Bossini, Enrique (Maestro de esgrima of the Italian School, Professor of Arms of the Casino Militar and of the Sala de la Guarnicion de Melilla); *La Esgrima Moderna: Tratado teorico-practico de la esgrima de floret, espada y sable*; 2nd edition; [book]; translation from the Spanish language by Walter G. Green III, Ph.D.; Bosch, Barcelona, Spain; 1946

Extracts from *La Esgrima Moderna*

Spanish Foil

It looks like the Italian in that it has quillons (unequal and asymmetrically placed in the Spanish model). Its handle, square in section, is straight and divided into two parts by the metal piece from which the quillons come, attached to the cup by uneven arches.

A small spherical cap, a rosette, of a diameter smaller than that of the cup disposed between this and the blade, allows the placement of the most advanced part of the handle and the work of the assembly. (page 31)

Manner of holding the Foil: The Spanish Foil

Arrange the weapon so that the larger quillon is up, the index and heart fingers are inserted into the lower quillon under the handle; the thumb resting on the upper flat part of the same. The large quillon is supported against the soft parts of the muscular layer comprised between the thumb and index finger, and precisely against the interdigital membrane; the ring and the little finger as indicated for the Italian floret. (page 33)

Scientific considerations on foil fencing (Rossaroll and Grisetti)

As we have already said, fencing is art and science at the same time.

It is art and we have shown them; It is science because its rules are based on mechanical laws.

The construction of the foil was made based on the principle of the levers.

The foil can be considered as a third-generation lever, that is, as those levers that have their power between the fulcrum and the resistance.

The power arm is represented by that portion of the weapon between the lower end of the handle (precisely where it touches the guard for the Spanish and French model, near the ricasso for the Italian model) and the last third of it, where are placed the ring and little fingers.

The resistance arm is represented by the entire length of the weapon.

The fulcrum is then fixed on that part of the handle where the last fingers of the hand are supported, which precisely by the position they take determine it in this place. (pages 136-137, and figure 31)

The accompanying figure on page 137 clearly identifies the pommel as the fulcrum.

The Sword *(Epee)*

In Spain, Professor Adelardo Sanz later founded his own school with a special model that he still today calls Spanish Sword. Few Spaniards recognized the merits of this master, many censured him and they did not want to see the true fondness to the noble sport, united to a deep competence. (page 154)

The sword and its nomenclature - We have three main models of sword: Italian, Spanish and French.

The Italian and Spanish models are related to the respective foils, the blade is triangular and heavier; also the guard, handle and pommel have more weight and are larger to establish the necessary balance..

Of the Italian models the Greco off-center sword is preferable.

The swords of French model are the ones that today are more used in the duels. (page 157)