

OFFICIEL

3. — **Déclaration du Comte de Baillet-Latour faite en date du 6 Novembre 1935 à Berlin.**

J'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que l'entretien que j'ai eu avec le Chancelier d'Allemagne ainsi que l'enquête à laquelle je me suis livré m'ont convaincu que rien ne s'oppose au maintien des Jeux de la XI^e Olympiade à Berlin et à Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Les conditions requises par la Charte Olympique ont été respectées par le Comité Olympique Allemand.

Les visiteurs et les participants peuvent être assurés de trouver un accueil parfaitement cordial sans courir le risque de rencontrer quoique ce soit d'offensant pour leurs principes. La campagne de boycottage n'émane pas des Comités Olympiques nationaux et n'est appuyée par aucun de nos collègues. Elle est politique, basée sur des affirmations gratuites, dont il m'a été aisé de démasquer la fausseté. L'argent qui sert à l'alimenter ne provient pas des fonds dont les Comités sportifs disposent pour supporter les frais de participation.

Puissent ceux dont la bonne foi a été surprise reconnaître leur erreur et collaborer avec nous en toute sincérité à faire des Jeux de Berlin et de Garmisch-Partenkirchen une manifestation dont la jeunesse du monde retirera les bienfaits.

BAILLET-LATOURE.

Les lettres échangées entre le Maccabi World Union et le Comité International Olympique prouvent que les autorités que régissent le sport juif et celles qui régissent les Jeux Olympiques sont d'accord.

MACCABI WORLD UNON

165/7, Moorgate, London, E.C. 2
12th November 1935

Comte de Baillet Latour
Comité International Olympique
Lausanne
Suisse.

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your letter of the 29th October addressed to Dr. Lelewer. I have been appointed the new President of the Maccabi World Union and as such have noted with interest the contents of your letter.

I am perfectly in agreement with you that the Olympic Games should not be confused with any political issues, but would remark that I, in common with all other Jews and many non-Jews, look upon

the state of affairs in Germany today from the point of view of general humanity and social decency.

The Maccabi Movement has never attempted to question the decision of the C.I.O., as to the venue of the Olympic Games, but we certainly do wish to urge all Jewish sportsmen, for their own self-respect, to refrain from competing in a country where they are discriminated against as a race and our Jewish brethren treated with unexampled brutality.

As a sports Organisation, we hope we understand the meaning of the words «sport» and «sportmanship» ! It is for this reason that we cannot as Jews accept lightly the situation created by the Olympic Games being held in Germany.

Finally, may I thank you for your sympathetic letter and express the hope that our attitude in this matter will not be misconstrued?

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Sig.) S. Brodetsky
PRESIDENT

COMITE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIQUE
Mon Repos. Lausanne

November 20th. 1935

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your letter of the 12th. of november and am very happy, that the Maccabi World Union, and the I.O.C., understanding both the meaning of the words «sport» and «sportmanship» and in perfect agreement that the Olympic Games should not be confused with any political issues, share the same opinion on a question, which has been misunderstood by so many others, who have interfered in this matter.

The Maccabi World Union does not, as you say, question the decision of the I.O.C, as to the venue of the Olympic Games.

The I.O.C, holds the view that no athlete can be prevented from taking part in the games but admits that nobody can be forced to go to Germany if he does not wish to do so.

As a proof I will quote what I wrote, a few days ago, to Mr. Avery Brundage, President of the American Olympic Association : «It goes without saying that the I.O.C, respecting the individual liberty of each one does in no way wish to coerce those — christian or jews — who, for personal reasons, which obviously concern them alone, may possibly object to go to Germany».

You may be assured that your attitude in this matter is not misconstrued.

In full agreement with you,
I remain

Yours sincerely

Mr. Selig Brodetsky
Chairman of the Maccabi
World Union
L o n d o n

(sig.) Baillet-Latour
Chairman of the I.O.C,