

Robinson Probably Even Money In Fight Tonight

By JACK HAND

NEW YORK, June 22 — (AP) — Sugar Ray Robinson, bidding for a third boxing title against light heavyweight champion Joey Maxim, probably will climb into the Yankee Stadium ring Monday night at even money in their 15-round match for pal Jey's 175-pound crown.

The 6 and 5 and take your pick appeared as honest as any betting odds. A backlog of Robinson money, still uncovered, might tip the balance slightly in favor of the 31-year-old middleweight champion later. The pick here is Robinson by a T.K.O.

The weather man said Monday will be partly cloudy with a chance of thundershowers in the afternoon or evening. The temperature will be in the 80s.

In the event of a postponement, the show will be pushed back two days to Wednesday.

With more than \$200,000 already

"in" the International Boxing Club struck by its estimate of a crowd of about 35,000 and a gate of more than \$400,000. It all depends on the weather.

The "battle of champions," scheduled for 10 P.M. E.D.T. will not be carried on home television or radio. It will be beamed, however, to 39 theatres in 25 cities on a theatre-TV circuit. Each fighter gets 30 per cent of everything, including the 90-cent I.B.C. take from each theatre-TV seat, expected to amount to \$100,000.

George Gainford, Robinson's manager, said he expects the middleweight champion to weigh 158½ for the fight.

Jack (Doc) Kearns, Maxim's manager and an old ballyhoo artist, has kept his fighter's weight "secret" in the last few days. Robinson and Maxim will weigh in at noon EDT tomorrow.

If Robinson gives away 16 pounds, as expected, it will not be the first time in his career. Way back in

1943 he weighed 16 pounds less than Jake LaMotta when he lost the first fight of his career. He's lost only one since so his record for 136 bouts stands 131 wins, two losses, two draws and one no-decision bout in Germany.

Robinson will become the third man in ring history to hold three world championships if he whips Maxim. Bob Fitzsimmons won the middle, heavy and light-heavy crowns in that order. Henry Armstrong once clung to the feather, light and welter titles at the same time.

Because boxing commissions thought Armstrong's grip on so many titles stifled competition, they ruled against such a possibility in the future. Now a champ can challenge in a higher weight class but, if he wins, automatically gives up his former title.

Robinson held the welter title and never lost it. But it was removed automatically when he fought and beat LaMotta for the 160-pound championship in Chicago, Feb. 14, 1951.

There is a return bout contract, calling for a re-match within 90 days if Robinson wins against the 30-year-old Maxim.

FIGHT FACTS AND FIGURES

NEW YORK, June 22—(AP)—Facts and figures for Monday's 15-round light heavyweight title bout between Joey Maxim and Sugar Ray Robinson.

Title at stake—Light heavyweight championship of the world. Principals—Joey Maxim, light heavyweight champion, Cleveland, vs. Sugar Ray Robinson, middleweight champion, New York.

Site—Yankee Stadium.

Date—Monday, June 23.

Time—10 P.M. EST.

Distance—15 rounds.

Weight—175 pounds or less.

Purses—Maxim 30 per cent, Robinson 30 per cent.

Probable attendance—40,000.

Probable gross gate receipts—\$400,000.

Television and radio—None.

Theatre television—38 theatres in 25 cities, outside New York.

Rain date—Wednesday, June 25.

Promoters—International Boxing Club.



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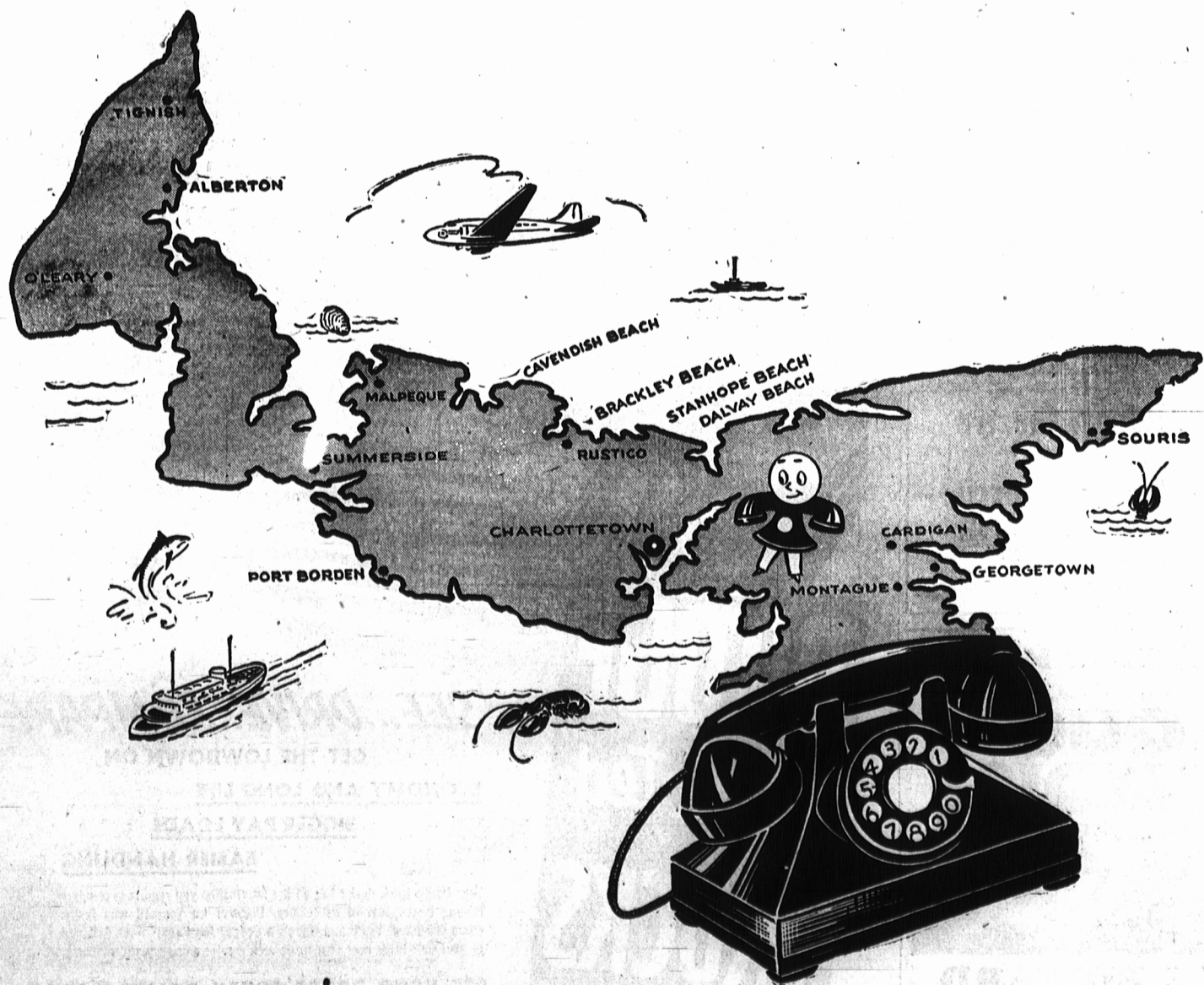
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