

## Integral Amateurism

*at the Olympic Games*

*The periodical L'EQUIPE of Paris, by Jacques Marchand, indirectly admits that the International Olympic Committee is in the right when it insists in maintaining the integral character of amateurism within the Olympic Games.*

Herewith is his article which was published in the December issue of *L'Equipe*:

**KRAMER:**  
(Tennis. *Ed.*)

DEMANDS A FEE OF 19,500 DOLLARS (£6,500)  
FOR WIMBLEDON.

'None of my eleven players will compete in the *Open* Tennis tournament at Wimbledon in 1961, affirmed Jack Kramer, at Adelaide (Australia), that is if the conditions put forward by the International Paris Committee are maintained. Indeed, I request a fee of £6,500 and all travelling expenses refunded for my players as well as for myself. In addition, I consider I should have a say in the matter of the choice of dates and the draw at Wimbledon. I am certainly not against *open* tournaments, but I am opposed to the project forecasted for Wimbledon.'

**'L'Equipe' comments on this by saying: 'If we understand the position rightly, in order to come to an agreement with Kramer, the organizers are called upon to untie the strings of their purse... lavishly and foot the bill!'**  
\* \* \*

*L'Equipe's* comment on the subject pleases us no end. It is worth its weight in gold! We take tennis as an example, although it is not recognized as an Olympic sport. This example allows us to illustrate our point and to show to those irresponsible persons who make the preposterous suggestion that the Olympic Games should be *open*, i.e. accessible to amateurs and professionals alike, what would happen were their suggestion to be accepted by the International Olympic Committee in the case of Wimbledon, only eleven players (Professionals) are implicated at the fee of 19,500 dollars but with regard to us, we reckon on a minimum of 6.000 athletes (there would be no more amateurs of course) attending the Olympic Games. Just work out what it would cost while maintaining intact the Olympic ideal? We are indebted to tennis for giving a good lesson to those who refuse to understand... and who do not have to foot the bill!