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BOXERS PAST AND PRESENT.

The National Sporting Club turned out in force in honour of Georges Carpentier, one of the greatest fighters ever. What an array of old timers; Kid Berg, Len Harvey, and (in another field) wartime R.A.F. hero, Douglas Bader. The only one in the company who ever knocked Carpentier out, Ted Broadribb, probably reminded him of it.

Bombadier Wells chatted with Onslow Fane of the Boxing Board of Control. The younger generation included Terry Downes. He must have felt almost a babe in arms. But to Kid Lewis and the other old timers, it seems only yesterday that they were winning titles, or, possibly, being knocked out by Carpentier. The peerless Jimmy Wilde was only a Fly-Weight, so he never fought the Frenchman. Nor did the debonair Welshman, Mack Petersen.

In the front row, were Jimmy Wilde, Wells, Carpentier himself and Ted Broadribb. The French idol, who was guest of the evening, lacked only weight to be Heavy-Weight Champion of the World.

Now for the real thing. Wally Swift fighting Brian Curvis for the Welterweight Championships of Great Britain and the British Empire. Reg King's promotion at Nottingham Ice Stadium. Curvis, the southpaw, already holds the Empire title; Wally Swift, the British Championship. Experts predicted a Curvis win. Most of the crowd favoured Swift. Now on the ropes. He's a Nottingham man.

By round 8 Curvis was well ahead on points. Wally Swift seemed to find that southpaw stance difficult to cope with. Curvis sent him to the canvas with a left to the jaw. He took a count of eight.

Like the born fighter he is, Curvis tore in with everything he had.

Tommy Farr sensed a kill as Curvis even increased the pressure.

Wally Swift just rose at 9. He must have had all the courage in the world. No one now expected the bout would go the distance. And yet it did. Somehow Swift recovered sufficiently to stay on his feet.

That was the end and the referee had no hesitation in declaring Curvis the winner. Now British British Champion, as well as Empire, Brian Curvis of Swansea received the Lonsdale Belt.