

## Integral amateurism

FEE OF 15 000 DOLLARS AS A  
STARTING BASIS FOR NEGOTIATING

'We consider this sum reasonable' declared recently Toni Trabert who is in charge of the professional tennis players team named the

Jack Kramer's team'; the team in question is to compete at the Wimbledon Tennis tournament, should it become an *open* event. To this fee should be added various other expenses, the extent of which is not quoted.

This example allows us to show to the people who think that the Olympics should be open to all athletes, amateurs and professionals alike, what would happen in that case. We base our estimates on the fee asked by Kramer for his team of ten players, thus for only 5.000 participants in the Olympics, the engagement fee alone would amount to 7.500.000 dollars (more than 30 million Swiss Francs). There would be of course no more amateurs who would accept to compete alongside professionals without demanding retribution also. This will be followed by similar requests from the hundreds of benevolent collaborators and helpers who, when knowing that the performers are remunerated, will also ask their share for the valuable work they do behind the scene for months, sometimes even years,

before the Games. To this will, of course, be added the outbidding when engaging athletes, etc., etc.

We have already experienced the outbidding offer of a city, whose name will remain anonymous, offering the International Olympic Committee 1 ½ million dollars for the attribution of the Games! We hasten to say that this offer, made verbally to the author of these lines, was turned down and that this city never obtained the staging of the Games.

These few lines are meant simply to prove that, outside all idealistic considerations or other notions, should such a principle be allowed, the Games would be doomed to an irremediable death.