

which to-day is able to walk alone — with a giant's stride.

Look where you will, you will see proofs of its activity, Fired by the Olympic ideal the Republics of Central America will, this October, inaugurate the cycle of their Games in the hope of having by 1932 athletes capable of facing the struggle of Los Angeles. Encouraged by the brilliant success of the Games of Chamonix the eager experts in winter sports have, on their side, determined to celebrate in future the return of each Olympiad.

It is a great joy to me to take this first opportunity which has presented itself since the congress of Prague, to express to them our delight at being able to count among our Olympic sports these sports which call not only for expenditure of great strength and skill but also for so much courage and endurance.

Whence better than from Lisbon, the last European port from which travellers sail for Latin America, would we address to the pioneers of Rio de Janeiro and Mexico the expression of our admiration and gratitude.

I will not trespass further on your attention and thereby hinder my colleagues from visiting your beautiful city. I do not forget that time must be left them to admire Belem, Cintra, the banks of the Tagus with their perennial charm, in a word, all the beauties with which nature and art have combined to adorn your beautiful city.

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5. — Minutes of the Session of the I. O. C. at Lisbon

May 1926

Morning meeting - May 3rd.

The International Olympic Committee met at 10 a.m at the Camera Municipal.

The President in opening the meeting paid tribute to the great work of Baron Coubertin to whom a telegram of gratitude has been sent as well as a souvenir presented to him by his colleagues.

The Committee then presented to the French Delegates an address bearing the signatures of the members of the International Olympic Committee recalling their devoted efforts on behalf of the Games of the VIIIth Olympiad.

The Committee having decided that it should be represented by a delegate in Latvia and by a third delegate in Germany, elected respectively to the International Olympic Committee, Mr. J. Dikmans, President of the Latvian Olympic Committee and Duke Adolph Frederick of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

General Sherrill (U.S.A.) was appointed to the Executive Committee.

The Committee considered the desire expressed by the International Federations.

Afternoon Meeting - May 3rd.

The Committee continued to study the request of the International Federations.

Morning Meeting - May 4th.

The International Olympic Committee having heard the statement made by the representatives of MM. Cazalet and Nerman decided that the International Gymnastic Federation

alone shall be recognised for gymnastic competitions. On the other hand considering that it is desirable to permit and to promote during the Olympic Games such displays as are calculated to exhibit the value of different systems of gymnastic instruction, the I.O.C. decided to receive direct entries from groupes qualified to offer such displays and to transmit them for its use to the Committee organizing the Games.

After a very long discussion the International Olympic Committee, by a vote which was unanimous, with the exception of two members, (Marquis de Polignac and Count Bonacossa), expressed its regret at being unable to carry out the wish expressed by the International Federations at Prague, a wish which was explained in detail by M. Gaston Vidal, their representative, at the Executive Committee Meeting held in Paris, November 1925.

Earnestly desiring, however to establish a closer connection, of which it recognizes the utility and even the necessity with the International Federations, the International Olympic Committee decided that:

«Members of the Executive Committee are qualified to consider the non-technical questions of a general nature submitted to them by the International Federations and to recommend to the International Olympic Committee the decisions to be taken».

This decision shall take effect immediately in accordance with the powers of the Committee to charge the Executive Committee to carry out any mandate which it thinks necessary to entrust to it.

But in order that this arrangement may be added to Article 9 of the Statutes the President was asked to communicate it to those members who were absent so as to obtain the quorum necessary to give this addition to the Statutes, the force of law.

The Dutch Minister offered to the International Olympic Committee his warmest wishes for the success of its work He expressed the deep satisfaction of his countrymen in the fact that the next Games are to be celebrated at Amsterdam.

The President of the International Olympic Committee requested the Dutch Minister to convey to Her Majesty the Queen the homage of the members of the International Olympic Committee.

Following on a request for a reduction in the cost of transport of athletes and officials taking part in the Olympic Games, addressed to the International Union of Railways, the President has received a reply informing him in view of the importance of the Games and of the International Olympic Committee the request had not been put aside and that a decision would be made in October.

The President stated the conditions under which the Olympic Museum and the Secretariat are now installed at Lausanne. The cost of the installation was borne by the town of Lausanne which has voted the necessary credits to his effect. It was decided that a letter of thanks should be sent to the Syndic of Lausanne in recognition of this kind action.

Afternoon Meeting - May 4th.

The I. O. C. received from Baron Schimmelpenninck, with his comments upon it the report on the preparations and organisation for the Games of the IXth Olympiad (Amsterdam 1928).

After exchanging views on different points, the International Olympic Committee having expressed the wish that the Stadium should have a straight track of 200 meters, requested the Dutch Committee to discuss this question, which is of a technical nature, with the International Athletic Federation.

It was further decided that with the exception of the preliminary rounds of the football which may take place during the week beginning June 30th, the Programme of the Olympic Games must be confined to the time between July 7th and 22nd inclusive thereby conforming with the wishes expressed at Prague in 1925.

Meeting of May 5th.

The International Olympic Committee continued to consider the Programme of the Games of the IXth Olympiad (Amsterdam 1928).

Morning Meeting - May 6th.

The International Olympic Committee accepting the invitation extended to it by Count Gautier - Vignal, decided to hold its session of 1927 in the Principality of Monaco.

The Committee continued its study of the programme of the Amsterdam Games. It was decided to protest to the Organising Committee against the construction of a cycling track in the Athletic Stadium itself so as to avoid the serious inconveniences which this project would entail.

The Committee then invested the Executive Committee with full powers to deal with the difficulties which might arise on the subject of the Games of 1926 with the Rowing, Football and Lawn Tennis Federations.

At the request of the President certain instructions were given to the Executive Committee in order to facilitate their task and enable it to act in perfect agreement with the views of the Committee.

On the proposal of Mr. Edstrom, the International Olympic Committee decided to permit the admission of women to a restricted number of athletic events at the Games.

The Dutch representatives having promised to attend to certain matters of minor importance relative to the Art Competition, etc., the Committee entered into a discussion on the subject of the Swiss town which is to be the venue for the Winter Sports of 1928.

Baron Godefroy de Blonay having read the agreements concluded by the Swiss Olympic Committee with the towns of Davos, Engelberg and St. Moritz, all three of which have presented their candidature, assured the Committee that full guarantee could be given as to the perfection of the arrangements.

Certain objections having been made to St. Moritz and the Committee having taken cognisance of them, it was unanimously decided that all the Games must be held in the same place and that arrangements must be made so as to allow easy transport of the bobsleighs and skeletons at St. Moritz, in case this locality should be chosen. The duration of the Winter Sports was limited eight days including two Sundays.

The choice of the Committee fell upon the town of St. Moritz.

Called upon to make a decision on the wish expressed at Prague that the Games of Chamonix should be given the title of First Olympic Winter Sports the Committee decided to accept it by 21 votes for to 2 against (Baron Schimmelpenninck and Captain Scharroo).

Having heard the report of the Marquis de Polignac the International Olympic Committee postponed its decision on the Regulations for the Aviation Prize.

Having heard the President's Report on the Far Eastern Games of 1925 and the Central American Games of 1926, the Committee decided at the request of M. Bolanachi to postpone the Games of Alexandria until 1929 as the Stadium

could not be completed by the date originally decided upon.

The Egyptian delegate explained in detail the propaganda carried-out in Africa by the distribution of the African medal and asked that the Executive Committee should consider the question of the qualifications of athletes for the African Games.

This request will be acceded to and M. Bolanachi was requested to take part in the discussion of this question by the Executive Committee.

Meeting of May 6th and 7th.

The Committee heard and approved of the Report of MM. Edstrom, Rousseau and Colonel Thompson on the proposed regulations for Olympic Congresses which was explained by M. Paul Rousseau.

It was decided that the Executive Committee should draw up a definite programme for the Games which should be submitted to the International Olympic Committee at its meeting in 1927.

Various communications were read relating to the abuse of the word Olympic and it was noted with satisfaction that this has so much decreased that it is not necessary at the moment to lay down any penalty for its wrongful use.

The Olympic Cup has been assigned for 1927 to Colonel Thompson, President of the American Olympic Committee,

Certain alterations of details have been made to the Standing Orders of the Executive Committee and on the motion of General Sherrill, the Executive Committee has been asked to consider the following alteration in the General Rules:

«Every athlete already having officially applied for naturalisation will be considered as having renounced his original nationality and cannot represent his original country in the Olympic Games».

The President replying to a question as to the latest date for sending designs for the Olympic Medal Competition to the International Olympic Committee stated that the closing date is December 31st. 1926.

General Kentish on behalf of the Rev. R. S. de Courcy Laffan and Lord Cadogan and himself made the following proposal to the Committee:

That having regard to the immense value to a nation of games and sports of all kinds when conducted on well organised lines; also having regard to the increasing difficulties, which are experienced by all sports organisations, clubs and persons on whose hands rests the physical and moral education of their respective populations, in finding adequate Playing Fields for those who desire to play, the International Olympic Committee assembled here in conference in Lisbon, desires to draw the attention of every government to the necessity of giving their immediate attention to the provision of Open Spaces. Playing Fields, Playgrounds for children, in every city, town and village in their respective countries. Further the International Olympic Committee draws the attention of all the National Olympic Committees to the necessity of organising in collaboration with their governing bodies a special organisation which shall devote itself entirely to the study of this vitally important question.

This proposal was carried after careful consideration in course of which was suggested the idea of forming a Committee to collect all information which could serve to elucidate the question and the means of propaganda.

MM. Kentish, de Polignac, Scharroo, Lewald and Benavides were appointed to this Committee.

Mr. W. M. Garland then read two letters to the Committee, one from the President of the United States and one from the

Mayor of Los Angeles, both recounting afresh the enthusiasm with which the news has been received in their country that the Xth Olympiad is to be held in America at Los Angeles.

Mr. Garland assured his colleagues that work is already in progress and promised to convey to the President and the Mayor of Los Angeles the thanks of the Committee for the interest which they are kind enough to take in its work.

The Committee ended its Session with a few questions of detail and having sincerely thanked the Count de Penha-Garcia and asked him to convey the expression of its gratitude to Senator Pontes, the President declared the Session of Lisbon of the International Olympic Committee closed.

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6. — Letter sent by the I.O.C. at the Close of its Meeting at Lisbon to the Presidents of the International Federations of Sport

Lisbon, May, 8th, 1926.

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE.

To the Presidents of the International Federations of Sport.
Dear Sir,

The desire expressed at Prague by the International Federations has been set out in detail before the Executive Committee of the International Olympic Committee by Mons. Gaston Vida acting on the instructions of the International Federations.

The Executive Committee has devoted to it its entire attention, and has done so the more readily as it has long been itself striving to find a method of establishing between the Federations and the International Olympic Committee a closer co-operation, the urgent need of which was clearly shown in the Olympic Games of Paris, the First Games celebrated since the Congress of Lausanne and control of the Games had been abandoned.

On the morrow of the Congress Baron de Coubertin had taken the question to heart. Since that time numerous formulas have been successively proposed and rejected, none of them being found completely satisfactory. Some of them conflicted with the existing constitution of the International Olympic Committee to which we are firmly convinced that we owe, in very large measure, the success which we are proud to a super-federation, the creation of which, when proposed at an earlier date, had called forth the strong opposition of the Federations themselves, every one of which was rightly determined that no other should meddle with its affairs.

Inviolability of the International Olympic Committee and absolute autonomy of each Federation, on the one hand; and, on the other hand, the necessity that these Federations as having the sovereign control of the technical side of the Olympic

Games, and the International Olympic Committee as the guardian of the Olympic idea, and as the authority providing the Games, should be able to treat day by day concerning the questions common to both; such were the principles which had to be at once respected and reconciled.

After having heard the situation fully set out, the following resolution has been adopted:

«The Members of the Executive Committee are empowered to study the non-technical questions of a general nature which

and to recommend to the International Olympic Committee the definite decision to be adopted».

In communicating to you this decision I would beg you to be so kind as to give the most serious attention to the note which accompanies it, for I am most anxious that you should realise the motives of which our vote is the result, and our sincere desire for the continuous co-operation with the International Federations and for a common effort directed to the solution of these Olympic questions which affect alike the International Federation and the International Olympic Committee.

While we scrupulously respect the decision taken at Lausanne to leave exclusively to you the technical part of the Games, we hold fast to the intention of reserving to ourselves their educational and moral side.

Believe me, dear Sir, etc., etc.,

(signed) BAILLET LATOUR.

President of the International Olympic Committee.

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THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AND THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS.

The International Olympic Committee has studied the desire expressed by the International Federations with the keenest desire to reach an agreement as to means of creating a close link between the International Federations and the International Olympic Committee.

After careful examination the International Olympic Committee has realised that the desire expressed by the Federations is based on a misunderstanding. The Federations ask to be represented on the International Olympic Committee. The International Olympic Committee owes it to itself to point out to them that there are no representatives on the International Olympic Committee.

Its members do not represent their respective countries; they even formally pledge themselves to accept no mandate from their country. They are bound to consider themselves as the ambassadors of the International Olympic Committee to their fellow countrymen.

Once appointed they are irremovable. That is the fundamental charter of Olympism. Its object is to ensure the complete independence of the members of the International Olympic Committee and no enable them to exercise their functions with the single desire to propagate the Olympic idea to make it prevail all over the world.

If then the International Olympic Committee should accept the proposal that it should elect members of the International Federations as members of the International Olympic Committee it could only do so on these conditions that those so elected should also formally pledge themselves to accept no mandate from their Federations; that once elected they should be irremovable; and that they should consider themselves as bound to take their inspiration, first and foremost, from the Olympic idea.

This means that the persons so elected would, ipse facto, cease to be the representatives of their Federations and that it is not in this direction the solution of our problem is to be sought.

The International Olympic Committee, created in 1894 at a time when there were hardly any Federations (Governing Bodies), was obliged to take sole charge of the organisation of the Games.

As soon as various Federations (Governing Bodies) began to develop, the International Olympic Committee deliberately

gement que nous venons d'entendre porter sur l'œuvre réalisée depuis sa fondation par le Comité International.

Livrés à notre propre appréciation nous risquerions de surestimer le résultat acquis. Cette faute de jugement étant écartée, à quoi attribuer ce résultat? A notre valeur personnelle? Si nombreux sont les critiques qui s'évertuent à prouver le contraire, que nous sommes tentés de croire que nous le devons plutôt au mode de recrutement du Comité, à sa pérennité à l'indépendance absolue d'opinion de ses membres à l'absence de toutes les intrigues qui sont inhérentes au système électif.

C'est vous dire à quel point nous sommes attachés, et la prudence avec laquelle il nous faut toucher à notre charte fondamentale.

Reconnaissant d'autre part combien le Baron de Coubertin a eu raison d'abandonner aux Fédérations Internationales le contrôle technique des épreuves, et l'utilité d'une collaboration plus étroite avec les éléments plus jeunes, plus actifs, toujours prêts à apporter des idées nouvelles, qui gagneraient à être amalgamées avec nos vieux principes dans le creuset olympique c'est animés du plus vif désir d'aboutir que nous étudions le vœu émis par les Fédérations Internationales.

Il nous faut cependant éviter les rhèteurs bavards et improductifs, et chercher plutôt à créer un organisme travailleur capable d'établir un programme définitif des Jeux Modernes, qui soit à la fois sportif et pratique.

C'est l'héritage que nous a légué mon éminent prédécesseur et c'est le plus grand hommage que ses anciens collaborateurs unis aux hommes de sport de toute race et de toute condition, peuvent lui rendre, que de conduire ensemble, dans la voie du progrès, l'enfant qu'il a fait naître et qui marche seul, aujourd'hui, à pas de géant.

De quelque côté que l'on regarde, l'on trouve des preuves de son activité. Eprises de l'idée olympique, les Républiques de l'Amérique Centrale vont, au mois d'octobre de cette année, inaugurer le cycle de leurs Jeux, avec l'espoir d'avoir, en 1932, des athlètes capables d'affronter la lutte à Los Angeles. Encouragés par le brillant succès des Jeux de Chamonix, les fervents adeptes des sports d'hiver ont, de leur côté, décidé de célébrer aussi dorénavant le retour de chaque olympiade.

Grande est ma joie de saisir la première occasion que me soit offerte depuis le Congrès de Prague, pour leur dire combien nous sommes heureux de compter parmi les sports olympiques ces sports que nécessitent, non seulement une grande dépense de force et d'adresse, mais aussi beaucoup de courage et d'endurance.

D'où, mieux que de Lisbonne, le dernier port d'Europe, ou s'embarque le voyageur pour l'Amérique latine, pourrions nous adresser aux pionniers de Rio de Janeiro et à ceux de Mexico l'expression de notre admiration et de notre gratitude.

Je ne veux pas, Messieurs retenir plus longtemps votre attention et empêcher mes collègues de visiter votre belle ville.

Je ne peux oublier qu'il importe, pendant le séjour ici, de leur laisser le temps nécessaire d'admirer Belem, Cintra, les rives du Tage qui sont si riants, en un mot, toutes les beautés dont la nature et les Arts se sont plu à parer votre belle Patrie.

5. — La Session de Lisbonne du C. I. O. Mai 1926

Le Comité International Olympique a tenu sa session de 1926 (an III de la VIIIe Olympiade) les 2,3,4,5,6, et 7 mai sous la présidence du Comte de Baillet-Latour, président du Comité.

La session a été ouverte par S. E. Monsieur le Président de la République du Portugal.

Etaient présents: MM. le comte de Baillet-Latour, A. Benavides, le baron Godefroy de Blonay, A. C. Bolanachi, le comte Bonacossa, the Earl Cadogan, le Rév. R. S. de Courcy-Laffan, J. S. Edström, William M. Garland, le comte Gautier-Vignal, le baron de Guëll, le conseiller J. Guth-Jarkovsky, J. J. Keane, le général Kentish, le secrétaire d'Etat Dr. Lewald, J. de Muzsa, le Comte de Penha-Garcia, Maurice Pescatore, le marquis de Polignac, le comte Clarence de Rosen, le Dr. O. Ruperti, le capitaine Scharroo, le baron A. Schimmelpenninck van der Oye, et le général Ch. H. Sherrill, membres pour la Belgique, le Pérou, la Suisse, l'Egypte, l'Italie, la Grande-Bretagne, la Suède, les Etats-Unis, Monaco, l'Espagne, la Tchéco-Slovaquie, l'Irlande, l'Allemagne, la Hongrie, le Portugal, le Luxembourg, la France et la Hollande.

Absents excusés: MM. Aldao (Argentine), Andrassy (Hongrie), Averoff (Grèce), de Beitegui (Mexique), le comte Clary, (France), Coombes (Australie), Ferreira Santos (Brésil), Glandaz (Franc), le marquis Guglielmi (Italie), Guinlé (Brésil), le Dr. Haudek (Autriche), Kiney (Etats-Unis), le Dr. Kishi (Japon), Krogius (Finlande), le baron de Laveleye (Belgique), le prince Lubomirski (Pologne), de Matheu (Amérique Centrale), Merrick (Canada), l'hon. Carlo Montu (Italie), Nourse, (Sud-Afrique), Nyholm (Danemark), le prince Ouroussouf (Russie), Gomez de Parada (Mexique), Plagino (Roumanie), le Rio Branco (Brésil), Selim Sirry Bey (Turquie), Stancioff (Bulgarie), le lieutenant colonel Sverre (Norvège) et sir Dorabji J. Tata (Inde).

Séance du Matin - le 3 Mai.

Le Comité International Olympique s'est réuni à 10 heures à la Camara Municipal.

— En ouvrant la séance, le Président a rendu hommage à l'œuvre grandiose du Baron de Coubertin, auquel un télégramme de reconnaissance a été adressé, en même temps qu'un souvenir qui lui est offert par ses collègues.

— Le Comité a ensuite remis aux Délégués pour la France une adresse portant les signatures des membres du Comité International Olympique rappelant leur dévouement à l'occasion des Jeux de la VIIIe Olympiade.

— Le Comité, après avoir décidé de se faire représenter par un délégué en Lettonie, et, par un troisième délégué en Allemagne, a élu respectivement membres du Comité International Olympique, Mr. J. Dikmans, Président du Comité Olympique, et le Duc Adolphe Frédéric de Mecklenburg-Schwein.

— Le Général Sherrill (Etats Unis) a été choisi comme membre de la Commission Exécutive.

— Le Comité a étudié le vœu émis par les Fédérations Internationales.

Séance de l'après-midi - le 3 Mai.

— Le C.I.O. a continué l'étude de la requête des Fédérations Internationales.

Séance du Matin - le 4 Mai.

— Le C. I. O. après avoir entendu l'exposé qui lui a été