

FOR THE KAISER: APRIL SHOWERS--OF SHELLS

Now April dances into view, With laughing eye and brow serene: She hums a springtime song for you, From lips incarnadine.

She brings again the baseball days, Where, perched upon the bleacher's top, We slide again to boyhood ways, And gurgle soda-pop.

COOPER GOES WEST, BUT MAY NOT STAY

Former Phillies' Outfielder Frightens Los Angeles Club Owners

LAJOIE CAN'T SEE ROBINS

Toronto Player Issues Strong Denial When Brooklyn Announces His Purchase

[By Cable to THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, March 28.—(Clyde Cooper, former outfielder of the Phillies who has been sent to the Los Angeles club of the Pacific Coast League, shocked the owners of the Angels into an almost fatal condition by demanding a salary of \$7,000. This is only \$1,000 more than was offered. The owners now are being urged back to consciousness and it is probable that they will see Cooper in a place a whole lot warmer than Los Angeles before they will pay his price.

The Louisville club of the American Association has purchased pitcher James Parnham from the Baltimore club of the International League. The pre-season series between Pittsburgh and the Athletics at Jacksonville, Florida, started with a victory for the Pirates. The score was five to four.

The New York legislature has put the Sunday baseball bill on the regular calendar, which is regarded by the fans as a delicate way of burying it for another year.

The Brooklyn club announced that it had captured the minor league prize of the season by purchasing Napoleon Lajoie from Toronto for \$100,000. Lajoie promptly issued a denial, saying he has promised to manage the Indianapolis club this year and considers the Brooklyn club clear off the map.

Manager McGraw at his Marlin training camp released Catcher Jack Onslow to the Kansas City club of the American Association. Manager Gausel of the Kansas City team has arranged with McGraw, it was announced, to take over all the surplus talent of the Giants.

The New York Yankees, training in the south, beat Camp Wheeler's best team by a score of 14 to 1 at Macon, Ga. The big hitters for the Yankees were Pratt and Bodie. Pratt hit safe four times out of five up and drove in two runs. Bodie made two singles and a double and drove in three runs.

There is the usual frantic excitement this week among baseball scribblers over the critical baseball situation. Specialists in post-mortems are insisting that the International League has quit, but International authorities have refrained from announcing the funeral, if there is to be one.

SHARP BARGAINING IN BASEBALL MART

Big League Managers Put in Busy Season Swapping Lineups

So many trades were made in the big leagues during the winter that the fans over here will hardly be able to recognize some of the major league clubs. Following is a list of the deals closed to date:

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Pratt, second base, from St. Louis to New York; Plank, pitcher, from St. Louis to New York; Gordon, second base, from New York to St. Louis; Malsb, second base, from New York to St. Louis; Shoemaker, pitcher, from New York to St. Louis; Cullip, pitcher, from New York to St. Louis; money involved \$15,000.
Shotton, centerfield, from St. Louis to Washington; Lavan, shortstop, from St. Louis to Washington; Gallia, pitcher, from Washington to St. Louis; money involved \$15,000.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Alexander, pitcher, from Philadelphia to Chicago; Kilifer, catcher, from Philadelphia to Chicago; Billehofer, catcher, from Chicago to Philadelphia; Prendergast, pitcher, from Chicago to Philadelphia; money involved \$50,000.
Williams, centerfield, from Chicago to Philadelphia; Baskett, centerfield, from Philadelphia to Chicago.
Doyle, second base, from Chicago to Boston; Wilson, catcher, from Chicago to Boston; Tyler, pitcher, from Boston to Chicago; money involved \$15,000.
Doyle, second base, from Boston to New York; Barnes, pitcher, from Boston to New York; Herzog, second base, from New York to Boston.
Catslaw, second base, from Brooklyn to Pittsburgh; Stengel, centerfield, from Brooklyn to Pittsburgh; Mann, pitcher, from Pittsburgh to Brooklyn; Gurnea, pitcher, from Pittsburgh to Brooklyn; Ward, leftfield, from Pittsburgh to Brooklyn.

PING BODIE WITH YANKS

Francisco Pizzola, better known to the baseball fraternity as Ping Bodie, finally has landed where it was intended he should some time since. "Ping" it would appear, had destined Ping for the New York Yankees, but they were thwarted several times. Captain Huston tried to get Bodie last year again, but he was talked out of it and the fence master remained with the Athletics. With the lowly Athletics, Ping made good and it looked as though the White Sox pulled a "homer" when they let him go.

In giving Bodie for George Burns, Connie Mack has weakened his outfield to get a root first base guardian, as he needed a man badly after Stuffy McInnis was traded to the Red Sox. Ping, a happy-go-lucky player, should make a hit in New York, and his presence should also be a financial asset to the club, as he is a drawing card.

Terry McGovern's estate was valued at only \$10,000 at the time of his death. Charley White, Chicago, stopped Joe Upton in two rounds at Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Mich.

RAY SETS INDOOR MARK

[By Cable to THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, March 28.—(Joe Ray, the great Illinois Athletic Club sprinter, holder of the 1000 yard indoor championship, made a new indoor record for the three-quarter mile run at Madison Square Garden. He made the distance in three minutes, four and four-fifths seconds, wiping out the record of three minutes, seven seconds made by Joe Driscoll in 1913. Ray continued to the mile mark in an effort to break that record also, but failed, his time being four minutes, 10 and four-fifths seconds.

An excellent race developed between Ray, Mike Devaney, of the Boston Navy Yard, national half mile champion, and Eddie Fall, of the Greek Lakes Naval Training Station, once previous champion and record holder. Devaney took the lead and opened a 15 yard gap on Ray. He continued to lead the field at the end of the fourth lap, but Ray took the lead in the fifth and went like the wind, winning by 25 yards over Devaney, with Fall a poor third.

DOUGHBOY CORPORAL ANXIOUS FOR BOUTS

Will Take on Yanks While Awaiting Go With Frenchman

There is a corporal in Company K, 1st Infantry, A.E.F., who is anxious to fight. That in itself is nothing new. Everybody in the 1st Infantry is anxious to fight the Boche, and fight 'em proper, in fact, is everybody in the A.E.F. But wherein this corporal differs from the rest of the gang is that, in addition to his perfectly natural desire to fight the Boche with his bayonet and automatic and rifle and machine gun and all the rest, he is simply itching to take on some one of his fellow Allies at the ground and goal end of his underground way in the squared circle.

His name is Johnnie Boyle, Corporal John F. Boyle, to be military about it. Just a little while ago he took on Kid Carrey of the 7th French Infantry, and, in the opinion of one of his mates who has written in about it, he could have stomped away the Gallie Kid most any time he felt that way. He—but let his friend tell it—

"Boyle, however, is a generous soul, and, besides, he needed exercise. So he danced through five rounds blithely, and, when the Frenchman as he went, the sixth, Boyle began to get loose, and the French champ, after inadvertently running into a straight left, and assuring himself that it was real gore that was running down his face, said 'Damen' or whatever it is the French say when they feel that way, and quit.

SPORTING COMMENT

The recent death of Billy Madden removed from sporting circles one of the leading old time figures in the boxing game. Madden gained his greatest notoriety when he handled John L. Sullivan. The last battle he arranged for John L. was with Paddy Ryan. Madden and Sullivan then had a disagreement and fell out. Madden started out to find some one to whip Sullivan and staged a big heavyweight tourney, Charley Mitchell was the result of this tourney.

Madden's last actual ring work was when he handled sailor Burke, the middleweight, and Al Benedict, who gained fame as an amateur and later made good as a pro. Madden, however, was disappointed in Benedict's work and finally dropped him. Although Madden and John L. had a misunderstanding, the 11th Madden always claimed that Sullivan was entitled to the world's championship, which so many people disputed at that time.

Dick Burge, at one time one of England's leading scrappers, died gamely when his time came recently. He was 52 years old when he passed in his checks as a result of wounds received in battle against the Boche.

Burge had little early education and had to make quite a fight to get up in the world. He ran away from home when a lad, joining a traveling troupe of acrobats, and was later met an old negro boxing expert and Burge decided to learn the game. He soon became proficient in it and when his show reached Northumberland a new champion had just made his appearance. Burge gained the decision over him and was a made man.

TWO CITIES WANT CHAMPIONSHIP BOUT

New Orleans Bids \$30,000 for Willard-Fulton Match

JESS MAY REJECT OFFER

Sporting Writers and Promoters Are Enthusiastic Over Prospect of Big Scrap

[By Cable to THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, March 28.—(The Louisiana Auditorium Company, of New Orleans, in whose arena Fred Fulton recently knocked out Frank Moran in three rounds and jumped prominently to the fore as a championship contender, has offered \$30,000 for a match between Jess Willard and Fulton to be staged some time next fall. 20 rounds being specified as the length of the bout. Whether the offer will be accepted by Willard is doubtful. Jess is inclined to consider such trifling sums mere chicken feed in a billion dollar era like the present. Enthusiastic promoters point to the fact that Willard and Fulton together weigh nearly a quarter of a ton and should present a most thrilling fight as two war tanks in a duel.

New Haven also, is making stabs at staging a bout between the two heavyweights, but has not coughed up a big enough bank account yet to talk business. In the meantime, sporting writers throughout the country are worked up over the prospects of a match for the heavyweight title, and the adherents of each fighter are prophesying feverishly that each man is sure to lick the other.

New York's anti-boxing law and the tendency in certain parts of the country since the beginning of the war to lift restrictions on the squared ring have produced a situation which is making New York boxing fans indignant. The once proud Empire State, they assert, is becoming a nursing bottle community. Philadelphia is one of the cities which is not lamenting. This city was edified this week when Irish Patsy Cline, of Harlem, met a brother New Yorker, Jimmy Duffy, before a crowded house and plastered him artistically for six rounds. Duffy ate the punishment and returned for more, but Patsy always had more steam ready and punched Jimmy into a hard knot.

Jack Britton, of Chicago, former welterweight champion, knocked out Vic Moran, of New Orleans, in the sixth round of a scheduled eight round bout in Minneapolis.

R. M. Seligowski won the Harvard boxing championship title in the heavyweight class this week, defeating F. C. Fishback on points in a three round match.

CHARLIE ROSE HERE GETS OLD TIME JOB

Trainer of Freddie Welsh and Carl Morris Keeps Hospital Gay

Charlie Rose is in the Army. The maker of champs, the trainer of Freddie Welsh and Carl Morris, is here, but others, is now a private, first class, in the Medical Department, U.S.A. His present address is Base Hospital No. 3, A.E.F., France.

Charlie is kept busy at his old job, though. His C.O. has made him a sort of physical trainer for the hospital. Charlie has done the gloves himself and gone over the tapes. He was no slouch as a lightweight glove manipulator himself a few years ago.

Johnny Condon, bantamweight champion; Freddie Welsh, lightweight title holder; Cyclone Thompson, one time holder of the middleweight class; Jack Britton, welterweight; Mike Klaus, middleweight; Gunboat Smith, one time white heavyweight champ; Harry Stone, Australian welterweight champ—these are a few of the men of whom Charlie has had the handling in training. He was going to come back to New York, after the Free Welsh-Charlie White bout at Colorado Springs on Labor Day last, and open a gymnasium of his own; but instead, he owned an account with the U.S. Quartermaster Corps, sent his furnishings, and took one of their fine black suitings "on approval." He still has it on.

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CAMP UPTON CHAMPS

[By Cable to THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, March 28.—(The Camp Upton finals for divisional championships was held this week before a crowd of soldiers so big as to break the heart of a promoter counting possible box office receipts. Benny Leonard was referee. The boys fought like wildcats and spread American blood over half of Long Island.

The featherweight championship was won by Hank Schroeder, of the 49th Field Artillery. The lightweight title was won by Richie Ryan, of the 225th Motor Truck Company. Joe Tiplitz, of the 30th Infantry, annexed the welterweight title.

Tex Kelly, of the 379th Motor Truck Company, took the middleweight honors in a fierce fight. Wild Bill Brennan, of the 30th Machine Gun Battalion, annexed the light heavyweight belt, and Corporal John Gaddi, of the 300th Infantry, proved the victor in the heavyweight class.

STAR SHELLS

By Q.M. SGT. STUART CARROLL, Q.M.C. THE HARBINGER I know that April's battling now, I know that Summer's on the way, Because while coming home from chow I saw a chimney sweep today.

And now Eddie Plank blossoms out with his annual "I'm through with baseball" statement. Shame on you, Eddie, shame all over you. Don't you know you're the one plank in the platform of the national pastime that can't wear out?

Spring having officially begun in the States by presidential proclamation, we'll waver frames against certainties that Dame Nature sends us on a few feet of snow by way of April Fool greeting.

Since Iowa University is to add canoeing to its athletic curriculum, drastic measures should be taken to prevent the students from inquiring as to did his granddaddy ago, of the fair coast, "I can row a boat—canoe?"

LINES TO MY SICK BUNKIE O, you, who lie between real sheets, With naught to vex or worry, Those every little whisper meets A pretty nurse's hurry, I wonder, do you realize, While lying prone and level, That you appear to see wee eyes, To be a lucky devil?

You speak of egg-nog, made for you By pretty hands and tender, And in it drops of "mountain dew"— Ah, I, too, should surrender To any sickness, great or small, Could I, excuse the comma, Be there within that spotless hall And clad in your pajamas.

Yes, you're correct, she is a peach, And so it's not surprising That every time she's within reach Your fever's ever rising; And when she holds your freckled wrist, Your eye may wonder just her, But there's no doubt, I must insist, Your pulse is biking faster.

I think I shall get sick today, Perhaps the doc will send me out where the pretty nurses play— I'll ask for yours to tend me, For yours, who brings egg-nog and "Vin". Whose name is May or Minnie, Who smashes hearts and test tubes in Your ward at Rue Pucelin.

M.P. NINE BEATS Q.M.C. The Military Police can stop about anything that comes their way. The provisional company of Military Police in Paris proved not long ago that they can do it on the diamond as well as on the street. For they trounced the nine of the Q.M.C. also stationed in Paris, by a score of 11 to 7.

Base and insidious reports to the effect that the Q.M. boys intend to get even by holding up the M.P.'s issue of cottons and summer lights until next November, has lately developed to be enemy canards and absolutely without foundation. The Q.M. gang wants to get even, but not that way. They want another game. And the chances are, they'll get it.

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MIKE DONOVAN DEAD, DEAN OF U.S. BOXERS

Famous Pugilist Carried Gun in Civil War Before Entering Ring

[By Cable to THE STARS AND STRIPES.] NEW YORK, March 28.—(Mike Donovan, famous old time pugilist and long an instructor of boxing at the New York Athletic Club, died at the St. Francis hospital here this week of pneumonia. He was 72 years old. Donovan was regarded as the dean of American boxers and no one, it is conceded, did more to elevate and popularize the sport. He was middleweight champion when John L. Sullivan was a raw youngster. He fought, to a draw, the longest glove fight on record with Billy McClellan at San Francisco.

Even before entering the boxing game Donovan was a fighter. He carried a musket in the Civil War under both Grant and Sherman.

The venerable boxer was boxing instructor to Theodore Roosevelt when the latter was President, and afterward wrote a book about Roosevelt. He also gave lessons to August Belmont, William K. Vanderbilt, Thomas F. Ryan and a host of others.

Every Detroit twirler, excepting Howard Ehmke, who is in the Navy, has signed his contract. Deases, Cunningham and Mitchell were the last to sign up.

President Norton, of the St. Paul club, has received word that two more of his players, Catcher Glenn and Outfielder Duncan, have been placed in Class I of the draft and both may be lost to the club.

Catcher Krueger has signed his contract with the Brooklyn club.

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