

opening of the Session were his own personal views and not those of the I. O. C. The President made this point clear.

The President in closing the discussion requested the delegates present to ask their respective Association to give this question their fullest and deepest consideration before the Berlin Congress in 1930, and he reasserted the fact he was quite sure that the International Associations to exactly the same degree as the I. O. C. were absolutely opposed to the idea of countenancing the permanent practice of payment for «broken time» as it was contrary to the spirit of Amateurism, the fatal consequence of which was to encourage the young men to find a means of existence by means of his sport that was less fatiguing and more glorious than working.

#### REDUCTION OF THE PROGRAMME.

The President explained the plan that had been adopted by the I. O. C. and he stated that he considered it the most practical way of coming to decision. He asked the delegates to follow the same line and to inform the Executive Committee with the least possible delay the opinions of their respective Associations on the various points before the meeting. To assist them in their work the President stated that the following papers would be placed in their possession:

- (a) The speech of the President.
- (b) The five points raised by M. Edström and adopted as the basis on which to examine the proposals for the reduction of the Programme.
- (c) The proposals of Germany, Holland and France.
- (d) Views and opinions of other individuals.

#### THE LAKE PLACID GAMES.

Mr. Dewey, representative of the Lake Placid Committee was introduced to the members present. The President explained to the meeting the number of candidates for the IIIrd Winter Olympic Games and also gave a precis of the correspondence that had passed between the Executive Committee and certain of the International Associations on the subject of Lake Placid which had led to the I.O.C. awarding the Games to Lake Placid.

Mr. Salchow (Skating) confirmed his first letter in which he had stated that the final decision relative to the IIIrd Winter Olympic Games will be taken at the Congress at Oslo, but that he had every reason to hope that the decision would be favourable to the participation of his Association in the Lake Placid Games.

The other delegates also expressed their views and especially referred to the necessity of the Lake Placid Committee doing all in its power to reduce the expenses of the athletes and officials in going to Lake Placid.

Mr. Dewey promised to do all in his power to obtain the lowest possible terms.

The President stated that the dates proposed for the Winter Games were either:

Friday, 29th January to Saturday, 6th February, or

Friday, 5th February to Saturday, 13th February, and he asked the delegates to consult their Associations and then to inform the I.O.C. of their opinion.

The delegates emphasised very strongly the urgent

necessity of obtaining the lowest possible terms on the Steamships and Railways, as well as with the Hotel Proprietors for lodging and feeding.

Mr. Dewey asked if Sir George Mc Laren Brown would undertake the same negotiations with the Steamship Companies for the Winter Games as he had agreed to undertake for the Summer Games, and he was told that this would be done. He stated that he would be responsible for negotiating with the Railways and Hotels.

#### CONGRESS OF BERLIN.

The President stated that the Congress of Berlin would open on Sunday, 25th May and reminded delegates that all questions they desired to have placed on the Agenda must reach the Secretary of the I. O. C. not later than four months before the above-mentioned date.

#### BREVET D'ATHLETE.

The President informed the meeting that the I.O.C. had decided to refer this matter to the International Associations before taking any decision on the subject.

The meeting then closed.

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#### 4. — **The Aims and Objects of the International Bureau de Pedagogie Sportive.**

It is not surprising that abuses have been revealed deep down in the heart of a movement so universal and so powerful as the cult of sport and all that it brings with it. But these said abuses, around which has centred much discussion, are by no means incurable. The International Bureau of Pedagogie Sportive, recently initiated by the town of Lausanne, has given its serious consideration to this question, with a view of concentrating on those points in which it seemed possible to effect some reform. The Principals of the Bureau are of the opinion that various defects of a general character are outstanding at the present moment, namely:

1. Children, schoolboys, are the prey of premature sporting organisations. This is a consequence of the general tendency to produce precocity in every direction. It is to be feared, however, that the shortening of the spring time of life does not prolong the summer, but rather hastens the autumn; the harmony of the seasons of life cannot be altered. If the child starts sport too young with the necessary work attached to it, (such as training, competitions, crowds and applause) he rapidly becomes nervy or bored. The real moral and social power of sport on a boy becomes exhausted just at the time when his teachers should expect most of it.

2. The very young man is led to endure, through constant competition, great mental and physical fatigue. Instead of being a wise counter balance to mental activity, sport becomes the principal object of his life.

relegating to a secondary position his work as a student or scholar and leading to hasty and imperfect literary or scientific training.

3. Very soon bad influences come to the surface, viz: bravado, self advertisement and material gain. The very bad example, which they receive from their elders, leads the youth very early to an unhealthy horizon, and it must be admitted that up to the present nothing has been done to alter this attitude. The Sporting Press, principally devoted to business and money-making does little or nothing to improve matters. This, may be, is only a temporary phase. But whilst waiting for some change to be effected it might be as well, if the Press is unable to change its line of thought, if we adopted a line of policy that would neutralise the effect of this action.

4. The mentality so called «Olympic», which is actually the outcome of the cult and the ultimate gaining of a World's Record, affects unfortunately a crowd of youths, who can never attain this objective but yet remain constantly impressed by it. The intensive rivalry which, is manifested in the Games held every four years and also in other periodical great National and International Championships, which are held from time to time, is necessary for the propaganda of sport generally. It would be idle to expect to dispense with it. But side by side with the striving after «International Records» and also after «National Records» which are in the same category — there is the «Record Individuel». The latter is within the reach of a great number. It acts as an incentive to a virile training of the mind and body, but unfortunately we are apt to ignore the importance of it. The badge of the sportsman, which can be won and worn by the young Swede with its three categories; the excellent system of Lieutenant Hebert for the French Navy with its graded system beginning under «zero» and mounting upwards are excellent examples. There are others, and it would be wise to ascertain what their nature is and then to put them to practice.

5. If an excess in the matter of sport affects childhood and adolescence, there is another individual - viz: the isolated adult, for whom nothing or very little has been done in order to enable him to indulge in the practice of various sports at any time according to his taste and means and without having to join for a period any society or group. This negligence is one of the most important problems of to day. If it is considered wise to delay the commencement of the period of sporting activity, it should on the other hand be prolonged as much as possible. The adult is one, whose power of resistance is of the greatest importance, not only on account of his technical value, but of his value from the point of view of the moral and social progress of the nation. Only the conditions in which he may indulge in sport, are different to those of his youth. The ancients knew this, we have forgotten it. Nothing as yet has happened to replace in this respect the gymnasium of the Greek City. But the call, instituted in 1912, that a municipal institution should be started, has been heard. In Germany a recent movement has been initiated, which is exciting the interest of the municipalities, and raising the hopes of the people. Fresh and enlightened schemes emanating from America

are also worthy of attention, for they serve as good examples of what can be done. A new era seems to dawn.

6. The «Pedagogie Sportive» must bring its policy into line with the necessities of the period, which is about to commence. One can say that this new science, whose forerunner was that great Englishman Thomas Arnold, had its birth place here in Lausanne. The first Congress on sport and its bearing on the mentality of the human being (Psychologie Sportive) assembled at Lausanne on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of May 1913, and was jointly convened by the International Olympic Committee and the public bodies of Switzerland and of Lausanne. The opening speech was made by an eminent Italian, Guglielmo Ferrero, and President Roosevelt gave it his support by sending a «memoire» in which he gave his personal experience on this subject in clear and convincing manner. We are anxious to resume, under such auspices, our work which was interrupted under the tragic circumstances of the great war. This is obviously the moment. But, in order to achieve the best results it will be necessary to ask the Physiologists, who have obtained, as a result of their study of sport in all its bearings, much valuable information, to admit and welcome the collaboration of the Psychologists, who up to present time have been kept aside.

These are the chief points, which it appears expedient for us to examine. The International Bureau of «Pedagogie Sportive» hopes to organise along these lines first of all a discussion among the personalities and groups most interested, then to study the defects and find a remedy; parents, masters, public bodies - without forgetting youth itself, the best elements of which realise the peril and show themselves desirous of fighting it no matter at what cost or sacrifice, must all assist. Without prophesying anything as to the result of these labours, the International Bureau of «Pedagogie Sportive» considers as most efficacious, the methods of the scientist Solvay. The great industrial and philanthropic Belgian has been able to gain the best results by bringing together periodically a limited number of competent people to discuss a limited number of problems, which confronted them. The heads of the Bureau, independent of any School and without any preconceived theory, appeal to all, irrespective of class, rank or distinction, to come forward to co-operate with them for the public good.

Lausanne, April 1928.

PIERRE DE COUBERTIN,  
President of the Bureau.

PAUL ROSSET,  
Mayor of Lausanne.

COLONEL GUISAN,  
Commanding the 1st Division.

JEAN RUBATTEL,  
Secretary of the Bureau.

All correspondance concerning the Bureau should be addressed to the Secretary at Lausanne.