athletics statistics disclose.

During the seven years that "Cheerful" Charlie has mentored the team thirty-five victories have been recorded as against seven defeats and one tie. The only teams to register victories over the Nittany Lions during this period were Navy and Cornell, while the one tie match was with Cornell last year, when a strong Red team held the Blue and White grapplers to a 14-to-14 score.

Coach Charlie Speidel came here in 1927 from the Panzer College of Physical Education at East Orange, N. J., where for some time he acted as student wrestling coach. His early initiation into the art of wrestling was

Nittany Mat Coach



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The present emergency situation has been very emphatically impressed upon every mature individual in our nation. It is a National Emergency. Let us, therefore, analyze the situation and proceed accordingly.

Great emphasis is laid upon the importance of handling local affairs in such a way as to operate as much as possible upon the resources and within the confines of one's own community. Scrip is issued for use mainly in one's own community. Now, why do these conditions exist? There are, of course, many reasons, but let us just select the one which concerns every adult person and one which can be handled by every adult in such manner as to help alleviate this condition in the future.

It has long been recognized, not only by business men and statesmen, but also by thoughtful individual citizens who have made a study of national economies, that "hoarding" of monetary assets in centralized places by rich individuals and corporations, if allowed to continue, would mean disaster to our Nation. We understand that community after community has passed practically out of existence mainly due to the money being gradually sent elsewhere. Really, the largest and most active factor in this process has been the out-of-town chain store companies in their various lines and the mail order houses. The mail order houses, not content to remain in their "Home Towns," have placed their stores in local communities to make sure they would be able to get hold of funds that would not otherwise gravitate to their coffers. Teddy Roosevelt got into this situation so actively when he was President that "Big Business" was divided into the districts where it belonged, but the pendulum has now swung back again until the combines are stronger than ever in their activities. A community is helped when the local business men are able to have interested people bring their funds INTO the community for investment and development, but a community is very decidedly hurt when the funds that are produced in a community are gathered up and taken elsewhere.

Practically everyone realizes NOW that the home town business must be kept going. Scrip is issued to keep the home business functioning. Scrip is usually not accepted by an out-of-town concern. Why? Because they are interested in taking away what they can get that will be of service ELSEWHERE, not that which will be of service in the community itself. What they want is the cash that can be sent to accumulating centers. It is not a matter of helping home town business to keep going, for when the business does not pay, they pick up and go to other more lucrative places. Apparently, no thought of accommodation to the very people who have kept their wheels turning in the past.

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