

open meeting was called to discuss the amateur and professional situation. At the meeting a general controlling body was advocated and a committee was appointed to prepare a constitution and by-laws. At a subsequent meeting the report of the committee was submitted and the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation (Philippine Olympic Committee) was duly organized.

Ever since its organization, the Federation (Committee), has stood and fought for the highest ideals in sport and in athletic competition. It has sought at all times to render service in harmony with its principles. It has steadily grown in size and influence during the forty-eight years of its existence.

Governor General Forbes, was the first president of the Federation (Committee), serving from 1911 to 1914. When the Philippines became a commonwealth, President Manuel L. Quezon, who held the presidency of the Federation (Committee) since 1916 up to 1936 resigned and accepted the honorary presidency which he held up to his death in 1944. Honorable Jorge B. Vargas who served in the committee since 1919 was elected in 1936 to succeed President Quezon as president of the Federation (Committee).

The accomplishments of the Federation (Committee) are many and varied. It has established and conducted a system of annual championships in every line of sport which it recognizes. Rules for the various games have been worked out and standardized. A system of records has been put in force which protects holders from unfair claims. A definite demarcation line has been fixed between amateur and professional sport. The Federation (Committee) took the initiative in organizing the Far Eastern Athletic Association, and it conducted the first championship games in Manila in 1913. In accordance with its policy to establish athletic centers, the Federation (Committee) took over the work of the Playground Recreation Commission and developed the facilities of the Rizal Memorial Field.

The Federation (Committee) has accomplished its greatest achievement in the Philippines through its *Play for Everybody* programme. The true athletic spirit has been grasped and put into practice to a degree never before equalled since the organization of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation (Philippine Olympic Committee). The actual President of the Federation is The Hon. Antonio de las Alas and the Executive Secretary Mr. Serafin Aquino.

FINLAND (1906)

(Olympic Committee of Finland)

The first occasion on which Finland was represented at the Olympic Games was at the unofficial ones held in Athens in 1906. The

delegation which it sent, was composed of six athletes, one of whom was awarded a gold medal in the wrestling events.

The following year, the Finnish Prime Minister. Mr. R. von Willebrand. was elected member of the International Olympic Committee. From then on, Finland sent a delegation – whether large or small – to every series of the Olympic Games. The Games held in Stockholm in 1912 marked the blossoming of Finland in the field of Olympic sport. It was after these Games that the Russians made every effort to prevent the Finns from taking any further part in the Games, and demanded the withdrawal of the representative of the International Olympic Committee for Finland. At the meeting of the International Olympic Committee, held in Paris in June 1914, Finland was struck off the list of Olympic countries, but in 1920, when the Games were held in Antwerp, she once again obtained the right to participate.

The Finnish Olympic Committee was founded in 1906. The spiritual father of Finnish sport was Mr. Ivar Wilskman, and his assistant was Mr. von Willebrand. The latter's place was taken in 1918 : by Mr. Ernst Krogius. It was this period and the one immediately after the country's liberation that saw the Finnish Olympic Committee engaged in ceaseless activity, which was to bear fruit in the years which followed.

The Finnish Committee underwent complete reorganization and it was made up of members nominated by the National Federations of Olympic sports. In 1938, Mr. J.W.Rangell was nominated second member of the International Olympic Committee for Finland. To him fell the honour of making the preparations for the Games which were to have been held in the city of Helsinki, in 1940, had they not unfortunately had to be suspended on account of the war.

In 1947, the Finnish Olympic Committee was set in motion once again, and in the course of the same year, at the time of the Stockholm Session, the International Olympic Committee entrusted it with the organization of the Games of the XVth Olympiad, in 1952. In 1948, Mr. Erik von Frenckell was nominated member of the International Olympic Committee for Finland in the place of Mr. Ernst Krogius. It was he who presided over the Organizing Committee of the Helsinki Games.

In order to conform even more exactly to the Olympic rules, the Finnish Committee had itself put on the register as an Olympic Association, with its constitution signed by the twenty-three National Federations whose sports figure on the programme of the Olympic Games.

The representatives of all these Federations fulfil the functions of the Committee. Amongst those who presided over the latter one must mention Mr. Ernst Krogius, Mr.

Wm. Lehtinen, Colonel V.A.M. Karikoski (who died last April), and the President now in office, General Yrjö Valkama.

SOUTH AFRICA (1912)

(South African Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association)

The above mentioned Committee was formed in the year 1912 with Mr. Henry Nourse as the first chairman. The actual chairman

is the General H.B. Klopper and the Secretary since the intention of the Association until the present time has been Mr. Ira G. Emery, who, in this sphere surely beats a record, Our congratulations. The Association is comprised of two delegates from each South African Governing Body of Sport, from which an Executive Council of ten members is appointed annually at the General Meeting. All the members of the Association are honorary members and receive no payment for their services.

The present delegate of the International Olympic Committee to the Association is Mr. Reginald Honey.

