

## BOXING

SOUTHLAND ASSOCIATION HOLDS  
SUCCESSFUL TOURNAMENT.

The Southland Boxing Association held their first professional contest in the Theatre, on Monday night. So great was the interest taken that long before 8 o'clock a large crowd had assembled and by the time the first contest had commenced hardly a vacant seat remained. In opening the proceedings Dr Ritchie Crawford congratulated the audience on the way in which they had turned out and also congratulated the Association on its successful enterprise. He then introduced the referee, Mr Kilmartin, and the judges, Messrs C. Davis and J. J. Ward. Among the officials were Mr J. McGrath, announcer, who introduced the successful Southland professional Les Murray, to the audience, and Messrs T. Roche, J. Arthur and D. Burn time-keepers. Great credit for the success of the tournament is due to Mr J. H. Gilbertson, the secretary, who spent a great deal of time to make the evening a success.

The less we say about the "star" bout of the night the better, as it turned out to be a very poor affair, the amateur bouts being far ahead and provided some very clever and interesting boxing.

## BANTAMS

(Six rounds of two minutes).

W. Rowe (Dunedin), 8.2 v. L. Adams (Invercargill), 8.2. Adams opened attack at close work. Rowe scored at close quarters. Honours even. Round two, Adams using left hook scored at start. Rowe's ducking and evasion good. Rowe's swing ill-timed. Adams rushed to close quarters and scored with both hands. Adams' another effective. The boys exchanged at close quarters. Honours even. The fourth was a repetition of previous rounds, slightly in Rowe's favour. The pair fought vigorously in round five with Adams doing better work. The last round saw Adams forcing Rowe, who however scored to face and body. Rowe sent two good lefts home. Towards the end Adams sent several straight lefts to the face. The decision, a draw, satisfied the audience.

## WELTER-WEIGHTS.

(Six rounds of two minutes).

W. Brown (Invercargill), 11.11 v. J. McNaughton (Dunedin), 10.8. Brown attacked. McNaughton clever in evasion. First round even. McNaughton's footwork and ducking made Brown miss. The Dunedin man's principal punch was a right swing which connected several times. At close work McNaughton did better work. The third round was well contested with honours even. The fourth saw both strong, McNaughton retreating. A fine rally at close quarters had the crowd excited, both exchanging well. The fifth was quiet with honours even. Brown forced matters in the last round but McNaughton's footwork took him out of danger. McNaughton gained a well-deserved win.

## HEAVY-WEIGHT.

(Six rounds of two minutes).

B. McLeary (Christchurch), 12.2 v. C. Whitaker (Invercargill), 12.9. The men exchanged freely. Whitaker opened better than at any previous local tourney and at the close of the first round had a slight lead. McLeary forced matters in the second and landed with effect several times. Whitaker responded well and some fine boxing was witnessed. At the start of the third round Whitaker sent a left to the face. McLeary, however, got in close and the pair exchanged freely with McLeary making the pace. The round closed with the pair in a clinch. In the fourth McLeary forced the pace. Whitaker's ducking was good. The visitor scored best at close work. McLeary's round. McLeary had all the best of round five. Several of the visitor's punches appeared to be on the kidney but this passed unnoticed by the referee. In the last McLeary did the attacking. Whitaker sent several nice lefts home but the visitor replied with both hands. The round closed amid applause. The decision, "McLeary wins," was the only one possible, though the local man was by no means disgraced.

## LIGHT-WEIGHTS.

(Six rounds of two minutes).

J. W. Mitchell (Dunedin), 9.7 v. R. McAlair (Christchurch), 9.8. Mitchell bored in, McAlair, however, clinching and covering well. Mitchell scored to face and body in the first round. In the second the Christchurch man did better, mixing freely. There was a good deal of holding. Mitchell scoring at close quarters. In the third McAlair's left eye showed effect of Mitchell's rights. McAlair was aggressive but Mitchell more than held his own.

McAlair forced matters in the fourth and exchanges were fast and willing. Mitchell scoring well in clinches. In the fifth Mitchell got both hands home to head but was cautioned for holding. The pair mixed merrily with Mitchell doing slightly better work. In the last round Mitchell went for his man, the hitting on both sides was heavy. The decision in favour of Mitchell was well received, though the loser fought a great battle.

## PROFESSIONAL BOUT.

(Fifteen rounds of three minutes).

Denny Murphy (Wellington), 10.6, holder of the welter-weight belt of New Zealand v. "Seaman" Frank Brown (Invercargill), 10.8, challenger. Brown was first to enter the ring and was greeted with a round of applause. Both men looked fit and capable of putting up a good showing. Brown was the most enterprising boxer in the first round, Murphy being content to watch his man. Brown was quick on his feet and hopped and skipped about in all directions, and trying to beat his opponent by change of tactics. The next three rounds were lifeless, Brown being content to wait. All ringsiders expected Murphy to open up and show something new in the way of boxing, but they were bitterly disappointed. There was more aggressive work in the fifth although Murphy was still inclined to wait for his opponent. The sixth was a continual clinch in which the champion was better man. Brown scored with his leads in the seventh but the Wellington man always had the upper hand in the close work and gave his opponent a lot to think about. Brown again attacked in the eighth and continually rushed Murphy to the ropes. The ninth round went in favour of Brown, who made the pace hot throughout. In the tenth round there was more take and give in which Murphy held the upper hand by his superior knowledge of in-fighting. Things were warmer in the eleventh when Murphy showed for the first time signs of aggressiveness. Round twelve saw things moving on both sides but Brown showed his superiority in the open encounters. The Invercargill man attacked throughout the next round but could not make headway again Murphy, who always endeavoured to get to close quarters. Both men made the fighting willing in the fourteenth. Brown always had the better at long range while his opponent showed his superiority at close quarters. In the last round Murphy made a good impression and kept things his own way. The verdict to Murphy was greeted by a mixture of hooting and applause.

## FEATHER-WEIGHT.

(Six rounds of two minutes).

L. McDonald (Dunedin), 8.2 v. W. J. Sycamore (Invercargill), 8.13. Both men made the contest willing in the first round. McDonald being the cleverer boxer, but the difference in weight was too great for him, and in the second round the Invercargill man sent his opponent down for nine. On rising the latter fought gamely, but was soon in difficulties again. The referee then stopped the fight and gave the local man the verdict.

V. Cox (Invercargill), 10.0 v. A. Brodie (Invercargill), 9.5, faced each other in the special light-weight bout of three rounds of three minutes. Cox held a slight advantage in the first round. In this bout as in the last the men were again badly classed as regards weight, and the heavier man soon had Brodie in trouble and the referee stopped the uneven contest and sent Cox to his corner a winner. After the contest Mr J. McGrath presented the cheques to the professionals.

The bowling enthusiasts have been indulging in their annual exhibition of knee-bending, leg stretching, side stepping, toe trotting, neck twisting, and various gyrations on Southland greens over the New Year. A representative from the Kaituna Bowling Club, Dunedin, shaped pretty well and looked like a winner.

In a recent two-up raid in Sydney an innocent was found in bed. On being awakened he rubbed his eyes and—knocked his pince-nez off. He had also overlooked his collar and tie. The top had to be knocked off a dog kennel to extract another, and the other pupils of the school got on to the roof and were about to jump, when a constable stood underneath with a pitchfork and kept them high and dry until they were corralled.

Our readers are notified in this issue that the annual colossal summer sale at Price and Bulleid's, Ltd., Drapers, Invercargill, will eventuate on Thursday, 13th inst. At the moment of writing the firm is "up to the eyes" preparing on a big scale for this very important event. As is their usual custom bargains of a satisfactory nature will be available in all departments.

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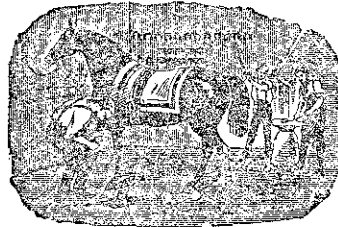
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