

Gymnastics wins forty-six Medals !

Gymnastics comprises a general placing based on the results in individual competitions (this also applies to decathlon in athletics) as well as general placing in team events... You would think this to be sufficient, since placing in individual events means a combined competition...

In spite of this, medals are received by each of the six groups competing in the combined men events as well as by the four groups competing in the combined women contests.

If in addition to these, one includes the winners of ties, this will bring up the number of medals for the sport of gymnastics alone to forty-six medals, more than for swimming !

Moreover, it is quite illogical that an athlete should receive more than one medal for the same performance : thus in his capacity of all-round winner he receives a gold medal (or several) if he happens to carry off other distinction in the special performances, when these have actually allowed him to get a place in this general classification !

The International Olympic Committee objected to this practice but, eventually allowed it to be exceptionally put into force in the 1956 Games in order to conform with the practice in use at the Stockholm Equestrian Games. The later were still under the old ruling and it would have been unfair to

apply the new ruling to Gymnasts whereas all the sports represented in the XVith Olympiad are all part of a whole. In 1960, things will obviously be quite different and the new rules will be strictly applied.

Such an orgy of medals for the same sport will never be tolerated again. A good thing as it will give all the more worth to the medals.