



If Dave is the radio man of the family, George is the rodeo man. Clem says George has never been thrown from a horse, trained, wild, or merely savage. George is famed up Kempsey way for his deeds in taming the untamed colts and fillies.

But like young brother Alfie, George found the task of taming Harry Hayes a little too much for him, lost on a t.k.o. after having his eye severely cut in the 10th round.



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The Sands family inherits its fighting blood from its father, the late George Ritchie of Burnt Bridge, West Kempsey. Father was Light and Welterweight Champion of the coast.

Wife Bessie goes to see all Dave's Sydney and Newcastle fights, and says they never worry her.

Starting a Career

Dave owes his start in the boxing world to brother Ritchie, whose string of early knockouts was becoming

the main topic of conversation in the North, in 1937-38. Ritchie became, like the skipper of that famous schooner *Herperus*, more than a little lonely when away from his home at West Kempsey, so in 1939 he got to taking his little brother down to Newcastle with him to bear him company.

Before long Dave was promoted, made messenger boy for his "big" brother, even allowed to tie on his gloves.

He got his first chance on the night of August 16, 1941, when he was 15 years old. Corrigan, his opponent, was knocked out in the first round.

Dave was maintaining the Sands tradition. Like his father and brother Ritchie, he had started as a "killer."

As the years have rolled away, Dave has had a lot of fights . . . he will have many more fights, but win or lose, Dave has always proved himself a thorough sportsman, a credit to his native race and to his country at large.

It was unfortunate that Dave apparently got the "run around" in England and America, because he had eight million people "down under" barracking for him to bring back a world title.

However, there is still a possibility of a world title fight, and while we say "May the best man win" we naturally want Dave to win, and after all, that's right, because WE think he IS the best man.