

It is to be hoped that the quadriennial celebration of the Olympiads will help in giving the muscular life of young men a sort of rythmical character and thus defend the athlete against himself. It is highly desirable that he and his brother-gymnast should be no longer separated by prejudices and misunderstanding as is the case, more or less by fault of their respective managers.

Personally I think the Modern Pentathlon ought to be competed for under the rules I laid down when I had it started.

As to the admission of women to the Games, I remain strongly against it. It was against my will that they were admitted to a growing number of competitions.

Olympism passed through the great war without even a shake. I am confident it would not prove less solid in case of social troubles. At any rate, the corporative tendencies of our times are by no means anti-olympic. I noted with pleasure the workmen's acceptance of olympic principles and spirit. Surely university students will be led to do the same. The great point is that, everywhere every one from adolescent to adult, would cultivate and spread the true sport spirit made of spontaneous loyalty and chivalrous impartiality.

Once again, I beg to thank those who have followed in with me and given me some help in fighting a forty years war, not often easy and not always frankly fought

Pierre de Coubertin.

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4.— Speech given by Count Baillet-Latour, President of the International Olympic Committee on the occasion of the opening of the session of the I. O. C. 25th July, 1928

Your presence at the opening of the session of the International Olympic Committee is of inestimable value to us as well as being a great honour and a great encouragement. This manifestation of your sympathy, added to the enthusiasm aroused throughout Holland by the celebration at Amsterdam of the IXth Olympiad, proves that the work of peace pursued by us for 34 years, in the hope of ameliorating the feeling between the individual and the people, harmonises with the sentiments of the whole Dutch Nation.

To the members of the Government, to the authorities of Amsterdam, to the sportsmen seated around us, I am happy to express my joy at being thus gathered together.

This joy, alas, is marred by the shadow of sadness, for amongst us there is the empty place of one who was the originator of these Games who all his life had desired them and to whom they would have been the crowning point of his career, of whom in this world of sport had given body and soul to serve his country to the utmost, whose memory is in every heart and whose name on all lips. I cannot express to you the real emotion which I feel in asking you to pause for a moment to honour the memory of the dear friend of all, Fritz de Tuyll de Serooskerken.

With this name I shall associate those of two of our founders, lost also since the VIIIth Olympiad: the Rev. de Courcy Laffan and General Balck, pioneers like Tuyll, from the start, who as much by their wisdom as by the true conception which they had of the Olympic Ideal, have largely contributed towards placing the work of the Baron Pierre de Coubertin on a solid basis.

In losing them the International Committee has lost precious and clear-sighted guides, who have sought to reconcile the interests of the Olympic cause with those of their respective countries without ever becoming carried away by an exaggerated sense of nationalism so detrimental and contrary to the ideal after which we are striving. As for the Seniors, who have had the happiness of having known them, they cannot better serve our cause than by faithfully following the path they have traced for us; and the newcomers amongst us, if the desire to be worthy of their succession, must strive to imbue themselves with that spirit which was theirs, and to follow their traditions.

If it were otherwise we should cause this solemn enterprise which we have undertaken to miscarry and we should see the grand work of our illustrious founder, in which there still exists the liveliest interest, jeopardised. Has not the Baron de Coubertin just given us the proof of it, in putting to an end, by his tactful intervention, to a quarrel of which the illogicality ran the risk of stirring up international opinion and of allowing eventual infidelities. As a result of the questioning which surrounds each Olympiad the Baron de Coubertin has embarked upon negotiations with the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Greece with a view to establishing that the rights of the Olympic Games and of all the arrangements in connection with them in the course of each Olympiad, belonged to the International Olympic Committee.

On the 3rd April last, M. Michalokopoulo wrote to the Baron de Coubertin that approved of his point of view concerning the exclusiveness of the Olympic Customs and terms to the only body which since 1896, thanks to its indefatigable enthusiasm has revived the Ancient Games.

In addition, the law relative to the Classic Games, presented to the Greek Parliament, stipulates that these last will be embodied in the Modern Olympic Games.

Olympic peace for Greece is thus assured: it is an excellent thing which will considerably strengthen the authority of the I. O. C. to oppose all the attempts which could be made to usurp the title and diminish the importance of Olympic displays.

The meeting opened to-day will be marked by an important event: the first effective collaboration of the delegates of International Federations Pursuing the policy we have set ourselves, we strive to make this meeting bigger and bigger, and we hope, by an assiduous and persevering work of preparation, to facilitate the task of the Congress of Berlin by preparing beforehand some of the important questions which must be discussed there.

Lastly, I desire, my dear colleagues, during this solemn meeting to present to the International Olympic Committee in the first place, the Book containing the signatures of all who formed the Committee of 1894 to 1926 and whose signatures it has been possible to ob-

tain: in the second place, the memorial tablet of the Rev. de Courcy Laffan, which you authorised me to have executed by the Sculptor Godefroy Devreese.

The book will be offered to the Baron Pierre de Coubertin, as evidence of our admiration of the grand work of which he is the founder, and as an expression of the friendship and attachment of his collaborators.

The Memorial tablet will be placed in the Olympic Museum at Lausanne that it may remind future generations of he who was one of the most ardent defenders of the Olympic ideal.

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5.— Minutes of the Meeting of the International Olympic Committee

Wednesday afternoon, 25th July, 1928.

I. The International Olympic Committee assembled in Amsterdam on the 25th July under the Presidency of Count Baillet-Latour, Président of the I. O. C.

The following members were present:

S. E. Dr. Lewald (Germany), Dr. Ruperti (Germany). S. A. S. The Duke Adolphe Frederic of Mecklenburg-Schwerin (Germany), P. J. de Matheu (Central America), James Taylor (Australia), Dr. Th. Schmidt (Austria) Count de Baillet-Latour (Belgium) Baron de Laveleye (Belgium), S. E. R. de Rio Branco (Brazil), Ivar Nyholm (Danmark) Angelo C. Bolanachi (Egypt), Baron de Guell (Spain), William M. Garland (U. S. A.) General Ch. H. Sherrill (U.S.A.) Errst Krogius (Finland), Albert Glandaz (France), Marquis de Polignac (France) Count Clary (France), General Ken-tish (Great Britain), Lord Rochdale (Great Britain), Commandant Scharroo (Holland), Baron A. Schimmelpenninck van der Oye (Holland) Count Géza Andras-sy (Hungary), Senator Jules de Muzsa (Hungary), J. J. Keane (Ireland), Count Bonacossa (Italy), Senator Jigoro Kano (Japan), Dr. S. Kishi (Japan), J. Dikmans (Latvia), M. Pescatore (Luxembourg), Thos Fearnley (Norway), Prince Casimir Lubomirski (Poland), Count de Penha-Garcia (Portugal), J. S. Edström (Sweden), Count Clarence de Rosen (Sweden), Baron Godefroy de Blonay (Switzerland), Councillor Jiri Guth-Jarkowsky (Czecho-Slovakia), Colonel Sv. Djoukitch (Jugoslavia), Professor Dr. Fr. Bucar (Jugo-Slavia).

Excused:

MM. S.E. de Alvear (Argentine), R. Aldao (Argentine), R. Coombes (Australia), Dr. Ferreira Santos (Brazil), J. G. Merrick (Canada) S. E. Dr. C. T. Wang (China), Porfirio Franca (Cuba), Marquis de Pons (Spain), Commodore Ernest Lee Jahncke (U. S. A.) Georges Averoff (Greece), Carlo Montu (Italy), Miguel de Beistegui (Mexico), Professor Dr. M. Saenz (Mexico), Count Gautier-Vignal (Monaco), Alfredo Benavides (Peru), Prince Léon Ouroussoff (Russia), Henry Nourse (South Africa), Selim Sirry Bey (Turkey), Dr. Ghigliani (Uruguay).

2. ALTERATIONS.

The President announced the resignations of M.M. Firth (New Zealand), Matte Gormaz (Chili), and Dr. Haudek (Austria) and announced the election of Dr.

Saenz (Mexico), Marquis de Pons (Spain), Dr. F. Akel (Esthonia) and Dr. Theodore Schmidt (Austria). He expressed to the members who were resigning his warmest appreciation for the loyal support they had given to the I. O. C. during their membership. The President, at the same time, extended a welcome to Dr. Theodore Schmidt and to S.A.S. the Duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin.

3. PARTICIPATION OF MALTA AND RHODESIA

The decision of the Executive Committee to allow Malta and Rhodesia to compete as independent nations in the Games of the IXth Olympiad was approved.

4. INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS OF LAWN TENNIS AND FOOTBALL (ASSOCIATION).

The President gave an account of the negotiations, which the Executive Committee had had since Monaco with the International Federations of Lawn Tennis and Football. These negotiations had resulted in the exclusion of Lawn Tennis from the programme of the Games of the IXth Olympiad, and, as regards Football, the Executive Committee had decided, by 4 votes to 2, that the proposal made by the International Football Federation on August 8th, 1927 in Paris constituted a «nouveau fait», which had not been discussed at Prague, and in consequence it had agreed to the inclusion of Football in the IXth Olympiad, as an exceptional case. The President emphasized the fact that the Executive Committee had neither approved nor disapproved of the rules of Amateurism as laid down by the International Football Federation as they did not consider that they were competent to give a decision on this point, and he also emphasized the fact that they had not in any way approved of, or even discussed, the principle of «Broken Time» or payment for loss of salary. The President then invited discussion.

b) Lord Rochdale, having asked why the Executive Committee had not referred a question of such importance to the I.O.C. the President replied that this had not because the I. O. C. was no more qualified than the Executive Committee to decide a question of principle, the Congress alone having that right. He added that it was not considered necessary to obtain the approval of the I. O. C. because the Executive Committee felt and believed that once it had agreed that it was dealing with a «nouveau fait» it was acting quite within its powers in giving a decision. It was for that reason that the President deplored the bringing into the discussion of the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees, which had been appealed to by Lord Rochdale, Chairman of the Council of the British Olympic Association, also, one of the British delegates to the I. O. C.

c) General Sherrill, Dr. Ruperti, and Count Clary endorsed this point of view.

d) Lord Rochdale maintaining his opposition, the President asked him who, in his opinion, should have given a decision. Lord Rochdale replied: «The I. O. C. alone had the right to decide such a question». The President then read the minute of the I. O. C. meeting in Lisbon in which the I. O. C. formally gave full powers to the Executive Committee to settle all the diffi-