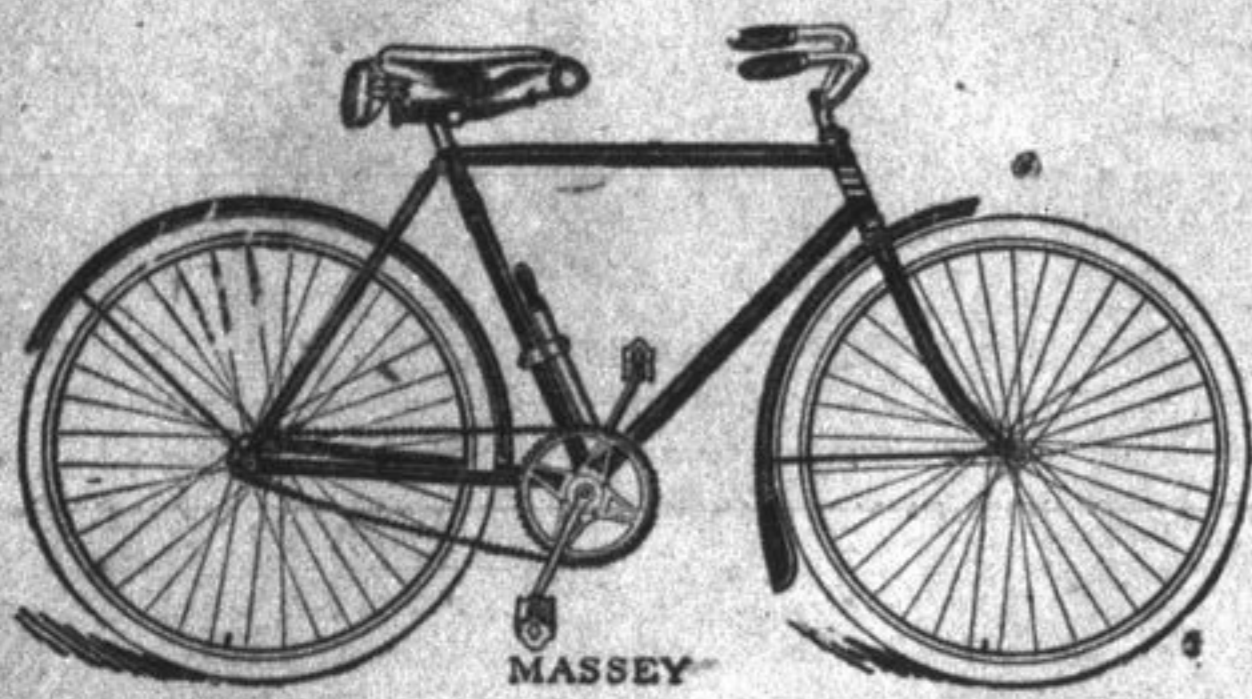


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In the Field of Sport

DEMPSY RATED WITH BEST

His Blows Would Not Have Laid Out Jim Jeffries

Daniel, writing in the New York Sun, of the fight, says:

Just how great is Jack Dempsey? Is he really a greater puncher than was John L. Sullivan, or are some of the veterans like Bill Malton and Jack Skelly permitting themselves to go into undue ecstasies over the new champion? Only time can tell, and even then the question may have to remain unanswered, for not one boxer now before the public would have the ghost of a chance against Dempsey. There is no man to give him a test. To pit Georges Carpentier against Dempsey would mean murder, for the Frenchman might suffer mortal injury. Joe Beckett, the new British champion, is a strong man and a fairly hard puncher. There is little doubt that Beckett will be Dempsey's next opponent, but the announcement of the match will be followed by immediate condolences for Beckett. Fred Fulton, who is in England in an endeavor to rehabilitate himself, may meet Beckett and get another match with Dempsey, in England. We do not believe that the American boxing public would stand for another Dempsey-Fulton bout. No man, no matter how clever a boxer and hard a hitter, would have even the semblance of a chance against Dempsey if he were not possessed of the stoutest heart and the greatest amount of grit. If Dempsey is beaten it will be by a more clever boxer, who will be able to keep pace with Dempsey for three or four rounds and take some of his punching without flinching. Dempsey hit Willard with all his might time and again. He struck Willard repeatedly after he had set himself and let loose with both hands, yet Dempsey was not able to stop Willard with one, two or even three blows. The question is, was Willard able to take a series of blows that would have knocked any other ringster silly, or is the true strength of Dempsey's hitting power yet to be determined?

We would like to see Dempsey fight a man like Tom Sharkey when the sailor was in his prime, or Jim Jeffries when the boiler-maker knocked out Bob Fitzsimmons. We do not believe that the blows that made Willard surrender would have beaten down the "Jetch" of June 9, 1919. Another factor to be determined is Dempsey's ability to take punishment. He has been hit a really terrific blow by only two men—Jim Flynn and Gunboat Smith. Flynn knocked out Dempsey so hard that he knocked him into a state of apoplexy. It was in a four-round bout in San Francisco and in the third round Smith swung a terrific right to the jaw that sent Dempsey down. Jack came right up and fought through the third and the fourth and got the decision. However, it turned out that everything that Dempsey did after that knockdown was by intuition and that he had lost his memory when he was hit. He came into the dressing room crying, thinking that he had been knocked out, and when he was told that he had been given the verdict he was the most surprised man in the world. That incident may be taken as an exhibition of aggressiveness that will not be downed.

Corbett Opens New Argument. James J. Corbett, former heavy-weight champion, roundly scolded Referee Ollie Egord for deciding that Willard was knocked out in the third round by Dempsey at Toledo.

"I never heard of such a queer ruling," declared Corbett, "and I consider it very unfair. In my opinion Willard was knocked out in the fourth round, and I'll tell you why."

"The third round of three minutes ended with Willard on his feet. He wasn't beaten when he walked to his corner. The ensuing rest of one minute counted for nothing. If the bell for the fourth round didn't ring, for the sake of argument, Willard wasn't actually defeated until ten seconds of what would have been the fourth round had elapsed."

Jim Thorpe Comes Back. Jim Thorpe, full-blooded Indian, cast-off of the New York Giants, now a member of the Boston Braves, is the leading slugger in the National Ball League. According to the latest figures issued, Thorpe has passed Cravath, of Pittsburg, and is hitting .411. He has played in 22 games and is batting in sensational style. Cravath is hitting .376.

Roger Peckinpaugh, of the New York Yankees, continues to lead the American league as he has a percentage of .382. He also leads in run-getting, with 46 to his credit. Cobb is third with 358. Babe Ruth heads the home run drivers with seven to his credit.

Some men always do their best—including their best friends. It's a man's outgo that plays havoc with his income.

WOMEN LIKED THE GORE

And Wanted the Willard-Dempsey Fight to Continue.

The New York World says: There must have been 5,000 women in the big arena at the Willard-Dempsey bout, and they stood up on the hard, sub-listened benches and added their shrill cries to the rolls of applause and encouragement that their male companions hurled at the combatants.

And were they dismayed; did their faces hance; did they reach for smelling salts when the blood fairly sprayed through the air as Dempsey landed blow after blow on Willard's mashed features? Not so.

Indeed, there were no signs of fainting even when Dempsey's gore-stained gloves left great red patches on Willard's body and the pouring sweat, curiously streaming through the red, left an effect like an amateur painter's first sunset.

In fact, the women didn't seem to care at all whether Jess bled, but they did greet with applause every fresh rally and whirlwind of blows from Dempsey's fists.

There were no cries of "Stop it, please" with averted faces.

Like their husbands and brothers and sweethearts the women—some gray-haired and motherly looking, appeared to want the chopping up process to go on.

Youth Will Be Served. Here's a hunch that the fight fans overlooked: Jeffries was 37 years old when he lost the title to Johnson. Fitzsimmons was the same age when "Jeff" downed him; and Johnson was three years shy of forty when he took his little sleep at Havana. Willard, according to the statistics was 37 two months ago.

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