

# Exciting Boxing

## Sonny Thomas Again the Victor

Keen and exciting boxing with a few amusing incidents thrown in as well was witnessed in the City Hall, Cape Town, last Wednesday. The main contest of the evening—a title fight—between Sonny Thomas, holder of the S.A. Lightweight Championship, and Kid Sathamoney of Natal, the challenger, began rather tamely but livened up so rapidly that the crowd was soon roaring with excitement. The climax, however, came suddenly and dramatically in the ninth round when the champion caught his opponent off his guard and shot out a right hook which sent him to the canvas with a terrific thud. Soon afterwards the referee stopped the fight.

### Sonny Thomas (130 lbs.) vs. Kid Sathamoney (122 lbs.)

The stylish champion immediately attacked the Kid with his powerful straight lefts when the first round opened, and for the first four rounds he had things all his own way, occasionally using both fists with telling effect. The Natal boxer scored slowly with a few straight lefts which he shot out now and again when Thomas came in to attack. He seemed rather bent on keeping out of the way of the champion, who definitely seemed dangerous.

### Champ. Harassed

But the tables were turned in the fifth round. Thomas rushed in to attack rather wildly, probably with the intention of ending the fight with a K.O. The Kid side-stepped cleverly and landed a terrific left swing to the face, and when the champion led with a straight left, the Kid replied with a left unmerciful, followed up with a right swing to the head. The round ended with loud applause for the Natal boxer, who was now giving the spectators their money's worth.

In the sixth round both boxers were boxing well and mixing it, but the points were in favour of the Kid who was stopping Thomas' rushes with left swings to the face as well as occasionally landing terrible straight lefts.

A crescendo of cheering came from the excited crowd in the seventh round when Sathamoney fought brilliantly and outclassed Thomas. But the latter recovered in the eighth round and did fairly well again.

### Dramatic Ending

With the opening of the ninth round, the Kid started confidently leading with a straight left and backing away from a rush by the champion, and then landing a heavy straight left. Thomas then rushed in again and missed a left swing. He also failed with a right uppercut, but connected with a straight left. And a few seconds later when the crowd and Sathamoney least expected it Thomas saw an opportunity and shot out a right-hook which sent his opponent sprawling, stunned and dazed, but determined, the Kid tried to get up, rolled over again, yet struggled gamely to his feet before he could be counted out. Thomas immediately rushed in and put on the finishing touches with left swing and another right hook, for the second time the Natal boxer was knocked down, but again determinedly struggled up, pre-

sumably hoping the gong would save him. The referee, however, stopped the fight and declared Thomas the winner.

### S. Phillips (131½ lbs.) vs. Percy Wilkinson (135 lbs.)

This contest was a title fight for the Cape Province Lightweight Championship. Neither boxer allowed the other any quarter and fought hard right to the end of the tenth round—the scheduled time. It often happened that Wilkinson would be battering away with all his strength at his opponent who was merely trying to cover up. Then Phillip was soon afforded the same opportunity to hit at his opponent as he were a punching ball. Both boxers were heavily punished. Phillip won on points by a small margin.

### The Black Terror (140 lbs.) vs. Sydney Thomas (140 lbs.)

This fight only lasted one round. The Black Terror seemed to be a holy terror as well. With his eye riveted on his opponent whom he continually chased, he gave a magnificent display of boxing. In fine style and with clever footwork using both fists he drove ever shot home, ever remaining as cool as a cucumber.

His opponent, however, was bewildered and harassed, and although he landed one or two blow to ward off the dangerous onslaughts, they were ineffective. No sooner had the round started that he was bleeding from a cut under the eye, but he managed despite this disadvantage, to weather the first round when the referee awarded the Black Terror a win on a storm and last till the end of the technical knock-out.

### Cyclone McCooper (120 lbs.) vs. Johnny Solomons (124 lbs.)

Johnny Solomons, a 43-year-old veteran, was cheered lustily by the spectators who were filled with admiration for his wonderful performance against the young McCooper often tried to knock his wiry opponent out, but the veteran of the ring often made him look silly. Although McCooper won on points, his face bore definite signs that he had been in a fight.

### A. Jellars (157 lbs.) vs. S. Gordon (152½ lbs.)

Poor boxing was witnessed in this contest. The crowd seemed especially disappointed with Jellars from whom better was expected. Gordon on the other hand was cheered for fighting so gamely. Jellars won on points.

Mr. Harris was the promoter.

# Northern Suburbs In The News

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... every available Native informant briefed on the questions he is to ask and the clues he is to follow.

On the same page, in the middle of the last column there was a report of "Brothers stabbed at Parow", in large letters, and also on Saturday night. The *Argus* of the same night reported a "European stabbed at Parow".

The next day, again on the front page the *Cape Times* under the heading "Bush Scoured for Woman Assailant" reported that the area was being combed for the assailant of the 40-year-old European woman.

The Northern Suburbs were really in the news.

### Fuel to Fire

The next day, 20th August, in the first column and on the first page of the *Cape Times* there was reported an "Alleged hold-up at Durbanville" of a Coloured maid by a European. But Europeans do not have to carry passes—and in any case his gun did not go off even though he was armed.

*Cape Times* of the 22nd August: [This was again on the front page. "Tierelei Outrage: an Arrest".

*We hold no brief for violence against man or woman. White or Black, but we are too well aware of the mob hysteria following upon front-page articles about the rape of a white woman by a black—which especially must be nationalised in the Herrenvolk Press.*

In the same paper was a report of a meeting which heard voters reject five proposed Goodwood loans. "The meeting was rowdy. Of about 85 people present more than 60 were Coloured ratepayers." No wonder the meeting was "rowdy". More than 200 ratepayers met to show their opposition to the policy of Goodwood Municipality—that of segregation and expropriation (reported in *Torch*, 25th Aug., 1947).

### White-Wash

The *Cape Times* of August 23 held the headlines "Wrecking of Plans at Goodwood". Mayor accuses section of Non-Europeans. This small Non-European section, added Mr. Rose, accused the Council of segregation at every turn and do their best to haul our schemes. (Naturally, the government's stooge organ waxed furious editorially and advised boot licking - *Sun* of 29th August.)

On Wednesday night, August 26, a meeting was called in the Arcadia Cinema, Elsie's River, which was fully reported in last week's *Torch*. There were protests from many at the presence of Molteno. If he left, they would let the meeting proceed, and yet he did not leave.

The next day the press carried headlines and placards. The *Cape Times*: Meeting wrecked at Elsie's River. M.P. unable to speak. The meeting had to be abandoned after an hour.

*Cape Argus*, 27th August: "Wreckers at Meeting. M.P. Comments on Hooliganism." Mr. Molteno found it "inexplicable". From the article it would appear that the

people who did not wish him to speak were for the curfew. This is untrue.

### C.P. Policy

The *Guardian* allowed itself practically the same headline "Anti-Curfew Meeting Wrecked by Hooligans". They blamed the Trotskyite Unity Movement for want of an epithet. Mr. Kotane said "there is a time to discuss the boycott of the N.R. Act and there is time to discuss the curfew. Tonight we oppose the curfew". Is not that a blunder or is it another revelation of Communist Party policy?

### Real Reason

*Die Burger*, strangely enough, carried the real reason why. "Nie Blankes Verongeluk Vergadering. Naturelle-verteenwoordige in onguns." It went on to say that Mr. Molteno did not understand why he was not allowed to speak, because everybody there was apparently against the curfew. "... die verset blykbaar adv. Molteno bedoel is, en afkomstig van die Non-Europeans Unity Movement. Die ondervoorsitter van hierdie beweging se dat syns insiens, adv. Molteno geen reg het om as verteenwoordige van die Naturelle te praat nie. Hulle wil hê dat die Naturelle-verteenwoordigers moet bedank omdat hulle tog geen mag in die Parlement sou hê nie."

### Property Values

The *Cape Argus* of 23rd August contained an article also on "The Tierielei Assault". It reported that the case was a sequel to an assault on a young European woman by a Native. In the same paper was a lengthy article on the urgent need for a native township in the Northern municipalities. Nyanga was preferred to Bellville South "Q Q" because (1) night workers were afraid for their families' safety; (2) their properties would depreciate in value; (3) the Dutch Reformed Church and School there would be adversely affected; (4) Mr. G. J. Golding said that Coloured folk would absorb the whole of "Q Q".

The *Cape Times* of August 26 reported an "attack on Parow Taxi Driver" by a European who hired the taxi and was followed by two Coloured men.

### TO QUELL INDIAN RIOTS

The Indian masses, Hindus, Moslems and Sikhs at present massacring each other in armed riots realise the sordid deal between Indian capitalists and Britain has left them standing empty-handed despite the rosy promises by Mathamba Gandhi, Jimmah and Nehru.

The disillusionment has led to mutual accusations and slaughter amongst the drugged and enraged masses and Gandhi has commenced a fast, with his doctors issuing hourly bulletins about his very serious condition, in order to stop the riots and killing. Gandhi's influence over the minds of people drunk with religious fervour has been used before to counter uprisings. The Mahatma's goose appears to be cooked this time, as the magnitude of the strife is unheard of.