

in such excellent conditions that it is impossible for amateurs belonging to other nations to compete against them. I do not propose to lengthen this article by seeking to ascertain if this opinion and affirmation are justified. What I do wish to maintain is that these athletes, who are incontestably privileged, are recognized as being amateurs according to the terms expressed in the Olympic Rules.

The above remarks circumscribe singularly the number of teams where sham amateurs could be found.

The Paris Session may throw light on this complex question of amateurism if I take into consideration the statement made by our President Mr. Avery Brundage when he said to the Delegates of the International Federations in Lausanne :

“We shall go into the question of state amateurism in Paris.”

In conclusion, here is the measure I suggest in order to eliminate sham amateurs from participating in the Games.

At the onset of each different section of the Games Programme, a Delegation of the I.O.C. would receive in a solemn sitting, the President or the Delegate of each of the National Associations concerned. Each Delegate would in turn swear on his honour, that the athletes belonging to his Federation are true amateurs conformly to the terms contained in the Olympic Statutes. An oath sworn under such conditions would be worth more and call for infinitely more reflection on the part of the man who has engaged his pledge than the signature which is asked for these days, when one does not always attach to it the importance it should have.

R. W. Seeldrayers.

According to custom, we have submitted the article of Mr. R. W. Seeldrayers to Mr. Albert Mayer who begs us to add the following remarks for publication :

Mr. Albert Mayer's reply

I am gratified to note that in Paragraph 3 of his statement, my friend Mr. Seeldrayers, President of the F.I.F.A., allows that some frauds occurred in the football tournament in Helsinki. This admittance backs up appreciably our statement. Furthermore, Sir Stanley Rous, Member of the F.I.F.A. will certainly agree to supply his President with the list of these “PROS”, as he happens to know a good few of them.

Moreover, it is one of the reasons why the F.I.F.A. decided to establish a new status of its own in order to qualify an amateur. I congratulate it for this while apologizing for attributing wrongly the drafting of this new formula to the President of the F.I.F.A. Big men do not take offence at such minor details.

If it is correct that the responsibility of the athletes qualifications incumbs foremost to the National Olympic Committees, the F.I.F.A. cannot remain aloof and take no interest in this important problem. It is doubtless with the intention of being able to control these qualifications that the F.I.F.A. has just charge the National Associations with the task to keep an official register recording the names of the Non-Amateurs and Professionals Players. *The F.I.F.A. reserves itself the free disposition of it.* Seine that our friend. Mr. Seeldrayers has just put forward a new proposal with a view of eliminating the “Sham Amateurs” (quoted from his own words) the meaning of this expression must be familiar to him and I may be excused from offering here further explanation of the term in question.

Albert Mayer.

Dear Mr. Editor,

As usual I have read the I.O.C. Bulletin with great interest and would like to congratulate you on the improvements you have brought into it.

For fear of any of your readers misunderstanding a sentence in Michel Clare's interesting article “Athleticism, the Fundamental Sport” which in the English Text starts in line 35, page 19, (bulletin No. 49) I feel it will be in the best interests of the I.O.C. to point out and make quite clear that the City of Berlin was given the Games of 1936 by the I.O.C. in 1931 and that in 1933, the I.O.C. successfully resisted the desire of the “Third Reich” to organize our Games and even to appoint a Chairman of their own choice, instead of Dr. Lewald, a member of the I.O.C. recognized as Chairman by the I.O.C.

Yours truly,

Aberdare,
member of the I.O.C.
for Great Britain.

La première caractéristique essentielle de l'olympisme ancien aussi bien que de l'olympisme moderne, c'est d'être une religion. En ciselant son corps par l'exercice comme le fait un sculpteur d'une statue, l'athlète antique honorait les dieux. En faisant de même, l'athlète exalte sa patrie, sa race, son drapeau.

P. de C. (1935).

L'Olympisme nous présente les fruits de l'épanouissement rapide en étendue et en beauté de la simple conception d'une régénération de la discipline du corps au contact de postulats moraux et intellectuels harmonieusement échelonnés dans le cours des progrès de son évolution.

G. de Blonay (1921).