



Name: Jack Delaney
Career Record: [click](#)
Alias: Bright Eyes
Birth Name: Ovilla Chapdelaine
Nationality: Canadian
Birthplace: St. Francis du Lac, QC
Hometown: Bridgeport, CT
Born: 1900-03-18
Died: 1948-11-27
Age at Death: 48
Stance: Orthodox
Height: 5' 11"
Managers: [Al Jennings](#) (1919-1922), [Pete Reilly](#) (1923-1928), [Billy Prince](#) (1932)



The Bridgeport Telegram

16 March 1926

DELANEY IS VICTOR

OVER MIKE M'TIGUE

IN FORTH ROUND

FIGHT IS STOPPED

Bridgeport Boxer Is First to

Knock Out Former World's

Light-Heavyweight Champion

Caesar had met his Brutus and Mike McTigue his Jack Delaney— both on the ides of March. Turn back the pages of History and you will find how the famous emperor was

put out of the picture by one of his closest friends, and now gaze about the newly finished page of pugilism's records and you will learn how the once light heavyweight champion of the world fell before the dynamite beating fists of Bridgeport .Jack Delaney and how the famed Park-City warrior shook all the jinxs of his career and the day.

With only one or two seconds to go in the fourth round of a scheduled 12 round battle here tonight, referee Patsy Haley stepped between the reeling and groggy McTigue and stopped one of the most sizzling battles ever staged in Tex Rickard's boxing amphitheatre. A right cross to the chin as McTigue backed away spilled him to the canvas with the round half over.

The former champion rose to meet a cool collected fighter who backed him to the ropes, and showered him with punches until another right sent the Irishman sprawling through the ropes. McTigue rose again at nine but the referee stopped the contest to save the former champion from further punishment.

He had no sooner finished his act than the bell rang. And many of the fans were bewildered thinking that The gong had saved McTigue from oblivion.

Goes Into Oblivion.

It is truly oblivion that McTigue was sent into here tonight. The veteran of 14 years of ring campaigning has never been sent to the canvas before and perhaps some of his Celtic superstition may be coupled with his failure tonight. McTigue has barely nosed out of his heavyweight title by Paul Berlenbach last summer and was promised a return bout if victorious tonight. that plum and huge purse will go to Jack Delaney.

Bridgeport fandom well knew the jinx's that have been pursuing Jack Delaney in his battles in the New Garden. In every fourth of the four fights that he has had here Delaney made great spurts. On three occasions he sent his opponent to the canvas but was never able to finish any of them until tonight

FIGHT BY ROUNDS

ROUND ONE

Delaney hooked a left to the jaw. Jack hooked a left to the nose and another one to the cheek. Mike hooked a left to the center. Jack swung a right to the body. Mike hooked a right to the head. Jack was short with a left to the body. Mike swung a right to the head. Jack led the left to the body and another to the jaw and landed left and right to the face. Mike hooked a right to the face. It was Delaney's round. He was the aggressor.

ROUND TWO:

They were both short with left leads. Jack jabbed a left to the face. Delaney hooked a solid right over the eye. Mike did some fancy blocking. Jack jabbed a left to the face. Delaney hooked a left

to the head. Mike poked two rights on the ribs. Delaney rushed in with both hands to the head. Jack hung a right on the ear. Mike used his right on the body in a clinch. Delaney rushed Mike to the ropes and swung both hands to the head. Mike was unhurt. Delaney's round.

ROUND THREE:

McTigue's left for the body was blocked. Jack Hooked a left to the cheek. He repeated The blow. Mike was short with a left that looked low. Delaney hooked a left to the stomach, but Mike swung a right to the ribs. McTigue was not fighting and the crowd was razzing. Mike jabbed two rights to the nose. Delaney landed a right uppercut and received in return. Mike jabbed two to the nose. Delaney hooked a left to the body. Jack hooked two rights under the heart and received a hard right to the head. McTigue was fighting better but It was Delaney's round on aggressiveness.

ROUND FOUR:

There was not a blow struck in the first half minute. Mike jabbed a left to the head. Delaney hooked a left to the stomach. Delaney missed a wicked left hook in the face. McTigue hooked a left to the face. Jack landed a hard right uppercut to the head and followed with a right that sent Mike to the floor. Mike arose on one knee and took full nine counts. He arose and rushed Into a clinch. Delaney rushed McTigue to the ropes and with several left uppercuts sent Mike to his knees and at nine counts struggled to his feet. Referee Haley saw his condition and stopped the fight. One second later the bell rang. But the fight was over and went to Delaney on a technical knockout in the fourth round.

The Bridgeport Telegram 18 December 1927

Fight Is Stopped In Seventh Round After Referee had Warned Spaniard Delaney Had Made No Protest When referee Stopped Bout Crowd Of 35,000 Astonished



Yankee Stadium – New York - Starting a come-back in his debut as a full fledged heavyweight. Jack Delaney scored a hollow victory tonight over Paulino Uzcudun, the Spanish woodchopper, on a foul In the seventh round of a 15-round match.

Coming on top of the disputed Dempsey-Sharkey battle and ending, by coincidence in the same round but with a different result, the finish aroused almost as much uproar and controversy.

Paulino was disqualified by Referee Jimmy Crowley after three

warnings for hitting low with left hooks but Delaney did not appear to be hurt by any of the blows. Neither had he made any protest when the referee waved Paulino to his corner to the complete astonishment of ringside critics as well as a crowd of about 35,000 spectators.

Delaney Piled Up Margin.

Delaney had piled up a substantial margin on points cutting and jabbing his opponent with a clever boxing exhibition, but there had been little real action and comparatively slight damage done when the battle came to its unexpected end.

So dissatisfied did a big share of the crowd appear that fully 5,000 swarmed about the ring and booed the verdict while Paulino to show his annoyance, somersaulted and performed a series of acrobatic stunts while straw hats sailed about the ring.

While perhaps not quite as heated, because less was involved, newspaper opinion at ringside was sharply split as it was over the Dempsey-Sharkey fight. A majority of the critics, apparently, while believing that Paulino had technically transgressed the rules, did not regard the infractions as serious enough for disqualification.

Referee Crowley, however, declared flatly he had no other recourse after Paulino had failed to obey his warnings to "keep 'em up" while Pete Reilly, Delaney's manager to support the referee's decision showed newspapermen a dented protective cup to show that the French Canadian had received blows in the region of the groin. To make it exact, Crowley and Reilly agreed that there were four low blows all left hooks.

Six Rounds Were Tame.

The finish was no more convincing to most observers than the six previous rounds of comparatively tame action, although there was no question that Delaney, in spite of being outweighed 16 pounds was giving the Spaniard an artistic boxing lesson and leading by a decisive margin on points.

Four of the first six rounds went to Delaney while one, the second, seemed even, and the other, the fourth on Paulino's side of the ledger.

In the fifth and sixth, Delaney, showing at his best, jarred Paulino several times with a combination of left jabs and right uppercuts, the weapons which the Bridgeport boxer found most effective in piercing the Spaniard's defense.

Few of Delaney's punches, however, more than momentarily checked the weaving rushes of Paulino, who seemed unhurt as he charged in, head lowered in bull-like fashion and encircled by his arms in a protective screen that Jack found difficult to penetrate.

They were a picturesque and sharp contrast in style as they maneuvered, Delaney, bronzed, tall and handsome, boxing with cool confidence as Paulino head down or bobbing plunged to keep the fight at close range.

Occasionally, as in the second and fourth. Paulino let loose the round house right that had knocked out Harry Willis a few weeks ago. Twice it connected with some degree of Solidness and once In the fourth round, sent Delaney flying back to the ropes. But the lighter man either laughed it of in a somewhat disdainful manner or danced lightly out of reach.

Delaney, getting the range with more effect in the fifth and sixth, not only shook his opponent with a few solid smashes to the head but brought blood from the Spaniard's nose and mouth.

Continued Boring In

Paulino seemed little the worse for wear, however, as he came charging out in the seventh, boring in close. The referee's first warning or two seemed to be for Paulino's tendency to hit on the break rather than for hitting below the belt. This was not the case, he said, afterward.

On what he said was the fourth low blow, Crowley stepped in and shoved the puzzled Spaniard to his corner. There was a moment or two of confusion before the official decision became clear. Delaney walked to his corner and from the ring a few minutes later unruffled, unmarred by the conflict and seemingly unhurt In spite of his manager's explanation to the ringsiders. The finish came after 1 minute and 57 seconds of action in the seventh round.

Paulino's setback was the first he has sustained since he began a colorful invasion of this country's heavyweight ranks. Unless he gets a return match, however, it may mean his elimination from the punching parade which already is forming to determine next year's title challenger.

Delaney showed marked improvement over his last battle when he met decisive defeat at the hands of Jimmy Maloney in February at Madison Square Garden.

The erstwhile "Rapier of the North." a stalwart ring picture, flashed all of his old speed and ring craft but In the few opportunities he had to land It, his punch did not appear to have the crashing power it has frequently possessed. He was barely out of the light heavyweight class, scaling 177 1-2 as compared with Paulino's 193 1-2

Jack Delaney was one of the first world champions of French-Canadian heritage, at light heavyweight. He was one of the greatest punchers that division ever produced and was famed for his right hand. He had an outstanding career in this division and captured a world title there, but then he moved up to heavyweight and didn't do as well, due to lack of size and weight and also a drinking problem. He was not just a big puncher but also a clever boxer who possessed an exceptional jab. He defeated most of the best light heavyweights of that era and finished his career with a record of 73 wins with 43 ko's, 11 losses and 2 draws.

He was born as Ovila Chapdelaine on 18 March 1900 in St. Francois du Lac, Quebec, Canada. He began his professional career as a middleweight at the age of 19, in 1919. Fighting out of

Connecticut and Rhode Island, he won his fifteen first bouts and drew one before losing to Tommy Robson on a 12-round decision in 1921. He then won twelve fights before experiencing his first knockout loss in round 1 against Augie Ratner. In 1922, he was again stopped against journeyman Young Fisher by TKO 3 and his career seemed to be going nowhere. He then moved up to light heavyweight and things began to go better. In 1924 he decisively defeated Tommy Loughran and then knocked out future world champ Paul Berlenbach in 4 rounds. Later that year he experienced two losses on points, the last one against a young future hall of fame fighter Jimmy Slattery, in a 6-rounder.

Next year he knocked out Tiger Flowers, who would later become the first African-American middleweight world champion, in two rounds. Their next fight was bizarre: in the first round, Delaney knocked Flowers down and the referee counted him out. However, the cornermen of Flowers protested that the count was too fast and things nearly escalated into a riot. Flowers demanded the match to continue and Delaney agreed, amazingly. He then knocked Flowers out in the fourth round with a devastating right hand and this time there was no protest. Later that year he had a rematch with Loughran and drew with him. At the end of 1925 he finally got a world title shot against Berlenbach: though he floored Berlenbach in fourth and punched him groggy in the sixth and the seventh round, Berlenbach showed incredible resilience and bravery and mounted a comeback in the last six rounds to snatch a close 15-round decision.

Next year he got another important victory when he stopped former world champion Mike McTigue in 4 rounds in Madison Square Garden on 15 March. And then, on 16 July, he got his revenge in a rematch against Berlenbach. Delaney was very popular amongst women because of his good looks and charm and they became known as "Delaney's screaming mamies". They cheered him on as he again dropped Berlenbach and this time won a unanimous decision. After defending the title once against the unheralded Jamaica Kid by TKO 3, he gave up the title before a scheduled rematch with Mike McTigue and moved up to heavyweight in 1927. In his second heavyweight fight, he won by disqualification against Paulino "Basque Woodchopper" Uzcudun after 7 rounds of fighting.

By the time Delaney had become a heavyweight, his drinking problems escalated, leading him to lose his first heavyweight fight against journeyman Jim Maloney, a guy Delaney was expected to beat. Therefore, he always trained in secluded places where liquor was not allowed. In his next fight he lost to underrated Johnny Risko on points and then took on Jack Renault, who outweighed him by 19 and half pounds. Delaney was dropped in the second round but broke Renault's nose in the fourth. He went on to outbox him from the distance and in the end Renault's face was a mess. Delaney got the decision. In his next fight he went down to 175 to again face his archrival Paul Berlenbach: he stopped Berlenbach by a TKO 6 to end their professional rivalry in his favour. He went back to heavyweight and scored an impressive first round knockout against the much heavier Sully Montgomery in early 1928, with a right to the jaw. After winning two more fights by knockout, he then lost a 15-round decision to Tom Heeney

before experiencing his third and last loss by a knockout against Jack Sharkey: Delaney went into the fight intoxicated to the point of paralysis and Sharkey, after charging at him from the opening bell, stood there and looked at him in disbelief before knocking him to the canvas. Delaney crawled around on his hands and knees, totally lost. After this dramatic loss, he won four more fights by knockout before calling it a day in 1932.

After his boxing career, he operated a number of businesses, ran a tavern in New York and worked as a boxing referee. Delaney died on 27 November 1948 in NY, of a heart attack at the age of 48. He was called "Bright Eyes", that's why I chose that title. He was inducted into the international hall of fame in 1996. However, for some reason he wasn't included in the 100 greatest punchers list, which was a great snub, considering the fact that his rival Paul Berlenbach was.