

## OLYMPICS REVIVED AFTER YEAR'S REST

Freshmen Run Away With Sophomores Grabbing Long End of 65-35 Score

In the 1919 olympics the freshmen, over-confident of a "walkaway," were surprised when the second-year men ran them a neck to neck race for points in the individual combats, and showed up so well in the free-for-alls. The outcome of the big battle was really in doubt until the freshmen won the pole rush with ease. This was the deciding event. Many a time during the boxing and wrestling encounters the stands of Freshmen were silent as the sophomores struck off victory after victory.

The final score 65 to 35 shows why the day was so exciting. It was a loss-up until the final pole rush, when the freshmen, outnumbering their combatants nearly 4 to 1, tore down the sophomore flag. After this it was a "cinch" that the freshmen green caps were ready for the discard—wood pile, or otherwise.

"Chic" Hartley, captain of the freshmen football squad, was the first freshman to reach the top of the pole and drag "Bob" Anderson, sophomore trusty, down from his perch, after a lively tussle.

The pushball contest, was replaced by a cane rush, due to the inability of the Iowa school to supply the ball this year. The cane rush proved almost as barbaric as the pole fight, and many warriors were cast on the sod as a result of the scrimmage. Cane rushes have been used with success in many eastern schools, and have been abolished in some because of their extreme roughness. This year the rush ended in a draw, as ten men of both classes had a firm hold on the cane when the end came.

The freshmen pulled the haughty sophomores all over the field in the tug-of-war. The 440-yard relay was easily won by Deering, a sophomore sprinter.

Much interest was displayed in the wrestling and boxing contests. The 135 lb wrestling match between Ealter, sophomore, and Dobish, freshman was an evenly matched struggle which ended in a tie.

Brock, a sophomore, won the light-weight wrestling, followed by another decisive sophomore victory when in the 150 lb. class Wertz threw Wiltz in a whirlwind three minutes. Thompson, a freshman, carried off the honors in the heavy weight wrestling event. In boxing, Edward Gardner in the light weight class won from his freshman opponent, but the first-year class succeeded in winning all other bouts when the sophomores tried to produce any heavy weight champion, and when Painter and North lost to agile and cunning freshmen.

Harry Troendley refereed the wrestling matches, and J. Barnes the boxing contests. Byron McMahon acted as time keeper. The Innocents managed the entire program and the success of the gladiatorial battles is due entirely to their efforts.

Keen rivalry was shown between the classes. Pen and sword, in a figurative sense, were kept busy for weeks before the combat. Both classes held enormous "pep" meetings. John Lawlor headed the sophomore olympics committee and Dan Lynch was chairman for the freshmen. Articles regarding the plans and preparations of both classes were written in the Nebraskan day by day by Jack Austin, class reporter for the freshmen and Story Harding, for the sophomores. Often these articles directly rebutted each other.

### Pre-Olympic Battle

The day before the battle, several pre-olympic struggles occurred. About 3 o'clock that afternoon, a fierce struggle occurred between the Sigma Chi and Phi Psi Freshmen against the Phi Kappa Psi sophomores. Secret meetings were later held by both classes to prevent the kidnapping of their presidents and olympics chairmen, and the freshmen attended a rally Friday evening with clubs in their hands to protect their president, Turner Tefft. These actions were misunderstood by a body of sophomores who thought the first-year men were marching toward them for a bloody combat. Several prominent men of athletic ability of both classes were kidnapped but returned to their classmates before the fight Saturday morning. There were not many fraternity men of either class who stayed at their particular chapter house Friday night. It was not safe, and besides those who did were rewarded, especially the freshmen, with painted faces an ultra hair-cuts.

### History

Largely because the University of Nebraska was at all times conscious that out-door sports make superior men of the American and Canadian type, and that they foster good sportsmanship, the Olympics were conceived as a type of mass athletics in which every Freshman and Sophomore should feel it his duty to participate. In other universities as at Nebraska the annual Freshman-Sophomore "scrap," heavily clothed in tradition as a class event, had been in vogue. Nebraska wanted to have something just a little different.

The fact that some college fights were childishly detrimental, senseless, and trivial, was not denied. The spirit of "fair play" did not exist, and as a consequence property was destroyed, and bad feeling was engendered which menaced the harmony of school and class spirit and endangered real athletic successes.

Realizing that no good could come from "class scraps" of this nature, the idea of turning a waste product into a profitable one and at the same time furnishing the same "spirit of combat," was accepted as a feasible and sensible innovation.

Accordingly in the fall of 1908, the first Olympics were arranged at the University of Nebraska. The name "Nebraska Olympics" was suggested by Dean C. E. Bessey and was enthusiastically adopted. Committees were appointed from the Freshman and Sophomore classes and arrangements were completed. On November 14, 1908, the first Olympics were held establishing one of Nebraska's strongest traditions, with Dr. G. E. Condra and the upperclassmen at the helm.

Since that memorable day in November, 1908, each year, excepting war-stricken 1918, has produced its annual battle of the underclasses. Each side has shared in victory as well as tasted defeat, and both sides have come thru it more firmly welded together in Nebraska spirit and Nebraska tradition.

The Olympics were initiated to satisfy the "spirit of combat" between the two underclasses and to take the place of "class scraps." In order to be such they could not be a "denatured product." Olympics are of necessity rough. The roughness, however, is within strict rules of the game, and the important spirit of good sportsmanship is predominant.

That they have fulfilled their mission in this respect is evidenced by the fact that with the exception of a few unpopular outbursts of tumultuous "pep" along the wrong channels, true sportsmanship has been the hard and fast rule at Nebraska since November, 1908.

Since their inception the Olympics have been almost free from unfairness on the part of the participants. This fact alone, which indicates a tendency toward the cultivation of "good sportsmanship," speaks well for the tradition.

Furthermore, these contests bring to the limelight, especially among the first-year students, athletic material which would otherwise escape notice.

The fact that a man has participated in the olympics becomes a part of his school history and part of his life and the recurrent memories serve to bind him more closely and more dearly in "Nebraska spirit," "Nebraska tradition," "Nebraska honor," and Nebraska University.

This year marked the return of the ancient custom after a year's absence when thoughts were turned to battlefields and world struggles. The Olympics of November 15, were the most expressive of Nebraska spirit of all "scraps" which had been written in history.

Three thousand cheering spectators, not all students, but professors, mothers, fathers, and sisters and brothers, thronged the small stands at the M Street Ball Park to witness one of the hardest fought battles in the annals of Freshman-Sophomore struggles.

The new doorkeeper at the museum had evidently learned the rules by heart before taking over the job. "Here, sir, you must leave your umbrella at the door," he said to a visitor who was going straight through the turnstile. "But I haven't got any umbrella" the visitor pleaded. "Then you must go back and get one," was the stern reply. No one is allowed to pass here unless he leaves his umbrella at the door.

The cultured young lady from Boston had mentioned so often that she spoke half a dozen different languages that the company was getting decidedly bored, as no one present was able to prove her powers as a linguist. Finally she turned to a tall, lank gentleman, and asked, "And how many languages do you speak, Mr. Blank?" Three, ma'am, drawled the Southerner; "poor English, fair Virginian and perfect nigger."

# Thanksgiving

## Dinner

at

# The Lincoln Hotel

Served from 12 to 2 P. M.  
and 6 to 8 P. M.

\$1.50 Per Cover



# The Inauguration of our First SUPPER DANCE

of the Season

Thanksgiving Night, Nov. 27th

Commencing at nine o'clock  
\$1.50 per Cover. War Tax Extra

Reservations accepted until 6 p. m.  
Nov. 27, 1919. Phone B-3483 or  
B-1560.

# Extremely Feminine

Featuring an entirely new boot, of mahogany calf, with high, slender Louis heel, new tipped toe, street sole, 10 inch all leather top. A style that befits street or dress—



Special Friday and Saturday **8.95**

Replacement Value 14.00

Anti-Profiteer **BUDD** 1037 O Street