

Next Big Sports Event - T. & N. O. Bonspiel at Noranda

Prairie Runner Casts Eye to Olympic Trials

Jerome Platt Parks Tractor to Romp Over Country Roads. Has Impressive Record. Holds Two Alberta Amateur Titles.

By C. F. STEELE
Central Press Canadian Correspondent
Lethbridge, Alta., Jan. 28—Southern Alberta's farm boy marathoner, Jerome Platt of Brant, Alta., has his eye on the Canadian trials for the 1936 Olympics. His brilliant victory in the last Calgary Herald road race, when he did the six mile grind comfortably to win the western classic has encouraged him and this will be a year of intensive training in preparation for the national trials.

"I have a dream of making the Olympic team and if all goes well I'll be in the running at least for a place," said Jerome recently.

This sturdy young distance man who does a lot of his training along prairie roads when the dew is on the grass



or after he parks his tractor for the night already has an imposing record. He has 225 miles in actual competition and over 1,100 miles in training to his credit and that is a lot of mileage. He hasn't lost a race in Alberta since 1932 when he romped home second in the

Calgary Herald's annual Christmas Day road race. Altogether he has 35 or more major races on list from which he has taken marks. In his tiny den at his father's farm home at Brant, he has an imposing display of "souvenirs" as he calls them—seven trophies, six gold medals, four silver medals, three bronze medals and "a lot of merchandise."

Won With Bad Leg

Last spring and summer the Alberta boy was at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, and running against seasoned athletes placed first in a tidy number of starts, his most outstanding win being the annual spring cross-country run in which he placed first. He set a new course record and won his letter.

In July, 1933, the Brant boy with the "flying feet" entered the Calgary Police A. A. meet. He developed a "bad leg" having sprained his ankle two days before the event. This handicap did not prevent the little road star from starting, for Platt has grit as well as style and stamina. He set a new record in the six-mile run by nearly two minutes and to do it defeated the old record-holder, Hartington Anderson, Denmark's marathoner in the last Olympic games. His time for this "iron man" feat was 32:57.6.

Earlier that same season he made a sensational showing at the Cardston, Alta., Victoria Day track and field meet held under A.A.A. sanction. He placed second in the half mile, set a new course record in the five-mile event and climaxed the afternoon by winning first in the mile.

The stocky young runner attributes his success to clean habits and persistent road work the year round. And now with the Olympics on the horizon, Jerome is drilling for new "worlds to conquer."

He held two Alberta amateur records: 5,000 metres in 17:01 and the six mile in 32:57.3-5.

Ex-Champion Again Poses for Camera



JACK JOHNSON DAVE BARRY
Sitting with Dave (Long Count) Barry in criminal court in Chicago where Barry and three others appeared to stand trial in a \$54,000 embezzlement case, Jack Johnson, former world's heavyweight champion recalls old times with the referee whose delay in counting out Gene Tunney is claimed to have cost Jack Dempsey the championship.

Old Wooden Skates in Use 40 Years Ago

Sudbury Shoe Repairer Tells of Days when Hockey was Played with Forty on a Side.

An interesting story is told in The Sudbury Star of skates forty years old, and "wooden skates" at that, though the runners are of the finest steel. The following is The Star's story:

"Your skates on for tuppence."
Energetic lads each with a chair and a fire in a bucket, drumming up business on the frozen banks of an English river... skates of English oak and Sheffield steel... ladies skating with an erectness heaved immeasurably by the two-inch bands of steel in their stays... hockey games with as many as 40 players to a side... skating in the rain on fast dissolving ice.

This was skating 38 years ago in England as it is recalled in interesting reminiscences by T. Abbott, Cedar street shoe repairer, who still has the skates which he wore on an East Midland river as a youth of 22.

The skates are as different from today's Canadian skates as were the old English hockey and skating customs from those of present-day Sudbury.

A piece of finely polished English oak which in all the intervening years and climatic changes has not checked a bit, forms the top portion of those skates. Inset along the bottom are runners of fine Sheffield steel which end in graceful curves at the front. For all the steel and oak, the skates are surprisingly light. They were worn by a relative of Mr. Abbott only a couple of years ago, and are still serviceable although not as speedy as modern blades.

In those old days you didn't change boots when you went skating. You simply fastened the skates to the boots you were wearing. Mr. Abbott's skates have screws which fit into a hole in the heel of the shoe. Careful people kept a bit of leather tacked over the hole in the heel so it wouldn't become filled up with dirt.

For those who wanted special skating shoes, there was a "football cut" shoe which was the right thing for skating, but most people didn't bother with them. Mr. Abbott's skates cost the English equivalent of \$5.10 and though only three weeks after his purchase he saw the new all-metal skates for sale, he did not regret his bargain. Those first all-metal skates had metal plates which were screwed on to the boots.

Mr. Abbott said he enjoyed skating and was considered one of the fast skaters. He said he skated from one mill to the next on his home river, reputedly six miles, in 14 minutes, and hastened to add that the distance could certainly not have been six miles. He said he skated whenever there was an opportunity, but that sometimes there wouldn't be a single opportunity in a whole winter.

"They didn't skate then the way they do now. They didn't have the chance to skate as we have them here," he said.

Mr. Abbott recalled that within his time a Cambridgeshire man, "Fish" Smart, discovered the art of getting around corners by crossing one foot over and in consequence romped away with all the races he entered before his rivals learned the trick. Smart's uncle, "Turkey" See, said Mr. Abbott was the first to stop down to skate.

"Before that they all skated like soldiers on parade," said Mr. Abbott.

The first all-metal skates used in England were Norwegian, he said, and a Coventry man made possible fancy skating and fast hockey by giving skates a "hollow ground." About the same time, a Norwegian speed merchant invented a skate which had an oil cup for lubrication, fastened on the front. This innovation did not prove popular.

Mr. Abbott recalls exciting hockey games, or at least games which were the forerunners of hockey as we know it.

from all around with their skates. The puck would be a ball or a chunk of wood and for hockey sticks we'd cut sticks from the hedgerows. The number of men on a side? Well, when we started we might have 15 and when we finished, 40. One side would get a newcutter and the other side the next one. We'd play all day," said Mr. Abbott.

Recalling their hockey equipment, Mr. Abbott said that a few would use walking sticks with curved handles as hockey sticks.

"They had a big advantage," he added.

Ladies went skating in those good old days and their swims went along with them to attend to the matter of putting on skates. The ladies weren't such outstanding skaters.

"How could they be? They couldn't breathe with their 16-inch waists," he explained.

He showed us a thin but strong piece of metal which he uses to scrape the soles of shoes. It was nearly two inches wide and was, we learned, a piece of one of the three similar metal strips which fortified the stays of mid-lady of the last century.

"They stood up straight, all right, but they didn't know they had a backbone," said Mr. Abbott. "The girls of today are 10 times as strong and healthy as they were then. There were fainting women every place. In the pubs they used to have chockers-out. Well, in the churches they used to have carriers-out who spent the larger part of their time carrying out fainting women."

Hockey Bulletin

N.O.H.A. Senior
Tonight, Thursday, Jan. 31st
Noranda at South Porcupine
Wednesday, Feb. 6th
Noranda at Kirkland Lake
N.O.H.A. Junior
Friday, Feb. 1st
Timmins at South Porcupine
Monday, Feb. 4th
Iroquois Falls at Timmins
N. O. S. S. A.
Friday, Feb. 1st
South Porcupine at Timmins
Schumacher at Iroquois Falls
Wednesday, Feb. 6th
Timmins at Cochrane
South Porcupine at Iroquois Falls

Career Closed



VALENTINE BIALIS
His "only fun in life" ended when the wheel of a railway train cut off his right leg, Val Bialis, veteran speeder of the ice lanes from Ulica, N.Y., will no longer be able to compete against rivals on the shining blades. Winner of dozens of speed skating prizes, Bialis was returning from speed skating trials for the U.S. Olympic team when the railway crossing accident occurred. He was expected to land a place as reserve on the team.

Brantford Expositor.—In the County of Middlesex it has been decided to bar feminine teachers who use cigarettes. It is felt that their job is to teach the young idea how to shoot—not smoke.

McIntyre Rink Not Definitely Decided

Even the Location Has Not Been Settled upon. Heating being More Considered than Artificial Ice.

Rumours have been current in Timmins during recent times that McIntyre is to have a rink ready for the hockey season next year. Questioned about this possibility yesterday, one of the officers of the mine admitted that there was a fund in the McIntyre Athletic Association set aside for the express purpose of building a rink at some future date but that as yet nothing definite had been decided.

There is not sufficient money in the fund to complete a rink and some other funds would have to be made available before the project could be undertaken. Apparently not even the location has been seriously considered. One possible piece of ground is located too far away from the centre of Schumacher and another which is in about the right place belongs to Hollinger.

This week's rumours had it that McIntyre would build an artificial ice palace after the fashion of International Nickel's at Copper Cliff. This is not being considered at present, postponements on account of lack of ice in the Porcupine district have been rare. What would be more to point, an official told The Advance, would be a system whereby the place could be kept warm enough for the spectators to be able to enjoy the game in comfort.

Review of Sports in the Year Just Past

September was Marked by T. Sopwith's Bid to Lift the America's Cup. Other Events in September, 1934

As noted before The Advance has been giving in past issues a review of the outstanding events of 1934 in sport. The last year has already been covered as far as August. To clip and keep these articles will give a comprehensive review of 1934 in the field of sport. Here is the summary for September, giving the highlights in sports in that month.

September 1934
September supplied the year's sporting highlight in the series of races off Newport, R.I., which marked England's bid through T. O. M. Sopwith's Endeavour to lift the America's Cup. The races, and Endeavour's failure after winning the first two contests, were watched with interest across the entire world. Other branches of sport supplied added attractions. Fred Perry captured the U.S. men's singles tennis championship; Bob Pearce retained his pro sculling title; May Looney of Warren, O., won the five-mile swim for women at the C.N.E. and the St. Louis Cardinals fringed to the front of the National league in a home-stretch drive to climax the baseball season. Mrs. W. G. Fraser, of Ottawa, formerly Alexa Stirling, defeated Miss Ada Mackenzie in the Canadian women's open golf tournament at the Toronto Golf and Country Club. It was Mrs. Fraser's second Canadian title. She was three holder of the United States national crown.

Sept. 1—Rainbow named as American defender for America's Cup races.
Sept. 1—May Looney, Warren, O., wins women's five-mile professional swim at Canadian National Exhibition.
Sept. 5—Bob Pearce successfully defended world's professional singles sculling championship, outclassing Bill Miller.
Sept. 7—Harold Wilson, Ingersoll captured world's championship in 225 cubic inch class hydroplanes.
Sept. 7—Tommy Gorman, former manager of champion Chicago Black Hawks, named to manage Montreal Maroons.

Sept. 10—Jack Peterson, retains British Empire heavyweight boxing title by knocking out Larry Gains in 13th round of bout in London.
Sept. 13—Fred Perry, England wins U.S. men's singles tennis championship for second successive year.
Sept. 15—Lawson Little, Stanford University golfer, added U.S. open title to British open.
Sept. 15—Touring team of British women golfers defeat Canadian women's team at Toronto.
Sept. 15—First America's Cup race declared "no contest" when neither yacht finishes within time limit.
Sept. 17—Jimmy McLarnin regains welterweight boxing title, lost earlier in year to Barney Ross by whipping Ross in return.

Sept. 17—British yacht Endeavour wins first America's Cup race.
Sept. 18—Endeavour wins second straight race from Rainbow.
Sept. 20—Rainbow wins third race against Endeavour.
Sept. 21—Paul Dean pitched no-hit game and Jerome "Dizzy" Dean three-hit game in double-header with Brooklyn.
Sept. 22—Rainbow wins fourth race after Sopwith protests. Protests disallowed.
Sept. 23—Mrs. W. G. Fraser won the Canadian women's open golf tournament at Toronto.
Sept. 24—Toronto Maple Leafs baseball team win championship of International League.
Sept. 25—Rainbow wins fifth international race to retain America's Cup.
Sept. 29—St. Louis Cardinals forge ahead as New York Giants crack in drive for National League pennant.

Did Curling Start in Scotland or Elsewhere?

Some Hold that it has a Flemish or Teutonic Flavour. Once Used Heavier Stones, Iron, Wood Etc., used for "Stones." Betting Frowned on.

"Curling," says one authority, "is a game in which the players throw large rounded stones upon a rink or channel of ice toward a mark called a tee." Sounds childish when put that way, doesn't it? But drop over to the Timmins Curling Club some afternoon or evening (almost any one during the week) and you'll soon find out that curling is no game at which to make fun.

Like many another game that has found its way about the world, the Scottish are given credit for curling. This may not be strictly true, but certainly the Scot belongs the honour, if such it be, and on this point curling widows may disagree, of organizing the thing so that it really entered the realm of popular sport.

The reasons some other people thought that perhaps some-one else besides the Scots has something to do with curling are the terms used in the game. Many of them have a distinctly Flemish or Teutonic origin. "Curl," for instance probably came from the German "kurzel," a game. "Tee," seems definitely connected with "tighen," an old Teutonic word meaning "to point out." "Bonspiel" itself is almost certainly a combination of two Belgic words, "bonne," a district, and "spel," play. That's about the sum total of any evidence there is to prove that curling was NOT an invention of the Scottish. There has been some references found in 500 year old manuscripts about some Teutons throwing stones on the ice but then they may have been doing that to investigate some law of science.

Flemish Merchants Visit

Some people like to believe that Flemish merchants brought the game along with them when they went over to Scotland from the continental low countries to learn how business really should be done. That was in the 16th century. Someone suggests that they showed the Scots how to play the game so as to distract their attention from some deals they were making. We do know that curling has been a favourite winter pastime in the northern part of Britain for the past 300 years and in 1607 the Orkneys were already famous for stone.

For centuries the Scots went along playing their game much as the boys used to play marbles until the championship business began. Just over a century ago, in 1834, the first attempt was made to organize the sport. The Amateur Curling Club of Scotland was the name chosen for this first group of curlers but it must have been a sad affair indeed for one critic remarks: "This mutual admiration amateur society came to nothing as might be expected."

Nearly 100 Years Old

On November 15th, 1838, the Grand Caledonian Curling Club, a much more businesslike association, came into existence and ever since that time it has been the "mother" club of the game just as the St. Andrew's club has for golf. After this club received the

patronage of Prince Albert, during the reign of Queen Victoria, it became known as the Royal Caledonian Curling Club and since that time has always had royal patronage.

The Royal club made a visit to Canada and the United States in 1902 and 1903 and were beaten by the curlers of this continent, due, it is said, to the difference in climatic conditions. At any rate Canadian curling clubs have continued to turn out rinks of championship calibre for many years.

Iron Stones Here?

Encyclopaedia Britannica has it that "In the intense cold of Canada and the United States, iron is found more serviceable than stone and the iron weigh from 60 to 70 pounds." Nowadays, even in parts of Canada known for their extreme winter cold, iron has been dispensed with and the stones seem to work all right. Certainly most curlers of to-day would have mild hysterics if anyone appeared on the ice with a "60 or 70 pound iron."

Stones, by the way, were not always of the pleasant shape they are to-day. In the early days of the game it appears that the shape and size of the stone were left almost entirely to the individual curler's peculiar notion. We have it on good authority that triangular shaped ones were in favour with some experts.

The weight is another feature that has gone through many variations. The earlier records indicate that stones weighing between five and 25 pounds were tossed down the ice, much after the style of quoits. Then they began throwing them, no doubt after someone discovered that a heavier rock was more likely to stay in place near the tee when once put there. Then curling became an exercise for real athletes and the weight of the rocks jumped as high as 115 pounds. To-day the probable variation is between 25 and 45 pounds.

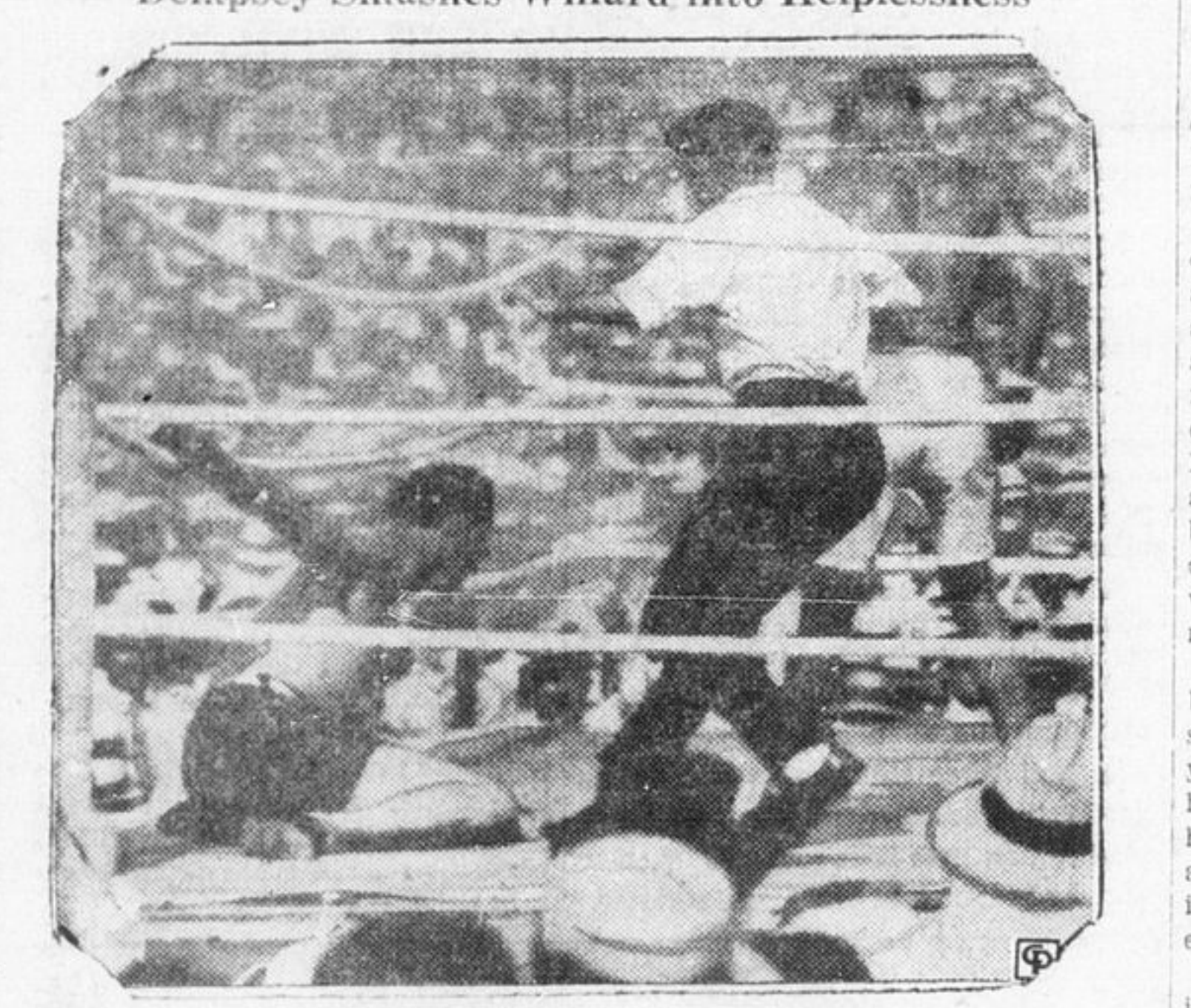
As if iron and stone were not enough variety, someone hit on the idea of making "stones" of wood. It is not on record just how popular these became. In any case it is a far cry from the old "channel" rocks (smoothed stones picked up in the beds of rivers) which were roughly drilled to allow the curler's hand a grip, to the accurately machined, highly-polished, neatly-handled Ailsa Graigs, Burnocks, Carsphairns and Crawfordjohns of today.

The quarrying of curling stones, we learn, is a most meticulous procedure. The rocks must never be blasted in order to be certain that no strains exist that might be responsible for the stone shattering in the midst of the most important "end."

Curling is one of the few games left in the world in which betting is frowned upon. Small stakes may be played for but as a general rule nothing changes hands at the end of a night's curling or a week's curling except a few pieces of silverware to the buying of which the whole club has contributed.

SCRAP-BOOK OF FAMOUS FIGHTS AND FIGHTERS

By BILL BRAUCHER



Dempsey Smashes Willard into Helplessness

An unprecedented golden era of boxing began at Toledo when Jack Dempsey battered Jess Willard into a helpless hulk. The date was July 4, 1919.

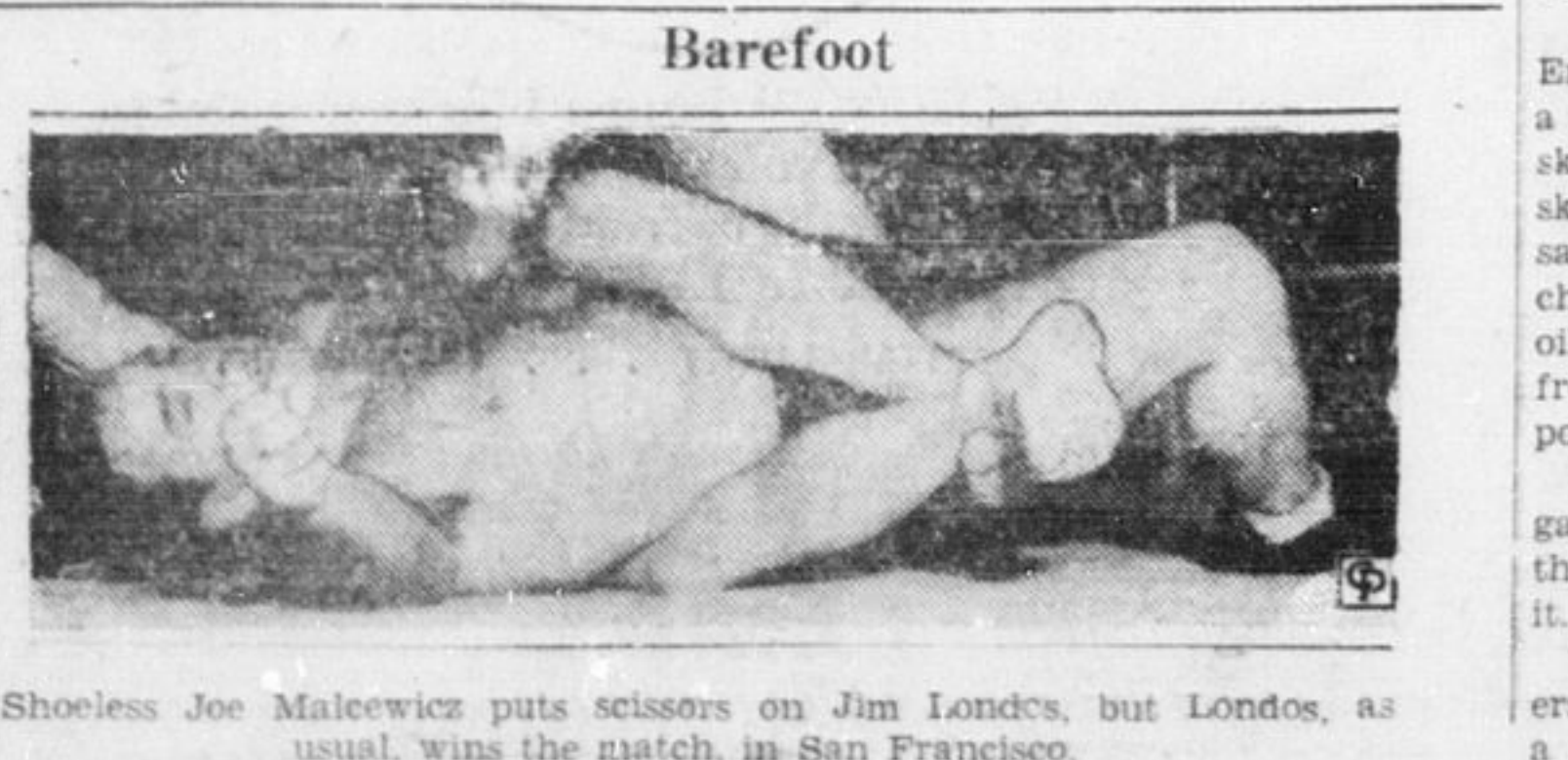
The man mauler that day started a million-dollar pugilistic market that was climaxed by the \$2,658,668 gate for his second fight with Gene Tunney in Chicago. Public imagination was captivated by Dempsey's deeds. He was the super-fighter the world had been looking for. A real champion!

Willard was a punching bag before his terrific attack. When Referee Ollie Peacor called the two for instructions, Willard towered over the 190-pound Dempsey, outweighing him by 30 pounds. But Willard had trained only half-heartedly for the bout, and if ever a fighter was in condition Dempsey at Toledo was that man.

First Fint Fools Jess
Dempsey's first move puzzled the giant. He trotted out to the middle of the ring, feinted at the big fellow, then stepped back. Willard led a cautious left. Dempsey slid under it and brought that left hook against Willard's chin. It was a blow that shook every inch of the giant's body. Then a right to the face drove Willard back on the ropes. A flurry of punches to Willard's body and chin knocked Jess down, but he was up at the count of five, wearing a foolish grin.

Barefoot

Sholess Joe Malcewicz puts scissors on Jim Londes, but Londes, as usual, wins the match, in San Francisco.



School Teacher

HORIZONTAL

1 Who was the famous American educator in the picture?
13 Hair ornament.
14 Coal box.
15 To gaze fixedly.
17 To eject.
18 Potent vegetable poison.
20 Always.
21 Dry.
22 To level.
24 Organ of hearing.
25 Exists.
26 You and I.
27 Preposition.
29 Toward.
30 Constellation.
31 Knock.
33 Short letters.
35 Shuts up.
37 Penny.
38 Soon.
39 Street.
40 Southeast.
41 Note in the scale.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

FOOTBALL CENTER
MAD REACT AIMS
KERESAMA SOLIT
TINSET FEN
CASA
KIND
ODES FOOTBALL TALK
FEWER FOOTBALL BODIE
FATTA
LADIES HERE PLEASE
ALONE RIA SAGER
PASS GOALS DOWN

VERTICAL

19 Northeast.
22 Dined sumptuously.
23 She was head of a school (pl.).
26 Birds.
28 Animals of a region.
30 Devoured.
32 Golf teacher.
34 Any groups of eight.
36 To animate.
39 Let it stand
43 Unwrinkled.
45 Bill of fare.
47 Sound of inquiry.
48 Sanskrit dialect.
49 Kilt.
50 Chair.
51 Half an em.
52 To satiate.
54 Anything steeped.
56 Low vulgar fellow.
58 Note in scale.
60 Upon.

