

Speed Skating competition decided to award two silver gilt medals to the two winners and three bronze medals to the three competitors occupying the third place.

A provisional Agenda was then fixed for the next meeting of the I. O. C. which will be held at Amsterdam on the 25th, 26th & 27th of July, 1928.

The following alteration of the Statutes will be proposed:

Statutes of the I. O. C.

ADMINISTRATION

OLD.

9. Delete: The members of the Executive Committee are qualified to consider non-technical questions, etc...

New.

10. Add: The delegation of the International Federations, composed of the representatives of each federation, is invited by the President of the I. O. C. to meet with the Executive Committee.

a) to consider non-technical questions of a general nature submitted by the International Federations and to recommend to the I. O. C. the decisions to be taken.

b) to settle any difference which may arise concerning decisions of the Congress or the carrying out of the General Regulations of the Olympic Games.

10 becomes 11, and so to the end.

The Executive Committee considered the award of the Olympic Cup for 1929 and decided that at the meetings concerning the Far Eastern Games, the Games of India, Central American and Latin America, the delegates of the countries interested should be summoned.

The Executive Committee considered the report of Count Bonacossa, concerning the «Athlete's Diploma». The text will be discussed at Amsterdam.

The Executive Committee then received the Organising Committee of the Games of the IXth Olympiad (Amsterdam, 1928). A reply had been received from the International Gymnastic Federation reducing the number of competitors from 16 to 10. It was considered impossible to accept the changes in the Yachting Programme proposed by the American Olympic Committee and also to accede to the request for an Oratorical competition. The claim of the Italian Olympic Committee concerning the number of competitors in the Weight Lifting Competition had been rightly dealt with. The Modern Pentathlon Regulations were the subject of a deep discussion which ended in perfect agreement upon the Rules of the Shooting and Running.

The Executive Committee considered several cases of nationality and the requests of Malta and Phillipines to take part, as Olympic nations, in the Games of the IXth Olympiad. It was decided to consult the British Olympic Association with regard to Malta, and to admit the Phillipines who had already taken part in the VIIIth Olympiad.

At the request of the International Rowing Federation the Executive Committee extended the time of the Olympic Regatta, owing to the fact that the Sloten Canal was not wide enough for more than two boats to race at a time.

The Organising Committee furnished the Executive Committee with details concerning the housing of Members of the I. O. C. and officials and the reduced railway fares obtained: various points of organisation were discussed. The assurance given by the Organising

Committee confirms the excellent impression brought away by the delegates who have visited Amsterdam lately.

The Executive Committee not having had any claim on the part of the American delegate concerning the decision taken by the Jury to annul the 10,000 m. Skating Race, considers it necessary to make known that the I. O. C. did not meet at St. Moritz and that no conciliatory proposal was received. Moreover, this decision being of a technical nature alone concerned the International Federation interested and was without appeal.

The Executive Committee then dispersed and will meet again at Amsterdam on the 24th July next.

.....§.....

5. - Official Account of the IInd Olympic Winter Games St. Moritz, 1928

On the 11th February 1928, the Swiss President entered the St. Moritz Stadium accompanied by members of the International Olympic Committee and the Swiss Olympic Committee and, at the request of M. Hirschy, President of the Swiss Olympic Committee, declared open the IInd Olympic Winter Games. On the 20th February, after Count Baillet Latour, M. Hirschy and Baron Godefroy de Blonay had presented the prizes, the President of the International Olympic Committee declared the Games closed. The International Olympic Committee has every reason to congratulate itself on the way in which the first act of the Games of the IXth Olympiad has been accomplished, in spite of the thaw which came about contrary to the forecasts of the meteorologists. These latter, consulted by the Organising Committee, had unanimously, basing their statistics on the last twenty-five years, been of the opinion that the second week in February was the safest.

It was only necessary for two alterations to be made by the International Federations. The International Skating Union abandoned the 10,000 metres Speed Skating and the International Bobsleigh Federation decided that the Bob Race should be decided in two runs instead of four, the descents being made in the order I to 25 in the first run and 25 to I in the second. Cordiality and Courtesy reigned and the Juries of Appeal were only asked to give a ruling on very minor claims, none of which were accepted. The Military Ski Race and the Skijoering Demonstration were particularly interesting.

The Organisation did credit to the Swiss Olympic Committee, there being quite justifiable excuses for the only two complaints which were made: the inadequate number of police and the refusal of the Railway Companies to give the usual reductions to Officials.

Firstly, the Committee had not asked for enough police to be on duty in all the different stadiums, where in order to make up for lost time, the events had to be held concurrently. Secondly, in spite of frequent attempts, the Committee were unable to obtain satisfaction, the refusal of the Railway Companies being based upon the fact that the number of Officials desirous of obtaining reduced fares far exceeded the figure estimated.

The President of the Confederation held an Official Reception at the Palace on the opening day of the Games. The Swiss Olympic Committee also gave a Banquet at the Kulm. After the President of the Swiss Olympic Committee had welcomed his guests and the Baron de Blonay had proposed the healths of the Kings and Rulers of the Countries represented, speeches were made by the President of Switzerland and the President of the International Olympic Committee. The Prizes for the Military Ski Race were presented by the Chief of the War Department at Suvretta. Colonel Scheurer and Count Baillet Latour expressed their admiration for the magnificent performances of the different teams and that of Captain Oetgaard. The Chief of the Norwegian Delegation voiced the thanks of the competitors for the welcome which they had received.

Prince Henry of Holland, who is taking a great interest in the Amsterdam Games, of which he is Honorary President, honoured the Games with his presence. Numerous members of the Diplomatic Corps attached to Berne were also present. The number of visitors was enormous and finding accomodation for them was not the least of the difficulties encountered.

Before leaving Switzerland the President of the International Olympic Committee, both for himself and on behalf of the International Olympic Committee expressed his thanks to the President of the Confederation and also to MM. Hirschy Nater and Messerli.

.....§:.....

7. - The International Olympic Committee and the British Football Association

Mr. Wall in his letter to Mr. Hirschman announced the decision of the British Football Association to withdraw from the International Federation of Association Football giving as one of the chief reasons the acceptance by the International Olympic Committee of the

principle of compensation for loss of salary. The President of the International Olympic Committee has written to Mr. Wall, Secretary of the British Football Association, the following letter:

Mon Repos, Lausanne, February 26-1928.

Dear Sir,

Having read your letter to M. Hirschman, by which you inform the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, that the British Football Association has decided to leave the F. I. F. A., I think it is my duty to call your attention to the fact that the attitude of the Council of the International Olympic Committee in the question of BROKEN TIME, given by you as one of the main raisons of the withdrawal, is absolutely wrong.

My Council has never so far expressed any opinion on the matter. The Executive Committee of the I. O. C. when approached by the F. I. F. A. did not commit itself by approving or disapproving the new regulations but considering that they were a fact non provided for (fait nouveau) by the Congress of Prague, allowed the Football players to take part in the Olympic Games of Amsterdam, pending the decision of the next Olympic Congress, that body being the only authority qualified to judge the matter on its merit.

The best proof that the disagreement between the B. F. A. and the F. I. F. A. is purely of internal and federal character and by no means imputable to the Council of the I. O. C. is the fact that the British Football teams, which are still allowed to compete with Continental Teams EXCEPT in the Olympic Games, will very likely continue to do it, even if the next Olympic Congress disapproves of the new Rules of Amateurs of the F. I. F. A. and takes football out of the Olympic Programme.

In view of preventting the public opinion of being misled by your statement I beg you to give this letter the same publicity as to yours and remain.

Yours sincerely,

Comte de **Baillet-Latour**,
Chairman of the I. O. C.

