



Soldiers in the Ring

Boxing Tournament at Swindon

About 300 enthusiasts witnessed an inter-battalion boxing tournament at the Drill Hall, Church Place, Swindon, on Wednesday. Science, in some cases, was not much in evidence, but all the lads were game and no one could have been dissatisfied with the show they put up.

There were nine contests, and a fight which deserves special mention was that between welterweights Lance Corporal Hodgson and Private Tipping. In the first set-to Hodgson did nearly all the attacking, but Tipping, with a longer reach, steadied him with a nicely placed left. Hodgson scored many points in the second round, but Tipping livened up in the third and twice staggered his man with blows to the jaw. Hodgson fought back and was a worthy winner on points.

Private Green, Army heavyweight champion of India in 1937-38, met Jack Marchmont (a local boy) in an exhibition bout and the crowd were treated to some good fighting. The other exhibition bout was between Bobby Hooper and Private Tipping.

Against Lance Corporal Craig, Private Harvey opened well, but Craig recovered and gave as good as he received, getting in some nice left hooks just before the end of the first round. Craig brought blood towards the end of the second round, and in the last round rocked his opponent with a right to the jaw. Craig finished an easy winner.

Other Results

Results of other contests:

Sergeant Hall beat Lance Corporal McMinn (who retired at the end of the second round).

Private Dodd beat Private Taylor (referee stopped fight in the first round).

Private Garney beat Private Crawford on points.

Private Maxwell beat Private Pritchard who retired in the third round.

Private Cooney knocked out Private Hastings in the second round.

Private Brady beat Private Burns on points.

Private Bedford knocked out Private Brady in the second round.

Mr. Norman Woodcock had charge of the contests and Regimental Sergeant Major Belch was M.C.

Father Scanlan, the Padre, thanked Messrs. Kiddle, Tylee and Moran for their help and expressed the hope that other tournaments might be held in the near future. He also expressed appreciation of the hospitality which the people of Swindon had shown to the troops.

As a result of the venture, the Regimental Comforts Fund will benefit by about £15.

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