

FAITH

We can be glad that our faith in human nature doesn't rest upon—

Post Office pens
"See you tomorrow"
The bottom layer of fruit in a basket
Hair Tonics
Egg Sandwiches

But we can be thankful for the friendliness of our fellow-men; for the joy of our daily task; for the club in which we find inspiration in what the other fellow does.

And we ourselves are glad that the faith of the public in *James' Salt Water Taffy* (cut to fit the mouth) is daily demonstrated in terms of pounds. It's only natural that something in which we have had great faith should win the confidence of those for whom it is made.

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Sporting Reminiscences of William A. Brady

As Told to George B. Underwood

CHAPTER XXIV—Continued

"Why, I wouldn't be surprised if I could fix things up for Fitz down at my club at Coney Island. Bob can take on that big, clumsy California youngster, Jeffries, who was one of Corbett's sparring partners at Carson City, and who made such a rotten showing here against Bob Armstrong. It certainly will be easy money for Fitzsimmons!"

"I'll mention it to him," remarked the printer, rising to the bait. "It looks good to me. The people want to see him in the ring so much they will not care who he fights. I'll put a flea in Bob's ear."

I did a bit of quick thinking. Then I sat down to the desk and began to figure. I had gone over the whole proposition before and knew just what I could offer Fitzsimmons. But to make things impressive and keep up the game I covered the paper with figures. I apparently thought away desperately for several minutes. Then I declared:

"You know the preliminaries will not cost much when we have a world's champion like Fitzsimmons to head the bill. I will not have to give that big stiff Jeffries

much either. As soon as the fight is over I can ship him back to California and get rid of him. Why, the show can be staged at such a little cost that I can give Fitzsimmons sixty-five per cent! Sixty-five per cent, think of it!"

"The public is so fight mad at the present time that we will draw a record house. Against that dub Jeffries, Fitzsimmons will get the biggest sum of money he ever fought for. It will be a record purse for him, but because of the small cost of the show I can make plenty of money to pay expenses and reap a fair profit as well. Gee, I'm certainly glad, both for my sake, and for Bob's, that I dropped in here to see you and the idea came to me!"

The game worked. A few days later Fitzsimmons and Martin Julian, brother-in-law and manager of Ruby Robert, came around to see me.

They lost no time in affixing their signatures to a contract calling for Fitzsimmons to defend his title against "that dub Jeffries," for which Fitzsimmons was to receive the nice bit of sixty-five per cent of what promised to be a record gate. To Bob it looked like a "fat killing."



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Remember, Fitzsimmons never had seen Jeffries. To be sure, Jeff was in Corbett's corner at Carson City, but it was Corbett on whom Fitzsimmons' eyes had rested that day. He had no call to notice the men in Corbett's corner.

It never pays to underestimate an adversary. Be sure you know something about who you tackle in ring business, politics or anything else. Slighting or underestimating an opponent is a dangerous thing. Good old Bob Fitzsimmons, if the Great Timekeeper had not counted him out and he were alive today, would tell you that.

"The bigger they are the 'arder they fall," confidentially chuckled Fitzsimmons one day in training, after some one had brought him reports of how huge and herculean Jeffries really was.

Fitz did not then know that there was something besides mere bulk and bone to Jeffries, and that by the sheer nature of things a good big man will whip a good little man every time.

Jeffries trained for Fitzsimmons at a Jersey coast resort, the same as Corbett had trained for Sullivan before him. I secured the Big Fellow a cottage at Alenhurst, not far from the beach at Asbury Park. There, with Trainer Billy Delaney, Jack Jeffries, Tommy Ryan and big Ed Dunkhorst, Jim whipped himself into shape.

At Alenhurst Camp

I don't believe any one ever worked harder for a fight than Jeffries did for his title bout with Fitzsimmons. The big fellow was a glutton for work and Trainer Delaney was a hard taskmaster. Jeffries weighed 245 pounds when he came East and most of it was solid bone and muscle, but three days before his fight with Fitzsimmons the Californian had reduced to 206 pounds.

At 206 pounds Jeffries was lean as a pit bulldog, nothing but sheer bone and muscle, with the cords and sinews fairly corrugating him. The weight might have been a bit low for Jeffries and perhaps he didn't have quite the stamina and stay he possessed when carrying a few pounds of reserve flesh. A boxer must have a bit of fatty tissue to work on. Drying out too fine saps one's stamina and vitality. Still, Jeffries appeared in the proverbial pink against Fitz.

(To be Continued.)

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