

It is more than a pity that the French themselves were not present to defend their own school. Nedo Nadi's skill would then most certainly have been put to a severer test — and his glory have been the greater had he still been the victor.

II. A. ÉPÉE TEAM COMPETITION.

9—10 July.

Protocol.

Elimination Series				Final	
1st round		2nd round			
Tuesday, 9 July				Wednesday, 10 July	
9—1.30		2—6.30		9—3	
I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Holland. I 3. Germany. II 	I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Holland. Win. 2. Great Britain. Win. 3. Bohemia. 4. Denmark. 	Final	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Holland. 2. Great Britain. 3. Belgium. 4. Sweden.
II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Russia. I 2. Great Britain. I 3. Belgium. II 				
III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bohemia. I 2. Norway. I 3. Sweden. II 				
IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Denmark. I 2. Greece. II 3. U. S. A. 	II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Germany. Win. 3. Belgium. Win. 2. Sweden. 1. Greece. 		

Result:

1. BELGIUM.
2. GREAT BRITAIN.
3. HOLLAND.

The épée competitions began on July 9th. The épée is the arm that, during the last two decades, has worked its way onwards to the first place in fencing programmes; with much grandesse it has compelled the foil to yield its pride of place, and has quite won the favour of the public.

But épée fencing deserves all possible encouragement, for it affords the spectacle of a play as fine, if not finer than that given by the foil, while, at the same time, it demands of its exponent a real knowledge of the art of fencing. The reproach often directed by the lovers of the épée against fencers with the foil, that their play is all too conventional, can, with much show of reason, be also addressed to the former too; the restrictions blamed differing merely in kind. But, by degrees, the influence of international meetings, and the proper elaboration and application of such criticisms, will be sure to rub off the rough corners of both.

The programme of the épée competitions displayed the fine figure of no less than eleven nations prepared to enter the lists. The

contest was one of special interest to us, Swedes; our team fighting its way on to the final, and, at one moment promising to carry off the third prize.

The draws for the rounds were so arranged that, of three nation-teams in the pools of the first round, two appeared in the second round, while, of four teams in the pools of the second round, two remained for the final, so that no team was excluded from the final unless it had met, and lost against, two other teams at least.

The table given above shows how the nations struggled on the path leading to the final, and it was a pleasure for us, quite naturally, that the Swedish team held its own so long.

The struggle in the final was a hot one, and marked by constantly varying fortunes. The Belgians issued successful from the contest, having beaten all their opponents, thus making sure of the gold medal. The other teams proved to be so well matched that, after the first meeting, they stood equal, with one win and two defeats each. The original intention had been that, in the event of this (barrage) happening, the ties should be fought out, but in consequence of pressure of time and other circumstances, it was determined, later on, that the placing should be settled by the number of hits received. This was fatal to the Swedish team, for it was found that its total hits received amounted to 32, the Dutch team counting but 30, and Great Britain's, only 28.

There were many exciting moments during the course of the final, the result of the matches between the British and Dutch teams, on the one hand, and the Dutch and the Swedish teams on the other, depending on one — the last — hit alone. In the last-named match, the meeting was especially interesting, as it had to be re-fought, in consequence of a fault in the judging leading to a protest which was upheld by the jury of honour. As was said above, the three nations in question proved to be pretty equal, but Holland's team fought on with an energy worthy of all admiration, even when, on one or two occasions, its chances of success seemed very dark. The team's motto was, very evidently "Never despair", and it finally succeeded in gaining third place.

II B. Individual Épée Competition.

11—13 July.

Protocol.

Elimination Series : 1st Round.

11-12 July

I	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grönhagen, Å. E. Swed. 2. de Jongh, H. ... Holl. I 3. Notaris, S. Greece II 4. Guoworsky, P. ... Russ. 5. Levison Denm. III 6. Alexander, G. R. G. Brit. 7. Lichtenfels, J. ... Germ. 8. Willems, V. Belg. 	II	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hassanein, A. M. Egyp. 2. Manos Greece V 3. Anspach, P. Belg. IV 4. Schwarz, F. Germ. 5. Soldatencow, A. Russ. 6. Enell, K. H. A. Swed. 7. Berthelsen, J.O.H. Denm. VI 8. Tucek, J. Boh.
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