

## THE GROWTH OF THE GAMES

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The modern Olympiad needed first of all to be created; now it needs purifying. It involves too many activities unrelated to sport, too many marginal ambitions; people help in the hope of a ribbon or a distinction, they use it for their own personal, political or other advantage. A host of incompetents endeavour in this way to help with its organization but only succeed in doing it harm. Its inner workings become too complicated; it is also growing too expensive to organize. The bureaucracies set up and the vast sums of money spent at Athens in 1896 and St. Louis in 1904 are out of all proportion to the results achieved .

Pierre DE COUBERTIN, 1906

Extract from an article entitled  
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