

S P O R T S

A recent number of the Hungarian Statistical Review contained very interesting data relating to the number of persons actively engaged as competitors in sport. The material for the statement in question has been supplied by the big sporting clubs. The principal figures of this statement are the following:

Branch of Sport	No. of Persons Actively Engaged in Sport			
	in Budapest		in the Provinces	
	Total	Women	Total	Women
Football	25.120	—	62.493	—
Athletics	10.283	388	26.557	480
Swimming	4.811	1.206	8.265	1.902
Gymnastics	4.045	1.892	8.014	2.846
Wrestling	1.104	—	1.965	—
Lawn-tennis	584	180	1.065	330
Hockey	624	42	829	42
Table tennis	530	87	818	113
Boxing	619	—	771	—
Cycling	422	—	758	—
Rowing	585	—	709	—
Fencing	396	23	647	49
Handball	610	152	610	152
Skiing	388	69	430	72
Golf	169	41	169	41
Skating	88	12	102	19
Total	50.378	4.092	114.202	6.046

The above statistics refer, however, only to persons actively engaged as competitors, the number of persons taking part in the various branches merely for the sport not being given at all. This fact is of peculiar importance in the case of lawn tennis, which is already beginning to develop into a really popular game. The situation is the same in respect also of skating and skiing. The statement does not contain any figures at all relating to shooting and pigeon shooting, to ice hockey, polo and riding, all of which branches are practised by very large numbers of enthusiasts. Should we add to the above statistics also the tourists, watermen not belonging to clubs and the boy scouts and girl guides (the tourists of course representing the biggest masses), as also the crowds of sporting youths brought into action by the "Levente" institution and the sporting activity of the arms, we should obtain figures showing the enormous

— almost unparalleled — popularity of sport in Hungary.

So far the activity in evidence in the field of sport has not been excessive; for, while on the one hand the disappearance of the snow and frost has put an end to winter sports, on the other hand the tardy approach of spring has prevented the resumption of open-air sporting life.

FENCING

Early in March, at Naples, there was a fencing match between Italy, France and Hungary, the representatives of Hungary once more scoring a brilliant victory over the Italian sword fencers. The hall in which the fencing match was held was packed with an enthusiastic crowd of spectators; the Hungarian sword fencers won against Italy by 6 to 3. The value of the success of the Hungarian team is enhanced by the fact that the three representatives of Hungary were all young fencers who had never previously taken part in an Olympic match.

HOCKEY

During the Easter holidays the Hungarian Hockey Club will play against an English team. Negotiations have been opened with the world-famed Cambridge team. The last English hockey team to visit Budapest was that of Oxford University, which played against the Hungarian Hockey Club and — besides winning the game — achieved a memorable social success. Their play here contributed very largely to induce the advance in Hungarian hockey sport which has since ensued.

MOTOR SPORT

The grand automobile exhibition in Berlin promises to ensure the success of the Budapest Motor-Car Beauty Contest. All the American, Italian, German, Austrian, French and British factories have announced their intention to compete; indeed, in some cases the factories are bringing to Budapest for the occasion all the material that figured at the exhibition. The events will include the first Elegance Contest, which to all appearances promises to be the first important automobile and social display of the spring season in Budapest.