NEXT OPPONENT WILL PAY

PRESENT TROUBLE WILL NOT TAKE THE HEART OUT OF DEMPSEY.

That Is the Opinion Salt Lake Promoter Gets—Hype Witness—Fearson Says Jess Doesn't Will Heat Carpentier.

Hardy Downing, Salt Lake fistic promoter who has known Jack Dempsey, heavy weight champion, since Jack started his career in Salt Lake City, gives a new line on the championship controversy. "Dempsey," a Chicago Tribune reporter declared "is not the truth in 'champion.' This is the truth of a series of articles on the life and adventures of Dempsey as found in that investigation."

By Eye Witness.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Feb. 25.—Now that you know who Hardy Downing is and what he's like, I think it will especially interest you to learn the views on Dempsey's future of the wise old bird who has watched the fighter with a sharp and understanding eye from the hour the "Hancock twin went boom" that night of the first row Jack made ever had.

Preliminary to getting this kind of an estimate from Hardy, whose ways I like and whose judgment I respect, I asked this question:

"Will it take the heart out of Dempsey at his next fight—all this Muskie scandal, this legion agitation?"

MAKE HIM FIGHT HARDER.

Hardy Downing considered briefly—then measured off his words:

"I don't think so. It might with another man. But this boy is thick skinned and just low brow enough to have the effect on him that he would go into the ring grouchy and with what they get that kind of stuff" and fight the harder. You got to remember he's a natural fighter. Fighting's nothing to him. He'll make his opponent pay."

"Did he ever seem nervous to you in the early days?"

"He never appeared to me like a fellow that was nervous when he walked into the ring. As a matter of fact he knocked 'em out so quick he didn't have a chance to find out whether he was nervous or not."

JACK QUICK TO LEARN.

"What impressed you most about him as a fighter in those days of '15 and '16, when he was fighting for you?"

"It's as I told you—the first thought was here's just a natural born fighter who has everything. Well, of course, he hadn't everything, but that very fact brought out the next most amazing thing about him, which was his quickness to learn. Now, you take those three fights he had with Jack Downey four years ago at my exhibitions. They illustrate my point. In the first one Downey lared him. The second was a draw and in the third Dempsey beed Downey in two rounds—and it all happened within three or four months. Such improvement I never saw anywhere or in anything else."

"Oh, no, it was better than that!" exclaimed John Derks, when I tried Hardy to him on these matters. "It all happened within four or five weeks. It was even more wonderful than Hardy thinks it was."

DIFFERS FROM SORE BOOST.

I should add that what Hardy told me about those Dempsey-Downey affairs under him does not seem to me to exactly tally in every detail with what is set down about Dempsey in the dope book, an absorbing volume the code words in which I am with faltering steps just learning to read.

But for illustrative purpose I think what Hardy said is safe, for it all fits in with and bears out what the other experts have told me. There was Lowry, for example, who used to be one of the premier sport writers of the coast, but is now in a wider field of newspaper work, and who was standing by while Derks was talking of the phenomenal attributes of Dempsey's style.

CARPENTIER STANDS DEMPSEY.

"Why, yes," Lowry said, "all the old ones—they're not in his class. Maybe Corbett comes the nearest."

Then up spoke John Derks again, saying: "Yes, and there's this to remember—when they're killing off Dempsey they're killing off Carpentier, because Dempsey undoubtedly can whip anybody in the world. If they eliminate him, no victory Carpentier might win elsewhere would mean anything."

All that, of course, was not the adulation of enthusiasts, but the calculations of men who have to watch their words or lose out there, and I especially interested me because it so exactly echoed the estimate and impressions Ray Long, the famous sporting writer, had unfolded to me when I was sent out on this adventure.

REASONS GET RAY'S ULTIMATE.

It's more than two years now that Ray was watching Dempsey at work in the Arcade Gild Howard's gym in Chicago, and after he'd looked on a while he muttered solemnly to himself: "Here's the most unmedeed best looking fighter I ever saw in my life." Then he went back to the office and wrote a column of impressions.

Just before I started out I asked Ray this:

"Has Jack Dempsey got anything but a fighting brain? I mean are there any other angles to him?"

He replied:

"Well, you've got to remember that his brain has never been fed with anything but fight. And to a degree there are two Jack Dempseys. One of them is a great, big, splendid kid that sometimes can be too easily led; the other is a good, cool, level headed fighter who does his own thinking. Now, each of those Jack Dempseys naturally modifies the other. One of them is not money mad and is a good son and a good friend. The other Jack is surrounded by bad influences, and sometimes fails into the hands of bad leaders. You see, the ethics of it all is about a fifty-fifty proposition."

Then Ray touched off a little prophecy for me, and I always think that prophecies, even in past achievements, are worth paying attention to. This is what he said:

"The fight with Carpentier will last just as long as it takes Dempsey to land the punch. As for the training it won't bother him any. At Toledo Jack was just as good at the end of two weeks as at the end of two months—yes, better."

But to get back to Hardy Downing for the clean-up before we push on to Al Auerbach's laundry parlor I'll throw in here some of the further facts he gave me about the early days.

HARDY NAMED MANAGER.

One of these facts makes Hardy rather sick to this day. "You know," he said, "I was within five seconds once of having Dempsey's name to a contract to fight exclusively under my management—and here Hardy did a shudder of distaste for himself—"but I talked too much.

"It was while Jack was up in Ely to fight Joe Bond- that would be in 1916, about t- before Jack fought John Lester Johnson in New York—that I went to him, and I said in my letter, 'don't sign anything until after you beat Joe Bonds.' My plan was to get Alex Mclean of Boston, the sport patron and my old friend of the bicycle days, to go in with me in taking Jack on, and then we'd manage him right and first class.

WHEN HARDY TURNED TOO LATE.

"Well, Jack listened to the 'phone call right and seemed pleased and took up the pen—and then my tongue ran away with me, though I meant it all for the best. I told him how this Alex McLean was a clean, high class man that wouldn't stand for any nonsense or disreputable people, 'Understand, Jack Dempsey,' I said, 'and if he trusts you he'll see you through. But if he saw you trailing with any of this queer bunch you've been trailing with here sometimes he'd ship you back to Salt Lake the first night. But he's the man for you if you want to work and behave.'

"Well, maybe the boy thought I was rushing things my way ho frore. He put down the pen said said, 'I'll see you in the morning,' and walked out. There never was an explanation and for a long time I never saw him except on the street. Sometimes I think he has the blues and can't get him.

AGAIN NEAR A CONTRACT.

"A while after this my brother-in-law, Lawrence Reed, was a bit of a boxer, welterton, and known as Jack Price—got some money together and made some kind of a stake with Dempsey, and they started off for New York. 'You get a contract with him,' I said to Lawrence, but they didn't sign a contract and pretty soon Lawrence's mother died and he was called back to Salt Lake. Still it's a fact that Lawrence was really Jack's first manager.

"Most people say Kearns is Jack's second manager, but really he's the first. After Price left him Jack fell into the hands of John the Barber in New York, and John claims Jack, after signing a contract with him, put the buzzer on him for a few suits of clothes and a little money and then blew.

"I guess it was a case of signing the contract or walk back to Salt Lake and I believe Jack himself says he was down there and broke—skinned and didn't leave a dime. He had to fight. But for the fights in New York he didn't get more than the $150 apiece. The fight with John Lester Johnson caved in a couple of his ribs, Dempsey says so. He told me, 'Johnson's a tough fighting son of a gun and caved in a couple of my ribs. I gave him a hell of a fight at that.'

CAUSE OF MUCH TROUBLE.

"But that contract, after he'd jumped it, kept him out of certain states, but finally was squared up, I believe. Jack came back from John the Barber with Jack Fisher as far as Denver and they beat it to Salt Lake, where he was taken up by Al Auerbach, who signed him up, but that contract wasn't worth anything, because boxing isn't legal in Utah.

"Auerbach didn't know a fighter from a foot racer, but anybody could see Dempsey was a fighter, but I'll say that until Auerbach took hold of him Dempsey never had a dime. But they drifted apart finally, and Fred Winsor, manager No. 4, took Jack to the coast, but that didn't last long.

"They had a jam over money and Winsor took a punch at Jack in the dressing room at Frisco on the night of the fight. Then Kearns comes on the scene, and, though I think the doctor has got the swelled head, I'll say for him he's the only man that's been able to sign up with Jack and keep signed."

(To be continued in The Star Tomorrow.)

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CADDOCK AND STECHER WIN.

Hussane Evaded Champ's Scissors Hold, but Lost One-Fall Match.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 25. — Joe Stecher, world's catch-as-catch-can wrestling champion, threw Yussif Hussane of Detroit in 55 minutes last night with a double wristlock while himself escaping in a body scissors. Stecher tried frequently to apply his own body scissors, but found Hussane had perfected a good defense against it. Hussane protested the referee's decision, but ringsiders held that the verdict of the referee, William Peet, a local sporting editor, was correct.

STOCK CITY, IA., Feb. 25.—Earl Caddock won in straight falls last night from Gus Kanarelis. Caddock won the first fall with a hammerlock in 45 minutes. He took the second in 16 minutes with a head scissors.

CARPENTIER MUST FIGHT IN U. S.

"One Thing Is Certain, We Won't Go to Europe," Says Jack Kearns.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., Feb. 25.—Jack Kearns, manager of Jack Dempsey, denied today that he had communicated with M. Descampa, Georges Carpentier's manager, and said that he would not negotiate for a championship match with Carpentier until the Frenchman arrived in the United States.

"There will be nothing doing from us until Descamps and Carpentier get to New York," said Kearns. "Then we'll really see who has the Carpentier. We do not care to run into litigation by signing up until we know who has the Frenchman.

"One thing is certain—the fight will be in the United States and not in England or France. We won't go to Europe. That is final."

Bodie Signs a Tank Contract.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—Ping Bodie is no longer a holdout. The signed contract of the outfield fence buster was received by the New York Americans today and Frank Gleich and Benny Kelser also sent in their signed documents.

SPORTING COMMENT

NEXT to the loss of Pitcher Jess Haines the decision of Beals Becker, Blue outfielder and one of the league's leading batters, is the hardest blow the Kansas City club has received.

No player on the Blue roster the last four years has been more popular than Beals Becker, not only at home but on the road. He has been the most feared hitter on the club, always a man to be reckoned with by the opposing pitcher in a tight game.

Many a time Beals Becker has answered the call of the fans by crashing a home run over the right field fence at Association Park or high up against the scoreboard in deep right center.

One game of last fall stands out clearly in our memory. The Louisville club and the Blues were battling hard at Association Park. Frank Graham, the left-handed pitcher who was with the Blues in the early weeks of the season, later having been sold to Louisville, was pitching his first game against Gandil's mates. The Blues managed to beat him, but Graham had a 2 to 1 lead and two were out in the last of the ninth.

Looked like a hard chance the Blues had, but there were two men on and Beals Becker was at bat. As always the fans in the park knew that there was a chance for a run with Becker up, so they never quit, but sent out the old, old call for a home run.

And "Beck" came through just as he had come through many a time before. He wasn't a home run clout this hit, but a terrific hit that hit the scoreboard high up for a 3-bagger, sending the two Blues on the path home, winning the ball game, 3 to 2.

John Ganzel smiled his first smile of the day.

Becker, too, was a-smile, but the former Wentworth cadet, like every master of the baseball, likes his baseball and especially when they score runs and win games.

There'll be many a time this summer when Blue fans will wish for Beals Becker.

One day last week Harry Brewer, boss hostler of a large fistic stable, received the following telegram from the fistiana promoter at Springfield, Mo.:

Wallace has run out. Am using Willie Davis.

The wire referred to the reported bout between Wallace and Joe McGowan. Brewer showed the wire from Springfield to newspaper men. Wallace saw the revulting story and here's where Otto takes his pen and ink and strolls to the plate for a base hit:

Fort Worth, Tex., *To the Sporting Editor of the Star:* I just picked up your paper and noticed an article stating that Wallace was out of a match with Joe McGowan. That is the truth as Wallace left here Monday for Bowan at Springfield or any other place. I have offered a match at Springfield with McGowan for February 25, but as I had a card for that day I could not accept so much and wired Mr. White that I could not be there. I have a match for Joe McGowan any date after that.

I will say this: Joe McGowan or anybody else. I never did run out of any kind of a bout and don't intend to. The boys all know me as it is not true. When I box Mc-Gowan I show Harry Brewer that I can once more step in possibly coming 15 rounds with him. Also I like to mix with his other bot, Bob Normandy. And to show that I'm serious I will post $1,000 that I can defeat his boy. Hoping you will find room for this letter in your sporting column.

If "Eye Witness" isn't careful the California grand jury will indict Jack Dempsey while the crib reporter is whitewashing the champion.

"Track Bug" kicks in with the following line on the University of Missouri's decision to send Schulz, junior sprinter; Lewis, its star all around athlete; Burlow, its star quarterback, and Massenglale, Reney and Parker on the Illinois games instead of the Kansas City meet:

Where does the Missouri athletic committee get that stuff from? The Illini meet having a great bearing on the chance of Tiger athletes to make the Olympic team? That sure is the limit. Still for running the Tigers down to another meet.

Looking over the Kansas City boys in Missouri athletics one would think that the university would be glad to send its best team to the city from which it draws such stars. Missouri doesn't draw many athletes from Illinois, does it? Illinois doesn't send its best team to each convention hall when the Tigers and Jayhawkers export some of their dual meet, does it? Illinois doesn't send its indoor track equipment for the Tiger-Jayhawker dual meet each year, does it?

Maybe it would be a wise move for K. U. to send its entire outfit to Kansas City and start a publicity campaign along that line. K. U. hasn't been getting many Kansas City athletes of late years. Perhaps it might be a stimulating for the Lawrence school to step into the Big Missouri scene to be deserting. Missouri has profited greatly by the exercise it is passing up. It shouldn't. It begin to profit by taking up the manic Missouri is throwing aside.

Clarence Owens, the sweet toned umpire of the Texas league, known as "Brick," antes with a bit of soft music for the followers of the Blues.

Owens will be a familiar figure, second baseman, recently purchased from the Washington club of the American League, is a sweet second baseman, a fielding star who will look mighty good in this league. Furthermore Clarence testifies his belief that Cooper will hang around the .270 mark in the association. Bring him on.

C. E. McB.

REFEREE COULDN'T SEE IT.

But Morey Lux Won Popular Decision in Bout With Billy Shade.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 25.—Morey Lux, the Kansas City welter weight, sprang a surprise here last night when he jumped in the ring at the last, minute, substituting for Billy Wright, and fought a sensational bout with Billy Shade of San Francisco. The referee called the bout a draw, although the popular verdict went to Lux.

A KILBANE-VALGER BOUT.

The Feather Weights Will Engage in 8-Round Contest Tonight.

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 25.—Johnny Kilbane, world's feather weight boxing champion, will engage in an 8-round nodecision contest here tonight with Benny Valger of New York. Valger agrees to the weight of 124 pounds to be made at 3 o'clock, while the champion will box at catch weights.

LAST NIGHT'S BASKET BALL GAMES.

BALDWIN, Kas., Feb. 24.—Baker University defeated the College of Emporia here last night, 23 to 14.

ELDAS, Kas., Feb. 25.—Hays State Normal defeated Bethany college here last night, 23 to 15.

SIOUX CITY, IA., Feb. 25.—Nebraska university defeated Morningside college last night, 44 to 16.

MADISON, Wis., Feb. 24.—Wisconsin defeated Ohio state last night in a western conference game, 31 to 27. Francis' free throwing was a feature for Buckeyes. He made eleven out of thirteen trials.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 25.—Southwest Teachers college last night defeated Central college of Fayette at Fayette, Mo., 39 to 14. It was the first of a series to be played by the local quintet on Central's basketball court. The conference title, Shaveler, starred for Springfield, while Kistler played well for Central.

Waugh Shaded Bud Logan.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX., Feb. 25.—Bobby Waugh, Fort Worth lightweight, had the best of Bud Logan, Chicago welter weight, in the opinion of newspaper writers, in a 10-round, no-decision, fight here last night. Waugh closed Logan's left eye and bruised him badly about the face.

Edgerton Place Baptists Take Notice.

BONNER SPRINGS, KAS., Feb. 25.—The Bonner Springs Athletic club baseball team announced today that the game with the Edgerton Place Baptists of Kansas City, scheduled for tomorrow night, would have to be postponed. The manager of the Edgerton five is requested to call N. O. Hall.

A White-Delaney Bout Tonight.

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 25.—Charlie White, veteran lightweight fighter, will meet Cal Delaney, Cleveland, in a 10-round bout here tonight.

LIKE THEMSELVES BETTER

THE REDS DEMAND $72,000 MORE THAN THEY RECEIVED LAST YEAR.

"Hod" Eller, the Pitcher Who Fanned Six in a Row in the Series, Wants a $4,000 Salary Raised to $20,000.

CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—Cincinnati no longer is a city of nickel beers and hand-me-down ball players. The eighteenth amendment knocked out the 5-cent suds and the winning of the world's championship by the Reds last fall converted the hand-me-down ball team into a company of prima donnas.

There was a time when a ball player, a'er being "stuffed" off to the Reds, accepted his contract meekly and without comment. But after waiting fifty years for the chance the Reds of 1920 are out for all there is in it and at the present time it looks as if Secretary Baneroft won't take in enough gate money to pay all of them off, even if he stages a double header every day.

Here's what has happened: During the recent baseball meeting President Herrmann and Secretary Bancroft committed unto themselves, and one learned the Reds of 1920 are demanding only $72,000 more pay than was given to them last year.

One pitcher, who fanned six in a row during the world's series and won both times that he pitched, has decided that his salary should be boosted from something like $4,000 a year to $20,000. Another pitcher, who won a couple of balls in the series and tore up things in general, was more lenient, asking only about $16,000.

No doubt everyone will get more than he got last year, but when it comes to boosting the payroll of a ball club $72,000 is a season, the owner has to act carefully, for if the boys don't go out and win another pennant he may find himself cheer of money to pay off at the finish.

The time: 3:15 Sunday afternoon. The place: Convention hall. The occasion: Pop concert. Seats 25 and 50 cents.—Adv.

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