

CIRQUE DE PARIS LEASED FOR A.E.F. BOUTS

Olympic games! Again will play. Where the stadium awaits to greet them, Those sportsmen who, but yesterday Had played with death-bent foes—and beat them.

AMPHITHEATER FOR A.E.F. RING FINALS

Cirque de Paris Selected as Scene of Boxing Championships

WILL ACCOMMODATE 8,000 Bantam Class Added to Program and All Final Bouts Will Be for Ten or Fifteen Rounds

The Cirque de Paris, situated on the Avenue La Motte-Picquet, has been officially designated by Col. Walter C. Johnson, chief athletic officer of the A.E.F., as the scene of the final bouts in the Army boxing championships which take place in Paris in March.

Second only in importance to the Inter-Allied Games of May or June, owing to the doughboys' inherent love of the fistie art, it was proposed that no ordinary pavilion would accommodate the great crowds that would turn out to witness the battles for A.E.F. glove honors.

In the opinion of those familiar with Paris, the Cirque de Paris is the most suitable place that could be selected in the French capital for the purpose.

Centrally Located It is only six or seven minutes' ride by Metro Ligne No. 8 from the Opera.

It will seat 6,000 people and 2,000 more can be accommodated standing. The seats are arranged amphitheatrically in one grand floor gently sloping and in two balconies. It was here Georges Carpentier fought his greatest battles.

The building is admirably equipped with fire escapes and an extra ring has been located downstairs for practice.

There are adequate dressing rooms and bath arrangements.

The building is under lease to the Y.M.C.A., and by this organization was tendered to the Army. Upon inspection yesterday, Colonel Johnson announced the Army's official acceptance of the offer.

Bantams to the Front Bantamweight boxers will be pleased to learn that this class has been added to the A.E.F. boxing championships.

At first it was thought there were too few in the Army to make it worth while staging contests in this weight class, but the little fellows who are fighting with a howl and their request for consideration was immediately granted.

The longer rule will prevent any boxer winning the championship who is not in the pink of condition and for that reason fighters in the A.E.F. should go into training at once, so that they may be at their best when they enter the ring.

FRENCH COME BACK WITH AWFUL BANG

Win Majority of Fights from Yanks at K. of C. Boxing Show

French boxers regained the ascendancy at the K. of C. bouts in Paris last week when they were successful in four bouts and more than held their own in three of the drawn bouts.

France started things by knocking out Eddie O'Neill of Philadelphia in the second round. O'Neill was willing but a right hand swing proved his undoing.

Condition told the tale. The bout between Smiling Bronkus, the Pittsburgh slugger, and Durocher, styled the champion of the French Navy, was a whirlwind.

Curiously enough, the French champion was as black as the ace of spades, and he had a two-handed wallop that bodied bad for the Pittsburgher, but the finish of the fight saw Bronkus tearing in with a barrage of fists that more than held him a draw. It was the fastest bout of the evening.

Kleck Trims Robert Billy Kleck, 83rd Division, won from Marcel Robert of France after four resolute rounds.

ROPE TWIRLER WITH FRANCS ISSUES DEFI

Members of the A.E.F. hailing from the "Wild and Wooley West" will be interested in a challenge issued by Cpl. Jack Ray of Veteran Hospital Unit 11, at Givres.

Ray claims to be the champion rope twirler of the Army and is willing to match his prowess against that of any man in khaki overseas. He writes us that his "boss," presumably the major commanding his unit, is willing to back him with real money, or its equivalent in francs.

"My outfit is composed of real cowpunchers," writes Ray, "mostly western men, and all or any part of this organization is willing to engage in any kind of a contest where a rope can be used."

We suggest a rope party for Kaiser Bill and the Crown Prince.

OFFICERS' TENNIS TOURNAY AT NICE

Best Racquet Wielders of A.E.F. to Compete Week of February 19

A tennis tournament, singles and doubles, open to officers of the A.E.F., will be held at Nice beginning February 19.

Entries will be limited to four officers from each division; two officers from each corps, headquarters or corps troops; two officers from each Army headquarters of Army troops; four officers from each base section, intermediate section and advance section, S.O.S., and four officers from the Paris District, S.O.S.

Officers belonging to other units may apply direct to G.H.Q. through intermediate commanding officers, for permission to attend. Commanders of the units specified have been authorized to grant leaves within the limit of the number of entrants allowed from their units. These leaves will be in addition to regular leaves.

Those who take part will leave their posts in time to reach Nice by February 16. Names of all entrants must be submitted to Col. Walter C. Johnson, G.H.Q., by February 12.

General Staff, G.H.Q., by Johnson 12. General Staff, G.H.Q., by Johnson 12. Officers participating will report to him upon their arrival at Nice. It is left to the commanders of the various units to pick the best tennis players from among those who desire to compete.

Handsome prizes, probably cups, will be presented by the Y.M.C.A. to the three winners and the three runners-up. The Y.M.C.A. has made arrangements for the use of the tennis courts at Nice and will reserve hotel accommodations for 300 officers.

KISS THE HOTHOUSE BASEBALL PLAYER

He's Gone, Thanks to the War, and All Fandom Rejoices

Kiss the hothouse ball player. He's gone. Thanks to the war. One of the features of big league baseball as it was conducted before the war closed the gates, that got under the skin of the average fan, was the way players got layoffs and publicity whenever they had a poor night's sleep, bruised the second joint of their little finger or caught a corn on one of their little toes.

Pitchers gave as an alibi for their poor showing in the spring that their stomachs had been bothering them. The change from the three-cent lunch counter grub to the juicy steaks of the swell hotels many have raised havoc with their digestive broad baskets.

Just about the time the home team got working smoothly the star infielder or first-string catcher got tonsillitis or a skinned shin and the manager announced with a sad face that the star would be lost to the team the rest of the season.

The war, however, has shown thousands of Americans how trivial little ailments are and how much a man can stand when the emergency arises.

These soldier boys and the others who have backed them up and know what they went through will be glad to see the ball player play a day and day out with the same spirit the Yanks showed at the front.

No more will the player who has been sent to Hot Springs to nurse a pimple on his neck get the glad hand when he re-enters the game.

AMERICAN ENTRIES FOR GREAT INTERNATIONAL REGATTA

Table with columns: NAME, UNIT, COLLEGE OR CLUB. Lists names like George P. Metten, Harry B. Talbot, etc.

ST. NAZAIRE WINS GRIDIRON BATTLE

Downs 36th Division Team in Exciting Game at Colombes

Eddie Mahan the Star Former Harvard Football Captain Runs Sixty-five Yards for First Touchdown

Over on the Quai d'Orsay they are holding the grand "Conference de la Paix" and everywhere, all over the world, men speak of "paix." But in the A.E.F. there is no "paix." The pig-skin toud between the S.O.S. and the Combat men is on and the first blood was on the S.O.S.

On Colombes Field Sunday afternoon, while a great French hydroplane hummed overhead, and in the presence of a distinguished gathering of Army and Navy men, women welfare workers and French football players, the St. Nazaire team, claimants of the championship of the S.O.S., took the 36th Division eleven, champions of the First Army Corps, into camp to the tune of 12 to 0.

Speed vs. Weight It was a great battle. Both teams were primed to win, and the advantage in weight which favored the 36th Division was more than offset by the lightning speed of St. Nazaire. In spite of the muddy field, speed and generalship on the part of the S.O.S. eleven, largely in the person of Eddie Mahan, former Harvard captain and all-American star, told the tale.

It was the tall, black-haired Mahan with an undershot jaw that broke the deadlock in the second period. He grabbed a short punt by choice and the husky 36th Division tackle, eluded two men who barred his path, shook off a third tackler further down the field, and sprinted 65 yards for a touchdown.

First Army Champs Wobble Mahan's sensational performance temporarily rattled the First Army champions. They wobbled and a few moments later the 36th Division's center passed badly to Choate, who was attempting to punt on a fourth down, and it was St. Nazaire's ball on their opponent's 25-yard line.

Two terrific tackles, eluded two men who barred his path, shook off a third tackler further down the field, and sprinted 65 yards for a touchdown.

There was no further scoring, although the game closed with the First Army team coming strong and threatening, and when the first half blew the ball was in midfield in possession of St. Nazaire.

Crowd Watches Indians Interest in the work of the 36th Division centered about the play of Whitman, a Harvard man and all-American end; and that of the four Indian players, Lockbaugh, former star of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College; Mahseet, a Cheyenne tribesman of the same college; Choate, formerly of the Haskell Institute; and Bellue, an Osage of Kendall College fame.

Judged by the play Sunday, St. Nazaire has the best team and will undoubtedly be a strong contender for the championship of the A.E.F. The 36th Division eleven, although beaten, certainly played a magnificent game.

Walter Makes Good Showing Private Dart, Company A, Third Army Military Police, and J. Walter, 1st Balloon Company, went on at 185 pounds. It was Walter's first ring combat and he made a fine showing. This match was also a draw.

Private Ringel, who was at one time a clown with Barnum and Bailey's circus, and Private La Boda, both of Third Army Headquarters garage, topped off the evening with a burlesque bout. Sergeant Flynn of the Headquarters garage, refereed, and several times got into it himself, especially when one or the other of the combatants took a punch at him.

Matchmaker Nelson, of the Y.M.C.A. at Coblenz, is having great success with his bouts and hopes to put on some ten-round decision fights in the near future.

Another Claimant for Football Title The watch on the Rhine isn't the only patrolling members of the A.E.F. are doing these days. Down at La Valbonne, Department of Air, a championship football team has been organized. Its goal line jealously through a hard season and now objects very strenuously to any discussion of annexing the A.E.F. title which does not take it into consideration.

The team is made up of candidates for commissions in the Second Battalion, Army Candidates School. It recently clinched the post championship, and now it is out with a challenge to any team in the expeditionary force.

Lieut. C. R. Mentzer, old University of Washington grid star, is coach and manager. He will enter in all challenges addressed to him care Sixth Company, A.S.C., A.P.O. 928.

La Valbonne is close to Nice and the candidates would like to take a fall out of an officers' team on a gridiron in the leave area. Manager W. H. Bender, of the Base Hospital 22 team, can also get some action with a letter to Lt. Mentzer.

Dartmouth and Pennsylvania will hold a big indoor intercollegiate athletic meet in New York in February or March, when Yale, Columbia, Princeton and possibly other colleges will be invited to compete.

SALUTING PITCHERS GETS PLAYER'S GOAT

Joe Harris, first baseman of the Cleveland American League baseball club and a sergeant in Uncle Sam's army overseas, has only one fault to find with the time-honored Army rules.

Klepper, Dickerson and Torkelson, all twirlers on the same team, are lieutenants in the Army. "Goose" Harris confided to a friend, "for a 300 hitter to salute his own pitchers."

Harris is worrying for fear he will become so accustomed to saluting his former teammates that when he leaves the Army and dons a baseball suit he will forget and continue the practice.

K. OF C. WILL OPEN NEW HALL MONDAY

Salle Wagram Leased for Future Weekly Ring Contests

Having outgrown their present quarters at the Cinema des Arts, the Knights of Columbus will open a new boxing club Monday night at the Salle Wagram, 39 Avenue Wagram, where they will continue to hold the weekly bouts which have grown so popular under the management of "Jake" Carey.

With the opening of the new club, the weekly shows will be staged Monday nights instead of on Thursday, as in the past.

The Salle Wagram is one of the best-known halls in Paris and has a seating capacity of 3,000. It has been the scene of some of the most important fistic battles held in Paris, is centrally located, and can be easily reached by either tube or surface cars.

During the past ten days it has been entirely renovated in preparation for the big opening Monday night.

Matchmaker Carey promises every uniformed man in Paris a warm welcome, and is making every effort to put on an opening program that will surpass anything ever held under his auspices in France. The first fight will start promptly at 8 o'clock.

GLOVES THE STYLE FOR ARMY ON RHINE

Boxing Flourishes While Doughboys Mark Time in Germany

Before approximately 2,500 soldiers, of whom the majority were men on leave, four cracking good bouts were held Saturday night in Coblenz. The matches proved there is some good fistic material in the Third Army which, under careful development, will make the Army of Occupation a serious contender for A.E.F. glove honors.

The crowd showed its preference for the slugging, battering type of mixing, rather than scientific boxing, in the first bout, which was between Private Storm, 1st Balloon Company and Private Tunney, 3rd Infantry.

Storm, in addition to being a 120-pound boxer, is a wrestler and proved it several times in the clinches by heaving his opponent over his shoulders. After four rounds of rough-and-tumble fighting the referee called it a draw.

Private Merle, 39th Infantry, and Private Antleker, Air Service, Third Army Headquarters, fought a draw at 125 pounds.

The third bout, between Private Albert Murray, 32nd Field Hospital, and Private Gene Bell, 5th Marines, attached to General Dickman's "flagship" Provision of the Rhine Patrol, was a battle from the word "go."

It was a 135-pound mix-up, four two minute rounds—and they were four good ones. The Marine, after a bad start, came back furiously and got a draw.

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ENTRIES ANNOUNCED FOR GREAT REGATTA

Cream of American Rowing Talent Will Compete in U.S. Crews

DATE MAY BE CHANGED Flooded Condition of Seine Halts Training Plans—Breitmeyer Arranges for Shells

The flooded condition of the Seine has delayed the training plans of Coach "Bill" McCabe, and it may be necessary to change the date of the International Regatta which is to be held on the Seine under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus from March to April.

Entries for the great race continue to pour in to the Sporting Editor of THE STARS AND STRIPES, and there is no doubt but that the American crews will be able to hold their own with the best oarsmen of France, Great Britain, Italy, Belgium and Portugal. The Americans who have offered their services comprise the cream of the college and club crews of the United States.

Coach McCabe realizes the necessity for training, for even though the crews are composed of old oarsmen, team work is necessary to make a winning aggregation.

A hotel about five miles from Paris will probably be the temporary headquarters of the American candidates, and they will be advised shortly when to mobilize for training.

Capt. George Breitmeyer, a prominent French sportsman, has charge of the regatta, but the American crews will be coached and picked by McCabe, assisted by an advisory committee of prominent rowing men. Capt. Breitmeyer has arranged for the shells with which the Americans will train.

THE STARS AND STRIPES publishes in another column a list of the American crew candidates.

LIEUTENANT AFTER BOUTS

Lieutenant Louis Albert, Q.M.C., a lightweight boxer of considerable experience, is willing to meet any lightweight in the A.E.F.

Matches can be arranged by addressing Lieutenant Albert, care of Jimmy Bronson, 45 Rue d'Anglais, Paris.

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... and in the U. S. Army, on this side and at home. A fact: From all accounts, the most eagerly sought-for cigarette among American soldiers over here is Fatima. Exact figures to prove this are not available; but, in view of Fatima's known popularity with both officers and men on the other side of the water, it would seem to be correct. Below are printed a few typical reports on training camps and army posts, received from our salesmen last month: Fatima is in the U. S. Army, on this side and at home. Includes image of a soldier and a pack of Fatima cigarettes.