

# CHAPLAINS MATCHED FOR TEN ROUND FIGHT

## TO LAY DOWN BIBLES FOR BOXING GLOVES

### Fighting Parsons Matched for Ten Round Go at Palais de Glace

#### BOTH MEN ARE ATHLETES

Bout Will Mark Epoch in A.E.F. Fistic History—Chaplains Will Also Act as Seconds

Everybody's heard the song that tells what it was that made the "Preacher Lay His Bible Down" but Jimmy Bronson, minister of fistic ceremonies at the Y.M.C.A. pugilistic emporium in Paris, the Palais de Glace, is going to stage a bout at his battle parlor on February 11 that will prove the song is wrong.

Two preachers, men of peaceful and lamblike disposition, becoming fired with a warlike spirit, will temporarily put behind them such phrases as "Turn the other cheek" and "Forgive thy brother" and, donning boxing gloves, will engage in a real ten round nip and tuck boxing contest.

The scrap will mark an epoch in A.E.F. fistic history, if not the first battle of its kind, it will be at least one of the very few of its kind ever held anywhere. Nothing could be more of a boost for the game, nothing could prove a better testimony to the cleanliness of the sport when properly conducted, than this contest between two Army chaplains.

#### How It All Started

It all came about this way. Chaplain Earl A. Blackman, the "fighting parson" of the 120th Field Artillery, 35th Division, wrote the Sporting Editor of THE STARS and STRIPES that he was willing to meet "any person in the A.E.F. of 160 pounds weight or over within three weeks after the formal acceptance of his challenge."

The Rev. Charles H. Rexrode, minister of the 31st Division, M.P., 9th Division, saw the challenge in THE STARS and STRIPES. Now Chaplain Rexrode is something of an athlete himself, was a member of his college football team, and a letter director of his outfit, and an amateur boxer of considerable ability. When he read the challenge, he was "exceedingly wrought," and desiring to uphold the fighting record of the 31st Division, he communicated with the Y.M.C.A. athletic director for the 31st Division and made known his willingness to "smile" the challenger "hip and thigh."

Jimmy Bronson was called in and agreed to stage the two parsons in a bout at the Palais de Glace. A great crowd is expected to be present to see the two Army legends.

Both fighters will be seconded by chaplains. The Rev. Rexrode having already accepted Chaplain Beard, 31st Infantry, to look after his interests, Chaplain Beard, minister of the State of Washington where he is known familiarly as "The Fighting Lumberman."

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#### Rules for Wrestling Contests

Elimination wrestling tournaments will be conducted in all sections of the S.O.S., including the Paris District, by February 28. The two best men to represent the section will be selected in each of the following classes: Bantam-weight, 115 pounds or under; featherweight, 125 pounds or under; lightweight, 135 pounds or under; welterweight, 145 pounds or under; middleweight, 160 pounds or under; light-heavyweight, 175 pounds or under; heavyweight, over 175 pounds.

All bouts will consist of three three-minute rounds, one-minute intermission, except semi-finals and finals. These will consist of five three-minute rounds, with one-minute intermission.

In the elimination tournament for the S.O.S. championships, the preliminary tournaments will be as follows: For champions in Sections 1 and 5, at St. Nazaire.

For champions in Sections 2 and 7, at Le Havre.

For champions in Section 3, Intermediate and Advance, at Le Mans.

The second elimination round will be held as follows: For the two winners at each venue at Brest and La Rochelle, at Brest.

For the winners at each venue at Tours and Le Mans, at Le Mans. This round will be completed by March 22.

The final round of the championship of the S.O.S. will be held at Le Mans and be completed by March 31. A.A.U. rules will govern.

#### WINNERS IN BREST TOURNEY GET CUPS

Winners in the Army and Navy championship boxing tournament, conducted for the past six weeks under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A. at Brest, were awarded their trophies Saturday night by Rear Adm. H. H. Halsted, commander of the United States Naval forces at Brest.

The gobs won five of the six championships. The only Army champion was W. J. Genzard, of Hospital Train No. 47, winner in the light-heavyweight class.

Howell made a name for the heavy-weight title but was defeated by Saylor Burns, U.S.S. Dreadnaught, in three rounds. He seemed to lack the vim and dash shown in his battles for the light-heavyweight belt.

Exhibition bouts interesting. The most interesting bout of the evening was between W. Neuhoff and W. J. Genzard, both of the U.S.S. Bridgeport, who fought a clever exhibition bout of three rounds. Genzard displayed a fine uppercut which he used to good advantage, while his opponent possessed a powerful left. Both drew blood, Genzard having the best of the fray.

Kid Stewart and "Young Bull" Young appeared in another exhibition bout. Young tried to live up to his reputation and rushed his opponent, both did some fast footwork, chasing each other around the ring.

## CRACK BASKETBALL TEAMS OF A.E.F. TO TOUR BRITISH ISLES

The Only Acceptance Park and 143rd Field Artillery basketball teams, which only recently completed a tour of the British front in France, when they demonstrated to their British friends the fine points of the American game, will leave shortly for a six weeks' tour of England, Scotland and Ireland upon a similar mission.

Chaplain Fred C. Thomson, U.S.A., and a Y.M.C.A. secretary, will accompany the two teams, which were fully equipped by the Y.M.C.A.

Both quintets are strong contenders for A.E.F. championship honors, and since their recent trip they have been kept in trim with daily practices.

Basketball and other American games are becoming very popular with the British, and especially among the British soldiers, many of whom have been billeted with "Yanks."

Both the tour of the British front and the trip to the British Isles were arranged upon request of the British military authorities.

## CIRQUE DE PARIS OPENS FEBRUARY 22

### Georges Carpentier, French Heavyweight Champion, Booked to Appear

Georges Carpentier, the great French pugilist, and heavyweight champion of Europe, heads the list of well known French, Belgian and American boxers who are scheduled to appear at the opening of the Cirque de Paris, the Y.M.C.A.'s new Paris boxing hall, on February 22.

Carpentier will don the gloves for a three-round bout with his sparring partner while the other French and Belgian pugilists will be matched against A.E.F. talent.

There will be an afternoon program exclusively for French and American wounded. Two thousand five hundred French "messes" will have choice rindside seats. As the amphitheater seats 6,000 and has standing room for 2,000 more, it is expected that there will be room for all who care to see the show.

Yvette, lightweight champion of France; Lemmers, Belgian middleweight champion, and Crinid, bantamweight champion of France, will be matched with American fighters as will Dupre, one of the best French lightweights, and Alfred Francis, a 135 pounder.

Five stars are coming from the Bourges and Nevers areas, including Danny Summers, 145; Ray Dalton and "Red" Anderson, 135; Barney Meyers, 130, and George Almas, 125. Others from these areas include: Charles L. Dettling, 130; Walburg, 125; Zubro, 105; Peterson, 125; Barone, 112, and Bisset, 150. These 12 men from Bourges and Nevers will be pitted against the champions making a rousing Franco-American program for the afternoon and evening.

## JOE LYNCH BEATS NOBLE IN LONDON

### Englishman Is Groggy Toward Finish and has Close Call

Joe Lynch, of the 52nd Pioneer Infantry, won a 20-round decision over Tommy Noble at "The Ring" in London Monday night.

Lynch began cautiously, but as the match progressed his speed and clever footwork began to tell. In the last three rounds Lynch led the attack, hammering away at his opponent, who became so groggy he was saved from a knockout in the eighteenth round by the bell.

A record crowd witnessed the battle and proved very sportsmanlike. The American was cheered throughout, and the decision proved very popular, because of Noble's constant clinching.

Jimmy Wilde, the famous British flyweight, was introduced and challenged the winner. Wilde, who had a long record, presented to the crowd were Eddie McGorty and Bombardier Wells.

## BICYCLE RACE IS LATEST WRINKLE

### 5th Army Corps to Hold Thirty Kilometer Pedal Speed Contest

On Saturday, February 15, the Fifth Army Corps will stage a bicycle race from Bourdon les Baines to Nogent en Bassigny, a distance of about 30 kilometers. Three teams of 20 men each will start, representing the 29th and 82nd Divisions and the Fifth Army Corps troops.

There will be a trophy for the team having the greatest number of miles to finish, as well as individual prizes. Bicycle road race rules will govern. There will be no padding other than that done among the contestants themselves, and controls will be established where assistance may be given the contestants.

Colonel Foster, athletic officer of the Fifth Corps, is in charge of the details of the contest, which will be held at the ever put a stop to the arguments about the speed of the couriers in the recent big offensive.

All along the course organizations are arranging to give the riders a big reception. The finish will be at the foot of a big hill in Nogent en Bassigny, near Major General Sumner's chateau.

## BOXING GLOVES FOR THIRD ARMY

### Knights of Columbus Secretary Leaves With Truckload

Bill McCabe, Knights of Columbus secretary, and well known sportsman of New York State, left Paris with a truckload of boxing gloves on Wednesday for Germany.

The gloves will be turned over to Alex McLean and Billy Roche, Knights of Columbus secretaries, now with the Army of Occupation, for distribution among the Yanks patrolling the famous river.

All reports from Germany indicate that boxing has taken firm hold among the sport-loving doughboys, and that the coming A.E.F. championships will find the Army of Occupation well represented in the finals.

YANKS WIN AT SOCCER

The opening game of the Franco-American soccer schedule to be played in the 88th Division area during the month of February, was won by the Americans Sunday when a team of French Marines from Egnay-en-Perthuis was defeated 6 to 0 by the Third Battalion eleven, 250 Infantry. A return game will be played Sunday at Givrainville Field.

It's about time for the Paris M.P.'s to raid another boxing show.

## RAINBOW TRIUMPHS OVER MAPLE LEAF

### Yanks Capture Three Day Athletic Meet from 2nd Canadians

#### TAKE ALL BOXING BOUTS

#### Private Price of Canadians Wins Applause of Doughboys for His Gameness in Ring

A series of athletic events extending over three days has just been completed between the 2nd Canadian Division and the 42nd (Rainbow) United States Division. Competitions in baseball, soccer football, tug-of-war, indoor baseball, wrestling and boxing resulted in a victory for the Yanks, 81 to 76.

The first leg was played off at Bonn, and the Americans were soundly trounced. The Canadians won all four events, comprising two indoor games, one between Canadian and American officers; and one between teams of enlisted men; a tug-of-war, and a soccer contest.

On the second day at Neuenahr, in the American area, the program comprised boxing and wrestling bouts. In the mat contest Private Giguere, 117 Field Signal Battalion, pinned Private Sovereign of the 2nd Canadians on the mat in straight falls. They weighed in at 125 pounds. In the second bout, 145 pounds, Private Bennett, 160th Infantry, pinned Sergeant Sapper of the 2nd Canadians twice in succession, with a scissors and half Nelson.

The best mat event was at 175 pounds between Private Hoffman, 42 years old, of the 160th Infantry, and Private Bullen of the 2nd Canadians, 44 years old. It was a battle of veteran wrestlers, won finally by the Canadian with a half Nelson.

#### Yanks Make Clean Sweep in Ring

All the mat winners were scheduled to go four rounds to a decision. In the 115 pound class Private Dillbert, 117th Field Signal Battalion, battered Private Price of the 19th Canadian Battalion until the spectators lost count of the knockdowns. Price lost, but he left the ring amid thunderous applause for his gameness in sticking it out to the finish.

The second contest, at 135 pounds, was less satisfactory. About halfway through the first round, Private Scott of the 25th Canadian Battalion claimed he was fouled. Neither the referee nor the medical officer agreed with him, so Private Aranson of the 117th Field Signal Battalion was awarded the match when his opponent refused to continue the scrap.

Private McCarthy, 151st Field Artillery, and Gunner Herkowitz, 5th Canadian Field Artillery, staged a battle royal at 145 pounds. At the end of the four rounds, during which the men had given an exhibition of jab, punches, hooks and in-fighting that sent the crowd into ecstasies, McCarthy received the verdict.

#### Montijo Scores a Knockout

At 158 pounds, one Montijo of the 117th Engineers, after having his nose, eye and ear vividly decorated, hung a ponderous right on the jaw of Sergeant Archer, 19th Canadian Battalion, and the sergeant lost all interest in the proceedings.

Lieutenant Redmond, 160th Infantry, commissioned for gallantry in action, laid out Sergeant Locke, 5th Canadian Field Artillery, in the second round of their 175 pound match. The final bout at 145 pounds between Swaback, 2nd Canadian, and Domingues, 17th Engineers, was a furious contest, closed with a baseball game at the finish. The American was given a hair line decision after a lengthy consultation between the referee and the judges. The tournament closed with a baseball game at Bonn, which was won by the Americans 12 to 2.

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## MEN ORDERED HOME MAY STAY FOR MEET

### Those Making Request of G.H.Q. Will Be Sent to Camp Near Paris

## GREAT DEMAND FOR SUITS

### Officials at Chaumont Have Limited Number Manufactured from Salvaged Clothing

Now that the A.E.F. championships are well under way interest in athletics is at the high water mark. Men belonging to divisions and smaller units ordered, or about to be ordered, home have been wondering if any provision was to be made so that they could stay in France to take part in the great A.E.F. track and field games which will be held in Paris in the spring.

## S.O.S. BOXING AND WRESTLING MATCHES

### Rules Announced for A.E.F. Elimination Contests—Finals at Tours

Rules for the conduct of boxing and wrestling elimination tournaments in the S.O.S. have been announced by Maj. Gen. Halsted.

Elimination boxing tournaments must be completed in all sections of the S.O.S., including the Paris District, by February 28. The two best men to represent the section will be selected in each of the following classes: Bantam-weight, 115 pounds or under; featherweight, 125 pounds or under; lightweight, 135 pounds or under; welterweight, 145 pounds or under; middleweight, 160 pounds or under; light-heavyweight, 175 pounds or under; heavyweight, over 175 pounds.

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## ATHLETIC SUPPLIES FOR BOYS ON RHINE

### Y.M.C.A. Sends Four Truck Loads Over Muddy Roads to Germany

By the time the ink is dry on this page four big six-ton Liberty trucks have probably rolled into Coblenz, Germany, laden with 21 tons of athletic supplies. This amount, from the Y.M.C.A. at Chaumont, is awaited by the doughboy athletes in the domain of the ex-kaiser, left the Paris warehouse of the Y.M.C.A. Friday afternoon, and is being distributed to the boys with snow and mud. It was not expected it could arrive short of six or seven days. The convey was in charge of Louis Schmidt, of the 29th Infantry, and Huber of the Ammunition Train at Dijon.

This shipment, for the Third Army athletes, totaled 36,100 pieces and represented an approximate value of \$4,000. Some of the items may be interesting:

Baseballs Head List  
Baseballs, 1,425; footballs, 2,125; basketballs, 1,440; soccer balls, 1,334; boxing gloves, 552 sets, indoor baseballs, 2,250; playground balls, 2,862; baseball bats, 2,576; indoor ball bats, 1,526; baseball gloves, 1,286; tennis balls, 1,000; tennis rackets, 1,000; extra laces, patching cement, extra bladders for soccer, rugby, basket and volley balls; basketball goals, volley ball goals, baseball bases, masks, protectors, etc.

Not to the 24 tons sent by truck this last week, about 17,000 pieces of athletic material had been sent to the Third Army from the Y.M.C.A.'s Athletic Supply Department. Approximately \$100,000 worth of athletic material will be in Germany with the Third Army when the four trucks arrive.

Since December 1, 16,000 pieces of athletic material have also gone to the First Army at Chaumont and 14,500 to the Second Army at Toul. Equalizing shipments are forthcoming for these armies and will be on their way as soon as transportation facilities permit.

## BAKER MET DEATH IN LINE OF DUTY

The Court of Inquiry which investigated the unfortunate accident resulting in the death of Capt. "Hobey" Baker, former Princeton football and hockey star, found that he met his death "in line of duty," and absolved both aviator and mechanics from any blame. The proceedings brought out the fact that the primary cause of the accident was due to the failure of the carburetor to work properly, while the direct cause was attributed to Captain Baker's attempt to turn back on the field to make a landing. Early reports of the accident which stated that another aviator was flying with Baker were incorrect. He was flying alone.

## PARIS TENNIS ENTRIES

A team of four officers will be selected to represent the District of Paris in the Officers Lawn Tennis Tournament to be held at Nice commencing February 19. Officers who wish to compete should communicate at once with Lieut. Alan H. Muthé, Athletic Director, District of Paris, A.P.T. 702.

It's about time for the Paris M.P.'s to raid another boxing show.

... and at the Medical Officers' Training Camp, Fort Riley, Kans.

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