

# UNFORTUNATE FENCING DISPUTE

YOUNG IRISH fencer with a grievance about his non-selection for the Olympic Games is Laurence Gough of the University College club in Dublin. The 19-year-old student felt some weeks ago that as he is one of a very few fencers in Ireland to have passed the qualifying standard he should have been seriously considered for the trip to Mexico City and when he found that he had not been selected he expressed strong views on the matter. He held, rightly or wrongly, that he had been passed over in favour of men he is capable of defeating in trials. Of the four named for Ireland's squad some are

selectors, he pointed out to the Olympic Council of Ireland.

Soon afterwards he was shocked to learn that the Irish Fencing Federation had expelled him for life on an allegation that he has brought the organisation into public disrepute. Gough now intends to bring the controversy to the notice of the International Fencing Federation in Paris. Is there no one in Dublin who, for the sake of the prestige of the sport in Ireland, will bring the Irish Fencing Federation executive and Gough together for a heart-to-heart talk which could end in settlement of the unfortunate dispute?

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FS August 21st 1968.