

# Olympic Village 'Really Something'

Olympic Games road cyclist Peter Pryor, who will compete in cycling events at the Games tomorrow, has written to his family in Australia describing life in the Australian section of the Olympic village in Helsinki.

Mr. Pryor is a nephew of Mr. H. Pryor, of North Gosford.

He described Helsinki as "a really wonderful place, very pretty and clean cut."

"The shops are better stocked than are those in England. There is tons of food here and the prices are low. Lots of things are cheaper than back home.

"I wished I had about £500 to spend as there are so many things in each country that are cheap or different.

"We visited the stadium and went up to the top of the tower in a lift. The view from there is magnificent. The stadium is really wonderful—an art piece.

## "MARVELLOUS JOB"

"The village is really something. It consists of blocks of flats. We are in our own flat which is self-contained.

"The Finns have done a marvellous job and we have something to beat or even equal in 1956.

"The food is just right. I don't think it could be improved on.

"The children crowd outside the camp waiting for autographs. They are wonderful children. Most of the boys click their heels and the girls curtsy and they all say, 'Thank you.'

"The girls are mostly very pretty—far better than back home or in England.

"All of them have beautiful complexions. There are beautiful, blue-eyed, sun-tanned blondes everywhere.

"The camp life is great. It is good to mix with folks from all over the world. There are all sports here, from Japanese to Germans, and they are all friendly.

## SURPRISED AT FORM

## SURPRISED AT FORM

"I've never seen anything like the cycling track—it's a beauty. It is a 400 metres concrete track with very steeply-banked bends which blend beautifully into the straights, which are not quite long enough.

"I was surprised at my form. I led Lionel Cox out and he beat me by a length in 12.4 seconds. When he led me, he dropped me three lengths at the 200 metres, but I just missed by inches in 12.6 seconds. We were both on 88in gear and it was windy too, so I am quite happy.

"Apparently the road work

I am doing is just about right for the track. We cannot tell how our road form is as we cannot get any road races at all.

"The road course is wicked. I hope we don't puncture.

"The weather is wonderful. It's so warm that often we don't need jumpers.

## RACES ON CONTINENT

"I have a boat ticket from here to Stockholm and a train ticket from Copenhagen to Brussels. We race on August 2 (tomorrow) and move out the next day.

"I'm going to get some races in Belgium. I go by train from there to Paris for the track titles. I have been nominated for all world titles, but I won't get a start in the sprint.

"After that, I go direct to London where I have a job arranged.

"I feel sure that I can make good, even if not this year. Anyhow, this is a big opportunity, so I'll just have to take it."