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CAN OUR BOYS BOX ?

SOME GOOD FIGHTS

Humourous Happenings

There is no denying that the boxing bouts organised by Mr. Harvey last Wednesday evening disclosed that the Regiment has in it some sterling fighters. All the contests were keen and completely devoid of rancour. The standard of boxing was well up to expectations and we can look forward to further evenings in the very near future. Mr. Harvey is to be congratulated upon the able manner in which the contests were staged, the men matched and his choice of assistants.

Mr. Geoff. Watchorn, late Australasian champion, now of Palmerston North, very kindly consented to act as referee in half the bouts, whilst Gunner W. Higgs, ex-Wellington, refereed the others.

Major Flux was time-keeper (and tactfully so); judges, Lieuts. J. Fisher and R. Wright; seconds, Bdrs. Mountjoy and A. Wright.

The guests of honour were: The C.O., Lieut.-Col. C. F. Lowe, Major Flux, Messrs Geoff Watchorn, R. H. Billens and E. R. Harris, Capt. Babbington, Lieuts. R. Wright, Durbin, Reid, Rees Thomas, Murray, Holmes and Kemp.

Most of the bouts were so fast that the two "O-pip" pressmen had difficulty in keeping their pencils cool, but here is a brief resume of each bout.

First bout.—Gnr. G. C. Burns (10.9 v. Sgt. J. H. Graham). First round: Gnr. Burns had the advantage during the first round owing to his straight left and won a decisive technical knockout victory in the second round after a continuation of lefts. Sgt. Graham put up a good show and had the best of it on points for some of the way. He was a game loser.

Second bout.—Gnr. A. J. Miles (11.10) v. Gnr. T. C. Hoey (11.7): The first round of this bout opened very willingly and both men mixed it freely, Hoey sinking to the canvas twice. Both men traded punches in a style that appealed to the spectators. From the start of the second round it was obvious that both men were out for a decisive win. With only a few seconds to go Hoey won the bout by a technical knockout by virtue of his straight punching.

Third bout.—Gnr. J. E. Rasmussen (11st.) v. Gnr. P. M. Church (11st.): Although Church had a longer reach Rasmussen put up a good show. Church had a most punishing right hook which Rasmussen appeared to walk into. At the commencement of the second round Rasmussen received a very solid right after which he threw in the towel.

What Happened ?

Fourth bout.—L/Bdr. J. O'Brien (9.7) v. Gnr. F. J. Pascoe (10st.): The first round opened in a fast manner with Pascoe doing the punching. Both men showed a knowledge of the science of the game. O'Brien displayed a good knowledge of defence. A very clean and even round. In the second round O'Brien opened out and landed a few real "sniffers." Both men fought a good round, although stamina was failing. O'Brien enjoyed the bout and rather lost way by taking things too easily. The third round showed that Pascoe was the better man and upon being adjudged the winner he remarked, "Oh, gee! What happened?"

A Good 'Un

Fifth bout.—L/Bdr. L. A. Juno (10.10) v. Gnr. H. P. O'Connor (10.5): Both these men demonstrated that they were fighting with a thorough knowledge of the game, O'Connor taking the fighting as far as possible to his stolid opponent. The first round was fairly easy. The second round was a very wearying one for Juno, as O'Connor slammed hard for the heart and face with obvious results on Juno. Both men showed signs of the hard grueling. In the third round Juno put up a better fight, but O'Connor appeared to have the better of it for some time but Juno won on points. Juno is to be con-

gratulated for not losing heart when O'Connor had the barracking.

Sixth bout.—Sgt. C. E. McCulloch (9.6) v. Gnr. P. W. Lindsay (9.2): McCulloch chased Lindsay severely, but Lindsay showed remarkable footwork. At one stage of the round McCulloch tripped the referee out of the ring. After the first minute Lindsay gave McCulloch severe punishment. Both men gave of their best and made it lively. The second round saw some clever exchanges, McCulloch being too prone to lower his head of which Lindsay took full advantage with a terrible right. The third round opened with both men still very fit. McCulloch took some colossal punishing although when he did manage to make contact, Lindsay obviously felt it. Lindsay's win on points was a popular one.

Burlesque Boxing

A feature of the evening was the comedy round—all in. The contestants were Sgts. Clapp, Casey and Bowman and S/M. Still, Gars. McBride and Dudson, who entered the ring in battle array and well blindfolded. Neither "ref" was game to enter the ring with these professional pugs. Prior to the contest Sgt. Clapp gave an exhibition which proved the Darwin theory. The only near casualty was Lieut. Kemp. Sgt. Clapp, owing to his weight, stopped quite a number of solid ones, mostly on the posterior. Sgt. Bowman adopted a new technique whenever he managed to land a swift one, he made a neat somersault out of the ring. The whole three minutes was uproarious fun for the onlookers, although it is whispered that the Dah Dits were done out of a job as Sgt. Casey lost a molar. The result of the bout was: The sergeants and gunners beat the S/M.

Seventh bout.—Gnr. M. R. Taylor (9st.) v. L/Bdr. S. Cockburn (9.2): These two settled down to real serious fighting from the first clang of the gong. For spectacular fighting it would be hard to pick the better man, but Cockburn used a handy left to good advantage. Taylor had difficulty with his footwork. The second round was just as willing, Taylor landing some punishing blows the claret flowing freely from both men. Cockburn brought both hands to work in some pretty play. The final round moved fast, both men showing the effect of training and the audience eagerly awaited the judge's decision which went to Gnr. Taylor on points.

Eighth bout.—Gnr. A. F. Juno (10.4) v. Gnr. C. J. Cursons (10.2): The first round was very free, both men mixing it well. Happy Cursons landed several very solid body blows, whilst Juno concentrated on the face. In the second round both men showed signs of weakening. Juno showed cleverness with his in-fighting and landed many telling blows to the face. Both men tried hard for a decisive blow in the third round, both being thrown through the ropes. Juno was adjudged the winner.

Exhibition Bout

A fine exhibition bout between C. Murphy (11st.) and W. Higgs (10st.) was well received, W. Higgs being the holder of four championships in Wellington and C. Murphy one. Both men made it willing and demonstrated a number of clever points. At the con-

clusion of the first round both men were still fit and smiling. Footwork was a particular feature of this round on the part of both men. The second round was a repetition of the first—good fighting.

Ninth bout.—Gnr. J. K. Marshall (11.7) v. Sgt. W. Downs (12st.): In the first round weight told, although both men put up a fine showing. In the opening of the second round, which was short, both men took plenty of punishment, Downs having the advantage. The third round opened with some fine slamming by Marshall whose failing was allowing Downs to get in close. Sgt. Downs was adjudged the winner.

The Ten Most Conspicuous Things I Saw During The 10 Bouts

(By Sool M. On.)

NOTE: To save ill-feeling the contestants in each case have been described as A. and B. To add a little confusion to the issue I have not made my comments in the order in which events happened.

1. A made a blind swing at B and missed. As the leather, with arm attached, passed the Colonel's face, he, the Colonel, shivered and turned up his coat collar to avoid the draught.
2. B went for an uppercut on A. It started from behind his back somewhere, glanced off the floor, grazed A's knee and finally embedded itself under A's left arm-pit.
3. B swung a low one at A and it connected somewhere between the Officers' Mess and the water tower.
4. A rushed B to the ropes. B rushed A to the ropes. Up to this point I gave it as a draw. I forget who finally won.
5. A slammed an open-hand into B which sounded like someone pouring a bucket of water on to the street from four stories up.
6. A made a swing at B which fortunately missed. Had it connected B's head would now be forming part of a road black down Shannon way.
7. B rushed A and embraced him. The referee stepped in just in time to save foul play.
8. B fainted with his left. A fainted with his right. Then they reversed the process—then they both fainted together.
9. A gave B a charming smile, but it didn't work, for B replied with a dirty left which took the smile off A's face.
10. B stopped for a breather. A immediately took advantage of the lull and had a breather too. Altogether it was a breathless bout.

Hitler was conversing with his head men when one of them remarked: "I hear they're starting another campaign against malaria." "And high time, too," snarled Adolf. "The way these Malarians have been treating our German minority is something terrible!"

A man took his daughter on a trip to London. They went to one of those plays that made father blush a bit. "I'm sorry, Dorothy, that I brought you here," he said. "This is hardly a play for a girl of your age." "Oh, that's all right, Dad. It'll probably liven up a bit before the end."

Choirboy (to vicar): "The choir is organising a cricket team, sir, and we wondered if you would lend us the bats which the vergar says you have in the belfry."

"For Heaven's sake," wrote Tommy to his wife, "don't send any more of those nagging letters while I'm at the front. I want to fight this bloomin' war in peace."

SOMEONE IN A.H.Q.



Cartoon by Major Nelson

HAPPY RETURNS

Many Happy returns of your 21st L/Bdr. Anderson and L/Bdr. Caruthers, may successive years come round under more congenial conditions,—say dangle your firstborn on your knee. Please notify the Editor of any birthdays you know of, chaps.

LITTLE THEATRE CONCERT.

Keep Wednesday 24th June in your minds boys, there is going to be a concert given by the Palmerston North Little Theatre Society. It will be good.

PROVISIONAL CANTEEN HOURS

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