

BUSTER CRABBE QUALIFIES FOR 1,500 METERS

Kitamura Comes From Behind To Take First Place In Qualifying Heat

Japanese Threat To Win Swimming Events Appears Again This Morning

(Associated Press by Wireless)

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 11.

—The Japanese threat to win the swimming events of the Olympiad appeared again today as Kusuo Kitamura, 14 year old Nipponese, defeated Clarence (Buster) Crabbe of the United States and Jean Taris of France in the first heat of the 1,500 meter freestyle for men.

Kitamura was third for the first half of the distance with Crabbe first and Taris second, but at 1,000 meters Kitamura took the lead and finished 15 yards ahead of Crabbe, who took second in a terrific race with Taris.

Kitamura's time was 19 minutes 55.2 seconds.

The first two men in each heat and the fastest third qualify for the final.

Both Appear Tired

Crabbe and Taris appeared tired after their stirring race Wednesday, while Kitamura, without the handicap of previous competition, finished strong.

Crabbe led his French opponent by two yards from the 1,000 meters until the last lap, when Taris came up with a rousing finish which fell short of beating Crabbe only by inches as the United States swimmer answered the challenge.

James Cristy of the University of Michigan won the second heat by a wide margin over Andrew Charlton, 1924 champion from Australia, and Sunao Ishibarada of Japan.

A capacity crowd of 12,000 was present for this afternoon's races which opened with the 1,500 meter freestyle preliminaries. Ralph Flanagan, Miami Beach, Fla., youth, won the race by three yards over Noel Ryan of Australia after eating a large steak smothered in catsup.

Flanagan and Ryan swam neck and neck in the early stages, but Flanagan pulled away in the last three laps.

Yoshiuki Tsuruta of Japan won the first heat of the 200 meter breaststroke preliminaries for men, coming home an easy winner over Kijirum Adjaluudin of the Philippines, who was second. Tsuruta was 10 feet ahead and pulling away.