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Mathias Defends Laurels Won At Olympic Games

TULARE, Calif., June 28.—(AP) Youthful Bob Mathias puts his Olympic games prestige and his National A. A. U. decathlon crown on the block tonight and a score or more rivals begin attempts to wrest it from him before the king's home town admirers.

Mathias, at 17 years of age the youngest athlete ever to capture the Olympic title, scoring 7139 points in the games at London last year, is the hero of a two-day celebration as he goes again against the nation's best in the 10-event competition.

The former Tulare High School star, now a student at Kiski Prep School in Pennsylvania, may be hard pressed to retain his laurels when the 1949 Nationals get under way tonight.

On tonight's schedule are the 100-meter dash, the broad jump, shotput, high jump and 400-meter run. Tomorrow night, the 110-meter high hurdles, discus throw, pole vault, javelin toss and 1500-meter run round out the exacting decathlon program.

The A. A. U. brought the decathlon championship here in tribute to Bob's Olympic games conquest.

Pitted against Mathias are such threats as Floyd Simmons of North Carolina University, competing for the Los Angeles Athletic Club, who placed third in Mathias in the Olympic games; former national champion, Irv (Moon) Mondschein of the New York Pioneer Club; Kenneth Beck of San Diego State College, who won the recent Southern California decathlon with 6302 points; Bill Fleming of Notre Dame, Douglas Fawkes, Georgia Tech, Bill Albans of North Carolina U., and Dean Pryor, Fredonia, Kan., high school challenger.

Competition begins at 6 p.m., Pacific Standard time.



TRIES HIS LEGS—Eddie Waitkus, first baseman for the Philadelphia Phillies, takes first steps since he was shot by 19-year-old Ruth Steinhagen in a Chicago North Side hotel. Assisting Waitkus in Illinois Masonic Hospital are Inis Ericson (left), a private nurse, and Mildred Buehler, night supervisor. Waitkus may soon be able to leave the hospital, his physician reported. (AP Wirephoto).

Ruling Hits Woman Who Strayed Before Wedding

NEW YORK, June 28.—(AP)—A man is "justified" in leaving a wife who strayed before marriage, domestic relations Judge I. Montefiere Leavy ruled Monday. Turning down a support action

against a man who left his wife after she admitted she was not a virgin on their wedding day, the judge asserted:

"The law sees no difference if an act is committed by either man or woman. Society does."

Realism From Dream Saves 36 From Fire Death

VANCOUVER, B. C., July 28.—(AP)—A dream which suddenly became a reality saved 36 persons from fire early Monday in a downtown apartment building.

Mrs. Marion King dreamed she heard the crackle of thunder and saw the flash of lightning.

She awoke. Her room was filled with smoke, and flames were flickering outside her window. She aroused her husband who sounded the alarm. All tenants escaped without injury.

Charles King, the husband, fought through smoke and flames to warn the tenants. He was the last man to leave the building. A 46-year-old U. S. Navy veteran, King is handicapped due to the loss of one lung, suffered at Pearl Harbor.

The fire was confined to the top story. No estimate of loss is available.

National Park Service Predicts Tourist Record

WASHINGTON, June 28.—(AP)—The National Park Service has predicted record-breaking travel in the nation's scenic and historic areas this summer.

The agency said visits to national parks, monuments and other areas under its jurisdiction already are 11 per cent ahead of totals for the comparable period last year.

By the end of the current travel year Sept. 30, about 31,000,000 persons are expected to have visited park areas, the service said.

The 1948 total, a record, was 29,608,318.

Yellowstone had 60,091 visitors during the first eight months of the current travel year, compared with 51,492 for a similar period last year.

Decreases in number of visitors are reported from Grand Canyon, Arizona; Carlsbad Caverns, New Mexico; Mt. Rainier, Washington, and Rocky Mountain, Colorado.

Parolee Nabbed After Gun Fight With Police

BAKER, June 27.—(AP)—Lewis James Yohn, Oregon State Penitentiary parolee captured by State Police near here Saturday, today is being returned to Vale to face a charge of stealing an automobile.

Yohn has been in the Baker hospital since his Saturday encounter with State Police Officer Henry Stiltz when he received a broken jaw. Yohn was hiding out near Baker after a gun battle with Vale police.

Reed Scholarship Given Japanese Youth

PORTLAND, June 28.—(AP)—Toyaji Nakamura, 19, son of a former Japanese consul here and great-grandson of the late Japanese Premier, Toyoyoshi Inukai, was awarded a \$500 scholarship to Reed College Monday.

A Portland resident while his father was consul here, Nakamura now lives in Tokyo. He was among 50 high school graduates to win scholarships at Reed.

FOUR CENTS SHORT

PORTLAND, June 28.—(AP)—Mrs. Oscar Johnson, Seneca, told the hospital her 16-month-old son had swallowed a nickel. Several days later hospital attendants said all they had been able to get out of him was a penny.

Never mind the other four cents, Mrs. Johnson replied, she took her son away. She guessed it was her mistake, and wife, whom he did not name, were from a South American country.

Religion Hot Topic As New Israel Debates Old Mosaic Laws For State

By ERIC GOTTGETREU

TEL AVIV, Israel, June 28.—(AP)—The march of events has caught up with the old Hebrew prayers and some Jews in Israel think it is time for a change.

There is the traditional Passover prayer: "This year we are slaves, next year free men."

Jews in Israel feel themselves already free. On Passover there is the fervent wish: "Next year in Jerusalem."

Almost 100,000 Jews are already in Jerusalem. More are likely to settle there. And the rest of the Jews in Israel can go to Jerusalem whenever they desire.

But religion is a hot topic in Israel today. Opinions differ sharply about the degree in which Mosaic tradition should be incorporated officially into the state law, the educational system and public life in general.

Agreement is being sought. It probably will be brought about by a working compromise between those who believe that religious observance should be written into the law of the land and those who lean to separation of synagogue and state.

The orthodox Jews in Israel fear that the younger generation may estrange itself more and more from Jewish religious life.

As a matter of fact this already is apparent in many of the younger settlers and factory workers, and among the Socialist groups. For instance, the leftist Mapam party vehemently opposes the word "God" being written into the preamble of the Israeli Constitution now being drafted.

Most Favor Tolerance. But Jews who want complete identification of religious and national legislation are a minority in Israel. Of the 120 delegates in the Israeli parliament, only 16 are members of the so-called religious bloc. On the other hand only the 19 Mapam delegates and the two Communist deputies could be listed as anti-orthodox.

Most members of parliament are for mutual tolerance and "everybody as he likes," a policy of freedom of conscience and religious opinion.

On the spot are the members of the chief rabbinate. They are called upon to decide such questions as whether theater tickets can be bought on the Sabbath, or whether it is permissible to drive even military cars on the day of rest.

Pious Jews won't travel by vehicle on Saturday or touch any money. It is even forbidden to switch on an electric light.

Rabbi Malmon, the Israel minister of religion, and other leading religious scholars are following

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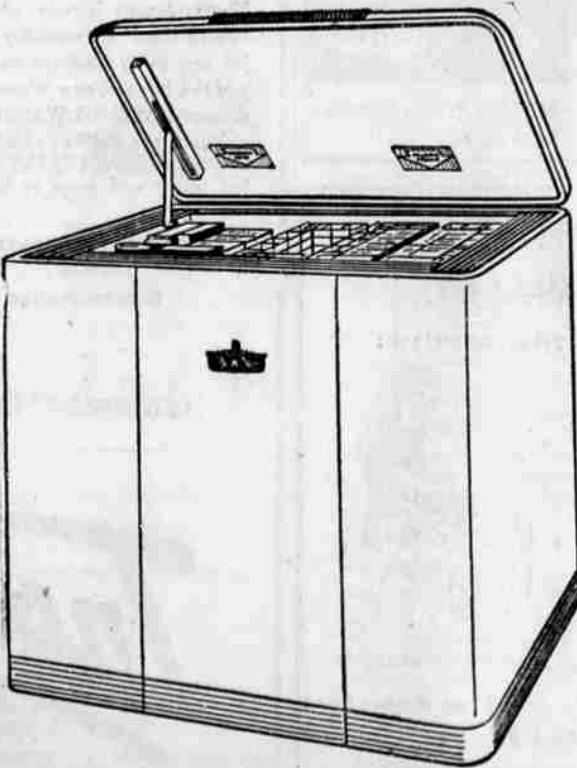
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