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Official Report

The IVth Olympic Winter Games

The Fourth Olympic Winter Games have given a proof of the high regard on the part of the German people for the Olympic idea, and following the Games at Lake Placid and Los Angeles, they have provided new satisfaction for those who are striving to maintain the high standard of the Olympic ideals in the face of all the diverse outside influences and difficulties of the present epoch.

The various competitions took place under the most favourable climatic conditions, and the few small misunderstandings were amiably settled among the participants themselves without the intervention of the authorities.

Neither was the artistic side neglected, thanks to the efforts of the Organizing Committee, which took care that the banquets were attractively arranged and that excellent musical and dancing entertainments were provided, especially in Munich.

The closing ceremony of the Games made a deep impression on all those present, and many had difficulty in suppressing their emotion as four skiers, the light from about five hundred torches focussed upon them, lowered the Olympic flag and carried it from the Stadium. The first act was at an end, and each one said to himself : «And now to Berlin !»

At the finish of the Games, the Chancellor sent to the President of the International Olympic Committee the following message :

Berlin, 16th February, 1936.

To the President of the International Olympic Committee,
Count Baillet-Latour, Garmisch-Plartenkirchen.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of myself and the German nation, I take this opportunity of extending to you and to the Mem-

bers of the Committee my sincere thanks for the highly esteemed and praiseworthy services which you have rendered in connection with the IVth Olympic Winter Games of 1936 in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. The splendid progress and brilliant finish of this international event were to a large extent made possible by your generous cooperation.

I would also request you to remit our thanks and the expression of our most sincere admiration to all those participants, both male and female, who by their wonderful achievements in the Olympic Games aroused the enthusiasm and esteem of the whole world.

Yours very truly,

(signed) A. HITLER.

Festivals and Receptions

The Fe&cal, which at the instigation of the municipal authorities of Garmisch-Partenkirchen was, decorated in Bavarian style, was the scene of many receptions. The President of the Organizing Committee for the Fourth Olympic Winter Games, Dr. Karl Ritter von Halt, the Reich Sport Leader, Herr von Tschammer und Osten, the Minister of the Interior, Dr. Frick, the Minister of War, General Blomberg, Dr. Theodore Schmidt, President of the Austrian Olympic Committee, and the German Aero Club received in turn the International Olympic Committee, the Presidents and Members of the National Olympic Committees, the International Sporting Federations, and the German authorities.

The large official banquet given by the State and Bavarian governments, however, was held in the hall of the German Museum in Munich under the patronage of the Minister of Propaganda and Enlightenment, Dr. Goebbels, and the head of the Bavarian government, first-class musical entertainment being included in the programme of festivities.