

Fun for the Whole Family

SPARKY WATTS



By BOODY ROGERS



REG'LAR FELLERS—Saves Tires, Too



By GENE BYRNES



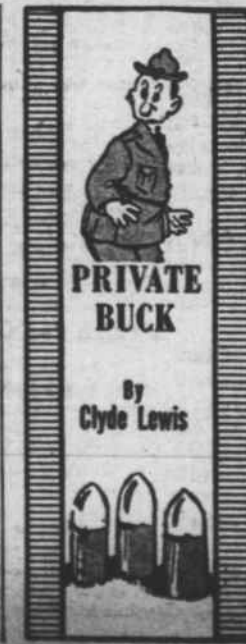
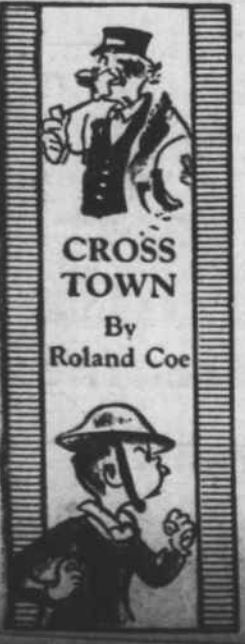
By LEN KLEIS



By BOB KARP



By J. MILLAR WATT



WHAT two men would you say played the most prominent roles in making Gene Tunney the undefeated heavyweight champion of the world?

It must be admitted at the start that Tunney did a fair job on his own. He was still the vital factor. He did most of the work, and most of the thinking. But he still needed some outside help, for Gene was a raw product on the way up. In his first match against Harry Greb, Tunney took the worst beating of his career. But from that fight on Commander Tunney kept moving up.

"The two men who helped me most," Tunney told me a few weeks ago, "were Jim Corbett and William Muldoon. It was Mr. Muldoon who gave me early encouragement when I needed it badly. He was also the one who gave me sound advice on physical conditioning and training.

Master Boxer

"What boxers need today," Tunney said, "is variety of attack. Jack Dempsey didn't need this so much with his devastating left hook. He could knock your head off with this one punch. And don't forget that Jack was extremely fast. I had no such punch. So I needed variety, which Corbett gave me. At least Jim gave me the general idea. For Corbett had more variety than anyone I've ever known.

"After talking and working with Corbett I went to work on several types of punches. I mean by that the body uppercut, which few boxers had ever used. Most uppercuts are headed for the chin. There were several other punches I worked on, day after day. I might even say—year after year. I made a close study of the human body to find the most vulnerable parts. Especially the nerve centers. I had discovered that a punch delivered to some spots would have no effect—where the same blow a few inches away could cause trouble. Fitzsimmons applied this knowledge in his famous solar-plexus punch that left Corbett paralyzed for a minute or more. Six inches to the right or left, this punch would have had no such effect.

"It was Jim Corbett to whom I went for ring advice. In my opinion there has only been one Corbett when it comes to the science of boxing. I boxed with Corbett when he was past 60. He would feint with his left hand—and then hit you with the left. Or he would feint with the left—and nail you with a right. There was no way to tell just what he was going to do. He could mix up more punches than any one I ever saw. Corbett not only had amazing hand and foot speed, but even more important he had a smart brain. Even at that age, Jim could really dazzle you. He could still keep you bewildered. So I can imagine what he must have been when he was 25 or 30 years younger. I can only say that Jim was always kind to me, always interested in helping."

Few Vulnerable Spots

"Judging a fight from the viewpoint of blows that hit certain parts of the anatomy is something more than you can ask a referee or any judge to consider. And yet it is a vital factor. I've heard fight crowds cheer loudly at some solid thump on an opponent's shoulder. This means nothing at all. It is just wasted effort, no matter how effective it may look to the crowd.

"There are only certain parts of the human body that give way to punishment. These are parts that few boxers today even know about. It was Corbett's advice that led me to study these vulnerable spots. At least Jim proved to me beyond any doubt that boxing was more of a science than mere brute strength. A scientific boxer can make a crude fighter look awkward although the latter might be twice as strong.

"I've found that few of these terrific punches can hit a moving target who knows how to keep out of the way. You may recall how many punches Max Baer landed on Jim Braddock, who was no section of lightning. I don't believe Max landed even one solid blow in 15 rounds. But Max couldn't miss big Carners. Boxing is one of the finest and one of the most scientific sports in the world. It would be a great help to the game if a few of the modern generation coming along were only willing to work along these lines. Which so few of them are."

Return of Lombardi

When Ernest Natali Lombardi lay stricken in the dust of Cincinnati's home plate in the final world series game of 1933, the big fellow's career seemed to be closing out. But it is all different now. The big Giant catcher has again become one of the most valuable adjuncts to his squad, one of the strong men from either league. Lombardi, normally a .300 hitter, dropped down to a .255 average last season. But now, in his 37th year, he has again been thumping the ball lustily.

Gay Party Dress For Little Girls



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