

Notes On Sport

FOR THE EMPIRE TITLE

McCready And Katan Split The Difference

EARL MCCREADY and John Katan, seventeen stone four of Canadian against sixteen stone ten of pug-nosed American, played pitch and toss for the Empire heavy-weight wrestling championship last week.

Against a go-and-give-it technique, McCready adopted come-and-get-it tactics, but received quite a bit more than he gave. Katan concentrated on step-over toe-holds. He secured them with dangerous ease, and won positional advantage both from the referee's hold and on the mat more often than McCready, who looked towards the end of the round as if he had been riding a one-sided horse, so sincere had been Katan's attentions to one leg.

The champion can take punishment. Katan had his full weight on that leg for minutes at a time several times



No Longer "Lofly": Sergeant Blomfield

during the eight rounds, but sheer strength brought McCready out of it each time without a fall.

Only twice did the champion take the initiative successfully. Katan, as usual, had come out of the referee's hold with the advantage. He was getting headlocks strangely easily, or wristlocks, or, more often, the makings of his punishing toe-hold. Early in the bout, however, McCready, bent double in a wristlock, somersaulted back over his bent arm

and clipped Katan's head in a flying scissors.

In the last round Katan put a big effort into hoisting McCready's seventeen stone for an aeroplane spin. McCready enjoyed his ride, and came gently to the mat with Katan in a crucifix. He pulled his shoulders over to the mat time and again. Each time Katan jerked back over, and finally pulled one arm out.

It was a hard match. These two will probably meet again before the season is over. When they do, McCready's supporters will attend with a good deal less confidence than they did this time. The champion will have to climb out of his Maginot Line. Katan is too tough to be met with defensive tactics.

A 15-FOOT JUMP "Impossible" Attained

THREE athletic events, the mile, the high jump, and the pole vault, have for years been the subject of arguments about what a human being can do in them. In the mile, no one has yet brought the time down to four minutes, although in the last ten years the "impossibility" has become within reach.

In the high jump, the world's best are still nearer six feet than the mythical seven.

In the pole vault the figures have been creeping inch by inch nearer to the "impossible" mark of 15 feet. Now comes a report from the U.S.A., where athletes are a "dedicated, concentrated, and highly competitive lot," that at Berkley, California, in late April, Cornelius Warmerdam, of the San Francisco Olympic Club, pole-vaulted to 15 feet, one inch higher than the record set in 1937 by Sefton and Meadows.

CHARITY COSTS MONEY

Help For Finland Was Expensive

WHEN Finland was invaded, a wave of sympathy swept the United States. Motions were passed, dollars were raised, and Mr. Hoover was well on his way to beating all refugee-fund records of the last war when proposals to send all the money and goods to the struggling country were interrupted by the end of the war. Since then American sympathy has not quite managed to catch up on the march of time, but there have been some rather amusing incidents.

One of the exhibitions arranged to raise funds for Finnish relief featured America's six first-ranking professional tennis players: Budge, Vines, Barnes, Bell, Perry, and Tilden, now 47 years old. They played five matches in a four-hour exhibition for which admission prices ranged to £2.

Expenses included (figures in round numbers):

Services of three managers: £250. Travelling expenses: Perry from Los Angeles, £60; Vines from Miami, £40; Budge from Hollywood, Florida, £40; Barnes and Tilden from North Carolina (a journey that costs ordinary travellers £9), £55 and £80; Bell from Forest Hills (a 3d subway ride), £10.

Total, £285.

Tilden, for "services": £60; Perry, for "winning an extra match with Budge": £10; entertainment after the show: £60.

In the end, receipts totalling about £2,000 were reduced by expenses totalling about £1,300, and the balance sheet had a note: "List of expenditures not complete."

No Ski-ing

In what promises to be one of the best seasons for ski-ing in a decade, there will be no ski-ing. Snow already covers all but the lowest hills. For the first time in many years the secondary school snow sports in the South Island at Ball Glacier were held in real snow. Supplies of snow are assured, but all the ski-ers are off to the war. To the annual meeting of the Federated Mountain Clubs, the Taranaki delegate (Rod. Syme), said that only three out of more than thirty competitors in the championships last year were still available. The meeting accordingly decided to abandon the Centennial meeting. Australian teams will now be asked to cancel their arrangements. Teams from other countries had already dropped out.

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