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WILLARD-MORAN FIGHT TONIGHT

Odds Favor Man Who Defeated Jack Johnson by About Three to One—Little Betting.

BOUT GOES FOR TEN ROUNDS OR KNOCKOUT

Willard Has Advantage on Most Counts—Contest Will Draw Record Attendance at Garden.

New York, March 25.—With the wagering close to three to one in his favor, Jess Willard, heavyweight champion of the world, will meet Frank Moran in a 10-round no-decision bout here tonight for the largest purse ever offered for a contest of this schedule duration. The two pugilists will receive \$71,250, posted by Ter Rickard, the promoter of the match. Of this sum the title holder will draw down \$47,500 and his opponent \$23,750. Notwithstanding the size of the purse, Rickard will clear a handsome profit on the venture since every seat in Madison Square Garden has been sold and the receipts are estimated at more than \$110,000.

Although Willard is a top-heavy favorite, interest in the outcome of the bout is intense, and the greatest gathering of fight fans that ever thronged into and about the garden is expected at that historic show hall this evening when the principals enter the ring. Few large bets have been placed on the contest owing to the difference in the odds and acknowledged physical advantages possessed by Willard over Moran. Hundreds of small wagers on the result and on various angles of the fight have been made between friends both in this city and among the large delegations of spectators from other cities of the east, south and middle-west.

Moran and his camp followers assert that the Pittsburgh heavyweight will win from Willard in decisive fashion on points if not by a knockout but the great majority of boxing enthusiasts cannot be convinced that the Kansas cowboy will fall a victim to Moran's rushes and blows. It is pointed out that the conqueror of Jack Johnson is physically superior in every respect to his opponent and that in a bout of but 10 rounds it would be little short of a ring miracle for Moran to stretch the champion on the floor for the count.

Ability About Equal
In boxing ability the two pugilists are conceded to be about equal but

beyond that point Willard has a marked advantage over Moran in almost every department of glove fighting as well as in physical make-up. He will outweigh Moran by close to 50 pounds, stand between five and six inches above the Pittsburgh slugger and have a longer reach, of more than six inches, than Moran. Both are extremely powerful hitters in proportion to their size but here again Willard's greater physique and strength give him a wide margin over Moran. The latter is the more aggressive boxer of the two but the champion's towering height and ability to block with his long arms militate against the chances of the smaller pugilist landing a knockout blow to the head. The task of reaching Willard's body is not so difficult but in all his bouts to date the Kansan has shown ability to take very hard blows in his midsection without slowing up. From a defensive standpoint Willard is considered to be one of the best equipped boxers of his division in many years.

He is equally formidable offensively when aroused, but, as a rule, lacks the aggressiveness necessary to win from an opponent of Moran's calibre in 10 rounds or less. His best blows are a short left jab and a right hand uppercut. These blows he used almost continually and owing to his long reach and great strength the punches carry terrific power when Willard puts full force into them. Under pressure he can and does fight with other blows and carries a knockout in either hand when mixing savagely. In his awkward and ponderous style Willard is almost as fast on his feet as Moran although he seldom uses footwork to avoid an opponent. At close quarters he should be able to hold Moran safely, although the latter will be dangerous if he can tear loose long enough to uncover his ability and power as an infighter.

Both pugilists virtually completed their training on Thursday and each claims to be in perfect condition for the battle. Moran has been on edge for the bout for close to two weeks and his trainers have had more difficulty in holding him to physical form than Willard's handlers. The champion was slow to round into condition since he had been out of the ring for almost a year while Moran, because of his recent bouts, responded quickly to the conditioning routine. Willard, however, once he settled down to hard work dropped weight and increased his speed rapidly and while it is doubtful if he is in the same magnificent shape that he was when he met Johnson at Havana, he should be able to box the full 10 rounds at top speed if necessary.

Whatever the outcome of the battle the two heavyweights will be well repaid for their training and struggle in the ring. If the contest goes the full distance the principals will receive \$7,125 per round or at the rate of \$2,375 per minute. Of this sum Willard's share will be \$1,583.33 and Moran's \$791.66 per minute. The purse of \$71,250 is the largest ever offered for a ring battle of any distance with the exception of the \$121,000 given to Johnson and Jeffries by Rickard in their fight at Reno, Nev., in 1910. The purse is larger than the gate receipts taken in at any fight ever held in New York state under the Horton law or the present Frawley regulations. But two fights, the Johnson-Jeffries and Johnson-Burns battles in Australia brought receipts in excess of \$71,250.

The difficult task of refereeing the bout has been placed in the hands of the veteran Charley White, an experienced boxing arbiter, and he has stated that he will insist upon the principals boxing in strict accordance with the rules. Because of his past experience as third man in the ring at a number of championship battles, White should be able to decide upon all technical points which may arise. Considerable responsibility will rest upon his shoulders as Willard might lose his title in several ways, notwithstanding that the contest is billed as a 10-round no-decision bout. Moran would become the heavy weight title holder should he knock out Willard or in case the latter was to foul Moran during the struggle. White is also empowered to stop the fight in case either of the men is incapacitated for any reason and unable to continue. Such a decision would automatically make the other principal a winner and technically the holder of the title.

Jess Willard's Record.
Born in Pottawatomie county, Kan-

December 29, 1887.
1911 Contests
February 16, Louis Fink at Sepulpa, Okla., 10 rounds, lost on foul.
March 7, Ed. Burke at El Reno, Okla., 3 rounds, K. O.
March 25, Louis Fink at Oklamoha City, 3 rounds, K. O.
April 29, Joe Cavanaugh, Oklahoma City, 11 rounds, K. O.
April 14, Al Mandeno, at Oklahoma City, 4 rounds, K. O.
June 9, Bill Shiller at Oklahoma City, 4 rounds, K. O.
July 4, Frank Lyon at Elk City, Okla., 10 rounds, won.
July 16, Mike Comisky at Hammond Okla., 10 rounds, won.

1912 Contests
May 23, John Young at Ft. Wayne, Ind., 6 rounds, K. O.
June 29, Frank Bowers at St. Charles, Ill., 3 rounds, K. O.
July 2, John Young at Chicago, Ill., 5 rounds, K. O.
July 29, Arthur Pelky at New York, 10 rounds, no decision.
August 19, Luther McCarthy at New York, 10 rounds, no decision.
December 2, Sallor White at Buffalo 1 round, K. O.
December 27, Soldier Kearns at New York, 8 rounds, K. O.

1913 Contests
January 22, Frank Bauer at Fort Wayne, Ind., 5 rounds, K. O.
March 5, Jack Leon at Fort Wayne, Ind., 4 rounds, K. O.
May 20, Gunboat Smith at San Francisco, 20 rounds, lost.
June 27, Charley Miller at San Francisco, 4 rounds, draw.
July 4, Al Williams at Reno, Nev., 8 rounds, won.
August 22, Bull Young at Vernon, Cal., 11 rounds, K. O.
November 17, George Rodel at Milwaukee, 10 rounds, no decision.
November 24, Jack Reed at Fort Wayne, Ind., 2 rounds, won.
December 3, Carl Marris at New York, 10 rounds, won.
December 12, George Davis at Buffalo, 2 rounds, K. O.
December 29, George Rodel at New Haven, Conn., 9 rounds, K. O.

1914 Contests
March 27, Tom McMahon at Youngstown, O., 12 rounds, lost.
April 13, Dan Daily at Buffalo, 9 rounds, K. O.
April 28, George Rodel at Atlanta, Ga., 6 rounds, K. O.

1915 Contests
April 5, Jack Johnson, at Havana, Cuba, 26 rounds, K. O.
Number of bouts, 30; won by K. O., 18; won on points, 5; no decisions, 3; draw, 1; lost, 3.
Frank Moran's Record
Born in Cleveland, Ohio, March 18, 1887.

1911 Contests
March 9, Al Palzer at Brooklyn, 10 rounds, no decision.
March 13, Jim Savage at New York, 7 rounds, lost.
April 8, F. Drummond at New York, 7 rounds, K. O.
October 9, Tom Cowler at London, 6 rounds, K. O.
October 23, Charles Wilson at London, 2 rounds, K. O.

1912 Contests
January 2, Fred Storbeck at London, 7 rounds, won of foul.
January 24, Stocker Smith at Paris, 1 round, K. O.

February 5, Fred Storbeck at London, 7 rounds, won on foul.
March 11, Al Kubiak at Albany, 10 rounds, no decision.
March 28, T. Kennedy at New York, 10 rounds, no decision.
May 20, Tony Ross at Cleveland, 10 rounds, no decision.
June 7, Harry Wuest at Columbus, 10 rounds, no decision.
July 4, Dave Mills at Juarez, Mex., 8 rounds, K. O.
August 9, Jack Geyer at San Francisco, 4 rounds, lost.
September 6, Sallor Schaefer at Vallejo, 3 rounds, K. O.
October 4, Jim Cameron at San Francisco, 4 rounds, won.
October 31, Charlie Hom at San Francisco, 4 rounds, won.
December 27, Gunboat Smith at San Frisco, 20 rounds, lost.

1913 Contests
March 29, Al McClusky at New York, 5 rounds, K. O.
April 16, Sallor White at Philadelphia, 6 rounds, no decision.
April 30, Luther McCarthy at New York, 10 rounds, no decision.
July 27, Tim Logan at New Orleans, 4 rounds, K. O.
September 3, Al Palzer at New York, 7 rounds, K. O.

1914 Contests
January 27, Jack Johnson at Paris, 20 rounds, lost.
1915 Contests
March 29, Bombardier Wells at London, 5 rounds, K. O.
April 7, Sergt Regan, at Aldershot, 4 rounds, K. O.
May 16, J. Bennett at Sallabury Plains, 2 rounds, K. O.
May 22, George Simms, London, 6 rounds, K. O.
October 19, Jim Coffey at New York, 3 rounds, K. O.

1916 Contests
January 7, Jim Coffey at New York, 9 rounds, K. O.
Number of bouts, 30; won by K. O., 14; won on points, 3; no decisions, 7; lost, 4.

ADD FIGHT

How the Fighters Compare

Willard	Moran
25 years	29 years
5 ft. 7 in.	6 ft. 1 in.
250 pounds	204 pounds
82 1/2 in.	78 1/2 in.
40 in.	chest, normal 42 in.
44 1/2 in.	chest, expanded 46 in.
37 in.	waist 35 in.
14 in.	biceps 15 in.
17 1/2 in.	neck 19 in.
8 1/2 in.	wrist 9 in.
17 1/2 in.	calf 15 1/2 in.
9 1/2 in.	ankle 10 1/2 in.

New York, March 24.—In Madison Square garden tomorrow night, Jess Willard of Kansas and Frank Moran of Pittsburgh, scheduled to struggle for the heavyweight championship which Willard won from Jack Johnson in Havana on April 6 of last year, will face the largest gathering of sporting men in the history of this city.

Both of the heavyweight fighters

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are trained to perfection—the most perfectly conditioned athletes ever brought together in a ring in New York.

Both men are confident of the result, though the betting shows that the public is inclined to favor the advantage of his opponent in size, height, reach and the confidence that comes of being champion. Those who are taking the Moran end bank chiefly on the Pittsburgher's ability to deliver a knockout punch and the further fact that he is rated as shifty a fighter as Willard.

Today the most optimistic reports emanate from both training camps. If the advance dope is to be relied upon the spectators will have the certainty of seeing a lively bout from start to finish.

The box office reports an enormous sale of seats, and Tex Rickard and Sam McCracken, the promoters, expect that all records for attendance will be broken. Seats have been constructed in the garden to accommodate 13,000 persons. The prices range from \$50 for boxes near the ring to \$2 for rear seats. It is believed that the total gate receipts will run between \$110,000 and \$115,000.

Willard is to receive \$40,000 under the signed contracts and a bonus of \$7,500 and 51 per cent of the moving picture receipts. Moran's share will be \$20,000, a bonus of \$2,500 and 20 per cent of the film receipts.

Under the New York state laws the contest will be limited to 10 rounds and no decision will be given. Despite this latter provision it is agreed among best informed men in sporting circles that Moran would be hailed as the heavyweight champion if he succeeded in knocking out Willard. Even if there was no knockout blow delivered the Pittsburgh fighter would probably be looked upon as the king of the heavyweight division if he was fortunate enough to show up distinctly as a better battler than the champion.

It is regarded as somewhat significant that the majority of old-time pugilists of note, the ones who know the game from start to finish and who have had an opportunity to size up the two heavyweights in their work of training, are more inclined to rate Moran's chances on a par with those of Willard than is the general public. These men figure that the champion's advantages in size and weight will not count for so much as is generally supposed. If Moran is the more clever

of the two and carries the hardest blow, they figure that he will be able to more than hold his own against the huge Kansas cowboy.

REV. DR. CAMPBELL SPEAKS AT Y.M.C.A.

Rev. Dr. R. F. Campbell, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, will speak to the men of the city on "Whose Man Are You?" in the auditorium of the Young Men's Christian association tomorrow afternoon at 7 o'clock. Though Rev. Dr. Campbell has always taken an active part in

the work of the Young Men's Christian association this will be his first address at the Sunday afternoon meeting for men; and it is expected that his address will be heard by a large audience.

A special musical program has been arranged which will consist of several selections by a mixed quartet, composed of Miss Hettie Moore, Miss Blanche Loftain, R. W. Hammerslough and Alva McIntyre, and a solo by R. W. Hammerslough, with Mrs. E. R. Hampton as accompanist. All men of the city, whether members of the association or not, are invited to attend this meeting.

Marion Man in Mexico.
Robert W. Nichols of Marion, N. C., is a United States army officer with Dodd's cavalry command, now in Mexico in pursuit of Villa.

TAKE NO ACTION ON THE SIGN ORDINANCE

The city commissioners yesterday afternoon again postponed action on the electric sign ordinance. Some action may be taken today on the amendment offered by the joint committee from the Ad club, the Merchants' association and the board of trade.

Building permits were granted to S. T. Logan for a theater on Eagle street, \$2,500; M. H. Presley, one-room addition at 240 Southside avenue, \$100.

General T. Coleman du Pont, one of the Delaware family of powder makers, appears to have taken seriously the mention of his name in connection with the presidency.

WANTED!

WANTED! WANTED!

P. D. Q.

Able bodied men between 18 and 40 to enlist in Troop B Cavalry, North Carolina National Guards. Number will be limited, so prompt action is necessary. First to apply will be first to receive enrollment. Men will be appointed to officers in non-commission class as fast as their qualifications justify promotion. Recruits will apply to Lieut. E. I. Burn, Sergeant Ned West or Captain Frederick Rutledge.

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