

'LOUIS WON'T LAST'

Great Fighter, If You Could Have Him Chained Up

IRISH PRESS Special Representative.

"IF you could have him chained to a stake, as we would like to have done with Longboat, he could be a marvellous natural fighter," Mr. Tom Flanagan, manager of the famous world's champion Indian marathon runner, who is on a visit to Ireland at present, accompanied by his wife, said when referring to Joe Louis in an interview in Cork.

Asked how he discovered Longboat, Mr. Flanagan said he heard about him while on a little bit of a pic-nic. "We brought him in from the Indian Reservation in Ontario and beat the world with him—but if we had chained him out there in the Reservation and brought him in only when we wanted to run him, God only knows what records we would have broken with him. He came in, however, and lived the life of a white man and did not last.

WOULD GO NO FURTHER.

"When Longboat was beaten in the 26-miles marathon, at the Olympic Games, in England, in 1908, which was won by the New York man, Hayes, after Dorando, who collapsed and was pulled over the line, was disqualified, I was not able to accompany him, as I had been accustomed to do, in an automobile, and he stopped. He had covered 17 miles when he told the two cyclists who were with him that 'It was too hot' and would not go any further.

"Don't forget," Mr. Flanagan said, "that Joe Louis scrapped for something to eat. Now he is seated on a sofa with slippers and a silk coat with waiters to bring him his meals. He won't last! Schmeling is the best of the present bunch.

"I managed Jack Johnson when he was famous, and if you ask me who was the greatest fighter of all time in the world—well, Jim Corbett told me that Johnson was the cleverest. You have it that Johnson laid down in the fight against Willard. That is ridiculous. Johnson was beaten on the level. The fight went 26 rounds and age beat Jack."

JEFFRIES—JOHNSON.

Mr. Flanagan said that if he were asked to name the men who, if matched in their prime, would give "the greatest fight ever," he would say Jeffries and Johnson.

"It would be a fight to a finish—and nobody could tell even then who would win. Jeffries was a man who could give it and take it and the negro was very clever and cunning.

"When Burns and Johnson fought in Australia Burns did not strike the negro three times in the 14 rounds. Jeffries hit Johnson only twice, once over the heart and once on the head—I mean blows that counted for anything."

Mr. Flanagan is a brother of John Flanagan, the famous weight thrower. He is a native of Kilmallock, and left home when he was 18 years old. Before arriving in Cork he had a week in Dublin and he expressed deep appreciation at the way he was received by the Lord Mayor of Dublin.