

IS WORLD CHAMPION

Cuba Boy Only American to Capture a First—Wrestler at Olympic Games.

The news that came by cable last Saturday that "Ed" Ackerly had won the contest in the feather-weight class of the wrestlers in the Olympic games was naturally received with great enthusiasm in Cuba and elsewhere where his prowess is well known. His victory was especially notable from the fact that he was the only American to secure a first in the wrestling division, and also because in the final struggle he defeated in a decisive fashion the only grappler who had ever in a match obtained a decision over him. This was Gerson of Pennsylvania, who last year in the meeting between Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania, after a gruelling struggle in which neither contestant secured a fall, was given the decision on points, a decision which was considered of doubtful justice. In the trial bouts at Antwerp, Ackerly defeated Dialetes of Greece and Kaiser of Switzerland and Gerson was successful over Makinson of England and Barathou of France. Ackerly therefore is surely entitled to the highest championship honors in the branch of athletic work he has especially devoted himself to from his earliest college days. The recognition of his high merit came to him in a distinguished manner when he received last Monday the prize he had won from the hands of Albert, the gallant king of the Belgians. It was feared that his injured ankle would be a serious handicap in his bouts abroad but with careful training and judicious treatment he was enabled to appear in the arena, as the result showed, in excellent physical condition. Plans are being considered here to celebrate in some fitting fashion the success he has so honorably and effectively earned.