

### III. British Sport

III-1 Anglin, Jay P. "The Schools of Defense in Elizabethan London," *Renaissance Quarterly*, 37. No. 3 (Autumn 1984). 393-410.

Under royal approach, circa 1540, the corporate society of the "Maisters of the Noble Science of Defense" became the authoritative body in England to license and supervise fencing masters and their schools in the training of gentleman and yeomen students in traditional English weaponry and defensive methods. The corporation's constitution, under the direction of four ancient masters, established guidelines for fees, instruction, and organized competitions in which students could display mastery of various weapons by "playing" for prizes. Successful players would be able to advance to a higher rank in the corporate hierarchy, e.g., from free scholar to provost to master (a rank achieved through successful contests employing seven different weapons). Most competitions were open to the public and were generally held in theatres, inns, or noble residences: some contests were staged for Tudor monarchs at Hampton Court. Despite the corporation's warnings against the offense-oriented Italian and Spanish methods, these continental fencing schools flourished in the 1590s. Although notices of competitions as well as publications of treatises on defense by Jacobean

masters of defense were evidenced as late as 1605, it is not known how long the corporation was able to survive the most popular continental competition. Based upon primary sources and secondary works; 53 notes.

—Eleanor B. English

III-2 Burnell, Richard. "Those Were the Days: Henley-The Early Years," *Rowing*, 29, No. 325 (July 1986), 16.

The townspeople of Henley, not rowing men, established the first annual regatta in 1839 to promote their own town and to amuse their residents. From four entries in the Grand Challenge Cup for eights and three boats in the Town Cup for fours, the Henley Regatta expanded by introducing the Stewards Cup in 1841, the Diamond Sculls in 1844, the Ladies Plate and the Silver Goblets in 1845, and the Thames Cup in 1868. The Henley's rules were highlighted by only one rule dealing directly with the racing—that no fouling be permitted—probably because not until 1868 were rowing men involved in running the Regatta. Only after 1851, when Prince Albert became the Patron of the Regatta, did the Henley Royal Regatta begin to prosper. No notes.

—Angela Lumpkin

III-3 Crawford, Scott A. G. M. "Scottish Highland Games of the Early Nineteenth Century," *Scottish Journal of Physical Education*, 13, No. 4 (December 1985), 6-10.

The first Highland Society in 1781 sought to perpetuate traditional Highland customs including music, dances, pastimes, and dialects. Life in the early years of the 19th century was grim, especially as wealthy country English gentlemen tried to forcibly depopulate the Highlands. The motivations for the early Gatherings were intense rivalry and standing within the clan until the people's Highland Games were institutionalized by the landed aristocracy. Athletic pastimes, such as throwing the hammer, putting the stone, tossing the caber, and running, comprised the first "modern" Highland Games in 1832, although piping and dancing, reading and translating the Gaelic language, the tug-of-war, wrestling, and the hop, step, and leap were held at later Gatherings. The author's thesis was that the "revived" Games were romanticized versions of the earlier Highland Games that sought to create a particular atmosphere which in the past had automatically existed. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 33 notes.

—Angela Lumpkin

III-4 Maclean, H. N. "English and American Sport," *Canadian Forum*, 32, No. 382 (November 1952), 172-174.

Sports are and have been pursued in America according to a philosophy different from that which has prevailed and prevails in England. The basic difference is a contrasting attitude toward control or elimination of chance. By looking at cricket and baseball, contrasting forms of football, and other games, we see that the English generally accept chance as a factor in determining outcomes, whereas Americans

attempt to reduce the importance of chance to a minimum and even, ultimately, to eliminate it. No notes.

—Morris Mott