

The Champion Visits Syracuse



Primo Carnera and Tony Valentine of the Columbus Monument association.

Primo Surprises By His Grasp of English

Good-Natured Giant Takes Delight in Own Bearish Handshake

Italy's hero, the heavyweight champion of the world, Primo Carnera, was several hours late arriving for his exhibition bout at the Arena last night, but quickly made himself at home in his suite at the Hotel Syracuse when he reached town shortly after 6.30 o'clock.

He was surrounded by prominent Italian citizens who had gathered from Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo to greet the giant, and Primo greeted them all with a bearish handshake. A perfect match for the rest of his great body, Carnera's hand swallowed the hands of his greeters and the champion took delight in watching the awe on their faces.

Just as good-natured as he is big, Primo answered all the questions fired at him by reporters and well-wishers and posed for as many shots as the photographers desired. He had driven all the way from New York, leaving the metropolis at 11.30 o'clock daylight time, and took his time getting to Syracuse.

He was accompanied by Harold Mays and Jack Kanasuli, his sparring partners, and by his brother, Severino. The brother is only 20 years old, seven years younger than Primo and has been living in East Orange, N. J., for several years. Severino is of normal stature.

Only one objection was voiced by the champion during all the questioning, and that was a refusal to converse in his native Italian. He is as proud of his country and of its tongue as Italy and the Italians are of him, but he insists on speaking English when with Americans. His vocabulary was much larger than the reporters had been led to expect and he carried on fluent conversations in

good English, sprinkled with good American slang.

The king of boxers was given a real thrill when a husky youngster burst into the room with a large crayon drawing of the one and only Primo. He thrust the drawing into Primo's paws with the remark that he hoped that Carnera would be champion for 20 years. The drawing was really good and Primo insisted that the lad sign the sketch with his address. The boy was Anthony Vecchio, a 16-year-old Eastwood high student who lives at 157 Crestline drive.

All the chatter of fights, Italy and of Primo himself meant little in comparison to the original drawing of the youngster. He refused to comment on his contract to appear in a movie with Max Baer but admitted that he expected to go on to Hollywood soon. His next stop will be for a bout in Erie in a few days and he will drive there this morning.

Severino Carnera, the younger brother, plans to travel with the champion for a few weeks tho he is employed in New York. Severino is the youngest of the three sons with Primo the oldest. Secondo, the second boy, is three years younger than the champion, and lives in London.

PRIMO LOOKS LIKE CHAMPION IN BOUT HERE

Carnera Shows Speed and Uppercut Against Mays at Arena

BY GERALD ASHE

Primo Carnera looked the part of a champion as he went thru four rounds of fast stepping with Harold Mays, a 220-pound sparring partner from Bayonne, who looked like a welterweight against the Man Mountain at the Arena last night. Some 2,500 fans were surprised as the Ambling Alp danced about the ring like a light-heavy and toyed with Mays.

Obviously proud of the secret uppercut that knocked the title off Jack Sharkey's shoulders a short while ago, Carnera used it several times on Mays and that 225-pound worthy was lifted high into the air. Tho the bout was listed as four rounds to a decision, the heavies used pillow gloves, but gave a good exhibition nevertheless.

Carnera stopped several times and let Mays throw rights and lefts to his huge chest without taking a backward step. Primo added another touch of comedy as he twirled from Mays and tapped Referee Jack Michaels a light cut across the cheek.

There was little action in the semifinal scrap between Matty Mathison of Buffalo and Willie Dorengo of Albany and the fans boomed when Mathison was given the decision after six rounds. The baby-faced Mathison kept his left in Dorengo's face and landed several telling blows to the kidneys, but the bout was slow.

Joey Brown of Syracuse and My Lathron of Rochester had the best fight of the night with Brown uncorking a terrific two-fisted attack that floored the Rochester lightweight twice in the second round, the second for the count. Brown landed a long left that sent Lathron down for a count of eight early in the second round and then put him away fast as soon as he got back on his feet.

Mickey Serran of Scranton laid Mike Coogan of Syracuse out on the canvas after two minutes of the second round in a special four-round bout. The bout was arranged at the ringside when Joe Monje failed to arrive from New York to fight Kid Dyke.

Referee Michaels stopped Art Bokino and Tod Morgan after two rounds of careful sparring and declared the bout no-contest. Both were cautious, overly so in the opinion of the referee and the crowd. Joe Marsh of Auburn was given the decision over Johnny Delaney of Syracuse in the first bout.

Among the out-of-town celebrities at the ringside were Ted Broadribb of London, England, trainer of boxers and manager of Jack (Kid) Berg, Len Harvey and other prominent English boxers; Jimmy Bronson of New York, who started Gene Tunney on the road to the heavyweight crown, and Joe Moran, Bronson's newest protegee; Dan Skilling of the New York state athletic commission, and James Parke-Davis, millionaire New York sportsman and motion picture producer.

Grimm of Cubs Slated to Direct