

fairly—that black Sam was out-slugged during every second of the fray. Who knows?

It was brought up San Francisco way that Langford kept himself under wraps for the purpose of coaxing Stanley Ketchel into a match. Langford has been after the Michigan Boy for a couple of years, and still has hopes of landing him. Ketchel says he is going over to England to tackle Tom Thomas, the English champion, if he is successful in his affair with Klaus—A new middleweight

**LANGFORD AND JOHNSON.**

As is well known to ring followers, Johnson and Langford have already met within ropes. The fight which was one of the hardest that either of the negroes have ever engaged in, took place on the evening of April 26, 1906, in the arena of the former Douglas A.C., Chelsea, Mass. Johnson won the decision at the end of fifteen rounds, the last half-dozen of which were all in his favour by a wide margin. It was the most terrific mill one is likely to see in a lifetime, and as for the yellow in a negro, neither man showed as much as a needle point in their whole make-up.

No one who saw that battle has ever come forward since with any silly nonsense that Johnson can only use one hand, has only an uppercut, cannot punch, etc., for he demonstrated on that night that he is a first-rate pugilist in every department, and any boxer who meets him is running an excellent chance of getting hurt.

Sam entered the ring weighing about 150 pounds, while Johnson had more than 30 pounds to the good on him, he tipped the scales in the near vicinity of 190 pounds. The exact weight of the men, if it were taken at the time, I have forgotten. In the first three rounds Johnson started to play with Sam, as is his custom, but he was soon forced to change his tactics as Langford got in some terrific clips that could be heard all over the building. To the sixth round Sam was coming splendidly, doing about all the aggressive work and forcing Johnson to break ground continually. In the sixth round, however, Sam got a straight left in the head that boosted him into the air like a toy balloon and down he came with a thud that would have taken the fight out of a half dozen Ketchels. Up to the count of eight Sam gave as good an imitation of a dead man as one can see outside of the real article. At ten, however, he was on his feet again, fighting like a very demon. So was Johnson, and an instant later he caught Langford with a fierce uppercut that would have killed an ordinary man. Poor Sam did a cartwheel in landing and this time the count went nine. He barely got by—but he did, and what's more, on the come-up landed a right swing over Johnson's heart that made the present black champion drop his hands and all but go down. Another punch like that and Sam would have won the fight, but Langford had been too severely punished himself to follow up the advantage. The bell ended the round with both men very tired.

The remaining rounds of the battle were all Johnson's and while Sam now and then got in a blow, he was terribly punished, and was frequently forced to clinch to save himself from being beaten to the floor. It was a game but hopeless battle, so far as the Bostonian was concerned, and would never have been allowed to take place had Sam not insisted upon it because of a personal grievance he had against Johnson.

Said Jones, who had a cough indeed.  
A bark like any setter;  
"This dog's life I'll no longer lead;  
To-morrow, if no better."  
But on that day a friend for sure  
Heard of his melan (collie);  
He gave him Woods' Great Peppermint  
Cure,  
And cured him of his folly.

**CRICKET.**

The ninth round of the Auckland Cricket Association's district championships was concluded on Saturday in ideal weather, the matches having been adjourned on account of the Easter holidays. Scoring during the afternoon was not of a brisk nature, there being no individual scores of any importance. The Parnellites were pitted against the University eleven over whom they secured a three-point win and are now leading for the championship, with a two points advantage from North Shore. At Devonport the North Shore team defeated the Eden eleven by eight run on the first innings after an exciting game. The match between Ponsonby and Grafton, at Eden Park, was closely contested, and resulted in a win for the latter team by 51 runs on the first innings.

**FIRST GRADE.**

**University v. Parnell.**—University's score at the conclusion of the first day's play only amounted to 57 runs, while Parnell had 138 runs to their

and Townsend three for 15. North Shore then made a start with their second innings and after knocking up 113 runs (G. Dacre 15, J. Ralfe 57 not out, A. Hadden 14, W. S. Spence 11) for the loss of seven wickets they declared their innings closed. For Eden G. Mills took four wickets for 42 runs and W. B. Smith two for 39. Eden were just about to make a start with their second innings when heavy rain commenced to fall, and it was decided to draw stumps. North Shore thus won by eight runs on the first innings—a two-point win.

**Grafton v. Ponsonby.**—At the end of the first day's play Grafton's score stood at 146 runs while Ponsonby had placed 57 runs to their credit for the loss of six wickets. Continuing their first innings on Saturday Ponsonby increased their total to 97 runs (L. Hemus 41, Kavanagh 15), Gray taking six wickets for 46 runs, Mason three for 33 and R. Neil one for 4. In their second innings Grafton, after knocking up 106 runs (F. R. Mason 24, E. Horspool 63, D. Hay 16) for the loss of two wickets, declared their innings closed, Hemus taking one wicket for 17 runs and McMath one for 12. On going to the wicket Ponsonby made

for 38. Eden A, second innings, 43 runs for seven wickets (Taylor 14 not out). For Waitemata Stanley took one wicket for 20 runs and Arblaster five for 16. Eden A won by three wickets—a three-point win.

**Grafton v. University.**—Grafton, first innings, 74 runs, second innings, 110 runs for five wickets (D. Hall 36, Eastgate 37 not out, O'Shea 10 not out). For University, in the second innings, Fawcett took one wicket for 42 runs, Fisher one for 16, Marsack one for 16, and Rennie two for 16. University, first innings, 117 runs, second innings, 35 runs for six wickets (Fawcett 12 not out). For Grafton, in the second innings, Hill took two wickets for nine runs, Gilmour four for 15 and Eastgate three for three. University won by 43 runs on the first innings—a two point win.

**THIRD GRADE.**

**Waitemata v. Eden.**—Waitemata, first innings, 43 runs, second innings 98 runs (Langford 23, Hurley 27, Golden 27 and Clow 11). Eden, first innings, 75 runs, second innings 70 runs for nine wickets (Golden 26, Hall 12) Eden won by one wicket—a three-point win.

**Grafton v. North Shore.**—Grafton, first innings 114 runs, second innings 160 runs for six wickets (Horspool 62, Lepine 20, Baker 31 not out). North Shore, first innings 90 runs, second innings, 73 runs for two wickets (Blackwell 16, Westbrook 37, Farquharson 16 not out). Grafton won by 24 runs on the first innings—a two-point win.

**Parnell v. Ponsonby.**—Parnell won by default.

**FOURTH GRADE.**

**Eden v. Parnell.**—Eden, first innings, 96 runs, second innings 98 runs for six wickets—innings declared closed (R. Bennett 11, Foster 30, Player 12, S. Bennett 25 not out). Parnell, first innings 99 runs (J. Williams 30, R. Pountney 19, second innings 64 runs for two wickets (R. Pountney 10, N. Pountney 41 not out). Parnell won by three runs on the first innings—a two-point win.

**North Shore v. Ponsonby.**—North Shore, first innings 139 runs (F. Kent 12, Clist 37, Rankin 12, Allen 13, C. Kent 36), second innings 66 runs (F. Kent 24, L. Kent 20). Ponsonby, first innings 151 runs (Hobbs 65, Edwin 14, Hart 34), second innings 46 runs for five wickets (Hart 16, Wilcox 11). Ponsonby won by 12 runs on the first innings—a two-point win.

**AQUATICS.**

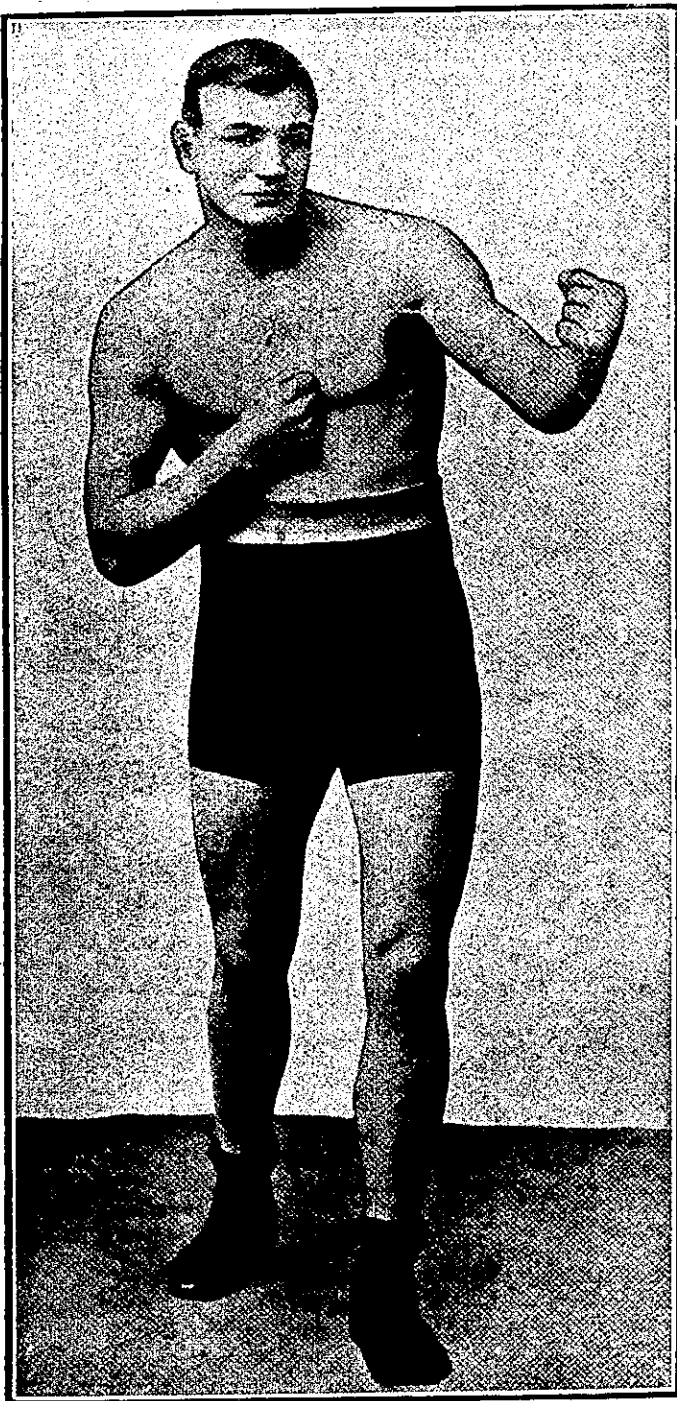
**ARNST DEFEATS WHELCH.**

The sculling race between Richard Arnst, world's champion and George Welch, of Akaroa, (challenger), for £300 aside and the championship of the world, was decided on the Akaroa Harbour on Monday afternoon, and resulted in a fairly easy victory for Arnst by close on half a-dozen lengths. Welch led for the first quarter mile after which Arnst passed him and from this out the issue was never in doubt the world's champion sculler holding a commanding lead right up to the finish. Welch made a big effort to catch Arnst in the final stage of the race, and though he rowed well, he was unable to make any great impression on the ex-cyclist. The course was covered in 21min. 50 3-5secs.

**WAITEMATA ROWING CLUB.**

The Waitemata Rowing Club held trial fours on Saturday for trophies presented by Messrs. Bailey and Lowe. The racing was interesting throughout, the results being as follows:—First heat: Herring won by a length from Marshall. Second heat: Andrews won by half a length from Huddleston. Third heat: Magee won by a-quarter of a length from Westray. The semi-final was won by Andrews, who also won the final by a canvas. The winning crew were as follows:—A. W. Andrews (stroke), C. Cairns (3), M. Kronfeld (2), W. Keefe (bow), W. Ghent (cox).

The Manakau Yacht and Motor Boat Club held another sailing race on Saturday, when Heather (Rushbrook Bros.) 8m. won by 2½m. from Anahera (E. Pullan), scratch, with Manola (Shale) third. Edith and Petrel were the only other starters. Anahera, in rounding the half-way buoy, fouled it, so that the second prize may go to the Manola.



**BILL LANG**, the Melbourne heavyweight boxer who is to meet Tommy Burns at the Sydney Stadium on Monday, April 11, in a contest for the heavyweight championship of Australia.

credit for the loss of eight wickets. Continuing on Saturday the Parnell men increased their total to 178 runs (A. Anthony 34, E. Sale 39, C. Olliff 49 not out, R. B. Lusk 18 not out) for the loss of nine wickets, whereupon they declared their innings closed. For University Taylor took two wickets for 63 runs Fenwick five for 55, Wallace one for 26 and Speight one for 24. University then set to work in their second innings and altogether compiled 96 runs (Lawry 21, Jacobsen 25, Graham 15). C. Olliff taking seven wickets for 39 runs, A. Fairburn one for 25, and E. V. Sale one for 4. Parnell thus won by an innings and 25 runs—a three-point win.

**North Shore v. Eden.**—Before the commencement of play on Saturday North Shore had 130 runs on the board for their first innings, while Eden had knocked up 86 runs for the loss of six wickets. Continuing their first innings the Eden batsmen brought their total up to 122 runs (Cummings 26, T. Elliott 26, C. Robinson 30), Hadden taking four wickets for 36 runs, Howden three for 47

39 runs (Gavin 12 not out) for the loss of four wickets, Mason taking two wickets for 18 runs and Gray one for 14. Grafton thus won by 51 runs on the first innings—a two-point win.

**SECOND GRADE.**

**Parnell v. Eden B.**—Parnell, first innings, 259 runs, Eden B, first innings, 109 runs (Murray 18, Francis 27, Honeycombe 12 not out). For Parnell R. Barnsdale took three wickets for 48 runs, H. M. Warner five for 24 and C. Resteaux two for 15. Eden B, second innings, 39 runs (Gray 12). For Parnell H. Warner took one wicket for 20 runs and C. Resteaux five for 11. Parnell won by an innings and 111 runs—a three-point win.

**Waitemata v. Eden A.**—Waitemata, first innings, 88 runs; second innings, 35 runs. For Eden A, in the second innings, Stephens took six wickets for 17 runs and Clarke two for 9. Eden A, first innings, 86 runs (Braithwaite 20, Clarke 11, Alexander 11 not out). For Waitemata Stanley took five wickets for 35 runs and Arblaster five

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