

SPORT

Boxing

As an aftermath to the terrific beating he received at the hands of Joe Louis, burly Abe Simon, in a dramatic announcement on April 21, declared that he was permanently retiring from the ring. The towering 250-pounder's retirement is at the insistence of his bride of a few months and a number of psychiatrists, who have traced his present ailment to the battering he received from the Brown Bomber.

On the other side of the Big Pond, only important boxing matches will be allowed in future. This forces the majority of the approximately 3,000 leather-pushers of Great Britain to turn to pushing some other business.

In Germany, Max Schmeling, who has been released from his war duties as a parachutist, has announced that he will return to the ring in the near future. It will be interesting to see to what degree his military exploits have influenced his boxing ability.

Inter-Collegiate Sports in America

At Kansas City the Stanford Indians proved themselves "masters-of-the-hoop" by winning the National College Basketball Championship before a record-breaking crowd of 6,000 spectators, when they defeated Dartmouth University 53:38.

Yale University on the same day won the N.C.A.A. national swimming title at Cambridge, Mass., when they won 5 out of 11 events and placed in all the others, aggregating 71 points. Sixteen other teams competed in the meet, but, with the exception of the Michigan Wolverines and Ohio State, they only managed to scratch the point column.

On the cinder track the Seytonwall College set a new mark for the two-mile relay with 7 min. 32.9 sec., while John Borrican further confirmed America's claim to hegemony on the track and field by establishing a new record for 880 yards with 1 min. 50.5 sec.

Super Mermaid

Ragnhild Hveger, proud possessor of a dozen or so world swimming records, established two new ones, or rather, bettered two of her own. Denmark's pride covered the 440 yards in 5 min. 11.5 sec., cutting her previous time by more than a second. A few weeks later she bettered her time for 500 meters by almost 5 seconds, setting up a new mark of 5 min. 53 sec.

Football

War or no war, the international football games in Europe seem to go on. On April 13 the national teams of Germany and Spain tied 1:1 in Berlin, and a few days later

the Italian national team beat Spain by a score of 5 to 0 in Milan.

75,000 spectators attended the international match between England and Scotland at Glasgow. The Scottish team, which had been beaten twice before this season by England, pleasantly surprised its supporters by winning by 5 goals to 4. With many other attractions, chiefly horse-racing, absent or severely restricted, and people obeying the Government's request to travel as little as possible, very large crowds have been thronging the football grounds all over the country.

Baseball

The bat-wielders are well under way both in America and Japan. Brooklyn's "bums," the Daffy Dodgers, after a bad start moved into first place in the National League by virtue of a smashing 9:2 victory over the Boston Braves, clouting a procession of three Boston pitchers for a total of 11 runs. In the American League the rejuvenated St. Louis Browns amazed their home-town fans by giving last year's champions, the New York Yankees, a close tussel for first place.

In Japan, the spring "Big Six" baseball season opened on April 18 at the Meiji Shrine Stadium. It will be recalled that Waseda University mopped up all opposition last fall, and they are again given the best odds for winning the final laurels this season.

War and Rubber Balls

While overseas sports activities are being restricted for various reasons—in Australia, for instance, to bring home to the population the seriousness of the present state of emergency, and in Argentina because of various shortages—the Japanese Government is doing all in its power to keep sports going despite the war. Beginning in the middle of April, the Japan Athletic Goods Distribution Company is to distribute more than 90,000 dozen rubber balls, including soft balls, tennis balls, and balls for other games. According to the *Chugai Shogyo*, baseball and tennis fans in the Tokyo Prefecture stand to receive 10,430 dozen soft balls and 4,917 dozen tennis balls, while 875 dozen ordinary rubber balls will be distributed to women factory employees.

No Pan-American Olympic Games

The USA and Cuba having been the first to refuse participation, the other American Republics have now agreed to postpone the Pan-American Games, which were scheduled to open in Buenos Aires on November 21, till after the war.—H.