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## MONUMENTS

Importers of Scotch and American Granites, Vermont Marbles. The McCallum Granite Company, Ltd. 397 Princess Street. Telephone 1931.

# In The World Of Sport

## WILLARD'S PUBLICITY STUNT

### HE CHALLENGES THE WORLD AND STARTS TRAINING

#### Circus a Failure — Champion Makes Every Effort to Put His Show on the Map Again Through Patriotic Work.

When Jess Willard recently issued his "sweepingly liberal patriotic" offer to fight anyone, anywhere, anytime, for the benefit of the American Red Cross he immediately plunged into the arduous work of physically preparing himself to withstand the tidal rush of response from rival heavyweights. He started training—light training, it is true, but nevertheless it was enough to make his offer seem real, whether he meant it or not. Chicago experts flocked to watch him in his "secret" workouts. Willard explained to them the stories that had been travelling back and forth across the continent were grossly exaggerated, that he did not weigh more than 200 pounds—in fact, that he was within a short training jaunt of being as physically fit as when he boxed Frank Moran in New York two years ago next March.

It was generally supposed that outside of the work he did while circling last summer this preparation was Willard's first attempt to get in shape for a bout. However, advice received from Chicago declares that Willard has been diligently training ever since the close of the circus season and that he is further advanced in this work than the majority were prone to believe.

It is said that the last few months of Willard's circling were not very successful financially. Attendance dwindled to a startling degree, and when the time came to put the elephants and lions and tigers and swiftness and horns and tiger and swiftness in cold storage the heavyweight champion was convinced that immediate and drastic action was needed to revive interest in him. He is the main show of the circus, and it stands to reason if the fans are not interested in him they are not interested in his circus.

With this uppermost in his mind, Willard immediately stripped for action and began laying the foundation for an active publicity campaign by which Willard hoped not only to rehabilitate himself but by so doing to put his circus on the map again.

There was but one way to do this. It was essential that Willard challenge the world to fight. It being war time it was equally essential that any monetary motive on his part be conceded behind a campaign of patriotism—war charity must be the incentive that was cooking the champion back into the ring after a protracted absence.

However, in issuing such a challenge the possibility that his bluff would be called was ever present. For this reason, continues the report from Chicago, the champion decided to get a flying start; to plunge into the preliminary work of getting himself physically prepared to meet an emergency.

### Calamity Howlers.

The baseball guys are tearful. And seem to have the blues. Each day we get an earful of most depressing news.

They're given to repining. And weep and wail aloud; There is no silver lining. Connected with their cloud.

They fear the draft will wreck 'em. And put them on the bum; And if we do not check 'em. The world is sure to come.

The interest will diminish. Expenses will increase; And they can see their finish. Unless the war should cease.

The game is dead as Hector. According to the dope; In war they see a specter. That crushes out all hope.

They're holding a post mortem— The game cannot survive; And if we do not thwart 'em. They'll bury it alive.

Why can't they be more cheerful. And not so woebegone? Though war is grim and fearful. The game will still go on.

—By L. C. DAVIS.

### First Baseball Team To Tour.

The first record of a tour of a baseball team dates back to 1860, when the Excelsiors of Brooklyn visited several cities in New York State. They first went to Albany, where, on July 2, 1860, they defeated the team from the state capital, by a score of 26 to 6. Next day they beat the Troy team in a game which was considered very close in those days, the score being 13 to 7. A few days later they trounced the Niagara team of Buffalo. In this game the Excelsiors rolled up a score which hung up a record for those days. They tallied fifty runs in nine innings, while their opponents scored a measly nineteen runs. Rochester's team next fell a victim to the victorious Brooklyn outfit. Here they defeated two teams.

The next stopping place was Newburg and here again the Brooklyn bunch broke the record for high scoring. They made 59 runs this time, just smothering the other team, which got only fourteen. All this gave the Excelsiors an appetite for more travel and so they went west and south and defeated everything that came before them.

### Dubbe Kerr Retires.

Lester Patrick and Ran McDonald are the only members of last year's Spokane team now available. Dubbe Kerr, the former Ottawa player and one of the greatest forwards the Capital ever produced, has definitely retired. Kerr has been urged to return and the Patrick's boosted his salary, but Dubbe could not see it. Bobby Gengo also states that he has played his last hockey.

Professors of physical culture lack the nerve required to recommend the wood saw and the washboard. Money isn't everything, but it makes good as a substitute.

## BASEBALL IS BETTER THAN COCKFIGHTING

### American National Game Is Being Taken Up in the West Indies.

Frequently the statement has been made that American and Canadian soldiers carry with them to foreign climes the national game. This statement has been borne out since the entry of American marines into the Dominican republic. The Dominicans have become so enthusiastic about baseball that a league is to be formed with clubs in Santiago de Los Caballeros and Puerto Plata. The proprietors of a new hippodrome recently established in the last named city will lay out a diamond inside the race track. The grand stand at Puerto Plata seats 500.

Santiago is also to have a diamond within a race-track built by the owners of the Puerto Plata track. The Santiago stand will accommodate 2,000. United States Consul Arthur McLean, stationed at Puerto Plata, reports that the Dominicans take quickly to the game and become proficient players.

Before the marines took baseball into the Latin republic, cock-fighting was the national sport, but its popularity has in a great measure declined. National gambling laws have restricted cock-fighting to municipalities, which grant licenses for pits. Bull-fighting is not now, and has never been, popular among the Dominicans, although a wandering treader occasionally enters the country and stages a fight. These are poorly attended. Tennis is also gaining in favor in the country.

Venezuela also has a baseball league, established last May. With the great American game becoming a popular attraction in both Latin and South American countries, the fan seeking refuge from northern blizzards will be able to make himself right at home in our sister republics of the south. And in Venezuela, where the language of the game is English, he will be able to "speak United States" and still intelligently "kill the umpire."

### CROKER'S TURF LUCK SEEMS TO HAVE GONE

#### Former Tammany Leader Fails to Show Well With Stable in Ireland.

Luck on the turf seems to have forsaken Richard Croker, the former Tammany boss. He cut but a sorry figure on the winning lists of the Irish racing season just passed. On neither the winning owners nor winning sires lists did he come anywhere near the front brigade, although he yet maintains a first-class racing establishment at Glencaira, outside Dublin. The English Derby winner of 1907, is still at the stud but he failed so miserably that only five of his get won five races for a total of \$4,210, and this amount failed to get him even in the twentieth place. The Croker colors were credited with two wins where were worth \$2,720, hardly enough to buy oats for the stable.

Years ago, when Croker figured prominently on the turf with Orby and Rhodora, winner of the One Thousand Guineas as a 2-year-old, his stable was managed by Dr. McCabe, one of the closest students of horse flesh in the British Isles. It was he who advised the breeding of Rhoda B., the American mare by Hanover, to Orme. The fruit of the union was Orby, and subsequently the Epsom victory. Rhodora, too, was another result of the McCabe breeding theory.

In an evil hour, however, Croker parted with the Irish expert. It is singular that Croker has not since won a race of note, although he has tried hard.

### Where Will Box Play?

Whether Willard Box will play with the Dents or not this season is a question which has the followers of amateur hockey by the ears, says the Toronto News. If he does not line up with the Allan Cup holders the champions will have a hard time repeating their victory in the O.H.A. championship race. Box practically won the championship for the Dents. His individual prowess converted a mediocre crew into a first-class team, and he would have been more valuable than ever this winter with the six-man game in vogue. The pro club has made him a handsome offer but he is averse to playing for the cold cash. It is considered likely that he will join the Crescents. Harvey Sproule's club, in fact the latter has announced that if Box plays at all it will be with his team.

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