



Mr. C. B. Cochran, a London fight promoter, has offered a substantial purse for a fight between Colin Bell and Bombardier Wells, Gunboat Smith, or Carpentier. Bell has already been matched with Wells, and on his showing against the British champion will depend his chances of securing matches either with Gunboat Smith or Carpentier.

Pat Doran, the Victorian heavy-weight, who is well known to Aucklanders, has been matched to fight Charlie Horn, the American heavy-weight, who is one of Tommy Burns' boxing team, at the Melbourne Athletic Pavilion on the 26th of the present month.

In an interesting article written in the "Sun" by Mr. W. F. Corbett in which a comparison is made between the boxer and the fighter as a magnet of attraction to those who attend boxing matches, the writer says the fighter in the roped arena is always a much greater attraction than the boxer pure and simple, no matter how clever the latter may be. Some who come under the last-mentioned heading are undoubtedly fighters in their hearts, but they have to be cornered before they will show it. If they cannot be cornered, and the test of the gaff is consequently not applied, then they are content to be boxers all through, which is right and proper, and why the art of boxing is acquired. No boxer should be blamed for refusing to run unnecessary risk, but unfortunately he often is.

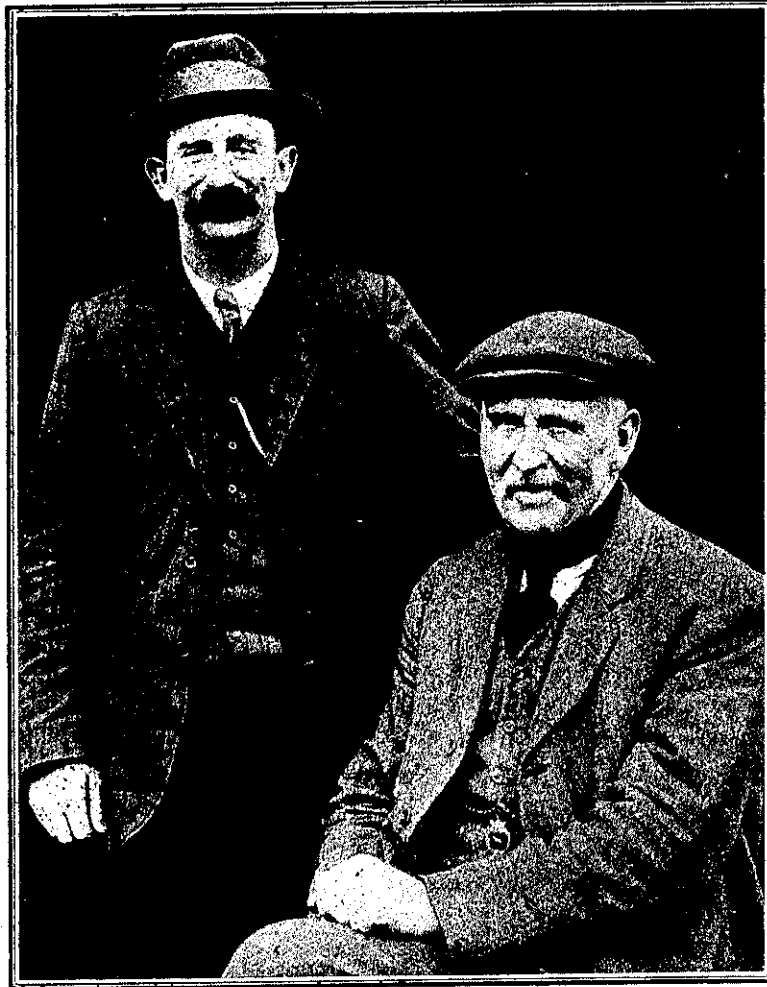
Continuing Mr. Corbett refers to the case of Frank O'Grady, the light-weight boxer, who has been engaged by the Wellington Boxing Association to meet Jim Hagerty early next month, as follows:—Look at the position of Frank O'Grady—a clever boxer, undoubtedly, with feet and hands, and yet he is much longer out of work than are several inferior boxers more eager to mix the fighting, because they cannot rely upon their measure of skill. I have seen O'Grady fight like a tiger cat when hotly pressed, but directly the situation was relieved he once more fell back upon his cleverness and continued to baffle and beat a more pugnacious, apparently, adversary. That was boxing and why boxing is taught and learned. Not many people would pay to see exhibitions of boxing only—it is the fight which attracts. I would go a long way to see a display of the science of the ring, but I would go much further to see the same two exponents fight.

The Freddy Welsh-Leach Cross fight at Los Angeles last week proved a very tame affair. It went the full 20 rounds, and Welsh was given the decision on points. More than half the time the men were on their feet was spent in clinches. Both attempted ineffectual infighting, and neither landed more than one or two telling blows. During the eighteenth round the arena resounded with cries of "Rotten," "Fake," and "Make them fight." Welsh forced the fighting in the latter half of the twentieth, and finished much the stronger.

Georges Carpentier, the French pugilistic marvel, speaks English slightly with a perfect accent, has had 72 contests, been champion flyweight, bantam, light, welter, middle, light-heavy, and heavyweight champion of France. His first contest was at the age of 13, when he weighed 100lb. With the first £1000 made in boxing he bought a home for his father and mother, sisters and brothers, in the north of France. He owns a fortune, three motor cars, a beautifully-modelled body, a handsome face, and a strong personality. He is the recipient of a daily pile of letters from admiring hero-worshippers, is courted by men, women and children, young, middle-aged and old, rich, medium and poor, has many sweethearts, other things, perhaps good, bad and indifferent; and all this at 20 years-old.

Jim Hagerty, light-weight champion of the Dominion, has accepted the terms offered him by the Christchurch Sports Club for a match with Peter Cook, of Christchurch, on August 11. The match will be for a purse of £50, and will involve the light-weight championship of New Zealand.

Carpentier is one of the greatest boxers living, and is almost certain to become world's champion in a few years, says Pat O'Keeffe. The Irish heavy-weight says he remembers getting a left punch on the body in the first round of their recent contest at Nice; the rest of the bout he has no recollection of. He doesn't remember going to his corner at the interval or being knocked down, and credits the French boy with having a very heavy punch.



TWO VETERAN TRAINERS, PHOTOGRAPHED AT THE RECENT FORBURY PARK TROTTERING CLUB'S WINTER MEETING.—M. DAWSON AND T. KETT.

Dick Smith, the English boxer, and Georges Carpentier have been matched to fight in Liverpool on May 28 for the cruiser-weight championship of England.

Bombardier Wells has apparently set his heart on turning the tables on the French boxer, Georges Carpentier, and should he feel satisfied with his display against Colin Bell at the end of next month, he will again fight Carpentier.

A London cable conveys the information that Dick Burge, proprietor of "The Ring," has received a cable from Frank Coffey turning down his (Burge's) offer of £2000 to fight Bombardier Billy Wells. Coffey refuses to make the trip, and says there is big money for him in America.

Two French boxers in Balzac and Jean Poesy, who were in Australia last year, are doing well in the pugilistic game in their own country. Last month Balzac outboxed an opponent named Eustache in a twelve-rounds' contest at the Pala's de la Boxe in Paris, and gained a deserved verdict, the general opinion being that he showed an improvement in skill and speed. Poesy met Gaston Clement in a fifteen-rounds' match, and gained the decision on points. Poesy's display was not up to his usual standard, and a lack of condition marked his re-appearance in the ring.

Not satisfied with the referee's verdict, which was given against him on points in his recent match with Joe Jeannette at Premierland, London, Colin Bell has issued a challenge to the famous coloured boxer for a return match for £1000 a-side.

A London cable announces that Georges Carpentier, the French boxer, met with an accident last week, when he caught his ankle between his motor car and the kerb and injured the tendons. It is probable that his fight with Gunboat Smith will have to be postponed.

Joe Jeannette met Kid Jackson in a contest in Paris the other night, when he knocked his opponent out in the seventh round. In the opening rounds Jeannette frequently connected with a left hook to the jaw, and then fought for the body.

the right to get out of the ranges of his punches.

A boxing match of world-wide interest is that arranged to take place in Paris shortly between Sam Langford, the sturdy negro pugilist, and Gunboat Smith, the American White Hope, who enjoys the distinction of being heralded as the world's best white boxer. The match will be fought for a purse of £3500, and will be of exceptional interest in view of the fact that a few months ago the "Gunboat" gained a newspaper decision over Langford in America. It is with the idea of avenging that defeat, which, it must be mentioned, was recorded against the Bostonian negro when he was totally out of condition, that Langford has signed articles to meet Smith in a return battle, and their meeting should be productive of a sterling encounter.

The return battle between Milburn Saylor (America) and Herb. McCoy (Victoria), which is set down for decision on May 30, is being eagerly looked forward to, and much speculation is being indulged in regarding the probability of the Australian again taking the count at the hands of the successful American light-weight, who numbers among his victories in Australia a win over the British welter-weight champion, Tom McCormick.

Hughie Mehegan, Australian light-weight champion, has been matched to fight the English boxer, Kid Lewis, at the Rushcutters' Bay Stadium, Sydney, on June 6. The Englishman, who arrived in Sydney last week, comes with a big reputation, and will probably be matched with Milburn Saylor, the hard-hitting American, who is undoubtedly the best light-weight in the Commonwealth to-day judging by his series of knock-out victories since he first set foot in that country.

A memorable encounter is expected in Sydney on May 23, when the famous American middleweights, Jimmy Clabby and Jeff Smith, will clash in a battle for middleweight supremacy. Although the contest is advertised as for the world's middleweight championship, the claims of Eddie McGoorty will have to receive consideration before the question of the rightful champion is definitely settled. Nevertheless, the meeting of Clabby and Jeff Smith will throw considerable light upon the situation, and it is safe to say that the winner will fight McGoorty for world's middleweight honours. Should Clabby succeed in defeating Jeff Smith as is anticipated by the majority of close followers of the boxing game, his meeting with Eddie McGoorty should prove the star boxing attraction of the year in Australia.

The presence in Australia of the trio of crack American middleweights, Jimmy Clabby, Eddie McGoorty and Jeff Smith, should, without doubt, result in the middleweight championship question being settled to the satisfaction of all. Although George Chip and one or two other middleweights in the States lay claim to the title it has now generally been acknowledged that the priority of claim rests with the notable trio of middleweights at present in Australia, and whichever of the three proves master in the series of contests in the Commonwealth will be fully entitled to the honour of world's middleweight champion.

Milburn Saylor, the clever American light-weight, has now been in Australia for four months. His Australian record is recent, but is worth printing, to let his prowess be seen at a glance:—January 3, k.o. Alf Morey, Sydney, 14 rounds; January 24, k.o. Hughie Mehegan, Sydney, 11 rounds; February 7, l.f. Eddie Newhouse, Brisbane, 6 rounds; March 7, k.o. Bert McCoy, Sydney, 18 rounds; March 28, k.o. Nat Williams, Sydney, 2 rounds; April 18, k.o. Tom McCormick, Sydney, 10 rounds; April 25, k.o. Nat Williams, Melbourne, 7 rounds.