

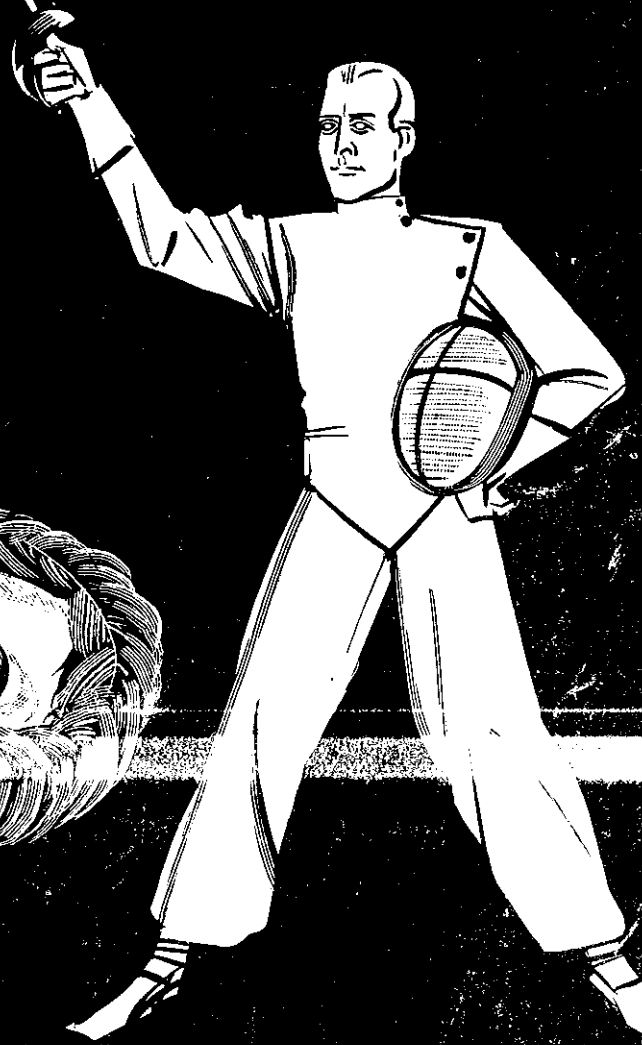
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The **RIPOSTE**

APRIL

VOL. 5

NO. 2



Announcement



VINCE FENCING EQUIPMENT, INC.

and

SALLE D'ARMES VINCE

WILL MOVE ON APRIL 15th TO

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The 100% increase in our floor space at the new address
is the first step in our wide scale manufacturing program.

FIFTH ANNUAL MARDI GRAS INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

This contest, first organized in 1936 for the encouragement and promotion of Southern Fencing, is rapidly attaining a foremost rank among fencing events in this country. One feature of this contest is the series of fine trophies presented annually by the local consuls of foreign countries and by the large, local industrial firms. The Tournament draws a representative registration of fencers from all parts of the United States, Latin America and Europe.

There were 6 girls and 32 men entered in the two days of competition (February 2nd and 3rd). The prizes and winners were as follows:

Men's Foil

1st Prize—Bronze Medal of France, offered by M. Rene Soulangue-Tessier, Consul-General, won by Pearce Schaudies of Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

2nd Prize—Silver Foil of New Orleans Public Service, Inc., won by Karl Hanisch of Vienna, Germany and Salle de Tuscan, Detroit.

Women's Foil

1st Prize—Gold Foil of Estonia, offered by Mr. Norman O. Pedrick, Hon. Consul, won by Miss Paula Murchison of the Royal Assassins, Ft. Worth, Texas.

2nd Prize—Silver Foil of Zetz Seven-Up Bottling Co., offered by Mr. William Zetzman, won by Miss Antoinette Skinner, Rollins College, Winter Park, Fla.

Epee

1st Prize—Gold Epee of Brazil, offered by Senor P. N. de Abreu, Consul-General, won by William Osis, Grosse Point Sword Club, Grosse Point, Mich.

2nd Prize—Silver Epee of D. H. Holmes Co., Ltd., won by Alvin Adelman of Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

Sabre

1st Prize—Gold sabre of Italy, offered by Marquis G. G. Chiavari, Royal Consul-General, won by Karl Hanisch of Vienna, Germany, and Salle de Tuscan, Detroit.

2nd Prize—Silver Sabre of Maison Blanche Co., won by William Osis, Grosse Point Sword Club, Grosse Point, Mich.

Highlights of the Tournament

Director Meykar had the usual strip troubles this year although prevented from experimenting with viscous liquids as he did last year. A ground crew with pockets bristling with tools was on hand with more direct methods and under the command of Chairman Janssen, an engineer in his spare moments from fencing, it pounced immediately upon any strips that showed tendencies of slipping, sliding or curling.

The judging problem was again with us. Last year's famous "Halt—I abstain" formula was back with only minor improvements. These improvements were still not enough to prevent the explosion of Karl Hanisch in the foil Finals with that gentleman dedicating his mask to the floor and himself in the general direction of Colorado Springs. William Osis, whose foil technique was probably the best in the Tournament, showed diplomatic ability as well and prevailed upon Hanisch to retrieve his mask and his usual good nature.

The Tournament hosts were most gratified to note

(Continued on page 13)

THE SECOND INVASION OF CUBA

*An informal account of the Cuban-American
fencing matches of 1939*

By MIGUEL A. DE CAPRILES
Captain of the A. F. L. A. team

(Continued from last issue)

THE FOIL MATCH

In my Captain's Report, I have given the details of the bouts and of the judging. But the figures cannot tell the thrills of the foil match. Young and scrappy Taboada leads Jose in the first bout 4-2, with only thirty seconds to go, as his sharp-breaking attacks keep our lead-off man on his heels. Jose's two lightning lunges against the preparation tie the score a bare second before the end of the regulation 15 minutes. When Jose finally delivers the *coup de grace*, over 25 minutes of actual fencing time have elapsed. The second bout is another overtime uphill battle, as Barrena leads Carfagno 4-2 as "two minutes" is called. Ed's magnificent counter-sixte parries and disengage ripostes earn him the victory. Ramon Fonst tells me: "Carfagno does not look as good as he is on the strip—he is very much a fencer!" And that is the highest praise one may get from Cuba's renowned World and Olympic Champion.

Carlos Lamar, however, is the outstanding fencer of the match, and our collective hats are off to his performance. Better known in this country as an epeeist, Lamar demonstrates what can be done with any weapon by a truly fine strategist and heady fencer. He keeps his team in the running and emerges personally unbeaten. In his bout with Jose, he makes two counter-time stops in opposition that are gems of perfect execution. A gallant champion in a losing cause.

Barrena gives us another scare in his bout with Jose, leading 4-2, but Jose rallies and wins again.

Taboada puts on another thriller in his bout with Heiss. Gus leads 4-2, when a pair of lightning one-two attacks, perfectly timed, tie the score. At the command of play, Taboada is off like a shot, with a feint of *coupe*; but he has hardly moved before Gus' blade bends double on the Cuban's chest. Ed Carfagno clinches the match, leading Taboada all the way. In the last bout, I relieve Heiss against Barrena—who incidentally is a professor at the University of La Habana—and I take a well-administered beating from my colleague. In retrospect, I feel we are lucky to win. Suppose that Taboada had "stalled" for 30 seconds in the first bout? . . . Or that Barrena were at full physical strength in his first two bouts? We could easily have lost 6-3 or worse. The importance of the first two bouts overshadows the remainder. It was there and then that the match was won, and our team was lucky—lucky to have a pair of stalwarts like Jose and Ed fighting coolly and intelligently until victory was theirs.

* * *

Our one day of rest is the 27th. On the morning of the 28th the fencers of the Congress of Cuba entertain us at the beautiful Capitol, which houses a small but delightful fencing room. There is a bronze plaque which reads "SALA DE ARMAS RAMON FONST". Curiously enough, the SALLE is in charge

(Continued on page 7)

THE RIPOSTE

America's Oldest Fencing Magazine

114 Washington Place - New York City

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EDITORIAL

With the recent announcement by Joseph Vince of a new and larger Salle d'Armes to be located only a few blocks from us so soon after the establishment of the Salle d'Armes Santelli which is even one block closer, we begin to feel like Mahomet. Here we will have what are probably the two largest private fencing salles in the world within stone's throw. Then, too, the Intercollegiate Fencing Championships are being held this month over near Washington Square, the same stone's throw. Are not the mountains moving in on the prophet? (Or is it the profit?) We like to dream that that is so, but feel that it is probably advisable to await announcement that the Fencers Club has taken quarters on Waverly Place before we become too puffed up about it.

y y

We have received an interesting letter from an anonymous writer in regard to an article published in our last issue. Due to the writer's anonymity we are at a loss to develop further facts concerning his contentions. We are very much interested. We beg that he reveal himself. He need not fear any breach of confidence on our part. This being the only means at our disposal of reaching him, we hereby solicit his further correspondence.

x x

PACIFIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

All events to be held at the Los Angeles Athletic Club.

Friday, April 12th

2:00 P. M.—Junior Epee
 3:00 P. M.—Intermediate Epee
 8:00 P. M.—Open Foil for Men

Saturday, April 13th

9:00 A. M.—Junior Foil for Men and Women
 11:00 A. M.—Intermediate Foil Men and Women
 1:00 P. M.—Junior Sabre
 3:00 P. M.—Intermediate Sabre
 8:00 P. M.—Open Sabre

Sunday, April 14th

9:00 A. M.—Women's Open Foil
 9:00 A. M.—Open Epee
 11:00 A. M.—Women's Foil Team
 1:00 P. M.—Men's Foil Team
 2:00 P. M.—Men's Epee Team
 3:00 P. M.—Men's Sabre Team

INTERCOLLEGIATE FENCING ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 47th Annual Intercollegiate Fencing Championships will be held on March 29th and 30th at the New York University School of Education Building. The Bout Committee in charge of this large and historic collegiate contest contains the following member alumni: Jose R. de Capriles (New York University), Chairman, Irving E. Cantor (Cornell), Anthony Hyde (Yale), Samuel J. Cole (M.I.T.) and Lt. Gustave M. Reiss (Army).

The twelve member colleges are: Army, C.C.N.Y., Columbia, Cornell, Hamilton, Harvard, M.I.T., Navy, N.Y.U., Princeton, Univ. of Pennsylvania and Yale. It is reported that all members will enter full 9 man teams; three men each in foil, epee and sabre. There will be 36 men competing in each of the weapons or 108 total fencers in the championships.

The Bout Committee is conducting this year's championships under a new system. Each team must rate its three men as A, B and C. The 36 men in each weapon are to be distributed 6 to a strip among 6 strips in the first round in such way that no two men from the same college will appear on the same strip and each strip will carry two A's, two B's and two C's. The first round will accomplish a 50% elimination. This will leave 9 men for a round-robin Finals. This will be duplicated in all three weapons.

The round-robin Finals in each weapon will decide the first three individual place winners in that weapon. The team championships will be decided by totaling the number of bouts won by each team's three members. The Three Weapon Team Championship will be decided by the grand total of bouts won by the 9 men from each college.

Navy will be the defending champions in the Three Weapon Team, the Foil Team and the Epee Team contests. Columbia will defend its Sabre Team championship. Graduation has taken its toll of last year's individual champions. The sabre will have the best return representation with Abraham Campo of Navy (Class A champion), Gordon Wallis of Columbia (Class B champion) and Davison Dalziel of Army (Class C champion). Another strong sabre competitor to return is Alan Rorick of Army (Class A runner-up). The only 1939 foil champion to return is Daniel Appleton of Navy (Class B champion). The epee finalists of last year were equally decimated with only Philip Glennon of Navy (Class C champion) returning.

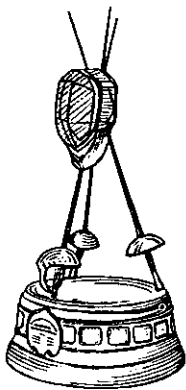
PUBLIC SCHOOLS ATHLETIC LEAGUE FOIL TOURNAMENT

The Metropolitan Committee of the A.F.L.A. is sponsoring the Interscholastic competition conducted annually by the P.S.A.L. by awarding a gold, silver and bronze A.F.L.A. medal to the 3 highest boys in the competition. This year's contest will be held on Saturday, March 30th in the afternoon and evening at Washington Irving High School in New York City. Entry is open to any High or Preparatory School student who complies with the physical, scholastic and age requirements of the P.S.A.L.

This contest is conducted under the P.S.A.L. Interscholastic Fencing Rules for Foil which differ from the A.F.L.A. rules as follows: (1) The hip line is the lower limit of the target. (2) The fleche attack is absolutely prohibited.

Intercollegiate Fencing Association

47th Annual Championships



Friday	10:30 A. M.	2:00 P. M.	8:30 P. M.
March 29th	25c	25c	40c
Saturday	10:00 A. M.	2:00 P. M.	8:00 P. M.
March 30th	25c	40c	\$1.10

N. Y. U. SCHOOL OF EDUCATION BLDG.
4TH & GREEN STS. - NEW YORK CITY

The Remise

From all parts of the country we are receiving discouraging reports about the extreme length of competitions. Such and such a competition started at 10 A. M. and lasted until 7 P. M. without time off for food. Evening competitions last almost until dawn. The length of competitions forced the Fencers Club to pass a rule that no competition in its clubrooms could continue after midnight. The N. Y. A. C. Invitation Foil Contest lasted from 7 P. M. until after 3 A. M., with all kinds of complaints from the Club authorities. The Health Departments of Schools and Colleges are looking upon these Marathon fencing events with rightful disfavor as injurious to the health of their participating boys and girls. There is justifiable reason for action in matters of this kind. It may be flattering to think that fencing has grown so in popularity that entry lists have leaped to new highs. However, this can only act to the sport's disfavor if not controlled. Fencing is, after all, a sport of skill. Stamina should not become its most important factor for victory.

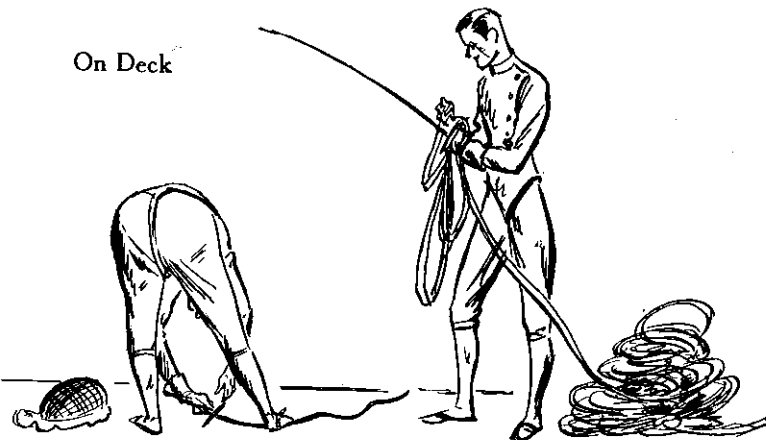
Means are already being taken to hold some of the larger competitions on two evenings. Stricter limits are being placed upon entry. Late arrivals are being more ruthlessly scratched from competition than ever before. Competitions start more promptly and are better organized than was the case of a few years ago. The long waits and idle strips between rounds are being reduced. The prompt calling of competitors has been improved.

These various improvements have done much to reduce the wasted time that was much the cause of long drawn-out competitions. One fault remains uncorrected: the voluntary stalling of the competitors themselves. What a group of prima donnas assembles when fencers go into competition! Though each brings a bagful of weapons, one particular weapon is favorite and must be found when all else awaits him. Rosin is never thought of until after the bout has begun. Points are never taped, or eyeglasses wiped well in advance of "En Garde". Throughout each bout, there is stalling for some reason or other. Under the heading of "On Deck" we picture two fencers rushing into last minute action. There is the French foilsman striving valiantly at the last minute to convert his favorite corkscrew back into a foil blade again. There is the Italian foilsman winding his yards of "spinach". We only hope that he gets it right, for, if not, off it comes for a rewinding.

These are the things which make Bout Committees go gray. These minor delays add up into hours during a season.

(Continued on page 5)

On Deck



Gossip and More

The February 20th issue of "Pic" magazine carried a cover picture of Eleanor Lazar in fencing costume. Betty Grable was also on the cover in the merest of mere. Sooh! We bought a copy rather than wait until our next trip to the barber shop. We were pleased to find three full pages of fencing photos of Eleanor Lazar, Madeline Dalton and Maria Cerra of the Salle d'Armes Vince. This adds one more to the growing list of magazines that have featured fencing in one way or another. Add these all together and they spell "Publicity", a recognition of the sport which is fascinating Americans in increasing thousands every year.

XX

Jose de Capriles has long been known for his fencing versatility. He has proven this most convincingly this season by winning a first place in an open competition in every weapon except Women's Foil.

XX

The better the fencer the less obvious are any airs of superiority. When a fencer

acts superior it is an act to influence his opponent, an act probably badly needed.

XX

Congratulations to A. F. L. A. President Harold Van Buskirk and Mrs. Van Buskirk who celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary on February 18th.

XX

Miss Mildred Stewart of Long Island and Miss Madeline Dalton of New York City have just completed an Alphonse and Gaston act. Miss Dalton won the Long Island Women's Foil Championship with Miss Stewart taking second. Four days later Miss Stewart won the Metropolitan Women's Foil Championship with Miss Dalton second. These girls are certainly polite to their guests.

XX

There is no more disgrace in losing than in winning. Why fence in a way which, win or lose, is disgraceful?

XX

One amateur coach and two professionals are reported as being in the toils of composition. Each is preparing manuscript for a fencing book with intention of publication. Despite the fact that no requests have been received to pose for the perfect guard or the perfect lunge, we believe the rumors. Perhaps they are to be printed without illustrations.

XX

Some men remember their victories best, others only remember their losses. The reason for this lies in the novelty both ways.

NEDO NADI

The entire fencing world was shocked to hear of the death of Nedo Nadi on January 28th at the age of 45. As an amateur and professional champion, he was recognized throughout the world as the perfect example of the Italian swordsman in all three weapons. His loss was not only Italy's for his remarkable ability made him a citizen of the world like Paavo Nurmi or Sergei Rachmaninoff in their respective achievements. He was looked upon as a hero by fencers all over the world and each of them felt a personal loss in his passing.

Nedo Nadi's last visit to the United States was in 1930, at which time he gave a fencing exhibition with the leading amateurs and professionals in the United States. His grace, speed, and perfection of technique gave the fencers then present all of the emotional stimulation that music lovers receive at a perfect concert. In him, each of them saw the fencer as he had imagined him to be but had personally never achieved. It was the master performing before a crowded room of inept pupils.

The greatest tribute to Nedo Nadi was probably his reinstatement as an amateur by the International Federation of Fencing. He had admittedly been a professional for many years, following in the footsteps of his famous father. However, his unique ability had so impressed the fencing world that it, the strictest sports group in athletics today, looked upon him as above professionalism and reinstated him as an amateur in 1938. When he died he was President of the Italian Fencing Federation, which is the amateur fencing organization of Italy.

THE REMISE

(Continued from page 4)

Lest the mention of Hans Halberstadt in the Northern California news be overlooked by some non-Californians, we make special notice of him here. Representing the Fecht Club Offenbach 63, Mr. Halberstadt has been one of the leading fencers of Germany for the past 20 years. He competed in two Olympic Games in sabre and epee. He was three times German National Champion in sabre and epee and nine times runner-up in both weapons. Furthermore, he was a member of the Fecht Club Offenbach Team which won the German team title 10 times. He also won many International competitions such as in Cremona, Munich, Vienna, Copenhagen, Gent, Paris, Baden Baden, Nauheim, St. Moritz, Milano and Naples. His medals number approximately 300.

Mr. Halberstadt has joined the A.F.L.A. and intends to compete actively in the Northern California and Pacific Coast competitions. We welcome his continued fencing and trust that through the fellowship of the sword his adjustment to us and our ways will be made easy and pleasant.

XX

It has been a great season in New York City this year for defending Champion Teams. The 1939 Team Champions in all three weapons successfully defended their titles. In this same regard and perhaps more unusual was the successful defense of the Washington Square Cup in the Open Epee Team competition.

THE EASTERN INTERCOLLEGIATE FENCING CONFERENCE

The E.I.F.C. Championships will be held at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., on March 22nd and 23rd, as announced in this magazine last issue. Since these dates practically coincide with this mailing, results will have to await our next issue. However, there has been considerable clarification of entries and arrangements since our last report.

Entries from the following 12 colleges have been accepted: Fordham University, Hofstra College, Long Island University, College of William and Mary, University of North Carolina, Seton Hall College, Lehigh University, Lafayette College, University of Maryland, Panzer College of Physical Education and Hygiene, Middlebury College and Temple University. Each school has entered nine men; three each in foil, sabre and epee, ranking each man as A, B or C in his weapon. The 12 A's in foil will fence a round-robin, the B's and C's doing likewise on other strips.

Sabre and Epee will be conducted similarly. A gold, silver and bronze statuette will be awarded to the first three places in each round-robin (A, B and C) in each weapon. A Gold Team Trophy will be awarded the college trio in each weapon which wins the greatest number of bouts. A Gold and a Silver Three-Weapon Trophy will be awarded the two colleges winning the highest number of bouts in all weapons.

THE PENTAGONAL FENCING MEET

The fencing teams of Army, Navy, Harvard, Princeton and Yale assembled at West Point on March 2nd to hold their Fourth Annual Pentagonal, the preliminary warm-up for the Intercollegiate Championships. At the conclusion of the complete round-robin of nine bouts per team in each weapon or a total of 270 bouts, the Army team was awarded the Three Weapon Trophy with a total of 68½ bouts won out of a total of 108. The Naval Academy team was a close second with 67 wins, while Yale was third with 55.

Navy won the Foil Team Trophy with Army second and Harvard third. Army was first in the Epee Team event with Navy second and Harvard third. Army also won the Sabre Team Trophy with Yale second and Navy third.

The Individual winners were Daniel Appleton of Navy in foil, Jack Zaugg of Princeton in epee and Abraham Campo of Navy in sabre. The last bout of the day was probably the most exciting when Abraham Campo won the sabre title on a fence-off for first place with Alan Rorick of Army. These two service men seem invariably to meet in a Final fence-off and this bout supplied plenty of excitement when Rorick led off 4-1 only to see Campo climb touch by touch to take the title at 5-4.

XX

NEW JERSEY

There were 25 girls entered in the Scafati Open Invitation Women's Foil contest held at the Salle Scafati on March 8th. Miss Mildred I. Stewart of the Salle Santelli, being undefeated in the 6-girl Finals, won first leg on the Scafati Trophy, a fencing statuette donated by Anthony Scafati. Mrs. Dolly Funke of the Greco Fencing Academy took second on the basis of touches over Mrs. Gay Gerns of the Salle Scafati, both having won three and lost two bouts in the Finals.

Plaudits From a Dual Sportsman

Every true fencer knows that his sport is the best he could have chosen for the exercise, excitement of competition and lifelong enjoyment. To a fencer these things are self evident. No matter what other sport or exercise he may undertake, his experience as a fencer stands him in good stead. Unfortunately, the reverse is not true. The fencer is so delicately trained that participation in other sports usually tends to reduce his effectiveness. This very fact probably proves its supremacy more than anything else, the

fact that it gives benefits elsewhere but is above receiving any.

Mr. Roy S. Tinney of the New Jersey Crime Detection Laboratory, an authority on firearms and a fencer, wrote an interesting uncopyrighted article for a recent issue of the GUN TRADER. He has kindly granted us permission to reprint this article in full or part and we present his interesting comments relative to fencing and the fencer's reactions.

The Twin Sports

By ROY S. TINNEY

Were I forced to choose twixt one sport or the other, I would cling to the blades and put aside my guns, because:

(1) To fence even reasonably well calls for many hours of study, instruction and practice, affording one the maximum amount of relaxation, complete change and exercise for both body and mind. A well high perfect recreation.

(2) Fencing can be enjoyed both indoors and out, under conditions where it would be impossible to fire a shot.

(3) There is always the pleasant and profitable association with other people interested in swordplay. Though fencing is the most aristocratic of sports, fencers are never "high hat". They judge a man for what he is, not who he is. The participants are not confined to a restricted group of wealthy sportsmen.

No other sport calls for a smaller initial investment in the required equipment, and maintenance costs are so low they will not upset the most modest of budgets. Yet there is nothing cheap about fencing. It costs plenty in time one never begrudges spending; in practice one always enjoys; in study that never becomes dry or uninteresting. Like other valuable things in life, the price is high, yet only a small part of the cost is expressed in money.

Skill in marksmanship is founded on a highly perfected degree of coordination; the ability to compel one's muscles to obey the commands of the brain. Nowhere is that better exemplified than in pistol shooting where the body must remain relaxed while a few muscles in the arm and hand are required to function with machine-like precision. That is particularly true in rapid fire and double action revolver events, the shot-a-second stage of the battle course on man targets. Extremely practical pistol shooting calling for poise and balance, coolness and rhythm. Speed without haste. The ability to act swiftly, yet retain a reasonable degree of precision. Time and time again I have seen a really fine slow fire shot go completely haywire when called upon to fire against the speeding seconds ticked off by a stop watch, simply because the element of speed-plus-accuracy had not been included in his training.

The fencer is not so handicapped. Slowly, a bit

awkwardly at first, the swordsman serves his apprenticeship, pausing now and then to remark, "Little muscle where have you been all my life?" Gradually his legs acquire the required spring to execute a quick lunge and a smart recovery; his arms function as they should; his hand responds to the commands of his brain; he begins to understand the true meaning of poise and balance. Gradually finding himself, he experiences a sense of well being, a calm confidence he never before possessed. Actions, formerly requiring thought become reflex and he can speak intelligently of "Tempo" and "the feel of the blade." Anyone going that far will never willingly give up fencing.

Hand the fencer a pistol and his progress is swift and sure. He possesses a fundamental training the other shooters lack. He is neither flustered nor annoyed by rapid fire, because fencing is always speed-plus-precision. The very things other tyros dread, the fencer finds most enjoyable. The swordsman also soon discovers something most shooters never learn: the first aim is the best aim; to delay is disastrous. Many of the finest pistol scores I have ever witnessed were fired rapidly.

The fencer also notes the striking similarity between the way one holds a French foil and the way the pistol is grasped. Both call into play the same muscles of the hand in much the same way. The use of the forefinger in directing the point is so strikingly similar to the vital element of "trigger squeeze." Having been already taught to think and act in split seconds, the fencer is never bothered by "freezing," that agonizing moment when the brain commands "fire" and the forefinger stages a sit-down strike until the sights have wandered far, far from the bull. And the fencer, having already acquired a substantial degree of poise and balance, soon acquires the stance best suited to him with no strain or discomfort to be endured.

Fencing and pistol shooting are twin sports. Both call for a one-hand weapon controlled by the wrist. Duels have been fought with both sword and pistol since the days of the first firelock. And what was once a brutal and unsatisfactory method of settling disputes has today become a fine recreation that injures no one and benefits all who participate in the sport.

THE SECOND INVASION OF CUBA

(Continued from page 1)

of the diminutive but fiery Maestro Rivas—the only man ever to fight a duel with the redoubtable Fonst. The naming of a fencing room after a leading amateur is intriguing. Perhaps some day we shall have a "Salle d'Armitage."

THE EPEE MATCH

The American consul and his wife come to the fencing. Lamar and Heiss open the match with a tie, as the 15-minute time limit expires with the score at 4-all. Jose has an easy time with Sardina, who is far below his effectiveness of last year. Garate wins over Armitage when time expires and he is leading 4-3.

Two unfortunate incidents: I notice that time goes very fast after the two-minute call. I check with the new timekeeper at the desk and find that there has been no "time out" during the discussions of the jury. We let the results stand, and the error is not repeated. Then, when I am directing, there is a commotion because I abstain on a touch after the judges' disagreement and annul a hit in the other direction. Some of the inactive fencers confuse the question of "benefit of the doubt" with the rule requiring the award of a double touch when both fencers have been hit and the director has no opinion on time. So they tell me that a touch cannot be annulled in epee. The question is satisfactorily settled—except for some stupid and ignorant remarks in the audience which I have the misfortune to overhear and understand.

Garate and Jose, the two leading scorers last year, put on a beautiful scrap, and neither shows definite superiority. Garate goes into the lead, 4-3, and then tries to surprise Jose with a *fleche*. But Jose parries in a high counter-sixte, and ripostes to the leg to tie the score. Suddenly, a long opposition thrust in sixte reaches Garate's upper arm, and Jose wins again. I have only vague recollections of the other bouts. An impression that Gus' arm is troubling him considerably, and that he is definitely unlucky in his bout with Garate. That Jose is fencing in top form—which Fonst says is the best in the Americas (Fonst is always generous in his praise). That Norman's timing is not as good as in San Francisco, but getting better with each bout. I remember the last touch of the match: A false attack by Norman, a parry and counter-riposte in tierce, touching Sardina's arm, which is a pippin. . . . Sardina's dejection at his poor showing. . . . Garate and Lamar fighting their hearts out to the bitter end. But our team is clearly superior this time, and the victory gives us the series.

* * *
A quiet celebration in the form of an impromptu visit to the Casino Nacional. Dorothy and I act as "Stooges" for an Arabian magician—who performs a trick like the late Douglas Dexter's famous "lemon trick" (you may remember Dexter of the British team, who won our outdoor epee championship in 1934). The next morning, a visit to Morro Castle with George Worth. The commanding officer of the Military Academy, Col. Soca, personally escorts us through the old fortress. Worth remembering:—the welcoming salute of Col. Soca to Lt. Heiss; and Lt. Heiss' farewell salute to Col. Soca. We are tendered an official luncheon at the Havana Yacht Club. It is raining a tropical rain. . . . That's a lot of rain.

THE SABRE MATCH

The very first bout sets us back on our heels, as left-handed Manalich upsets our national champion. I settle down to a hard fight with Garate and win after the score is tied at 3-all. Then greased lightning hits Ed Carfagno, as George Worth, fencing confidently and with the *elan* of a champion, rushes to a one-sided victory. (This, however, is no reflection on Ed, as the same thing happens to Norman and me.)

Things look black for us when Norman loses to Garate and I take my licking from Worth. Ed halts the onrushing Cubans with a hard-earned 5-4 win over Manalich, in a bout that might have ended 5-1 if a perfect counter-riposte had not been mistakenly awarded. Then Worth's third and deciding victory, as the agile Hungarian sweeps to a 4-0 lead over Armitage and wins 5-1. Worth plays to the gallery and the crowd loves him and cheers him at every turn. We congratulate our conquerors on their magnificent comeback in the weapon in which they supposedly had no chance. Such is the stuff that has made our two encounters with the Cubans memorable events. In the seventh bout, Lorant (another Hungarian, who for 15 years lived in Italy and is now a resident of Cuba) replaces Manalich against me. He is definitely not another Worth, being slow and having no strong attack, so the bout is an easy victory. In the final bout, Jose substitutes for Ed, and Garate takes revenge on the younger and abler de Capriles in a well-earned triumph.

We are a subdued group of men as the medals are awarded by Ramon Fonst at the gracious insistence of the Director of Fencing in the Government's Sports Department, Professor Fernando Alonso, fencing master to His Excellency the President of Cuba. When we discuss the matches later, Norman is quite low of mind, unable to explain his slump. I decide that I am not such a good prophet after all. But we all agree that the matches were all that anyone could ask—close, exciting, unforeseeable as to results. May we have many more of them!

FAREWELL

Our farewell luncheon to the Cuban fencers and officials is held on the 30th. We are presented with lapel buttons of the F. N. A. E. C.; we exchange arm emblems with our opponents. Ramon Fonst is so touched at the presentation of the A. F. L. A. medal that he cannot speak. Cheers greet Jose's spontaneous gift of his foil medal to Carlos Lamar, whose splendid performances had been on losing teams. The Cubans ask about John Huffman, whom they liked and admired so much last year, and whom they miss now. I tell them we missed him too, and could have used his steady strength to advantage! Genuine friendship and fencing talk make the hours fly . . . and soon it is time for us to visit Col. Marine at his beautiful home, and to go on board, as the ORIENTE sails at 2 a. m.

The return trip is uneventful. We give a short but effective exhibition which is attended by a capacity crowd and is very well received. There are rumors that Norman has made a conquest—of a 17-year old athletic young lady who apparently is fascinated by the neatly waxed mustache.

Good old Van is waiting for us at the Pier, having risen from a sickbed to meet the boat. Like a fond parent, welcoming the kids back home. A heart-warming end to another adventure.

One Touch Epee

The soft thuds that you hear at the various fencing salles throughout the country come from the fainting professionals who have just learned that the A. F. L. A. is conducting a mail vote among the members of the Board of Governors to determine whether or not American fencing will return to the one touch epee.

For many years we fenced the one touch epee. The professionals howled, "One touch epee is only a matter of luck. We work hard all year with an epee pupil, send him into a championship and then watch him get beaten by a man with less than half his training. Phooey!" On the basis of this and other arguments, the one touch epee came to an end in 1931 and three touch epee was substituted.

Unfortunately, the three touch epee introduced double-touching, which is the art of hitch-hiking upon an opponent's initiative. As soon as one epeeist achieved a single touch lead, he endeavored to coast along, risk as few threats as possible and double-touch upon the opponent's threat. Double-touching, something that no duellist would consider, was developed into an art in epee, the sport which is intended to simulate a duel. Bouts which formerly ended with what the professionals claimed were in many cases lucky touches continued to end with that same lucky touch plus some double-touches. The only difference was scores of 3-2 instead of 1-0.

The three touch epee bout resembles the one touch epee bout in target and weapon, the foil bout in attitude and duration and has no equal in boredom to spectators, jury and contestants. The current theme song is, "The Thrill Is Gone but the Memory Lingers On".

Now if the epeeists themselves were having a good time we'd go along like the mother who said, "Don't the children have a lovely time breaking up the furniture in the playroom?" It is their sport and they should be allowed to have it the way they want it. However, this article was not written without first having asked at least a dozen of the leading epeeists around these parts as to their preference. We were amazed to find all but one vehemently in favor of one touch epee. We do not know how epeeists in other parts of the country feel, that is true, but with such a preponderance on one side here indicates to us the strong probability that at least a majority in the country at large would likewise favor the one touch epee.

The original arguments against one touch epee might still be used against it but a new factor has entered the picture which eliminates some of its original opposition. That factor is the electrical epee machine. This apparatus took many years in development but has now been perfected to a point where epeeists "cry for it". Unfortunately, however, with at least nine years precedent for multi-touch epee, the machine with its "knows all, sees all, tells all" ability is not used today for uni-touch bouts. The epeeists are hooked up to their wires and sent for the longer trolley ride with only the occasional thrill of a short circuit.

The electrical epee is an expensive weapon. It is also delicate. Sturdy enough for any normal competition for one touch, this epee tends to cease functioning after the beating it receives in multi-touch competition. This means that each epeeist must own

about three electrical weapons to last through any competition. In other words, a fencer must have about \$30 worth of epees to enjoy the luxury of electrical epee competition. Isn't that a pretty steep equipment requirement on many of the young men who otherwise would enjoy the sport? Have not the so-called advantages of three touch epee and those of the electrical epee counteracted each other to the detriment of the sport itself?

Look in on an epee match today. The fencing is the poorest in years. The reason, I believe, is the lack of young fencers coming into the major competitions. The epee fields are the smallest in fencing. With the introduction of the electrical epee it was hoped that errors would be a thing of the past. Unfortunately, they are not. The fencers used to blame the judges for error, now they blame the epee. The weapon just cannot take the beating it receives in a long multi-touch competition. It fails and time is lost in fiddling around to repair it. Its owner finally and grudgingly gets his second or third best weapon and starts again. After this has happened to several different fencers, the audience of three gets up and leaves. The younger fencers who have shown promise in early competition and who have come out to watch the champions in action lose interest in open competition and drift away.

Why will one touch epee induce them to enter electrical epee competition? With one touch the fencing is more cautious, resulting in more humane treatment of the weapon. Instead of having to fence for a total of possibly five touches per bout, he fences for one touch which may mean that his epee is only being used for one-third or one-quarter of the time necessary for a three touch bout. Less wear and tear on the epee. In a three touch bout many fencers enter with two and three epees and wind up the competition by borrowing one from their friends or renting one from the A. F. L. A. With one touch it should be a rare occasion when a man would have to use more than one weapon. The result would be that young fencers of promise who could afford one epee would enter the open competitions making for better development of our epee men.

You say again that one touch is all a matter of luck. Not all, but there must be some. If you want to fence a game where winning is almost purely a matter of technique and training, take up foil or sabre. The epee is not an academic weapon. It is a fighting weapon. It means that when two men meet, no matter how great a difference there is in their ability, the weaker must have some kind of a fighting chance. If I were to take my foil or sabre and meet the world champion in a five touch bout, it is as sure as death and taxes that I must lose. But give me an epee, let me meet the champion for one touch, and it no longer becomes a mathematical certainty. The odds would still be very much in his favor but I would have a chance, not very much perhaps, but still some chance.

The epee was not intended as a technical weapon. There are no rules governing its use. It was and should be a practical adaptation of a man's foil training. He should be able by accuracy, smartness and quick wit to outguess and defeat an opponent of greater skill. He could do this for one touch, but

not for a multiplicity of touches. And I claim that multi-touch epee is no longer true epee.

When you eliminate the luck element in epee, you take away the thrill of it. It becomes an ungraceful, illegitimate foil bout. It is like taking away the knockout in boxing. When two boxers meet, one being greatly superior to the other in skill, the thing that makes it at all interesting is the possibility of the less-skillful fighter landing a lucky punch and winning by a K. O. Take this away and boxing would be uninteresting except where both men were equal in skill. So too is epee dead with the elimination of luck.

With the electrical epee, the old boogey-man of the ink days, the double touch, is dead. Then, when two fencers were hit, if it was at all close, the stock decision was, "Double Touch." Now the electrical epee overcomes this. With large pools with at least 50% of the fencers qualifying, we would cut the time element of the competition, reduce the amount that luck has in determining the ultimate result of the competition, but keep in the luck and the thrill of giving every man, no matter how poor a fencer, at least some chance of winning in every bout that he fences. No man could go through a competition on luck alone. He would have to have something more than just that.

When we had to train our fencers for International competition, it was necessary to keep to the rules of the F.I.E. The F.I.E. is in a dormant state today, awaiting peace in the world for a resumption of its activities. International fencing is at least four or more years off. Why not use this time to experiment, to change our rules to our needs and to attempt to bring out and develop the young fencers we so need. A man trained to win bouts in championships for one touch can adapt himself to more touches with a little training, when the times comes. I do not believe that the reverse of this statement is true.

I believe that the A.F.L.A. is using foresight in

its present suggestion. I believe that one touch epee will revive interest in the weapon. I believe that one touch epee is adaptable to the American temperament and that this is an opportunity to prove it. I hope that the vote will pass and that we can test the case in fact rather than in discussion.

—W. D.

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ILLINOIS

The Austin High School Fencing Club team of Armand Stella, Bernard Fishman and Charles Basso won the Novice Foil Team competition held at the Bartlett Gymnasium on February 18th. Of the 12 teams entered the Edgewater Fencers Club placed second and the Northwest Fencers Club was third. After the completion of the team meet, the six highest ranking individuals fenced a round robin to decide the individual novice foil champion. Demming of the Edgewater Fencers Club took first place with Basso and Fishman of Austin High School finishing second and third in that order. The competition lasted from 11 A. M. until 7 P. M.

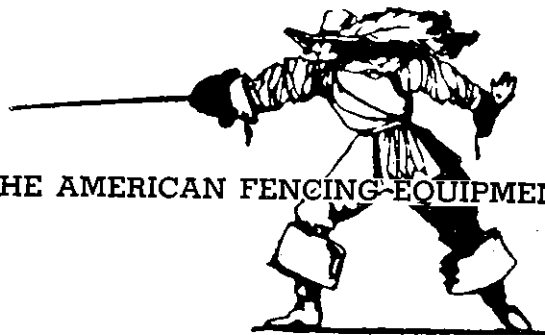
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LONG ISLAND

Attracting 13 entries from four Divisions, the Long Island Women's Foil Championship this year had the strongest field since the beginning of the Division. The competition was held at Hofstra College on March 14th. Miss Madeline Dalton of the Salle d'Armes Vince defeated Miss Mildred I. Stewart of the Salle Santelli by a one touch margin in a fence-off for the title after they had tied for first with 1 loss apiece. Miss Helena Mroczkowska of Hofstra College was third on touches over Miss Ruth Maxwell, her teammate, and Mrs. Dolly Funke of the Greco Fencing Academy, after they had tied for third with 3 losses and 2 wins apiece.

ROBERT H. E. GRASSON, *Pres.*
Head fencing Master, Yale Univ.
U. S. Olympic Coach

ALBERT J. GRASSON, *Sec.-Treas.*
Fencing Master, Yale Univ.



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ADOPT VS. ADAPT IN COLLEGIATE FENCING

By JOHN W. DIMOND

We have tried to adopt the continental game of fencing and I am convinced that we have not been overly successful. I believe that we will have amazing results if we try to adapt the continental game to the American way or tradition of sports and games.

As an instance, we might consider how the English game of rugby has become the American game of collegiate football on this side of the briny.

We now accept the dictates of the F.I.E. and try to conform in every particular. The value in this is universal uniformity of rules only. Meanwhile our natural talents and our qualities of spirit and temperament are being dominated.

A question involved is whether or not we wish to pattern after, or do we wish to create our own form of play and games. Do we wish to copy a continental form or do we wish to copy the American form?

I believe that any form of fencing is splendid and valuable training for the undergraduate, but I also believe that the appreciation and consequent values can be improved by making the contests simpler and more understandable. Fencing may readily be adapted to the American form as in boxing, wrestling, and many other fine games which are, or have been shaped to suit our natural talents and temperament.

I believe that the collegiate game of fencing would be a better game and hence more popular, and that our fencers would make better progress, if we conducted our matches after the general form of, for instance, boxing.

The following outline has great merit in my opinion:

Teams to consist of three men to contest with foils, three men to contest with swords and three men to contest with sabers; a total of nine men.

Each team to designate its running order or number one, two and three-man in each weapon.

Each contestant to oppose the corresponding man on the opposing team only.

The bouts to be for ten or more hits, or of a duration equal to a full and reasonably severe test.

It will be seen that a dual meet will consist of three bouts in foils, three in swords and three in sabers, a total of nine bouts as compared with a total of twenty-seven as at present.

The opposition to this idea points out that such a plan would reduce the number of personalities with which the fencer must deal and thus, in effect, curtail his experience.

I contend that the boxer, wrestler, tennis player, squash player, golfer, soccer player, lacrosse player, football player, etc., etc., has a similar problem and has gotten along very well while following the American form.

There is a positive psychological element involved which each can seek out to suit his own fancy. There is also the matter of taste. I dislike to see a bad performer come up again and again to repeat a bad performance.

Twenty-seven bouts is not an athletic contest in the American collegiate tradition. It is, rather, a form of strange and unusual punishment for all concerned.

ST. LOUIS

Tracy Barnes of La Septieme reversed the tables on Alex Solomon of the Fencers Club by winning the St. Louis Foil Championship on February 10th at the Adult Study Center. Solomon had been first the year before with Barnes second. George Curtis of Washington University was third on touches over William Chiprin of the Fencers Club. There were eight contestants.

Unusual features of the evening were that all bouts except a final fence-off between Barnes and Solomon were fought for four touches. Four of the eight contestants were southpaws. Dr. Tibor Nyilas challenged Barnes after the competition and made good in his challenge with a 5-3 win.

At the conclusion of the finals of the Novice Sabre competition on January 20th, Ernest Haring and John Gast of the Salle d'Armes Vical, and George Curtis of Washington University were tied for first place. The tie remained unchanged after the first round-robin fence-off. The tie was broken in the second fence-off with Haring, Curtis and Gast taking first, second and third respectively.

Six teams of girls entered the Novice Foil Team Competition. The Salle d'Armes Vical team of Lucille Haenni, Edna Gustavson and Lorraine Yaeger defeated the Ozark Fencers Club team of Vera Martin, Dorothy Kickham and Gertrude Michael 5-1 in the Finals. The Ozark team had defeated the Vical team in the preliminary round but was unable to repeat this performance in the Finals.

A composite team composed of George Beckman in Epee, George Langenberg in foil and Tracy Barnes in sabre won the Novice Three Weapon Team Competition on January 27th. There were five teams in the contest. The Imperial Fencing Club team of Becker, epee; Kunderman, foil; and Liebmann, sabre, was second.

The Novice Sabre Team Competition was won by the La Septieme team of Brooking, Knight and Peterson in a 5-3 second night fence-off against the Imperial team of John Kunderman, William Becker and Les Liebmann.

The Foil Team Championship on February 3rd again saw the Fencers Club team walk away with an easy victory. The Fencers Club team of Alex Solomon, William Chiprin and Connie Briscoe discouraged other team entries, there being only two other teams in this competition. The Fencers Club defeated the Vicals 5-0 and the Composite team 5-1.

The La Septieme Epee Team of Tracy Barnes, James Knight and Alan Beck won the Team Championship on February 17th in an unexpected turn-about after a disastrous start. There were three teams in the Championship. The La Septieme team was defeated 5-0 in the opening encounter with the Fencers Club team of Alex Solomon, Connie Briscoe and Lawrence Gregory. La Septieme then defeated the Salle d'Armes Vical team of Hardin Walsh, Charles Morgan and Edward Maher 5-0. After these results the Fencers Club were topheavy favorites against the Vical team, but the Vicals achieved a 5-1 upset over them. A 3-way tie resulted. The final bouts between La Septieme and the Fencers Club were very close with the bout scores going to 4-4 before La Septieme broke through with the winning bout.

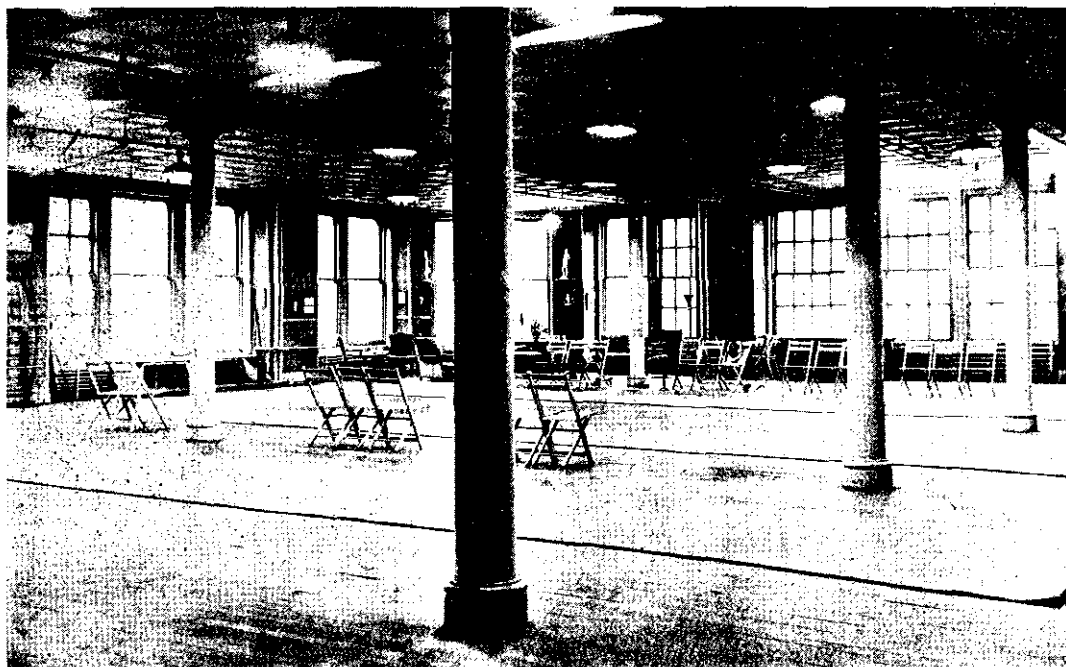
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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

In the past we have referred to this column of news as "San Francisco". However, the A.F.L.A. Division which centers its activities in that city has, since the last issue of this magazine, changed its name to "Northern California Division". We have changed our heading accordingly and believe that the change is an improvement over the former more localized heading.

Thirteen girls competed in the Women's Prep Foil Competition at the Funke Fencing Academy on January 24th and attracted capacity attendance. Miss Helene Mayer, the National Senior Champion, directed the seven-girl Finals which was won by Miss Nella Panelli of the Young Italian Club with a clean score of 6 wins and no losses. Miss Helen Geurts and Miss Marjorie Nevis, both of the Funke Fencing Academy, tied for second place with 4 wins and 2 losses apiece. Miss Geurts won second place on the basis of touches.

There were 17 entries in the Men's Junior Foil Championship, held at the Young Italian Club on January 26th. After an evening of close fighting which proved very interesting to the spectators, Lawrence Bocci of the Young Italian Club and Santa Clara University defeated Richard Meyerhoff of Stanford University 5-3 in a fence-off for first place after both were tied with 5 wins and 1 loss in the six-man Finals. Robert Stone, captain of the University of California team, took third place on touches over David Daly of Stanford University and Victor Vari of the Young Italian Club after all three were tied with 2 wins and 3 losses apiece.

Stamina as well as skill were called upon to decide the Men's Intermediate Foil Championship held on February 2nd at the University of California gymnasium in Berkeley. There were 17 entries and an 8-man Finals. Salvatore Giambra of the Young Italian Club, Jack Hovick of the University of California and Harry Mortimer of the Olympic Club were tied for first at the end of the Final round robin. After two fence-offs the tie remained unbroken and the places were awarded in the above order at 12:15 A. M. on the basis of touches throughout the Finals.

Good fencing marked the Women's Junior Foil Championship at the Funke Fencing Academy on February 3rd. There were 15 entries and a Finals of 6. Miss Betty Jane Nevis was winner with 5 wins and no losses. Miss Lynette Goldstone was second with 4 wins and 1 loss, while Miss Gertrude Metter was third on touches with 2 wins and 3 losses. All three place winners represented the Funke Fencing Academy.

The Olympic Club team of Harry Mortimer, Louis Lataillade and Victor Arnautoff won the Open Epee Team Championship on February 9th without losing a match. There were 4 teams in the Championship. The Olympic Club was first with 17 wins and 9 losses while the University of California was second, losing only to the winners, and finishing the evening with a total score of 14 wins and 13 losses. This evening marked the first appearance in San Francisco competition of Hans Halberstadt, formerly of Germany, then of France and now of this city.

The Open Foil Team Championships of the Division were held at the Olympic Club on February 16th. Four teams were entered and the Olympic Club first team had defeated the University of California and Stanford University when an accident occurred to a member of the Olympic Club second team which caused that team to default its remaining matches. The Olympic Club first team of Alfred R. Snyder, Harry Mortimer and Ferard Leicester, was declared the winner with other places undecided.

The accident occurred to Louis Lataillade during the match between his team and that of the University of California. A broken foil blade punctured his right chest. He was removed immediately to the hospital and we are pleased to report that he is recovering well from the injury.

The Funke Fencing Academy first team of Miss Marjorie Nevis, Miss Gertrude Metter and Miss Emilie Romaine won all three matches to win the Women's Junior Foil Team Championship at their home salle on February 17th. The Funke Fencing Academy second team, an unattached team and the Young Italian Club team finished in that order on the basis of bouts won after tying with 1 match won and 2 matches lost apiece.

There were four teams entered in the Open Sabre Team Championship on February 23rd at the University of California in Berkeley. The Funke Fencing Academy team of Hans Halberstadt, William G. F. O'Brien and Major S. R. Irwin, won all matches to take first place. The Young Italian Club team was second with two matches won and one match lost.

From an original field of 12, Miss Betty Jane Nevis of the Funke Fencing Academy topped the six-girl Finals to win the Women's Intermediate Foil Championship at the University of California on February 23rd with 4 wins and 1 loss. Miss Marcelle Woolen of the Funke Fencing Academy took second place over Miss Roberta Fritz, unattached, on the basis of touches, each winning 3 bouts and losing 2.

Five teams entered the Men's Junior Foil Team Championships at the University of California on March 1st, necessitating elimination matches. The Stanford University team of Richard Meyerhoff, John Cooper and David Daly met and defeated the University of California first team of Robert Stone, Jack Hovick and Noel Speiss 5-2 in the final match.

An unattached team of Miss Constance Dean, Miss Lura Morse and Miss Roberta Fritz defeated two teams from the Funke Fencing Academy to win the Open Women's Foil Team Championship on March 2nd at Mills College. There were only three teams entered.

Only 11 entries were received for the Open Foil Championship at the Olympic Club on March 8th, because of an increased entry fee. However, these 11 were probably the cream of the crop. Alfred Snyder, Olympic Club, won first place in the six-man Finals with 5 wins and no losses. Harry Mortimer, Olympic Club, was second, losing only to Snyder, while Salvatore Giambra of the Young Italian Club was third with 2 losses and Ferard Leicester was fourth with 3 losses. The first four place winners qualified for the National Championships; the first three for the Pacific Coast Championships.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Spring has brought a new and lively interest in fencing in Southern California thanks to concentrated efforts on the part of the division's leading fencers, directors and coaches. Several short radio talks by Duris de Jong, coach of the Hollywood Athletic Club, also did much to stimulate public enthusiasm.

Because of this new interest, the annual Assaut de Gala, held at the Hollywood Athletic Club March 9th, drew a record crowd with more than a sprinkling of stage and screen luminaries. Guest of honor was Mr. Harry Davenport, veteran character actor and father of Ned Davenport. Mr. Albert Dekker acted as Master of Ceremonies, assisted by Mr. Jeffry Lynn. Exhibition bouts by Ed Carfagno, America's # 2 Ranking Foilsman, Arthur Kaye, Open Foil Champion and many others were highlights of the evening. The audience was especially delighted with three-weapon exhibitions by Southern California's leading coaches notably Mr. Ralph Faulkner, Professor Harry Uyttenhove and Mr. Duris de Jong. Bouts by Mr. Paul Lukas and Mr. Fredric March of the screen were also programmed.

The ladies contributed their share with some beautiful foil work by Miss Edith Jane, former Pacific Coast champion, Miss Louise Reordan, current Intermediate titleholder and Miss Maxine McMasters present Open Champion.

All in all, the combination of outstanding swordsmanship, plus a touch of comedy, some laughter and a great deal of obvious enjoyment on the part of both fencers and audience served to make the 1940 Assaut de Gala a "four star" evening.

This month marked the end of the Epee season and the beginning of the sabre. The Novice Epee at the L. A. A. C. January 19th was won by Wilbur Coggins of the Cavaliers with Ned Davenport of Faulkner's second and Hale Handlin of the L. A. A. C. third.

Three of the Faulkner School's young fencers divided the Junior Epee honors among them, the title going to Sid Getzovitz with Leonard Bellman and Bob Irwin second and third respectively. The event was held at the Faulkner School of Fencing January 26th.

The Los Angeles Athletic Club's No. 1 team (Si Carfagno, Vallet, Handlin) came off with first honors in the Junior Epee Team at the Hollywood Athletic Club February 3rd. Second place went to Faulkner's No. 1 team (Irwin, Davenport, Irby) and third to the Cavaliers first team (Coggins, Parks, Joyner).

Tom Tarbet of the L. A. A. C. won the Intermediate Epee title at the Los Angeles Athletic Club February 9th. Bob Irwin (Faulkner's) finished second and Vallet (L. A. A. C.) third.

The Los Angeles Athletic Club teams No. 1 and 2 captured first and third places respectively in the Epee Team held at the Faulkner School February 16th. Second place went to Hollywood Athletic Club's No. 1 team.

At the Los Angeles Athletic Club February 23rd, Tom Tarbet won the Open Epee title, with Ed Carfagno second and Pete Craig (H. A. C.) third.

A special item of interest has been provided in the inauguration of an invitational foil meet for women to be held for the first time at the Faulkner School of Fencing Sunday, March 10th. Mrs. Grace L. Kendal of Hollywood is the donor of a very fine bronze and gold trophy which will be retired by any three-time consecutive winner. Individual permanent trophies will be awarded the first three places. The meet is designed to give the women fencers of South-

ern California extra opportunity for competition since they have all too few contests. Some twenty of the Division's leading swordswomen will compete.

Plans for the Pacific Coast meets are not yet completed, but the events will be held this year at Los Angeles during the week-end of April 12th. The Los Angeles Athletic Club will be the scene of the contests.

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FIFTH ANNUAL MARDI GRAS INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

(Continued from page 1)

a steady progress among the Southern fencers despite their lack of professionals and coaches. Their showing against the Northerners was better, their understanding of the sport was deeper, their form and technique improved. The educational value of the Tournament in this connection was especially noted, as compared with last year's performance.

There was more evidence this year of non-A. F. L. A. members appreciating the advantages of that organization. This was helped by the presence of members of the new Florida Division and of Hanisch and Osis of Michigan. Texas boys did not shy from A. F. L. A. discussions as in the past and lengthy discussions took place on one or two occasions with fencers from Dallas and Fort Worth particularly interested. There is already a plan afoot to substitute the A. F. L. A. rules for the local rules of the Southwestern Fencing League.

The girls were mighty purty. There was one brown-eyed beauty for whose bouts the Bout Committee Chairman dared choose only a married men jury. The blond Paula Murchison remained the cool, precise and distant Diana of last year and repeated her 1939 victory with perfect calm and careful technique.

On Sunday night, after the Tournament, the Salle d'Armes de la Nouvelle Orleans remained filled with fencers and guests for many hours, discussing the events of the past two days and partaking of an apparently inexhaustible supply of wines. The New Orleans' women fencers were all there and upheld all claims for Southern beauty. The Army was there in full force, especially the 29th Infantry team from Fort Benning, and the Baylor University boys remained as long as they dared before leaving on their 650-mile return trek.

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HAWAII

The first meeting of fencers in Honolulu was held in the early part of February to frame a resolution requesting an A. F. L. A. Charter for a Division in Hawaii. The Gail Potter Fencing Academy has taken a five-year lease on new and larger quarters at Queen and Alakea Streets to serve as the fencing center for the new activities. It is equipped with separate dressing rooms, showers, lockers and three private fencing salles which can be converted into one large salle for exhibition and competition purposes.

The new Division, when formed, has already dedicated its first A. F. L. A. competition to the memory of Nedo Nadi.

NATIONAL AND ALL-EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIPS

All-Eastern Individual Intermediate Sabre Championship—14 Entries—February 6th

Dr. James H. Flynn of the Salle Santelli entered the Senior sabre ranks when he came through undefeated in 12 bouts in the Semi-finals and Finals of this Championship, held at the Columbia Gymnasium. Cadet Alan Rorick of the West Point Fencers Club came 2nd, losing only to Flynn in the Finals. Third place went to Gordon Wallace of Columbia University on touches over Harold Newton of the Greco Fencing Academy.

Finals:

James H. Flynn (Salle Santelli) defeated Marks 5-4, Welles 5-3, Newton 5-3, Wallis 5-4, and Rorick 5-3.

Alan Rorick (West Point Fencers Club) defeated Marks 5-4, Welles 5-4, Newton 5-4, and Wallis 5-3.

Gordon Wallis (Columbia Univ.) defeated Welles 5-3, and Newton 5-1 (touched 19 times).

Harold Newton (Greco Fencing Academy) defeated Marks 5-4, and Welles 5-4 (touched 23 times).

Bernard Marks (Greco Fencing Academy) defeated Wallis 5-2.

James Welles (Columbia Univ.) defeated Marks 5-2.

All-Eastern Individual Intermediate Foil Championship—10 Entries—February 8th

Maxwell Garret of the Salle d'Armes Vince defeated Diaz Cetrulo of the Salle Santelli 5-2 in a fenceoff for the Intermediate Foil Championship at the Greco Fencing Academy, after being tied with 4 wins and 1 loss apiece in the Finals. Cetrulo had defeated Garret 5-4 in their previous Final's bout to create the tie, but the Vince foilsman reversed the result in the fenceoff. Wallace Goldsmith of the N. Y. A. C. took 3rd on touches over Nathaniel Lubell of the Salle d'Armes Vince.

Finals:

Maxwell Garret (Salle d'Armes Vince) defeated Lubell 5-1, Kornfeld 5-2, Goldsmith 5-3, Green 5-3.

Diaz Cetrulo (Salle Santelli) defeated Kornfeld 5-0, Garret 5-4, Goldsmith 5-4, and Green 5-4.

Wallace Goldsmith (N. Y. A. C.) defeated Lubell 5-4, Kornfeld 5-3, Green 5-4 (21 touches against).

Nathaniel Lubell (Salle d'Armes Vince) defeated Cetrulo 5-4, Kornfeld 5-4, Green 5-4 (22 touches against).

Theodore Green (Saltus Club) defeated Kornfeld 5-4.

Murray Kornfeld (St. John's Univ.) lost all bouts.

Fenceoff:

Garret defeated Cetrulo 5-2.

All-Eastern Individual Intermediate Epee Championship—10 Entries—February 15th

Ralph E. Marson of the N. Y. A. C. took the Intermediate title in epee by winning 8 out of 9 bouts in a 10-man round-robin at the Salle d'Armes Vince. Mindy Slikas of N. Y. U. was a close second with 7 wins, while Henrique Santos, N. Y. A. C. was 3rd with 5 wins.

Summaries:

Ralph E. Marson (N. Y. A. C.) defeated Donovan 3-0, Slikas 3-2, May 3-1, Ozol 3-1, Cornett 3-1, Schlobin 3-2, Hedges 3-1, and Barbour 3-1.

Mindy Slikas (N. Y. U.) defeated Donovan 3-0, Santos 3-2, Ozol 3-2, Cornett 3-1, Schlobin 3-1, Hedges 3-2, and Barbour 3-0.

Henrique Santos (N. Y. A. C.) defeated Marson 3-2, Donovan 3-0, Cornett 3-1, Hedges 3-1, Barbour 3-1, and double-logged with May and Ozol 3-3.

Lawrence Hedges (Seton Hall) defeated May 3-2, Cornett 3-0, Schlobin 3-0, and Barbour 3-0.

Ernest May (Fencers Club) defeated Donovan 3-1, Slikas 3-2, Ozol 3-2, Barbour 3-0 and double-logged with Santos and Schlobin 3-3.

Rudolph Ozol (Salle Santelli) defeated Cornett 3-2, Schlobin 3-1, Hedges 3-1 and double-logged with Santos 3-3.

Winslow Cornett (Fencers Club) defeated May 3-2, Schlobin 3-2 and Barbour 3-1.

Joseph Donovan (N. Y. A. C.) defeated Ozol 3-2, Schlobin 3-1 and Hedges 3-1.

James Schlobin (Salle Santelli) defeated Santos 3-1 and Barbour 3-2.

Paul Barbour (Queens Fencers Club) defeated Donovan 3-1.

National Individual Three Weapon Championship 16 Entries—February 28th

Dr. John R. Huffman, N. Y. A. C., regained his title, lost last year, when he defeated Norman Armitage of the Fencers Club in the Finals. This entire Championship is fought on a direct individual elimination basis. Armitage had defeated Jose de Capriles of the Salle Santelli, the defending champion, and Huffman had defeated Miguel de Capriles of the Salle Santelli to gain the Final bracket. The competition was held at the Fencers Club.

Summaries—3rd Round:

Jose de Capriles (Salle Santelli) defeated Ozol (Salle Santelli) 8-0; Norman C. Armitage (Fencers Club) defeated Pieter Mijer (Salle Santelli) 8-2; Miguel de Capriles (Salle Santelli) defeated Dr. George Lesser (Salle Santelli) 8-6 and Dr. John R. Huffman (N. Y. A. C.) defeated Murray Kornfeld (St. John's Univ.) 8-6.

Semi-Finals:

Armitage defeated J. de Capriles 8-7; Huffman defeated M. de Capriles 8-6.

Finals:

Huffman defeated Armitage 8-4.

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MICHIGAN

On December 17th the Novice Epee tournament was held at the Neighborhood Club in Grosse Point. There were 14 entrants. First place was won by Garth Oswald of Michigan State College. Andrew Young of Flint was second. David Logan of the Salle de Tuscan took third.

There were 9 contestants in the Novice Sabre Tournament held at the Salle de Tuscan on January 7th. John Spitler of the Grosse Point Sword Club was first, Jean Jakubowski, of Lawrence Tech, second, and Lawrence Platt of Wayne University, third.

The Junior Foil competition, held at the Salle de Tuscan on January 14th, attracted 11 entrants. Harold Mottershaw of the Salle de Tuscan won first place, while William Osis and John Spitler, both of the Grosse Point Sword Club, took second and third respectively.

The Neighborhood Club was host to 17 contestants in the Junior Epee competition held on January 28th. The winner was William Osis of the Grosse Point Sword Club, while Garth Oswald of Michigan State College was second and Gregory Flynn of Flint was third.

A. F. L. A. COMPETITIONS HELD IN NEW YORK CITY

Metropolitan Epee Team Championship and National Qualifying Round—6 Teams—January 28th

The Salle Santelli "A" team, consisting of Jose and Miguel de Capriles, Pieter Mijer and Norman Lewis, retained its title in this weapon on the home strips by going through the 6-team round-robin undefeated. The Fencers Club "A" team of Norman C. Armitage, Tracy Jaeckel and August von Munchhausen was second and qualified for the National Championships, losing only to the Salle Santelli "A".

The Salle Santelli "A" won 5 matches, losing none, the Fencers Club "A" won 4 lost 1, the N.Y.A.C. "A" won 2 lost 3, the N.Y.A.C. "B" and Fencers Club "B" each won 1 lost 3 and Salle Santelli "B" lost 3.

Metropolitan Foil Team Championship and National Qualifying Round—5 Teams—February 4th

The New York Athletic Club "A" team retained its Metropolitan Team title with this weapon, being undefeated in the 5-team round-robin at the Salle Santelli. The team consisted of Warren Dow, Dernel Every, Silvio Giolito and John Huffman. The Salle Santelli "A" team of Jose and Miguel de Capriles, Norman Lewis and Rudolph Ozol, favored for second place, had a close call when it lost to the N.Y.A.C. "B" team 5-1. The Salle Santelli "B" team, however, saved the day for its "A" team by defeating the N.Y.A.C. "B" 5-4 and creating a tie for second place. In the fence-off, the Salle Santelli "A" turned the tables and defeated the N.Y.A.C. "B" 5-2 to qualify for the Nationals.

The N.Y.A.C. "A" won 4 matches, losing none, the Salle Santelli "A" and N.Y.A.C. "B" each won 2 and lost 2, the Salle Santelli "B" won 1, lost 2 and N.Y.U. lost 3.

Individual Open Electric Epee Competition

11 Entries—February 10th

Pieter Mijer of the Salle Santelli, 59 year old veteran, won his second tournament of the season by winning 8 out of 10 bouts in this competition at the Salle Santelli. Jean V. Grombach of the N.Y.A.C. was second with 7 wins and Jose R. de Capriles of the Salle Santelli was third with 6 wins.

Individual Open Foil Competition—12 Entries February 17th

Jose R. de Capriles of the Salle Santelli won the gold medal in this tournament winning 4 out of 5 bouts in the Finals at the Salle Santelli. Warren Dow of the N.Y.A.C. took second place on touches over his teammate, Dernel Every, each having won 3 and lost 2 in the Finals.

Metropolitan Sabre Team Championship—Qualifying Round for Nationals—5 Teams—February 18th

The Salle Santelli "A" team made it a successful year for defending champions when it emerged undefeated in this round-robin tournament held at the N.Y.A.C. The team consisted of Jose and Miguel de Capriles, Philip Lubart and Diaz Cetrulo. The N.Y.A.C. team of John R. Huffman, Ralph Marson, Nicholas Muray and Irving Acel was the runner-up and other qualifier, losing only to the Salle Santelli "A". The Salle Santelli "B", Columbia University and Violet Fencing Club each lost 2 matches, winning none.

Open Epee Team Competition—Washington Square Cup—8 Teams—February 22nd

The New York Athletic Club team consisting of Jean V. Grombach, Ralph Marson and Henrique Santos won the O'Hana trophy on their home strips for the second successive year. The Fencers Club "A" team was second, trailing the winners by only one bout.

Individual Open Sabre Competition

20 Entries—February 25th

Ralph Marson of the N.Y.A.C. won this gold medal by winning 7 out of his 8 Final bouts at the Salle Santelli. Norman Armitage of the Fencers Club was runner-up for the 4th time this season when he took the silver medal on touches from Dr. James H. Flynn of the Salle Santelli, each having had 6 wins and 2 losses.

Individual Novice Sabre Competition

13 Entries—February 27th

Murray Kornfeld, St. John's University, won this competition at the Salle Santelli, winning 6 out of 7 bouts in the Finals. Edgar Kellerman of the Columbia Rapiere Club was 2nd with 5 wins and 2 losses. V. Lada-Mocarski of the Salle Santelli was 3rd on touches over Anthony Lombardo of N.Y.U., each having 4 wins and 3 losses.

Individual Metropolitan Electric Epee Championship

18 Entries—March 3rd

August von Munchhausen of the Fencers Club took this Metropolitan title by winning 7 out of his 9 bouts in the Finals at the Salle Santelli. Hugh V. Alessandrini, his teammate, was 2nd with 6 victories and Ralph E. Marson of the New York Athletic Club was 3rd with 5 victories.

Individual Veteran's Three Weapon Competition

5 Entries—March 7th

Arthur Muray of the Salle d'Armes Vince won the gold medal for the three weapon competition among Veterans by defeating Frank Goodfellow of the Salle Santelli 8-7 in a fenceoff. Pieter Mijer of Salle Santelli, the defending champion, was 3rd. The competition was held at the Greco Fencing Academy.

Individual Metropolitan Foil Championship

18 Entries—March 10th

Warren Dow of the New York Athletic Club took the Metropolitan title by winning 7 out of his 8 Final bouts at the Salle Santelli. His teammate, Dernel Every, was second with 6 out of 8. Jose de Capriles of the Salle Santelli took the bronze medal on touches over his teammate, Norman Lewis, and Hugh Alessandrini of the Fencers Club.

Individual Metropolitan Sabre Championship

21 Entries—March 16th

Jose de Capriles of the Salle Santelli replaced his brother as the Metropolitan Sabre Champion when he won four out of five bouts in the Finals at the Salle Santelli. Miguel de Capriles did not defend his title. Peter Bruder of the Salle d'Armes Vince took the silver medal on touches over Norman Armitage of the Fencers Club after each had tied with 3 wins and 2 losses.

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A. F. L. A. COMPETITIONS HELD IN N. Y. C.

(Continued from page 15)

Women's Individual Open Foil Competition
25 Entries—February 11th

Mrs. Jarmilla Vokral of the Salle Herrmann, Philadelphia, won the gold medal in this competition at the Salle Santelli by defeating Miss Mildred I. Stewart of the Salle Santelli 4-3 in a fenceoff after they had tied for first place with one loss apiece. Miss Barbara L. Cochran of the Salle Santelli was third with 2 losses.

Metropolitan Women's Foil Team Championship and National Qualifying Round—6 Teams
February 19th

The Salle Santelli "A" team of Miss Barbara Cochran, Mrs. Dorothy de Capriles, Miss Dorothy Grimmelman and Miss Mildred Stewart won this championship by coming through undefeated at the Fencers Club in a round-robin Final of 4 teams. The Salle d'Armes Vince team of the Misses Kathleen and Maria Cerra and Madeline Dalton earned the right to defend its National title by taking runner-up position, losing only to the Salle Santelli "A". Hofstra College and Salle Santelli "B" were the other Finalists and lost 2 matches apiece, winning none.

Women's Individual Novice Foil Competition
22 Entries—February 24th

Miss Lela Joggi of Hofstra College won the fourth women's novice competition of the season, coming through 13 bouts undefeated at the Salle Santelli. Miss Edith Zinn of Hunter College took the silver medal on touches over Miss Dorothy Siegfried of the Jersey City Fencers Club, each having 3 wins and 2 losses in the Finals.

Women's Individual Metropolitan Foil Championship
15 Entries—March 17th

Miss Mildred I. Stewart of the Salle Santelli won the Metropolitan Championship and became the only woman to win 2 open competitions this season. She won 7 out of 8 bouts in the 9-girl Finals at the Salle Santelli. Miss Madeline Dalton of the Salle d'Armes Vince was second with 6 wins and 2 losses and her teammate, Miss Maria Cerra, was third with 5 wins and 3 losses and a 1 touch advantage over Mrs. Jarmilla Vokral of the Salle Herrmann of Philadelphia whose bout score was also 5 wins and 3 losses.

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MINNESOTA

The following officers were elected at the Annual Meeting of the Minnesota League of Fencing Clubs: President, Phillip Whitney, St. Paul Turnverein; Vice President, Robert E. Withy, Jr., St. Paul Y. M. C. A.; Secretary, Richard Jarvis, University of Minnesota, and Fencing Director, Willard Ronayne, St. Thomas College. There are seven fencing organizations in the League.

The 30th Annual Championship Contest was held on Washington's Birthday at Cooke Hall of the University of Minnesota. There were High School, College and Society competitions in foil and a combined sabre and a combined epee competition. Rules simulated those of the A. F. L. A. except for a hip line target in foil and a warning for stepping off the side of the strip. Three warnings for stepping offside constituted a touch.

PHILADELPHIA

The Prep Sabre competition attracted 9 entries to the William Penn Charter School on January 19th. Harry Firman of the Triangle Sword Club won first place, thereby completing a clean sweep of the Prep competitions, having won the Foil and Epee competitions on the two preceding Fridays. Henry D. Pugh of the Sword Club was second and Werner Zimmerman of the Penn Charter School was third.

The Novice Foil competition was held at the Central Y. M. C. A. on January 26th with 20 contestants. August Schonefeld of the Philadelphia Sword Club won first place. Bernard Allen of the Salle Scafati (New Jersey) took second medal with James Knipe of the Sword Club, third.

Five teams entered the Foil Team competition at the Salle Herrmann on January 28th. The Sword Club "A" team of Philip C. Shakespeare, Jr., Edward Mateosian and Richard Duffield took first place honors over the "B" team and the Philadelphia Fencers Club.

On February 2nd, 13 fencers entered the Novice Epee competition at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. Harry Firman of the Triangle Sword Club was first with Graham Woodlaw of Valley Forge Military College, second, and Frank G. Conrad, Jr., of the Philadelphia Fencers Club, third.

The Novice Sabre competition was held at the Valley Forge Military Academy on February 9th. There were 15 entries. Robert Holt of the William Penn Charter School won all bouts in the 6-man Finals to take first place. Henry D. Pugh of the Sword Club lost only to Holt to take second place, while Harry Firman of the Triangle Club took third with 2 losses and 3 wins.

There were 14 contestants in the Junior Foil Championship held at The Sword Club on February 14th. Edward Mateosian of the Sword Club won all bouts in the Finals to take first place. John F. Austin, unattached, was second with one loss in the Finals, while Dana Allen, Sword Club, was third with 2 losses in the Finals.

The Junior Epee Championship was held at the Sword Club on February 21st with 12 contestants. After a triple tie for first place, Harry Firman, Triangle Sword Club, won first place with Jackson Gouraud, University of Pennsylvania, second, and Bernhard V. J. Lind, Philadelphia Rapier Club, third.

A Baltimore composite team made up of Princeton graduates (George B. Calkins, Jr., Stanley Sarnoff and A. J. Parmentier) won the Epee Team Championship on February 25th at the Salle Herrmann. Eight teams competed. The Sword Club "B" team was second and the Sword Club "A" team, third.

The Junior Sabre Championship, held at the Salle Herrmann on February 28th, attracted 14 contestants. Edward Mateosian of the Sword Club won all bouts in the Finals to take first place. Harry Firman, Triangle Sword Club, was second. Franklyn Sharpless, Sword Club, was third.

The Intermediate Foil Championship attracted 12 entries on March 6th. This competition, held at the Salle Herrmann was won by Philip C. Shakespeare, Jr., for the second year in a row. Dana Allen and Edward Mateosian, both of the Sword Club, were tied for second and Allen received second place on the basis of touches.