

OLYMPIC YACHTING

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The President of the Swiss Yachting Union compiled a record dealing with the Yachting events which took place from 1900 to 1956 in the course of eleven Olympic Games. This account was produced in the last eleven publications of the U. S. Y. official organ.

We reproduce the following extracts of this synopsis:

Within a half century, the yachtmen of the world met eleven times in an international event: the Olympic Regattas. Without the impetus of the Olympic Games, Yacht racing would have been deprived of these international confrontations which are so essential to the life and development of sport. The whole history of our sport is described at length in these eleven pages which are genuine attestations of the evolution which took place in yachts, yachting contests and their organization.

The epic of yachting on the high seas, the legendary account of the great sailing-ships voyages across the oceans, the famous modern yacht races on the high seas which are run under the aegis of R. O. R. C., all these illustrate a very famous and perhaps the most beautiful page of the history of yacht racing. But it describes also the history

connected with a small number of privileged people to whom we owe the survival of the glorious traditions of the Sail. By means of the sail, men discovered the world.

The only book written on the world history of yacht racing on lakes, of the sport of sailing opened to everybody are contained in eleven pages giving an account of the 11 regattas of the Modern Olympics. The renescent Olympic Games of 1894, the Games celebration at the end of each Olympiad has created, encouraged and stimulated today's sport. The Olympic idea inspired the vital impulse and its quickening influence on sports, has become a world institution. All sports owe their existence of today and that of tomorrow to the Olympic idea and ideal. Yachting possibly more than any other sports because, without the Olympic regattas, yachting and sailing as a sport would perhaps never have been contested on a world basis, and its competitions would have lost the vitalizing effect and influence of pure amateurism which has opened to all youths beyond professionalism, the gates to one of the finest and most gratifying sports of all.

I would like to conclude the 11th page of the History of Olympic Yachting by paying a special tribute of our deep gratitude to modern Olympism.