

Meeting of the Executive Board

of the International Olympic Committee

*with the delegates of the National Olympic Committees, Rome, May 19th
Foro Italico, Headquarters of the Italian National Olympic Committee*

LIST OF PRESENCE SEE IN FRENCH TEXT, p. 22

The Sitting opens at 9.30 a.m.

The Chairman, *Mr. Avery Brundage*, President of the International Olympic Committee, welcomes the Delegates of the National Olympic Committee present at the Conference.

REPORT ON SQUAW VALLEY

Mr. Prentis C. Hale, President of the Organizing Committee of the VIIIth Olympic Winter Games of 1960 at Squaw Valley submits his report and assures the delegates that the installations will be ready on time as per schedule. Since there are no comment, this report is ratified.

REPORT ON ROME

Mr. Giulio Onesti, President of the Organizing Committee, Games of the XVIIth Olympiad, Rome 1960 submits the fifth printed report to the delegates. There were no comment which proved that the delegates are fully satisfied with what they saw on the preceding day. This report is accepted.

CANDIDATURES OF THE CITIES WISHING TO STAGE THE GAMES 1964

The Chairman submits the list of the candidate cities wishing to stage the Summer and the Winter Games, in 1964, they are:

Summer : Brussels, Detroit, Tokyo, Vienna.

Winter : Calgary (Canada), Innsbruck (Austria), Lahti (Finland).

All these cities will be represented at the Session of the International Olympic Committee in Munich. No comments were made with regard to these candidatures.

DUTIES INCUMBENT ON THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

Mr. Brundage makes a survey of the charges incumbent on the National Olympic Committees according to the Olympic Rules. He draws the attention of the Delegates on article 60 of the Olympic Rules which stipulates that no official recognition can be made of any foreign delegation or political mission at the Games. He begs the National Olympic Committees to see that no such missions are sent to the Olympic Games. *The President* also lays stress on the import of article 34 of the Rules, more especially with regard to the athletes' declarations. He recommends that this rule be strictly applied, and adds that in connection with this matter, some international federations have their

own rules; although when the entries are sent to the National Olympic Committees, it is of course the Olympic Rules which prevail.

Mr. Brundage informs the Assembly that the project of *Convention for the Protection of Olympic Emblems* is ready, and that the National Olympic Committee for Greece, supported by its country government, will send the invitations in order that this Convention may be signed by next October. He reminds the members that these emblems are the strict property of the International Olympic Committee and are put under the control of the National Olympic Committees in their respective countries. He asks the National Olympic Committees to intervene with their own governments in order to obtain the maximum number of countries adhering to the scheme. Already about 40 countries have sent in their adherence.

Mr. Edgar Fried (Austria) is of the opinion that the matter of this Convention is of utmost importance. In some countries like Austria, one is up against the federal laws which make protection impossible. For this reason, he adjoins his colleagues of the National Olympic Committees to intervene with their governments in order that they subscribe to this Convention as he intends to do himself in his own country. *The Chairman* mentions the success achieved in the United States where a very strict convention has been recognized by the government.

FINANCIAL AID TO THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

The Maharaja of Patiala (India) says that in some countries, the National Olympic Committees are in need of State financial support. This is the case in Asia, notably in India. In exchange for this aid, the governments, of course, demand the counterpart. He would like to hear the opinion of some of his colleagues on the matter, for this constitutes a serious problem for the financially under-developed countries.

Mr. Marcel Henninger (Switzerland) attributes the greatest importance to today's Conference. The National Olympic Committees have always been in the closest relationship with the International Olympic Committee. Their duty consists in the management of Olympic affairs with the national federations. At the Conference of Evian, the National Olympic Committees suffered a loss of prestige, it is therefore all the more gratifying to hear the reassuring words spoken by *Mr. Brundage* who gives the National Olympic Committees the importance they deserve. The problem of financial aid is a vital one to all the National Olympic Committees. It would be a mistake to levy a percentage tax on the price of the entrance tickets at the Games in favour of the International Rules. If it had to be raised, the tax should be in favour of

the International Olympic Committee. The National Olympic Committees are always able to organize themselves financially in their respective countries. A special effort must be made to secure an ever-closer collaboration between the National Olympic Committees, International Federations, International Olympic Committee and the National Federations. The leaders of these Directive Powers must be men of integrity inspired by the best sporting spirit. He is therefore opposed to all financial aids. He argues that the International Federations have a technical part to fulfil whereas the soul of the Games lies in the hands of the National Olympic Committees.

Mr. Brundage thanks Mr. Henninger for his excellent intervention steeped in the best of spirit.

The President further suggests that an enquiry be made among the National Olympic Committees by way of a circular-letter, the results of which would be given to the interested parties. Moreover, he holds the view that in future, television will certainly prove a source of financial benefit towards the various Olympic organizations. Another possibility also exists: namely the emission of an Olympic stamp sold during the period of the Games with a surtax. These various questions will be studied by the International Olympic Committee.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Mr. *Aleksei Romanov* (U.S.S.R.) declares that the National Olympic Committees are responsible for the observance of the Olympic Charter in their own countries. Their task consists in bringing together all the youth of the world and their duty is to fight for peace. This should be stipulated in the Olympic Rules. He mentions that a racial discriminations is actually prevailing, particularly in South Africa where the National Olympic Committee of that country has never done anything to prevent it, it is an infringement of the Olympic Rules and the International Olympic Committee has never reacted to this state of affairs. Mr. *Brundage* points out that the aims of the Olympic Movement figures in Rule 4 of our Fundamental Principles where the maintenance of peace between nations is mentioned. The International Olympic Committee will never deviate from the principle expressed in Rule I, where it says that no discrimination is allowed against any country or person on grounds of race, religion and politics. With reference to South Africa, the International Olympic Committee has been corresponding for months concerning the problem of racial discrimination. The International Olympic Committee seeks a satisfactory solution in order to allow all the youth of that country to participate in the Games, without distinction of colour.

Mr. *Reginald Honey* (South Africa) objects to the general accusations directed at his Committee without any tangible proofs to found upon. His Committee has been corresponding for over one year with the international Olympic Committee concerning this matter. He is of the opinion that his Committee is *bona fide* and that it is prepared to do everything in its power to allow all the athletes of his country to participate in the Games as long as they have an olympic international standing. In reply to a query raised by Mr. Brundage, Mr. *Honey* states that he obtained from his Government the guarantee that all South African athletes entered by the National Olympic Committee for participation in the Games are to be supplied with passports.

INVITATIONS TO THE GAMES

Mr. *Armand Massard* (International Olympic Committee) is somewhat surprised to see that the

invitations to participate in the Games have been submitted to the National Olympic Committees by the representatives of the Italian Government (ambassadors, consuls, etc.). In France, for example, a serious misunderstanding arose which created a slight uneasiness, when the Ambassador of the Italian Republic intended to send the invitation to the French Government. Mr. *Massard* intervened in order to explain to the Italian Embassy that the said invitation ought to be addressed to the French National Olympic Committee. Mr. *Massard* says that we must fight all interferences of the Governments in matters pertaining to the National Olympic Committees,

Mr. *Victor Boin* (Belgium) with references to Mr. *Massard's* intervention, says that in Belgium, the Italian Ambassador contacted the Olympic Committee for Belgium directly. In his country no similar misunderstanding can occur since the National Olympic Committee needs to be assisted financially by the Government in order to be able to participate in the Games. In spite of this financial aid, the Belgian Government does not interfere in anyway in the affairs of the Committee of which he is president.

Mr. *Brundage* is of the opinion that while maintaining cordial relations with their Government, the National Olympic Committees are the only responsible bodies who can send entries of chosen participants to the Games. This is a point of primordial importance and represents the main force of the National Olympic Committees. If some National Olympic Committees receive State subsidies, this must be done unconditionally.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES AND THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Mr. *Reczek* (Poland) asks that the International Olympic Committee convene a Conference of the National Olympic Committees every four year in order to discuss the Programme of the Games, for, the National Olympic Committees have also the right to take part in these debates. On the other hand, the International Olympic Committee ought to go seriously into the project of the U.S.S.R. Olympic Committee which has been submitted today to the delegates present in the Assembly. According to him, this project seems most important and interesting. He is strongly in favour of it.

Mr. *Brundage* is of the opinion that this is a revolutionary project which will however be studied by the International Olympic Committee. It has, however, reached it too late to appear in the agenda at the Session of the International Olympic Committee, in Munich. (See *Russian proposal p. 86.*)

General *Sloitchou* (International Olympic Committee) supports the project and declares himself in favour of the project drawn up by the Olympic Committee of the U.S.S.R. The swift development of sports in the modern world compels us to examine the problem thoroughly. He draws a comparison between the 1896 Games and those of Melbourne, pointing out how the number of participating countries is for ever increasing. He compares what was done at the time when everything pertaining to the Olympic Movement laid in the power of the International Olympic Committee, whereas today, it is necessary to maintain a close co-operation between the existing directive powers of Olympism.

Mr. *J. Balas* (Rumania) speaks on the same line as the preceding orator.

Mr. *Edgar Fried* (Austria) declares that they have always been told, and this is true, that the National Olympic Committees are emanating from

the International Olympic Committee and that a close collaboration and relationship must prevail between them and the International Olympic Committee. He, however, thinks that our Russian friends are carrying their plan too far. If the National Olympic Committees have duties to discharge they must also have rights. In view of this, he thinks that something must be done in order to consolidate this co-operation.

Mr. A. Romanov (U.S.S.R.) pleads in favour of the project submitted by the U.S.S.R. Olympic Committee. He explains the reasons which led his Committee to propose these radical changes. He asks the delegates of the National Olympic Committees present at the Assembly to examine the question thoroughly and suggests that a Board presided by Mr. Brundage be appointed to study and report on the matter.

Mr. Frantisek Kroutil (Czechoslovakia) declares that his Committee (once upon a time Olympic Committee of Bohemia) is the most senior Olympic Committee since it was founded in 1896. He spoke in favour of the Russian project and asked for the appointment of a Board.

Mr. Hugh Weir (Australia) states that in connection with the designation of the City applying for the organization of the Games of 1964, a certain order of rotation ought to be observed. The financial question ought not to be a predominant factor. He is opposed to the Russian project which would overburden the task of the International Olympic Committee. If the Olympic Movement has taken such an expansion, it is thanks to the shrewd common sense of Pierre de Coubertin. The acceptance of the Russian plan would cause the International Olympic Committee to be composed of personalities changing from year to year, it would thus deprive the International Olympic Committee of its sense of continuity.

The Maharaja of Patiala (India) also expresses his opposition to the Russian project. He would like a clause to be introduced in the Rules which would prescribe the convening of a Conference similar to the one held today, to be held every year in the different part of the World, and he suggests New Delhi for a next Conference.

Mr. K.S. Duncan (Great Britain) speaks of the problem of the technicians, judges and umpires; he observes that enormous progress has been made with regard to the boarding of these persons during the Games. He is in favour of a tax to be perceived on the price of the entrance tickets to the Games, and this in favour of the International Federations who have an important part to play.

Sitting adjourns at 1p.m. and is resumed at 2.30p.m.

Mr. B. Bakrac (Yugoslavia) and *Mr. J. Molnar* (Hungary) give their support to the Russian scheme and ask a Commission to be appointed.

Mr. P.D. Quartey (Ghana) thanks President Onesti and Italian National Olympic Committee for their kind welcome and puts all his hopes in the future of the Committee of Ghana which serves the Olympic ideal. He trusts that the Olympic Conferences in Rome and Munich in May may succeed in bringing about the tightening of the bonds which ought to unite the members of one same family. He hopes that the International Olympic Committee will give its support to the African Games and to the Olympic Organizations of South Sahara.

Mr. N.M. Khan (Pakistan) shares the opinions already expressed in connection with a closer co-operation between the National Olympic Committees

and the International Olympic Committees. He goes on to say: 'We must live in the present, and the National Olympic Committees have a real part to play and should not figure as spectators only'. He thinks that the International Olympic Committee should be reorganized on more representative line. This is a matter to be discussed in an informal gathering.

Mr. Brundage recalls the history of the Olympic Movement. He has laid stress on several occasions on the importance of a close and intimate co-operation between the various Olympic Governing

At the beginning of the Olympic modern era, there existed only one Directive Power which lead the Olympic Movement: the International Olympic Committee. What the U.S.S.R. Committee now advocates is precisely a return to the former state of things. Several years back, at the beginning of the Olympic Movement, the International Olympic Committee soon realized that it was impossible for its Committee to go on carrying this gigantic task alone, it saw then the necessity to create three organizations: the International Federations, directing all technical problems, the National Olympic Committees responsible for the administration and finally the International Olympic Committee which function is to ensure the co-ordination of the various cogs of the wheel. How can an National Olympic Committee be national and international at the same time? The same applies to the International Federations which are sufficiently occupied with the technical problems concerning the sports which they govern. *The Chairman* admits that this problem is of utmost importance and that it will be studied. However, we must have an international institution to which the ambassadors of the International Olympic Committee, i.e. the National Olympic Committees adhere. We must be cautious in proceeding with the radical changes which are proposed to us.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES AND THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS

Mr. Brundage says that the regulations stipulate that the voting majority of the National Olympic Committees must be given to the national federations. This implies that the International Federations have an indirect control on the National Olympic Committees. All commercial or political inferences must be avoided at all cost by the National Olympic Committees. The International Olympic Committee is ready to give its help to all National Olympic Committees which may experience difficulties of this nature.

The Maharaja of Patiala (India) declares that difficulties often arise between the National Olympic Committees and the National Federations affiliated to them. He refers to a special case which took place in his own country regarding a national federation which operated against the interest of its National Olympic Committee. This federation was expelled of its National Olympic Committee but continues to remain affiliated to the corresponding International Federation, the latter allows it to participate in international contests. Such proceedings tend to lower the prestige of the National Olympic Committee, and he requests the International Olympic Committee to examine the question.

Mr. A.P. Vassef (Bulgaria) declares that article 23 of the Olympic Rules is too vague. It alludes to the relationship between the International Olympic Committee and the International Federations but no mention is made of a similar connection between the National Olympic Committees and the International Olympic Committee.

Mr. Brundage thanks *Mr. Vassef* for drawing his attention on this item of Rule 23 and states that the matter will be gone into by the International Olympic Committee.

HOW TO REDUCE THE EXPENSES OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Mr. Brundage declares that the matter has been the subject of lengthy debates within the International Olympic Committee. At the 1912 Games, when he participated in the capacity of athlete, the expenses of the Games amounted to about £100,000. In Rome 1960, the budget for expenditure is to be about 33 million dollars. Under these circumstances, only very few cities will be able to stage the Games, although the Games belong to the whole World. Four cities have presented their candidatures for 1964. What is going to happen in 1968?

REDUCING THE OLYMPIC PROGRAMME

The Chairman agrees that it would be desirable to have every sport in the Games' Programme, but this would be impossible. This problem has been discussed at length by the International Olympic Committee. Two opinions prevail: one is in favour of adding new sports to the Programme, the other wants its reduction.

Mr. K.S. Duncan (G. B.) says that the International Olympic Committee ought to have a permanent secretaryship going from Games to Games and thus be in the position to signal to the organizers errors which occur regularly at every Olympic Games and are the cause of an increase in the expenditure. On the other hand, the new Rules stipulate a minimum number of sports which are to figure on the programme and fail to consider a maximum, this ought to be taken into consideration.

Mr. Edgar Fried (Austria) explains the situation as it stands where two cities (Vienna and Innsbruck) are applying for the organization of both the Summer and the Winter Games of 1964. He thinks that as long as we find cities willing to incur the expenses demanded by the organization of the Games, we ought to be satisfied.

Mr. E. Ghibu (Rumania) speaking on behalf of his Committee suggests that the number of sports in the Games be increased, thus representing a great demonstration of the sports of the world. He also asks for an increase in women events and suggests to add basket-ball, volley-ball and hand-ball for women.

Gen. Stoitchev (International Olympic Committee) declares that any increase in the number of sports at the Games ought to be a source of satisfaction to us and not cause us anxiety. The expansion of the Olympic Movement calls precisely for a more important programme. He is against the ruling stipulating that only sports practised in 25 countries can be included in the Programme. This number ought to be greatly reduced. There is no scarcity in the number of candidates cities wishing to stage the Olympic Games. He declares that he is therefore opposed to all limitations or reductions of the Olympic Programme.

Mr. Reczek (Poland) is gratified to observe that Italian National Olympic Committee is attaching special importance to the Exhibition of Roman Arts, Ancient and Estrucan Arts at the 1960 Games. He thinks that the Arts ought to be better represented at the Olympic Games and that the cultural side ought to be encouraged more and more. The race for winning trophies is not the most important part of the Games but indeed the spiritual and cultural emulation of the participants.

Mr. Brundage agrees with *Mr. Reczek*. Going back on the matter of the reduction of the Programme, he draws a parallel between what was authorized long ago and what is allowed nowadays.

General Stoitchev (International Olympic Committee) insists that in his opinion, the reduction of programme at the Games is useless. He mentions that a Display of physical training took place in the comparatively small city of Sofia, it counted 30,000 participants.

The Maharaja of Patiala (India) fears that if we fail to reduce the programme of the Games, Olympism will collapse, crushed down by its own weight. We must be able to organize the Games throughout the World while taking certain factors into consideration. He experienced the truth of this last year in Tokyo, during the IIIrd Asiatic Games. It is essential to remain within reasonable limits if we wish Olympism to survive through many generations.

Mr. Brundage while referring to this matter, mentions that the organizers of the Central-American and Caraibbean Games, were obliged to reduce the Programme in order to find a city which could stage the Games.

TELEVISION AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Mr. Brundage explains the situation and says that the International Olympic Committee's hope ran high with regard to the possible source of income the television might bring and this would solve our financial difficulties. Unfortunately, the International Olympic Committee encountered endless difficulties, and the negotiations in this matter are still going on but our prospects of large benefit are not so good.

REGIONAL GAMES

The Chairman explains that the creation of these Games was first suggested by Baron de Coubertin and the International Olympic Committee grants its patronage to some of these Games according to certain accepted rules.

Mr. Haim Glovensky (Israel) declares that the Olympic Committee for Israel did not receive an invitation to participate in the IIIrd Mediterranean Games which are to take place in Beirut in the course of this year. He thinks that such indiscrimination is inadmissible, and if a host country cannot invite all the National Olympic Committees of that region, the organization of the Games should be given to the Olympic Committee of another country. He wishes the best of luck and success to the Lebanese Committee if the latter is to organize the « Lebanese Games ».

Cheik Gabriel Gemayel (Lebanon) explains the reasons why the Olympic Committee of Israel has not been invited. Only a 'truce' exists between Lebanon and Israel. It would be dangerous for athletes from Israel to participate in these Games on account of the large number of Arabs refugees from Israel living in Lebanese camps. Besides, he bases his opinion on his belief that the Committee for Israel could not have accepted the invitation.

Mr. Armand Massard (International Olympic Committee) expresses his regret at the fact that the protocol of the Regional Games should be a close copy of the Olympics, a thing that was not allowed in the Regulations voted by the International Olympic Committee, in 1952.

Mr. J.A. Elalo-Olaso (Spain) declares that the omission to invite Israel to the IInd Mediterranean Games at Barcelona, in 1955, was not due to a political reason. To bear his point, he gives the

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instance that athletes from Israel were invited to participate in the Universities Games which were held in Spain, and did so.

Mr. A. Arias-Schreiber (Peru) conveys the regards of his Committee (National Olympic Committee). He is in favour of the organization of the Regional Games, of reducing the Olympic Programme and of widening the relationship between the International Olympic Committee and the National Olympic Committee.

Mr. Brundage begs all the National Olympic Committees to concentrate on the Olympic Rules prior to the Games of Rome. He points out that if pseudo-amateurs have access to the Games, the National Olympic Committees are to be blamed for it, and he appeals to the National Olympic Committees to act with great prudence. He also asks the National Olympic Committees to refrain from entering competitors who are not of Olympic caliber. He goes on to draw their attention on the discipline and order which must prevail during the Opening Ceremony at the Games, as this has not always been observed in the past. Finally, he reminds them that no scoring by points or by countries are recognized and advises them to enlighten the press of their respective countries on this point.

Mr. Victor Boin (Belgium) although not wishing to reopen a debate today on the following question says that the Belgian Olympic Committee requests the International Olympic Committee to study the problem of broken time. The Belgian Olympic Committee is fiercely opposed to professionalism, it is essential to maintain and keep the pure and noble character of the Olympic Games. He mentions that a motion was passed by his committee with regard to broken time and this was forwarded to the Chancellery of the International Olympic Committee. He stresses the strict ruling preconized in this mention concerning this matter. He quotes a few examples which justify this resolution.

Mr. Brundage is certain that opinions are divided regarding this matter, some share *Mr. Boin's* point of view, while others object to it. The International Olympic Committee will examine this problem once more.

On *the President's* request, a motion is carried to a big majority to the effect that Conferences similar to the one held today will be convened every second year. Necessary measures will be taken by the International Olympic Committee to convene these Conferences one year before and one year after the Games. (7 votes opted for a Conference to be held every four years.)

1964 GAMES

The President asks if the Delegates wish to hold a purely advisory vote on the choice of the city which is to stage the 1964 Games.

Dr. Carle (France) strongly objects to such a vote on the ground that it might cause an uneasy feeling at this Conference.

VOTE OF THANKS

The Chairman passes a resolution of thanks to *Mr. Onesti*, his colleagues and Italian National Olympic Committee for the flawless organization of this Conference and for the outstandingly friendly welcome it gave to the delegates. (Loud Applause.)

Mr. Ch. Benitah (Morocco) expresses his thanks to the International Olympic Committee for having kindly allowed his delegates to be present at this Conference since his Committee has not yet been recognized.

Mr. Brundage thanks the Delegates present at the Conference and congratulates them for the fine spirit they displayed throughout the proceedings.

Mr. Victor Boin (Belgium) speaking on behalf of his colleagues, thanks *Mr. Brundage* for his wise counsels and the courteous manner in which he led the debates. (Applause.)

The Conference ends at 6 p.m.

The President :
Avery BRUNDAGE

The Chancellor :
Otto MAYER