

'MASSA'—J'SE JACK! Tom Tracey Fed Colored Champion When he was Hungry

By M. P. ("Storky") Adams

SOLONS of the sports writing game in America occasionally refer to the famous Australian boxing quartette—Fitzsimmons, Crendon, Griffon, and Tracey. They cannot understand why Australian has failed to turn out more men of their calibre. The only exception is Les Darcy, who is accepted as "great."

One Australian, unknown in his homeland, I met on a recent tour. Way down in Texas, right on the border at El Paso, I met "Australian" Billy Smith, a South Australian from York's Peninsula. Billy fought all over the States, toured with boxing shows and trained in camps with the great ones of his day. . . .

Smith was a clever lightweight with a solid punch, and when he hit 'em they stayed down. Up to the time of his death Jim Corbett corresponded with Billy. At El Paso "Australian" Billy Smith's name as Detective Sergeant Matthews, a tall, wiry, grey-haired man, particularly spry for his years in both mind and body.

At Portland, Oregon, the sports department of the "Oregonian" told me about an old-time Australian boxer who had a cigar business in the marble-faced lobby of the fine Public Service Building. . . .

Turning to a friend standing at the counter, he said, "I'll bet he's an Australian. And then he stayed in on a season which ran off and on for the few weeks I was in Portland. We got into 'hills' over the counter, at luncheons, and over a cup of coffee at an 'eat'.

Tom had been in hospital, so Mrs Tracey had to look after the place. I'll never forget the sad and disgusted look on Tom's face the Sunday Mrs Tracey invited me to the apartment for dinner. . . .

They were a tough lot. We were always having street fights and that is how I learned to use me "locks." There were the grey lines, a born, natural fighter, who never had a lesson in his life and who developed into one of the great middleweight boxers of all time.

Forty years of life in America had robbed Tom of his native accent, but when he was the grey lines, a born, natural fighter, who never had a lesson in his life and who developed into one of the great middleweight boxers of all time.

When I was about 14 or 15 I had a street fight in Bourke Street. The news got around that I was good with me maulers, so I was told to go and see Martin Conahan. . . .

In a recent tour of America which covered some 6000 miles, the writer met some colorful characters who have contributed to the history of Australian boxing at home and abroad.

At Portland, Oregon, he found the fourth of the great Australian boxing quartette—Fitzsimmons, Crendon, Griffon, and Tracey . . . old-timer Tom Tracey. The famous old lightweight was kind enough to relate some of the high spots of his career.

Also stories about the great heavyweights of the game which have never been told before. Yarns about the great John L. Fitz., Peter Jackson, Corbett, Jeffries and Jack Johnson.

When I knocked out Bert Spargo in our second meeting at Melbourne in 1916, George Baillieu, thought that there was money to be picked up in the ranks of lightweights—perhaps in greater quantities than among the featherweights. . . .

But I did not feel so happy when Baillieu was clamoring for a battle with Herb McCoy. I would much rather have been matched with one of the lesser lights at my first appearance as a light-weight.

When I returned the compliment, McCoy was as tough as leather and his powers of recuperation were wonderful. I sent him back to the corner at the end of the first round, thinking he would be easy the following round only to find him fighting stronger than ever.

I built up to 126 for McCoy, and there appeared to be little between us, although he was more rugged. I was at a disadvantage having my first fight in a new division. . . .

When McCoy fought Fred Delaney I figured that his style would suit me as he came at his men all the time, seldom retreating.

He impressed me with his strength. I saw that he had a dangerous left uppercut that could do considerable damage, also that he did not exploit long range attacks.

Among some fine performances Jacques McArthur sports and Brunowicz were in the 20th round. . . .

Of Fighters He Met in Australia Llew Edwards Says



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Tom Tracey (right) meets the author.

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

Billiards Sth. Suburban Leaders Fail

Both leading teams in the South Suburban semi-finals badly this week. South Yarra premiers, lost to Brighton 4-2, and Hawthorn were down 5-1 to Army and Navy.

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

Was It A Trap?

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230

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McCutcheon . . . 230 Norman . . . 170 Dick . . . 230 Norman . . . 220 Beauchamp . . . 230 Langley . . . 161 Adams . . . 230 Langley . . . 242 Ross . . . 243 Cleary . . . 230