



SPORTS PAGE



Difference Between Prize Fight And Boxing Match

Distinction is Apparent By Comparison of the Old Methods and Those in Vogue Under the Queensbury Rules.

By RAY HANSEN

MANY BOXING fans if asked to explain the difference between a prize fight and a boxing bout would find some difficulty if they were not well versed in ring lore. However, there is a distinction as well as a difference. In order to give a satisfactory explanation it will be necessary to go back to the old days before the advent of the Queensbury rules. In delving into sport history the writer came across an account of a real prize fight. The scene was in Belgium and the contestants were Slavin and Smith. The former was a stalwart, heavy-browed, square-jawed individual and his opponent of stockier build with a chest and arms of exceptional size.

When this fight got under way a lot of tough looking fellows leaned across the ropes of the ring and at every opportunity showered kicks or blows on the unfortunate they were bidding against. The fighters wore spikes in their shoes and used bare fists.

Some details of a few rounds should prove interesting reading as well as explaining why a bout was termed a prize fight. In the second round Slavin fought Smith into his own corner. There was a disgraceful scene when Smith's friends kicked and battered Slavin. They fought on and soon both fell. Smith's party yelled out that their man had been spiked by Slavin's boots, but the referee declared that the men had spiked each other.

In the seventh round Smith came up stronger and did some of the forcing, beating Slavin for a moment into the ropes. While in this position one of a crowd of roughs deliberately kicked the Australian, who, however, took no notice of the cowardly attack. Both the combatants got away from the ropes and fought to the middle of the ring, where Smith slipped and both were taken to their corners.

Slavin did the opening work in the eighth round driving Smith across the ring and finally into his corner where his friends were

ready to protect him. Smith came out again, when Slavin landed heavily with right and left and Smith sought the ground.

There were heavy exchanges in the ninth round, Slavin giving his man no rest and driving him back into his corner. While there one of the mob struck Slavin a violent blow on the head.

During the fight the men used what was termed a cross-buttock and it was just considered part of the fight. One of the fighters would catch his opponent on the hip and throw him to the ground.

As compared with this type of fighting, boxing bouts under the Queensbury rules are quite gentlemanly. Instead of a poorly roped off space, with a crowd of roughs hanging around and taking every opportunity of assisting their favorite by kicking or hitting his opponent, rings are built on raised platforms with canvas drawn over the boards. The contestants wear sneakers or sport shoes made for the purpose. Not even the seconds are allowed to hang on the ropes. The audience is seated in commodious, well appointed arenas. Order is maintained as the opponents emerge from opposite corners, their hands covered with soft bandages and wearing from four to eight ounce gloves. No boxer would be permitted to cross-buttock his opponent or do anything contrary to rules. The men are matched according to weight until they reach the heavy division and then the boxers must take their own chances in meeting a larger or heavier opponent. Boxing commissions keep tabs on the doings of all boxers and match makers and as a result there is a big distinction between the former prize fighting with bear knuckles, spikes, etc., and the sport as it is controlled today.

This will give fans an idea of the change following the adoption of the Queensbury rules. They were framed to improve the sport, which did away with fights

Gets Landis' O. K.



Despite official frowns, EDWIN "Alabama" PITTS, the former Sing Sing prison athletic star, donned the uniform of Albany Senators, International Leaguers, and under the critical eyes of General Manager Johnny Evers and Manager Al Marmax lined out some pitches to the outfield. He is shown here at bat. While baseball moguls have barred Pitts from baseball, furor has been raised by his supporters seeking to give him a chance in the pro game. Albany wishes to take him on their roster. Latest reports are that Commissioner Landis has permitted Pitts to take part in regular leagues games with Albany but he will not be permitted to take part in any exhibition games.

in far-off fields where the mob element ruled, to bring all bouts within the pale of the law and give it a setting of more comfortable surroundings, orderly crowds and to provide equipment which greatly lessened the chance of serious injury to any contestant.

SPOTS of Sport

By RAY HANSEN



AS A RESULT OF MAX BAER HOLDING AN opponent too cheaply, playing to the moving pictures and making no apparent effort to win the bout in the early rounds, he is today shorn of his crown and a new champion, James J. Braddock, is credited with being the foremost heavyweight in the world. Baer apparently thought he could dispose of his opponent whenever he wanted to and allowed round after round to pass seemingly content to carry the fight with a view to obtaining big returns from the moving picture interests. As a result he overlooked the fact that the \$300,000 offer to meet Max Schmeling in London, England, will probably be withdrawn or greatly reduced, and other lucrative plums pass to the hands of his successor. Fans were content to let Baer do all the clowning he wanted to while he occupied the top-notch position, but when pitted against the indomitable Irishman and round after round went by and the anticipated knock-out did not materialize they cheered the challenger to the echo. Braddock by his victory proved that he is game to the core, can absorb much punishment and is a willing mixer. His victory actually stunned fandom the world over. He was not conceded an outside chance to win, as Baer was considered one of the greatest heavyweight champions and one of the hardest hitters since Jack Dempsey wore the crown. It may be that too much night-life and a general disregard for physical fitness caused the downfall of Baer, and his apparent indifference may have been lack of stamina to keep up a fast pace. However, the fact remains that his blows lacked the terrific driving power so evident when he toppled Primo Carnera from the throne. If Baer ever hopes to regain the title he will have to take life more seriously and start all over again to win his way to the top. If Braddock keeps his head he should make enough money to take care of his needs for the remainder of his life.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO ALL THE BASEBALL FANS IN Saint John? Is it possible that the "King of Summer Sports" has lost its lure? That there is something radically wrong is evident from the small attendance at the City League games. The boys have been putting up a might nice brand of ball. True there is an odd game when individuals fall down and show a lack of knowledge of the fine points, but on the whole the league fixtures have been well contested and some real snappy playing put over. Even in the major leagues the players have an off-day and boot the ball around and heave it wildly in the general direction of this or that base, but the fans realize that this is to be expected and continue to patronize the sport. Many fans argue that there is a lack of color and there is little or no incentive to induce them to attend, but they overlook the fact that empty stands are largely responsible. The larger the crowd, the more rooting and general interest can put more pep into the players than anything else. There is plenty of rivalry in the league, irrespective of what club or section of the city they represent, and the individual players are eager and willing to put everything they have into the contests. There is an old and true saying that the fans can make or break baseball. There is no reason why baseball cannot be brought back to its former high plane for Saint John can boast of many promising players, but without the co-operation of the fans this can never come to pass. A revival of interest on the part of the fans is imperative if baseball is to retain its former great popularity.

ATHLETICS AND GOOD CLEAN SPORT IS BEING GIVEN serious consideration as an antidote to cope with one of the boy problems of today. A tendency to form into gangs, disregard authority, and start on the road that leads to houses of correction is becoming so apparent that serious-minded citizens in every walk of life are considering ways and means to cope with this situation. More play grounds affording opportunities to

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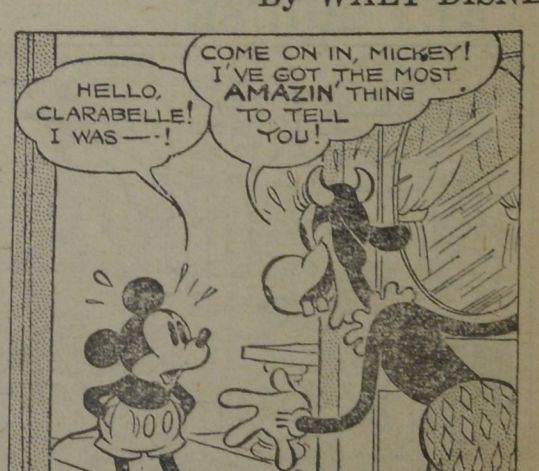
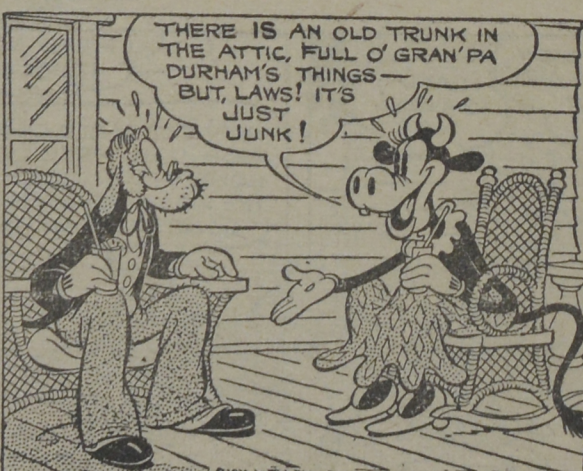
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