

MANY STAR BOXERS BUSY THIS WEEK

McFarland, Gibbons, Cross, and Brown to Appear at New York Clubs.

With practically all the prominent boxers in New York engaging in bouts at local clubs this week, boxing enthusiasts are in line for the most active spell by the headliners that has been furnished in months. On the card for bouts this week appear the names of Packey McFarland, Mike Gibbons, Leach Cross, Knockout Brown, and Walter Coffey. For the first time in several weeks all the big clubs of the city will put on a star show, exclusive of the week-end stags. The week will be ushered in to-night with no less than five boxing shows and eight clubs will bring about the finale Saturday night.

Interest among boxing enthusiasts this week is about equally divided between the McFarland-Burns clash at the Fairmont Athletic Club to-morrow night and the Gibbons-Cashman affair at the Empire Athletic Club on the following night. In each case a promising New York youngster clashes with a recognized star of the boxing game, and, while neither of the local boys is expected to win, there is much interest in the showing they will make. The McFarland-Burns bout will probably draw a full house on McFarland's sole account, as it is several months since the stockyards champion performed here, and New Yorkers generally credit him as the perfection of scientific boxing. They turn out to see Packey perform regardless of the opponent he may have. In Burns, the west side lightweight, McFarland will find a rugged youngster, who is strong alike at give and take, but it is not anticipated that Packey will have any great difficulty with the west sider. The bout will serve the twofold purpose of enabling the stockyards champion to show his finest wares to a New York crowd, and also to put him on edge for his bout with Young Erne at Philadelphia Thursday night.

The bout between Mike Gibbons and Mike Cashman at the Empire Athletic Club Wednesday night will mark the entry into high boxing society of the most sensational New York boxer of the year. A few months ago Cashman was only a preliminary boxer, but he has been winning so consistently that he is regarded as a coming star. He has outgrown the lightweight ranks and is now a full-fledged welterweight. Gibbons is a more experienced boxer and has more cleverness, but Cashman possesses a knockout punch, great strength, and a fair amount of cleverness. He is expected to give a good account of himself.

The bouts in which Knockout Brown and Leach Cross figure will be staged at Brooklyn clubs and against opponents who hardly rank well in comparison, so they are not attracting the attention on this side of the bridge that usually attaches to bouts in which these lightweights take part. Brown will hook up with Frankie Madden, once known as the Bowery champion, at the American Boxing Club, Thursday night. Both are boxers of the slam-bang type, but Brown should find little difficulty in annexing the verdict.

Leach Cross will get his chance Wednesday at the Irving Athletic Club in Brooklyn, when he gets into action with Johnny Dohan, the Brooklyn welterweight. Dohan has a large following in Brooklyn, and is the type of boxer that should give Cross a hard go, but Leach is picked to win with considerable to spare.

Walter Coffey will perform to-night at the Fardon Athletic Club in a bout with Freddie Hicks of Milwaukee, who recently proved so easy for Jack Denning at the Olympic Athletic Club. On recent form Coffey should have little trouble with Hicks.

Another bout of unusual interest this week is that between Eddie O'Keefe, the Philadelphia featherweight, and Johnny Dundee of this city at the National Sporting Club Thursday night. O'Keefe has become a great favorite here through his recent bouts against Young O'Leary and Jimmy Carroll, and many pick him as the likely successor to Abe Attell at the head of the featherweight division. He is a harder hitter than Dundee and has a shade on the local boy in cleverness.

Phil Cross, a brother of Leach, will mix up with Cy Smith of Hoboken to-night at the Olympic Athletic Club, and this bout should be one of the best slam-bang affairs of the week. Phil has been winning lately, but he has not fought boys of Smith's ability and will have to go strong to hold the Jerseyite even. Leach defeated Smith less than a month ago at the same club.

Brooklyn clubs will have their usual busy evening to-night. At the Carlyle Athletic Club Jack Martin and Tommy Rowan will be the headliners, and at the Brooklyn Beach Athletic Club Frankie Pass and Jack Doyle will do the honors. Joe Howard and Willie Adams will exchange punches at the East Avenue Athletic Club of Maspeth.

Two prominent local featherweights, Young Reilly and Joe Wagner, will star at the weekly show of the Long Acre Athletic Club Wednesday night. On the same evening a pair of heavyweights, Battling Brooks of Weehawken and Jumbo Wells of Australia, will hook up at the Sharkey Athletic Club.

Eddie Kelly and Battling Mantell will be the headliners of Friday night's show at the New Polo Athletic Association. The American Athletic Association of Brooklyn will hold forth on the same night with Frankie Callahan and Joe Bell in the star bout.

Shamus O'Brien of Yonkers and Tommy Stag of Williamsbridge are carded as the star attraction at the Mount Vernon Sporting Club to-morrow night.

Amateur boxers will have their chance in a tournament which is to be started to-night at the Irish-American Athletic Club. There will be five boxing classes at Olympic weights (107, 114, 122, 133, and 145 pounds.) The finals will be held Wednesday night.

The usual week-end stags will be held Saturday night at the Fairmont, Sharkey, Long Acre, and Olympic Clubs in this city, and at the Royale, Gowanus, Standard, and National Clubs of Brooklyn.

AGAINST BOXING LAW REPEAL.

Promoters to Circulate Monster Petition Favoring Sport.

The first move by the boxing promoters of New York in the interests of the Frawley law was made yesterday when a number of managers and club representatives met at the Hotel Bartholdi. The meeting was called because of the present agitation in certain quarters favoring the repeal of the Frawley law.

As a result of the meeting a monster petition will be forwarded to Gov. Dix and to the legislators at Albany, asking that no action be taken against the Frawley law. It is proposed to get signatures to the number of 100,000 from voters who are in favor of boxing as conducted at present. Blanks will be circulated in various sections of the city, at all athletic clubs, and in the offices of the various boxing clubs, so that all may have an opportunity to sign. It was the general opinion at the meeting that the 100,000 signatures could be secured within three weeks' time.

In the circulation of the petition a special effort will be made to get the names of as many prominent persons as possible. Those in charge of the movement feel that it would be comparatively easy to secure the desired number of names without trouble, but they believe that the standing of the signers is a more important feature of the proposed petition than mere numbers. The petitions will probably be put in circulation to-day, and another meeting will probably be held within a few days to further the work.