

Real Lightweight King

By his sensational knockout of Enrique Bolanos in Los Angeles, lightweight king Ike Williams proved himself to be the big man in the 135 pound division.

He demonstrated that his two fights against kid Gavilan did not indicate his real ability. Many fans and writers including this one feared that he was on the downgrade.

Talk about his taking on welterweights, especially Ray (Sugar) Robinson, is merely talk, however. Unless he can prove on his showings against Gavilan early this year, Ike had better stick to the men of his own weight.

Even his win over Bolanos was really a comeback because in his first bout with the Mexican flash he won by a TKO in the eighth. In the second bout he tked out a split decision. The final bout was a replica of the first match.

PRE-FIGHT NOTES

Ezzard Charles is fighting as scheduled against Gus Lesnevich in the first defense of his newly won heavyweight championship. He is fighting in territory that does not even recognize his title.

This bout has rekindled the feud between the National Boxing association which recognizes Charles and the New York State Athletic Commission which does not. NBA Commissioner Abe Greene claims that the New York body is reversing itself on action it took in the case of Ray Robinson when Marty Servo deserted his welterweight crown.

At that time, Greene said the present New York commissioner asked the NEA to sanction one bout, the Ray Robinson-Tommy Bell battle, as a 147 pound title fight.

BETWEEN ROUNDS

Jersey Joe Walcott, the new hero of the Swedish people, is just about ready to start his comeback against Olle Tandberg August 14.

He said that he did not want the nation to import an outside referee for the bout because "fights are fought by fighters, not referees." The Swedish promoters had planned for a neutral third man to avoid any question of partiality on the part of the ref. Jersey Joe complained of actions by the referee in his second fight with Joe Lewis.

Ezzard Charles did something unheard of before a championship fight, last week. He fought a three round exhibition bout against sparmate, Al Smith, in Patterson, New Jersey.

It was for the benefit of an amateur police tournament promoted by NBA Commissioner Abe Greene.

Charles has been offered \$35,000 to defend his title against the California champion, Pat Valentine, in San Francisco in October.

He would have his choice of \$35,000 or 35 percent of the gate. The bout would be promoted by the Veteran's Rehabilitation foundation at the Cow Palace, October 14.

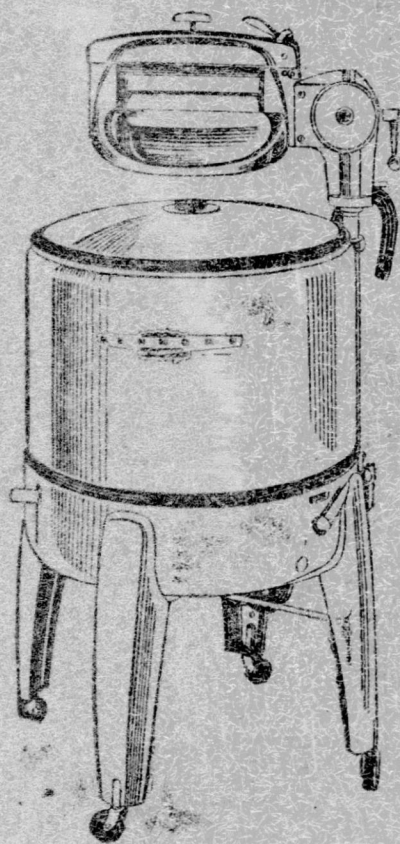
It would be promoted by the National Boxing Club, headed by Lou Thomas. Thomas said proceeds would go to the Livermore Veterans' hospital chapel fund.

to \$10 a month and a house for certain classes of whites. For even though a white man may be a common laborer at home or a craftsman, he can nonetheless in Africa, permit his wife to have four or five servants.



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Rebels Sign Halfback

BY ANP

The Richmond Rebels of the American Football league became the first pro team in the South to break the color line last week when they signed former Va. Union half back star, Frederick T. (Cannonball) Cooper, to play in 1949.

This will not be Cooper's first time playing for an interracial team in the South, however. Last year he played against the Rebels with the Atlantic City Reds in an exhibition. He will play against the Reds September 3 in another exhibition tilt.

During the off season Cooper, 26, teaches at the Maggie L. Walker high school in Richmond.

At Virginia Union, Cooper was an outstanding back in 1940 and 1942 before the war, and in 1945 and 1946 after the war. In between he served in the army during which time he spent 21 months in Europe with the Third Army.

He was captain of the Virginia Union team in 1945 and 1946, and also captained his high school team for two years at Hattenfield, N. J.

The Rebels, although never signing a Negro player before, have played against Negro players several times. Among the stars they have faced in the past is Elmer Harris, now with the New York Bulldogs of the National league.

The stars are in training two or three at Northwestern's Dych stadium for the 16th annual all star football game against the National league champion Philadelphia Eagles at Soldier Field in Chicago, Friday night, August 12.

The all star game is being broadcast coast-to-coast on the Mutual network.

OFFICIALS NEEDED

Probably the most unglamorous position and possibly the most important post on the gridiron is that

of an official during the games. Yet Negro colleges in the effort to get first class officials are having a real struggle.

It seems that the younger men do not want to go into that field, despite the encouragement of leading coaches. Often in games officials do not even know the rules.

This problem will be one of the main topics of the midwest conference of coaches and officials that will meet at the Watah Avenue YMCA in Chicago on the eve of the All Star football game.

NO SERVANT PROBLEM HERE

SALISBURY, Southern Rhodesia (ANP) — The servant problem in Southern Rhodesia, where a campaign to lure settlers into the country is currently being pursued, is a thing to compare with.

Native labor, plentiful in supply, is cheap.

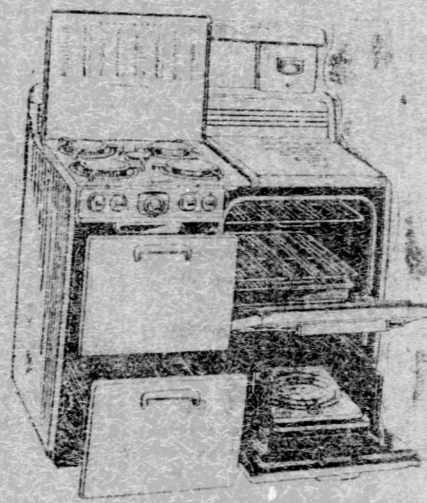
For instance, the country boasts that a man house cook is paid 40

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