

TUNNEY AGAIN IDLE, SCOFFS AT BRIBE

Champion Laughs at the Report
of \$1,000,000 Offer to
"Throw" Fight.

CALLS STORY RIDICULOUS

Spends Afternoon on Links Despite
Heat — Advisers Say He'll
Knock Dempsey Out.

By **JAMES P. DAWSON.**

Special to The New York Times.

LAKE VILLA, Ill., Sept. 12.—Gene Tunney enjoyed a day of complete rest at his camp here today so far as training work was concerned. The world's heavyweight champion didn't even engage in a road workout, although, despite the terrific heat, he spent the afternoon on near-by golf links with some friends. Before departing for the fairways Tunney was apprised of the story circulating around New York that he has been offered a cool million to "throw" the fight. But this yarn merely drew a smile. Gene said it didn't merit denial.

"I wouldn't dignify that report by denying it," said Tunney. "I know I have no information of any million-dollar offer to lay down and it does seem that if somebody wanted me to "throw" the fight I would be the man to be consulted or approached. It is laughable. More than that, such a report is ridiculous. I'm going into the ring against Dempsey the champion, fit to fight the battle of a champion, and that means I am going to give the best I have in me.

"I am confident in my own condition. Of course, it would be idle for me to say I am confident of the result. Nobody can be confident of the result of a fight or sure of how it will end. If that were so there would be no use holding these contests, and there would be no need for the public to watch them. I know my own capabilities. I know I am ready. I could go into the ring tomorrow night and fight in defense of the title. And I'll be just as good on the night of the bout. I'll come out of that ring the champion too. I feel I'll be ready for whatever Dempsey has to offer and be able to overcome it."

Tunney Looks Trim.

Tunney was togged out for the links and looked trim, spic and span. He was in good spirits too, for despite that he felt the effects of the intense heat since his golf raiment was of heavy material and included a vest, the champion entered into the spirit of jokingly discussing the distribution of the million dollars reported awaiting him to throw the contest, and insisted "that if I'm to lay down I'll keep that million for myself. Nobody will cut into that."

Tunney's satisfaction in his own condition and his confidence in his ability was overshadowed by the supreme faith of his camp attendants in the champion. Jimmy Bronson, chief handler of Tunney for the Philadelphia fight last year, boldly predicted that Tunney will knock out Dempsey when they clash again. So did Lou Fink, trainer of the champion, whose eyes flashed a challenge when it was suggested Dempsey was in better form this year than he was last, and that Tunney might find a different fighter and a tougher fight on his hands. Joe Malone, veteran handler of fighters, who formerly conditioned Johnny Dundee, undefeated world's featherweight champion, was another who expressed confidence in a Tunney victory over Dempsey.

"I've watched Gene through three workouts since coming to the camp, and I'm convinced he's 25 per cent. improved over the fighter he was last year," said Bronson. "The improvement is noticeable not only in one particular but in his general condition and fighting.

Gene has developed more. He is punching sharper and harder; he is feinting better, using his head, shoulders, hips and arms to draw an opponent's fire for which he is always ready with a counter, and he is preparing to protect himself at close quarters, where Dempsey is admittedly strong. He has improved offensively and defensively, and I can see nothing but a Tunney victory. He may even knock out Dempsey within six rounds."

Fink Sees Knockout.

Trainer Fink echoed this appraisal and announced he was backing Tunney to knock Dempsey out. Malone, who is assisting Fink with the training said he thought Tunney would have little trouble beating Dempsey. "Tunney is a stand-up fighter, a straight puncher and straight punchers invariably beat the type of rushing, swinging, hooking fighter represented by Dempsey," said Malone.

Tunney was scheduled to work in strictest privacy today, but the heat caused him to revise his plans. The titleholder slept rather late and had breakfast at 10 o'clock. He idled around then until noon.

Manager Billy Gibson today announced that Bronson likely will be the chief second of Tunney in the coming fight. Others in the champion's corner will be Trainer Fink and Gibson. Bill McCabe, friend and adviser of the champion will be in the corner to hold the watch for Tunney.

The titleholder plans another day of rest tomorrow. At least, he does not intend to work out for the public or newspaper men, and it is a safe bet that if today's intense heat continues tomorrow the champion will not work at all. On Wednesday Tunney plans to have a workout for the newspaper men.

Plans have not yet been perfected for Tunney's departure from the camp here at the conclusion of his training period. It was said today by Manager Gibson, however, that the champion may motor to Chicago the day before the fight, staying quietly in the city in advance of the weighing at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of the fight date. By this means Tunney will avoid traffic on the main highway to the city, it is hoped, since absolute orders have been issued by Promoter Tex Rickard against Gene's making the trip from camp to ring by airplane, as he did last year from Stroudsburg, Pa., to Philadelphia.