

Extract from the Minutes

of the Conferenee of the Executive Board of the I. O. C. with the Delegates of the National Olympic Committees and the International Federations

Paris, Cercle Interallié, Faubourg Saint-Honoré,

June 11th 1955.

Chairman : Mr. Avery Brundage, President of the I. O. C.

List of those present: for the E. B. of the I. O. C. :

Mr. Massard, Vice-President.

Lord Burghley.

H. E. Prince Axel of Denmark.

H. E. Mohammed Taher.

Dr. Miguel A. Moenck.

Count Paolo Thaon di Revel.

National Olympic Committees : Afghanistan, South-Africa, Germany, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China (Peking), Korea, Cuba, Egypt, Spain, United States, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Great-Britain, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Iran, Irish Republic (Eire), Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Luxemburg, Malay, Mexico, Monaco, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Saar, Sweden, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Siam, Turkey, U. S. S. R., Venezuela, Viet-Nam, Yugoslavia.

International Federations : same as those present at the Conference held on June 10th 1955.

Procès-verbal : By means of recordings
Sitting opens at 9.30 a. m.

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The Chairman, President Avery Brundage extends a hearty welcome to the Delegates present and expresses his pleasure at seeing such a full attendance.

MELBOURNE GAMES 1956. — Mr. Avery Brundage states that after reading the last report submitted by the Australian organizing Committee and after having seen in the press the various alarming rumours concerning this organization, he decided to pay a personal visit to Melbourne. He bases his statement on what he has seen. His report is fairly optimistic as far as the building schemes and the technical installations are concerned, but he stresses the necessity with the representatives of the organizing Committee present, Mr. Weir and Mr. Holt, for all the projects to be completed satisfactorily in the period of time (18 months) left before the Opening of the Games. This point is, in fact, the only reservation made by President Brundage. During his visit to Australia, he had the opportunity to meet the Mayor of Melbourne, the Prime Minister of Australia, the Governor General of the State of Victoria, etc. All these personalities are most optimistic as to the organizing and the success of the coming Games. President Brundage is not of the opinion that it is necessary to discuss technicalities at this Conference, since all these have already been dealt with individually by the representatives of the I. F.'s and Mr. Holt, Technical Director of the Melbourne Games.

Mr. Weir (O. Committee, Melbourne) has distributed a printed report to all the Delegates present, he confirms the contents of this report and explains verbally the most important points contained therein.

Mr. Gaston Mullegg (Rowing) and Mr. Popel (Canoeing) declare that following an agreement reached between the representatives of these two Federations and Mr. Holt, they are both entirely satisfied with the basins put at their disposal for carrying out their respective sports.

Mr. Bo. Ekelund (Sweden) referring to the cost of living for the athletes while in Melbourne, expresses surprise at the higher figure quoted, namely 3 pounds 15 shillings, which is the equivalent to 8.40 dollars, instead of the previously estimated 6 dollars.

Gen Stoitchev (Bulgaria) referring to the question of the fire arms, proposes that a governmental guarantee from Australia may be given to them telegraphically during the Paris Session, thus assuring them that certain laws still in suspense will be altered before the Games. In view of what has been experienced concerning the quarantine of horses, he feels that this guarantee is absolutely necessary.

Mr. van der Houten (Netherlands) expresses surprise at the restrictions still in force in Australia concerning the importation and the carrying of pistols of a certain calibre. This also must be settled in order that they are absolutely certain that the importation of fire-arms and ammunition necessary for the Games, can be effected without trouble. He also demands that the question of the cost of living for the athletes be thoroughly reconsidered in all its details for, the rise in the cost of living that they are told about today, represents an increase of about 40% in comparison with the Helsinki prices, and this seems excessive. He would also like to know what the average cost of living will be for those who intend to go to Australia for the Games.

Mr. Carlsson (Shooting) says that as his federation is holding its Congress next September, he must be fully conversant with the decisions taken concerning the importation of fire-arms.

Mr. Andrianow (U. S. S. R.) asks to have a formal assurance that visas will be granted to sportsmen of all countries who may apply for them. He wishes his Australian colleagues to examine carefully their legislative system and to find out whether it does not contain other stipulations which they are ignoring at the present time, but which might be hindrance and create difficulties at the last moment.

Mr. Dyrssen (Sweden) also asks to be reassured as to the importation of firearms to be used in the competitions of modern pentathlon.

Mr. Brundage asks the Delegates of Melbourne to be good enough to send a cable to Australia in order to obtain the desired full guarantees so that they may be imparted to the members in the course of next week, when the I. O. C. holds its Session.

THE OLYMPIC GAMES OF CORTINA D'AMPEZZO

A brochure has been printed and distributed to all the Delegates present, and Mr. Fabian, member of the organizing Committee of Cortina, put himself at the disposal of any member who wishes further particulars on the subject. He added that the majority of the sports installations are ready, and that those which are not yet completed will be ready for September of this year.

EQUESTRIAN OLYMPIC GAMES OF STOCKHOLM 1956

Count de Rosen (Org. Committee Sweden) announces that the Stockholm Equestrian Games will be held from June 10th to June 17th 1956 and that his committee regrets that it has found it impossible to meet the various requests asking for an alteration of these dates by putting them back to July 10th to July 17th. The organizing of the Games is running its normal course and everything will be perfectly ready for the appointed date. Mr. Jung Kaotang (Chinese People's Republic, Peking) states that he has noticed that two Chinese Olympic Committees representing China appear in the official Bulletin of the I. O. C., one as having its seat in Peking, the other in Formosa. He considers that this is in direct contradiction to the Olympic spirit, the more so because the Formosan Committee has no right to represent the Chinese people within an international organization. There is only one China which represents the Chinese people, namely the Chinese People's Democratic Republic with its seat in Peking. He suggests therefore that the Formosan Committee which represents nothing be erased.

Mr. Avery Brundage states: I wish to address a few remarks to the representative of the Olympic Committee of Democratic China (Peking) who is with us. This is the first time that you have attended our debates. Sir, consequently, we can excuse you for having violated one of the fundamental rules of the I. O. C., namely that we are not entitled to discuss here political matters. In view of this fact, your remarks are entirely out of place and I trust that you will be good enough to refrain from making comments of this nature in the future. We are here to discuss questions dealing entirely with sport. You are here to represent the group of the sportive people of China's mainland, but there is another group or organization which represents the sportive people of Formosa, and the people belonging to that part of the world.

PAN-AMERICAN GAMES 1955, MEXICO

Mr. Avery Brundage who attended these Games last March, feels that he can safely say that they were crowned with success.

Mr. Marte Gomez (President of the Pan-American Organizing Committee) gives a brief account of the running and organization of these Games. He concludes by saying that they attained considerable success in that part of the world.

Mr. Larsson (Shooting) and Baron de Tranoy (I. E. F.) express their regret at having to make some reservations concerning the application of the Rules of the I. F's.

Col. Russell (Boxing) also points out certain errors which arose, due to inexperience, he hopes that in future, the I. F's Rules for the Regional Games will be more strictly observed and applied.

President Brundage understands that the same thing happened to the Int. Rowing Federation who was compelled to forbid its national federations to compete in the Pan-American Games unless certain alterations took place.

Mr. Roby (U. S. A.) informs the assembly that he has appointed a permanent organizing Board for these Games, the former is under the supervision of a chancellor whose duty consists in watching over the development of future manifestations.

CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN GAMES

Mr. Brundage attended these Games and does not think that one can comment on them extensively, since all the considerations and reserves applicable to the Pan-American Games apply equally to the Central American and Caribbean Games. He confirms the fact that the Int. Rowing Fed. appointed a sub-committee in Central and Latin America, several years ago, which is responsible for all the problems pertaining to the three regions of America. This Board has functioned satisfactorily for some years. He cites this example to the International Federations present.

ASIATIC GAMES

Mr. Vargas (Philippines) states that these Games took place at Manilla, in the first fortnight of April 1954. They were a great success and an excellent propaganda for sport in Asia. The next Asiatic Games will be held in Tokyo.

YOUTH FESTIVAL IN WARSAW, AUGUST 1955

Prof. Loth (Poland) mentions that this important sport demonstration will take place in Warsaw and will be attended by about 5,000 sportsmen from 30 different countries.

OLYMPIC AWARDS

President Brundage states that both the I. F's and the N. O. C's have the possibility to propose a candidate before the 1st of April of each year, for the attribution of the Olympic Awards. These proposed candidatures must

be put through the medium of the members of the I. O. C. of their respective countries. Failing this, the candidatures can be sent directly to the Chancellery of the I. O. C. at Lausanne.

OLYMPIC RULES

President Brundage announces that a new edition of the Olympic Rules will appear shortly, probably between now and the end of the year.

OLYMPIC HYMN

This hymn, said the Chairman, will be played for the first time next Monday at the solemn opening ceremony of the I. O. C. Session at the Sorbonne.

COLOURED ATHLETES

Col. Russell (Boxing) wishes to draw the attention of the Delegates present, to the situation existing in some countries, where competitions between coloured boxers and white boxers are not allowed. This being contrary to the Fundamental Olympic Charter, he feels that this state of affairs should be mentioned to the assembly and that the I. O. C. should examine this problem.

JUDGES AND REFEREES

Mr. Avery Brundage declares that a long debate was held yesterday dealing with this problem at the Conference with the I. F's. He wishes to draw the attention of the N. O. C's to the fact that they must take great care when recommending personalities belonging to their countries for the office of judge or referee, as these candidates must combine experience with the necessary moral and technical qualities.

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE I. O. C., THE I. F'S AND THE N. O. C'S

President Brundage gives a detailed statement concerning the importance of cooperation which must exist between these three different organizations essential to the Olympic Movement. He asks the N. O. C's to take particular notice of Rule 25 (also 24) in the new forthcoming Rules. He also informs the assembly that the I. O. C. desires that this new rule should be applied very strictly, especially in countries where politics are of prime importance and where the Olympic Rules are sometimes overlooked.

At the conclusion of President Brundage's statement, the Polish Delegate asked that the N. O. C's be supplied with the Agenda of the I. O. C. Session. There are a great number of N. O. C's throughout the world who do not have a representative in the I. O. C., were these N. O. C's to receive the agenda, they could express their opinions and make any proposals they may wish by submitting in writing before the Session any questions likely to be of interest to them. Col. Russell (Boxing) asks that the same be done with the I. F's. President Brundage declares himself entirely in favour of this proposal and will be glad to make this recommendation to the I. O. C.

RECOGNITION OF NEW INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

President Brundage declares that the I. O. C. intends from time to time to give recognition to certain athletic associations, federations, or organizations who conduct their affairs in conformity with Olympic standards. These organizations which carry on their work according to Olympic Regulations will be listed in the Olympic Bulletin. The first two, which are to be presented for the I. O. C's approval at next week's session, are the Comité International des Sports Silencieux which conducts world championships for the deaf and dumb, and the Junta Departamental de Deportes of Cali, Colombia, which, for a number of years successfully organized a national sport festival in Cali, similar to the Olympic Games. Other sport organizations which operate on a high standard may be listed in the Bulletin in the future.

ISRAEL

Mr. Glovinski (Israel) gives his wholehearted approval to this notion, but he subordinates it to one clause, namely to make sure that no discrimination based on race, religion, or politics, is applied to anybody whatsoever, whether it may concern individuals or associations. He suggests this clause in order to avoid the reoccurrence of the unpleasant situation in which his country found herself when the organizing committee of the Mediterranean Games refused to invite Israel to these Games.

President Brundage declares that the position of Israel, as far as the Mediterranean Games are concerned, is rather delicate, for the Spanish organizing Committee informed the I. O. C., after it had intervened, that, in this instance, there had been no discrimination, but that the Committee had limited its invitations to countries who had already taken part in the first Mediterranean Games at Alexandria, Egypt, which were held 4 years ago. Israel was not represented at these Games. The I. O. C. considers that it would be going beyond its power, were it to interfere in the internal affairs of the Regional Games' organization.

AMATEURISM

President Brundage gives an extensive survey of this problem, and cites several cases where there has been violation of the Olympic Code and rules either through ignorance or deliberately. Generally speaking, the success of the Olympic Movement is mainly due to the fact that the Games are amateur. Criticisms which are published chiefly by the sport press, emphasize precisely the fact that professionals dishonestly claim to be amateurs. The responsibility of the N. O. C's and the I. F's and of the I. O. C. is not only toward the handful of champions who are sent to the Olympic Games every four years, but more so toward the hundreds of thousands of young people who take part in various less important sport activities all over the world. Attention is always directed to the summit, however, and most of the charges are

made against the champions. All of these should be judged according to the spirit of the rules. The realization and the execution of amateurism can only be achieved by a friendly collaboration between the N. O C's, the I. F's and the I. O C. in order to assure the respect and the honest execution of the Olympic rules. Abuse will become evermore rare and negligible. The N. O C's are the supreme authorities so far as the Olympic Movement is concerned, in their different countries, therefore they are responsible for the education of the public in Olympic principles. In this connection they should work very closely with the Press.

Dr. Ferreira Santos (Brazil) quotes as an example of true amateurism the case of the Brazilian athlete Da Silva, known to everybody as the case which has largely contributed to the development of the sporting spirit and amateurism in Brazil. Reserves are to be made in this country concerning football which is specifically divided between professional Football whose players are affiliated to a professional league, and registered as such with the Brazilian Ministry of Labour, and the others who are pure amateurs.

NATIONAL ANTHEMS
AT THE OFFICIAL CEREMONIES
OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

A suggestion has been made to the effect that national anthems should be replaced by a fanfare of trumpets. The following motion is passed concerning this subject: The E. B. is going to propose to the I. O C. at its Session which opens next Monday, that the national anthems at the official ceremonies be maintained, but that instead of playing the whole hymn, only one verse or a few bars be played, or to limit the time of execution. (Applause.)

PROTECTION OF THE OLYMPIC EMBLEMS

President Brundage mentions that this question has been on the agenda for about 4 years and that its solution is entrusted to the Swiss Olympic Committee who has accredited Me Hafner, one of its members to act on its behalf.

Mr. Marcel Henninger (Switzerland) makes a brief report on the present situation which is progressing favourably. The Swiss Government has agreed to send invitations to the Governments of the countries who have N. O C's, with the object of organizing an international convention for the protection of the Olympic emblems and Olympic devices. The closing date fixed by the Swiss Government to the other governments has been stipulated for October 15th 1955, the date by which all the replies must be received. It is essential that the N. O C's should stress the importance of the matter to their respective governments and explain to them the necessity for such protection. Urgency is emphasized, for it is essential that the Governments be in possession of the facts when receiving the invitation issued by the Swiss Government.

Mr. Baltazzi (Greece) says that the Greek Government has already been approached on this subject and that it has agreed to participate in this Convention. In Greece, the Olympic emblems are already protected. The Greek Government would like the signing of the convention for the protection of the Olympic emblems to take place at Olympia where Olympism was born.

THE NEXT CONFERENCES WITH THE N. O C'S

These will take place the year preceding the Games and the following year, namely in 1957 and in 1959. A sitting will be reserved for the I. F's in order to settle technical matters, and the second Conference will be tripartite, that is to say a meeting of the three organizations: the N. O C's, the I. F's and the E. B. of the I. O C. (Approved unanimously.)

RUINS OF OLYMPIA

President Brundage says that Dr. Mezö, member of the I. O C. for Hungary and a great authority on Greek antiquity, visited Olympia 25 years ago and again last year. During the visit of the I. O C. to Olympia, he discovered that the ruins have unfortunately deteriorated considerably. Mr. Baltazzi (Greece) mentions that a law has been passed recently by the Greek Government which empowers the Ministry of Education to take the required measures in order to preserve the ancient stadia and the sacred places of ancient Greece.

ARTICLE 25 (ALSO 24)

OF THE NEW OLYMPIC RULES

President Brundage declares that as the result of the recent amendments to Art. 24 of the Olympic rules, the I. O C. has decided to send a questionnaire to the National Olympic Committees whom this rule concerns, in order to ascertain that these committees are really composed according to these criteria and in conformity with the new Regulations. As soon as it is ready, this questionnaire will be sent to the N. O C's who will return it as quickly as possible to the Chancellery of the I. O C. at Lausanne.

VENEZUELA

President Brundage quotes the case which occurred in that country when the N. O C. did not have the necessary funds to send its athletes to the Pan-American Games. When approached, the government refused any financial help. However, the President of the Republic Col Jimenez, launched an appeal to the public and this was the way adopted to raise the necessary funds to send the Venezuelan athletes to the Pan-American Games in Mexico City. President Brundage purposely drew the attention of the N. O C's to this case which could be turned to good account by certain National Olympic Committees.

President Brundage mentions the fact that a great number of athletes never appeared in the stadium at Helsinki and that some 800 to 900 athletes who were mere tourists joined the sports teams at the Helsinki Games. Now, there is in force a new rule just elaborated by the I. O. C. which limits the number of officials registered with the sports authorities and allowed to accompany the teams. A certain proportion has been drawn, the detailed account of which has been published in one of the last issues of the Bulletin of the I. O. C.

Mr. Roby (U. S. A.) asks if the trainers may be looked upon as officials. President Brundage replies affirmatively, and adds that each team can bring the number of officials it wishes, provided that those in excess of the stipulated number, pay their own expenses, as they will have no right of access to the installations, boarding billets, lodgings in the Olympic Village, nor receive entrance tickets, etc. Thus they will be looked upon as mere tourists.

ADDITIONAL WOMEN CONTESTS

Mr. Gaston Mullegg (Rowing) has been informed by the Chancellery of the I. O. C. that a proposal will be submitted at the Paris Session of the I. O. C. concerning the addition to the listed Olympic contests, of women's rowing, women's basketball and women's speed skating. He esteems that the members of the I. O. C. have no right to make these proposals, particularly now that the I. O. C. has asked for the last two years the reducing of the programme at the Games, as well as that of the number of athletes competing in them. Therefore, the proposition which involves an increase in the number of participants is incompatible with the demanded reduction.

President Brundage will convey Mr. Mullegg's remarks at next week session of the I. O. C.

Dr. Ferreira Santos (Brazil) as the senior member of the I. O. C. wishes to thank the French Olympic Committee. and in particular Mr. A. Massard, Mr. Piétri and Count de Beaumont. members of the I. O. C., for the charming welcome which they extended to the Delegates in Paris. He also wishes to congratulate the President of the I. O. C. Mr. Avery Brundage, on the efficient way in which he has conducted today's debates.

Mr. Massard while thanking Dr. Ferreira Santos for his kind words, wishes to apologize to all his colleagues and the Delegates present, for the exiguity of the Conference room. The French Olympic Committee did not expect such a large number of members but he is delighted to welcome them all. At the time when Paris was chosen as the seat of the 50th Session, he had proposed that it should be held at Barcelona on the occasion of the Mediterranean Games. However, the city of Paris was chosen though it had not been a candidate. and this was very gratifying to the F. O. C.

President Brundage expresses his thanks to all the Delegates of the I. F's and the N. O c's for answering the request of the I. O. C. and for coming to Paris. He also wishes to express his gratitude for the attention they have given to the various items on the agenda and for the particularly orderly nature of this Conference. He has not often had the privilege to preside over an assembly endued with such a fine spirit, or whose debates have been so satisfactory. He concludes by stating that about 47 nations have been represented here today. (Applause.)

Close of the Conference at 5.30 p. m.

The President of the I. O. C.:

The Chancellor : Avery Brundage.

Otto Mayer.