

Eight Year Old Child Rescues 'Champ' Pugilist Lost in Village

Patronizing some industries resulted in one famous man being hopelessly lost in Birmingham last Saturday night. Battling Nelson, former light-weight champion pugilist of the world, was the guest of Mr. S. A. Stolberg, of Birmingham, over the week end. During Saturday's fight he spent the time in Larry's office in Detroit. Late in the afternoon Batt thought of some minor needs in his wardrobe. "I gotta get some socks," he confided in Mr. Stolberg. "Wait until you get to Birmingham, and patronize home industries," he was advised. So Battling waited. After dinner Saturday night he started for Shopper's Row, and made his purchases. Then he tried to find his way back to Casa Stolberg. "Round and round he went. More and more he became hopelessly lost. Finally he hailed a policeman. "I'm Battling Nelson and I'm lost," he told the policeman. Mr. John Law looked at him incredulously. The idea that was Battling Nelson, greatest of fighters, doing in preposterous Birmingham. "Sorry I can't help you," said the policeman. "But I'm the King of England and I have to run over to a party."

Again he inquired for Stolberg. The soda fountain boy tried to locate the Stolberg house. "A Labyrinth. One block to the left, two blocks to the right, past the Electric office, one street more to the right, turn right, cross the railroad tracks, turn left second street, continue left past one more street, continue toward the corner, the second garage is the Stolberg garage and I think the house is on the corner. I think that's the way to get there but if it isn't don't blame me." "See, Mister, don't you know I'm lost already," ventured Batt. "Do you want me to get lost more than I am now?" Nelson tried to swear but didn't know any words. He tried a prayer and began thinking of things he had learned in Sunday School. Suddenly a passage from the dim past came to memory. "A little child shall lead them." "That's a good idea," he declared, as he reached for the telephone. He got the Stolberg number, and yelled for help. "I'm in Kolberg's drug store and I'm lost," he told Mrs. Stolberg. "Send a little child and show me the way to go home." In 10 minutes Betty Lou Stolberg, aged eight, appeared on the scene. Taking Nelson by the hand, she piloted him through the traffic, halted him at the red signal lights, held him until the green appeared, directed him through the auto traffic, and landed him safely at the family residence. "It's a nice town and has a lot of nice houses," said Nelson afterwards, recounting his experience. "But the policeman said he was the King of England and he was singing in a church choir. I only went to school a few years in my life but I have enough education to know that both those statements are dead wrong. Then everybody lives here after all. I'm coming back again soon and see if I can locate anybody who lives in Birmingham." Nelson, who has long since retired from the ring, and now lives on the income of his realty near Chicago, came to Birmingham as the house guest of Mr. Stolberg on Friday, remaining until Sunday afternoon. He was accompanied by his former manager, John H. Robinson and Mrs. Robinson. Mr. Robinson is associated with the Butler paper interests of Chicago, Detroit, and other cities. In 1925 Mr. Stolberg and Mr. Robinson, after a long and bitter fight, reacquired the Butler Paper Company of Detroit, both going to that city from the Butler's general office in Chicago. Mr. Stolberg remained as general manager of the company and kept a home in Birmingham. "If the general public could meet Nelson, they would be a prize fight, certainly, to verify a great deal of material," charged Mrs. Stolberg. "The ring never produced a fight of Nelson's caliber and fighting instinct. But in his victory day he is still numbered as an infant. He dresses modestly, never drinks, never swears, never smokes, and takes his child delight in playing with children. He exercises constantly, is very careful of his diet and reads the best papers and magazines. He has taught my children their table manners and they have promised him to keep up the exercises twice a day. "Battling is Right Name." "His right name is 'Battling' because of his fighting record and the violence of his ring work. It is natural for the public to believe that the name 'Battling' was a name he carried. It is, however, an old Danish name. Nelson, being a native of Copenhagen, and coming to the United States when but a few years old. His real name is Olof, and his mother's name is Mrs. Stolberg, but 'Battling' seems to be the name that has stuck all his life. He will be in Birmingham again soon, and it is hoped to present the Exchange Club, acting in the vicinity, when his former manager, Mr. Robinson, is in the city, and club in South American subject.

NAMES OF STREETS ORDERED CHANGED

South Madison To Be Known As Grant, Dorchester Will Be Stanley Avenue. A petition asking that the name of Chester street be changed to Hunter avenue is in the hands of village commissioners today following its presentation at the meeting Monday night. Residents who presented the petition were told that the new commission would act on the matter. The hearing will be held April 11. No objections having been made to the proposed change of the names of south Madison street from Lincoln avenue to Chester road, to Grant avenue, and of Dorchester drive to Stanley avenue, the village commission has ordered them changed. Petitions asking for the change were presented by residents of the streets who say confusion has arisen because of their names. The Board by President Sham that the commission of Lawrence Thomas referred to the Village Manager Year 1927. Petition was presented asking the commission to change the name of Chester road to Hunter Avenue. The Board by President Sham that the commission of Lawrence Thomas referred to the Village Manager Year 1927. Petition was presented asking the commission to change the name of Chester road to Hunter Avenue. The Board by President Sham that the commission of Lawrence Thomas referred to the Village Manager Year 1927.

VILLAGE COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

Regular meeting of the Village Commission Monday evening March 14, 1927. Mayor Lawrence Thomas presiding. Present: Mayor Lawrence Thomas, Village Manager Year 1927, and Village Commissioners. The meeting was held at the City Hall, Birmingham. The agenda included the following items: 1. Report of the Village Manager. 2. Report of the Village Commissioners. 3. Petition for the change of the name of Chester road to Hunter Avenue. 4. Petition for the change of the name of south Madison street to Grant Avenue. 5. Petition for the change of the name of Dorchester drive to Stanley Avenue. 6. Other business.

191-Commissioner from David H. C. ... Harry C. Rofler PAINTING, DECORATING, AND PAPERHANGING Estimates Furnished PHONE 1323-W 609 Chester St. Birmingham

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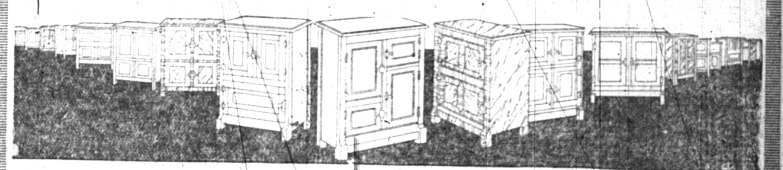
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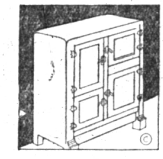
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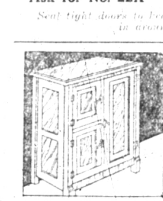
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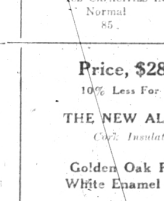
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