

Discours de M. Brynjulf Bull

maire de la ville d'Oslo.

Your Royal Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen.

As mayor of Oslo it is a great pleasure and privilege to extend a cordial welcome to all members of the International Olympic Committee.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Committee on behalf of the city of Oslo for entrusting our capital with the honour of arranging the Sixth Olympic Winter Games, of 1952. When our application was submitted in 1947 we were fully conscious of the great responsibilities involved.

Various circumstances have rendered our task even more difficult than we expected at the time.

To-day, however, with the opening of the Sixth Olympic Winter Games just round the corner, we are confident that the various sporting arrangements will fully satisfy the strict demands, which must necessarily be made, if a series of contests of this nature and on this scale are to be successfully concluded, and are to promote interest in the Olympic movement.

Winter sports have from ancient time naturally enjoyed a special place in our daily life and leisure, and we like to think that our capital offers its inhabitants better facilities for their favourite sport than any other capital in the world. For that reason we are looking forward to the impending games with special interest, and I can assure you that in the days ahead the various contests will be followed with great keenness all over Norway.

We are proud and happy to be able to act as hosts at this great festival of international sport, and it is our hope that the links now being forged will prove a blessing to coming generations, not only in the field of sport, but in promoting understanding between nations, an understanding of their special problems and of the common difficulties and tasks, which must be solved if we are to create a solid foundation for a peaceful happy world.

It is my earnest hope that the International Olympic Committee will enjoy their stay in our capital, and that the technical preparations undertaken by the city authorities, in order that the Games may be concluded in a worthy manner, will meet with their approval. Should the weather upset our plans, I trust that this will not be blamed on the city authorities.

In conclusion, may I wish the congress the best of luck in all their work and a hearty welcome to Oslo.