(Continued from previous page)

P rushes at B's stomach. P's second runs to him and just manages to get him into a corner, referee picks up stool and challenges P—a comical sight—Jack 7 stone and P 17 stone.

Referee in Trouble Again

Third round P again beats gong, rushes at B, puts B's head over the rope and then lifts middle rope over part of his neck. B cannot get loose and seems to be choking and the crowd are on their feet yelling and waving their hands—the referee helped by both seconds manages to extricate B, but P grabs him in a quick aeroplane spin, gets him with his left hand round the shoulder, right hand through his left, swings him three times round in the air and pins him with his shoulders on the floor for the count of three. Boos and Boos and one or two cheering in the 6d stands

M.C. announces first fall to P in 2 minutes 50 secs. of the third round.

B can scarcely rise, the referee is in a fit of temper, attacks P with stool, P chases him round ring—gong goes for the 4th round—P still has stool so B picks up the water bowl and with a terrific bang lands it on P's head. P drops almost unconscious. B jumps at him, Jack the referee drops on stomach to count but is fast between wrestlers and can't be seen and he manages to free himself, and counts 1 2 3 very quickly. Second fall to B.

Someone Burned Him

The positions are now reversed. B is aggressor; P is complaining to second about someone who has burned him with a cigarette. Observer who is close to him can see an unmistakable burn on his thigh.

Fifth round starts P can scarcely stand, his left leg is weak from Indian Death-lock in last round. B slams P to canvas on his stomach—then secures Deathlock. P pulls most agonising expressions and offers his hands to someone to pull him out of the ring. B drags him back. B kneels over P and forces Deathlock—P shouts—sweat is rolling off both of them — P suddenly goes silent then knocks with his hand three times on the floor, he has submitted, so B is the winner.

The crowd cheers.

The M.C. declares B to be the winner, he goes to shake hands with P. P refuses and tries to hit B. B kicks P three times on his weakened leg, the crowd cheers. P limps across ring and threatens man in crowd who has burned him. All one section raise their fists, few cheer him, but are hushed.

At last both men are coaxed to dressing tent.

After the Entertainment

After the evening's entertainment, observers investigated the reactions of the public. They found that many people professed themselves disgusted at the "sport," but that many went all the same. Newspapers did not cover it, nor was it advertised extensively, and yet in all sorts of halls over the country, large and small, it was attracting big crowds.

Reason for its popularity they found was the element of thrill, and the possibilities of sharing this thrill with a host of other people. "As human beings are herd animals," the summary says, "what wonder that this common bond is taken up wherever it is found in tune with contemporary needs and industrial presentation?" Without the old social

ties of church and politics, working people are using up their gregarious instincts at such spectacles as the one described here.

Vicarious Thrills

Significant among the conclusions of "Mass-Observation" was one that much of the entertainment in All-In for the crowd was the fact that all these people were watching two men using greater strength than any of them could summon themselves, and standing up to more pain and strain.

Here you have the whole secret of the distinction between those who watch and those who participate. The layman judges a painting, or a piece of music, as much as his own ability to equal the job as by the pleasure it gives him. For the untrained musical mind, for example, there is the same thrill in hearing a brilliant violin staccato as the untrained football fan receives in seeing a line of three-quarters swinging down the field. His enjoyment is a mixture of admiration and envy.

The social fallacy is obvious. For all but the crippled and insane, participation is possible. But the opportunity for participation was lacking. In sport it still is lacking, or if it is there, or was there, it never was or is made use of. In war, participation is not only possible; it becomes in the modern state first advisable, then compulsory. It takes the sharp prick of fear to lift Man off the seat of his pants. The difficulty seems to be that he is more afraid of bullets than of social and physical deterioration.

BRIMAR VALVES



10 TIMES TESTED · 10 TIMES MORE EFFICIENT