

Racial discrimination

GREAT PROGRESS IN SOUTH AFRICA

The South African non-white athletic and cyclist bodies have affiliated to the respective european bodies. In the *Star Johannesburg* of February 8th we read that now the non-white boxers have also gained affiliation to the South African Amateur Boxing Association. The European body, it is said, which controls that sport in South Africa, will do everything possible to encourage non-white amateur boxing and to assist them in sending teams outside the Union. This was decided at a council meeting of the South African Association on February 7th when the chairman Mr. Frank Braun said: 'If we don't accept the affiliation of non-white boxers we will be thrown out of the International Boxing Association. The problem is extremely urgent.'

It is to be known that the South African Olympic Council, following in that the request of the International Olympic Committee, has appealed to affiliated sports

associations to accept the affiliation of non-white bodies. It has even declared: 'It is up to all of us to do the best we can for non-whites.' The South African Olympic Council has also declared that they have been given assurance from the Government that non-european sportsmen would be given the necessary facilities to travel overseas. Unfortunately non-white will still not be able to fight in national trials in South Africa but, if necessary, special trials could be arranged in Rhodesia or even in private. In our opinion, this important problem has also to be studied. On the other hand it has been foreseen that non-white boxers will be included in the South African team of fourteen which is due to tour in Great Britain in September next, if they are up to standard and have proved their worth.

That is how the situation has improved in South Africa.