

SPORTS

Five Countries Pull Out of Olympic Meet

By RICHARD VOUMARD
United Press Sports Writer
Melbourne — (U.P.) — Australian Olympic officials expressed confidence today that the current international crisis "won't affect the Olympics one scrap," despite the withdrawal already of five nations including Communist China.

"We can only express regret that some members of the Olympic family won't be able to attend the reunion," said Edgar Tanner, organizing secretary of the games which are scheduled to open Nov. 22.

"We certainly won't comment on any political implications," said Tanner. "It's obvious these teams are unable to attend because of reasons outside their control."

Preparations hectic
Similar expressions of confidence were made by Sir William Bridgeford, chief executive officer of the games, and Lewis Luxton, Australian member of the International Olympic committee. However earlier one Australian official had commented, "Preparations are really hectic now. It's dreadful to imagine we might be preparing for a ghost Olympiad."

A record field of 74 nations had been scheduled to compete in this year's games, but the five withdrawals have sliced the lead down to the old record of 69. In addition to Communist China, other nations withdrawing were Spain, Holland, Egypt and Iraq. Norway and Switzerland also have considered withdrawal and Israel has reduced its competing squad to three men.

Logart Opposes Harris Tonight

Chicago — (U.P.) — Cuba's Isaac Logart and Detroit's Duke Harris, both ranked among the world's top ten welterweights, had ulterior motives for a victory in their television fight from the Chicago stadium tonight.

Logart, ranked fourth, wanted a win to prove that his loss to Gaspar Ortega in his last bout was a mistake.

Harris, who never had an amateur fight, wanted a victory to "make some of that top money."

It will be the 13th appearance of Logart on television, which pays each featured fighter \$4,000, while it will be the first video show for Harris, who has had only 26 fights, winning 22.

'Plow-Plant' Corn Field Tops Production

Rochester, N. Y. — (U.P.) — A new "plow-plant" field of corn has produced a better stand than a field planted in the conventional manner.

The "plow-plant" method plows, fertilizes, fits and plants in one operation. The conventional method has five or six operations.

L. B. Skeffington, agricultural editor of the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, said two fields, side by side, exhibited yields of corn from each method, and the corn in the "plow-plant" field was judged the best.

Football Briefs

By UNITED PRESS
DEFENSE RIPPED

Berkeley, Calif. — (U.P.) — The University of California Bears are faced with a problem of coming up with a defense that will stop the potent attack of the multiple offense of Southern California.

Coach Lynn Waldorf had the junior varsity Ramblers running USC plays Tuesday, and they ripped the Cal defense to shreds. On most plays it was the deep men who finally made the tackles.

SEEKS TO AVENGE

Stanford, Calif. — (U.P.) — Coach Chuck Taylor worked his Stanford Indians long and hard Tuesday in preparation for Saturday's all-important battle with the Oregon State Beavers.

The first string worked on defense against the running and passing of the second and third strings, which used Oregon State plays. Taylor said he thought his team could avenge last year's 10-0 defeat at the hands of the Beavers.

QUICK SHIFT

Seattle, Wash. — (U.P.) — The University of Washington varsity team has taken on another new look with Coach Darrell Royal proving once again that he is the master of the quick shift.

Royal, looking forward to Saturday's game with UCLA, moved Talbot George, Mike McCluskey and Jim Jones into the varsity backfield and Due Leland and Ben Hammond into the line.

STEIGER AT HALF

Pullman, Wash. — (U.P.) — Coach Jim Sutherland ignored the rain Tuesday and pushed his Washington State Cougars through a rough offensive scrimmage in preparation for Saturday's game against the University of Oregon Ducks.

It appeared that Sutherland will use Bill Steiger, the nation's leading pass catcher before last week, in the halfback capacity again this Saturday. Steiger played halfback against USC last week and added considerable punch to the Cougar running game.

OSC EXPECTS PASSES

Corvallis, Ore. — (U.P.) — The Oregon State Beavers will concentrate on pass defense this week end in preparation for the vaunted passing attack of the Stanford Indians, according to Coach Tommy Prothro.

The Beavers will have only three long drills during the week before flying out of here Friday morning and holding a Friday afternoon workout at Stanford.

DUCKS PRIME DEFENSE

Eugene, Ore. — (U.P.) — The University of Oregon Ducks, fresh from a 28-6 upset of California, are concentrating on defensive maneuvers designed to stop the Washington State passing attack.

Coach Len Casanova said he would give his boys a good offensive workout today to keep his speedy backfield in shape for the game, which could be held in the rain.

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — Coach Henry (Red) Sanders put his UCLA Bruins through a rugged two-hour drill Tuesday in preparation for Saturday's game against the Washington Huskies at Seattle.

The Bruins spent most of the practice stressing tackling and passing. Kirk Wilson, who leads the nation in punting with a 46.5 yard average, also practiced kicking under pressure.

PASSED UNDER PRESSURE

Los Angeles — (U.P.) — The University of Southern California Trojans worked hard on pass defense Tuesday, indicating that they expect a heavy aerial attack in the California game Saturday.

Frank Hall played the role of the Bears' Joe Kapp and passed under pressure. Hall, a senior, has used up his five-game eligibility but is permitted to practice.

SOX SIGN COACH

Chicago — (U.P.) — Johnny Cooney, former Boston Braves pitcher and outfielder, has signed with the Chicago White Sox as a pitching-outfield coach for the 1956 season.

1,800 MADE HOMELESS

San Juan, P.R. — (U.P.) — The Puerto Rican Red Cross estimated today that some 1,800 persons were made homeless by tidal waves in the wake of Hurricane Greta.

BODY BEING RETURNED

Havana — (U.P.) — The body of Albert F. Nufer, U.S. ambassador to the Philippines, will be flown here from Manila for burial, his widow said today. Nufer died of a coronary thrombosis in Manila Tuesday. His wife, the former Dolores Cabrera, and their two daughters remained in seclusion at a farm near Havana.

Catching Fleas Big Business In Italian Town

Bologna — (U.P.) — To catch a flea around these parts is quite a business; as much as \$5 to \$10 a day can be earned by a specialist in the art.

The flea in question is not the kind that tries to find a home on man. It is a kind of water-flea that hops about and can be just as annoying as its animal-loving cousin.

The main district where these flea-catching specialists operate in Italy is at San Giovanni in Persiceto about five miles north of Bologna in central Italy. And the scientific name of the flea is Daphnia Pulex which aquarium owners all over the world know as the most delicious morsel for any of their fish pets.

Flea-catchers in San Giovanni are known as "Pulciaroli." Fifty years ago there were over 2,000 of them, but each year since they have dwindled. Today there are only about 100 in the district, and the "profession" is traditionally confined to several families.

Part-time Work

It is believed that flea-catching began at the time when Bologna goldfish were the craze in Victorian homes of England. Many English tourists took a jar of goldfish back with them. Some kind of food had to be found for these fish as journeys were long in those days. Hence Daphnia Pulex and the flea-catching specialists.

It is not a full-time job, usually beginning the first day of July and ending about mid-October. The catchers leave their village and stay out in the country for the whole season.

They catch the fleas, which are about the same size as a domestic flea, with long gauze nets as they constantly hop out of the water. As soon as the fleas are caught they are spread out on canvas strips to dry in the sun. Normally brown in the water, they turn a pale gold color when dried.

At the end of the season the whole catch is sold to a Bologna firm which packs them in plastic bags for worldwide dispatch. A label on the packet reads: "Fishfood—Natural Dried Daphnia Pulex."

American motor truck builders now produce more than one million units per year—approximately half of the world's annual output.

Miss Brown Leaves For Contest Finals

Miss Dona Brown, route 4, box 450, Grants Pass, local winner of the "Make It With Wool" contest and Jackson county 4-H club member, will leave for Portland Thursday to attend the finals in the annual Oregon contest sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of the National Wool Growers association. Thirty-four district winners will participate.

Miss Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. L. Brown who live on the Applegate, entered her 4-H club project of a wool skirt and jacket in the contest.

Friday morning in Portland the girls will have modeling practice and a pre-style review judging at the Imperial hotel before attending the final showing at Meier and Franks' tearoom in the afternoon.

Mrs. Brown will accompany her daughter.

Luxembourg Rioters Invade Soviet Embassy

Luxembourg — (U.P.) — Shouting and chanting demonstrators invaded the Soviet embassy Tuesday night and threw furniture and dishes of caviar out through the windows, police reported today.

Some 5,000 demonstrators gathered in the center of the city and marched to the Soviet embassy carrying banners protesting the Russian invasion of Hungary.

No One Found Worthy Of Nobel Peace Prize

Oslo — (U.P.) — The Norwegian Nobel Prize Committee has found no one worthy of receiving the Nobel peace prize this year. It was announced today.

It was the second straight year that the peace prize has not been awarded. The committee announced today that the 1955 prize will not be awarded at all and that the 1956 award will be held over for next year.



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