

Editorials

Olympic Protest

In accord with a growing move of protest in the arts against the current political regime in Germany, Martha Graham in a recent press interview revealed that she had declined an invitation from Germany to represent the United States at the Inter-

national Dance Festival to be held in Berlin this Summer in connection with the Olympic Games.

Miss Graham's invitation was issued by the dance division of the German Ministry of Culture, over the signatures of Rudolf von Laban, president of the Deutsche Tanzbuehne, of the president of the organization committee of the Eleventh Olympic Games and of the Reichminister of Volksaufklarung und Propaganda.

In her letter declining the invitation, Miss Graham said: "I would find it impossible to dance in Germany at the present time. So many artists whom I respect and admire have been persecuted, have been deprived of the right to work for ridiculous and unsatisfactory reasons, that I should consider it impossible to identify myself, by accepting the invitation, with the regime that has made such things possible.

"In addition, some of my concert group would not be welcomed in Germany."