

Punching the Bag: It was 15 below zero at Greenwood Lake in the Ramapos the other morning at 6 when Ray Robinson began his road work. The cream Manager Curt Hoffman smeared on Ray's face to prevent skin-chapping froze solid and set his features. Johnny Clark, a middleweight, was Ray's roadmate. The eyelashes of both froze. After a long run, Ray came back to the cottage just vacated by Joe Louis. He warmed up at the stove and began jiggling in tune to phonograph records, "Big Fat Mama," Chattanooga Choo Choo" and "Scarecrow." It still wasn't 8 A. M., but Ray craved music. He returned to bed for a couple of hours of reading, and arose at 11 to stow away a gigantic steaming breakfast set before him by Chef Bill Bottoms. Ray looks in the best shape of his sensational career, if our friend, Fritz Zivic (who meets him Friday) is interested.

Philosophy Note: Well, Joe Louis and Max Schmeling are in the armed forces of their respective countries. Both are fine men. Both are good citizens, loyal and brave. Both believe they are fighting for the right. We may have AEFs, to all corners of the world. I wonder just what the odds are on Louis facing Schmeling across the field of battle. If they do



meet the Broadway form players and bookies cannot set a price. Weight, and age, count for comparatively little when you're peering down a gun sight and your finger is squeezing a trigger. So far, Louis and Schmeling are 50-50, with a victory apiece. This is the big "rubber" match.

Famous Firsts: Eddie Collins' first major league game was played at Chicago on Sept. 17, 1906. The newspaper account of the game stated: "Eddie Collins, late of Columbia College of New York City, made his debut today for the Athletics under the name of 'Sullivan,'—reason for the alias being that he was still attending Columbia College and wanted to keep his amateur standing at that school. It was later found out, and Collins assumed his right name. In the first game Collins showed up well but was a bit nervous though he handled six chances without an error in the field and made one hit off Ed Walsh's delivery. The White Sox won a tough 11-inning game, 5-4. Walsh bested Waddell in one of their usual good pitching duels."