

**BY TKO**

# Intoximeter Loses Bout To Reporter

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — What a merry and mighty day it was for police reporter Jack Dempsey. He took on the new polie "intoximeter" in a test brawl and scored a clean knock-out.

Our hero, ever ready to help science, agreed to have a few drinks to check the \$595 photo-electric device used to determine whether a suspect has had one or more too many.

The opening round of the nine-hour bout was cautious. Dempsey ingested two glasses of beer at a nearby bar. He brought along a can of beer in case he had to wait a bit—and sure enough he did.

## Machine Unimpressed

But when the States-Item reporter wheezed into the machine, it said he hadn't had a drink in weeks.

Back to the bar. Five strong whiskey highballs. Wheeze. The machine still registered zero. Back to the bar. Eight highballs. Wheeze. Still stone sober, said the machine.

Testing officer Aloysius Habighorst sought out an inmate of the drunk tank whose breath could scale paint at six paces. He agreed to give it a try. A meter reading of 1.5 indicates intoxication. The machine gasped and rang up a swinging 3.0. Habighorst beamed.

## "Have A Few More"

"You're just not drunk yet," he told Dempsey. "Go out and have a few more drinks."

Well, sir, several hours and 11 drinks later Dempsey navigated carefully back to the testing room and gave the machine a good wheeze.

Zero.

Habighorst sadly packed the machine for shipment back to the factory. Dempsey was poured into a taxicab and sent home. A police spokesman said newsmen are no longer considered good subjects for such equipment tests.