

8. — History of the Far Eastern Athletic Association

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Honorary Secretary

The organization and the growth of the Far Eastern Athletic Association are intimately associated with the organization and the growth of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation. It was the P. A. A. F. which took the initiative in the summer of 1912 to organize international athletic competition in the Far East.

A glance at the atlas of the world showed that six hundred million people inhabited the countries bordering on the China Sea, and another five hundred million were natives of India and Russia. Here was an area including about eleven hundred million people among whom athletics and organized play were practically unknown. The organization promoting the world's Olympic Games considered the countries of the Far East backward nations in the matter of athletics and had made no effort up to 1912 to interest the countries of the Far East in modern athletics.

As a result of American influence in the Philippines since 1898, athletics in the Islands had gained a firm foothold. The logical development of the widespread interest in athletics thruout the Islands was the organization of the P. A. A. F. The P. A. A. F. was organized with the ideal of providing «play for everybody». «Play for everybody» became the slogan of the Federation. It was the impelling force of his ideal which caused the early promoters of the P. A. A. F. to see the wider field of athletic expansion thruout the entire Far East.

The P. A. A. F. had only been organized and established on a permanent basis in 1911. What was lacking in experience the P. A. A. F. counter-balanced with youthful enthusiasm and a true pioneering spirit. Once the vision of the possibilities of international athletics in the Far East the Summer of 1912 the P. A. A. F. appointed a committee composed of Frank L. Crone, the late Elwood S. Brown and William Tutherly to proceed with the organization of international athletics in the Far East.

Undaunted by the magnitude of the task before them, the committee proceeded to announce that Far Eastern athletic championship contests would be held during the Manila Carnival in February of the following year, 1913, The Committee adopted a program and Elwood S. Brown as Secretary of the P. A. A. F., proceeded to communicate with China, Japan, and the Far Eastern countries in an effort to bring delegations to Manila for the First Eastern Championships. As Mr. Brown was the Y. M. C. A. Physical Director in Manila and as the Y. M. C. A. was established in both China and Japan, contact was readily established in these countries with agencies already trained in the promotion of athletics.

The P. A. A. F. encountered many obstacles in organizing the first series of games. Japan had a program of her own, and many of the sports proposed by the P. A. A. F. were foreign to the Japanese. As a result Japan entered only very few of the events. Japan was also cautious about entering an international organization and participated in the 1913 and the 1915 games as a participant only. It was not until the 1917 games that the Japan formally became a member of the Far Eastern Athletic Association.

After the program and the dates of the first games had been announced it was brought to the attention of the P. A. A. F. officials that the early part of February was winter weather thruout most of China and Japan, giving their athletes practically no opportunity to train outdoors. It was too late to

change the dates, however, as every preparation had been made in Manila to hold the contests in February. Finally Japan and China agreed to enter anyway, a decision which served to lay the foundation for the fine spirit of cooperation and sportsmanship which has characterized the F. E. A. A. since its organization.

All obstacles were overcome and the first Far Eastern Championship Games were held in Manila in February of 1913. From a little seed planted in the soil of a big idea the Far Eastern Athletic Association has steadily grown in influence and scope of accomplishment until today the Far Eastern Championship Games are recognized thruout the athletic world as second in importance only to the World's Olympic Games. National organizations similar to the P. A. A. F. have been built up in Japan and China. Millions of people are benefited annually in local competition held under the auspices of the national organizations. From millions of average participants a group of athletes who become expert and who excel is bound to surmount the athletic horizon of their respective countries and establish their right to test their skill, endurance and strength against similarly endowed athletes of the other countries in the Far Eastern Athletic Association.

From the loose and elastic organization which characterized the first games, the Far Eastern Athletic Association has developed into a definite institution with well defined powers, athletic rules and orderly procedure. The Association has adopted rules governing track and field sports, swimming and volleyball suitable to conditions in the Far East. At present the Association has under consideration the adoption of a permanent constitution and by-laws which come up for action at the meeting of the Association in Manila during the Seventh Far Eastern Championship Games. The draft of the constitution and by-laws was prepared by the P. A. A. F. Definite rules regarding the acceptance and award of trophies have also been adopted. The Philippines and the P. A. A. F. have taken a leading part in the development of the Association.

The Far Eastern Athletic Association is the only international agency in the Far East today which is operating on a practical basis and which serves to bring the peoples of the Far East into closer contact and closer relationship with one another. Racial and national prejudices find no place in a program which is based on friendly rivalry in play and athletic competition and friendly social intercourse. Every athlete and every official from the neighboring countries of Japan and China who will come here for the Seventh Far Eastern Championships Games will make contacts which will influence their impression and opinions of the Philippines thruout the remainder of their lives. The same is true when delegations from our own shore visit Japan and China.

The Philippines can justly feel proud of the leadership she has contributed to the cause of athletics in the Far East and of her record of achievement on the athletic field. With the exception of the Second and Third championship games, she has not been defeated by China and Japan. This is an achievement which should be of considerable pride to the Philippines when it is realized that she is the smallest country in the Association.

The ultimate aim of the F. E. A. A. is to bring every country in the Orient into competition in the Games. The world war set back several of the countries in their preparations to become active members of the Association. With world conditions becoming more settled and prosperous it may be predicted with a great deal of certainty that the Association will include such countries as Siam, Dutch East Indies Indo-China, India and the Straits Settlements in the near future.

The type of officers who have served the Far Eastern Athletic Association is an indication of the importance attached to this

movement by men of the greatest prominence in educational, political, business and professional affairs.

Governor-General Forbes gave most hearty support in the formative period of the organization. Governor-General Wood is the Chief Patron of the coming Games, and his interest in sports of all kinds is well known. The three outstanding Filipinos serving the movement have been Hon. Manuel L. Quezon, Camilo Osias and Manuel Earnshaw. Mr. Quezon is at present president of the Association. Frank L. Crone and Dr. W. W. Marquardt were both directors of the Bureau of Education. Mr. Tutherly, a professional man, gave unstintedly of his time and effort during the early days. The F. E. A. A. has had no more enthusiastic officer than the late Dr. Wu Ting-Fang, the picturesque diplomat so well remembered in America. Hon. Chang Cheing is China's greatest classical scholar of modern times. Dr. Chen-ting T. Wang was one of China's representatives at Versailles and has served the F. E. A. A. as President, Honorary President and First Vic-President, Japan has had few statesmen who are as well known as the late Marquis Okuma the founder of Waseda University. He manifested more than a casual interest in international athletics. Prof. Jigoro Kano M. P., has long been a leader in educational circles and is the founder of the Japan Amateur Athletic Association. Dr. Kishi and Prof. Takeda were track athletes and oarsmen in their university days, the latter being the first Japanese athlete to wear spiked shoes. Prof. Takeda is president of the Osaka Higher Commercial School, and Dr. Kishi is the leading civil lawyer of the Empire. Dr. Kishi has served the Association as President and is at present the Honorary President.

Among the contest committeemen of China, Japan and the Philippines could be found nam ranking with many of those mentioned above. The Y. M. C. A. has been the chief cooperating agency and has furnished much of the technical guidance. Four of its national directors of physical education have in turn acted as Honorary Secretary: E. S. Brown, Philippines, J. H. Crocker and J. H. Gray, China, and F. H. Brown, Japan.

The results of the seven Far Eastern Championship Games up to present follows.

TRACK AND FIELD		TENNIS SINGLES	
1913	Philippines	1913	Suarez Philippines
1915	Philippines	1915	Kumagae Japan
1917	Philippines	1917	Kumagae Japan
1919	Philippines	1919	Mikami Japan
1921	Philippines	1921	Fargas Philippines
1923	Japan	1923	Toba Japan
1925	Philippines	1925	Gavia Philippines
SWIMMING		TENNIS DOUBLES	
1913	Philippines	1913	Suarez and Fargas Philippines
1915	China	1915	Kumagae and Kashio Japan
1917	Japan	1917	Kumagae and Mikami Japan
1919	Philippines	1919	Fargas and Bolaños Philippines
1921	Philippines	1921	Fargas and Suarez Philippines
1923	Japan	1923	Abe and Kawasuma Japan
1925	Japan	1925	Yoshida and Kobayashi Japan
BASEBALL			
1913	Japan		
1915	Philippines		
1917	Japan		
1919	Philippines		
1921	Philippines		
1923	Philippines		
1925	Philippines		

VOLLEY BALL

1913	Philippines
1915	China
1917	China
1919	Philippines
1921	China
1923	Philippines
1925	Philippines

BASKET BALL

1913	Philippines
1915	Philippines
1917	Philippines
1919	Philippines
1921	China
1923	Philippines
1925	Philippines

SOCCE FOOTBALL

1913	Philippines
1915	China
1917	China
1919	China
1921	China
1923	China
1925	China

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9. — Growth of Athletics in Japan

By Franklin H. Brown

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Track and Field athletics were introduced to Japan by a young Englishman named Strange who came out about forty years ago as a professor of English in the Tokyo Imperial University. His stay was brief but his influence was broad although not because of his classroom work. He was a sportsman and interested his pupils in athletics and rowing. Here and there a certain few colleges began to hold field days but it was many years before athletic competition became nation wide or intercollegiate. Technique and training methods were crude and improvement was slow.

In 1911 the Japan Amateur Athletic Association was organized under the leadership of Prof. Kano. This was the same year the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation came into being. Prof. Kano was well known educator and the father of Judo, the modern form of jiu jitsu, of which he is still the foremost authority. In 1882 he gave a demonstration before ex-President Grant on his tour of the world. The first venture in international competition came the following year when the J. A. A. sent two athletes to the Stockholm Olympics in charge of Prof. Kano and Mr. Hyozo Omori. Prof. Kano became the first Oriental member of the International Olympic Committee, Dr. C. T. Wang of China and Dr. Kishi of Japan being elected several years later. Dr. Kishi the present head of the J. A. A., was one of Mr. Strange's original pupils. Mr. Omori was a graduate of the Springfield Y. M. C. A. College, and his sad death soon after returning from Stockholm was a blow to athletic development in Japan. The two competitors at Stockholm, a sprinter and a marathon runner, made no real showing in the Olympics, of course, but the experience gained was valuable.

A small group of athletes was sent to Manila in 1913 and to Shanghai in 1915 to take part in the first two Far Eastern Championship Games. The first national track and field championships were held under the auspices of the J. A. A., in the fall of 1913. The writer had arrived in Japan just a few days... before and was fortunate in being able to see his historic meet. After the 1915 Games Japan began to evince a real interest and acted as host for the 1917 affair. She entered teams in all events and succeeded in taking the general championship, win-