

In Switzerland,
the National Physical Education Association is waging
war against the practice of doping and is taking
the matter seriously in hand

The A.N.E.P. (National Physical Education Association) is undoubtedly the highest authority in Switzerland since the totality of the sport federations of that country come under its aegis. In that capacity, this Association made a thorough investigation of the

problem of doping, a dangerous practice which is prevailing in Switzerland as well as elsewhere. A specially appointed Board submitted its report which has been approved by the Directive Authority of helvetic sport. This Board has thus defined the concept of doping, established the extent of the doping practice within Swiss sport, found out its sources of supplies and the means of controlling them as well as putting forward proposals concerning the methods to adopt in order to fight down doping. We wish to concentrate chiefly on this last point: As an initial preventive measure for stopping the practice of doping the A.N.E.P. requests the national federations to introduce in their rules the prohibition of doping, and above all to see that this prohibitive measure is observed before and during the competitions. This rule of prohibiting doping and preventing the ill effects resulting from it, must be borne in mind and pointed out to the athletes, and their escorts (trainers and attendants) on all occasions, before and during the training periods as well as before any sport manifestations.

The following are considered as doping: all use by absorption, injection of artificial stimulants handed before or during the competition. A list established by the Board defines the medicaments considered harmful. (Are the new drugs launched regularly on the market to escape this prohibitive measure since they are not indicated on the list? *Ed.*) If an athlete or his attendants are found in possession of such drugs before and during the competition, by right they should be sanctioned even if it cannot be proved that the prohibited medicaments have been taken. *This prohibitive measure applies equally to all foreign athletes who take part in*

competitions in Switzerland. A medical prescription delivered by a doctor or medicament supplied by a doctor do not alter the application of the prohibition rule. Public authorities or their representatives as well as the police forces will have the power to intervene before or during the competition, in order to search the equipment and the luggage which athletes and their escorts may have with them for the competition. They are also entitled to confiscate, without, compensation, the drugs they may find. In addition to this, the sport authorities or the representatives have the power to compel the athletes to submit themselves to a medical examination. *Athletes must release doctors of their pledge of professional secret where the sport authorities are concerned.* (Do the legislative regulations admit such a departure from usual custom? *Ed.*)

The A.N.E.P. recommends the following sanctions: the names of the guilty athletes are to be eliminated from the classifying list, after discovery, they may be deprived of all the sport titles they may have won previously. All infringements to the rule of prohibiting doping will be punished. In less serious cases, the disqualification of the athlete may be for a limited period only; serious cases, the disqualification may be for life. The sport authorities must inform the competent public authorities of cases falling within the jurisdiction of the law-court. (*Penal Code.*)

As you see this question has been most seriously examined and the proposals brought forward will certainly be voted by the majority of the sports federations in Switzerland. This should be a serious warning to the dope-fanciers!

(To be continued)