
**THE REASONS FOR LOSS OF L. 200.000 SUSTAINED
DURING THE GAMES OF THE XVith OPYMPIAD**

Apolitical crisis cost the Melbourne Games £ 50 000 (about 145 000 dollars)

(Reported by *Sport*, Zurich). Whilst the Australian authorities have ordered an inquiry into the reasons for the loss of some £200,000 sustained by the Olympic Games of 1956, the principal members of the Organizing Committee have made known their opinions.

General Bridgeford, President of the Executive Committee, declared that there would have been no difficulty in making the Games a paying concern, but that the actual organization of the Games would have been bound to suffer as a result and would therefore have become an object of criticism.

Gen. Bridgeford considers that the deficit, when compared with the overall budget which totalled £5,000,000 was largely offset by the influx of tourists who were attracted by the Games. Hence this loss, neutralized to a great extent in this manner, will represent only a very slight loss, the expense of which will be borne by the State of Victoria and the City of Melbourne.

In listing the causes of this deficit, Brigadier Elliot, chief of the Accommodation Service, cites the following : Rise in the cost of living at the Olympic Village, as a result of which the dues paid for each

athlete did not cover his expenses. The last-minute withdrawal of some five hundred athletes for political reasons resulted in a loss of some £50,000. Gen. Bridgeford also lays the blame for part of the loss at the door of the increased cost of living in Australia. Furthermore, the initial estimate for the constructional projects budgeted for some £1,250,000, whereas the final expenses came to £2,300,000.

Ed. A piece of advice for towns considering candidature for the Games : Don't rely on making a financial profit in organizing the Games !