

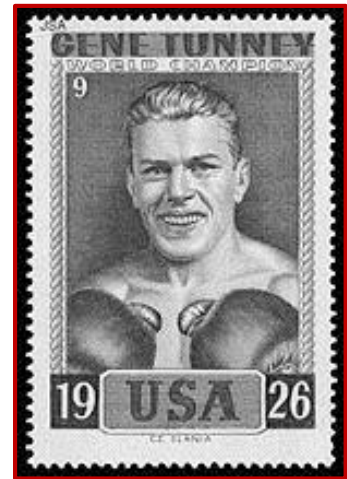
Problems? Be Grateful

Gene Tunney (1897 – 1978) was a professional boxer with a total of 68 fights and only one loss and retired as the world heavyweight champion.

He defeated opponent Jack Dempsey twice, and his successful title defense against Dempsey remains one of the most famous bouts in boxing history and is known as *The Long Count Fight*. The name is applied because when Tunney was down, the count was delayed because Dempsey failed to go to and remain in a neutral corner.

Boxing enthusiasts agree that the best thing that ever happened to Tunney was that he broke both hands in the ring once. His manager felt that he could never again punch hard enough to be the heavyweight champion.

Instead, Tunney decided that he would become a scientific boxer and win the title as a boxer, not a slugger. Boxing historians will confirm that he developed into one of the best boxers who ever fought. They also will tell you that as a puncher, he would not have had a chance against Dempsey, who was considered by many to be the hardest hitter in heavyweight history. Tunney would never have been champion had he not had the problem of his broken hands.



In our companies, Life Care and Century Park, we frequently deal with people who complain about the trials and tribulations of their daily lives. Life seems to be one big problem for them.

Let's take a common-sense viewpoint and address this mindset: If there were no problems on your job, then your employer would hire a much-less-capable person than you to do the routine things that don't require much thought.

In the business world, those who are able to solve complex problems are the ones who are the most valuable to the employer. Many times, the problems or challenges we face force us to grow and become more capable.

The runner who trains for the mile run in the Olympics by running downhill will have no chance of winning a medal. The runner who trains by running uphill is far more likely to develop the speed, mental toughness and endurance required to be on the medal stand.

The message: The next time you encounter a difficult climb, obstacle or problem, just smile and say, "Here's my chance to grow."

For I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist (Proverbs 21:17 NKJV).