

*is in these days of particular importance that we should keep a straight and steady course, maintaining our idealistic attitude without any sideways glances. We must work for national happiness and recreation, provide healthy occupations for leisure hours, and teach the young generations of the different countries to know, respect, and appreciate each other.*

*Our work during these days is comprehensive and responsible. Mutual understanding and cooperation are essential if its results are to benefit our common cause. At the dinner for which we are now assembled I trust that old friendships will be strengthened and new friends made. Many differences of opinion so often cropping up at the conference table may well be smoothed out by personal association under agreeable circumstances.*

*Hoping that this will come to pass, that this dinner will prove a refreshing relaxation from your daily tasks, and that we shall all become more closely knit together, I beg on behalf of the Swedish Sports Federation to wish you all heartily welcome here tonight.*

### **Speech made by the Vice-President of the Swedish Sports Federation.**

*Gentlemen,*

*It is an honour and a pleasure to Swedish sportsmen to welcome as their guests so many prominent representatives of the International Olympic Committee and International Sports Federations.*

*The long, devastating war years have had widespread effects in every branch of life, including our activities. Many problems of vital importance to sports and athletics and their future development are consequently clamouring for a solution.*

*Representing, as we do, one of the largest and foremost of the idealistic movements in the world, it*