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STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, JULY 2, 1946 AND JUNE 11, 1960 (74 STAT. 208) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF AMERICAN FENCING published bi-monthly at New York, N.Y. for October 1, 1960.

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2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given.)

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3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)
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5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required by the Act of June 11, 1960 to be included in all statements regardless of frequency of issue.) 3,000

Jose R. de Capriles

(Signature of editor, publisher, business manager, or owner)

Subscribed and sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of September, 1960.

(Seal)

Lawrence Berman

(My commission expires March 30, 1962.)

FD Form 3526 (July 1960)

CONNECTICUT TROPHY

by Connie Latzko

The Philadelphia Division is awarded the Connecticut Trophy for 1959-60. This beautiful cup is emblematic of good divisional management which produces increased fencing activity and regular contact with the national secretary.

Philadelphia showed a growth in membership and a heavy increase in competitive activities for the past season. This, coupled with excellent cooperation with the national office enabled the winner to outscore Metropolitan New York.

The standings in the five categories used for scoring are as follows:

Total Membership: (1) Metropolitan; (2) Northern California; (3) Western New York; (4) Philadelphia; (5) Gulf Coast.

Percentage Increase in Membership: (1) Georgia; (2) Western Pennsylvania; (3) Philadelphia; (4) Western New York; (5) Northern California.

Number of Competitions: (1) Metropolitan; (2) Gulf Coast; (3) Philadelphia; (4) Northern California; (5) Western New York.

Number of Competitors: (1) Metropolitan; (2) Philadelphia; (3) Gulf Coast; (4) Northern California; (5) Western New York.

Standing at National Office: (1) Philadelphia; (2) Gulf Coast; (3) Central Florida; (4) Northern California; (5) Metropolitan.

Final Standings: (1) Philadelphia; (2) Metropolitan; (3) Northern California; (4) Gulf Coast; (5) Western New York.

CHANGES IN DIRECTORY

Maryland—

Chairman: Jane O. Burger, 116 E. Melrose Ave.,
Baltimore 12
Secretary: Richard F. Oles, 4803 Westparkway,
Baltimore 29

New Club

The Salle Franz is now operating at 39 Gridiron Rd., Levittown, Pa.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

The Board of Governors has approved the award of a Certificate of Merit to Arthur Fregosi who has devoted much of his free time to developing High School fencers in Long Island and tuning up experienced competitors at the Salle Santelli.

PERSONALS

Maria del Pilar Roldan, U.S. and Pan-American champion in 1959, was married in Mexico City on October 12th to Edgar Giffenig Vogt. Her name is now Pilar Roldan de Giffenig. This popular champion has the best wishes of American fencing.

Nevada Division

The Board of Governors has issued a charter to the Nevada Division with headquarters in Reno.

JULIUS ALPAR

We are happy to report that Mr. Alpar is now in the United States and is Head Coach at the San Francisco School of Fencing. Mr. Alpar is not only an excellent fencing master but he has been very successful in promoting an interest in fencing wherever he teaches. His efforts in Canada are well known to us and he is a respected member of the National Fencing Coaches Association. San Francisco is lucky to have him.—JRdeC

ERICH FUNKE

Erich Funke-d'Egnuff, well known fencing master of the Funke Fencing Academy in San Francisco and of several schools in that area is recovering from a heart attack. We are happy to report that his condition has improved to the point where he hopes to resume his teaching during this month of December.



IT'S UP TO YOU

Many things of interest are taking place in divisions throughout the country, but we cannot report them unless you tell us about them. Even the results of competitions hold some interest for our members, so send them along.

For instance, the Metropolitan Division has had several interesting competitions during the past two months, yet we have not received the results to date.

The magazine is for you and we'd like to make it as interesting as possible.

"A Quick One on the Nationals"

by Frank De Franco



Partly because of a desire to leave my workaday commercial life for a few hours and partly because I had promised Joe de Capriles to produce a comment or two on the National Championships, I found myself early in the afternoon of the sixth of July last at the Ballroom of the Hotel Commodore. Far removed from the humid discomfort of East Forty-second Street, the Ballroom was pleasantly cool although badly lighted.

To the uninitiated but curious onlooker it was evident from the pungent odor of old Keds and stale perspiration that some sort of athletic event was taking place. Still, unless he were at least slightly acquainted with the sport the chances were he would never find out just what.

Certainly, the prevailing spirit was not that which attends other major American sports events. The elan which one encounters among spectators and competitors at Forest Hills, at the Rose Bowl at Bridgehampton or Lime Rock, at Newport or the Yankee Stadium was totally absent from the National Fencing Championships this year. In its stead a kind of conspiracy of silence seemed to hold sway; a calculated and determined clubbiness dedicated to the withholding of information concerning all aspects of the competition. The Directorship, the competitors, and the enlightened spectators seem to have gone to a great many pains to conceal all the drama, all the athletic glamour, all the grace and symmetry which are inherent in fencing from the hundreds of curious observers who flowed into the ballroom during the week; to what end Heaven only knows.

A newly married couple from Schenectady, seeing a badge on my lapel approached me in the Terrace cocktail lounge as I was taking aboard a double Gibson as a specific against ennui and aggravation, to ask if I knew what was going on upstairs. Did I know anything about the scoring technique? Did I know who the favored competitors were? What were the rules for the individual weapons? What did the various lights on the scoring mechanisms mean? How would they know which individual or team won a given event? In what foreign language were most of the spectators' comments being delivered? Was it after all really an American event, or a European one in which American college students were permitted to participate? Could they learn to fence in Schenectady? Who was Dr. Nee-losh? Mr. Axel-

road? Mr. Mechanic? The handsome tired, hollow eyed man behind the table on the dais?—and so on.

I managed to stanch the flow of questions by treating them to a Gibson and denying any knowledge of the affair whatever. Fortunately, I was able to turn them over to a fencer of note from Yonkers who knew a hell of a lot more about it than I did.

On the following evening I attended the individual sabre finals with some friends who, although non-fencers, were a little more than curious. Waxing enthusiastic over my fourth aperitif I managed to convince one couple, whose affection for bullfighting amounted almost to a fixation, that their passion might be misplaced and that they owed it to themselves to take a good look at some of the finer sabre bouts. As I could only provide them with a dab of partially informed commentary concerning the general conduct of the game, I was obliged to relay them to my articulate friend from Yonkers who took time out from his squat jumps to demonstrate the lightning movement of the lunge and fleche, the more fastidious wrist and arm movements and to introduce the taciturn Dr. Nee-losh who stood off to one side brooding like Thor, the God of Thunder, waiting his next turn at bat. To my surprise and pleasure, although I hesitate to claim any of the credit, fencing won two rabid aficionados that evening, the latter part of which was spent relegating bullfighting to second place.

Bullfighting, by the way, enjoys a much greater following in the United States than fencing; a curious circumstance when you consider that it is not practiced here and is in fact prohibited by law. It is not uncommon to find among one's acquaintances someone who, never having been nearer to Mexico City or Barcelona than Asbury Park or Kankakee, is able to describe and define most of the classic passes in bullfighting and name many of the outstanding matadors in both hemispheres. For some reason which defies explanation, bullfight has been able to popularize itself here while fencing, which is as vigorous and as beautiful a sport and certainly more accessible, ranks with mumbly-peg and kendo, or possibly lower. Still, when you come to think of it there is probably no dearth of programs, general information or talkative people at a bullfight.

(See page 18)

THE F.I.E. CONGRESS

by Miguel de Capriles

As customary, an Extraordinary Congress of the F.I.E. was held at the time and place of the Olympic Games — Rome, August 28, 1960. President Ferri disclosed that a record number of members was present or represented by proxy. The Congress voted to admit Malaya and Korea, raising the membership to 63 countries. Disciplinary action against Ecuador for failure to pay dues was suspended until December 31, 1960, and President Levene of the South American Confederation agreed to make every effort to obtain Ecuador's compliance prior to the deadline.

Mr. G. Rastelli of the Organizing Committee reported that 43 countries had entered the fencing events. Chairman R. Mercier of the *Directoire Technique* stated that the number of team entries would make it necessary to take two full days for each weapon, and that it would be necessary to amend the rules so as to conduct all team events by direct elimination after a preliminary round by pools. The rules were so amended.

The President explained the proposed amendment to Article 43 to the Statutes to provide that the regular annual Congresses of the F.I.E. shall be held in Europe. Mr. Anspach spoke against depriving the Presi-

dent of the right to hold the Congresses in the country of his residence. The amendment was adopted.

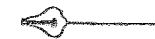
The Congress voted to proceed by secret ballot to the election of the F.I.E. President for the period from January 1, 1961 to December 31, 1964 in the following manner: Absolute majority of valid votes cast required on the first and second ballots; simple plurality on the third ballot.

On the first ballot, with 56 members voting, but one ballot invalidated, the results were: Miguel de Capriles 21, Charles Debeur 17, Charles de Beaumont 17. On the second ballot, with 57 members voting, de Capriles 24, Debeur 20, de Beaumont 13. After a ten-minute recess de Capriles was elected with 25 votes to Debeur's 20 and de Beaumont's 12. Mr. de Capriles thanked the Congress for its confidence in the ability of the United States to perform the duties of the F.I.E. Bureau, and invited the members to suggest possible sites for the regular F.I.E. Congresses, 1961 to 1964.

There was some discussion of the possibility that European Games, similar to the Pan-American and other regional games, might be organized in 1962 or 1963.



At F.I.E. Congress. First row: Gen J. V. Grombach and M. A. de Capriles, USA; F. Carbonell, President of Spanish Federation. Second row: Delegate from Greece; R. Mercier, Garriges, E. Mercier, R. Levy and L. Bontemps of France. Third row: Brusati; Rastelli, Peggau, E. Mangiarotti, Nostini and Macerata of Italy.



POLITICAL SIDELIGHTS

Superstitious persons worried about the possibility that Charles Debeur of Belgium might become the next F.I.E. president. They had nothing personal against Mr. Debeur, whose invaluable service to the F.I.E. is well-known and who is a delightfully charming individual. The fact is, however, that the F.I.E. has had Belgian presidents on two previous occasions (1913-1920 and 1933-1948), and in each case the activities of the F.I.E. had to be suspended because of a World War.

The first Belgian president was also the first president of the F.I.E. He took office November 29, 1913, but the F.I.E. could not function because of World War I from August 1914 to the beginning of 1919. A new president from another country did not take office until January 1, 1921. The second Belgian president, Mr. Paul Anspach, was elected for the 1933-36 term and re-elected for 1937-1940; but again, the F.I.E. could not function from September 1939 to the end of 1945, and Mr. Anspach's term was extended to December 31, 1948.

A practical factor militating against Mr. Debeur's candidacy was that Belgium has been the administrative capital of the fencing world for 24 years — exactly half the life of the F.I.E. France has had the presidency for three four-year terms, with Mr. Andre Maginot 1921-1924, Mr. Jacques Coutrot 1949-1952, and Mr. Pierre Ferri 1957-1960. The remaining 12 years have been shared by three countries, each for one term of four years: Holland with Captain van Rossem, 1925-1928; Switzerland with Mr. Eugene Empeyta, 1929-1932; and Italy, with Mr. Giuseppe Mazzini, 1953-1956.

Superstition and political considerations aside, perhaps the greatest drawback to Mr. Debeur's candidacy was the fact that he has become practically indispensable as one of the two top experts on the electrical apparatus and rules who are in no way involved in the manufacture and distribution of equipment. Although the F.I.E. Commission on the Electrical Apparatus is to be expanded to six full members next year, there is some doubt that six men can be found who combine the required technical skill, analytical talent, knowledge of fencing, and unselfish devotion to the sport. Several older statesmen felt that the best interest of the F.I.E. would be served by Mr. Debeur's continuing his work on the Electrical Commission.



Miguel de Capriles discusses tactical point with Ralph Goldstein prior to decisive ballot for the Presidency of the F.I.E.

Although the exact nature of the vote for the three candidates cannot be known because of the secret ballot for the F.I.E. presidency, it was clear that Mr. de Capriles received generally the support of the Western Hemisphere, represented in full force except for Guatemala and Peru, of France, Portugal, Spain, Greece, Turkey and the Philippines. Mr. Debeur seemed to have the support of the Benelux group, the Arab states and most of Central and Eastern Europe. Mr. de Beaumont's strength was chiefly in the British Commonwealth of Nations and the Scandinavian countries. There was some speculation as to what would have happened if Mr. de Beaumont had withdrawn from the race, as many observers expected, after the second ballot. The consensus was that the result would not have been different, since Mr. de Capriles could reasonably expect to receive about half of the votes previously cast for Mr. de Beaumont.



President Ferri (right) bids farewell to Soviet leaders (left to right) Gen. Popov, his interpreter and A. Golianitsky.

COMMENTS FROM THE WORLD'S PRESS

by Chaba Pallaghy

Before the foil individual, two-time Olympic Champion D'Oriola was easily the most popular fencer. The press was lavish with its interviews and photographs of France's hope for a gold medal. After D'Oriola's stamina failed him the second day the French 'L'Equipe' wrote: . . . "the most painful disappointment was D'Oriola. He, whom we considered the greatest, took eighth . . . and what else can we say . . . he is not the same any more."

The victory and fencing of 22 year old Victor Zhdanovich of Russia was a surprise, but all the papers agree that his brilliant technique, classic style and superb stamina contribute to make him a truly outstanding Olympic Champion.

And here are some comments on our Albie Axelrod: "Axelrod's third place was no surprise in the light of his performance in the preliminaries" . . . "Axelrod was the only one who could stop the Russians from a clean sweep of the first three places" . . . "the iron hand of Axelrod caused some very uncomfortable moments to his opponents."

Three great fencing personalities announced their retirement after the XVIIth Olympiad. Italy's superb Edoardo Mangiarotti stated: "I started with epee 25 years ago and would like to finish it in this weapon. I cannot get accustomed in foil to the electric machine. It requires much more strength, and besides I think the Italian school does not lend itself to electric foil. I give place to our youngsters." Two famous Hungarian sabremen will also retire: Aldar Gerevich, who won seven gold Olympic medals and Pal Kovacs who won "only" six.

Lebanon's entry in the fencing events arrived literally at the last minute. Official reports show the Lebanese arrived at 11:59 p.m., one minute before entries were to close.

Perhaps the most remarkable achievement of the fencing events was the Russian girls' rally to win in the semi-finals against the French after trailing 8/4. Not only did they win four consecutive bouts, but in doing so watched the score so carefully that they won by two touches. It is no wonder that no other team could win more than three bouts from them after this victory.

Many papers considered the epee final one of the toughest in Olympic history. The difference between first and seventh was only two victories. Fence-offs determined first and third places, and in both cases were decided after time had run out and several double touches had been registered. The champion Delfino, who is over forty, said he knew this was his last chance to win and only stern determination had staved off physical and nervous exhaustion.

Rudolph Karpati's most critical bout to gain his second consecutive Olympic title was his last one. Had he lost to Poland's Jerz Pawloski there would have been a six-way tie for first. He beat Pawloski (for the first time in three years) after time ran out at 3:00 with a faultlessly executed double feint ches cut which broke the tense silence with the sound of thunder.

Heidi Schmid, the pretty German who won the women's championship, is only 21. Although she modestly told the press she had not expected to win, those who saw her two years ago in Philadelphia will not be surprised at her victory.

Now here's something that didn't happen on the strips: One of the ardent souvenir collectors, who always traveled with a chest full of pins on his jacket, was delighted with the politeness of the Italians. He found that no matter how crowded the bus was, some one would always yield a seat to him. What he didn't know was that on the most prominent place on his lapel he carried the pin of the "Italian Disabled Veterans of WW II." According to Italian law the seat behind the driver has to be vacated for them.

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REPORT FROM ROME

by Chaba Elthes



The thrilling sound of clashing steel suddenly turned to dead silence when the Palazzo ei Congressi closed its doors after the last day of fencing in the XVIIth Olympic Games. Fencers, exhausted from the stress of the competition and from the strain of the year-long preparation, retired to a well deserved rest. The Hellenic flame carried from ancient Olympia extinguished her light over the kies of the Eternal City. Only the searching yes of the coaches and experts remain fixed in Rome looking for the secrets of success or, perhaps even more, the reasons for failure. They know that on past experience are planted the seeds of great victories. And a new goal looms ahead — TOKYO.

There is no doubt that Olympic fencing reached a new peak of popularity in Rome. Only a few years have passed since the field was dominated by three great fencing nations, Italy, France and Hungary; but now the Russians have surpassed their Hungarian coaches, the Poles rank with the Italians and the French, and Americans, British, Germans and Rumanians also have achieved genuine success. But what will come in Tokyo?

Fencing is no longer the traditional monopoly of the nations of Western culture. Those who took the trouble to watch the elastic and skillful Japanese boys and girls, who at the moment only watched modestly the "greats," will have no doubt that Japan, if able to get a good master, will be the home of a great fencing nation. Numerous teams of the Afro-Asian countries made their debut very successfully, arousing attention because of their natural abilities, excellent concentration, swift reflexes, and above all their receptiveness. To Rome they came only to learn; but in Tokyo, given adequate technical training, they will probably provide new surprises in fencing.

American fencers undoubtedly achieved success in Rome, judged not only by the results they obtained but by the quality of their fencing. In at least two weapons, sabre and foil, United States fencers have earned the unanimous respect of the experts. Never was fencing in any Olympics so strong, so well prepared or attended by such a large entry. Knowing about the preparations behind the Iron Curtain, the efforts of the French and the Italians to regain their lost world hegemony, and the recent international success of the British, Germans and Rumanian

fencers, I had very little hope that we would be able to achieve any results in Rome. My only expectation was that we would be able to call attention to ourselves with good fencing. This we far exceeded. Our foil fencers, led by the excellent Axelrod, and our sabre fencers were dangerous threats even to the very best.

Only a short while ago America's fencing potential was dormant. I don't say that we never achieved any results, but generally the United States "also ran." This situation has changed significantly during the past few years. Sleeping Beauty awoke and indicated that her strength cannot be discounted in the future. In my opinion this change is due to progressive American fencing leadership and the aid of Hungarian fencing masters and fencers who came to this country after the ill-fated uprising in 1956. These people brought with them the techniques and tactics of modern fencing as well as advanced training methods. They had a refreshing effect on American fencing which influenced the youngsters and inspired the veterans.

Ed. Note: Mr. Elthes' enthusiasm is understandable but he obviously is not familiar with our previous Olympic record. There is no doubt our Hungarian residents have done much to raise the level of U.S. sabre fencing but in fairness to past Olympians we must point out that the U.S. over-all record in Rome, despite Axelrod's brilliant performance, was not better than in previous Games. Comparison follows:

Our best record is still 1932: the foil team was 3rd after a tie for 1st; the epee team was 3rd; the sabre team was 4th; Levis placed 2nd in the foil individual and Every was a semifinalist; Calnan placed 6th in the epee individual and Heiss was a semifinalist; Huffman was 6th and Armitage 9th in the sabre individual and Bruder was a semifinalist; Lloyd was 9th in the women's individual. (3 finalist teams, 5 finalist individuals.)

In 1948 the foil team was in the finals (4th); the sabre team was 3rd; Cetrulo and Gialito were semifinalists in foil; Lewis was 9nd in epee; Worth was 5th and Nyilas 7th with Cetrulo a semifinalist in sabre; Cerra (Tishman) was 4th in the women's individual after a tie for 2nd. (2 finalist teams, 4 finalist individuals.)

In 1952 the sabre team was in the finals (4th); Axelrod and Lubell were semifinalists in foil; Vebel was semifinalist in epee; J. de Capriles was semifinalist in sabre; York (Romary) was 4th and Mitchell 6th with Craus a semifinalist in women's individual. (1 finalist team, 2 finalist individuals.)

In 1958 the foil team was in the finals (4th); the sabre team lost in the semifinal to Hungary and Poland; Axelrod was in the semifinal in foil; Pew was 4th in epee and Shurtz a semifinalist; Kwartler and Worth were semifinalists in sabre; Romary was 4th and Mitchell a semifinalist in the women's individual. (1 finalist team, 2 finalist individuals.)

In 1960 the sabre team was in the finals (4th); the foil team lost in semi-final to Italy; Axelrod was 3rd in foil individual. (1 finalist team, 1 finalist individual.)

Proof that American fencing is progressing in the right way is found in the fact that American youngsters not only fenced effectively but showed a good modern style. According to French, Hungarian and Italian experts, they have reached an international level which entitles them to high hopes for the future. Fencing is a difficult technical game which requires much practice. A talented fencer needs a minimum of three years before he can expect some return on his investment. We should evaluate on this basis the result of the American boys. For instance, young Glazer, (not yet 21) beat twice within the hour last year's world foil champion, Jay of Great Britain. In the third round, he defeated Brecht, the very successful German champion. Two-time Olympic champion D'Oriola could beat him only by a 5-4 score. Glazer didn't reach the finals, but his opponents marked his name; and if he keeps his diligence, he may be shortly among the best.

The honor of the West was saved in foil by the American champion Axelrod. Only he was able to stop a clean sweep of the medals for the Iron Curtain fencers, winning third place. There is no doubt that Axelrod has earned a place among the great foil fencers of the world. His style and technique cannot be called classic; he fences with great and many faults; he was hit in almost every bout because of incorrect starts with the body, but he overcame this handicap with superb timing, reliable blade control and, above all, a grand fighting spirit. I never knew a fencer (perhaps with the exception of the immortal George Piller) who incorporated so thoroughly the psychological capabilities of a "great fencer."

The foil team started very well. After a 16-0 warm-up match against Morocco they beat both Poland and Luxemburg by scores of 9-5. The success in the last two matches

appears in a particularly favorable light if we consider that both victories were actually earned by three men. Goldsmith, who for reasons beyond his control was not able to prepare adequately for the Games, did not gain one victory against the Poles; against Luxemburg, the seriously injured Axelrod was unable to fence his bouts. Bukantz, who fenced brilliantly, and the two youngsters Glazer and Paletta, made up for these losses in excellent spirit. The match against Luxemburg began after 9:00 p.m. and was finished in the early morning hours. The boys did not get proper rest and the next morning they could not give strong opposition to an excellent and well-rested Italian team. I dare say that a fresh American team with an uninjured Axelrod would have given the Italians a very close fight.

In foil the Russians won both the individual and the team. Their Olympic champion Zhdanovich amazed the fans with his crystal-clear fencing and with footwork that could have been the pride of any sabre fencer. His effortless, elegant movements were truly classical. He always elected the simplest solution and probably that, more than anything else, makes him the best exponent of the modern electric foil.

SUPERIOR Fencing Equipment



IMPORTED
BY

HANS HALBERSTADT

3145 Fillmore Street

San Francisco 23, California

The U.S. sabre team, after victories over Morocco, Germany and Austria entered the four-team final with a blazing victory over the Russians. Whoever saw the tears in the eyes of the Russian team when they congratulated our boys realized the importance of this match. The victory was the result of excellent fighting spirit and superior hand technique. The Russians had greater experience and far better footwork. This event proved that in sabre fencing speed can be successful only if it is backed up by technique and tactics. The weakness of the Russians was their elementary technique, which perforce limited their tactics. Good tactics are based on good technique since it is useless to have excellent ideas if one is not able to execute them. We will be very uncomfortable opponents to the Hungarians if we are ever able to combine our American hands with the Russian legs.

The combination of veterans and youngsters on the American sabre and foil teams was very successful. The fighting spirit of the youngsters often carried the older fencers, and sometimes the experience of the veterans in a dangerous situation helped the youngsters regain their confidence. All did their best and it would be difficult to put one above the others. Nyilas, for instance, could never have made four victories against the Russians if the others had not previously defeated the strong German and Austrian teams on the way to the semifinals. While among the older fencers Nyilas was the best, among the youngsters Dasaro took the lead. Not yet 22 years old, he had already demonstrated he was the best American sabre man in our Nationals. His victories during the individual event against the best young Hungarian, silver medalist Horvath (5-2), and his victory in the team against the 1958 World Champion Rylski (5-0), as well as other notable conquests, are proof that with diligent work he may shortly break into the top level of international fencing. Dasaro was the youngest sabre fencer in the field and most of his losses were 5-4. There are many things to correct in his game, but considering his age he has time in his favor. Morales after a shaky start succeeded brilliantly in capitalizing on the experience gained during the individuals. In the team event he fenced not only effectively but with good style. He attacked and parried equally well, and his feint counterattacks were especially successful. He contributed heavily to our victories against the Germans and Austrians. His excellent nerves and intelligence entitle

him to the highest hopes — but his Naval duties call him somewhere in the Pacific, and I fear he may instead disappear into the past of American fencing.

I found with much sorrow that the level of international sabre fencing has dropped considerably. Although the Hungarians won both the individual and team titles, their victories were not convincing. Karpathi's brilliance has lost its polish; only occasionally could we glimpse his former greatness. The weight of years has left fewer marks on Gerevich (who is ten years older) than it has on the 42 year old Karpathi. And what about the Hungarian youngsters? Only Horvath fenced with the traditional Hungarian mastery. The others did not stand out; they let the Poles force their jumping style on them. If the Hungarians do not return to their classical style, they will lose their hegemony permanently. They still hold a technical margin over the rest of the world only because there is a great worldwide scarcity of good sabre masters.

Among the western sabre fencers I liked France's Arabo best. He is a well-built fencer who moves excellently. If he can improve his technique he might become the pride of French fencing. The Italians seem to have switched permanently to the Hungarian "Tierce-Quart-Quint" system, but their fine result can be attributed mostly to familiar surroundings and a tremendous fighting spirit. Calarese will have to improve a lot in order to keep his prominent place. It was pleasant to see the rising quality of the British and Germans. The very young and talented Rumanian fencers led by Rohony, who was among the first twelve in sabre, offered the greatest promise for the future if there is no break in their development.

I am sorry to say that there is little good that can be said of our women fencers and epeeists. They all tried their best but are still far from the better international level.

My report would not be complete if I failed to speak of the leaders of the U.S. fencing team: Ralph Goldstein, captain, and Andre' Deladrier, coach of the team. The spirit which prevailed throughout the competitions is entirely to their credit. The captain in selecting his teams proved to be a sound tactician. Everyone is aware of Tybor Nyilas' excellent abilities except himself. He showed

signs of lack of confidence before the competition. The captain rested him against both the Germans and Austrians in order to arouse him. And let's be frank, Nyilas needed this. When he saw the youngsters, led by "old" Kwartler, struggling against the resistance of the Germans and Austrians, he threw himself into the fight the next day with unprecedented zeal and sparked a sensational victory against the Russian team. It is also to the captain's credit that he had enough courage to let the youngsters, Dasaro and Morales, fence against every team even though it may have resulted in some injured feelings. In order to facilitate a smooth change from the well-tested veteran generation, it is necessary for our youngsters to gain as much experience as possible. The correctness of the captain's decision should be understood by our veteran fencers. For years to come we shall need such outstanding veterans as Bukantz, Kwartler, Nyilas, Worth and others, who will be asked to transplant their tremendous experience into our youngsters. These men can demonstrate their unselfish love of the game by continuing to participate in future tournaments and by frequent visits to our salles.

An outstanding coaching job was done by Master Deladrier, who played a very important role in shaping the good spirit of the team. He was there when needed, ready with valuable advice. If praise or discipline was called for, he always knew which to use for the best results.

Finally I would like to note a brilliant success in the field of diplomacy. Miguel d Capriles was elected President of the F.I.I. and thus for the first time in history this position left Europe. Mike is an excellent sportsman, diplomat and gentleman, and we know the direction of international fencing in good hands. This was manifested in Rome, where some countries accepted his election with reservations on the ground that the United States is not a major fencing nation. Mike was quick to dispel these feelings with superb tact and skill. This great success places upon the U.S. an obligation to cement relations with the leading European fencing nations. This can best be done at the same time that we promote fencing development by regular participation in the yearly World Championships and possible other major competitions. The realization of this goal should be the result of a commensurate effort by all American fencers.

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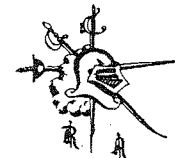
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THE ESTHETICS OF FENCING

by R. Gradkowski

Every fencer has had the experience of seeing a beautiful touch. The spectators cheered and even the opponent acknowledged the excellence of the action. In the observer a consciousness of beauty and satisfaction was stimulated. As a highly emotional activity, fencing impinges upon the realm of esthetic sensibility and we may therefore properly examine and analyze exactly what factors contribute to and determine such a "beautiful" touch.

In order to make significant our esthetic experience, a certain amount of training in the particular terms of the event is required. We certainly cannot expect to appreciate a complex linguistic event such as a poem in a foreign language, unless we are familiar with the imaginative use of that language. With these reservations in mind we may approach our subject.

There appear to be three basic aspects of the esthetic of fencing; the Dramatic, the Technical, and the Dialectical. Let us examine each of these in turn.

The fencing bout is in essence a drama. As in any dramatic presentation there is a protagonist, an antagonist, a conflict and a resolution. The history of fencing, the richness of pageantry and ceremony associated with the art of swordsmanship create a romantic aura around the sport. In the presentation of international competitions we can see the utilization of these ceremonial aspects. Flags and banners, bugles and music accompany the introduction of the contestants to the audience. The cheers and groans of the crowd punctuate the bouts, and anthems and bouquets accompany the awarding of trophies and medals. In the theatre, the "casus belli" arises and the combatants approach each other warily. Tension mounts. A bitter and hard fought struggle ensues and victory or tragedy results. The emotions of the spectator have been titillated, aroused, and discharged.

The beginner at fencing, before being disillusioned and deadened by current prosaic treatment is often moved by these dramatic feelings. After all, what could be more absorbing than the spectacle of two men, two opposing wills, confronting each other with cold steel? It is to the detriment of fencing that we have allowed these dramatic values to fall into neglect. Let us see once again a fencer salute courteously and with a de-

cent regard for his opponent, and let us away with mumbled congratulations and limp handshakes. There is an instinctive, perhaps atavistic, appreciation of these courtesies in almost everyone. It would undoubtedly be easier to enlist a greater following for our sport if these dramatic qualities were recognized and consciously evoked.

The technical esthetics of fencing are truly accessible only to the active fencer who has had experience under competitive stress. Only the performer himself can understand what true virtuosity is. The employment of precise footwork, the development of sensitivity for the blade are not ordinarily apparent. The mastery of subtle technical mechanics, requiring infinite patience and pains, abnegates itself from the view of the casual spectator. There are no showy acrobatics, no gross plays visible to all; only controlled discipline and the illusion of easiness.

Between two well matched opponents there is a long, even struggle, until, under the pressure, one of them reveals an unconscious reflexive reaction. The wily opponent moves in carefully and, deceiving the reflex, scores. A beautiful touch, but possible only because of superb discipline of point and body. The long periods of training, taking lessons, drilling, etc., provide the fencer with a technical arsenal. His repertoire enables him to cope with all styles. His control of his body increases, his balance is assured, his blade moves confidently closing lines and elusively deceiving his opponent's parries. Because of his fluid efficiency his actions are serene and beautiful. He is a D'Oriola or a Mangiorotti. Unhappy the fencer who cheats himself and his coach by laziness and compromise; there is no future for him on the strip. Never learning self-control he can never master his opponent except by tricks or loud argument. True, it is difficult to play well. But how much more pleasure can be derived from the sport, how much better we can all perform, when the science of fencing is rigorously applied. The esthetic feeling derived from observing good technique is a subconscious admission by all fencers of what is true and sublime.

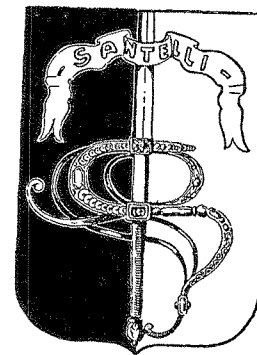
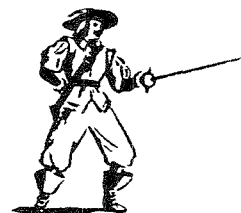
The dialectical beauty of fencing is akin to that beauty we perceive in the solution of problems. In the elegant proof of a geometric theorem, in the incisive solution of a chess problem, we become conscious of an

ordered interaction of elements. A structure of vectors is proposed and the dialectical process of thesis and antithesis divulges a unique and vital synthesis. It is this harmonious and creative synthesis of opposing elements that moves us most profoundly.

For, what could be in greater opposition than two active and determined fencers? With every fiber of their being the two combatants confront each other, dedicated to each others annihilation. Nervous skill, animal cunning, physical speed and stamina are all mobilized to the ideal of domination...

Yet with reasonable parity of resources all this striving will result in naught. The efforts to dominate nullify each other and long indecisive phrases transpire. It is not until there is a cessation of structural antagonism, though momentary and unwilling, that a hit can be scored. The two fencers, fighting each other completely, still must cooperate, albeit unconsciously, to create a hit. "A" cannot hit with his feint-disengage unless "B" pauses and presents an opening. "B" cannot double-disengage unless "A" presents a counter-sixte and quarte parry.

In a well timed movement, at high speed and with intricate precision the two blades circle and process about each other to some definite result. A moment's hesitation on one side, and the entire action would crash into chaos. But, at the highest level of the art, there is no hesitation. The hit scores; the blade is arched against the chest and fencers, judges, and spectators alike acknowledge and cheer the "beautiful touch." This is the transcendental esthetic of the sword, the necessary synthesis of harmony out of disharmony.



CHAMPIONSHIP EQUIPMENT

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Re: GEORGE PILLER

"I have read in the latest issue of the "American Fencing" your article concerning George J. Piller. It is very difficult to express in words those thanks and that appreciation which I not only extend to you in my name, but also in that of all the free Hungarian athletes. Not one other countryman of George J. Piller could have better expressed and shown his personality and sportsmanship than you did. This commemorative article which you wrote, comes from the heart of all the fencers in the whole world, and expresses the feeling of all of us."

Dr. George Telegdy, Secretary
Hungarian National Sports Federation



Division Items

New England

by Carla-Mae Festa

The results of our competitions since the last report were:

Women's Open: 1. Lillian Aylward; 2. Helen Kenney; 3. Carla Festa.

Women's Championship: 1. Marcia Wasenius; 2. Helen Kenney; 3. Lillian Aylward.

Women's Team won by the Boston FC (Kenney, Aylward, Brightman).

Foil Championship: 1. Larry Johnson, Harvard; 2. Pierre Spahr, Unatt.; 3. Cliff Thompson, Harvard.

Epee Novice: 1. Ronald Wempen; 2. Robert Godfrey; 3. Ansis Helmanis.

Epee Handicap: 1. Richard Pew; 2. Egilis Kaktins; 3. Ivars Graudins.

Epee Open: 1. Richard Pew; 2. William Andre; 3. Alan Gardner.

Epee Team won by Latvian FC (E. Kaktins, U. Kaktins, Kenigs).

Epee Open: 1. Richard Pew; 2. William Andre; 3. Uldis Kaktins.

Sabre Championship: 1. Gustl Witt, Unatt.; 2. Ed Richards, Elde; 3. J. Stankevics, LFC.

Sabre Handicap: 1. Ed Richards; 2. Gustl Witt; Elgis Kaktins.

Sabre Team won by Lavian FC (E. Kaktins, U. Kaktins, Graudins)

3 Weapon Team won by Connecticut (Sanchez, Gerbatini, Spinella)

Foil, Boys under 15: 1. Karlis Skulte; 2. Ansis Helmanis; 3. Andris Silins.

Foil, HS: 1. Uldis Kaktins; 2. Paolini; 3. Peter Nagy.

Novice Foil: 1. William Bennett, Harvard; 2. Ivars Graudins, LFC; 3. Jon Reckler, Harvard.

Foil 'C': 1. Roberto Levis, MIT; 2. Barry Rosof, MIT; 3. Michael Marion, Unatt.

Novice Sabre: 1. Robert Godfrey, YMCA; 2. Harold Weeks, Shaw; 3. Guntis Licis, LFC.

Handicap Sabre: 1. Ed Richards, NYAC; 2. Karl Stephens, YMCA; 3. Gus Witt, MIT.

Novice Epee: 1. Robert Godfrey, YMCA; 2. Ansis Ruicis, LFC; 3. Ansis Helmanis, LFC.

Women's Novice: 1. Susan Byrd, Dana Hall; 2. Jean McIntosh, YWCA; 3. Linda Marsh, Dana Hall.

Women's 'C': 1. Lillian Aylward, BFC; 2. Lynn Leva, Brandeis; 3. Barbara Townsend, Unatt.

Open Foil: 1. Larry Johnson, Harvard; 2. Rolf Wieland, Unatt.; 3. Joseph Shirley, Unatt.

Maryland

by Richard F. Oles

We are happy to announce that Mr. Andre Deladrier is teaching fencing as a part of a course to several high school teachers in Baltimore.

Our roster of clubs and coaches is now impressive. Mr. Deladrier is teaching at the Academy and St. John's College; Mr. Stephen Bujnovsky teaches at the Academy and the National Center, Martin FC and Towson FC; Richard Oles at Johns Hopkins and the Central YMCA; Wallace Dow at Goucher College and the Cumberland YMCA; Gary Constable at Frostburg Teachers College.

Open Sabre: (1) Lee Stanley, (2) E. K. Hart, (3) Nelson Fishman

Open Epee: (1) Richard Oles; (2) Peter Casanova; (3) Roland Wommack

Philadelphia

by Elizabeth Wheeler

Sabre 'C': 1. T. Freilich, SC; 2. D. Fisher, SC; 3. L. Maroti, Unatt.

Epee 'C': 1. R. Fruin, UP; 2. K. McMahon, SC; 3. D. Steinman, SC.

Foil 'C': 1. J. Austin, SC; 2. T. Freilich, SC; 3. L. Levin, UP.

Sabre Championship: 1. E. Hamori, SC; 2. S. Tomaszewski, UP; 3. J. Krajcir, SC.

Women's Championship: 1. L. Dyer, SC; 2. J. Wade, SC; 3. C. Klinman, BMC.

Foil Championship: 1. M. Davis, SS; 2. J. Anastasi, SC; 3. P. Levy, SC.

3-Weapon Championship: 1. L. Anastasi, SC; 2. J. Jones, SC; 3. D. Micahnik, SC.

Long Island

by Julia Lichtenstein

The fourth annual 3-Weapon Individual Championship sponsored by this division with the cooperation of the Jones Beach State Park Commission was held as scheduled despite a torrential rain. Lazlo Pongo, NYAC, was the undefeated winner. Capt. William Pardee of L.I. Swordsmen was second and Herb Spector of Salle Santelli third.

Florida Gold Coast

by Sara J. McCue

The Division titles were resolved as follows:

Men's Foil: 1. Seymour Eisenfeld, Miami; 2. Max Lombard, Miami; 3. Gerald Finney, Ft. Lauderdale. (12 competitors).

Women's Foil: 1. Loretta Kushner, Miami; 2. Frances Finney, Ft. Lauderdale; 3. Erika Meszaros, Miami. (12 competitors).

Men's Epee: 1. Gerald Taines, Ind.; 2. Weldon Vlasak, Ft. Lauderdale; 3. Seymour Eisenfeld, Miami. (12 competitors).

Women's Epee: 1. Gerald Finney, Ft. Lauderdale; 2. Weldon Vlasak, Ft. Lauderdale; 3. John Faix, Ft. Lauderdale. (8 competitors).

Men's Sabre: 1. Gerald Finney, Ft. Lauderdale; 2. Weldon Vlasak, Ft. Lauderdale; 3. John Faix, Ft. Lauderdale. (8 competitors).

Women's Sabre: 1. Gerald Finney, Ft. Lauderdale; 2. Weldon Vlasak, Ft. Lauderdale; 3. John Faix, Ft. Lauderdale. (8 competitors).

The officers of the division are: Seymour Eisenfeld, Chairman; Max Lombard, Vice-Chairman; Sara McCue, Secretary; Patricia Dow, Treasurer.

We held a Novice Foil to start off our new season on August 14th. There was a three-way tie for first and the fence-off resulted in the following placings: 1. Bill Martin, Homestead; 2. Dick Beatty, Ft. Lauderdale; 3. Suzanne Harbin, Homestead.

In September we published the first issue of "The Raposte," a monthly paper, to strengthen the ties among our members.

Men's Epee: 1. Max Lombard, Miami; 2. Morgan McVicker, Ft. Lauderdale; 3. Art Ayotte, Miami.

Kansas

by Harry E. Old

The newly formed Kansas Division has elected Ted L. Hootman Chairman and Harry E. Old Secretary-Treasurer. Tournaments have been held at the Kansas University FC and the Wichita FC with the following results:

Foil: 1. Stan Patterson; 2. John Dillard; 3. Jerry Old.

Epee: 1. Jerry Old; 2. Meredith Willson; 3. John Dillard.

Sabre: 1. Jerry Old; 2. Stan Patterson; 3. Herb Kasala.

Men's Foil: 1. Capt. Jay Stiles; 2. J. Stiles; 3. Jack Knuckle.

Women's Foil: 1. Ted Hootman; 2. Capt. Jay Stiles; 3. Dick Allen.

Men's Epee: 1. Capt. Jay Stiles; 2. Dick Allen; 3. Jay Stiles.

Women's Epee: 1. Kathy Berger; 2. John Hunter; 3. Karen Watson.

Central Florida

by John Shinner

The Division Championships were held at the St. Petersburg YWCA and resulted as follows:

Foil: 1. Robert Colwell; 2. Donald Williams; 3. John Shinner.

Epee: 1. William Fox; 2. Hans Oetti; 3. Robert Colwell.

Sabre: 1. John Shinner; 2. Hans Oetti; 3. Robert Colwell.

Women: 1. Doris Bernard; 2. Anita Wray; 3. Edna Kehoe.

The Division will contribute \$105. to the Olympic Fund. The sum was raised largely by our women fencers of St. Petersburg.

Prep Foil: 1. James Vaughan; 2. John Gall; 3. Ted Kaufmann.

Women's Prep: 1. Susan Besko; 2. Sandra Edwards; 3. Doris Connor.

Western New York

Our Divisional Championships resulted as follows:

Foil: 1. John Capurso; 2. Thomas Witschi; 3. Paul Scipioni.

Epee: 1. John Capurso; 2. James Mason; 3. Paul Scipioni.

Sabre: 1. Anthony Buzzelli; 2. William Streeter; 3. Neil Cannon.

Women: 1. Fran Breton; 2. Marcia Richmond; 3. Lydien Gibbs.

3-Weapon Senior: 1. William Streeter; 2. Paul Scipioni; 3. John Capurso.

3-Weapon Junior: 1. Ronald Schwartz; 2. James Zielen; 3. Mike Sanders.

The International Open, held in Buffalo on October 22 and 23, resulted as follows:

Women: 1. Pacita Dumenieux, Toronto; 2. Ione Kurek, Buffalo; 3. Isabel Dumenieux, Toronto.

Foil: 1. Aubrey Seeman, N.Y.; 2. Konrad Widmaier, Toronto; 3. John Capurso, Rochester.

Epee: 1. Guy Pinter, Syracuse; 2. Herbert James, Cleveland; 3. Robert Foxcroft, London, Ont.

Sabre: 1. Walter Farber, N.Y.; 2. John Andru, Toronto; 3. Robert Foxcroft, London, Ont.

Halberstadt Sabre

by Pat Casey

This year's winner of the annual sabre trophy was Alex Orban of the Pannonia A. C. Medalists were: D. De La O, Halberstadt SF; J. Baker, Pannonia A.C.; G. Scheile, Halberstadt; E. Kurtz, San Francisco SF; M. Meszaros, Pannonia.

Southwest Ohio

by Chris Story

We held a two-day Fall Invitation to open the season, playing host to the Miami Valley, West Virginia and Kentucky Divisions. There were over 50 entries and everyone had a wonderful time. The results:

Women: 1. Mary Gehant, Louisville FC; 2. Gigi Ivone, Salle von Boross (Cincinnati); 3. Shyrl Em-noff, General Electric (Evandale).

Foil: 1. Benjamin Pritz, Cincinnati FC; 2. James Gilchrist, Cin. FC; 3. Robert Hensley, Lexington FC.

Epee: 1. Father Patrick O'Donnell, Cin. FC; 2. Albert Wolff, Louisville YMCA; 3. Jerry Cartwright, Louisville FC.

Sabre: 1. James Illiff, Cin. FC; 2. James Gilchrist, Cin. FC; 3. David Herzig, Salle von Boross.

Gulf Coast

by Edward Gause

Men's Epee: 1. Paul Pesthy; 2. Robert Beck; 3. Arnold Sowell. (All Pentathlon).

Men's Team won by Pentathlon (Bleamaster, Stoll, Timm).

Men's Sabre: 1. Fred Sklar, Ind.; 2. Desi Trevino, Texas A&M; 3. James Monroe, Ind.

Men's Team won by Composite (Sklar, Trevino, Monroe).

Women's Open: 1. Betty Jean Kolenda, Ind.; 2. Mozelle Hampton, Austin; 3. Barbara Beery, HFC.

Women's Team won by Composite (Kolenda, Taylor, Hampton, Beery).

Men's Foil: 1. Jerry Poujardieu, Trinity; 2. Desi Trevino, Ind.; 3. Fred Sklar, Ind.

Men's Team won by Composite (Monroe, Sklar, Trevino).

Women's Open: 1. Char Cunningham, Abilene; 2. Gerry Willman, Abilene; 3. Irene Vasil (CCFC).

Men's Foil: 1. James Willman (Abilene); 2. Ed Gause (Bucs); 3. Ron Swartley (CCFC)

Men's Epee: 1. Jack Cotten; 2. James Willman; 3. John Cunningham. All from Abilene.

Men's Sabre: 1. James Willman; 2. John Cunningham; 3. Jack Cotten (all from Abilene).

Men's Team won by Abilene (Cunningham and Willman).

Women's Team won by Abilene (Willman, Cotten, Cunningham).

Women's Open: (1) Barbary Beery; (2) Lou Gause; (3) Pat Colniger

Men's Foil: (1) Desi Trevino; (2) Jack Baird; (3) Eddie Garcia-Barrosa

Men's Sabre: (1) Arnold Mercado; (2) Jack Baird; (3) Desi Trevino

Women's Open: 1. Betty Jean Kolenda; 2. Jean Thompson; 3. Barbara Beery.

Men's Foil: 1. Desi Trevino; 2. Fred Sklar; 3. Ed Gause.

Michigan

The State Championships resulted as follows:

Women: 1. Judy Goodrich; 2. Cynthia Van Heeckeran; 3. Margaret Danosi.

Foil: 1. Byron Krieger; 2. James Campoli; 3. Bruce Davis.

Epee: 1. Richard Berry; 2. Charles Schmitter; 3. James Campoli.

Sabre: 1. Byron Krieger; 2. William Goering; 3. Frank Bitonti.

Western Pennsylvania

by Donald Barnhart

Women's Open: 1. Myrel Fried; 2. Gay Birkby; 3. Pat Blayden.

Foil: 1. Howard Fried; 2. Forrest Carter; 3. Alan Birkby.

Women's Championship: 1. Myrel Fried; 2. Gay Birkby; 3. Pat Blayden.

Foil Championship: 1. Forrest Carter; 2. Howard Fried; 3. Alan Birkby.

Epee Championship: 1. Walter Henry; 2. Howard Fried; 3. Forrest Carter.

Sabre Championship: 1. Howard Fried; 2. Walter Henry; 3. Forrest Carter.

Metropolitan

Sabre 'B'

by Chaba Pallyghy

I was so much impressed by this competition that I find it necessary to make special comment. Garbotini, the winner, had good tactics and concentration. Mayer, second by one bout, fenced well but often attacked hurriedly. Colon followed Mayer on touches and had excellent technique and variety of actions. The other finalists, Reyes, Barron, Hyde, Cohen and White were also impressive. Only in Hungary, years ago, have I seen a 'B' competition of such high class.

MASTERS

Foil: Gene Glazer defeated Joe Paletta 5-3 in a fence-off. Third went to Harold Goldsmith, with Axelrod, Ettlinger and Paredo following.

Epee: Won by James Strauch with Richard Pew second. Third went to Roland Wommack after fence-off with Nunes and Grombach. Schlick, Deladrier, Levy and Skrobisch followed. Event was one-touch bouts.

Sabre: Won by Dr. Tibor Nyilas. Second to Allan Kwartler on touches over Michael Dasaro and Walter Farber. Worth, Milletari, Pongo, Blum, Cetrulo and Muray followed in that order.



TECHNICIANS' SCHOOL

by Bea Maviglia

The Metropolitan Division has been conducting a Technicians' School during the past two seasons and the experiment has paid off so well that we recommend it to the other divisions.

Thanks to the efforts of Richard Gradkowski, who is in charge, we now have well trained men and women who are able to troubleshoot at our foil and epee competitions. We are thus able to maintain our heavy schedule without imposing too great a burden on any one individual. So far this season, we have graduated the following persons as qualified to set up, test and run the electrical equipment: Irving Adler, Paul Adler, Herman Goldstein, Chris Pascal, Ben Schoeck, Julia Schoeck, Eric Sollee, William Whiteman and Amy Yoshinaga. We are at present in the midst of our second session and hope to qualify an additional group before January.

All you need is a well qualified individual like Mr. Gradkowski who is willing to devote the necessary time to solve this problem which has become of major importance to the orderly conduct of foil and epee competitions.

JUNIOR OLYMPIC PROGRAM

by Archie Ignatow

Ed. Note: Mr. Ignatow is Chairman of the Metropolitan Junior Olympic Committee and has lost no time in organizing a comprehensive plan to select and train promising boys of high school age.

In the past few months the Metropolitan Committee received forty-nine applications from high school boys for the Junior Olympic Scholarships. During this period we held a meeting with the coaches of New York City High Schools and made plans for clinics for these coaches. Messers Leo Nunes, Hugo Castello, Irving De Koff, Michel Aloux and I then discussed a method of evaluation of the applicants. On November 2nd this group attended a High School competition and observed the applicants. We chose sixteen boys who are to receive additional training at the major clubs and universities.

We are now at the point where the program cannot be fulfilled without adequate funds. Fencing among high school youths is at the cross roads. If it takes the right turn we will see American fencing take its rightful place in the World fencing in the future. The decision lies in the hands of the U.S. Olympic Committee which controls the funds.



"AND FATHER, THIS IS SISTER MARY MAUDE WHO TEACHES ENGLISH, AND SISTER JOHN PHILIP WHO TEACHES HISTORY, AND SISTER MARY ANTHONY WHO TEACHES....."

We Must Dramatize Fencing

by Jose R. de Capriles

I am not in sympathy with the attitude and views expressed by Mr. DeFranco on Page 4 herein, but there is no doubt that we must make our competitions more interesting to the spectator.

Individual events with an interminable series of round robins are too long to sustain the interest of even an educated audience and the poor uninitiate is left completely bewildered. Let us at least stage our major competitions so that the general sporting public can understand what is happening even though not familiar with the technical aspects of fencing. Such popular individual sports as tennis and boxing long ago recognized that it is very confusing to see one athlete defeat another and later learn that the victor is eliminated and the vanquished goes on to the next round. Individual combat sports call for a direct elimination system.

Some fencers object to direct elimination on the theory that sudden death does not insure enough bouts to encourage a sizeable entry. This problem can be resolved in one of two ways: (1) A preliminary round robin to help establish seedings followed by direct elimination on the basis of two-out-of-three bouts per match; (2) Direct elimination on the basis of two-out-of-three, with the losers regrouped for a second preliminary round permitting the winners in that round to reenter the seeded draw. Either method will assure as many bouts in the first round as are now probable under the present system.

In the Nationals and other open events the fencers with National Rankings normally get byes and provide the skeleton for the seeded draw. Where there is a large entry a preliminary round robin is probably desirable so as to provide a basis for the other seedings.

The proposed system will enable the organizing committee, after the first round which is seldom witnessed by many, to show the spectator at all times what has happened and who is fencing. More important, the audience will know that each match they witness is a struggle for survival and thus the drama of the match is accentuated.

This system is used to advantage in Europe with more and more frequency and the ever increasing number of competitors in the Olympic Games will probably force its adoption for those championships in the near future.

Some will object that direct elimination, even with a two out of three match, provides less experience in meeting a variety of styles.

It is time we recognize that the primary purpose of the National, Sectional and Metropolitan championships is to determine the champion and his top contenders and not to provide experience and training which should be obtained in non-championship events. Certainly we can never popularize our sport if we cannot at least make our most important championships interesting and intelligible to the general public.

SHORTEN YOUR COMPETITIONS

Several divisions are experimenting with a plan which cuts down the number of bouts fenced in the final round-robin and adds drama to the semi-final round. This plan provides that all scores in the semi-final round-robins shall be final and binding between the individuals concerned. It means that if there are three semi-final pools with three from each qualifying for the final, the fencers from the same pools will not meet each other in the final and will be credited with the result of their bouts against each other in the semi-final. Similarly, in the event of a tie involving one or more qualifying places, the tie is resolved by reference to the results of the bouts between the respective fencers. This puts a final-round importance on every semi-final bout and adds to the excitement. In a final of nine, therefore, each fencer has two bouts already decided and will fence only the six qualifiers from the other strips. Nine bouts and well over an hour have thus been saved.

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Five Years of Fencing at the Air Force Academy

When the first cadets began classes at the Air Force Academy in the fall of 1955 two officers on the Academy Staff volunteered to coach fencing and the athletic department agreed to support the sport. We have competed in the Western Intercollegiate Fencing Conference Championships each year and won the team title three times. Cadet Harlow Halbower won the foil crown three times, Cadet Phil Cooke once, and Cadet Wayne Jefferson the sabre once. Our five-year duel meet record is 30 wins and 16 defeats. The increased fencing activity in the Denver area led to the reactivation of the AFLA Colorado Division in September of 1959. This past season we entered the NCAA championships for the first time.

Captain Richard Bowman, NCAA epee champion in 1949, and the writer, who fenced at Illinois in the 30's and is proud to have brought MacGarret to Illinois, divided the coaching duties for the first two seasons. In 1957 Capt. Bowman was transferred and the author inherited all the coaching until the fall of 1959 when the Academy hired its first professional fencing master, Mr. Nickolas Toth.



PEN AND PLASTRON

by Lt. Col. James L. Jackson

The first squad, 1955-56 season, consisted of 15 cadets. It fenced Illinois, Iowa, Arizona, Notre Dame, Denver FC and several air base teams. It won the WIFC championship by one bout at Arizona. In 1956-57 the squad grew to 24 and Cadet Halbower won his first of three WIFC foil titles. The 1958-59 season was the last one for the original group which had been captained for three years by Cadet A. Elser. We won the WIFC and the foil and sabre titles.

The past season was a year of rebuilding. The squad of 35, with Cadet R. Davis as captain, gave Mr. Toth a 6-3 record in dual meets and won the WIFC and foil titles again. This season also marked the Academy's change to electrical foil.

The new season finds fencing well established at the Academy. Coach Toth has a squad of 35 with J. Wolcott as cadet fencing captain. The faculty representative will be Major Richard Bowman who is back from advanced studies at Harvard. Major Fred Gillen and Captain Phil Vollmann will be on hand to help with the coaching.

Ed. Note: Lt. Col. Jackson is primarily responsible for the establishment and development of fencing at the Air Force Academy and for the reactivation of the Colorado Division. He was transferred to the Pentagon this past summer and wrote this article as his "swan song" to acquaint our readers with the newest entries in the NCAA.



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NATIONAL CHAMPION SABRE TEAMS: 1910-1950, 2-5-10; For 1951-1959 see reports of annual championships as listed in Individual records above.

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- 17—Met.—3 Weapon Ind. Performing Arts 9:30 A.M. \$4.00
- N. Calif.—Women's Team "B" PAC 10 A.M. \$1.50
- N. Calif.—Foil Team "B" PAC 2 P.M. \$1.50
- 18—Met.—Double. Sabre & Women Performing Arts 9:30 A.M. \$4.50
- 28—Met.—Intercollegiate Foil Invitation. NYAC 10 A.M.

January

- 7—Met.—Epee Unclash. NYAC 12 Noon \$1.25
- N. Calif.—Epee Invitation PAC 10 A.M. \$1.50
- N. Calif.—Sabre Invitation PAC 2 P.M. \$1.50
- 8—Met.—Sabre Open NYAC 10 A.M. \$1.75
- 11—Phila.—Women's Unclash. CYMCA 7:30 P.M. 75c
- 13—Phila.—Sabre Team Open. Penn. 7:30 P.M. \$3.75
- 14—Cent. Fla.—Foil & Women Novice. Mac Dill 1 P.M. \$1.00
- Met.—Women's Open Performing Arts 9:30 A.M. \$2.75
- N. Calif.—Foil & Women Invitation. PAC 2 P.M., 10 A.M. resp. \$1.50
- 15—Met.—Epee Open NYAC 10 A.M. \$2.75
- 20—Phila.—Epee Open Penn. 7:30 P.M. \$1.50
- 21—Met.—Foil Open Performing Arts 9:30 A.M. \$2.75
- 22—Met.—3-Weapon Team. Performing Arts 9:30 A.M. \$7.50
- N. Calif.—Women Funke FA. 2 P.M. \$1.50
- 27—Phila.—Foil Open Penn. 7:30 P.M. \$1.50
- 28—Met.—N.Y.U. Interscholastic. NYU (Uptown) 9 P.M.
- Met.—Women's Unclash. Saltus 12 Noon \$1.25
- N. Calif.—Foil "B" PAC 2 P.M. \$1.50
- 29—Met.—Sabre Unclash. Fencers Club 11 A.M. \$1.25

February

- 3—N. Calif.—Sabre Team "B" Letterman 8 P.M. \$1.50
- Phila.—Sabre "B" Haverford 7:30 P.M. \$1.50
- 4—Met.—Foil Unclash. Fencers Club 11 A.M. \$1.25
- N. Calif.—Women (electric) Letterman 2 P.M. \$2.00
- 9—Phila.—Women's Open CYMCA 7:30 P.M. \$1.50
- 10—Phila.—Foil Unclash. Penn. 7:30 P.M. 75c
- 11—Cent. Fla.—Foil & Women Jr. Mac Dill 1 P.M. \$2.00
- Met.—Women "B" Performing Arts 9:30 A.M. \$2.75
- 12—Met.—Sabre "B" NYAC 10 A.M. \$1.75
- 17—Phila.—Epee Unclash. Penn. 7:30 P.M. 75c
- 18—Met.—Women's Prep Saltus 12 Noon \$1.25
- 19—Met.—Foil "B" Performing Arts 9:30 A.M. \$2.75
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