

BOXING NOTES

Ron Richards For N.Z. + To Meet

Winner Of Big Bout



THE coming contest between New Zealand heavy-weight Maurice Strickland and the Alabama Kid, of America, is creating much interest throughout the Dominion. No previous bout—not even the Donovan-Sarron open-air fight—created such enthusiasm.

The negotiations, which were prolonged, and the obstacles, which at times seemed insurmountable, have now been given the light of day. The Manawatu Executive must be given great credit for rising to the occasion and arranging a contest which is the one New Zealand fight that followers have been waiting for.

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The fact that Strickland, after his return to the Dominion, showed little or no interest in contests which according to the rules could only be arranged under the "small purse" system—that is a £200 purse and £40 expenses where an imported boxer happened to be one of the principals—made an impression that Strickland would never be seen in action in his own country.

When the big bout was mooted and it was clearly shown that the public wanted the fight in preference to any

other, the Council granted the necessary permission, and created a very favourable impression with a public which WANTS to see boxing progress in this country.

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It is now known that Ron Richards is definitely coming to the Dominion to meet the winner of the big bout at Palmerston North. The articles provide that the winner of the Boxing Day contest gives the Manawatu Boxing Association the right to his services over a period of six weeks, for a further contest if desired.

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News has been received that "Bubs" Maloney, Queensland amateur welter-weight boxer, has arrived in New Zealand on a visit and is eager for amateur bouts while here. Maloney is reputed to be a boxer of outstanding ability and is keen to box in support of patriotic appeals.

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Vic Caltaux has secured another match with Johnnie Hutchinson, at Palmerston North. The welter champion believes he will defeat Hutchinson this time even though he has been twice previously beaten by him.

Summer Sports

(Continued from previous page)

remembered by this Survey as "a giant among axemen." They used a fatter log than the axemen trim for the meetings now. Dave Pretty chopped 21 inches at a time. Now they slice through 12 and 14-inch logs, so it would be difficult to compare times. Denny Hoey, North Islander, holds the Centennial Championship, but his time of 60 seconds for an 18-inch log was nothing to amaze many bushmen.

"Men Like These"

Men like these, and sports like these, are the real sports of the country. They are fiercely competitive. If you have Australian bushwhackers in the same camp as New Zealanders you'll get as much work done as a squatter could get out of a mixed party of Australian and New Zealand shearers. But there is a different spirit to the competition. A man's fame rests on real ability. Build-ups and publicity do not matter at all.

Tennis and Swimming

Tennis, on the other hand, is a sport in which the wrong sort of competitive spirit develops very easily—and, in this country as in others, has developed. But here again New Zealand has failed by world standards. There is enough locally-induced jealousy to make a dozen Tildens, but the invigorating impetus from outside is missing and none since Wilding has gone overseas with a background strong enough to carry him through the ordeal of big-time tournaments.

Among swimmers, "Tiny" Freyberg is the only one to find for himself a

Round And Round

Searching for the Italian Fleet where Mussolini says it is protecting Italy's sea routes in the Mediterranean, the British Navy has covered distances equal to 20 circumnavigations of the globe.

special place in the "Summer Sports" illustrations. But it is actually a woman who deserves most attention. Gwatha Shand, who represented New Zealand at the 1924 Olympics, is the only swimmer of either sex to earn us a world record. Popular as swimming is in New Zealand, and necessary as it may be to a country where death by drowning was and is so common, New Zealand has remained, in this as in so many other sports, a secluded corner where men and women play as nature makes them able, and not as association forces them. Few swimming clubs outside the main centres are ever very strong, financially or numerically. In few towns or cities are any very great provisions made for training competitive swimmers. In fact, the capital city, with its concentrated population, offers swimming facilities less attractive than those provided by many a borough council.

Three pages for bowls, and two for yachting, complete the survey.

Every sportsman will wish that his own sport could have been covered separately. But that was hardly the job of historians setting out to provide a backbone of reference. That they have done this, and made it interesting at the same time, is a tribute to their ability and ingenuity.

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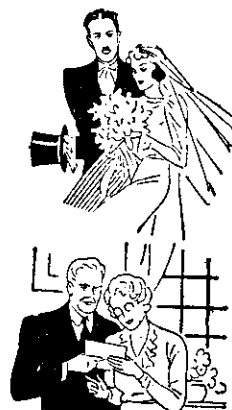
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