

SURVEY ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WINTER GAMES' PREPARATION

Cortina d'Ampezzo, 1956

Tangible progress has been made in the course of one year preparatory work for the Winter Games.

With the Municipal Authorities of Cortina D'Ampezzo's consent investigating and surveying have been carried out by the technicians in charge of the various branches of activity such as: sportive equipments and installations, road and railway communications, housing, equipment of buildings and general organisation.

At the I. N. O. Committee's request, the Italian Government has set up an Inter-Ministerial Commission presided by the Under-Secretary to the Cabinet Ministry. This Commission is composed of eminent officials accredited to the various State Departments also Members of the I. N. O. C. and country Representatives.

The duty assigned to this Commission is to solve the problems of a general order in order to give Cortina d'Ampezzo full scope to comply with the conditions required by the Games.

In the course of the last few months, constructional road work has already commenced with a view of widening and improving the various means of access to the city as well as forecasting a system of one way traffic.

The Ministry of Transport is already dealing with a preparatory scheme concerning the Dolomites' Railway lines, they will become an integral part of the National and International main Railways.

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications has approved of the outlay of an underground Central of telephone Exchange which will assure the service of telephone and telegraph communications during the Games. In addition it is proposed to build a new Post and Telegraph Office in Cortina.

The Italian Radio technicians are taking all the necessary steps to ensure that this important news service's installation should be equipped with the best devices for the purpose of broadcasting the informations given by the radio reporters, throughout the world.

Ever since last Spring, one has been surveying and inspecting the existing sites where

the training courses for skiing contests are taking place. A project is ready for the entire renovation of the take-off « Italia » also for providing more accommodation for the public.

In the course of last Summer, all the technical structures as well as the accessory equipments for the bobsleigh track have been executed and completed. A Stadium, original in style, has already been erected to accommodate the public and the authorities.

The Sport Equipment Bureau of the I. N. O. C. has chosen the final plan for the construction of a new artificial skating rink. It will be situated at 5 minute's distance from the centre of Cortina. The Stadium shall consist of a building made of concrete, shaped as a horse shoe, built with a wooden roof, erected with a view to retain the characteristic style found in the Dolomites.

The Stadium is a threestoreyed tier building, the last tier is reserved exclusively to the press and its services. It will contain various halls and lounges which can be converted into offices and meeting halls as well as give all the necessary accommodation for the athletes' use (cloak rooms, douche bath rooms etc...). Furthermore the Stadium will have two artificial Ice Rinks, each measuring 30 m. by 60 m., the main rink will be kept exclusively for competitions, while the other will be used for training and practice ground. The main part of the preliminary work has been carried out last June, it consisted chiefly in excavating and prospecting for a suitable site in order to lay the foundations of the new building. The actual erection of the Stadium has been sanctioned and approved of, the casting of the concrete foundations will probably take place early in October 1952. The formal inauguration of the Stadium is scheduled for 1954, date when the building is expected to be completed.

Numerous plans and projects have already been submitted and examined at the I. N. O. C.'s Office in connection with the vignettes to be adopted for the illustration of printed matter also choosing the insignia, the medals etc. as well as the issue of a special Olympic stamp.

