

ersucht waren, der Vorbereitung für die Olympischen Spiele jegliche Hilfe zu leisten. Auch das mag als ein nachahmenswertes Beispiel und ein Zeichen für die Kraft des olympischen Gedankens gewürdigt werden. Wenn ein Land erst einmal Olympische Spiele durchgeführt hat und, so wie es in Deutschland 1936 der Fall war, ganz von der inneren Kraft des olympischen Gedankens durchdrungen wird, dann hat der Sport in diesem Land für alle Zukunft seinen Nutzen.

Im Olympia-Skistadion zu Garmisch-Partenkirchen erhebt sich, im Rahmen des Umbaus errichtet, eine neue Eingangspforte, geschmückt mit künstlerischen Darstellungen von Schönheit und Kraft, Kampf und Sieg. Diese Skulpturen umrahmen zwei Platten; die eine von ihnen trägt die Erinnerungsschrift und die Namen der Sieger aus den IV. Olympischen Winterspielen, die andere sollte der gleichen Widmung für die V. Veranstaltung dienen. Sie bleibt nunmehr leer. Hoffen wir, daß auch sie sich in absehbarer Zeit einmal füllen wird.

The Fifth Olympic Winter Games Will Not Be Held

With the approval of the International Olympic Committee, the German Olympic Committee and the Organizing Committee appointed by that body for the purpose of presenting the Fifth Olympic Winter Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in 1940 have returned the mandate placed in their bands. The war has thereby exacted a sacrifice in the history of the Olympic Games, and the world of sport has been deprived of an event which would have been a festival of peace and joy.

No one can deny that the German organizers pursued in a diligent and conscientious manner the task placed in their hands at the meeting of the International Olympic Committee in June, 1939, and that they were not content merely to fit the new festival into the framework created in 1936 but, following the ideal of furthering the Olympic concept, extended the scope of the presentation even beyond that of 1936. The German Organizing Committee applied itself seriously to the task of developing the Olympic Winter Festival, the idea of sending messages of friendship by relays from Chamonix, the site of the First Olympic Winter Games in 1924, through St. Moritz, the site of the Second Olympic Winter Games in 1928, to Garmisch-Partenkirchen, the scene of the Fourth and Fifth Olympic Winter Games, being part of this plan. The creation of presentations on the ice to fill in the pauses during hockey matches and the extension of the opening and closing ceremonies were also considered. It would have been appropriate to have adopted the tone of the Olympic Summer Games of 1936, which still remain an imperishable memory. The Olympic fanfare by Paul Winter would have called the youth of the world together, the tones of the Olympic bell would have again resounded, borne on the ether waves from Berlin, and the significant words of the deceased reviver of the modern Olympic Games, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, would again have been heard: „The important thing in the Olympic Games is not winning but taking part; the essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well.“ Then following the opening of the Games by the Fuehrer and unfurling of the Olympic flag accompanied by salutes fired by the artillery, the notes of the Olympic hymn composed by Richard Strauss would have been heard, the composer, who lives in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, directing his work, as in 1936. The Olympic fire would have been ignited and the Olympic oath taken, after which the inspiring music of Händel's "Halleluja" would have concluded the ceremony.

Similar would have been the closing ceremony. Beethoven's hymn of sacrifice, "Die Flamme lodert", would again have been rendered and the festival would have come to an end with the decorating of the flags of the participating nations. As in 1936, the Olympic flag would have been borne from the summit of the skiing hill by skiers and the tones of the "Flammenabschied" by Paul Hoeffer would have filled the great natural amphitheatre.

The participation of countries from throughout the world was assured. Within a short time acceptances were received from 18 nations (Argentina, Belgium, Bohemia-Moravia, Bulgaria, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Great Britain, Italy, Yugoslavia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Norway, Slovakia, Hungary, United States of Amerika) and further acceptances were to be expected. The Organizing Committee also planned to alleviate the task of the National Olympic Committees in view of the shortness of the time at disposal for arranging the journey. It was decided to grant all active participants free travel second class from

the German frontier to Garmisch-Partenkirchen and return and to place the cost of accommodation in the barrack quarters arranged for the guests at three Reichsmarks per day, this to include room and board as well as transportation to and from the scenes of competition and training. In addition thereto, 1100 skiers from every nation in which this sport is carried on were invited to Germany and were to be the guests of the Reich from the time they left their home country. Through this arrangement it was hoped that in the event of the existing difficulties with the International Skiing Federation not being solved in time, the sport of skiing could nevertheless be included in the Olympic Festival in the form of a special presentation. The "Skiing Festival" was planned with this end in view, the programme of this event having been described in detail in the last number of the "Olympic Review".

The Organizing Committee was not inclined to capitulate before the prevailing difficulties with the International Skiing Federation but considered it an obligation to attempt, in collaboration with the Skiing Department of the Reich Association for Physical Training, to prevail upon the Skiing Federation to lend its cooperation. Two considerations were instrumental in leading the Organizing Committee to adopt this decision: firstly, neither from the standpoint of the Olympic Games nor from that of the skier is it justifiable that an Olympic Festival should be presented without skiing, and secondly, the guilt in the present controversy lies on the side of the International Federation and in its own interest must be solved as soon as possible. The source of the controversy was the amateur question, the International Federation having maintained that even in Olympic competitions it alone is competent to decide questions pertaining to amateurism and therefore having rejected the application of the Olympic minimum requirements to skiing.

When, confronted with the problem of arranging the Olympic programme, the German Committee investigated the facts of the case, it was discovered that the International Skiing Federation had also participated in the discussion of the amateur regulations for the Olympic Games at the Olympic Congress of 1930 and had approved the present amateur paragraph. The Federation is thus denied the right to withdraw its consent to these conditions and according to democratic procedure, upon which it lays so much stress in its own internal organization, it must endeavour to achieve an alteration of the regulations through constitutional procedure, should it no longer be in agreement with them. At the present time there is a decided divergence of opinion in the Federation itself, the great majority having realized that the decision to regard ski instructors as amateurs was a mistake. In fact, the entire question is now confined to one or two countries.

We thus believed that it would be a comparatively simple matter to regain the cooperation of the International Skiing Federation. It was merely necessary to call an extraordinary meeting, and we requested such a meeting in the constitutional manner, the necessary approval of fifty per cent of the affiliated National Federations having been obtained despite the most energetic opposition of the President. The very fact that the President of the International Skiing Federation sought in such a determined manner to prevent the holding of the Congress is in itself a proof that he was convinced of our ultimate success in a Congress called for the purpose of discussing this question. The official petition for the calling of the Congress was not presented due to the outbreak of the war. It may thus be asserted that even though they will not be presented, the Fifth Olympic Winter Games nevertheless have achieved a great historical victory in that they have proved that skiing and the Olympic Winter Games are inseparable and that this union is also desired by the majority of the members of the International Skiing Federation. We should have attended this Congress convinced that the conflict over amateurism would have been discontinued with the approval of the great majority if not all of the members. One may thus assume in the light of present developments that after the war this controversy will be settled once and for all.

Attention may be called to still another result of the Fifth Olympic Games, which has been achieved in spite of the fact that the Festival will not be held, The Games have evidenced their vital force in the fullest measure, this being seen in the new facilities which have been created in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. These will remain in the future as the proud possession of German sport and will also serve international sport at some future date. In addition thereto, such structures are monuments; they inspire the entire world as models. Just as the first Olympic stadium of the modern age, which was erected on the site of the ancient sporting field in Athens, inspired other countries and cities to construct new centres comparable in artistic and festive character, so will also the structures in Garmisch inspire similar facilities in other lands. As still another heritage of the German preparation, attention may be called to the fact that the Reich Government with the German Chancellor at its head considered it a national duty to support the Olympic task in a most self-sacrificing manner. The preparations for the Games were removed from the framework of usual sporting activity in that the Reich Sport Leader and the President of the Organizing Committee received extensive powers and the appropriate departments of the Government, Party and Reichswehr were urged to assist in every possible manner. This fact may serve as an example worthy of imitation and also as a sign of the vital

force of the Olympic concept. When a nation has once presented the Olympic Games and, as was the case in Germany in 1936, becomes completely imbued with the inner force of the Olympic concept, it may be concluded that sport will continue its useful development in that country throughout the years.

In the course of the re-planning of the Olympic Skiing Stadium in Garmisch-Partenkirchen a new entrance gate was erected. It was adorned with artistic figures depicting beauty and strength, combat and victory. These sculptures surround two plaques, one of which bears words commemorating the Fourth Olympic Winter Games and the names of the victors. The other plaque was intended for the same purpose following the Fifth Olympic Winter Games. It will remain uninscribed for the time being, but we hope that in the not too distant future it will also bear a message for the world.

Specifications or Requirements of The New 100 Meter Champion

by Larry Snyder, Ohio State University, Columbus (Ohio)

The following article is the second in the series contributed by American experts in the different fields of sport in reply to our request. The United States, which have contributed substantially towards the practical development of sport, are thus also active in the intellectual sphere. The series, arranged with the end in view of encouraging an exchange of opinion on the technical and scientific aspects of sport, will be continued.

Let us assume, first of all, that it is humanly possible to improve the present record of 10.2 seconds for the 100 meter dash. That is mere conjecture. Scientific experimentation at one American University has resulted in a set of standards which lists the perfect record, the ultimate in sprinting 100 meters, as 10.06. That any such list or table is theoretical and can never be absolute is shown by the fact that Harbig, Germany, has already surpassed the "ultimate" marks set for the 400 and 800 meters. The 110 meter hurdle mark also has been eclipsed .2 seconds by Towns, U. S. A. These facts would indicate that no satisfactory formula has as yet been discovered which will enable us to predict accurately the stopping point in record breaking.

When we grant the possibility of breaking an athletic record, we base our concession on past performance. Track and Field records that only a few years ago were considered the Ultimate, have been surpassed. If memory serves correctly, the only American record that has withstood the continued attack of a decade of athletes is the 100 yard mark of 9.4 seconds set by George Simpson, Ohio State University, in 1929. Four other sprinters, Wycoff and Meier in 1930; Metcalf in 1933, and Owens in 1935 and 1936, equalled this record. Eddie Tolan never ran 9.4, yet he defeated Metcalf in the 1932 Olympic Games at Los Angeles, while establishing the record of 10.3 for 100 meters. Simpson did not compete in the Olympics until two years past his prime. A pulled muscle in the final American tryouts at Boston in 1928 eliminated him. He finished fourth behind Jonath, Germany, at Los Angeles. The evident reason why sprint marks are more difficult to surpass is the brevity of the race. Practically all top ranking sprinters will run within inches of each other for 50 meters — in a 50 meter race. Probably such a statement could not be proven because this race or its 60 yards equivalent is run only in the American Indoor Meets where gun beating is rampant. The crack sprinters know that their advantage at the start will approximate their margin at the finish. Only a handful of pistol firers in this country are competent to start such a race. The others fire the gun when the runners start. Many a National champion has won his race before the gun fired.