

## SPORTING

# Tommy Fight Dempsey's Toughest

## 100 Miles an Hour in Burning Car, Spill at Like Speed, Real Thrill

Tommy Milton of St. Paul, Holder of Many Track Titles, Laughs as He Tells of "Duels With Death"—Four by Four Fencepost Crashes Through Body of Machine, Grazes His Head—Started Career Under Difficulty in Wildcat Race Meets.

By ROBERT EDGREN.

"Veh," said Tommy Milton, "that time a 441 fence post went through the body of my car and grazed my head, and when they pulled me out one end of my face was covered with whitewash."

Tommy leaned back in his chair and laughed as if it was all the greatest joke in the world.

With a curiosity to know a little more of the inside of the sport that is without doubt the most fascinating and dangerous since Rome ran chariot races in the Coliseum and Nero reigned for the sake of the sound of a crash on the unbanked far turn, I was interviewing Driver Tommy Milton, holder of many world records and championship titles.

"How did you ever start as a racing driver?" I asked, beginning right at the beginning.

"When I was a kid of 15 in St. Paul," he said, "I got a 30-horsepower speeder. It wasn't a regular racer, but it could go about 40 miles an hour, which was pretty fast in those days. There was no racing near St. Paul and no racing drivers lived there. I practiced driving and got a notion I could travel to fast company."

A friend of mine, an engineer, tuned the car up and we went out. It was good enough. My folks opposed my going into any race, but I entered a race in Sioux City, Iowa. They told me if I wasn't killed I'd go broke and send home for money. I got into the car and went away. I registered as a driver with the A. A. A.

**Bad Luck at the Start.**

"In that first race the motor started all right, but when I'd run a few laps and began to get into the race, the motor quit and wrecked the engine, and I was out of it. Some of the boys in the race who had racing experience told me what was wrong. I didn't know anything about it then, of course."

"I had been sure of winning a purse or two, and depended on that, and was broke. I went to a supply house that extended credit to drivers, and gave them such a good talk that they furnished me a lot of new parts and the labor, trusting me a bill of \$100. We got the engine fixed up. Then I had to run a race. I determined I wouldn't waste my money. I heard of an outlaw race meet at Canton, S. D., and went to the track."

**Lost Heart at Sight of It.**

"I entered under an assumed name. My Mercedes made a sensation, for the boys were racing cars that had a pretty good reputation for speed. There was one regular driver in the race, Johnny Knicker. They were local boys, who thought they were the best. I was the only one from out of town. I saw the wreck of the last race, and some men lifting Johnny into a touring car, all him and bloody and apparently dead. I was horrified."

"I forgot all about the race right there, stopped and drove my car right off the track through the gate and out into the woods. I was the only one left. All the way I was making up my mind I'd never drive in a race again. I helped carry Johnny into the hospital and stayed with him while they hanged him. He was badly cut up, but the first thing he did was to tell me to go on with the race."

"You can beat all these fellows," he said. Looking at him, I saw the way he was, took all the desire to race out of me, but he persisted, and I went back and won the next race. \$75 purse. Next day I won another \$75. I needed that money, too."

**First Smash Came Near Being Last.**

"Then I was in it. I went to Sioux Falls to another outlaw meet and won a race and \$100. After that I won some prize money at the Minnesota State Fair, and met Alvin Karpis, who puts on these racing events at fairs all over the country. I joined his drive and raced for him for three years on dirt tracks, and got a lot of good experience. At first I wondered how on earth any driver could drive at full speed on a dirt track. It seemed impossible. The dirt was so loose, and the dust cloud was so thick sometimes that it was like driving in the thickest fog. You never saw any other driver. You couldn't see anything but a flash of the fender now and then. If you have to take the turns by intuition more than by sight. But after a while you develop a sort of a sense of location, and tear through everything as if the track was water."

**Looked Death in the Face.**

"In 1915 I was running in third position in a half hour race, and was 'jammed.' I was running 80 miles an hour, and my car turned over and over and crashed into a heavy fence. As the fender hit the fence, I was trying to hold myself down and inside the car. You always have to hold it. It's your only chance. At least your chance for life is much better if you can stick in the car."

"I should think it would be a sick chance at that," I said.

"Yes," said Tommy, "that time a four by four fence post went through the body of my car and grazed my head. It was a whitewashed fence. My face was covered with whitewash. I'd rubbed off the post, and I was badly cut and bruised all over. Some of these boys on my face. That's what they do. They'll hit you with a hammer. I was running 100 miles an hour. As my car struck the fence, I was at the bottom of the incline. It turned completely over and I was full of alivers, but I didn't break any bones. Haven't broken any since."

**Milton's Toughest Experience.**

"Guess that was about your worst experience," I said.

"I guess not," Tommy went on. "The worst that ever happened to me in a race was Labor day, 1919, at Uniontown, Pa. It was a 200 lap race. At the 140 laps I had a three lap lead and was

## TOMMY MILTON, TWO CITY BOY, REAL SPEED KING



Tommy Milton never loses his winning smile. In 1917 Tommy was 'jammed' in a race and turned over at 80 miles an hour. Fence posts going through his machine and he was 'beaten'.

## Champion Calls Title Battle With Willard Most Scientific He Ever Had to Fight

Jess Dangerous All Way, Jack Declares, Speaking of His Hardest Contest—Believes Carpenter Only Contender.

By EYE WITNESS.

Los Angeles, Calif., March 6.—In the course of a talk with Jack Dempsey, conversation drifted on to prize fighting, and I asked the champion what the most scientific fight he ever had fought.

"Willard," he replied. "And the toughest." Again the word "Willard" was the reply, and he added, "Willard was dangerous all the way through, absolutely."

If the champion has a favorite fighter it is Corbett, but only because he likes him personally, as he never saw him fight. It is a surprising thing that the greatest fighter in a generation never saw any one have a battle for the heavyweight championship, except when he fought one last July.

**Reads of His Fights.**

"I never saw any big fight," he said. "Only I read about 'em." "He was too young," said Tommy. "What he meant was that most of his fights were with boys. He was too young, too, before his style as all his own, though fashioned in two important particulars. Kearns, himself, is a fighter; who put in many a year with him in 17 and 18. But the boxer had the grace to say:

"His style was developed by himself and he is the first champion in the world ever to have such a style. Heavyweight. Dempsey is rated today as fast as a bantamweight. At first he was a little slow, but he made himself up for it. When he heard about him, he made him a little faster. But now, Jack fights like a panther—here, there, and everywhere."

**Price "Hate" Out of Class.**

"You must understand, reader, that all these details Dempsey himself gave us had to be picked out of him. A notable who liked less to talk about himself or his fight and hear himself talked about. I never encountered, when Kearns held forth in his presence, any one who talked about him as long as he could and then say, 'Because me, I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute. Then we'd have to shout to

**Back to Publicity Work.**

"Do you want to arrange," President Mitchell asked, "that's clear enough."

"Well, I didn't know," said Dempsey.

**Capitulate Only Contender.**

At a possible contender, Kearns saw one except Carpenter, and nobody else. "Martin got whipped the other night by a hook fighter, so he's pretty much out of the game. I don't think I'll see him again."

**Price "Hate" Out of Class.**

"You must understand, reader, that all these details Dempsey himself gave us had to be picked out of him. A notable who liked less to talk about himself or his fight and hear himself talked about. I never encountered, when Kearns held forth in his presence, any one who talked about him as long as he could and then say, 'Because me, I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute. Then we'd have to shout to

**Price "Hate" Out of Class.**

"You must understand, reader, that all these details Dempsey himself gave us had to be picked out of him. A notable who liked less to talk about himself or his fight and hear himself talked about. I never encountered, when Kearns held forth in his presence, any one who talked about him as long as he could and then say, 'Because me, I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute. Then we'd have to shout to

**Price "Hate" Out of Class.**

"You must understand, reader, that all these details Dempsey himself gave us had to be picked out of him. A notable who liked less to talk about himself or his fight and hear himself talked about. I never encountered, when Kearns held forth in his presence, any one who talked about him as long as he could and then say, 'Because me, I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute. Then we'd have to shout to

**Price "Hate" Out of Class.**

"You must understand, reader, that all these details Dempsey himself gave us had to be picked out of him. A notable who liked less to talk about himself or his fight and hear himself talked about. I never encountered, when Kearns held forth in his presence, any one who talked about him as long as he could and then say, 'Because me, I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute. Then we'd have to shout to

**Price "Hate" Out of Class.**

"You must understand, reader, that all these details Dempsey himself gave us had to be picked out of him. A notable who liked less to talk about himself or his fight and hear himself talked about. I never encountered, when Kearns held forth in his presence, any one who talked about him as long as he could and then say, 'Because me, I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute. Then we'd have to shout to

**Price "Hate" Out of Class.**

"You must understand, reader, that all these details Dempsey himself gave us had to be picked out of him. A notable who liked less to talk about himself or his fight and hear himself talked about. I never encountered, when Kearns held forth in his presence, any one who talked about him as long as he could and then say, 'Because me, I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute. Then we'd have to shout to

**Price "Hate" Out of Class.**

"You must understand, reader, that all these details Dempsey himself gave us had to be picked out of him. A notable who liked less to talk about himself or his fight and hear himself talked about. I never encountered, when Kearns held forth in his presence, any one who talked about him as long as he could and then say, 'Because me, I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute, and I'll be in a minute. Then we'd have to shout to

## Shattuck and Central to Represent State in Meet

Minnesota Fives Invited to Play in Second Annual Interscholastic Basketball Tourney at University of Chicago.

Chicago, March 6.—Minnesota will be represented by two quintets in the second annual interscholastic basketball tournament at the University of Chicago on March 18, 19, and 20. Central high school, Minneapolis, high school champions, and Shattuck Military school of Faribault have been invited and both are expected to compete. Enough strong athletes are entered to enable the victors to both the high school and academy divisions to claim the national title.

Pennsylvania will be represented by Central high of Erie, and Altoona high, both of which have been consecutive winners all season; with Central high of Minnesota, champions of Minneapolis, and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio, who have stood out as one of the best in the North. Stivers high of Dayton, with a long list of victories; Bristol high of New York, and the University of Chicago, also entered.

The academy section will include St. John's University, Westchester, Military Academy of Lexington, Mo.; Shattuck Military academy of Faribault, Minn., and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio. The victors of the academy and high school sections will not clash, but each winning team will hold the title in its own division. The elimination rounds for high school teams of the Chicago district will be held on March 12, and the best northern Illinois teams will be selected at that time.

**Shattuck and Central to Represent State in Meet**

Minnesota Fives Invited to Play in Second Annual Interscholastic Basketball Tourney at University of Chicago.

Chicago, March 6.—Minnesota will be represented by two quintets in the second annual interscholastic basketball tournament at the University of Chicago on March 18, 19, and 20. Central high school, Minneapolis, high school champions, and Shattuck Military school of Faribault have been invited and both are expected to compete. Enough strong athletes are entered to enable the victors to both the high school and academy divisions to claim the national title.

Pennsylvania will be represented by Central high of Erie, and Altoona high, both of which have been consecutive winners all season; with Central high of Minnesota, champions of Minneapolis, and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio, who have stood out as one of the best in the North. Stivers high of Dayton, with a long list of victories; Bristol high of New York, and the University of Chicago, also entered.

The academy section will include St. John's University, Westchester, Military Academy of Lexington, Mo.; Shattuck Military academy of Faribault, Minn., and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio. The victors of the academy and high school sections will not clash, but each winning team will hold the title in its own division. The elimination rounds for high school teams of the Chicago district will be held on March 12, and the best northern Illinois teams will be selected at that time.

**Shattuck and Central to Represent State in Meet**

Minnesota Fives Invited to Play in Second Annual Interscholastic Basketball Tourney at University of Chicago.

Chicago, March 6.—Minnesota will be represented by two quintets in the second annual interscholastic basketball tournament at the University of Chicago on March 18, 19, and 20. Central high school, Minneapolis, high school champions, and Shattuck Military school of Faribault have been invited and both are expected to compete. Enough strong athletes are entered to enable the victors to both the high school and academy divisions to claim the national title.

Pennsylvania will be represented by Central high of Erie, and Altoona high, both of which have been consecutive winners all season; with Central high of Minnesota, champions of Minneapolis, and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio, who have stood out as one of the best in the North. Stivers high of Dayton, with a long list of victories; Bristol high of New York, and the University of Chicago, also entered.

The academy section will include St. John's University, Westchester, Military Academy of Lexington, Mo.; Shattuck Military academy of Faribault, Minn., and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio. The victors of the academy and high school sections will not clash, but each winning team will hold the title in its own division. The elimination rounds for high school teams of the Chicago district will be held on March 12, and the best northern Illinois teams will be selected at that time.

**Shattuck and Central to Represent State in Meet**

Minnesota Fives Invited to Play in Second Annual Interscholastic Basketball Tourney at University of Chicago.

Chicago, March 6.—Minnesota will be represented by two quintets in the second annual interscholastic basketball tournament at the University of Chicago on March 18, 19, and 20. Central high school, Minneapolis, high school champions, and Shattuck Military school of Faribault have been invited and both are expected to compete. Enough strong athletes are entered to enable the victors to both the high school and academy divisions to claim the national title.

Pennsylvania will be represented by Central high of Erie, and Altoona high, both of which have been consecutive winners all season; with Central high of Minnesota, champions of Minneapolis, and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio, who have stood out as one of the best in the North. Stivers high of Dayton, with a long list of victories; Bristol high of New York, and the University of Chicago, also entered.

The academy section will include St. John's University, Westchester, Military Academy of Lexington, Mo.; Shattuck Military academy of Faribault, Minn., and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio. The victors of the academy and high school sections will not clash, but each winning team will hold the title in its own division. The elimination rounds for high school teams of the Chicago district will be held on March 12, and the best northern Illinois teams will be selected at that time.

**Shattuck and Central to Represent State in Meet**

Minnesota Fives Invited to Play in Second Annual Interscholastic Basketball Tourney at University of Chicago.

Chicago, March 6.—Minnesota will be represented by two quintets in the second annual interscholastic basketball tournament at the University of Chicago on March 18, 19, and 20. Central high school, Minneapolis, high school champions, and Shattuck Military school of Faribault have been invited and both are expected to compete. Enough strong athletes are entered to enable the victors to both the high school and academy divisions to claim the national title.

Pennsylvania will be represented by Central high of Erie, and Altoona high, both of which have been consecutive winners all season; with Central high of Minnesota, champions of Minneapolis, and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio, who have stood out as one of the best in the North. Stivers high of Dayton, with a long list of victories; Bristol high of New York, and the University of Chicago, also entered.

The academy section will include St. John's University, Westchester, Military Academy of Lexington, Mo.; Shattuck Military academy of Faribault, Minn., and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio. The victors of the academy and high school sections will not clash, but each winning team will hold the title in its own division. The elimination rounds for high school teams of the Chicago district will be held on March 12, and the best northern Illinois teams will be selected at that time.

**Shattuck and Central to Represent State in Meet**

Minnesota Fives Invited to Play in Second Annual Interscholastic Basketball Tourney at University of Chicago.

Chicago, March 6.—Minnesota will be represented by two quintets in the second annual interscholastic basketball tournament at the University of Chicago on March 18, 19, and 20. Central high school, Minneapolis, high school champions, and Shattuck Military school of Faribault have been invited and both are expected to compete. Enough strong athletes are entered to enable the victors to both the high school and academy divisions to claim the national title.

Pennsylvania will be represented by Central high of Erie, and Altoona high, both of which have been consecutive winners all season; with Central high of Minnesota, champions of Minneapolis, and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio, who have stood out as one of the best in the North. Stivers high of Dayton, with a long list of victories; Bristol high of New York, and the University of Chicago, also entered.

The academy section will include St. John's University, Westchester, Military Academy of Lexington, Mo.; Shattuck Military academy of Faribault, Minn., and St. Mary's of Dayton, Ohio. The victors of the academy and high school sections will not clash, but each winning team will hold the title in its own division. The elimination rounds for high school teams of the Chicago district will be held on March 12, and the best northern Illinois teams will be selected at that time.

**Shattuck and Central to Represent State in Meet**