
A Research Note on the Origins of the Olympic Victory Podium

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Introduction

In 1931 the Organizing Committees of the Lake Placid Winter and Los Angeles Summer Olympic Games received a protocol directive from the office of the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne entitled *Presentation of Medals, victory Flag Ceremonies, Loud Speaker Announcements*. The directive contained a sub-section labeled "Ceremonies Occurring in the Olympic Stadium," the last paragraph of which stated: "Medals will be awarded by the President, Count de Baillet-Latour, or his appointee, from three pedestals, the center one higher than the other two, the first place winner standing on the center pedestal, the second on his right, the third on his left." Lake Placid and Los Angeles Olympic Games organizers were nonplussed. This procedure was certainly different from past Olympic practice, where, in most cases, medals were awarded to athletes as they processed before dignitaries and officials located behind specially arranged tables or seated in official or royal boxes. How had such a change in medal-awarding protocol materialized? Better yet, how could such a directive be carried out?

Lake Placid, February 1932

At 10:00 on the morning of February 4, 1932 the third edition of the Olympic Winter Games opened in Lake Placid, New York. It was cold and clear, relieving anxieties of local organizers who bemoaned sparse snowfalls and warm temperatures experienced during the days leading up to the Games. There were 364 athletes from seventeen countries on hand to march into the speed skating stadium for the opening ceremonies, considerably less than had been expected. As the athletes paraded down the rink and approached Olympic "bigwigs" standing in the "Tribune of Honor" reviewing stand, among them New York Governor Franklin Delano Roosevelt, on hand to open the Games, a completely unfamiliar object stationed on the ice could not fail to have caught their attention, a small bi-level platform, the middle level in the middle of which was raised above two adjoining lower levels. Indeed, the structure was a sort of "podium." It stood there, stark and unadorned, as if its builder had left it unfinished, intending to return and complete the job at some later time. As the Games unfolded during the week following, the podium structure performed two functions: it provided a raised platform on which certain dignitaries might stand to deliver the usual hallowed messages of Olympic ceremony, including the rendering of the Olympic oath; and, it served as a "stage" on which the presentation of the gold, silver, and bronze medals to Olympic winners might take place. Thus, it came to be that the "Olympic victory podium," that most cherished and sanctified "meeting place" for the most elite of Olympians, the

medal winners, made its debut towards becoming etched in ceremonial IOC protocol.

The first Olympian to take his place on the “victor’s stand,” as it was called by New York newspapers,² was Jack Shea, a 21 year old Dartmouth College sophomore who reigned as America’s national amateur speed-skating champion at distances from 500 to 1500 metres. As a national champion, and as a Lake Placid native, Shea was selected by American Olympic officials to orate the Olympic oath, which he did standing on the left lower level of the podium. That same afternoon, as winner of the first speed-skating event, the 500 meters, Jack Shea became the first athlete in Olympic history to receive his gold medal atop what Olympic protocol today defines as the victory podium. Baillet-Latour presented Shea with his medal. Avery Brundage, czar of American Olympic fortunes, congratulated him as he stepped down from the podium, still wearing his speed-skates. Brendt Evenson of Norway and Alexander Hurd of Canada stood on the two lower levels to receive their second and third place medals, presented respectively by Godfrey Dewey, president of the Lake Placid Organizing Committee, and Avery Brundage, president of the American Olympic Association.

The next afternoon, February 5th, Shea competed in the finals of the 1500 metres race. Again he finished first. Two Canadian skaters finished 2nd and 3rd. And once again he mounted the victor’s stand to receive his medal. But something had changed from the preceding day. Organizing Committee members, suddenly deciding that something had to be done to the podium to relieve it of its obviously unfinished aura, directed that the podium be draped with bunting to disguise its stark features.³ Winners, runners-up and third place finishers in the remaining speed-skating, the 5,000 and 10,000 metre races, received their medals directly following their events, standing atop the same bunting-draped podium.

Each medal winner at Lake Placid eventually mounted the first victory podium in Olympic history. The awards for all events, except for speed-skating, were made on the evening of February 13th during the closing ceremonies. Olympic figure-skating “queen” Sonja Henie was among the most notable of medal recipients. Standing atop the podium clad in a large fur coat, she was presented her medal by Baillet-Latour as a blustering snowstorm swept through the stadium, dampening the proceedings and diminishing the crowd on hand. At the end of the ceremonies, Baillet-Latour himself mounted the podium to proclaim a final message of goodwill in closing the Games. Thus did the Lake Placid Games end. Among other considerations, they had showcased a watershed event in Olympic victory ceremonial ritual. Lake Placid officials never realized that they had created an institution that was to become storied, indeed a centerpiece in future Olympic celebrations.

Los Angeles, July 1932

When the Los Angeles Summer Olympic Games opened some five months following the Lake Placid spectacle, the largest opening ceremony crowd in all Olympic history thronged into the Memorial Coliseum to witness the festivities.⁴ Over a two week period, spectators, like those in Lake Placid, were treated to something new in Olympic victory ceremony protocol. A sturdy but plain bi-level podium had been constructed for the occasion. Unlike the Lake Placid version of the podium, Los Angeles officials had emblazoned the number “1” on the top level. The two lower levels were marked with the numbers “2” and “3”, to the right and to the left of the top level, respectively. Still wearing sport uniforms, medal winners in the track and field events held in the coliseum mounted the victory podium to receive their awards shortly after their events had been completed. On the day following the completion of specific individual and team events, winners of competitions held in venues other than the Memorial Coliseum convened in the huge stadium to receive their medals on the victory platform. They wore sport dress or team dress uniforms. When not in use for a victory ceremony, the podium remained on the infield of the coliseum, sometimes providing a convenient meeting place for socializing athletes.

Inspiration or Imitation? The Genesis of the Olympic Victory Podium

Some of the particular historic events narrated above are known to Olympic historians and “ritual anthropologists.” But none have been able to present evidence surrounding the creation of the victory podium. Whose ideas were at play to produce the victory ceremonies at Lake Placid? What stimulation gave direction to Godfrey Dewey and Ernest Gamache, the Executive Secretary of the Lake Placid committee, to construct the first podium used at an Olympic Games? Further, what prompted William May Garland, President of the Los Angeles Organizing Committee and his top aide, Zack Farmer, Executive Secretary of the Committee, to carry out similar circumstances some five months later? The evidence that provides the answers to such questions has long been elusive to scholars of Olympic history. The difficulty encountered in gathering the verifying evidence is the fact that it lies in repositories located in separated world centers of research, that is, in Lausanne, Switzerland, in Lake Placid, New York, in Los Angeles, California, and in Hamilton, Ontario. Without examination of materials in all four of these centers, the puzzle could not have been solved. Even then,

had it not been for a chance remark in an obscure letter, the critical key to unlocking the mystery would never have been detected. These are the chief reasons why the evolutionary history of the Olympic victory podium has not been documented in thorough fashion. Jurgen Buschmann and Karl Lennartz, esteemed historians of the history of Olympic ceremonies, have hypothesized that because Lake Placid's Olympic Games were the first to utilize a bi-level victory podium, the evidence for its creation must be buried in the records of the Organizing Committee of the 3rd Winter Olympic Games.⁵ Los Angeles simply followed Lake Placid's model, they conjectured.⁶ John MacAloon, a "ritual anthropologist," also pinpoints the Lake Placid events as the cornerstone of the victory podium's evolution. MacAloon calls for the "authorship" of such creation: "Who, then, gets the credit for such perspicacity, creativity, effort, and achievement? When the great transformation of the victory ceremony came about, Coubertin was retired, Baillet-Latour played no known role, and there is no clear evidence that the IOC as a whole did anything more than acknowledge and approve after the fact the whole complex innovations created in the victory ceremonies of Lake Placid and Los Angeles."⁷

Lake Placid and Los Angeles records each reveal that one person, and one person only, dictated the organizers' efforts at creating a victory podium. And, contrary to MacAloon's pronouncement above on Baillet-Latour playing "no known role," indeed, it was the successor to Coubertin as IOC president who was the visionary instructor to both Lake Placid and Los Angeles officials. Found in the *Godfrey Dewey Papers* in Lake Placid and the *William May Garland Papers* in Los Angeles are almost identical letters of instruction from Baillet-Latour to the two secretaries of the Organizing Committees, Ernest Gamache of Lake Placid and Zack Farmer of Los Angeles. The now historic letters of instruction from Baillet-Latour were written in Europe on the same day, May 8, 1931. Other than some "aside" greetings to Gamache and Farmer, the text instructions of the two letters are identical. With regard to the "awarding of prizes," the Belgian count instructed the two Executive Secretaries that: "the three winners will have to take [their] place on three pedestals (similar to the one which is used for the athlete who takes the oath on opening day) which will be placed in front of the presidential box. The prizes will be given by myself or substitute."⁸ With respect to Baillet-Latour's remark concerning the "athlete who takes the oath," further remarks are in order later in the text.

Upon receiving the IOC President's instructions for awarding the prizes, Gamache, the record supports, asked for no elaboration on what Baillet-Latour had meant by "three pedestals." Instead, the energetic New Englander, one of the few non-New Yorkers engaged by the Organizing Committee to help in carrying out the Olympic project, set about at once to have his own conception of "three pedestals" constructed.⁹ It was an admirable effort. One can note the individual steps leading to each level, the sturdy superstructure; the only shortcoming, of course, was the podium's "unfinished" look. After opening day, some hastily arranged bunting took care of that.¹⁰

In Los Angeles, Baillet-Latour's letter of May 8th elicited a different response from Farmer than what Gamache's reaction had been in Lake Placid. The Los Angeles Games were, of course, several times larger and more complex to organize.¹¹ Zack Farmer needed elaboration from Baillet-Latour, not only on the matter of the victory podium, but on a myriad of other arrangements. It is fortunate for the historical record of Olympic victory ceremonies that the demonstrated perfectionist, Farmer, sought further instruction from the IOC President. Otherwise, Baillet-Latour's own inspiration for the "victory pedestal" might never have become known. On June 8, 1931, after receiving Baillet-Latour's letter of May 8th, Farmer responded. "My dear Mr. President," wrote Farmer,

... You refer to the requirement of three pedestals to be used in awarding the medals, and then you say that 'the prizes will be given away by myself or substitute.' Do I understand it correctly that you, or your substitute, (in any event, one person) will award all the medals, first second and third? In this event the three pedestals, or platforms, might be difficult for you. If you are awarding the medals, I would suggest a nice platform on which you would stand, and upon which would be a table with the first, second and third medals properly arranged, and the first, second and third winners would either just pass by and receive their medal from you, or we could have three elevations or three steps attached to this single platform, and this would differentiate the position of the first, second and third, one against the other, and at the same time place them all in front of you where you could conveniently make the award. On the other hand, if you, and two others, or substitutes, are to award the medals, one person awarding exclusively each of the three classes, first, second and third, then three platforms and three pedestals could be arranged . . .¹²

Clearly, Farmer, unlike Gamache, was confused. Sensing this, Baillet-Latour wrote back without delay. In a July 8th letter to Farmer, the Belgian count responded to a number of Farmer's queries, including the subject of "Prize giving." "I will give all the prizes myself," wrote Baillet-Latour, "and will designate a substitute if I am prevented of

being present. Three pedestals will have to be made, one higher than the two others. The first prize winner standing on the pedestal in the middle-the second on his right; the third on his left.”¹³ And then, the most conclusive evidence on this issue for ceremonial historians (and “ritual anthropologists”). “It worked very well that way last year at the Empire Games,” were Baillet-Latour’s final remarks on the subject.¹⁴ Farmer knew little of what had transpired at the First British Empire Games in Canada in 1930. He had not been there. But one member of the Los Angeles Organizing Committee had been present, sports technical director William Henry.¹⁵ Surely Henry must have observed the same victory podium scenes as had Baillet-Latour. Be that as it may, there is absolutely no record in Los Angeles bearing a clue that Farmer received any recollection from Henry on the matter. What Farmer finally ordered constructed as the victory podium for the Los Angeles Games was a plain wooden two-step arrangement with the numbers “1”, “2”, and “3” painted atop the appropriate levels on which the 1st, 2nd and 3rd finishers were featured.

Baillet-Latour’s Inspiration: Hamilton, Ontario, July 1930

In mid-August 1930 the First British Empire Games opened in Hamilton, Ontario, the brainchild and feverish energy of Melville Marks “Bobby” Robinson. Robinson, a dedicated volunteer administrator of amateur sport in Canada, had served as honorary manager of the Canadian track and field team at the 1928 Amsterdam Games. It was while he was on site in Amsterdam, imbued as he was there by the glamorous Olympic setting, that he first conceived the idea of staging British Empire Games in his own hometown of Hamilton, Ontario.¹⁶ “Empire Games” had been a concept that had been around for almost a half century, in fact, an idea that dated back at least to a time in the late 19th century before Pierre de Coubertin’s version of Modern Olympic Games.¹⁷ In scarcely two years time, Robinson mustered local Hamilton organizational and financial efforts to stage an initial Empire Games festival that approached the magnificence of the most noted Olympic Games celebrated to that time.¹⁸ Hamilton newspapers trumpeted the fact that prospective spectators would view an exact replica of the Olympic Games themselves.¹⁹ In fact, the Empire Games were noted in one Hamilton newspaper as “The Empire Olympiad.”²⁰

Athletes, sports officials, and dignitaries from the far corners of Great Britain’s global political, economic and cultural empire gathered to view the proceedings. One visiting dignitary, however, had little to do with the “Empire.” He was Count Henri de Baillet-Latour, President of the International Olympic Committee.²⁰ Extended a special invitation, and assigned a seat in the front row of dignitaries and honored guests, he viewed at close perspective the sport delegations from countries throughout the Empire as they marched into the stadium for the opening ceremonies on August 16, 1930.²² It was during those opening ceremonies that Baillet-Latour noted a phenomenon that in time was to change Olympic history. Established on the running track in front of the “Dignitaries Box” rested a bi-level podium, with a vertical rectangular-like frame extending upward from the top-most platform of the pedestal. After the national delegations had marched into the stadium and arranged themselves on the infield, and Governor-General Viscount Willingdon had formally opened the Games, the celebrated Canadian sprinter Percy Williams, winner of both the 100 and 200 metres races at the Olympic Games in Amsterdam two years previous, rendered the Empire Games’ version of the athlete’s oath: “From many parts of the British Empire, we have assembled as amateur athletes to compete in friendly competition. We pledge our best endeavours to uphold the honour of our country and the glorious traditions of British sportsmanship.”²³ He carried out this honour from the higher of the two levels of the podium. In front of him, extending from a base set on the running track, was a microphone for the stadium’s public address system. Directly in front of him, resting on the top of the frame previously referred to, was a radio microphone, the property of CFCA, a popular Toronto radio station. CFCA presented a moment-by-moment description of the opening ceremonies (as well as many of the sporting events too), narrated by Canada’s legendary hockey broadcaster, Foster Hewitt.²⁴ Thus, Baillet-Latour’s first impression of the Empire Games podium was its use as the focal point for the oath-giver. The Count de Baillet-Latour was impressed. His one line aside expressed to Zack Farmer in his letter of July 8, 1931 confirms the fact.

But Hamilton authorities had more plans for their podium than merely serving the oath-taking episode. When the athletic events began, the bi-level podium was removed from the running track to the middle of the stadium’s infield. There, it became the pedestal on which the winning athletes of the track and field events were presented to the assembled crowd of spectators. As their names were announced over the stadium’s public address system, each mounted the podium, the winner on the top-most level, the 2nd and 3rd place finishers on the two lower levels, and greeted the spectators and dignitaries assembled with the Olympic salute, right arm held aloft, outstretched.²⁵ As these acts unfolded, the band played an abbreviated national anthem of the winning athlete’s country and the national flags of all three athletes on the podium were raised above the scoreboard located at one end of the stadium. The flag raising and the playing of national anthems replicated what had become ritual in Olympic award ceremonies by 1928. It is important here to note,

however, that none of the track and field medal winners received their medals while on the podium. Medals presented in the track and field events, in fact, those awarded to all athletes in all events, were presented as they generally had been in Olympic Games previous to 1932, at the closing ceremonies. In the case of the First Empire Games, they were presented at the final banquet on the evening of August 23rd.²⁶

Sitting in his place of honor in the front row of all these proceedings, Baillet-Latour was witness to a protocol which, in time, and with only slight modifications, has been part of the Modern Olympic Games as a consistent celebratory rite honoring athletic achievement. In 1936, at both Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Berlin, the “new” Olympic podium prevailed in the awards ceremonies, drawing from the events of Lake Placid and Los Angeles four years previous. So, too, would the podium idea prevail at the first post-World War II Olympic Games in London. Following the 1948 Olympic festival, the final act was consummated whereby the evolution of the Olympic victory podium ceremony was transformed from “prescribed practice” to “Olympic Law.”²⁷

One looks in vain for newspaper awareness or reaction to the Empire Games’ podium innovation, a strikingly new presentation of winning athletes, as well as a revolutionary change from what had been apparent in various versions of awards ceremonies at Olympic Games celebrated prior to 1932-- and certainly different from what Robinson had witnessed in Amsterdam where winning athletes paraded by Queen Wilhelmina’s royal box to receive their medals. As far as is known, only one newspaper commented, the *Times* (of London, England). In a commentary from the *Times*’ “special correspondent” sent to the Hamilton to report events, the following was published: “The ceremony of proclaiming the winner was a fine sight. The winner stood in the centre of the highest step of the dais, the second lower on the right, and the third still lower on the left.”²⁸ Here, the special correspondent had it wrong. The second and third place winners stood on exactly the same levels, below and to either side of the winner, as the Games’ photographs show.²⁹ The *Times* commentary continued: “As the band played the national air, each of the three raised his outstretched right arm slowly. Fittingly, Canada had the first victory in the first Empire Games, and as the band played the three flags of the winners rose slowly over the score board at the end of the ground.”³⁰

Thus, the podium, as it is known today, the brainchild of a group of Canadian organizers of the First British Empire Games headed by M. M. “Bobby” Robinson, made its first appearance in victory ritual. Today, of course, the infinitive verb “to podium” is commonplace in the vocabulary of athletes. The phrase and its use know no cultural boundaries; bridges all sports, individual and team; and makes no gender distinctions. “To podium,” as it were, is more than an act. It is also the universal dream of athletes, Olympic and non-Olympic alike.

This paper deserves a brief postscript. It is a pity, indeed, that the original minutes of the Hamilton Organizing Committee have disappeared, probably forever. They are not in Hamilton archives, nor in the archives of the Canadian Commonwealth Association, nor in those of the British Empire Games headquarters in England. If they were recovered they might allow us to extend from the record with which we are left, that is, that the victory podium was the inspiration of an Empire Games organizing committee. Was there a singular author within the committee responsible for the innovation? We shall most probably never know the answer. As in Lake Placid, Los Angeles, Hamilton, indeed, scores of other Olympic and international sport host cities, much of the record of some of history’s most important sports moments have been destroyed or lost due to the human penchant for ignoring all too readily the need to preserve the indelible record of past events.

Endnotes

1. Governor Roosevelt was elected to the presidency of the United States in the November 1932 national elections. He became storied in American history as the creator of “The New Deal,” the answer to the recovery of the country from the severe economic depression of the entire 1930s.
2. For instance, a survey of the *New York Times* during the tenure of the Games attests to this fact.
3. A survey of the type of decorative bunting used by Lake Placid officials in their decoration schemes for both the stadium and other venues suggests that the bunting applied to the podium came from a different source of supply. The distinctively “American” aura of the podium bunting (stars and stripes) indicates that officials might well have made up the podium’s hasty decoration from stocks of Lake Placid’s 4th of July celebration materials.
4. To date, the 101,000 spectators present at the 1932 Summer Games opening ceremonies stands as the largest single event audience in Olympic history. For more on this, and the impending obliteration of the Los Angeles record by

- Sydney in 2000, see Robert K. Barney, "Resistance, Persistence, Providence: The 1932 Olympic Games in Perspective," in *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*, Vol. 67, No. 2, September 1996, p. 158, Note 1.
5. Jurgen Buschmann and Karl L. Lennartz, "From Los Angeles (1932) to Melbourne (1956): The Olympic Torch's Protagonism in Ceremonies," in *Olympic Ceremonies: Historical Continuity and Cultural Exchange* (M. de Moragas, J. MacAloon and M. Llines, eds.), Lausanne, International Olympic Committee, 1996, p. 124.
 6. *Ibid.*
 7. John J. MacAloon, "On the Structural Origins of Olympic Individuality," in *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*, Vol. 67, No. 2, September 1996, p. 144.
 8. Henri Baillet-Latour, President of the International Olympic Committee, to Ernest Gamache, Executive Secretary of the Lake Placid Organizing Committee, May 8, 1931, *Dewey File*, IOC Folder, Lake Placid Olympic Museum Archives, Lake Placid, New York. Baillet-Latour to Zack Farmer, Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles Organizing Committee, May 8, 1931, *Garland Papers*, Los Angeles Amateur Athletic Federation Archives, Los Angeles, California. (Brackets mine; parentheses Baillet-Latour's.)
 9. Ernest Gamache was a native of Leominster, Massachusetts, a suburb of Boston.
 10. How the transformation from "bare skeleton" circumstance to "bunting-draped" podium occurred, and at whose suggestion, continues to remain a mystery. Ernest Gamache's personal secretary for Organizing Committee matters, Mrs. Seymour (Mary) McKenzie, still lives; but remembers nothing about "podium matters." Telephone interview with Mrs. McKenzie of Lake Placid, New York, June 24 and August 18, 1998. McKenzie does remember the extent of the village's decoration during the Olympic Games, nostalgia which is supported by descriptions in the Organizer's official report (*Official Report: III Olympic Winter Games, Lake Placid, 1932*, p. 167): ". . . great hotels and clubs, cottages, private homes and business houses were brave with bunting"). On the eve of the opening of the Games, the decoration budget remained at \$5,000. See *Dewey File*, III Olympic Winter Games Budget, Lake Placid Olympic Museum Archives, Lake Placid, New York.
 11. Well over one million people attended the Los Angeles Games. Then, too, 40 nations and almost 2,000 athletes were present. These logistics alone commanded much more planning and execution energy.
 12. Zack Farmer to Baillet-Latour, June 8, 1931, Lausanne, IOC Archives.
 13. Baillet-Latour to Zack Farmer, July 8, 1931, Los Angeles Amateur Athletic Federation Archives, Los Angeles, California.
 14. *Ibid.*
 15. For a brief notation/report on Henry's visit to Hamilton, see *Olympic: Official Publication of the Organizing Committee, Games of the X Olympiad*, No. 2, September 30, p. 4.
 16. As part of his Amsterdam mission, Canadian Olympic Committee authorities had delegated Robinson to "feel out" European sports representatives for a commitment to send athletes to the Empire Games in Hamilton if they indeed could be organized. European feelings on the subject were "lukewarm." But, Robinson persisted. Capitalizing on the fact that his job in life was sports editor of the *Hamilton Spectator*, Robinson launched a vigorous local campaign to organize history's first British Empire Games, today referred to as the Commonwealth Games. For more on Robinson's quest to bring Empire Games to Hamilton, see, for instance, the city of Hamilton's "other" daily newspaper, the *Hamilton Herald*, July 8, 1930 and August 8, 1930.
 17. Several authors have highlighted this fact. For a condensed survey, see Glynn A. Leysdon, "The First British Empire Games, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, 1930," in *Contemporary Studies in the National Olympic Games Movement* (Roland Naul, ed.), Frankfurt am Main, Peter Lang, 1997, pp. 205-206.

18. The First Empire Games recorded eleven countries and some 400 athletes as participants. Opening ceremonies, release of carrier pigeons, victory celebrations, banquets, parades, etc., the Games embraced all the usual trappings of the Olympics.
19. See, for instance, *Hamilton Herald*, August 15 and 16, 1930; and *Hamilton Spectator*, August 18, 1930.
20. *Hamilton Spectator*, August 14, 1930.
21. The *Toronto Daily Star*, August 11, 1930 announced the arrival of Baillet-Latour in Quebec on his way to Hamilton. Newspaper reporters queried the IOC President on the matter of where the 1936 Olympic Games would be held (a host city had not yet been designated). "Not in Canada," proclaimed Baillet-Latour, "North America will have to wait its turn since Los Angeles will stage the Games two years from now."
22. See *Hamilton Spectator*, August 18, 1930. The *Spectator* related that Baillet-Latour joined other dignitaries in a special box located beside the Governor-General's box. Pictures of the assembly of dignitaries standing as the various teams entered the stadium show Baillet-Latour in the front row, several seats removed to the left of Viscount Willingdon.
23. Among other sources, the oath pronounced by Percy Williams is cited in Leyshon, *Op. cit.*, p. 205.
24. For CFCA's announcement that Percy Williams' "oath taking" would be broadcast along with descriptions of other events at the opening ceremonies, as well as the athletic events following, see *Toronto Daily Star*, August 16, 1930. For a sample daily schedule of CFCA's Empire Games broadcast, see *Toronto Daily Star*, August 20, 1930.
25. The so-called "Olympic salute" first appeared in the 1920 Games in Antwerp when French athletes marched into the stadium for the opening ceremonies. The salute was copied by the Olympic teams of other countries at Games held in the 1920s and 1930s. With the rise of National Socialism in Germany and Fascism in Italy in the 1930s, each of which adopted a salute similar to the Olympic greeting, the salute in Olympic context, for obvious reasons, disappeared.
26. For details of this, see the *Hamilton Spectator*, August 22, 1930.
27. See Buschmann and Lennartz, *op. cit.*, p. 126.
28. See the *Times* (London, England), August 18, 1930.
29. Toronto and Hamilton newspapers of the period August 17th to 24, 1930 are replete with pictures of winning athletes arranged on the victory dais.
30. The *Times*, *Op. cit.*, August 18, 1930.

