

*The International Gymnastics
Federation is not satisfied*

The International Gymnastics Federation through the intermediary of its president, Mr. Charles Thoeni of Geneva, has just sent a circular-letter to the members of the International Olympic Committee expressing the dissatisfaction of the federation at the decision taken at the Tokyo Session concerning the reduction of the number of gymnasts allowed to compete in the Olympic Games. In its statement the International Gymnastics Federation emphasizes the fact that, at Helsinki, in 1952, there were 8 gymnasts entered. This number was then reduced to 6 which corresponds to a reduction of 25%. The recent decision brings back a further reduction to 5 competitors with 4 to score. This reduction, if compared to the number

of competitors in Helsinki, shows a cut of 40%. We are not able to publish in full the long letter sent by the International Gymnastics Federation, but here also, on objective ground, we felt bound to mention this objection. On the other hand, the International Gymnastics Federation expresses its satisfaction at the decision taken by the International Olympic Committee to maintain the teams event also for approving the proposals made by the said federation concerning the individual contests. The objection raised bears on one point only : the number of gymnasts permitted to compete in the Games. The letter also mentions that at the Congress of the International Gymnastics Federation, which is going to be held in Moscow, in July, jointly with the World Championships, this problem will be further discussed when a decision will be taken which is not likely to tally with the one taken by the International Olympic Committee.