

ATHLETICS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE 20TH CENTURY

Collection of 100 items donated by
Consulate to the IAAF Heritage Program



REGGO

ATHLETICS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE 20th CENTURY

COLLECTION OF 100 ITEMS
DONATED BY CONSUDATLE
TO THE IAAF HERITAGE PROGRAM





THE INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS FOUNDATION



Roberto Gesta de Melo
Organizer

ATHLETICS
IN THE FIRST
HALF OF THE
20th CENTURY

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**12. Deutsches
Turnfest
in Leipzig
12.-16. Juli 1913**



PRESENTATION

This catalog contains 100 sports items that were donated by the Confederación Sudamericana de Atletismo to the IAAF related to "Athletics in the First Half of the 20th Century".

It is a complement of the first donation made by CONSUDATLE in its Centennial Anniversary, comprising "Athletics from Ancient Times to the End of the 19th Century".

The Heritage Program recently created by President Sebastian Coe has been extremely successful, with several exhibitions being organized around the world and the generous support given by our greatest athletes and their families providing exceptional objects to the IAAF.

CONSUDATLE is very proud for being the first Institution to adhere to the Program, mainly because it already had its own memorabilia collection, which also permitted the donation of 100 Athletics objects to each one of our 13 Member Federations.

From the beginning of 2019 onwards, CONSUDATLE will display its remaining items in the International Museum of Sports in Manaus, Brazil together with the outstanding artifacts of the Olympic Gallery Institute RGM. In that place, many other actions will be implemented in the near future to preserve and disseminate the history of Athletics and Sports to researchers and the general public.

Roberto Gesta de Melo





1. **ATHLETICS BRONZE MEDAL**
1900 Paris Olympic Games

01. OLYMPIC GAMES

PARIS 1900

The 1900 edition of the Olympic Games was awarded to Paris during the first Olympic Congress, which took place in the French capital on 16-23 June 1894, and which also saw Athens confirmed as the host city for the 1896 Olympic Games.

The 1900 Olympic Games were held as part of the 1900 Exposition Universelle as Baron Pierre de Coubertin believed that this would help public awareness of the Olympics. A committee was formed for the organisation of the Games, consisting of some of the more able sports administrators of the day and a provisional programme was drawn up.

British and Irish sports associations announced a desire to compete, as did a number of leading American universities and sports clubs. Competitors from Russia and Australia also confirmed their intentions to travel to Paris.

The IOC was obliged to cede control of the Games to a new committee which was to oversee every sporting activity connected to the 1900 Exposition Universelle. Daniel Mérillon, the head of the French Shooting Association, was appointed as president of this organisation in February 1899.

Mérillon proceeded to publish an entirely different schedule of events, with the result that many of those that had made plans to compete in concordance with the original programme withdrew and refused to deal with the new committee.

Coubertin later underlined the challenges facing the organisers of the Games: “At the time nothing was more difficult than attracting large numbers of spectators to watch a sporting gathering. Interest levels remained weak.”

The Exposition Universelle was regarded as far more important than the recently revived Olympic Games. He commented to friends: "It's a miracle that the Olympic Movement survived that celebration."

The Paris 1900 Olympic Games represented a historic watershed in Olympic history with the inclusion of female athletes for the first time.

There was no official Opening Ceremony as such but rather a procession of gymnasts into the Vélodrome de Vincennes, which took place during the national festival of the Union of Gymnastics Societies of France on 3 June 1900.

Between May and October 1900, the new organizing committee held an enormous number of sporting activities alongside the Paris Exposition, but the sporting events rarely used the word 'Olympic'. Indeed, the term 'Olympic Games' was replaced by 'Concours Internationaux d'Exercices Physiques et de Sports' in the official report of the sporting events of the 1900 Exposition Universelle.

Some events in the report were also called 'Championnat du Monde'. The press reported competitions variously as 'International Championships', 'International Games', 'Paris Championships', 'World Championships' and 'Grand Prix of the Paris Exposition'.

There were also 71 scholastic and 92 military events linked to the Exposition Universelle. Some unusual events were contested but were not later considered to be 'Olympic' including automobile and motorcycle racing, ballooning,

lifesaving and pigeon shooting (this was the only time in Olympic Games history that live animals were used as targets).

More recently, the IOC has affirmed a total of 95 medal events overall. It appears that the IOC has accepted in part the renowned Olympic historian Bill Mallon's recommendation for events that should be considered 'Olympic', based on some applied criteria.

During July, Pierre de Coubertin himself was on hand to preside over the athletics events. The conditions of competition were inferior compared to those at the previous Games in 1896. For instance, here was no level track and a grass field dotted with trees and of unequal elevation was used. The course was 500m in length, an unusual distance for an athletics event even in this era. The events were held at the home of the Racing Club de France at the Croix-Catelan stadium in Bois de Boulogne.

23 athletics events are those currently considered to have been of Olympic stature by the International Olympic Committee and most Olympic historians. They exclude all events that used a handicap system, as well as all events which were open to professional athletes.

Competitions were held on 14-16 July, 19 July, and 22 July. This included Bastille Day, which is a French holiday, and then Sunday, about which many of the American athletes protested.

Even with many Americans not competing in finals because of confusion caused by the

organisers' decision to count scores achieved on Monday 16 July for finals actually held on Sunday 15 July and subsequent rescission of that decision, the USA won more than four times as many events as any other nation, including 16 first places.

In the seven events contested over 400m or less, the USA took 13 out of a possible 21 medals. Athletes from Columbia University, Princeton University and the University of Pennsylvania all won gold medals.

Two would-be dentists from the University of Pennsylvania were amongst the stars of the Games. Alvin Kraenzlein won four individual gold medals, a feat that has never been repeated. For his victory in the long jump, he was allegedly punched in the face by his rival Meyer Prinstein, who was prevented from competing in the final by officials of Syracuse University because it was scheduled for a Sunday.

Walter Tewksbury took five medals including two golds. The hurdles in the 400m hurdles race were 9.1-metre long telegraph poles arranged on the track and the race, uniquely in Olympic competition, had a water jump on the final straight.

USA dominance in sprinting was matched in the longer track races by Great Britain. Only George Orton, who won Canada's first Olympic title in the shorter of the two steeplechase events, ruined a perfect record for the British.

Orton won his title less than an hour after placing third in the 400m hurdles.

The Hungarian discus thrower Rudolf Bauer was the only non-American crowned as an Olympic champion in the field events, where the American domination was even greater than in the track events, with outstanding performances coming from Ray Ewry and Irving Baxter. Ewry started his Olympic career with a sweep of the three standing jumps, whilst Baxter finished second to Ewry three times and won both the high jump and pole vault. Meyer Prinstein became the first Jewish Olympic gold medallist when he won the triple jump.

The most contentious of all the events in these Games began and ended in the Bois de Boulogne. Intended to follow the track of the old city wall, the marathon course was poorly marked out and runners often got lost and had to double back on themselves before continuing. On some parts of the course, runners had to contend with distractions from cars, bicycles, pedestrians and animals.

USA's Arthur Newton finished fifth but stated he had not been passed by any other runner during the race. Another American runner, Richard Grant, claimed he was run down by a cyclist as he made ground on the leaders. French honour seemed to have been satisfied when Michel Théato crossed the finish line and a military band struck up *La Marseillaise*.

“One of the more enduring myths about the 1900 Paris Olympic marathon is that 22-year-old Michel Johann Théato was a baker, and thus was accustomed to tolerating great heat in his work.” (Wallechinsky 1996). “By delivering croissants through the streets of Paris he allegedly knew the city so well that he could perhaps take a few short cuts and extend his lead in the race. Research by recent Olympic historians (Lennartz 1996) has shown that the correct story is somewhat different.

“First, Théato was a woodworker, not a baker. Second, Parisians went to the bakery themselves in the morning to buy their fresh croissants; they were not delivered. Third, the course was a large loop around the whole of Paris, encompassing a much larger region than local shopkeepers would cover in purveying their products. Thus, Théato was not a cheat; he won because he had a very good day in unbearable conditions”.

“Also, at the presentation of prizes (porcelain pottery pieces) following the marathon, no mention was made that these athletes were Olympians” (David E. Martin and Roger W. H. Gynn).

Only many years later did Michel Théato become aware that he had won the 1900 Olympic Games marathon and only few years ago it became known that he was actually born in Luxembourg and not in France.

There were different awards for athletes, like art objects, trophies and even prize money for

‘professionals’ and there were also solid gold, silver gilt, silver, bronze gilt, silvered bronze and bronze plaques that were given as prize or participation awards to competitors in a large range of sports activities, some of them that could not be considered ‘Olympic’. Each event was organised by a different sports federation, with its own rules and deciding individually how to distribute the awards.

South American in Athletics

Adolphe or Adolpho Christiano Klingelhoef was the son of a Brazilian diplomat. Although he was born and raised in Paris, he had Brazilian citizenship in 1900 in accordance with the Brazilian constitution of 1824 in force at that time.

Between 1899-1903 he won six French national titles, four in the 110m hurdles and two in the 400m hurdles and set two national records in the 110m hurdles in 1903 and 1904. In the Paris 1900 Olympic Games, he competed in the 60m, the 200m and the 110m hurdles.

Although Adolpho Christiano Klingelhoef may never have set foot on Brazilian soil in his entire life and probably lived and identified himself with respect to sport as a Frenchman, according to national law, he can nevertheless be regarded as the first Brazilian athlete to compete in Olympic Games although these facts are not officially recognised by the Brazilian and International Olympic Committees.



ST LOUIS 1904 OLYMPIC GAMES

The city of Chicago won the bid to host the 1904 Summer Olympics but the St Louis organisers of the World's Fair, celebrating the purchase of the Louisiana territory from France, would not accept another international event in the same time frame.

In fact, the Fair was initially conceived as a centennial celebration to be held in 1903 but its opening was delayed until 30 April 1904 to allow for full-scale participation by more states and foreign countries.

The Exposition organisation began to plan for its own sports activities, informing the Chicago OCOG that its own international sports events intended to eclipse the Olympic Games unless they were moved to St. Louis. The IOC stepped in and awarded the Games to St. Louis.

The European tensions caused by the Russo-Japanese War and the difficulty of getting to St. Louis kept most of the world's top sportsmen away.

In 53 of the 95 events, the USA were the only country to field competitors; as such, some events combined the U.S. national championship with the Olympic championships.

In athletics, only 10 nations were represented although both Cuba and South Africa made their debut at these Games.

The St. Louis organisers treated the Games in a manner similar to the previous Olympic Games, with competitions reduced to a side-show of the World's Fair and overshadowed by other, more popular, cultural exhibits.

David R. Francis, the President of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, declined to invite anybody else to open the Games and on 1 July did so himself in a short, disorganised and poorly attended ceremony.

Officially, the Games lasted for four-and-a half-months, with James E. Sullivan, Director of the Department of Physical Culture at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, attempting to hold a sporting event every day for the duration of the fair.

Olympic-calibre events were mixed with other sporting events that Sullivan also called 'Olympic', including some scholastic competitions, with the IOC subsequently declaring that 94 of these events in 16 sports were 'Olympic'.

The organisers of the World's Fair held 'Anthropology Days' on 12-13 August 12 and various indigenous men from around the world competed in various events for anthropologists to see how they compared to the white man.

The athletics events were held from 29 August-3 September 1904 at Francis Field in St. Louis and were considered the main event of the Olympic Games by all the media which covered them in that year.

Although there were a few foreign competitors, the completion was essentially a US championship, although the Olympic meet was not the 1904 AAU Championship, which had had been held in St. Louis but earlier in the summer, on 4 June.

The track was specially built for the Olympic Games and was modern, for 1904. It was 1/3 of a mile in length (586 yards, 2 feet = 536.44

metres), with one very long straight, four turns, and three shorter straights. It was built on the campus of Washington University in St. Louis and was composed of cinders. The weather was sunny every day of the Games, with temperatures between 25-30 °C.

Chicago runner James Lightbody won the steeplechase (over 2500m) and the 800m and then set a world record in the 1500m. Harry Hillman won both the 200m and 400m hurdles and also the flat 400m. Sprinter Archie Hahn was champion in the 60m, 100m and 200m. In the 200m, he set an Olympic record of 21.6, a mark that stood for 28 years. In the discus, USA's Martin Sheridan had thrown exactly the same distance as his compatriot, Ralph Rose (39.28 m), the judges gave them both an extra throw to decide the winner. Sheridan won the decider and claimed the gold medal. Ray Ewry again won all three standing jumps.

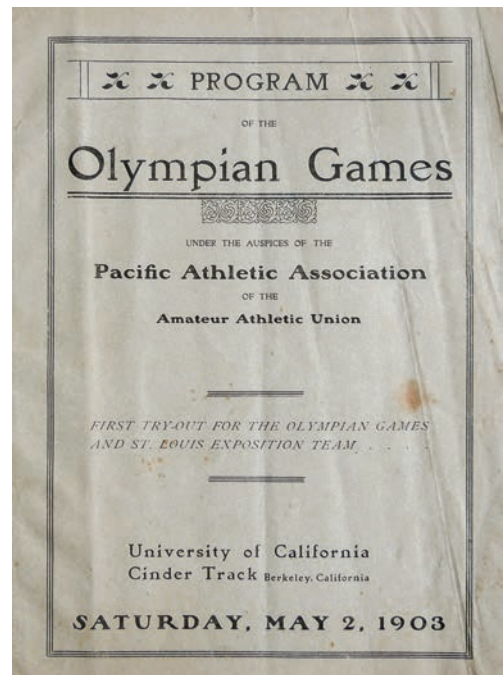
Marathon

The marathon was the most bizarre event of the Games. It was run in brutally hot weather, over dusty roads, with horses and automobiles clearing the way but creating dust clouds.

The first to arrive at the finish line was Frederick Lorz, who actually rode the rest of the way in a car to retrieve his clothes, after dropping out after nine miles. The car broke down at the 19th mile, so he re-entered the race and jogged back to the finish line. When the officials thought he had won the race, Lorz played along with his practical joke until he was found out shortly after the medal

ceremony and was banned for a year by the AAU for this stunt, later winning the 1905 Boston Marathon.

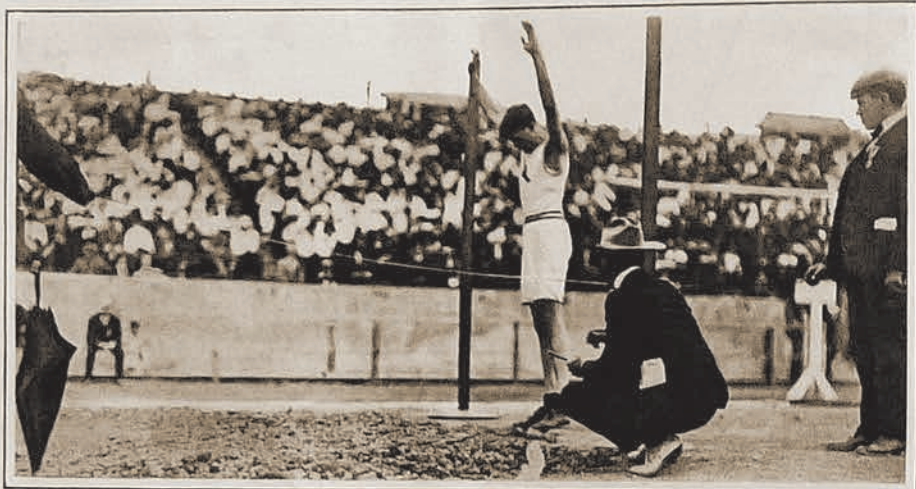
Thomas Hicks, a Briton running for the USA, was the first to cross the finish line legally, after having received from his trainers several doses of strychnine sulfate (a common rat poison, which stimulates the nervous system in small doses) mixed with brandy.



3. **PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN TRIALS FOR THE 1904 "OLYMPIAN" GAMES.** USA, 1903.
4. **SNAP-SHOTS OF SCENES AT THE 1904.** Olympic "Championships" Games. USA, 1904. (Next page) ↓



Harry Hillman, of the N. Y. A. C., winning the 400-metre Run in 49 1-5 seconds—a new Olympic Record



Roy Eury, N. Y. A. C., making a new World's Record in the Standing Broad-jump Contest—Distance, 11 feet 4 7-8 inches



The Finish of the 60-metre Dash—Archie Hahn, of the Milwaukee A. C., Winner

SNAP-SHOTS OF SCENES AT THE WORLD'S OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES AT THE ST. LOUIS FAIR

The world's Olympic championship games began in the Stadium on the Exposition grounds at St. Louis on August 29. On the first day of the meeting the world's record for the standing broad jump was lowered, as were also the Olympic record for the 400-metre run, and the record for throwing the sixteen-pound hammer. The most important event during the games was the Marathon race for a distance of forty kilometres (twenty-four miles and fifteen hundred yards), which was run on August 30. The race was won by Thomas J. Hicks, of Cambridgeport, Massachusetts, in 3:28:51. The record time for a Marathon race is 2 hours and 55 minutes, made by Loucas, a Greek, at the Olympic games at Athens in 1896.



Ralph W. Ruse, of the Chicago Athletic Association, breaking the World's Record for putting the Sixteen-pound Shot



Perikles Lakousta, of Athens, Winner of the Bar Bell Contest. He lifted a 246-pound Bell, surpassing the World's Record



Contestants in the Hurdle Race going over the last Hurdle of the Course—H. L. Hillman, of the N. Y. A. C., leading, and F. Wallen, of the Milwaukee A. C., second

SNAP-SHOTS OF SCENES AT THE WORLD'S OLYMPIC CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES AT THE ST. LOUIS FAIR

A general description of the Olympic championship games, held recently at the St. Louis Exposition, is given on the opposite page. The snap-shots reproduced above show some of the important events of the games

He was supported by his trainers as he crossed the finish but is still considered the winner. Hicks had to be carried off the track, and possibly would have died in the stadium had he not been treated by several doctors. He lost eight pounds during the marathon.

A Cuban postman named Felix Carvajal entered the marathon, arriving at the last minute. He had to run in street clothes that a fellow runner cut around the legs to make them look like shorts. He stopped off in an orchard en route to have a snack on some apples which caused stomach cramps. Despite falling ill from the apples, he finished in fourth place.

The marathon included the first two black Africans to compete in the Olympics: two Tswana tribesmen named Len Tau and Yamasani (real names Len Taunyane and Jan Mashiani). They were not in St. Louis specifically to compete in the Olympics but had been brought by the Exposition to form part of the Boer War exhibit. Len Tau finished ninth and Yamasani came in 12th but many observers believed Len Tau could have done better if he had not been chased nearly a mile off course by aggressive dogs.

Arriving without correct documents, Frenchman Arthur Coray was not included as part of the French team. He is inconsistently listed as competing in a mixed team in the four-mile team race and competing for the USA in the marathon.

The St Louis 1904 Olympic Games were the first at which gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded for first, second and third place.

ATHENS 1906 INTERCALATED OLYMPIC GAMES

After the successful Athens 1896 Olympic Games, the Greeks suggested they could organise the event every four years and as they had the venues and had proven to be able to hold well-organised games, they received quite a bit of support.

Pierre de Coubertin did not approve that idea but when the Paris 1900 Olympic Games turned out less-than – perfect and were overshadowed by the Exposition Universelle, the IOC supported the Greek idea by granting them a second series of quadrennial games, in between the first series.

All of the Games would be International Olympic Games; the difference was that only half of them would follow Coubertin's idea of organising the events in different countries to make the Olympic Movement more international, while the other half would follow Greece's idea of a permanent home with the Greek NOC as experienced organisers. As 1902 was now too close, and Greece was experiencing internal difficulties, the second Olympic Games in Athens were scheduled for 1906.

**5. LA VIE AU GRAND
AIR AUX "JEUX
OLYMPIQUES".**

Paris, 1906. (Next page)



LA VIE AU GRAND AIR

Dans ce Numéro : *Les Jeux Olympiques*



3206

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Aux Jeux Olympiques d'Athènes :
LE LANCERMENT DU JAVELOT

Publications Pierre Lafitte & Cie
Se voit tout à Paris et ailleurs à Femina
Musica et Jeunesse à La Vie au Grand Air
9 et 11, Avenue de l'Opéra à Paris

(Photographies de ...)



« Les coureurs entraînent sur 100 mètres. A l'estime que ne fut pas meilleur aux Jeux olympiques, le 100 m. en 17 s. 2/50 m. »

M. Miller, notre favori spécial

Un sprint de Barker.

Barker

Barker, le fameux sprinter australien, qui courut le 100 yards en 9 s. 9/10, n'a pu se classer que 2^e dans la course de 100 m.



Halmey

Marbo

Schwertz

Danos

Les nageurs à Phalères.

L'équipe européenne de natation était formée de la façon de nos champions n'a pas lieu de nous étonner. A droite, l'athlète américain, vainqueur du 100 m. en 1 m. 13 s. 2/50, Halmey (Américain, record de la course).



Archibald

Goeder

Kousterolis, Glover, Litboud

Les Grecs apprennent à Sheridan. Notre photographie représente un coin du Stade où l'on remarquera la présence de Sheridan à la perche, en train de regarder sauter le vainqueur.



Les courts de tennis. Il est rare de voir la de tennis qui soient aussi belles de voir. M. Duvigne, le champion des Jeux de 1900, a entraîné en France.

LYMPIQUES

(en envoyant spécial)



Un départ dans le Stade.

En face, le classement du 200 m en longueur avec Hénocq, Lignier, qui fut remarqué dans les épreuves.



Le Tennis - C'est tout le monde

Trois grands joueurs

Notre collaborateur de l'équipe de France, le joueur de tennis de France, le joueur de tennis de France, le joueur de tennis de France.



À lancer classiquement le disque.

Un Américain, vainqueur du lancement de disque et du poids; Gaudier, vainqueur du 200 m et du 400 m, Lignier, Américain, etc., etc.



Tennis d'Athènes

Notre collaborateur de l'équipe de France, le joueur de tennis de France, le joueur de tennis de France, le joueur de tennis de France.



Le lancement de la pierre.

Un sport exceptionnel joué en France, qui consiste à lancer le poids le plus vite possible et de lancer le poids le plus vite possible.

As the St Louis 1904 Olympics were overshadowed by the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, and as a result met with a fate similar to that of Paris 1900, the Olympic Movement was not in good shape. It desperately needed to recapture the spirit of Athens 1896. It also needed to do so quickly because for all those who did not participate in St. Louis, especially Europeans, Rome 1908 would have meant an eight-year gap. By that time there would not be much goodwill left for the Games. And on top of that, Rome was planning an Exhibition.

The Athens 1906 Intercalated Olympic Games being potentially just around the corner must have seemed like a lifeline. Coubertin still disliked the idea and did not do anything more than his function required him to but the IOC as a whole gave the Greek NOC full support for the organisation.

The 1906 Games were quite successful. Unlike the 1900 and 1904, they were neither stretched out over months nor overshadowed by an international exhibition; their concise format was most likely instrumental in the continued existence of the Games.

The Games were the first to have all athlete registration go through the NOCs. They were the first to have the Opening of the Games as a separate event at which, for the first time, the athletes marched into the stadium in national teams, each following its national flag.

They introduced the closing ceremony, with 6000 school children taking part, and the raising of national flags for the victors.

However, the Greeks were unable to keep to the schedule for 1910 and with Athens 1910 not taking place, the faith in the Greek capital as a permanent venue diminished. As a result, the idea of an Athens 1914 Olympic Games got even less support; and then World War I started and any further Intercalated Games had to wait until after the war. After the war was over, it had been more than a decade since Athens 1906 and the idea of Intercalated Games was consequently given up entirely.

Since the Athens 1906 Intercalated Olympic Games were an exception to the four-year cycle of the Olympic Games, the personal views of various IOC Presidents caused the IOC to retroactively downgrade the 1906 Games, with the prevailing explanation that the Games had been a 10th anniversary celebration.

The IOC does not recognise Athens 1906 as Olympic Games, and does not regard any events occurring there, such as the setting of new records or the winning of medals, as official. However, many historians take exception to this view as the next Games are always built on the successes of the last and many of the innovations of Athens were used again in London, eventually becoming Olympic tradition.

21 athletics events were held. The pentathlon event in the 1906 Games consisted of a standing long jump, discus throw (ancient style), javelin throw, 192m run, and a Greco-Roman wrestling match. A stone throw was held with a 6.4kg weight.

There were only two standing jump events in Athens, but Ray Ewry successfully defended his titles in both of them, bringing his total up to eight gold medals. In 1908 he would successfully defend them one last time for a total of 10 Olympic titles. Paul Pilgrim won both the 400 and 800m, a feat that was first repeated during Montreal 1976 by Alberto Juantorena.

The marathon distance was 41.775km. Canada's Billy Sherring had lived in Greece for two months to adjust to the local conditions and his efforts paid off as he unexpectedly won the marathon with Prince George accompanying him on the final lap.

Finland made its Olympic debut, and immediately won a gold medal, as Verner Järvinen won the discus (Greek style).

Peter O'Connor of Ireland won gold in the triple jump and silver in the long jump. In protest at being put on the British team, O'Connor scaled the flagpole and hoisted the Irish flag, while the pole was guarded by Irish and American athletes and supporters.

Martin Sheridan of the Irish American Athletic Club, competing for the USA team, won gold in the shot put and the discus as well as silver in the standing high jump, standing long jump

and stone throw. He scored the greatest number of points of any athlete at the Games. For his accomplishments he was presented with a ceremonial javelin by King Georgios I.

LONDON 1908 OLYMPIC GAMES

The selection process for the 1908 Olympic Games consisted of four bids, and saw Rome selected ahead of London, Berlin and Milan. The selection was made at the 6th IOC Session in London in 1904.

The Italian authorities were preparing for the Games when Mount Vesuvius erupted on 7 April 1906, devastating the city of Naples. Funds were diverted to the reconstruction of Naples, so a new venue was required. London was selected for the first time to hold the Games which were held at White City alongside the Franco-British Exhibition, at the time the more noteworthy event.

The stadium track was three laps to the mile (536 metres), not the current standard of 400m, with a pool for swimming and diving and platforms for wrestling and gymnastics in the middle.

The Games were surrounded by controversy. On the opening day, following the practice introduced at the Intercalated Games of 1906, teams paraded behind national flags. However, the arrangement caused several complications.



6. **POSTCARD OF THE 1908 OLYMPIC GAMES STADIUM.**
London, 1908.

Since Finland was part of the Russian Empire, members of the Finnish team were expected to march under the Russian rather than Finnish flag, so many chose to march without a flag at all. The Swedish flag had not been displayed above the stadium, so the members of the Swedish team decided not to take part in the ceremony.

The flag of the USA had also not been displayed above the stadium before the opening. The USA flag bearer, Ralph Rose, refused to dip the flag to King Edward VII in the royal box. However, the flag was later dipped in the collective greeting of the royal family. Martin Sheridan, Irish American Athletic Club member and American team captain, is apocryphally believed to have supported Rose by apparently explaining “This flag dips to no earthly king.”

It is claimed that his statement exemplified both American and Irish defiance of the British monarchy. However, research has shown that this quotation by Sheridan was first reported in 1952, some 24 years after his death.

At the time, tug-of-war was also part of athletics. The IOC now considers tug-of-war a separate sport.

John Taylor was a member of the USA's winning 200m-200m-400m-800m medley relay team, making him the first African-American athlete to win an Olympic gold medal. Times for the winning team were USA (3:29.4): William Hamilton-200m (22.0), Nathaniel Cartmell-200m (22.2), John Taylor-400m (49.8), and Melvin Sheppard-800m (1:55.4). Tragically, Taylor died on 2 December 1908, shortly after his return to the USA.

Marathon

The marathon has become the most famous discipline of the 1908 Olympic Games. It started from the East Terrace at Windsor Castle. According to some sources, the Princess of Wales had asked for the marathon to begin near the window of the royal nursery so that her children could watch it. But this was not true.

In fact, since the original planning, it had been hoped that the start for the marathon would be on the East Lawn near the private East Terrace of Windsor Castle, with the permission of King Edward VII, so that the public would not interfere with the start. This permission was granted.

**7. POSTCARD OF
DORANDO PIETRI
BREAKING THE
TAPE IN THE
MARATHON RACE.**
London, 1908.

**8. POSTCARD OF
DORANDO PIETRI
RECEIVING THE GOLD
CUP FROM QUEEN
ALEXANDRA.**
London, 1908.

**9. NEW-YORK
DAILY TRIBUNE.**
American athletes who
will meet rivals from
all over the world in
London. USA, 1908.
(Next page) ↓



AMERICAN ATHLETES WHO WILL MEET RIVALS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD IN LONDON NEXT MONTH

NOW THE OLYMPIAD.

American Athletes' Chances of Winning in London Rowed.

American teams, known and unknown will be expected against the world in the grand stadium at London on July 11 and on succeeding days in the greatest contest in the history of sports—the Olympiad of 1908. Thousands and thousands of brave athletes and bold athletes will crowd the immense arena, with their eyes fixed on the greater winners from all parts of the world who strain every muscle and nerve to win glory and honor. King Edward's interest in sports is well known, and he has the custom of his athletes meeting directly at hand.

These men, who are known by the title of men selected last week, will invade England with the best and largest body of athletes ever sent out by any country to capture the championship of the world. The success of the American team at Athens two years ago surprised even its most ardent supporters. The victory was their first and decisive. That team was not the best this country could produce. A new system of selection has been tried this year, and the Harvard program will be carried by the cream of this country's athletes. In the American team will be champions in nearly every event on the Olympic programme, and some of their best world's records as well.

There never before was a time when America could boast of such athletes as she has at present. Now almost every one, from the primary school-boy to the college man, is interested in athletics, and consequently rapid strides have been made in running, jumping and weight throwing. The Canadian, British and Australians have also improved, but naturally the fight for the title of the world will be keener than ever.

Everything will favor the English athletes. They will be on their home soil, Olympic conditions will be in their favor and they will escape a long and possibly rough ocean voyage and a week in which training will be carried on under great disadvantages. The American must meet and overcome all these handicaps.

Will America win the Olympic championship? Nearly every one who has followed local and high athletics at all places in this country will reply in the affirmative and immediately say "We can beat it." More than seventy-five men will compose the American team. They will come from all parts of the country—North, South, East and West. Nearly a dozen nationalities will be represented, as follows: France, the government school a Greek, German, plenty of Irish, a Swede, some French and Italian descendants and a negro. The majority of the team will be native born Americans. America's greatest athletes seem to be of Irish descent, and a glance at the names of the members will prove this. Here are a few of them: Phaulstin, Hurd, Madison, McInally, O'Connell, Morrison and Hayes. And nearly all of them will be joint winners.

At the head of the team will be the greatest physical trainer in this country. It is not the word "Mac" Morley who now handles the athletes of the University of Pennsylvania. He has spent a lifetime in this work and it is a wizard in developing and determining the ability of a runner or jumper. "Mike" as he is known, will have a big job attending to seventy-five high strong human thoroughbreds, but there is no man more capable of handling them to the mark in the point of condition than he.

Many of the members of the team are college



JOHN GARRELLS, Of Michigan, discus thrower, shot putler and hurdler.



JAMES A. RECTOR, Of University of Virginia, who has been credited with running 100 yards in 9 1/2 seconds, a world's record.



MARTIN SP... Of Irish American A. C. champion

men, both students and graduates. Some of the universities and colleges which will be represented are Pennsylvania, Yale, Princeton, Harvard, Cornell, Dartmouth, Michigan, Leland Stanford, Chicago, Illinois, Virginia and Swarthmore. Some of the college athletes have just completed their freshman year, while others are graduates of six years' standing.

Every man on the team is an amateur with not the slightest taint of professionalism. In selecting the men the first thing before the American Olympic committee was to determine whether or not the candidates were above all suspicion and could meet the high requirements demanded of all entrants. Every man on the team is a student for pure love of sport and the glory and health to be derived from it.

It is of interest to consider the ability and records of a few of the men. Every country will admit American sprinters are the best. In every contest requiring speed and agility our athletes are supreme. The two dashes—100 and 200 meters races—will undoubtedly be won by Americans. For these races see Larry N. J. Carmell, of the University of Pennsylvania; J. A. Hector, of the University of Virginia; Lawson Robertson, of the Irish-American Athletic Club, and several others. Every one of them can run the 100 yard dash, which is about nine yards shorter than the Olympic distance, in ten seconds or faster. Hector is credited with 9.2 seconds, with the aid of the wind. At the Olympic try-out at Philadelphia he equalled the world's record for the 100-meter dash. Carmell is the most consistent sprinter in the world, having won both dashes at the intercollegiate contests for three successive years.



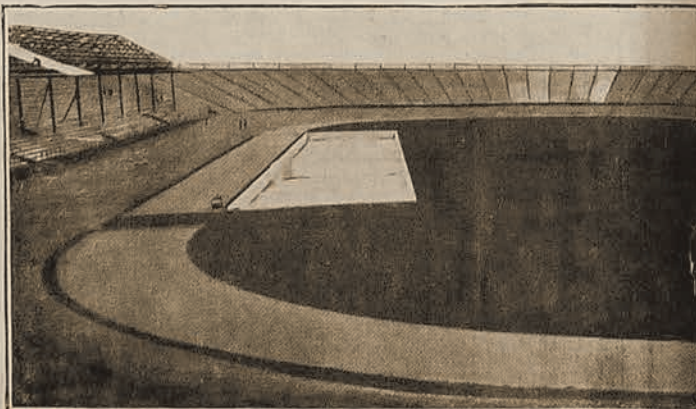
FOREST SMITHSON, Of Portland, Ore., one of America's greatest high hurdlers.



A. C. G... Of Yale, holder of record



M. W. SHEPPARD and GEORGE BONHAG, Of the Irish-American A. C. The former has beaten the Olympic record for 800 metres.



SCENE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES IN LONDON. It seats 58,000 persons and there is standing room for another 25,000. Its capacity

By
view
in the
stands
the city
pointed

COMPETE FOR HONORS AT ONE OF THE GREATEST CONTESTS EVER HELD IN THE HISTORY OF SPORTS.



EDAN, I-round athlete of America.



HARRY L. HILLMAN, Of New York A. C., 440-yard runner and hurdler.



RALPH ROSE, Of San Francisco, world's shot put record holder.

New York athletes think it is the best they have ever seen for the distance race. It is a competitor by itself, and against the conditions as a runner only a year ago. It is a heavy job, and will not show the few regulars until he competes in the stadium, for there is no one in the country who has been best in his field.

The Marathon race of twenty miles is the most exciting contest on the Olympic programme. A runner says he will run it in about three hours and a quarter, and will be well up at the finish with a good chance of carrying off the laurel wreath.

The twelve runners in the world who have been named for the world race. Three of those who will go to England have run in world's record time. They are A. G. Miles, of Dartmouth; John Gierke, of Michigan; and Fred C. Hutchinson, of Oregon. Those men should sleep the night. Charles Faxon and Harry Hillman, both New Yorkers, are the best and best placed in the other half of the 200 miles. America will send her total in the middle.

Ray C. Perry, of the New York Athletic Club, has been winning the amateur shot put, and jump at Olympic games longer than most of the members of the American team have been in athletics. There is no one who can approach his records. He will undoubtedly win two medals for America. In the running high jump we have two men who have cleared 5 feet 2 inches 2 1/2 inches. They are H. P. Torres, of the United American Athletic Club, and Tom Mallin, formerly of Pennsylvania. One of them should win in the stadium, but it is just possible America will finish second in this event.

One of our best broad jumpers is Frank Mount, a student at the University of California. He has a good record, as has E. T. Cook, of Cornell, and Tom Kelly, of the Irish-American Athletic Club, both of whom will accompany him on the trip.

America's weight throwers are in a class by themselves. Ralph Ross, a young Western giant, holds nearly all records with the shot. John Phelan, Mike McInerney and Martin Sheridan, all New York politicians, hold many records with the hammer and mallet. Two other great weight throwers are John Gierke and A. B. Lawrence, Jr. in the discus. Tom F. Talbot, of Cornell, in the hammer, three and W. E. Cox and W. Kraeger, in the shot put. It is entirely possible America will win every medal in the weight contests.

It will be a great surprise if America does not win the pole vault for she has A. C. Gilbert, of Yale, the world's record holder, and Walter Terry, his teammate, the former record holder. There are other men on the team who can vault twelve feet or higher.

There are several other contests on the Olympic programme in this country, the list of which, like this country, is familiar. For the swimming events, America will depend on F. M. Hancock, of the New York Athletic Club, the world's record holder.

CARE FOR A REPLY.

"Have you made any will just as I had you?" asked the old man, who was the possessor of many heavy papers and some real-estate but grapping them.

"I have," answered the lawyer.

"Just as strong and tight as you can make it," said the client.

"The law requires—"

"All right," said the old man. "Now I want to ask you one thing—no professional—who do you think made the best choice of writing the property that I am giving?"—Pick-Me-Up.



ERT, pole vault record.

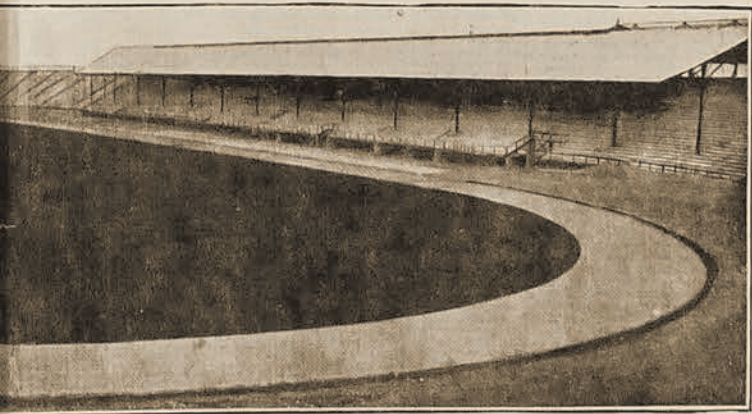


J. B. TAYLOR, Of University of Pennsylvania, champion quarter-mile runner.

America's greatest runner for the 400-metre race is a Negro—J. B. Taylor, of the University of Pennsylvania. He is a slow starter and early in the race always seems to be hopelessly beaten, but he finishes with a wonderful burst of speed and is rarely defeated. America should win this race. To help Taylor there will be "Jack" Atkes, of Princeton; J. E. Carpenter, of Cornell; M. A. Morrison, of Chicago; and three or four others if they are needed.

For the 800-metre race, which corresponds to our 500, we have probably the fastest man in the world at this distance. He is Melvin W. Sheppard, of the Irish-American Athletic Club, a young runner who has been breaking records since his school days, only a few years back. He seems to have no limit, and only a week ago he broke the Olympic record, for 500 metres. His team mates will give him able support, and the Stars and Stripes should fly after this race as they did at Athens two years ago.

When the 1,500-metre race is reached, we come to England's specialty. The British are the greatest distance runners in the world. They have wonderful power of endurance, and their building will carry them to victory in long contests. But America is now coming to the front and it would be no surprise to see the plucky Britons beaten at their own game. The year America will put her best on a good college runner from Cornell, who ran the distance in record breaking time last September. J. P. Hildner is now being hailed as the greatest mile runner this country has ever seen. In the parlance of the sport, he is "coming"; that is, he has not yet reached the height of his career on the other side, and is capable of still better work. A native of New Jersey, F. G. DeBarn, of the



EXT MONTH. THE LARGEST STADIUM IN THE WORLD. A large grassplot, a sinder track, a banked track for cycle racing, swimming tank, etc.



"MIKE" MURPHY, Student at University of Pennsylvania, who will look after the American team.

With the start now securely within the private grounds of Windsor Castle, the Princess of Wales and her children drove from their home at Frogmore on the far side of Windsor Great Park to watch the start of the race.

Shortly before the Games opened, it was realised that the Royal Entrance could not be used as the marathon entrance – it was raised to permit easy descent by the royal party from their carriages and did not open onto the track – so an alternative entrance was chosen, diagonally opposite the Royal Box.

A special path was made so that the distance from Windsor to the stadium remained ‘about 26 miles’. The finishing line was left unchanged but in order that more spectators would have a good view of the final yards, the direction of running was changed to ‘right-hand inside’ (i.e. clockwise). This meant the distance in the stadium was shortened to 385 yards (352m), and the total distance became officially ‘about 26 miles plus 385 yards on the track’. This distance became the origin of the modern marathon distance of ‘no less than 42.195 km’ and was considered official by the IAAF on May 1921.

According to the book *The Marathon Makers* by John Bryant, the first mile of the 1908 Olympic Marathon course was remeasured by London Marathon founder John Disley in the late 1990s and was found to be 174 yards (159 m) short.

The most famous incident of the Games came at the end of the marathon. The first

runner to enter the stadium, Italy’s Dorando Pietri, collapsed several times and ran the wrong way. Not far from the finish line, two of the officials, the clerk of the course Jack Andrew and Dr Michael Bulger of the Irish Amateur Athletic Association and the chief medical officer that day, went to his aid. Pietri eventually crossed the line in first place but the runner-up, USA’s Johnny Hayes of the Irish American Athletic Club protested, leading to Pietri’s disqualification. Since he had not been responsible for his disqualification, Queen Alexandra awarded him a gilded silver cup the next day.

The fact that the Great Britain competed as a single team was upsetting to some Irish competitors, who felt that Ireland should compete on its own, despite being part of the United Kingdom at the time. Fearing an Irish boycott, the authorities changed the name of the team to Great Britain / Ireland, and in two sports, field hockey and polo, Ireland participated as a separate country, winning silver medals in both.

Irish athletes in the USA were not affected by this controversy, and many Irish-born athletes competed for USA as members of the Irish American Athletic Club. Members of the Irish American Athletic Club won 10 of the USA team’s total 23 gold medals, or as many as the nations of France, Germany and Italy combined.

STOCKHOLM 1912 OLYMPIC GAMES

Stockholm was the only bid for the Games and was selected in 1909. Japan appeared for the first time, marking the first participation of an Asian country at an Olympic Games. Chile, Portugal and Serbia competed in the Olympic Games and specifically in athletics for the first time. Serbia's appearance was the only time it appeared at a Games as an independent nation until the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

The athletic events saw the introduction of an automatic timing system developed by R. Carlstedt. It involved attaching electromagnets to chronometres in a system which attached a control lamp to the starting gun for each race. This resulted in the firing of the gun starting a timer which was then stopped by one of the judges at the finishing line.

The final of the men's 100m was expected to be a mostly American affair, and it ended up with six athletes, only one of whom was not from the USA. It suffered from seven false starts before the athletes finally got away, with Ralph Craig winning the gold medal by 60cm in 10.8 in front of Alvah Meyer.

USA's Jim Thorpe won the pentathlon and the newly-created decathlon but his gold medals were stripped by the International Olympic Committee in 1913, after the IOC learned that Thorpe had taken expense money for playing baseball, violating Olympic amateurism rules, before the Games.

10. PEWTER SOUVENIR CUP.

Stockholm Olympic Games, 1912.



THE YOUTH'S COMPANION

NEW ENGLAND EDITION



Mark S. Wright, Dartmouth. World's Record in Pole Vault.



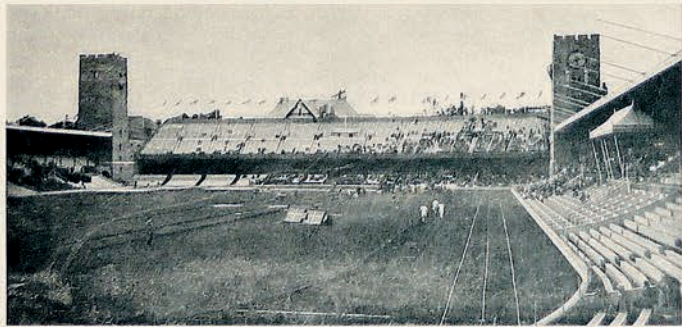
Albert Guterson, University of Vermont. Olympic Record Broad Jump, 24 ft. 11 in.



Andrew Sockalexis, of Oldtown, Maine. Marathon Runner.



Ralph W. Lewis, University of Michigan. Winner of 100 and 200 Meter Races.



THE OLYMPIC STADIUM AT STOCKHOLM

AND SOME AMERICAN CONTESTANTS

In 1982, the IOC was convinced that the disqualification had been improper as no protest against Thorpe's eligibility had been brought within the required 30 days and they reinstated Thorpe's medals. The replicas were presented to his children in 1983, 30 years after Thorpe's death.

Olympic records were set in the majority of athletics events, with only the men's 200m, 10km race walk, standing high jump, standing long jump, triple jump, and the hurdles events failing to have new records set.

Finland's Hannes Kolehmainen was the most successful in setting records at the Games, with Olympic records in the 5000, 10,000m and cross country race.

This was the last Olympics where private entries i.e. not part of a country's officially selected team, were allowed. Great Britain's Arnold Jackson was one such, winning the 1500m in 3:56.8.

It was the first time that the Olympic marathon was conducted as an out-and-back race. Unfortunately, the day of the event was very hot for Stockholm.

Most of the world top long-distance runners were present. The Americans entered 12 athletes, the maximum, including the Boston Marathon champions of 1911 (Clarence DeMar) and 1912 (Mike Ryan), two Indian runners (Lewis Tewanima, a Hopi; and Andrew Sockalexis, a Penobscot), and Joe Forshaw, who had run the Olympic marathon in 1906 and 1908, winning the bronze medal at London. The British entered eight runners, including Harry Barrett, who had won the 1909 Polytechnic Marathon, and the third to eighth-place finishers at the 1912 Polytechnic race.

The top two finishers from the 1912 Polytechnic Marathon were not British but both were also present in Stockholm. Canada's James Corkery had won the race, followed by South Africa's Chris Gitsham.



11. THE YOUTH'S COMPANION.

New England Edition Olympic Games. USA, 1912.

South Africa also entered Kenneth McArthur, who was little known outside of his native country, but between 1909 and 1911 he had won three marathon-distance races in South Africa and had never been defeated at 'marathon' races.

The South Africans Kennedy McArthur and Chris Gitsham finished one-two and the almost unknown American Gaston Strobino was third. Strobino retired and never raced again. The 1912 Olympic Games marathon also saw the Games first tragedy. Portuguese marathoner Francisco Lázaro died from the effects of the race and the hot weather.

In November 1911, Japan organised domestic qualifying trials for the 1912 Stockholm Olympics Games, although the length of the course was probably only 40km. Shizo Kanakuri was reported to have set a marathon world record at 2:32:45 and was thus selected as one of the only two athletes that Japan could afford to send to Stockholm.

Kanakuri had a rough 18-day trip to Stockholm, first by ship and then by train all through the Trans-Siberian Railway, and needed five days to recover for the race. Weakened by the long journey from Japan, and having problems with the local food, Kanakuri lost consciousness midway through the race, and was cared for by a farming family. Embarrassed from his 'failure', he silently returned to Japan without notifying race officials and Swedish authorities considered him missing for 50 years before discovering that he was living in Japan and had competed in subsequent Olympic marathons. In 1967, he was contacted by Swedish Television and offered the opportunity to complete his run. He accepted and

completed the marathon in 54 years, 8 months, 6 days, 5 hours, 32 minutes and 20.3 seconds, remarking, «It was a long trip. Along the way, I got married, had six children and 10 grandchildren.»

Despite this setback, Kanakuri was selected to participate in the 1916 Olympics Games, which were subsequently cancelled due to World War I. However, Kanakuri did compete in the 1920 Antwerp Olympics Games and finished the marathon 2:48:45.4 seconds and placed 16th. Kanakuri subsequently also participated in the 1924 Paris Olympic Games, where he failed to finish the race.

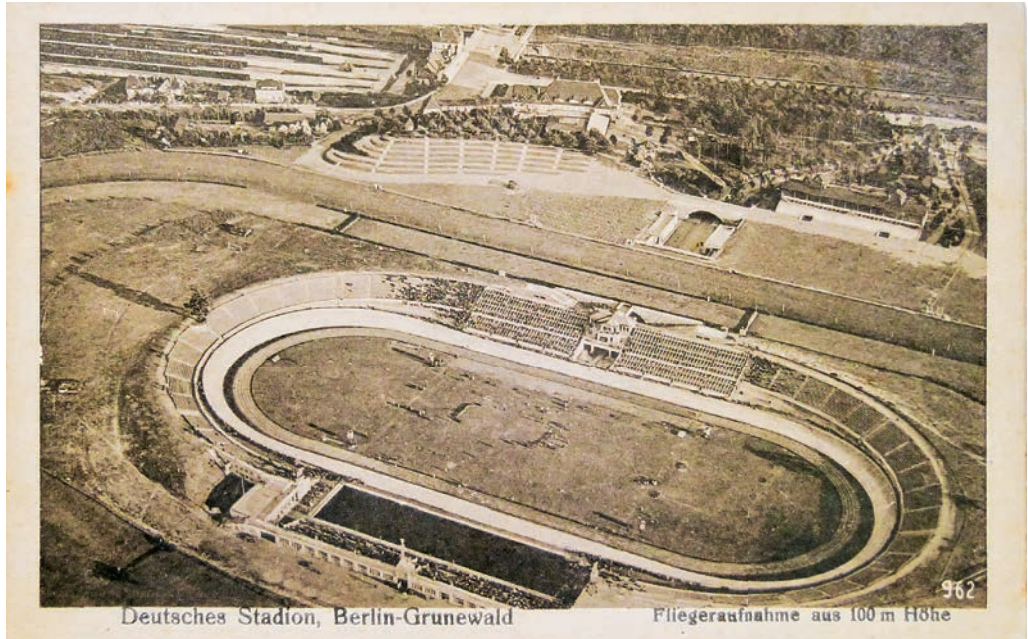
South Americans in Athletics

In Stockholm, six athletes from Chile took part.

BERLIN 1916 CANCELLED OLYMPIC GAMES

The 1916 Olympic Games were scheduled to be held in Berlin, Germany but were eventually cancelled due to the outbreak of World War I. Berlin was selected as the host city during the 14th IOC Session in Stockholm on 4 July 1912, defeating bids from Alexandria, Amsterdam, Brussels, Budapest and Cleveland.

The Deutsches Stadion (German Stadium) began to be built in 1912 at what was the Grunewald Race Course. On 8 June 1913, the stadium was dedicated with the release of 10,000 pigeons; 60,000 people were in attendance.



At the outbreak of World War I in 1914, organisation continued as no one expected that the war would continue for several more years. Eventually, though, the Games were cancelled.

The aftermath of the war and the Paris Peace Conference, 1919 affected the Olympic Games not only due to new states being created but also by sanctions against the nations that lost the war and were blamed for starting it. Hungary, Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman Empire were banned from competing in the Olympic Games. Germany did not return to Olympic competition until 1928 and instead hosted a series of games called Deutsche Kampfspiele.

**12. POSTCARD OF
THE DEUTSCHE
STADION.**
Berlin 1913.

At the 6th Olympic Congress in Paris in June 1914, with the international situation worsening, the alternate candidacies of Amsterdam, Antwerp, Budapest, and Rome were discussed. Despite a slight preference at the time for Budapest, no final choice was made, and the outbreak of World War I soon afterwards prevented any further progress.

In 1915, Lyon made a bid for the 1920 Games but after some discussion, they agreed to support Antwerp and postpone their bid until 1924 if Antwerp was liberated in time to organise the Games.

The support for Belgium by France, then the leading nation of the IOC, also meant that Amsterdam and Budapest, the latter now in an enemy state, had no chance for the 1920 Olympic Games against Antwerp.

New candidacies from US cities did not have that disadvantage and bids were received from Cleveland, Philadelphia, and Atlanta while Cuba also planned a bid for Havana. However, shortly after the armistice in November 1918, the IOC decided to give Antwerp the first option, if they still wanted to host the 1920 Olympic Games.

In March 1919, the Belgian Olympic Committee decided to go ahead with the organisation and on 5 April 1919, at a meeting in Lausanne, Antwerp was officially declared the host city for the 1920 Olympic Games.

ANTWERP 1920 OLYMPIC GAMES

A total of 29 nations participated in the Antwerp Games, only one more than in 1912, as Germany, Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire were not invited, having lost World War I.

From the newly created European states, only Estonia took part, while Czechoslovakia succeeding Bohemia, which had sent athletes prior to World War I as part of the Austrian teams.

Poland was busy with the Polish-Soviet War and therefore was unable to form an Olympic team. Soviet Russia was also not invited as part of its political embargo by the West. Argentina competed as a nation at the Olympic Games for the first time. New Zealand, which had competed as part of a combined team with Australia in 1908 and 1912, competed on its own for the first time.

Antwerp was the first Olympic Games in which the Olympic Oath was voiced, the first in which doves were released to symbolise peace, and the first in which the Olympic Flag was flown.

The highlight of the athletics events was the running of Paavo Nurmi of Finland, who won three of his nine career gold medals: in the 10,000m, the cross country individual race and the cross country team race. In the 5000m, he finished second to France's Joseph Guillemot.





VII^e Olympiade

-: ANVERS 1920 :-

PROGRAMME OFFICIEL



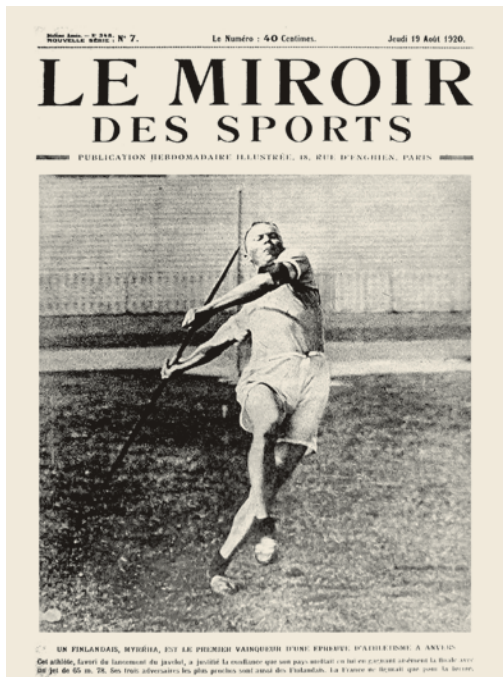
The Finnish team gave a historic performance, gaining nine gold medals in athletics, only one fewer than the USA, which had traditionally dominated the sport.

South America in the athletics competition

Two athletes from Chile took part in the Antwerp 1920 Olympic Games.

14. LE MIROIR DES SPORTS.

Paris, 1920.



15. LE PATRIOTE ILLUSTRÉ.

Belgium, 1920.



PARIS 1924 OLYMPIC GAMES

The selection process for the 1924 Olympic Games consisted of six bids, and Paris was selected ahead of Amsterdam, Barcelona, Los Angeles, Prague, and Rome. The selection was made at the 20th IOC Session in Lausanne in 1921.

A total of 40 nations were represented in the athletics at the Antwerp 1924 Olympic Games. Germany was still absent, having not been invited by the Organizing Committee but Ecuador, Haiti, Latvia and Poland were among the nations attended the Olympic Games for the first time and also competed in athletics while the Philippines competed for first time in an Olympic Games as a nation though it first participated in Paris 1900 Olympic Games. China also took part in the Opening Ceremony but its four athletes (all tennis players) withdrew from competition.

Pierre de Coubertin personally awarded 21 gold medals to members of the 1922 British Mount Everest Expedition that included 12 Britons, 7 Indians, 1 Australian and 1 Nepalese.

The Flying Finns dominated the distance events while the British and Americans dominated the shorter events.

Paavo Nurmi won the 1500m and 5000m (which were held with only an hour between them) and the cross country race. Ville Ritola won the 10,000m and the 3000m steeplechase, while finishing second to Nurmi in the 5000m and cross country. Albin Stenroos won the marathon, while the Finnish team (with Nurmi and Ritola) was victorious in the 3000m and cross country team events.



**16. LE MIROIR
DES SPORTS.**
Paris, 1924.

Le Petit Journal

HEBDOMADAIRE
61, rue Lafayette Paris

illustré

PRIX : 0 fr. 30
20 Juillet 1924



Aux Jeux Olympiques

Le Stade de Colombes vient d'enregistrer d'admirables performances. Parmi les plus sensationnelles, on compte le record olympique du saut en hauteur qui a été battu de 4 centimètres par l'Américain Osborn. Cet athlète, en effet, franchit 1 mètre 98 dans un style impeccable. Cependant, il ne faut pas dédaigner le bel effort de notre représentant, le Français Lewden. Bien qu'handicapé par sa petite taille, il parvint à franchir 1 mètre 95.

Cross country running **at the Olympic Games** was held only for men from 1912 to 1924. During its brief tenure as an Olympic event, it featured on the Olympic athletics programme. Medals were awarded on an individual race basis as well as a team points basis. The sport was dropped after 1924 Olympics, after a disastrous staging in Paris when most of the runners dropped out due to extreme heat and pollution.

Over its three appearances at the Olympics, Finnish runners dominated the event. Tying in with the emergence of the Flying Finns, Hannes Kolehmainen won the inaugural event in 1912 then Paavo Nurmi won the following two editions.

British runners Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell won the 100m and 400m events, respectively and their stories are famously depicted in the 1981 Oscar-winning movie *Chariots of Fire*. In addition, Douglas Lowe won the 800m.

The marathon distance was fixed at 42.195km (26.219 miles), from the distance run at the 1908 London Olympics Games.

Harold Osborn won gold medals and set Olympic records in both the high jump and the decathlon at the 1924 Olympics Games. His 1.98m high jump remained the Olympic record for 12 years, while his decathlon score of 7711 points also set a world record and resulted in worldwide press coverage calling him the «world's greatest athlete».

The Olympic motto *Citius, Altius, Fortius* (Faster, Higher, Stronger) was used for the first time at the Olympics. It had been used before by the Union des Sociétés Françaises de Sports Athlétiques, a French sporting federation whose founding members included Pierre de Coubertin. Coubertin took the motto from his friend Henri Didon, a Dominican priest who had coined during a speech before a Paris youth gathering of 1891.

Ireland was given formal recognition as an independent nation in the Olympic Movement in Paris in 1924, and it was at these Games that Ireland made its first appearance in an Olympic Games as an independent nation. These were the first Games to feature an Olympic Village.



South America in the athletics competition

In Paris, 10 athletes from Argentina, eight from Brazil and three from Chile took part.

“The first time an athlete of our (South American) region reached the podium of the Olympic Games was in Paris in 1924. It was at those Games remembered by the performance of Paavo Nurmi in the long-distance events or the achievements of the athletes soon immortalized in the movies Chariots of Fire. And in those same Games an Argentinian named Luis Brunetto, whose family came from Piedmont, Italy, made a toast to his country with the first Olympic medal when he took the place of vice-champion in the triple jump with 15.42 metres (15,425 according to measuring at that time).” (Luis Vinker).



18. POSTCARD OF THE BRAZILIAN ATHLETICS TEAM.

Paris Olympic Games, 1924.



19. POSTCARD OF THE ARGENTINIAN ATHLETICS TEAM.

Paris Olympic Games, 1924.

AMSTERDAM 1928 OLYMPIC GAMES

In 1919 the Netherlands Olympic Committee abandoned the proposal of Amsterdam as a host city in favour of their support of the nomination of Antwerp for the 1920 Olympic Games in 1921 but Paris was selected for the 1924 Summer Olympics Games on the condition that the 1928 Summer Olympics would be organised in Amsterdam.

This decision, supported by the Netherlands Olympic Committee, was announced by the International Olympic Committee on 2 June 1921. It was disputed by the USA but their request to allocate the 1928 Olympics to Los Angeles was without success in 1922 and again in 1923. Los Angeles was eventually selected as host city for the 1932 Summer Olympics.

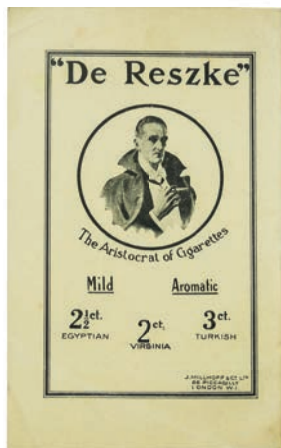
A total of 40 nations were represented in the athletics events at the Amsterdam 1928 Olympic Games including Germany, who returned after having been banned in 1920 and 1924.

For the first time, the parade of nations started with Greece and ended with the host country, a tradition which continues today.

Athletics events were held on a 400m track, which was later to become the standard for athletics tracks.

Paavo Nurmi of Finland won his ninth and final gold medal in the 10,000m while Canada's Percy Williams surprised everyone by winning both the 100m and 200m and Mikio Oda of Japan won the triple jump with 15.21m, becoming the first gold medallist from an Asian country.

Pat O'Callaghan won newly independent Ireland's first ever medal, taking gold in the hammer throw.



**20. AMSTERDAM
OLYMPIC GAMES**
Official brochure with
cigarette propaganda, 1928.



104. MARATHONLOOP - PLAZA DE CHILEEN ALS TWEEDE



21. POSTCARD OF MANUEL PLAZA ARRIVING AT THE STADIUM.

1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games.

These games were the first to bear the name “Summer Olympic Games”, to distinguish them from the Winter Olympics.

Women’s athletics and team gymnastics debuted at these Olympics. Halina Konopacka won the discus throw event, breaking her own world record and becoming the first Polish Olympic champion. After retiring from athletics, she became a writer and poet. Reports that the women’s 800m ended with several of the competitors being completely exhausted were widely (and erroneously) circulated. As a result, the IOC decided that women were too frail for long distance running, and women’s Olympic running events were limited to 200m until the 1960s.

South America in the athletics competition

In Amsterdam, seven athletes from Argentina and eight from Chile took part in the Olympic Games.

“The marathon runner who inaugurated the dynasty of great champions that have arisen in South America was a Chilean, Manuel de Jesus Plaza Reyes, born on March 19, 1902 in Villa de Lampa. After an excellent sixth place at the Paris Games, he won the silver medal in Amsterdam, a performance that transformed him into a hero in his country.” (Luis Vinker).

LOS ANGELES 1932 OLYMPIC GAMES

The selection of the host city for the 1932 Olympics Games was made at the 23rd IOC Session in Rome, Italy, in 1923. Remarkably, the selection process consisted of a single bid, from Los Angeles, and as there were no bids from any other city, Los Angeles was selected by default to host the 1932 Olympic Games.

The Games were organised during the worldwide Great Depression and many nations were unable to pay for the trip to Los Angeles.

A total of 34 nations were represented in athletics. Colombia made its first appearance at the Olympic Games, and China also competed in athletics for the first time.

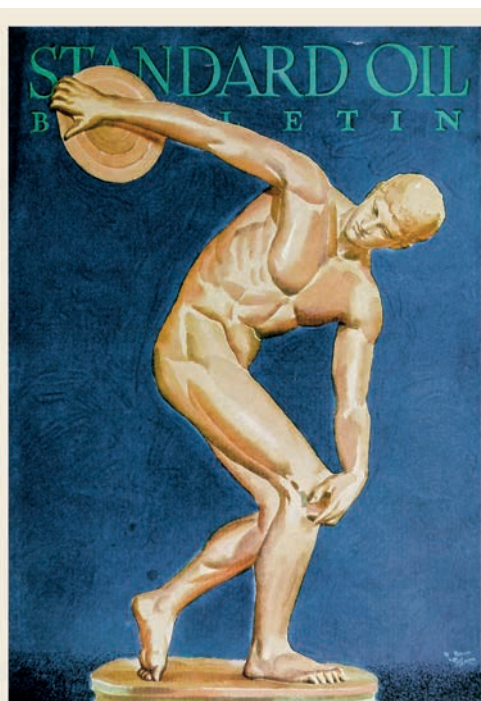
An Olympic Village was specifically built for the first time, in Baldwin Hills, occupied by the male competitors. Female competitors were housed at the Chapman Park Hotel on Wilshire Boulevard.

The victory podium was used for the first time. The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum was known in 1932 as the *Olympic Stadium*.

Babe Didrikson won two gold medals, in the javelin and the 80m hurdles. She also competed in a jump-off for a silver in the high jump but her technique in the jump-off was ruled illegal and she was judged to be 'diving', leaving Didrikson with second place.

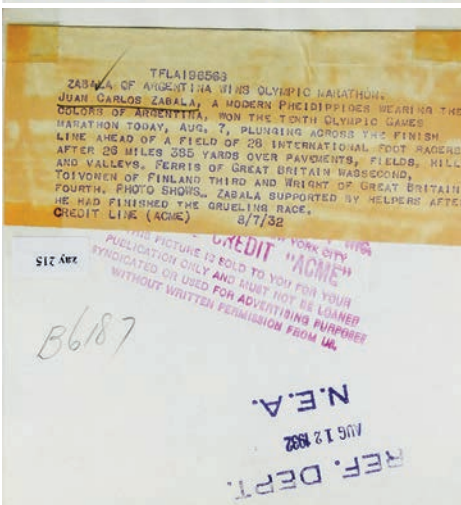
Poland's Stanisława Walasiewicz won the gold medal in the women's 100m; she would also

win the silver medal in the event four years later. After her death in 1980, it was discovered that she was actually intersex and would therefore have been ineligible to participate.



PUBLISHED BY THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA
JULY 1932

22. STANDARD OIL BROCHURE.
1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games.



The IAAF suspended Paavo Nurmi from international amateur athletics four months before the Games, pending an investigation into his amateur status. Less than three days before the 10,000m, the seven members of the council formed a special commission and rejected his entries.

USA's Eddie Tolan won both the 100m and 200m while, due to an official's error, the 3000 m steeplechase went for one extra lap and the runners covered 3460m.

South America in the athletics competition

In Los Angeles, 11 athletes from Argentina, 15 from Brazil and one from Colombia took part.

"When the athletes reached the stadium at the end of the marathon race, the difference between the Argentine Juan Carlos Zabala and Japanese Tsuda, fifth, was three minutes and in these positions, anything could happen. All showed signals of exhaustion. With his last effort, encouraged by his heart, Zabala kept a lead of 90m over British Ferris, who was coming closer, but he crossed the line in an Olympic record of 2h 31m 36s to then faint in the arms of his countrymen. Absolute glory. The next day, the column by Damon Runyon in the Los Angeles Examiner stated: "By his spirit, his heart, his strength, Juan Carlos Zabala, that little son of Argentina, was a true reincarnation of Pheidippides." (Luis Vinker).

**23. PHOTO OF JUAN CARLOS ZABALA
AFTER WINNING THE MARATHON.**
1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

BERLIN 1936 OLYMPIC GAMES

Berlin won the bid to host the 1936 Games over Barcelona on 26 April 1931 at the 29th IOC Session in Barcelona, two years before the Nazi government came to power. Many other cities around the world also wanted to host the Olympic Games for that year but, except for Barcelona, they did not receive any IOC votes.

The other cities competing to hold the Games were: Alexandria, Buenos Aires, Cologne, Dublin, Frankfurt, Helsinki, Lausanne, Nuremberg, Rio de Janeiro, Budapest and Rome.

Adolf Hitler saw the Games as an opportunity to promote his government and ideals of racial supremacy. The official Nazi party paper, the *Völkischer Beobachter*, wrote in the strongest terms that Jews and black people should not be allowed to participate in the Games.

However, when threatened with a boycott of the Games by other nations, he relented and allowed black people and Jews to participate. At the same time, the party removed signs stating, "Jews not wanted" and similar slogans from the city's main tourist attractions. In an attempt to 'clean up' Berlin, the German Ministry of the Interior authorised the chief of police to arrest all Romani (Gypsies) and keep them in a special camp, the Berlin-Marzahn concentration camp.

However, the German Olympic Committee, in accordance with Nazi directives, virtually barred Germans who were Jewish or had such

an ancestry from participating in the Games. (Helene Mayer, who had one Jewish parent, was the only Jew to compete for Germany at the Games.) This decision meant exclusion for many of the country's top athletes such as shot putter and discus thrower Lilli Henoch, who was a four-time world record holder and ten-time German national champion, and Gretel Bergmann who was dropped from the German team just days after she set a national record of 1.60m in the high jump.

After the Olympics, Jewish participation in German sports was further limited, and persecution of Jews started to become ever more pronounced.

Boycott debate

In the USA, those involved in the debate over whether to boycott the Olympics included Ernest Lee Jahncke, Judge Jeremiah Mahoney, and future IOC President Avery Brundage. Some within the USA considered requesting a boycott of the Games, as to participate might be considered a sign of support for the Nazi regime and its anti-Semitic policies. However, others such as Brundage argued that the Olympic Games should not reflect political views, but rather should be strictly a contest of the greatest athletes.

Avery Brundage, then of the USA Olympic Committee, opposed the boycott, stating that Jewish athletes were being treated fairly and that the Games should continue. Brundage asserted that politics played no role in sports.



**24. POSTCARD OF THE 12TH
SERIES OF THE 100M EVENT.**

Jesse Owens (1st) and the
Brazilian José Xavier de Almeida
(3rd). 1936 Berlin Olympic
Games.

Brundage also believed that there was a 'Jewish-Communist conspiracy' that existed to keep the USA from competing in the Olympic Games. On the subject of Jewish discrimination, he stated, "The very foundation of the modern Olympic revival will be undermined if individual countries are allowed to restrict participation by reason of class, creed, or race."

During a fact-finding trip to Germany in 1934 to ascertain whether German Jews were being treated fairly, Brundage found no discrimination when he interviewed Jews and his Nazi handlers translated for him, and Brundage commiserated with his hosts that he belonged to a sports club in Chicago that did not allow Jews entry, either.

Unlike Brundage, Jeremiah Mahoney supported a boycott of the Games. Mahoney, the president of the Amateur Athletic Union, led newspaper editors and anti-Nazi groups to protest against American participation in the Berlin 1936 Olympics Games. He contested that racial discrimination was a violation of Olympic rules and that participation in the Games was tantamount to support for the Third Reich.

Most African-American newspapers supported participation in the Olympics. The Philadelphia Tribune and the Chicago Defender both agreed that black victories would undermine Nazi views of Aryan supremacy and spark renewed African-American pride.

American Jewish organisations, meanwhile, largely opposed participation in the Olympics Games. The American Jewish Congress and the Jewish Labor Committee staged rallies and supported the boycott of German goods to show their disdain for American participation. The JLC organised the World Labor Athletic Carnival, held on 15-16 August at New York's Randall's Island, to protest the holding of the 1936 Olympics in Nazi Germany.

Eventually, Brundage won the debate, convincing the Amateur Athletic Union to vote in favour of sending a team to the Berlin Olympics. Mahoney's efforts to incite a boycott of the Olympic Games in the USA failed.

US President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his administration did not become involved in the debate due to a tradition of allowing the US

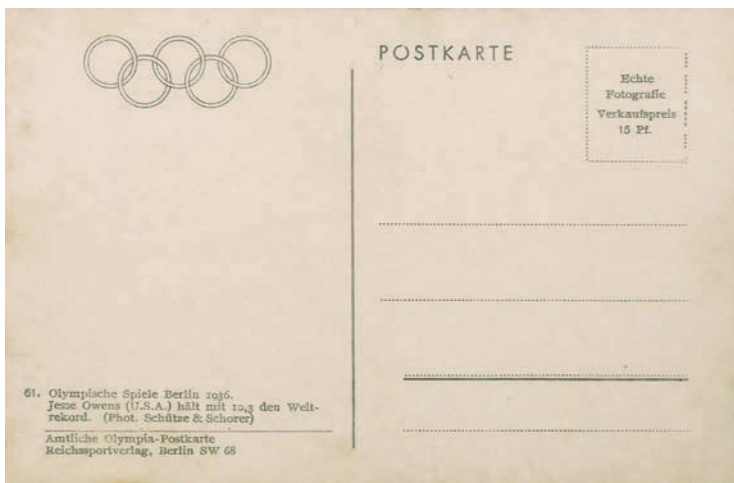
Olympic Committee to operate independently of government influence. However, several American diplomats including William E. Dodd, the American ambassador to Berlin, and George Messersmith, head of the US legation in Vienna, deplored the US Olympic Committee's decision to participate in the games.

The Games were the first to be televised, and radio broadcasts reached 41 countries. Filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl was commissioned by the German Olympic Committee to film the Games. Her film, titled *Olympia*, pioneered many of the techniques now common in the filming of sports.

The 1936 Summer Olympics torch relay was the first of its kind, following on from the reintroduction of the Olympic Flame at the 1928 Games. It pioneered the modern convention of moving the flame via a relay system from Greece to the Olympic venue.

Jesse Owens Affair

Author Jeremy Schaap wrote in the book *Triumph: The Untold Story of Jesse Owens and Hitler's Olympics* that Owens was led by an Olympic official from the field into the grandstand, and it seemed for a moment that, unlike Cornelius Johnson, he might be introduced to the Fuhrer. Journalist Paul Gallico wrote, "and in charge of an official, he was steered towards the box of Chancellor Hitler in which was also seated Herr (Paul) Streicher, Germany's number one hater " (of the Jews and foreign races).



“The writers stood up from their seats to get a better view of the meeting that they thought was about to take place. “However,” Gallico wrote, minutes after sitting back down at his typewriter, “Owens was merely led below the honor box where he smiled and bowed, and Herr Hitler gave him a friendly little Nazi salute; the sitting down one with the arm bent.”

While it's true that Hitler did not publicly congratulate Owens, there is disagreement over defining this moment as a snub. In an interview with NPR, Schaap explained that Hitler, who congratulated several Olympians on the first day of Olympics, failed to congratulate African-American gold medallist Cornelius Johnson as he had left the stadium.

He was then told he had to congratulate all the winners or none of them, and he opted for the latter.

NPR Interviewer: “There is a story that many people tell, and it's a different story, about how after winning his gold medals, Jesse Owens was snubbed by Adolf Hitler. Is it true?”

Mr Schaap: “It's not true. You could say that Adolf Hitler could have found a way to congratulate Jesse Owens, to acknowledge the fact that he was dominating these Olympics Games. But what happened is much more nuanced, like most of the myths that have risen up from those Games. What happens, and I'll try to be succinct, on the first day of Games, two Germans win gold medals. Hitler

congratulates them in his box in front of everyone, 110,000 people in the stadium. He also congratulates the Finns who finished one, two, three in the 10,000m, who look more blond and Aryan than the Germans, in fact.

“By the time Jesse's teammate, the African-America high jumper Cornelius Johnson, wins the gold medal that night, Hitler has left the stadium. If anyone had the right to say he was snubbed, it was Cornelius Johnson. Although the Germans say Hitler was strictly adhering to his schedule, that he had to leave the stadium. And in fact, the high jump competition did run long. But the head of the International Olympics Committee is so upset by the implication that perhaps Hitler had snubbed Cornelius Johnson that he tells Hitler, look, you've either got to congratulate everyone or no one.

“And by the time Jesse Owens wins his first gold medal the next day, Hitler is honoring his pledge, believe it or not, to the head of the International Olympic Committee. This is at a time when Hitler is eager to make friends with as many people as possible. And he is actually compelled officially from congratulating Jesse Owens. And Jesse Owens tells everyone who will listen, look, Adolf Hitler did not snub me. But nobody wanted to hear that story. And the story proved remarkably durable and persists to this day.

Yet there is no doubt at all about the hurt inflicted on Owens by the neglect of US President Franklin D Roosevelt.”



25. POSTCARD OF JESSE OWENS.

Long Jump event at the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games.

Owens received no telegram of congratulations for his record-breaking haul of medals. On his return, there was no invitation to the White House to shake hands with the President. That honour was reserved for white Olympians.

Owens won four gold medals in the 100m, 200m, long jump and 4x100m. His German competitor Luz Long offered Owens advice after he almost failed to qualify in the long jump and was posthumously awarded the Pierre de Coubertin medal for sportsmanship.

In one of the most dramatic 800m races in history, USA's John Woodruff won gold after slowing to jogging speed in the middle of the final in order to free himself from being boxed in. Jack Lovelock of New Zealand won the 1500m gold medal, coming through a strong field to win in world record time of 3:47.8.

Another remarkable story from the athletics competition was the gold medal won by the US women's 4x100m team. The German team were the heavy favourites but dropped the baton. Of notable interest on the US team was Betty Robinson. She was the first woman ever awarded an Olympic gold medal for athletics, winning the women's 100 m event at the 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam. In 1931, Robinson was involved in a plane crash, and was severely injured. Her body was discovered in the wreckage and it was wrongly thought that she was dead. She was placed in the trunk of a car and taken to an undertaker, where it was discovered that she was not dead, but in a coma. She awoke from the coma seven months

later, although it was another six months before she could get out of a wheelchair, and two years before she could walk normally again. Due to the length of her recovery, she had to miss participating in the Los Angeles 1932 Olympic Games in her home country.

Strangely, the US sprinters Sam Stoller and Marty Glickman, the only two Jews on the USA team, were pulled from the 4x100m team on the day of the competition, leading to speculation that US Olympic Committee leader Brundage did not want to add to Hitler's embarrassment by having two Jews win gold medals.

French Olympians gave a Roman salute at the opening ceremony: known as the *salut de Joinville* per the Bataillon de Joinville, the Olympic salute was part of the Olympic traditions since the 1924 games. However, due to the different context this action was mistaken by the crowd for a support to fascism (the Olympic salute was discarded after 1946).

The marathon – Korean athletes

The Korean Sohn Kee-chung, competing for Japan, won the marathon gold medal at the Berlin 1936 Olympics Games, winning in 2:29:19.2 and breaking the Olympic record. His Korean teammate Nam Sung-yong took the bronze medal.

As Korea was under Japanese occupation at the time, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) officially credited Japan with Sohn's gold

and Nam's bronze in the 1936 Olympics medal count. (Sohn Kee-chung competed using the name of Son Kitei and Nam Sung-yong, the name of Nan Shoryu.)

Sohn spent the remainder of his career in South Korea coaching other notable runners such as Suh Yun-Bok and Ham Kee-Yong, the winners of the Boston Marathon in 1947 and 1950 and Hwang Young-Cho, who was the gold medallist of the Barcelona 1992 Olympics Games marathon, and whom Sohn Kee-chung especially went to Barcelona to see. At 1988 Seoul Olympic Games, he was given the honour of carrying the Olympic torch into the stadium at the opening ceremony.

On December 9, 2011, the IOC recognised Sohn's Korean nationality in his official profile. It cited his efforts to sign his Korean name and stressing Korea's status as a separate nation during interviews. The move was part of the Korean Olympic Committee's repeated requests to acknowledge Sohn's background. However, the IOC ruled out changing the nationality and registered name per official records to prevent historical distortions.

South America in the athletics competition

In Berlin, eight athletes from Argentina, 10 from Brazil, nine from Chile, five from Colombia and nine from Peru took part.

BARCELONA 1936 PEOPLE'S OLYMPIAD

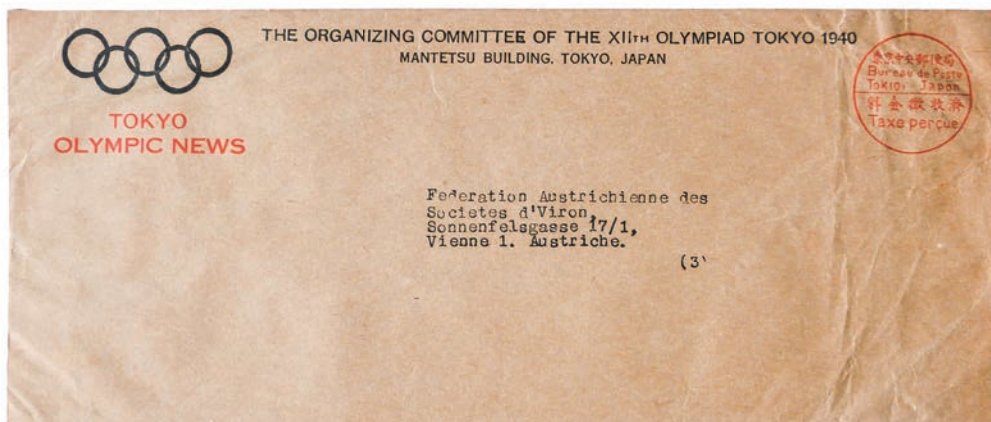
The Spanish government led by the newly elected left-wing Popular Front boycotted the Berlin 1936 Olympic Games and organised the People's Olympiad as a parallel event in Barcelona. Some 6000 athletes from 49 countries registered. However, the People's Olympiad was aborted because of the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War just one day before the event was due to start, just as thousands of athletes had begun to arrive.



26. VIGNETTE OF THE
ARGENTINA OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE.
1936 Berlin Olympic Games.



27. PIN OF THE BARCELONA.
1936 People's Olympiad.



**28. OFFICIAL ENVELOPE OF
THE 1940 TOKYO OLYMPIC
GAMES ORGANIZING
COMMITTEE.**

TOKYO 1940 CANCELLED OLYMPIC GAMES

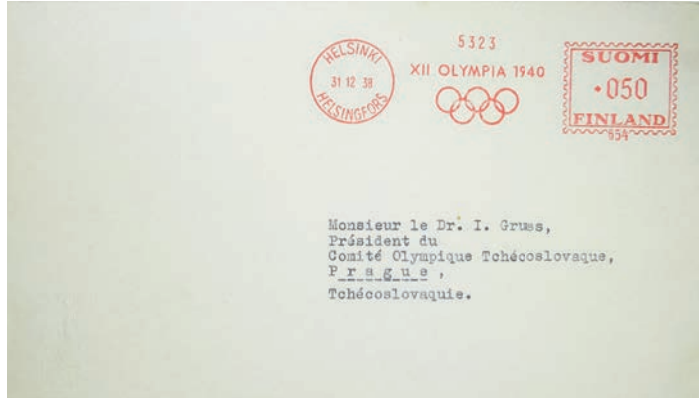
The campaign to choose a city for 1940 began in 1932 with Barcelona, Rome, Helsinki, and Tokyo participating. In 1936, Tokyo was chosen, making it the first non-Western city to win an Olympic bid.

When the Second Sino-Japanese War broke out on 7 July 1937, Kono Ichiro, a member of the Diet (Japan's legislature), immediately requested that the Olympics be forfeited. The 1938 Far Eastern Games were also cancelled but Japan's IOC delegates persisted under a belief that the war would soon be over. Amid the intensification of the war, the feasibility of Games grew increasingly questionable to other countries, who suggested a different site be chosen.

On 16 July 1938 it was announced the forfeiture of the Olympic games in Tokyo.

HELSINKI 1940 CANCELLED OLYMPIC GAMES

The IOC then awarded the 1940 Games to Helsinki, Finland, the city that had been the runner-up in the original bidding process. The Olympic Games were suspended indefinitely following the outbreak of World War II and did not resume until the 1948 London Olympic Games.



29. OFFICIAL CANCELLATION
ON COVER OF THE 1940 HELSINKI OLYMPIC GAMES.



30. COLOR PROOFS OF THE 1940
HELSINKI OLYMPIC GAMES
STAMPS.(never issued).

31. BULLETIN IN
SPANISH.
1940 Helsinki
Olympic Games.





**32. STAMPS ISSUED TO
CELEBRATE THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE IOC.**
Switzerland, 1944.

LONDON 1944 CANCELLED OLYMPIC GAMES

The 1944 Olympic Games were cancelled due to World War II. It would have been held in London, United Kingdom, which won the bid on the first ballot in a June 1939 election at the 38th IOC Session in London in 1939.

London won from Rome, Detroit, Lausanne, Athens, Budapest, Helsinki and Montreal; because of the cancellation, London went on to host the 1948 Summer Olympics.

The Olympic Movement remembered in the Polish prisoner of war camps of 1944 ¹

by Sherwin Podolsky

The XIIIth Olympiad was not celebrated by any candidate city elected by the International Olympic Committee. But it was celebrated by two Polish Prisoner of War Camps in Germany in the summer of 1944. D-Day, 6 June 1944 opened a new battle front against Hitler in northern France. His armies were being pushed back in Italy and Eastern Europe. Yet these two prisoners of war camps celebrated the Olympic ideals with a sport programme and cultural events.

The Olympic Movement was also celebrated in the City of Lausanne in June and July 1944. Sponsored by the IOC and the Swiss Olympic Committee, that programme honored the 50th anniversary of the International Olympic Committee and included sports and cultural events. Apparently neither the Polish prisoners nor the Swiss knew, about the other's activities.

¹ PODOLSKY, Sherwin. **The Olympic Movement Remembered in the Polish Prisoner of War Camps of 1944.** *Citius, Altius, Fortius* (renamed the Journal of Olympic History in 1997), v. 3, p. 13-15, 1995.

The Olympic Jubilee celebrated in Switzerland was spread over 16 June through 3 July 1944 and was also commemorated by three postage stamps. The widow, Baroness de Coubertin, was an honored guest at the celebration. Swiss athletes performed and competed at the various events. Interned soldiers from other countries were allowed to attend events.

It is perhaps the remembrance of the Olympic ideals in the Prisoner of War Camps in Germany that is a most dramatic, obscure and poignant chapter in Olympic history. Postage stamps and postal history created by these camps have spread the story that would otherwise be buried.

The two camps that celebrated the Olympic Games in 1944 were at Gross Born and Woldenberg in eastern Germany. The camps were among several constructed for Polish prisoners after the defeat of Poland in the German Blitzkrieg on September 1, 1939 that opened World War II. The dates of the operation were: Woldenberg 12 May 1942 to 25 January 1942 and Gross Born 3 December 1943 to 28 January 1945.

Olympic Games were celebrated in each camp as follows: Woldenberg 23 July to 13 August 1944 and Gross Born 30 July to 15 August 1944.

Let us now examine the structure and organisation of the permanent prisoner of war camps in Germany. An understanding of the conditions will lead us to a better appreciation of how the Olympic ideals functioned in that environment.

There were three types of camps:

1. Soldiers camps (Stalags). The most numerous and largest of all the permanent camps. Used for slave labor, extermination and special projects;
2. Officers camps (Oflag) – Primarily for the Polish officers.
3. Internment camps (Ilag);

In addition, there were Sonderlags (punishment camps), Hulags (labor camps), and Heilags (POWs marked for freedom or exchange). Nationals tended to have their own barracks. The policy of assigning by nationality led to overcrowding and relocating the prisoners.

The Oflags developed organisations to establish an increasing number of social, professional and cultural activities to fill the aimless months of prison time. The intense communal life led to the organisation of an internal postal system in the larger camps. However, correspondence from one POW camp to another was strictly forbidden.

The Intercamp Postal Service was sponsored by the Widow's and Orphans' Fund. All profits went to the Fund and the monies were channeled secretly to the Polish Underground.

THE WOLDENBERG CAMP

The first POW camp to introduce a local camp post was Oflag IIC Woldenberg, built close to the town of the same name located on the German side of the 1939 German-Polish border.

33. CANCELLED STAMPS.

Issued for the 1944 Gross Born Concentration Camp Games.



The Woldenberg Camp numbered about 7,000 prisoners of war, of whom more than 6,000 were Polish officers. The camp consisted of more than 50 barracks, a score of administration and service buildings, and meeting halls, spread over 60 acres. It was the largest Polish POW camp in Germany and almost a town by itself.

Though there were professional postal employees and philatelists among the prisoners, the first postage stamps were issued through the efforts of the rank-and-file prisoners who mainly wanted to improve daily living conditions.

With the permission of the Camp Commandant, the Woldenberg POWs held their own Olympic Games from 23 July 1944 to 13 August 1944.

A colorful programme was prepared. It shows three stamps essays, designs never issued. The cover of the folded programme depicts a crowned athlete. On the front and inside of the programme is the calendar of events and

names of competing teams. The programme was folded into thirds.

On the last day of the Games and at the conclusion of the Olympic program, the Woldenberg Camp Post Office released its Olympic Games 10 fen stamp. It shows a runner breaking the tape at the finish line. The stamp was designed and engraved on pear wood by 2nd Lt. Edmond Czarniecki. The stamp was printed in red, imperforate and without gum, on white smooth Swedish paper donated by the International YMCA. There were 17,580 copies made. The Federated Military Sports Club issued an embossed sheetlet with the Olympic symbol and six banners representing the six clubs of the Federation – Kresy, Orle, Warta, Lwow, Skra and Wabel. The embossed sheetlets were produced by impressing the hand-engraved block onto a dampened sheet of paper. The postage stamps were then affixed and cancelled.

All mail processed on the closing day of the 21-day POW Olympiad, 13 August 1944, received a special cancellation. It was designed by Tadeusz Plonczak and engraved on rubber by Roman Wiczorkiewicz. The date slot was permanent and all cancels have the same date. The design included the Olympic rings on a banner, four bombers flying over the mast, and tanks.

Another variety consisted of stampless postcards illustrated with a special cachet engraved on wood. The cachet exists in the five Olympic colors: red, blue, yellow, green and black. However, shades exist because of the varying quantities of available inks. The green color is the most common and the black, the rarest.

An admission/invitation card was required to enter the special grandstands. They were produced by a rubber stamp and showed the five rings and laurel wreath with a torch.

At the conclusion of the printing of the stamps, the die cliché was defaced with a vertical cut. One-hundred examples were printed in black and distributed.

The Olympic stamps were valid until 31 October 1944. On 25 January 1945, the Woldenberg camp was evacuated, in advance of the Soviet forces. The prisoners were forced on a death march of 487 miles (784 km.) through various towns. Much of the philatelic material was lost. The 300 remaining prisoners were liberated by the American Army at Murnau on 29 April 1945.

34. WOLDENBERG CONCENTRATION CAMP GAMES.

Olympic cancellation on stamps issued, 1944.





**35. MEDAL AWARDED TO THE
WINNERS OF THE GROSS BORN
CONCENTRATION CAMP GAMES.**

THE GROSS BORN CAMP

At Oflag IID, Gross Born, three Olympic stamps were issued on 30 July 1944.

A second printing was issued a few days later and can be distinguished by color shades for the low values and paper thickness for the high value. Details are as follows:

10 fen	Indian red	5,135 copied printed
20 fen	Olive-brown	5,235 copies printed
50 fen	Green	4,702 copies printed

The stamps were perforated with a watch wheel and engraved by Włodzimierz Zieleniewski.

A 10 fen imprinted postcard was issued on 30 July 1944 in an edition of 3,025 cards. Shades and sizes of the cards exist. A souvenir sheet with the three Olympic stamps in changed colors was issued only on 14 August 1944 and only at the philatelic exhibition. Nearly all the souvenir sheets were cancelled with the double ring exhibition canceller. In the center of the canceller is a posthorn with a number, representing the day of the exhibition. The exhibition lasted four days: 12-15 August 1944. The souvenir sheet with this cancel would bear the exhibition canceller containing the number "3."

The souvenir sheet sold for 1 lagermark above the face value. The surcharge went to the Camp Fund. The souvenir sheet was issued un gummed, perforated 16 by a watch wheel and measures 143 x 90 mm. 1,155 copies were issued.

There was also an Olympic pictorial postmark. It shows the Olympic rings and dates of the Games on a banner. This Olympic postmark was a fixed design with no date slugs and was used for the duration of the Games.

The Olympic Committee solved a major problem of creating awards to the winners of the Games. Embossed, uncolored paper medals were made. The embossing was accomplished by impressing a wood engraving against a dampened sheet of paper. The design featured the head of an ancient Olympic champion crowned with laurel leaves and encircled with the inscription: Olympiada Obozu IID 1944 and the Olympic symbol of five interlocking rings.

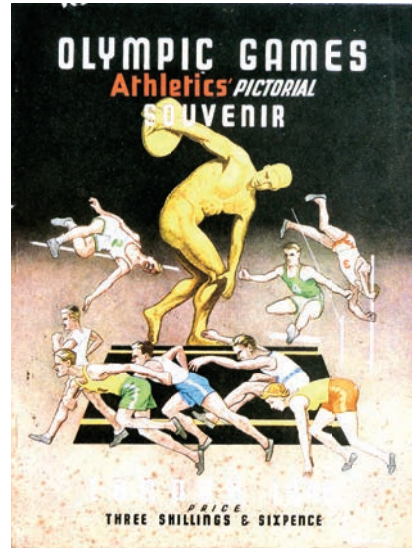
The stamps and souvenir sheets were valid until 28 January 1945, when the camp was evacuated due to the advancing Soviet armies. The evacuation march of the Gross Born Camp ended up at Sandbostel, after nearly 400 miles. Although the postal employees tried to carry their equipment and supplies with them, much of it was lost.

LONDON 1948 OLYMPIC GAMES

In June 1939, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) awarded the 1944 Olympic Games to London. World War II stopped the plans and the Games were cancelled so London again stood as a candidate for 1948.

In March 1946 the IOC, through a postal vote, gave the Games to London. The city was selected ahead of Baltimore, Minneapolis, Lausanne, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia.

Great Britain almost handed the 1948 Games to the USA due to post-war financial and rationing problems, but King George VI said that this could be the chance to restore Britain after World War II. The official report of the London 1948 Olympic Games shows that there was no case of London being pressed to run the Games against its will.



**36. ATHLETICS
SOUVENIR BROCHURE.**
1948 London Olympic Games.

A record 59 nations were represented. It was the first time that the Philippines, India and Pakistan competed as independent nations at the Olympic Games. Germany and Japan, both under Allied military occupations, were not allowed to send athletes to the Games. Italy, although originally an Axis power, defected to the Allies in 1943 following Benito Mussolini being deposed, and was allowed to send athletes. The Soviet Union was invited but they chose not to send any athletes.

Olympic pictograms were introduced for the first time. There were 20 of them—one for each Olympic sport and three separate pictograms for the arts competition, the opening ceremony and the closing ceremony. They were called ‘Olympic symbols’ and intended for use on tickets. The background of each pictogram resembled an escutcheon. Olympic pictograms appeared again 16 years later and were used at all subsequent Summer Olympics.

At the time of the Games, food, petrol and building were still subject to the rationing imposed during the war in Britain; because of this the London 1948 Olympics Games came to be known as the ‘Austerity Games’.

Athletes were given the same increased rations as dockers and miners, 5,467 calories a day instead of the normal 2,600. Building an Olympic Village was deemed too expensive, and athletes were housed in existing accommodation. Male competitors stayed at RAF camps in Uxbridge and

West Drayton, and an Army camp in Richmond; female competitors in London colleges.

The Games were the last to include an arts competition (in sports-related architecture, literature, music, painting and sculpture categories), which took place at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Wembley stadium was the venue for the 33 athletics events at the Games: 24 for men and nine for women. Of these, four were making their Olympic debut: the men’s 10km walk, the women’s 200 m, long jump and shot put.

A total of 754 athletes from 53 countries participated in athletics. Fanny Blankers-Koen of the Netherlands, a 30-year-old mother of two children nicknamed ‘The Flying Housewife’, won four gold medals, in the 100m, 200m, 80m hurdles, and 4x100m. As world record holder in the long jump and high jump Blankers-Koen may have been able to win further medals but, at this time, female athletes were limited to three individual events.

Arthur Wint became the first Jamaican to win an Olympic gold medal, in the 400m; he also won silver in the 800m. High jumper Alice Coachman became the first black woman and the first African American woman to win a gold medal in Olympic athletics with a jump of 1.68 m. She also was the only American woman to win an athletics gold medal during the 1948 Olympics.

The decathlon was won by 17-year-old Bob Mathias of the USA. He is still the youngest ever Olympic gold medallist in athletics.

London was the first Olympics to have a political defection. Marie Provazníková, the 57-year-old Czechoslovakian President of the International Gymnastics Federation, refused to return home, citing “lack of freedom” after the Czech coup in February led to the country’s inclusion in the Soviet Bloc.

South America in the athletics competition

In London, 24 athletes from Argentina, 12 from Brazil, 13 from Chile, two from Guyana, one from Colombia, one from Panama, one from Peru and five from Uruguay took part.

The marathon saw a dramatic finish with the first man to enter the stadium, Etienne Gailly of Belgium, exhausted and nearly unable to run. Argentina’s Delfo Cabrera and Tom Richards of Great Britain passed him, with Cabrera winning the gold medal and Richards the silver while Gailly managed to recover enough to cross the line for the bronze.

Argentina’s Noemi Simoetto De Portela was 22 years old, she got the silver medal in long jump in London, with 5.60m. She was the first South American woman to win an Olympic medal in athletics.



NAOMI SIMONETTO.
Long Jump silver medallist.
1948 London Olympic Games.

Número extraordinario: \$ 0,60

CAMPEONES 1948



DELFO CABRERA

Vencedor de la carrera de maratón
en los Juegos Olímpicos de Londres

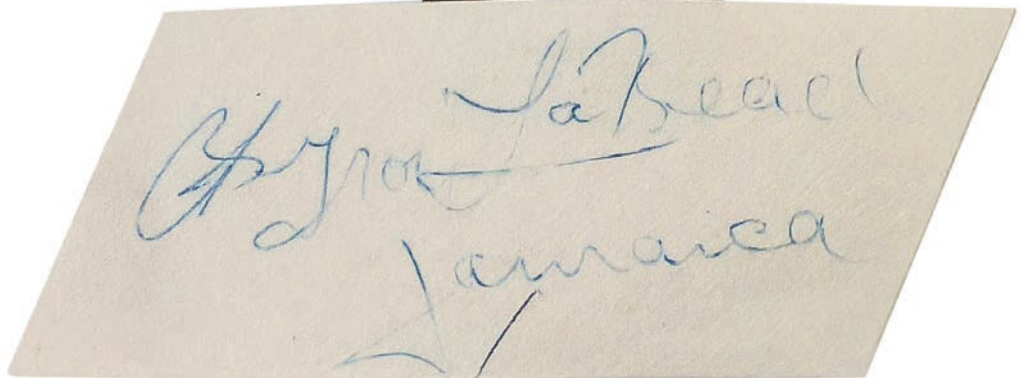
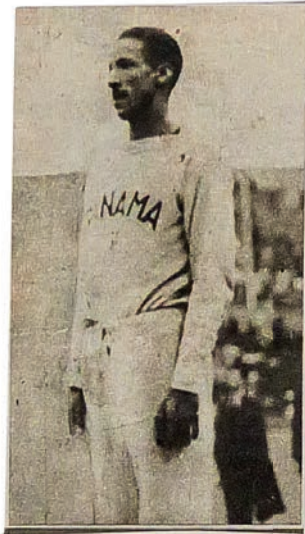


El Gráfico

Lloyd Barrington La Beach

By Luis Vinker

Lloyd Barrington La Beach was the son of Jamaican immigrants who settled down in the Panamanian capital at the time of the construction of the canal. Lloyd was born there on 28 June 1922. The two medals won by La Beach in London (bronze in 100m and 200m) also earned him honours in his native Panama, which granted him the order of Vasco Núñez de Balboa.



37. REVISTA "EL GRÁFICO".

Delfo Cabrera, winner of the marathon.
1948 London Olympic Games.

38. LLOYD LA BEACH.

02. THE RUSSIAN IMPERIAL OLYMPIADS

By Oleg Vorontsov



39. 1914 2ND RUSSIAN
OLYMPIAD PIN.

The relatively unsuccessful performance of the Russian delegation at Stockholm 1912 Olympic Games drew the attention of the ruling tsar's family to serious shortcomings in the development of sports in the society. Everyone, from athletes to the tsar, now understood the need for change.

The most important factor in choosing the venue of the 1st Russian Olympiad was the fact that in 1913, Kiev was the venue of the all-Russian agricultural, trade, industrial and scientific-art exhibition; the choice was especially valid as three times there had been cases when the Olympic Games coincided with the world exhibitions: 1900 in Paris, 1904 in St. Louis and 1908 in London.

The results can be considered simply amazing and the local Kiev team was a pleasant surprise. Special mention should be their victory in the 4x100m relay, when they were able to break the 13-year-old domination of the St Petersburg Circle of Sports Fans and, at the same time, Kiev set a new Russian record.

The only consolation for the St Petersburg team was that they did not include the best Russian runner Spiegel.

Other victories of Kiev's representatives which deserve the attention were Smutny's victory in the shot put and the two victories of Fuks in the 400m and 1500m.

In the longer event, was able to beat such runners as Gaevsky, Vladimirov and Elizarov. Finally, Galanevych from Kiev set a national record for the standing long jump.

The Riga representatives, despite their small number, Sukatnek set a new Russian discus record; Birznek reached 11.98m in the shot put and was very close to the new record of 12.06m.

From Moscovites, Arkhipov stood out as the winner of the 100m and 200m.

As for the representatives of St Petersburg, they took first places almost in all other competitions.

The undoubted star and, perhaps, the best athlete of the Olympiad in Kiev was a member of the St Petersburg Circle of Sports Fans, Gantvarg, who scored 12 overall points and set two new records.

Journalists put forward the thesis that the winner of the both classic pentathlon and the decathlon was, according to the original ideas of the Greeks, the winner of the Olympic Games and thus should have been recognized as the best Russian athlete.

Apart of Gantvarg, another two representatives of St Petersburg team, Vladimirov and Gaevsky, won different events. The former won the 5000m, the 8000m cross country and 10,000m, and the latter set a record in the 800m and scored 9 overall points.

St Petersburg's Romanov set a national record in the triple jump and among the top placings of the marathon was a long string of names from St Petersburg.

In total, eight Russian athletics records were established in Kiev, an unprecedented phenomenon until then:

- * 12.90m in the triple jump
Romanov (St Petersburg)
- * 1.45m in the standing high jump
Gantvarg (St Petersburg)
- * 3.02m in the standing long jump
Halanevych (Kiev)
- * 38.52m in the discus throw
Sukatnek (Riga)
- * 16.8 seconds in the 110 hurdles
Gantvarg (St Petersburg)
- * 2:05.6 in the 800m
Gaevsky (St Petersburg)
- * 23.6 in the 200 m
Arkhipov (Moscow)
- * 46.2 in the 4x100m
Kiev's sport club 'Sport'

Programme of the athletics competition of the 1st Russian Olympiad in Kiev, 1913.

Individual events:

100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 10.000m, 8000m cross country, 110m hurdles, 10.000m, 4x100m, high jump with a running start, standing high jump, long jump with a run, standing long jump, triple jump, pole vault, javelin throw, discus throw, shot put and hammer.

After the 1st All-Russian Olympiad, held in Kiev in August 1913, the Russian Olympic Committee summed up the results, analysed the sports results and outlined the direction for further development of sports in the country, for more effective preparation of athletes for the upcoming VIth Olympic Games which were to be held in 1916 in Berlin.

Theodore Rosenthal, founder and head of the Riga Sports Amateur Society, headed its representatives at the 1st All-Russian Olympiad in Kiev and, when discussing the results during the autumn of 1913 at a meeting of Baltic sports organisations, proposed to hold the 2nd Russian Olympiad in Riga.

The initiative of the Rosenthal was supported by the Russian Olympic Committee and in January 1914 they allocated the first subsidy to the Baltic Olympic Committee, 1000 roubles.

In addition to the opening ceremony of the Olympics, it was decided to hold competitions at Riga's (horse) race course in athletics, football, weightlifting, gymnastics and the finish of the road bike race.

It was also decided to hold the Russian track and field championship at the same time as the track and field competitions of the Olympiad.

At the 2nd Russian Olympiad, the athletics competition began on 6 July and lasted for five days; 264 athletes took part in them.

The programme of athletics events included the 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m

and 10,000m, 8000m cross country, marathon race (40.2km), 4×100 m and 4×400m, 110m hurdles, 3000m, 3000m and 10,000m race walks, high jump with and without a running start, long jump with and without a running start, triple jump, pole vault, javelin throw, discus, shot put, hammer throw, track and field pentathlon (discus, 200m, long jump, javelin throw, 1500m run) and decathlon (100m, 400m and 1500m, 110m hurdles, high jump, long jump, pole vault, javelin throw, shot put, discus), as well as competitions in tug of war.

Unfortunately, good results in the running disciplines of the track and field competitions were prevented by the bad condition of the track at the race course.

The best sprinters from across Russia participated in the 100m which consisted of preliminary races, semi-finals and finals.

Three Moscovites (V Arkhipov, B Kotov, V Alexandrov), N Orlov from Kiev, V Lebedev from Riga and Spiegel from St Petersburg reached the final. Arkhipov won in 11.0, second place went to Kotov in 11.1 while Lebedev was third.

Competitions in the 200m consisted of two stages: preliminary races and the final.

The finalists were three Moscovites (V Arkhipov, V Alexandrov, S Trofimov), R Viduts and G Vogel from Riga and A Maliy from St Petersburg. The winner was Arkhipov, who, despite the poor quality of the running path, set a new all-Russian record of 22.4.

He was significantly ahead of Viduts (24.2) and Alexandrov (24.9), second and third respectively.

Arhipov also won 400m in 51.8. Second place went to G Kiyim from Revel (52.2) and third to the Moscovite V Alexandrov (53.0).

In the 800m, the winner was G Fuks from Kiev (2:02.6), second place was taken by his fellow townsman N Sokolov and third went to G Fogel from Riga.

In the 1500m, the winner was N Villemson from Revel, setting a new all-Russian record of 4:16.0. Behind him finished K.Gern (4:16.6) and E Förster (4:24.4), who were both from Riga.

The 5000 m. race was won by Mikko Stets from Helsingfors (Helsinki) with a result of 16:53.0. Second place went to D Pavlov from St Petersburg (17:8.2) and third to Z Snimshikov from Kiev (17:16.4).

Stets also won the 10,000m (34:27.1), the second and third places were taken by athletes from St Petersburg, N Vladimirov (34:49.0) and D Pavlov (35:30.0).

The third gold medal won by Stets at the 2nd Russian Olympiad was in the 8000m cross country with a result of 28:34. Second was Vladimirov from St Petersburg (29:4.0) and third E Steinberg from Revel (29:38.8).

A cross country team competition was also held with scoring being the sum of the places taken in the individual championship by three team runners. The team of the Circle of Sports Fans

from St Petersburg was the winner, scoring 15 points (2 + 4 + 9).

In second place was the team of runners from the Second Cyclists Society of Riga with 27 points (5 + 7 + 15), the third prize went to the team of Circle of Sports Fans from Kiev with 31 points (6 + 8 + 17).

In the 4x100m, the winning team was the Sports Society Union of Riga with 46.2, composed by Vogel, Vaduts, N.Šedrevics and Strungs. The second place was taken by the team of the Sport Club from Kiev (46.3) with third by the quartet of athletes of the Circle of Sports Fans from St Petersburg (also 46.3).

The team of the Riga's sports society Union (Vogel, Gazenfus, Bauman, Gern) was the first in the 4x400m with a new Russian record of 3:41.4. The second and third places were taken, respectively, by the teams of the Kalev Sports from Revel (3:43.0) and the Sport Club from Kiev (3:45.0).

In the 110m hurdles, the winner was G Gantvarg, who covered the distance in 16.8. Second place went to the Moscovite B Kotov (17.4) and third to his fellow townsman A Schultz (17.6).

In the 3000m team race, the first place went to the quartet of the Circle of Sports Fans club from St Petersburg (N Vladimirov, A Gallin, A Sergeev, P Shubin), second place went to the team of the Narva Sports Club and third to the Union club from Riga.

The competition of 3000m race walk ended dramatically. First and second were German (Revel's sports society Kalev) and Ruks (Riga's sports society Mars) but they were later disqualified as, during some moments in the race, they were judged to have been running. First place was awarded to A Kalnin (Second Cyclists Society of Riga) who completed the course in 15:18.4, second place was G Viitanem from Revel (Kalev) and third was R.Dreiman (Second Cyclists Society of Riga).

The athlete from the Riga sports society Mars, A Ruks, was the winner in 10,000m race walk in 56:19.4. Second and third places were taken by Viitanem from Revel (57:14) and Lieutenant V Bodjko from Kiev (57:34.2).

In the long jump, the Moscovite V Leandrov was the winner with 6.32m., second place was taken by Gantvarg from St Petersburg and third went to I Strungs from Riga.

In the standing long jump, victory went to N Šedrevics from Riga (2.97m), second place was E.Giob from Revel (2:92m) and the third for E Vannag from Riga (2.895m).

The winner in the discus throw at the 1st Russian Olympiad, F Sukatnek repeated his success in Riga, winning the competition with a national record of 41.15m. Second place went to A Ohaka from Revel (39.40m) and third went to G Gantvarg from St Petersburg (36.78m).

Latvian javelin thrower N.Šedrevics (sports society Union), a participant of the Vth Olympic Games in Stockholm, went over 50 metres with

a result of 52.98m. and won the gold medal. In second place was Lieutenant N Nekrepaev from St. Petersburg (51.15m.) and third was K Uzna from Revel.

Best in the shot put was A Birznek from Riga (11.09m), ahead of his fellow townsman V Ozol (11.08m.) and V Smutnoy from Kiev (10.96m).

The competition of hammer throw was won by Ozol from Riga (28.21m). Second place was taken by another athlete from Riga, A.Kibald (28.08m) and third by N Podkovich from Kiev (27.45m).

In the pentathlon, Gantvarg from St Petersburg was the victorious athlete; the second and third places went to A Ohaka from Revel and to Moscovite G Suvorov.

In the decathlon, Gantvarg was the best once more, Ohaka from Revel second again and his fellow townsman B Abrams the third.

The Sports Society Mars from Riga won the tug of war competitions, second and third places were taken, respectively, by the teams of the sports society Union (Riga) and the Circle of Sports Fans (Kiev).

The fastest in the marathon race (40.2km) was A Kampal from Riga's Mars sports society (2:59:20), Upman from the Second Cyclists Society of Riga finished the second in (3:09:34) and third place was Shubin from St. Petersburg (3:15). Of the 30 athletes who started only 12 made the distance.

03. LATVIA OLYMPIADS

Latvia's first sports clubs and societies were founded in various towns in the beginning of the 19th century and marked the beginning of an organised sports movement in Latvia. Before World War I, Riga was one of the main sports centres of the Russian Tsarist Empire, along with St. Petersburg, Moscow, Kiev and Revel (Tallinn).

On December 18, 1911 the Baltic Olympic Committee (BOC) was founded with an aim to co-ordinate its activities with the Russian Olympic Committee in selecting athletes from the Baltic provinces for the Olympic Games (OG). The Swedish Consul in Riga welcomed the idea and assisted in sending representatives of the BOC to Stockholm in order to get acquainted with the Olympic competition sites.

In 1912 more than 30 athletes from Latvia, as part of the team of Imperial Russia, competed in four disciplines at the V Olympic Games in Stockholm in weight lifting, cycling, shooting and track-and-field. H.Blauss, a student from Riga, demonstrated excellent results in shooting by winning the Olympic Bronze medal.

In 1914 the Riga Sports community was the organiser of the 2nd All-Russian Olympiad. Latvian javelin thrower N.Šedrevics (Sports Society "Union"), a participant of the V Olympic Games in Stockholm, covered 50 m with the result 52.98 m and won the Gold medal.



40. LATVIA SPORTS FESTIVAL.
Pin, 1939.

Following Latvia's declaration of independence on November 18th, 1918, heavy fighting against foreign military forces continued until the middle of 1920. Once peace was restored in the independent Republic of Latvia, many national sports organisations were set up.

The first was the Army Sports Union, the initiator and organiser of the provisional Latvian Olympic Committee (on August 22, 1920) and the 1st All-Latvia sports festival. The festival took place in a renovated stadium on September 19, 1920 and attracted 340 participants and about 8000 spectators. The first president of Latvia J. Čakste and members of the Government were also present.

Several other All-Latvia sports festivals were organized later.

04. SPARTAKIADS



41. ATHLETICS STAMP FOR THE 1936 MOSCOW SPARTAKIAD, WHICH WAS CANCELLED. The stamp depicts a sports scene: 100m runners near the finish line. The one with a star on his shirt is ahead of the other with a Nazi swastika.



42. SPARTAKIAD. Pin, 1945.

The Spartakiad was an international sports event that was sponsored by the Soviet Union. Five international Spartakiades were held from 1928 to 1937. Later Spartakiads were organised as national sport events of the Eastern Bloc countries. The Games were organised by Red Sport International.

The Soviet Union attempted to use Spartakiads to both oppose and supplement the Olympics. The name, derived from the name of the slave rebel leader, Spartacus, was intended to symbolise proletarian internationalism because Spartacus' revolt united slaves from diverse ethnic backgrounds within the Roman Empire. As a Classical figure, Spartacus also stood directly in contrast to the aristocratic nature of the Ancient Olympic Games on which the modern 'capitalist' Olympics were based.

The first Spartakiads in the USSR took place in 1923 within formations of the Red Army and the Spartak Youth Physical Culture organisation in Petrograd. The Moscow Spartakiad in 1928 was also known as the All-Union Spartakiad and involved participation of countries (17) outside of the Soviet Union.

From the start of the 1930s in the Soviet Union, Spartakiads of trade unions and the Dynamo physical culture sports society took place.

The First All-Ukrainian Spartakiad took place in Kharkiv on 9-29 September 1923.

The name Spartakiáda was also used for a mass gymnastics display which was held every five years at the Strahov Stadium in Prague, Czechoslovakia, when the country was under communist rule. However, The first event of this name was held back in 1921 and its founder Jirí František Chaloupecký is credited as the creator of the name.

05. TURNEN

The origin of Turnen in Germany

By Annette R.Hofmann

The Turner movement has its origins in 18th – and 19th-century Germany and was closely connected with intellectual streams and the political, social and economic changes of the period such as the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, the new political order in Europe and technical advancement. In this context ideas about the education of the people, in which national unity, patriotism and the readiness to fight for one's "fatherland" played a special role. German Turnen, largely developed by Friedrich Ludwig Jahn (1778-1852), was such an idea. The goals of the Turners were the liberation from French occupation, which followed the defeat of the Prussian army in the Napoleonic Wars, the overthrow of the feudal order and an end to the division of Germany into many small states in favour of a one-nation state. Thus, the Turners played an important role in the German nationalist movement and in the wars of liberation; many participated actively in the fight against the French occupying forces.

Turnen was introduced by Jahn as a comprehensive term for physical exercises. It not only included exercises on apparatus, as developed by philanthropists such as Guts Muths but also games and so-called "exercises for the people" (*volkstümliche Übungen*) (like running, jumping, lifting and climbing as well as fencing, swimming and wrestling).

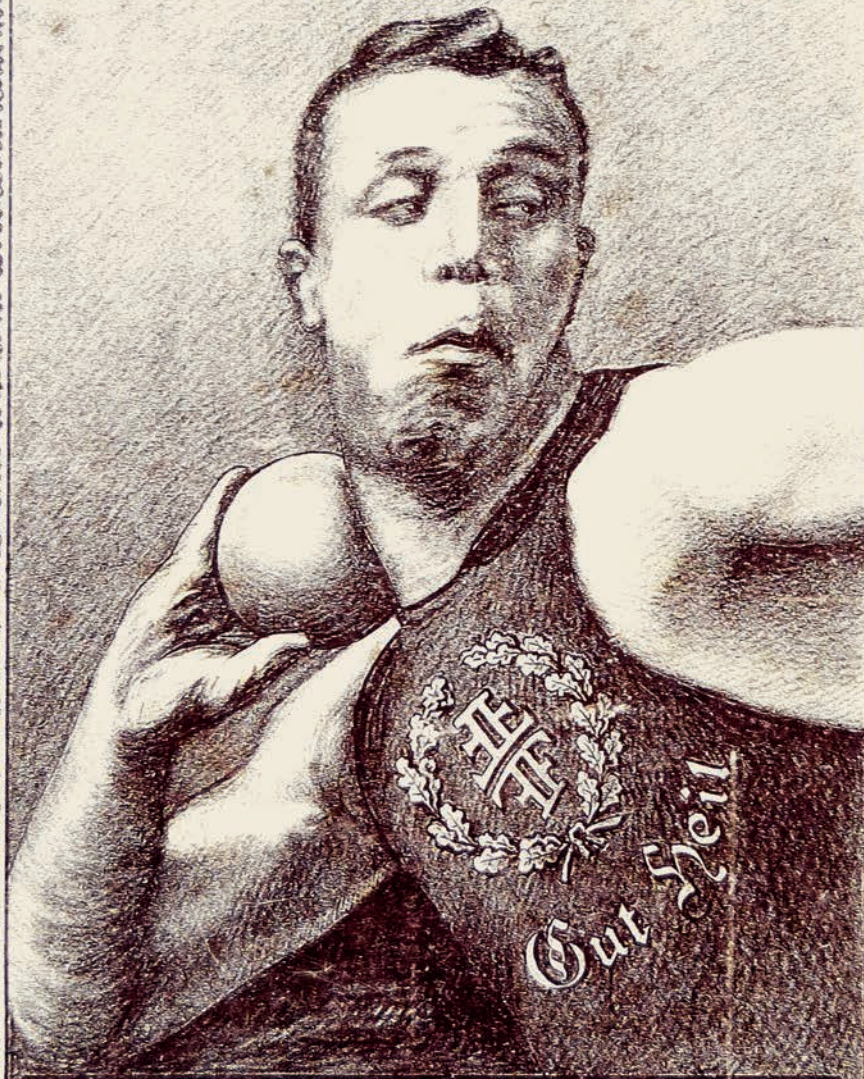
The first *Turnfest* (German Gymnastics Festival) was held in 1860 in Coburg. During the period of National Socialism (1933-1945), the German gymnastics festivals were mainly used for political propaganda.



43. POSTCARD TURNFEST.
Leipzig 1913.

Leipzig

1913



Schorsch'l

Die Stütze des Turnvereins

„Schwung“

im Wettkampf beim 12. Deutschen Turnfest.

(Blick nach die 20 Punkt)

Muster[schutz

Original Steingezeichnung

TURNFESTS ORGANISED BETWEEN 1900 AND 1949

NO.	YEAR	DATE	PLACE
10th	1903	18-23 July	Nuremburg
11th	1908	18-23 July	Frankfurt-am-Main
12th	1913	12-16 July	Leipzig
13th	1922	22-25 July	Leipzig
14th	1923	14-18 July	Munich
15th	1928	25-30 July	Cologne
16th	1929	18-21 July	Nuremburg
17th	1933	26-31 July	Stuttgart
18th	1938	27-31 July	Breslau
19th	1948	19-23 August	Hamburg

45. TURNFEST POSTCARD.
Stuttgart Deutsche, 1933.



44. TURNFEST POSTCARD.
Leipzig, 1913.



06. SOKOL AND DELNICKA OLYMPIADS

The Sokol movement is an all-age gymnastics organisation first founded in Prague in 1862 by Miroslav Tyrš and Jindřich Fügner. It was based upon the principle of “a strong mind in a sound body.” The Sokol, through lectures, discussions, and group outings provided what Tyrš viewed as physical, moral, and intellectual training for the nation. This training extended to men of all ages and classes, and eventually to women.

The movement also spread across all the regions populated by Slavic cultures: Poland, Slovene Lands, Serbia, Bulgaria, the Russian Empire (Poland, Ukraine, Belarus), and the rest of Austria-Hungary (i.e., present day Slovenia and Croatia).

In many of these nations, the organisation also served as an early precursor to the Scouting movements. Although officially an institution “above politics”, the Sokol played an important part in the development of Czech nationalism, providing a forum for the spread of mass-based nationalist ideologies. The articles published in the Sokol journal, lectures held in the Sokol libraries, and theatrical performances at the massive gymnastic festivals called slets helped to craft and disseminate the Czech nationalist mythology and version of history.

1860s and 1870s: Initial growth, militarization, and internal problems

Within the first year the Sokols expanded beyond Prague, first into the Moravia and the Slovenian regions of the Hapsburg empire of Austria-Hungary. Initially the majority of members were students and professionals, but over time there was a trend towards increasingly working class members.



The Sokol training went through periods of greater militarised training during the Austro-Prussian War in 1866 when Sokol members were hired as guards for public events. This militaristic side of the Sokol movement continued to resurface throughout its history.

Different leaders believed that the Sokol was a mass-based institution defined by its working class members, while others viewed it more as a middle class apparatus by which to educate and raise the national consciousness of the working classes.



46. POSTCARD.
Sokol 1901.

1880s: Slets and Sokol union

In 1882, the first slet was held. Slet came from the Czech word for 'a flocking of birds'. It meant a mass gymnastics festival that became a grand tradition within the Sokol movement that spread across Central Europe.

In 1887 the Habsburg authorities finally allowed, after over twenty years' worth of proposals, the formation of a union of Sokol clubs: Czech Sokol Community. The union centralised all the Sokols in the Czech lands and sent Sokol trainers to the rest of the Slavic world to found Sokol institutions in Kraków, Ljubljana, Zagreb, and even the Russian Empire (mostly the Ukrainian lands).

In 1889, though officially forbidden by the authorities, members of the Prague Sokol went to the World's Fair in Paris where they won several medals and established strong connections with French gymnasts and the French public. The Sokols have been credited with establishing the beginning of the strong French sympathy for the Czechs and their subsequent political alliances on this trip.

1890s: The progressive era

The 1890s were a progressive era for the Sokols. To encourage a wider range of participation, the Sokols reformed their programmes, offering training sessions of varying intensities, extending their libraries, emphasising the educational aspect of training, and starting

programmes for adolescents, youth and women. There was an increasing focus on mass-based ideology and working-class egalitarianism. The second slet was held in 1891 and the third one soon afterwards in 1895.

1900-1914: Competitors and neo-Slavism

The rise of the Social Democrats and agrarian parties in the political arena played out in Sokol politics as well as national ones. The Social Democrats formed a rival gymnastics society, the Workers' Gymnastics Club (Dělnická tělovýchovná *jednota*, DTJ). Václav Kukar, a powerful COS figure, developed the policy of 'cleansing' and sought to limit membership to those who he believed demonstrated commitment to purely Czech causes. Most of the progressive members of the Sokols were purged or left voluntarily to join the DTJ.

Another rival gymnast society was founded by the Christian-Socialist party under the name Orel ('Eagle'). In the face of such competition, the Sokols set about reaffirming their traditional mission under the leadership of Josef Scheiner.

The fourth slet, held in 1901 (11,000 Sokols), boasted a large international participation, including Galician Poles, Ukrainians, Slovenes, Croats, Russians, Bulgarians, Serbs, as well as Frenchmen and Americans. This slet also marked the first appearance of women who grew to be a major part of Sokol members in the following decades.

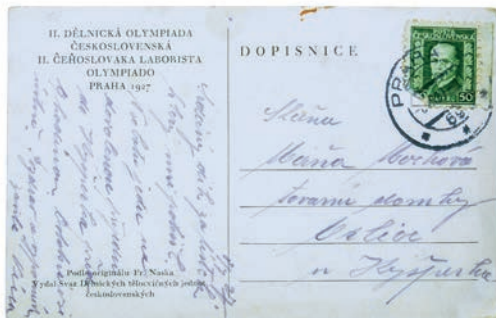
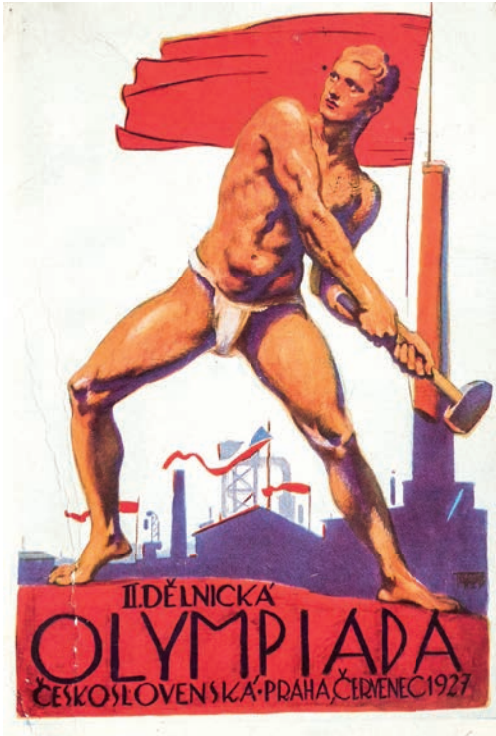


47. MEDAL.
Sokol, 1938.

The fifth slet, held in 1907 (over 12,000 Sokols), had an increasingly Slavic focus and moved away from the more egalitarian idea of people's gymnastics with increased competition aspects. It marked the creation of the Federation of Slavic Sokols under the neo-Slavic idea of the Czechs as the strongest Slavic nation, second only to Russia.

At the 1910 meeting of the COS congress the Sokols reaffirmed their intentions to remain 'above politics' and loosened their strict membership rules to allow Social Democrats, though still not clericals, into the Sokols.

In 1912, the first All-Slavic Slet (Všeslovanský slet, over 30,000 Sokols) was held with a largely military atmosphere, causing Augustin OCenášek (a member of Sokol) to remark, "When the thunder comes and the nations rise up to defend their existence, let it be the Sokol clubs from which the cry to battle will sound." The cry to battle did sound two years later, when the first rumours of Franz Ferdinand's assassination reached the Sokol members, most of whom were attending a regional slet in Brno.



World War I to Communism: Continued struggle of Czech nationalism

With the onset of World War I, in 1915 the Sokols were officially disbanded. Many members were active in persuading the Czechs to defect from the Austro-Hungarian army to the Russian side. Sokol members also helped create the Czechoslovak Legions and local patrols that kept order after the disintegration of Habsburg authority, and during the creation of Czechoslovakia in October 1918. They also fulfilled their title as the 'Czech national army', helping to defend Slovakia against the invasion of Béla Kun and the Hungarians.

The Sokol flourished in the early interwar period, and by 1930 had 630,000 members. The Sokols held one last slet (350,000 Sokols) on the eve of the Munich Agreement of 1938 and were later brutally suppressed and banned during the Nazi occupation of Bohemia and Moravia.

Sokol society among South Slavs

Sokol societies were introduced in Slovenia by the gymnast Viktor Murnik in the last decade of 19th century. Murnik was a good gymnast. The 1903 All-Sokols Rally was held in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The official name of the Slovenian Sokol was Ljubljana Sokol and its starosta was Kajzelj and the coach was Murnik.

48. POSTCARD.

Delnicka Olympiad, 1927.

In Croatia, the Sokol movement had full support from Strossmayer, then Bishop of Đakovo. After the dissolution of Austria-Hungary and the establishment of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes in 1918, and under the leadership of Lazar Car, Croatian Sokol societies were united with Serbian and Slovenian Sokol clubs into a large Sokol Alliance on 15 June 1919.

The Croatian clergy forced Croatian Sokols to leave the Yugoslav Sokol Alliance in 1919-20, fuelling internal conflicts within the Alliance on political grounds. At the same time, high Catholic clergy established the Orlovi (Eagles) clerical organisation with the aim of taking youths away from the Alliance.

The Croatian Catholic Church rejected the pan-Slavic idea of bringing together Catholic, Orthodox, and Muslim believers under the motto that “a brother is dear regardless of his faith”. The two Catholic organisations, Orlovi (Eagles) and Katolička Akcija (Catholic Action) were a main base of this resistance to the idea of Yugoslavism, brotherhood and religious tolerance. The Catholic Church’s resistance to this idea of pan-Slavism led the Polish Sokols to abstain from the international All Sokol Rally held in Prague in 1926.

In the Kingdom of Yugoslavia all Sokol societies were merged into the Union of Sokols of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia as of December 1929. The Eagles were ordered to disband but they reinvented themselves as religious fraternities. This way the Sokol movement was the principal agent of the drive for cultural synthesis of the Yugoslav society.

In emigration

Members of Sokol who emigrated from Czechoslovakia set up small Sokol groups abroad. This Sokol migration, for a variety of reasons, began even before Czechoslovakia became a nation in 1918 and intensified with the World Wars and the Communist suppression.

Bohemian, Moravian, and Slovak immigrants and Czech-American citizens started the American Sokol Organisation in St Louis in 1865, only three years after the first Prague Sokol. By 1878, the USA had 13 Sokol chapters and by 1937, US Sokol membership rolls counted nearly 20,000 adults in areas such as New York City, New Jersey, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Oakland, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, S Louis, Texas, Nyack and parts of Canada.

Aftermath

After World War II, the Sokols held one more slet in 1948 before they were once again suppressed, this time by the Communists. The Communist Party tried to replace the tradition of slets with mass exercises employed for propaganda purposes: Spartakiad (*spartakiády*) and its organisation Czechoslovak Union of Physical Education.

Catalonia

At the beginning of the twentieth century the Sokol movement was introduced in Catalonia and soon was considered as a new tradition. It bore the name of *falcó* (falcon in Catalan) and was influenced by the older tradition of the castellers.

**49. PORCELAIN MEDAL.**

Deutsche Kampferspiele, 1922.

07. GERMAN COMBAT GAMES DEUTSCHE KAMPFERSPIELE

The Deutsche Kampferspiele were a national multi-sport event established in 1922 by the Deutscher Reichsausschuss für Leibesübungen under Carl Diem.

Initially, they were considered as a counter-movement to the Olympic Games because Germany was not allowed to take part in the 1920 and 1924 Olympic Games.

The competition lasted from 1922 to 1934. According to Diem, it should promote “German art, German song and German Volksgemeinschaft.”

Editions

- 1922: 18 June-2 July in Berlin
- 1926: 4-11 July in Cologne
- 1930: 26-29 June in Breslau
- 1934: 23-29 June in Nuremburg
- In 1938, they were replaced by the Deutsches Turn-und Sportfest.

NS-Combat Games | NS-Kampferspiele

During the Nazi regime, the Games continued as the NS-Kampferspiele (NS Combat Games).

Since Germany had been allowed to participate in the Olympic Games since 1928, these Games were no longer to be seen as a counter-movement to the Olympic idea, but rather as a propaganda platform for the regime.

When, in 1935, the international boycott movement against the Berlin 1936 Olympic Games grew, the replacement of German combat games in Berlin was Plan B of the Reichssportführer.

On the order of Adolf Hitler on 30 November 1936, these Games were held during the Reichsparteitage in Nuremburg in 1937 and 1938, with regional preliminary rounds for the main games.

In addition to the NSDAP, the SA, SS, NSKK and HJ also participated in the predominantly military sports competitions. The SA had the responsibility for these paramilitary events. The outbreak of war in 1939 ended the short episode of the NS Combat Games.



**Juli
1925**

**I. Internationales Arbeiter-Olympia
Frankfurt am Main**

08. INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' OLYMPIADS

International Workers' Olympiads were an international sporting event arranged between 1925 and 1937 by the Socialist Workers' Sport International (SASI). It was an organisation supported by social democratic parties and the International Federation of Trade Unions.

The Workers' Olympiads were created as a counterweight for the Olympic Games, which were criticised for being confined to the upper social classes and privileged people. The international workers' sports movement did not believe that the true Olympic spirit could be achieved in an Olympic movement dominated by the aristocratic leadership.

Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the International Olympic Committee, had always opposed women's participation. His followers, Henri de Baillet-Latour and Avery Brundage, were openly anti-Semitic. However, the Workers' Olympiads opposed all kinds of chauvinism, sexism, racism and social exclusiveness.

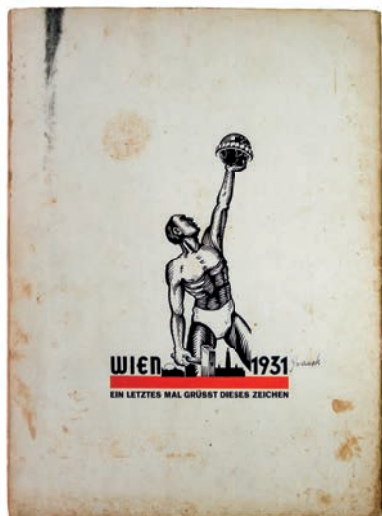
The participants were members of various labour sports associations and came mostly from Europe.

The Lucerne Sport International (later known as Socialist Workers' Sport International) was established in Lucerne, Switzerland in 1920. The first unofficial Workers' Olympiads were held a year later in Prague, Czechoslovakia. The IOC had banned the losing nations of World War I from the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games (Germany also from the 1924 Games) but the Workers' Olympiads were completely open.

The first official Worker's Olympiad was held in Frankfurt am Main with 13 participating nations.



51. PIN WORKERS' OLYMPIAD.
Vienna, 1931.



52. WORKERS' OLYMPIAD BROCHURE.
1931 Vienna, 1931.



53. PIN WORKER'S OLYMPIAD.
Antwerp, 1937.

National flags were not used, but the red flag of international workers' movement. The best athletes were awarded with diplomas, they did not receive medals like in the Olympic Games. The visiting athletes stayed mostly at private accommodation of local families.

International Workers' Olympiads were more than just an event for the top athletes. The festival was based on a mass participation, it did not restrict entry on the grounds of sporting ability.

The 1931 Workers' Olympiad in Vienna had a participation of 100,000 athletes from 26 countries. This Olympiad also attracted some 250,000 spectators. It was much bigger event than the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Games, both in number of participants as well as spectators.

The last Workers' Olympiad in Antwerp in 1937 was a joint event with the spartakiad organised by Red Sport International.

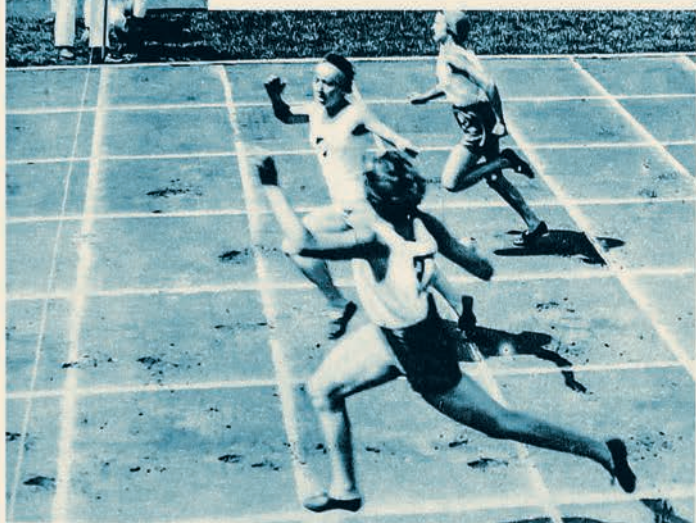
THE 1931 WORKERS' OLYMPIAD.
Participation of 100,000
athletes from 26 countries. Vienna, 1931.





Der Endkampf im 100-Meter-Lauf der Frauen ● Finale k běhu žen na 100 metrů ● Combat final dans la course à 100 mètres pour femmes ● La finkinkuro ze centmetra kurado por virinoj

Alle Photos auf dieser Seite Ingbro



Der Finne Lainen, Sieger im Weitsprung ● Fin Lainen, vítěz ve skoku dalekém ● Le finnois Lainen, vainqueur du saut en longueur ● La finno Lainen, venkanto de malproksim-saltado

Die Deutsche Kehrt, Siegerin im Diskuswerfen ● Německá závodnice Kehrt zvítězila ve vrhu diskem ● L'allemande Kehrt, vainqueur dans le lancement du disque ● La germanino Kehrt, venkantino de disko-ĵetado

Der Finne Franzen, Sieger im Schleuderball ● Fin Franzen, vítěz v hodů míčem s poutkem ● Le finnois Franzen, vainqueur en balle lancée ● La finno Franzen, venkanto de jeteg-pilko

Der Deutsche Drache, Sieger im Speerwerfen ● Němec Drache, vítěz ve vrhu oštěpem ● L'allemand Drache, vainqueur dans le lancement du javelot ● La germano Drache, venkanto de ĵetlanco



LEICHTATHLETIK • LEHKÄ ATLETIKA • ATHLETISME LEGER •
MALPEZ-ATLETIKO



Entscheidung im 100-Meter-Lauf (Frauen).
Siegerin Walker (England) 12,4 Sekunden
● Běh na 100 metrů pro ženy. Zvítězila
Walkerová (Anglie) 12,4 vti. ● Finale de
la course à 100 mètres pour femmes,
gagnée par Walker (Angleterre) 12,4 sec
● Finkonkurva en 100 metra kurado por
virinoj, venkintino Walker (Anglio) 12,4
sekundoj

Photo K. Salmi

Der Start zum 25-Kilometer-Lauf ● Start
k běhu na 25 kilometrů ● Départ pour
la course à 25 kilomètres ● Ekkuro por la
25 kilometra kurado



Photo Ingbro

400-Meter-Hürdenlauf. Der Verlauf dieses Rennens wird allen Olympia-Teilnehmern in
Erinnerung bleiben. Schubert (Österreich) lief ein herrliches Rennen, überholte den vor ihm
laufenden Finnen, distanzierte ihn auf 8 Meter und mußte bei der auf dem Bild ersicht-
lichen letzten Hürde durch Sturz ausscheiden.

Photo Ingbro

Und der Einlauf des siegreichen Finnen
Salmi ● A doběh finského vítěze Salmiho
k cíli ● Et l'arrivée du finnois vainqueur
Salmi ● Kaj la enkuro de la venkanta finno
Salmi

Photo St. Känle



Workers' Olympiads

WORKERS' OLYMPIADS	DATE	HOST CITY	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES
1921 Olympiad (unofficial)	25-29 June 1921	Prague	13
1925 Olympiad	24-28 July 1925	Frankfurt-am-Main	11
1931 Olympiad	19-26 July 1931	Vienna	26
1937 Olympiad	25 July-1 August 1937	Antwerp	15
1943 Olympiad	Cancelled due to World War II	Helsinki	-



Niemi hyppi korkeutta komeasti.



100 m hyppäilykilpailun siinäkin vaiheessa.



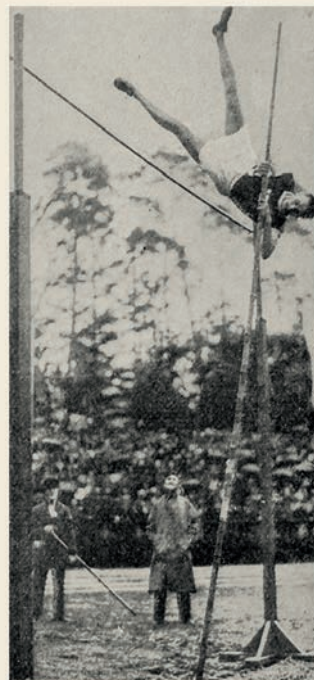
Wilma Dittmar voittaa naisten 100 m juokseen.



Hannes Ilmnen.



Emil Firta voittaa 400 m juokseen. Elo oikealla, Maakki Firtan takana.



Nestor Kristoffersson.

09. WORLD YOUTH AND STUDENTS FESTIVALS



54. YOUTH FESTIVAL STAMPS.
Prague, 1947

The World Festival of Youth and Students is an international event, organized by the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY), jointly with the International Union of Students since 1947.

The festival has been held regularly since 1947 as an event of global youth solidarity for democracy and against war and imperialism.

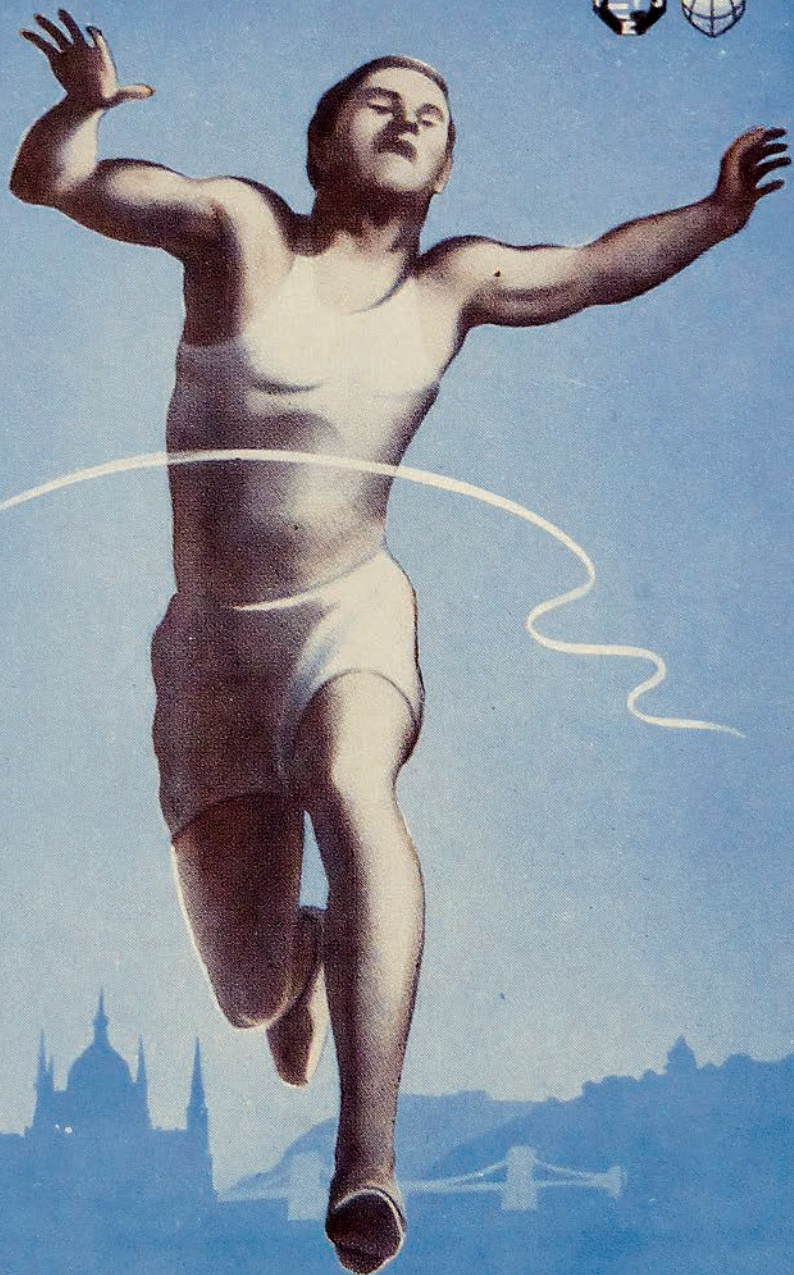
The World Federation of Democratic Youth was founded to bring together young people of both the socialist and capitalist countries to promote peaceful cooperation and mutual rejection of war. However, with the onset of the Cold War soon after, the organization and the festivals became a matter of contention within the rivalry. Because of the enormous expenditure and coordination required to support a youth festival, most of the early festivals were held in cities in the socialist countries of Europe. However, many festivals, both then and more so since, have been held in non-socialist countries, affirming the commitment to peaceful coexistence between the peoples living under the different systems.

Editions before 1950

EDITION	YEAR	COUNTRY	HOST CITY	PARTICIPANTS	NUMBER OF REPRESENTED COUNTRIES	MOTTO
1st	1947	Czechoslovakia	Prague	17,000	71	"Youth Unite, Forward for Lasting Peace!"
2nd	1949	Hungary	Budapest	20,000	82	"Youth Unite, Forward for Lasting Peace, Democracy, National Independence and a better future for the people"



Halápu
Ede



BUDAPEST 1935

10. UNIVERSIADE

The idea of a global international sports competition between student-athletes pre-dates the 1949 formation of the International University Sports Federation (FISU), which now hosts the Universiade.

English peace campaigner Hodgson Pratt was an early advocate of such an event, proposing a motion at the 1891 Universal Peace Congress in Rome to create a series of international student conferences in rotating host capital cities, with activities including art and sport.

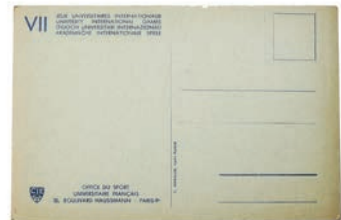
This did not come to pass but a similar event was created in Germany in 1909 in the form of the Academic Olympia. Five editions were held from 1909-1913, all of which were hosted in Germany following the cancellation of an Italy-based event.

At the start of the 20th century, Jean Petitjean of France began attempting to organise a 'University Olympic Games'. After discussion with Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic Games, Petitjean was convinced not to use the word 'Olympic' in the tournament's name.

Petitjean, and later the Confédération Internationale des Étudiants (CIE), was the first to establish a series of international events, beginning with the 1923 International Universities Championships.

This was followed by the renamed 1924 Summer Student World Championships a year later and two further editions were held in 1927 and 1928.

Another name change resulted in the 1930 International University Games. The CIE's International University Games was held four more times in the 1930s before having its final edition in 1947.



57. POSTCARD INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY GAMES.

Paris, 1937.



A separate group organised an alternative University Games in 1939 in Vienna, in post-Anschluss Germany.

The onset of World War II ceased all major international student sports activities and the aftermath also led to divisions among the movement after the CIE was disbanded and rival organisations emerged.

The *Union Internationale des Étudiants* (UIE) incorporated a university sports games into the World Festival of Youth and Students from 1947-1962, including one separate, unofficial games in 1954. This event principally catered for Eastern European countries.

After the closure of the CIE and the creation of the first UIE-organised games, FISU came into being in 1949 and held its own first major student sport event the same year in the form of the 1949 Summer International University Sports Week. The Sports Week was held biennially until 1955. Like the CIE's Games before it, the FISU events were initially Western-led sports competitions.

The World Festival of Youth and Students is an international event, organised by the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY), jointly with the International Union of Students since 1947.

The festival has been held regularly since 1947 as an event of global youth solidarity for democracy and against war and imperialism.

58. STAMPS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY GAMES.

Monte Carlo, 1939.



The World Federation of Democratic Youth was founded to bring together young people of both the socialist and capitalist countries to promote peaceful cooperation and mutual rejection of war. However, with the onset of the Cold War soon after its founding, the organisation and the festivals became a matter of contention within the various groups.

Because of the expenditure and coordination required to support a youth festival, most of the early festivals were held in cities in the socialist countries of Europe. However, many festivals, both then and more so since, have been held in non-socialist countries.

59. ALTERNATIVE UNIVERSITY GAMES. Vienna, 1939.

Editions before 1950

EDITION	YEAR	COUNTRY	HOST CITY	PARTICIPANTS	NUMBER OF REPRESENTED COUNTRIES	MOTTO
1st	1947	Czechoslovakia	Prague	17,000	71	"Youth Unite, Forward for Lasting Peace!"
2nd	1949	Hungary	Budapest	20,000	82	"Youth Unite, Forward for Lasting Peace, Democracy, National Independence and a better future for the people"



60. MEDAL FIRST SOUTH AMERICAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP.
Montevideo, 1919

11. SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ATHLETICS

The South American Championships in Athletics is a biennial athletics event organised by CONSUDATLE, the South American Area Association of the IAAF. It is the oldest of the IAAF Area Championships. In the first edition in 1919 only two countries competed (Chile and Uruguay).

Four unofficial championships were held between 1918 and 1949. The 1918 event was titled 'Campeonato de Iniciación'. The 1931 event was held in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Uruguayan independence. The 1946 event was held in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the modern Olympic Games. The 1948 event was held in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the foundation of La Paz.

The 1922 event was also titled 'Campeonatos Latino-Americanos de Atletismo'. It was held in Rio de Janeiro as part of the International Exposition to celebrate the centenary of the Brazilian independence.

It was Elwood Brown, Athletics Director of the of the International Committee of the YMCA, in line with Pierre de Coubertin and the IOC, who conducted the negotiations of an ambitious plan to expand the Olympic movement in Latin America starting with the organisation of the Latin American Games during the 1922 Rio de Janeiro Exposition.

It is important to note that Elwood Brown was also the pioneer in organizing the Far Eastern Championship Games and the Inter-Allied Games.

61. SOUTH AMERICAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP OFFICIAL PROGRAMM.

São Paulo, 1937.



X CAMPEONATO SUL AMERICANO DE ATHLETISMO

ORGANISADO PELA
CONFEDERAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE DESPORTOS
SOB OS AUSPÍCIOS DA
CONFEDERACION SUD-AMERICANA DE ATHLETISMO
E DA
INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR ATHLETIC FEDERATION

ENTIDADES PARTICIPANTES

FEDERACION
ATHLETICA
ARGENTINA

FEDERACION
ATHLETICA
DEL PERU'

FEDERACION
ATHLETICA
DEL URUGUAY

CONFEDERAÇÃO
BRASILEIRA
DE DESPORTOS

ESTADIO DO CLUB
REGATAS TIETE S. PAULO



PROGRAMMA OFFICIAL



62. SOUTH AMERICA ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP MEDAL. Montevideo, 1945

In May 1924, during a Congress held in Buenos Aires, where Brazil was not present, the South American Athletics Confederation decided not to recognise the 1922 South American (Latin American) Athletics Championship. That decision led the Brazilian Athletics Confederation to resign its membership.

A historic meeting of CONSUDATLE, 90 years later in 2014, recognised the validity of the 1922 South American Athletics Championship.

Editions before 1950

EDITION	YEAR	CITY	COUNTRY	DATE
unofficial	1918	Buenos Aires	Argentina	24-26 May
1	1919	Montevideo	Uruguay	11-13 April
2	1920	Santiago	Chile	23-25 April
* official	1922	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil	9-16 September
3	1924	Buenos Aires	Argentina	17-22 April
4	1926	Montevideo	Uruguay	15-20 April
5	1927	Santiago	Chile	14-19 April
6	1929	Lima	Peru	5-10 May
7	1931	Buenos Aires	Argentina	30 April-5 May
unofficial	1931	Montevideo	Uruguay	8-10 May
8	1933	Montevideo	Uruguay	6-9 April
9	1935	Santiago	Chile	11-14 April
10	1937	São Paulo	Brazil	27-30 May
11	1939	Lima	Peru	25-28 May
12	1941	Buenos Aires	Argentina	26 April-4 May
13	1943	Santiago	Chile	23 April-2 May
14	1945	Montevideo	Uruguay	15-22 April
unofficial	1946	Santiago	Chile	April
15	1947	Rio de Janeiro	Brazil	25 April-3 May
unofficial	1948	La Paz	Bolivia	October
16	1949	Lima	Peru	16-24 April



63. SOUTH AMERICA ATHLETICS
CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM.
Rio de Janeiro, 1947.



64. SOUTH AMERICA ATHLETICS
CHAMPIONSHIP STAMPS.
La Paz, 1948.

12. FAR EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

By Shlomi Tsafir

The Far Eastern Championship Games was an Asian multi-sport event considered to be a precursor to the Asian Games.

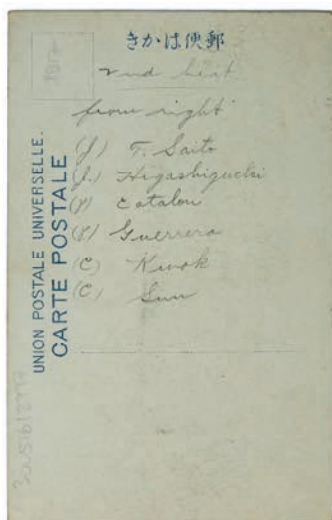
The first event was held on the Manila Carnival Grounds (later the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex) in Malate, Manila, Philippines on 4 February 1913 and was known as the 'First Oriental Olympic Games'.

Six countries participated in the eight-day event: the host country (then-named) Philippine Islands, China, Japan, British East Indies (Malaysia), Thailand and the British crown colony Hong Kong.

The IOC protested at the use of the term Olympic and, in 1915, the name changed to the Far Eastern Championship Games.

The Games were held every two years except in 1929 when Japan decided to delay this edition to 1930. The Far Eastern Athletic Association then decided to change the timetable to every four years and the Philippine Islands hosted the 10th games in 1934.

The 1934 edition was held in a period of dispute between China and Japan, which resulted in the break-up of the Far Eastern Athletic Association.



65. TOKYO FAR EASTERN
CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES,
POSTCARD.

Start of the 100 yards, 1917.



Editions

Year	Games	Dates	Host city	Host nation
1913	1	3-7 February	Manila	Philippines
1915	2	15-21 May	Shanghai	Republic of China
1917	3	8-12 May	Tokyo	Japan
1919	4	12-16 May	Manila	Philippines
1921	5	30 May-3 June	Shanghai	Republic of China
1923	6	21-25 May	Osaka	Japan
1925	7	17-22 May	Manila	Philippines
1927	8	28-31 August	Shanghai	Republic of China
1930	9	24-27 May	Tokyo	Japan
1934	10	16-20 May	Manila	Philippines
1938	11	Cancelled	Osaka	Japan

Athletics at the Far Eastern Championship Games

Athletics competitions were held at every one of the 10 editions of the Games. This represented the first time that a regular major international athletics competition occurred among Asian nations.

At the start of the 20th century, the Philippines was initially the most developed nation in athletics given its close ties to the USA through its Insular Government, which ruled the country as a territory.

As the head of the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation and physical director of the national YMCA branch, Elwood Brown had set about developing American sports in the Philippines. He was central to the creation of the Far Eastern Athletic Association and athletics was one of the main sports of the Far Eastern Championship Games from the inaugural edition.



66. FAR EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES POSTCARD. Osaka, 1923.



67. FAR EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES POSTCARD. Osaka, 1923.

Correspondingly, in the first half of the competition's history, the Philippines was the most dominant nation in the athletics programme, going unbeaten in the first five editions.

Japan's development in athletics coincided with the launch of the Games, with the country holding its first national championships in 1913.

Developing through similar means of engagement with the YMCA sports program, Japan became the dominant force in Asian athletics by the mid-1920s and won four of the last five Games titles in the sport.

Japan was consistently dominant in the middle – and long-distance running events from the beginning of the competition, owing to its tradition of distance running including the Kanto 10-mile road race (held near Narita since the late 19th century) and its well-developed ekiden foot messenger system.

Events

Over the 21-year history of the competition, only men's athletics events were included. For the first six editions of the competition (1913–23), athletics track events were contested over imperial distances. These were changed to metric distances from 1925 onwards, in line with international and Olympic standards.

The number of events contested stayed relatively stable and (excluding distance variations in running events) the only additions

were the javelin throw in 1917 and the triple jump in 1923 – both events where Japanese athletes were dominant.

The events programme roughly aligned with that of the Olympics, with notable differences being the absence of the marathon, steeplechase, race walking, and hammer throw events.

Olympic medallists

The competition was the first championship for international athletics between specifically Asian nations. As a result, the Games were the place where Asia's top international athletes of the period first found success.

Nine of these athletes went on to claim Olympic athletics medals.

Two Filipinos, Simeon Toribio and Miguel White, were Far Eastern champions that later won Olympic bronze medals, Toribio in the high jump and White in the 400m hurdles. These remain the only athletes from that nation to have reached the Olympic podium in athletics.

A total of seven Far Eastern Championship Games athletes

went on to win athletics medals for Japan at the Olympics.

The first of these was Mikio Oda, Asia's first Olympic champion in 1928. Chuhei Nambu succeeded him to that honour four years later and Kenkichi Oshima also reached the Olympic podium that year; both had been minor medallists in the Far Eastern triple jump behind Oda. Naoto Tajima was a bronze medallist behind Oshima at the 1934 Far Eastern Championship Games but went on to become the third successive Olympic triple jump champion for Japan two years later. The 1934 runner-up Masao Harada was also the 1936 Olympic runner-up behind Tajima. Both Tajima and Nambu also won Olympic long jump medals in the 1930s.

Outside of the horizontal jumps, Japanese athletes of the period also had success in the Olympic pole vault. The 1930 Far Eastern champion Shuhei Nishida was twice Olympic runner-up in 1932 then 1936. Sueo Oe, the man who succeeded him as Far Eastern gold medallist, was also on the Olympic podium in 1936.



68. FAR EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES POSTCARD. Tokyo, 1930.

13. PRECURSORS OF THE PAN-AMERICAN GAMES

1901 Buffalo Pan-American Exposition

From 1 May-2 November 1901 in Buffalo, USA a huge Exposition took place. More than 40 exhibits showcased the latest advancements in technology, notably electricity. A major feature was electric lighting which utilised hydroelectric power generated at nearby Niagara Falls.

Many of the Exposition buildings, including the prominent Electric Tower, were covered in light bulbs creating a beautiful and unprecedented sight. The Pan-American Exposition also hosted some of the top engine manufacturers of the time.

Unfortunately, the Exposition is most remembered because President William McKinley was shot by an anarchist, Leon Czolgosz, at the Temple of Music on 6 September 6; the President died eight days later. McKinley had given an address at the Exposition Stadium the previous day.

The Buffalo Pan-American Exposition sports competitions

Without doubt, the sports events of the 1901 Buffalo Pan-American Exposition were the starting point for the future Pan-American Games. Baseball, basketball, lacrosse, swimming, bicycle races, gymnastics, football, athletics and other competitions were held with great success. The majority of the events were part of USA championships but athletes from other nationalities also took part in some of them.

The Capitals of Ottawa, a Canadian team, won the lacrosse competition while another Canadian, Harry L. Gill, won the discus throw of the Amateur Athletic Union Championships.

Athletics and the Stadium²

by James E. Sullivan

That we are rapidly becoming an athletic nation, and that physical education is fully recognized, is apparent to anyone who visits the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo this year. Many features will long be remembered by those fortunate enough to visit the Exposition and, from a spectacular standpoint in comparison with the Chicago and Paris expositions, all admit that the Buffalo electrical display stands pre-eminent. But with its position as leader in electricity acknowledged, there is one other feature that will live in the memories of the many thousands, years and years after the electrical display is forgotten, and that is the recognition of athletics and the building of the Stadium.

The American youth is being educated now at school, at college and in clubs to follow athletics, fresh air and recreation as a means of building up a sound body, knowing perfectly well that a sound physique will naturally give to an intelligent mind a better working foundation.

Athletics at the Pan-American Exposition have been thought over and worked out for a year or more, and the name of Mr. W. I. Buchanan, Director-General of the Exposition, should be added to the roll of honor in future athletic history, for I have been reliably informed that he is the man who conceived the idea of having an Athletic Congress during the year of 1901

in the city of Buffalo which would eclipse any athletic carnival heretofore attempted, with the object that athletics should become an important part of the expositions established in the future.



2 Extracts from the article written by James E. Sullivan, President of the American Athletic Union of the USA in *The Cosmopolitan Magazine*, September 1901.

69. THE AMERICA'S EXPOSITION NUMBER.

The Cosmopolitan Magazine, September 1901.



AN ATHLETIC MEET IN THE STADIUM.

ATHLETICS AND THE STADIUM.

By JAMES E. SULLIVAN, President of the A. A. U

THAT we are rapidly becoming an athletic nation, and that physical education is fully recognized, is apparent to any one who visits the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo this year. Many features will long be remembered by those fortunate enough to visit the Exposition, and from a spectacular standpoint in comparison with the Chicago and Paris expositions all admit that the Buffalo electrical display stands preëminent. But with its position as leader in electricity acknowledged, there is one other feature that will live in the memories of the many thousands years and years after the electrical display is forgotten, and that is the recognition of athletics and the building of the Stadium.

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At the farewell banquet tendered Mr. A. G. Spalding and the successful American athletes in the American Pavilion after the international games in Paris last year,

At the farewell banquet tendered Mr. A. G. Spalding and the successful American athletes in the American Pavilion after the international games in Paris last year, Mr. Spalding struck the keynote when he said that he was proud to be the Director of Sports to bring to Europe the finest specimens of manhood that could be produced throughout the civilized world—for the Americans won nearly all the prizes.

Furthermore, he said there might be some discussion as to the awarding of the Grand Prix to the American engineer or artisan, because the objects displayed were inanimate, could not talk, and were not allowed to perform for themselves, but that with the athletes it was entirely different, it was a case of personal competition and personal superiority. Therefore, it is only fair that we should give to the Pan-American people the full credit of being the first exposition authorities to recognize athletic sports in a national way in America.

A few words now about the Stadium. It is without doubt the largest and most imposing athletic arena ever erected in this country, and it is to be regretted that it cannot be left in the city of Buffalo permanently as a monument to athletics. I fear, however, it will share the fate of all the other buildings. It is modeled a good deal after the ancient Stadium at Athens but is somewhat smaller. It covers a plot six hundred and seventy-eight and one-half by four hundred and fifty

and one-half feet, and has a quarter-mile track twenty-two feet in width.

To the knowing ones it seems marvelous that such a grand athletic amphitheater could possibly be erected in such a short space of time, for in the latter part of April the entire arena was one mudhole and to an inexperienced mechanic it looked as though the arena would never be finished. Talent was secured, and as a result the Stadium today is beautiful, and any one who visits Buffalo without seeing it will miss a rare treat.

The infield is entirely level and sodded. The track was built by an expert, and it is without doubt the fastest and best-built track in the world. The seating capacity of the Stadium is between 10 and twelve thousand. The front of the Stadium is most impressive. The entrance is through a two-story building covering one hundred and seventy feet by fifty-two feet of ground space. Much time and labor have been spent on its adornment. Its color is animated, and from a sculptural standpoint it appears massive and artistic. The amount of money that has been spent on the Stadium is about one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, and it has certainly been well spent.

What has the Exposition done for athletics? It has given to all kinds of champions an opportunity to compete and win handsome trophies that will be cherished long after club emblems are forgotten. It has given to thousands an intelligent idea of athletics and of what the brawn and muscle of America represent.

← **ARTICLE WRITTEN BY JAMES E. SULLIVAN,**

President of the American Athletic Union of the USA in
The Cosmopolitan Magazine, September 1901.

No doubt many who go to Buffalo who have no idea of ever taking part in or enjoying sport of any kind, will become enthusiasts. Almost every kind of sport is represented here, and the interest thus aroused will be of lasting benefit to the country. Thousands are seeing and learning things that heretofore were as strange to them as the hieroglyphics on Cleopatra's Needle.

The sports opened within the Stadium with a game of baseball between the Carlisle Indians and the Cornell University team. This was followed soon after with an intercollegiate track meeting. At this meeting all the leading American athletes displayed their ability. The great Arthur Duffy won the one-hundred-yard dash in 10 seconds on a new track. DeWitt, the young Hercules, displayed his ability as a hammer-thrower. Beck won the shot-putting event, and the Eastern champions for the first time competed with the Western intercollegiate champions. Cornell's fine team secured the greatest number of points.

It was, however, on June 13th, 14th and 15th that the principal athletic features of the year were decided most successfully, those days being the junior and senior dates of the Amateur Athletic Union championships and a handicap meeting.

The handicap meeting preceded the championships and brought together a great many of the crack American athletes, the Knickerbocker Athletic Club securing the greatest number of points. On the second day the junior championships showed the Pastime Athletic Club of New York city as the premier junior organisation. In the senior championships the

honors went to the New York Athletic Club, with its magnificent team of crack athletes.

At this meeting, Sears, of Cornell, who is certainly America's coming sprinter, won the one-hundred – and two-hundred-and-twenty-yard runs in grand style. He ran the one-hundred-yard dash in nine and four-fifths second, record time, but it is doubtful if this record will be allowed, as a slight wind aided him.

The field events brought together the athletic giants of America – Flanagan, Edgren, Sheridan, Beck, Henneman, DeWitt, Gunn and Gill. In throwing the discus, the ancient Grecian game, a young man from Canada, Harry L. Gill, threw the missile one hundred and eighteen feet five inches; the effort of Richard J. Sheridan, the second man, measured one hundred and eleven feet nine and one-half inches; John Flanagan was third with one hundred and nine feet four and one-half inches, and Henneman was fourth, one hundred and six feet, 10 inches. These instances are cited merely as an illustration to show the supremacy of the American athlete and his ability to master any sport athletically, no matter how intricate. Throwing the discus was unknown in this country until the return of Mr. Robert Garrett, of Princeton, in 1896, from Athens, where he competed with the famous Grecian discus throwers.

To the surprise of all, he not only won the championship there but beat the Grecian record which had stood for centuries. On his return to America he brought with him the discus. It was immediately copied and manufactured here, with the result that to-day America has the greatest discus-throwers in the world.

It was at the junior championship meeting that Jerry Pierce, the famous Indian runner, made his appearance. He won the junior distance run in handsome style, but he was defeated by Frank Kanealy, of New England, an older runner, in the senior event.

In basketball, which is apparently America's coming indoor game, the championship contests were held in the Stadium on the 17th and 18th of June. No fewer than seven teams from all parts of the country assembled, and the display of basketball given was very creditable. Teams from New Jersey, New England and New York strove for the honors, but it remained for a Buffalo team, practically unknown theretofore, to win the coveted trophy.

On the Fourth of July, the all-around championships of the USA were decided – the blue-ribbon event of the athletic arena. It comprises 10 events and is scored by percentage, each athlete receiving credit for his performance in each of the 10 contests, the athlete securing the highest percentage to be the winner. The entries for the all-around championships are always small; in fact, there are very few men in America who can go through the 10 events with any degree of success, because a man is compelled to run, jump, walk, throw the weights and pole-vault, and a specialist has no business in the event. The contest this year was close between Adam Gunn, of Buffalo; Dau Reuss, of the Knickerbocker Athletic Club; McK. Hall, of Buffalo, and J. T. Mahoney, of the Knickerbocker Athletic Club. Gunn, the Buffalo lad, finally won.

The Stadium without a Marathon race would be like a Romeo without a Juliet. For this Marathon

race twenty-five miles in length, one mile to be run on the Stadium track, twenty-three miles out in the country and one mile on the Stadium track at the finish, more than a half-dozen entries from the best distance-runners of America and Canada were received.

It was a hot day, a day totally unfit for such a long race; nevertheless all the starters finished and won prizes. After being out some three hours and sixteen minutes, Samuel A. Mellor, of the Hollywood Inn Club, Yonkers, New York, made his appearance at the Southern Gate with an American flag in one hand and a Pan-American flag in the other, and the thousands in the Stadium arose en masse and cheered him as only the victor should be cheered. His performance was certainly good.

The school-boys' events received exceptional attention, because the school-boy element in athletics today is an important one. Our college, club and championship entries come from the schools, and it is only fair that this preliminary training ground of the athlete should be given a day. The honors went to the Hill School, of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, whose athletic interests are being looked after by Mr. M. J. Sweeney, holder of the world's amateur record of six feet five and five-eighths inches for the high jump.

In September, there was a cross-country championship. From those who are not athletically inclined I have heard criticism that so much money should be spent on athletics. That is natural, but to those who have been giving up their entire time and life for the advancement of athletics in the hope of building for the future

of our race, the amount spent has seemed too little. Why should not the advancement we have made in athletics receive the same recognition as the advancement we have made in science, art and literature?

By glancing over the "Clipper Almanac" for 1875, which was then the recognised authority on records, the progress made by the American athlete is seen in black and white. In the record-book that year among the amateur running and walking records from one hundred yards up, we cannot find the name of one American athlete as a record-holder, all the amateur records being held by Englishmen, Irishmen or Scotchmen. What a change to-day! Pick up an athletic almanac for this year and look over the records in running, jumping, walking and weight – throwing. What do we find as to the nativity of the holders? That nine-tenths of the records are held by Americans. Is not that enough reason for any exposition to incorporate a display of athletics in its list?

It is to be hoped that at St. Louis in 1903 a Stadium will be built; that it will be a permanent one, one that will be left to the city of St. Louis; and that they will there endeavor to eclipse the good work that has already been done, mapped out and carried through by the Pan-American Exposition.

* * *

The 1922 Rio de Janeiro National Exposition and the Latin-American Olympic Games

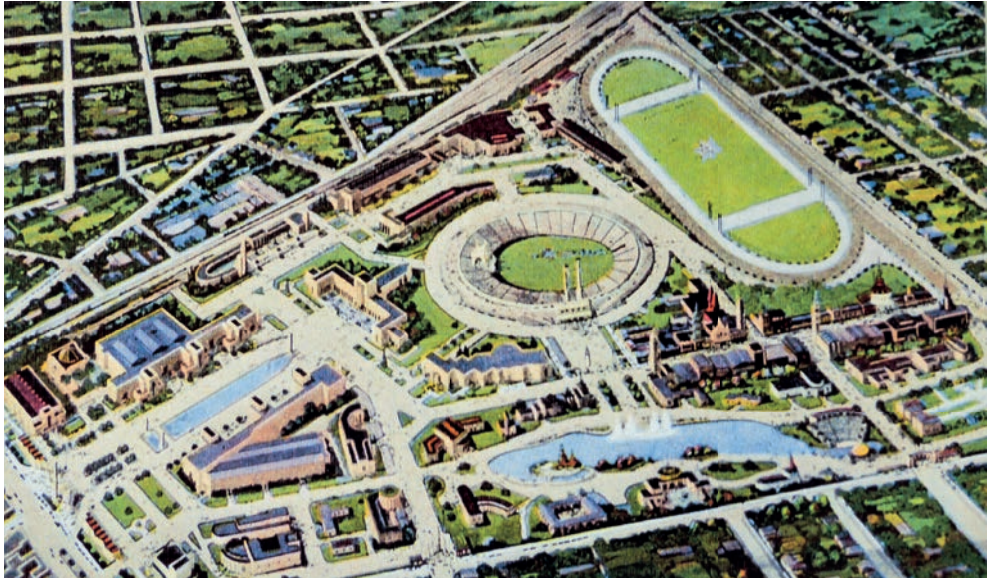
To celebrate 100 years of the Brazilian independence, a monumental National Exposition was organised in Rio de Janeiro.

At the same time, two sports festivities took place: the Latin American Games and the International Navy Games. The specific list of sports included in each of these competitions remain unclear.

According to the Organizing Commission's report, the Latin-American Games included competitions in basketball, boxing, diving, equestrian, fencing, rowing, shooting, soccer, swimming, tennis, athletics., and water polo. However, according to many sources, the soccer tournament was independent of the Latin American Games.

The media gave contradictory names to the Games such as: Latin-American Olympic Games, Latin-American Games, Latin-American Championships, International Sports Championships, South American Championships, South American Games and Brazilian Centennial Olympics. Also, the International Navy Games was mostly called International Military Games.

The 1922 Games marked the first ever international interdisciplinary competition in Brazil. Top level athletes took part in the tournament, like Brazilians marksmen Guilherme Paraense (gold and bronze medallist at the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games) and



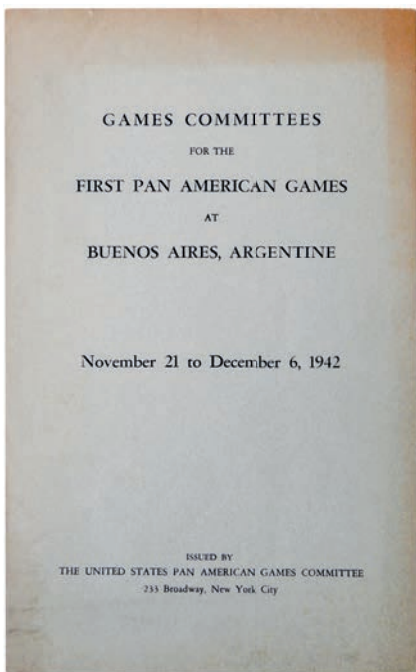
Afranio Costa (silver and bronze medallist at the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games) and the Chilean Manuel Plaza (later the marathon silver medallist at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games).

The beginning of the Central American And Caribbean Games

During the Olympic Congress, which coincided with the celebration of the 1924 Paris Olympic Games, the International Olympic Committee members from Cuba, Guatemala and Mexico proposed the establishment of a regional games involving the countries of Central America. These Games come true two years later when Mexico City hosted the first Central American Games.



70. TEXAS CENTENNIAL EXPOSITION POSTCARD. View of the sites for the sports events. Dallas, 1929.



71. BROCHURE OF THE GAMES COMMITTEES
PAN-AMERICAN. Buenos Aires, 1942.

PAN AMERICAN MEN'S TRACK & FIELD COMMITTEE

Charles L. Diehm, 111 Fulton Street, New York City, New York
 George T. Donoghue, Chicago Park District, Administration Building, Chicago, Illinois
 Sid F. Foster, 4243 Budlong Avenue, Los Angeles, California
 A. C. Gilbert, c/o A. C. Gilbert Company, New Haven, Connecticut
 Charles B. Hoyt, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut
 W. O. Hunter, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California
 Wilbur Hutsell, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Alabama
 Alfred Masters, Stanford University, Stanford, Alabama
 Lloyd W. Olds, Michigan Normal College, Ypsilanti, Michigan
 Edwin F. Schaefer, 310 Michigan Avenue, Buffalo, New York
 Guy Stollenwerck, 730 Commerce Title Building, Memphis, Tennessee
 Earl Thompson, U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland
 K. L. Wilson, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

PAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD COMMITTEE

Mrs. Roberta R. Bonniwell, 101 W. Carpenter Lane, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
 Mrs. Evelyn Hall, 3215 W. Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois
 Miss Olive Hatenus, 1109 Greendale Avenue, Needham, Massachusetts
 Miss Maude McEwry, 310 Bisbee Building, Jacksonville, Florida
 Mrs. Earle Meadows, 1239 West 38th Street, Los Angeles, California
 Mrs. Catherine Meyer, 12 Menzel Avenue, Maplewood, New Jersey
 Mr. Fred L. Steers, 38 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois

14. PAN-AMERICAN GAMES

The specific idea of holding a Pan-American Games was first raised at the Los Angeles 1932 Olympics where Latin American representatives of the IOC suggested that a competition among all the countries in the Americas should be created.

In the Berlin 1936 Olympic Games this idea was again mooted; during the meeting of the American countries delegates, a schedule was approved for the Pan-American Games.

The unofficial Pan-American Games of 1937³

by David Phillips

It is Avery Brundage, the administrator of US amateur sport for so many years, who takes the credit for proposing the idea of a Pan-American Games in 1937. Brundage had been president of the Amateur Athletic Union from 1928 to 1934 and had been appointed president of the US Olympic Committee in 1929, remaining in office until 1953. He was elected to the International Olympic Committee in 1937 and apparently saw an opportunity to link a Pan-American Games with the "Greater Texas and Pan-American Exposition" to be held in Dallas from 12 June to

31 October, which followed on from the Texas Centennial Exposition of the year before.

As a sideline, and rather in the manner of the 1900 and 1904 celebrations of the Olympic Games in Paris and St Louis respectively, various sports were organised – boxing, soccer, athletics and wrestling – which might well have been overshadowed by the multitude of delights on show for the expected six million visitors (of which only two million turned up). Yet there was actually some very worthwhile competition on occasions. These events were also rather better handled by officialdom than had been the case in St Louis, with the exception of one glaring instance of mis-management or injustice, which will be explained.

Of the 21 countries invited to Dallas 10 sent representatives – Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Peru, Uruguay, USA and Venezuela – and the best supported sport in terms of quality was track & field despite the fact that entries were sparse in some cases.

The athletics competitions took place in the Southern Methodist University's Cotton Bowl Stadium on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 16-18 July, with the sprint heats on the first day, all the track finals on the second day, when the temperature reached 30 degrees Centigrade and the largest crowd of 23,000 was in attendance, and the marathon on the third day. The stadium had been built in 1930 on a modified scale at a cost of \$328,000 because of the economic depression but still had accommodation for 45,507 spectators.

³ Extracts from an article written by David Phillips to the Olympic Gallery RGM.

The US AAU Championships had been staged in Milwaukee on 3-4 July, and this being post-Olympic year many of the heroes of Berlin had retired. In those long-ago amateur days most American athletes hung up their spikes once they graduated from college as they then had to set about earning a living.

The supreme sprinter/long jumper, Jesse Owens, winner of four Olympic gold medals, was now out of the reckoning, as were other such luminaries as Archie Williams (400m), Forrest Towns (110m hurdles), Glenn Hardin (400m hurdles) and Glenn Morris (decathlon) – all of them also Olympic champions. The only AAU winner who also had an Olympic title to his name and would be in Dallas was Johnny Woodruff (800m).

That's not to say that the AAU meet had been below par – far from it! Records had been set by Woodruff at 1min 50.0sec for 800m, by Dave Albritton at 6ft 8 5/8in (2.04m) in the high jump, by four men including Olympic champion Earle Meadows at 14ft 7 5/8in (4.46m) in the pole vault, and by Bill Reitz at 224ft 9 3/8in (68.51m) in the javelin. In addition, Glenn Cunningham had won his third successive 1500m title to add to his Olympic silver medal, while Jack Weiershauser had run 20.9sec for 200m and Ray Malott 47.1sec for 400m.

The team selection for the Pan-American meet was naturally based on what had happened some 850 miles north of Dallas, and two other Olympic winners, Cornelius Johnson (high jump) and Ken Carpenter (discus), had

also qualified for inclusion. Malott, Woodruff, Cunningham, Albritton and Carpenter all duly earned Pan-American 'titles', and the winner of the shortest sprint was Ben Johnson, then regarded as Jesse Owens's natural successor, who the following month would twice equal Owens's World record of 10.2sec for 100m while on tour in Europe, though neither time would be ratified because of excessive wind-assistance. Johnson's victory came at the uncommon distance of 60m which had been decided upon because of the short straights at the Cotton Bowl track which measured five laps to the mile – 352 yards in circumference – but the event which aroused a controversy which has persisted now for more than three-quarters of a century was the 800m.

The race had promised to be a highlight of the Games as one of Woodruff's team-mates was Elroy Robinson, who had broken the World record for 880 yards only six days before in New York with a time of 1min 49.6sec which was also faster than the previous official record for the shorter 800m (874.8 yards). And the highlight it certainly proved to be in more ways than one. Robinson led by three yards at halfway in 52.5sec, and Woodruff, with his enormous nine-foot stride, then drew level and the two of them battled on together before Robinson gave way and Woodruff went on to win by six or seven yards in the astonishing time of 1min 47.8sec; This beat all existing records by a vast margin. Yet a week later it was announced that the race distance was short and the record would not be allowed.

It had been publicly stated that the Dean of Engineering at Southern Methodist University had personally vouched for the accurate measurement of the track and there had been no suggestion in the immediate reports of the race that the record would not be accepted. It is conceivable that the officials or stadium staff could have made a genuine mistake in working out the markings for 800m, which would have consisted of two laps of the track, plus 170.8 yards. Yet, if there had been such an error then it was a monumentally stupid one because the 800m starting-point needed to be only 5.2 yards less than 2 1/2 laps of the circuit.

Another mistake was clearly made regarding the 200m, which was won by Perrin Walker, of the USA, in an unaccountably slow 22.4sec, though he had elsewhere run 21.4 in the AAU heats and would achieve 21.1 and 21.3 in Europe in September.

Woodruff, who was one of 10 children and the grandson of slaves, later became a Lieutenant-Colonel in the US Air Force, and he was convinced for the rest of his life that it was a racially-motivated decision that had denied him the record. Interviewed in 1994, he said, "It was out-and-out discrimination. That was the best race I ever ran, but the officials were determined not to give me the record. Before the meet I read that the track was measured to within one-thousandth of an inch. All of a sudden, it was six feet short". Ironically, if this was, indeed, a case of mis-measurement, even as Woodruff slowed after crossing the finish line he would have passed the 800-metre point in 1:48.1 or so – still 1 1/2 seconds inside the existing record.

Woodruff's understandable anger needs to be seen in the political and sociological context of the era in which the Games were held. Permission had been required from the Dallas city authorities to allow racially-integrated competition at the Games to go ahead, and such prejudice would prevail in Texas for a long time to come. The first major integrated college football game ever to be held in the state would not take place until 1948 in the same Cotton Bowl Stadium.

The USA won 13 of the 14 Games athletics events, losing only the javelin to a Canadian, Jimmy Courtright, who was to gain a legitimate title in that event at the British Empire Games in Australia the next year. Bill Reitz, the US champion, was well below form, placing 5th out of the six competitors. He was later to be killed on active service in World War II.

Despite the organisers generously donating \$100,000 towards expenses for the visiting teams, only five of the winning athletes from the South American Championships the previous May travelled to Texas, and in the marathon Jose Ribas, of Argentina, who had set World records for the rarely-run 30,000m and two-hour track events, finished 1min 17sec down in 2nd place to the Welsh-born Pat Dengis. The US win of greatest historical significance in the long term was that of Cornelius Warmerdam in the pole vault, as he would go on to set nine World records between 1940 and 1943 but would be denied any chance of Olympic success because of the wartime cancellation of the proposed Games of 1940 and 1944.

All three shot-putters and all four discus-throwers were from the USA, but it has to be said that there weren't any such exponents of these disciplines from South America who could have offered a serious challenge.

A genuine interest was aroused in establishing the Pan-American Games as a regular fixture, and there was even an offer from Argentina to stage another edition in 1938. However premature that desire may have been, definite plans were laid for an inaugural official Games in Buenos Aires in 1942.

The 1942 Pan-American Games in Buenos Aires

At the first Pan-American Sports Congress, held in Buenos Aires in 1940, the delegates of 16 countries approved the motion to establish the Pan-American Committee, whose main aim was to organise, every four years from 1942 on, the Pan-American Games. They further agreed that Buenos Aires would host the first Games.

The plans had to be cancelled because of the World War II. The Games were later postponed on several other occasions, but each time Argentina renewed its claims to host the 1st Pan-American Games.

Finally, in 1951, the first officially recognised Pan-American Games were held in Buenos Aires.

* * *

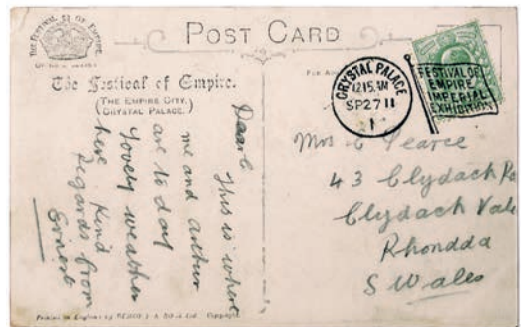


15. COMMONWEALTH GAMES

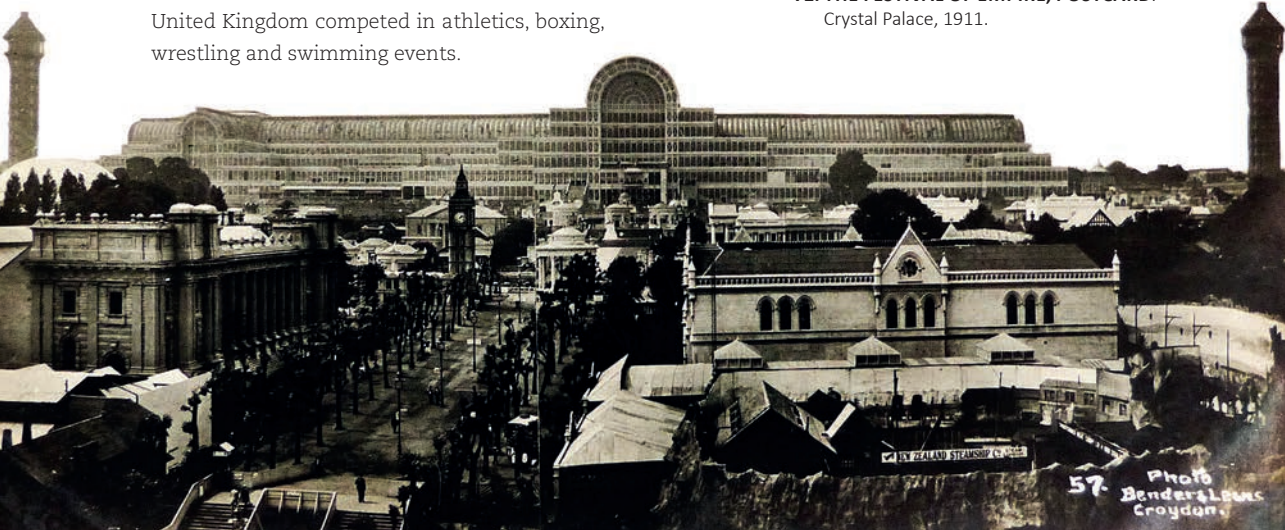
A sporting competition bringing together the members of the British Empire was first proposed by John Astley Cooper in 1900, when he wrote an article in *The Times* suggesting a "Pan-Britannic-Pan-Anglican' Contest and Festival every four years as a means of increasing goodwill and good understanding of the British Empire."

In 1911, the Festival of the Empire was held at Crystal Palace in London to celebrate the coronation of King George V. As part of the Festival of the Empire, an Inter-Empire Championships were held in which teams from Australia, Canada, South Africa and the United Kingdom competed in athletics, boxing, wrestling and swimming events.

The 1911 championships were followed by World War I, from 1914-18, and subsequently the organisers lost hopes of hosting such events for the Empire athletes.



72. THE FESTIVAL OF EMPIRE, POSTCARD.
Crystal Palace, 1911.





**73. BRITISH EMPIRE GAMES
BADGE.** Hamilton, 1930.

In 1930, Hamilton, Canada organised the British Empire Games. (The Commonwealth Games were known as the British Empire Games from 1930 to 1950.)

British Empire Games organised before 1950:

- 1930 Hamilton
- 1934 London
- 1938 Sidney

At the 1930 British Empire Games, the athletics events were held at the Civic Stadium in Hamilton. The programme featured 21 men's events, with all measurements being done in imperial units.

England came away with the most medals in athletics, winning nine gold medals and 25 medals overall. The hosts, Canada, were the next successful and won 19 medals altogether, six of which were gold. South Africa had three golds and 10 medals in total while eight nations featured on the medal table at the first British Empire Games.



**74. COMMEMORATIVE
MEDAL, IN ORIGINAL
CASE.** British Empire Games.
London, 1934



South African Harry Hart was highly successful in the throwing events and he came away from the Games as the champion in the shot put and discus throw, as well as being the javelin throw bronze medallist.

David Burghley took a hurdles double for England, winning both the 110 yards and 440 yards. Reg Thomas won the mile run and was the 880 yards silver medallist. John Fitzpatrick of Canada won a medal of each colour in the sprints, winning his gold with Canada's 4x100m team. England's Reg Revans won silver medals in both the horizontal jumps while Canadian Len Hutton won long jump gold and a bronze in the triple jump. Johannes Viljoen of South Africa showed his versatility by winning the high jump and reaching the podium in the long jump as well.

The 1934 British Empire Games were originally planned to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa but because of that country's Apartheid policy and the potential for a political crisis, it was changed to London.

The 1934 Games are notable for expanding events to include women athletes. The previous Games only allowed women to compete in swimming events.

Although this was a step forward, they still did not include events they considered 'too exhaustive'. Some women's events were purposely shortened in length compared to the men's, such as a 4x220 yards relay instead of 4x440 yards the men ran. Although women athletes were still restricted in their participation, it was considered a breakthrough for women, leading eventually to full international recognition of women's athletics.

The 1938 British Empire Games were organised in Sydney, Australia.

The star of the games was the Australian athlete Decima Norman, who won five gold medals in athletics, in the 100 yards, 220 yards, long jump, the 110-220-110 yards and 220-110-220-110 yards relays.

It took four months for the British teams to reach Sydney by sea. The time was extended because they called at a port twice a week for training. Afterward the British complained that attending the Games had been a disaster for their athletes.



75. BRITISH EMPIRE GAMES, MEDAL. Sidney, 1938.



76. STAMPS. Central American and Caribbean Games. Cuba, 1930.

16. CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN GAMES

The Central American and Caribbean Games are a multi-sport regional championship event held every four years. The Games are for countries in Central America, the Caribbean, Mexico, and the South American countries of Colombia, Guyana, Suriname, and Venezuela.

The Games are overseen by the Central American and Caribbean Sports Organisation (CACSO) (the organisation also goes by the acronym «ODECABE», from its full Spanish name: *Organización Deportiva Centroamericana y del Caribe*).

Mexico, Cuba and Guatemala were the three countries present at the first Games, which were then called the *Central American Games*. In 1935 their name was changed to *Central American and Caribbean Games* to reflect expanding participation.

Editions before 1950

The first two editions of the Games were known as the *Central American Games* at the time, but the edition lineage continued after the inclusion of the Caribbean in 1935.

YEAR	GAMES	HOST CITY	HOST NATION	START DATE	END DATE	COUNTRIES
1926	I	Mexico City	Mexico	30 October	2 November	3
1930	II	Havana	Cuba	15 March	15 April	9
1935	III	San Salvador	El Salvador	16 March	5 April	9
1938	IV	Panama City	Panama	5 February	24 February	10
1946	V	Barranquilla	Colombia	5 March	25 March	13



77. STAMPS.

Central American and
Caribbean Games. San
Salvador, 1935.



78. MEDAL.

Central American and
Caribbean Games.
Panama 1938



79. MEDAL.

Central American and
Caribbean Games.
Barranquilla, 1946.



17. EUROPEAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The European Athletics Championships is an athletics event organised by the European Athletics Association, first held in 1934 in Turin.

Editions before 1950

EDITION	YEAR	CITY	COUNTRY	DATES	VENUE	EVENTS	NATIONS	ATHLETES
1	1934 (M)	Turin	Italy	7-9 September	Stadio Benito Mussolini	22	23	226
2	1938 (M)	Paris	France	3-5 September	Stade Olympique de Colombes	23	23	272
	1938 (W)	Vienna	Austria [nb 1]	17-18 September	Praterstadion	9	14	80
3	1946	Oslo	Norway	22-25 August	Bislett stadion	33	20	353

Notes: (M) men, (W) women



80. PIN.
European Athletics Championship (men). Turin, 1934.



81. BADGE.
European Athletics Championship (men). Paris, 1938.



82. BADGE.
European Athletics Championship (women). Vienna, 1938.

83. MEDAL IN ORIGINAL CASE.
European Athletics Championships (men and women), 1946.





84. BOLIVARIAN GAMES,
STAMPS. Ecuador, 1938.

18. BOLIVARIAN GAMES

The Bolivarian Games are a regional multi-sport event held in honour of Simón Bolívar, and organised by the Bolivarian Sports Organisation (*Organización Deportiva Bolivariana, ODEBO*).

Following the first Games, the Bolivarian Sports Organisation was formed as a sub-organisation of the Pan American Sports Organisation by six founding members: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru and Venezuela.

Games organised before 1950

1938	I	Bogotá	Colombia	6-22 August	6
1948	II	Lima	Peru	25 December – 8 January	6



85. BOLIVARIAN
GAMES, MEDAL.
Lima, 1947.

19. BALKAN ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS



86. BALKANIADA
GAMES, STAMPS.
Bucharest, 1937.

The Balkan Athletics Championships or Balkan Games is a regional athletics competition held between nations from the Balkans and organised by Balkan Athletics.

The first games were held in Athens in 1929, were unofficial, and organised by the Hellenic Amateur Athletic Association (SEGAS). They became formalised after 1930 and have been held regularly since, with the exception of the 1940-1953 period due to the Second World War and post-war turmoil.

In 1946 and 1947, unofficial Games were organised, under the name Balkan and Central European Games, in which Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary (1947) also participated.

Nations

- Greece (from 1929)
- Romania (from 1929)
- Bulgaria (from 1929)
- Turkey (from 1931)
- Albania (from 1946)

Former nation

- Kingdom of Yugoslavia (1929-1940)



87. BALKANIADA
GAMES, STAMPS.
Belgrade, 1938.



**88. BALCANIADA
GAMES, STAMPS.**
Istanbul, 1940.



**89. BALCANIADA
GAME, STAMPS.**
Bucharest, 1947.



Editions before 1950

GAMES	YEAR	VENUE	NATION
I	1929	Athens	Greece
	1930	Athens	Greece
II	1931	Athens	Greece
III	1932	Athens	Greece
IV	1933	Athens	Greece
V	1934	Zagreb	Yugoslavia
VI	1935	Istanbul	Turkey
VII	1936	Athens	Greece
VIII	1937	Bucharest	Romania
IX	1938	Belgrade	Yugoslavia
X	1939	Athens	Greece
XI	1940	Istanbul	Turkey
	1946	Tirana	Albania
	1947	Bucharest	Romania



**90. INTER-ALLIED GAMES,
BADGE.** Paris, 1919.

20. THE INTER-ALLIED GAMES

The Inter-Allied Games was a one-off multi-sport event held from 22 June-6 July 1919 at the newly constructed Pershing Stadium just outside Paris, France following the end of World War I.

The stadium had been built near the Bois de Vincennes by the US military in cooperation with the YMCA.

The event was only open to participation by military personnel who were currently serving or had formerly served in the armed forces during the war.

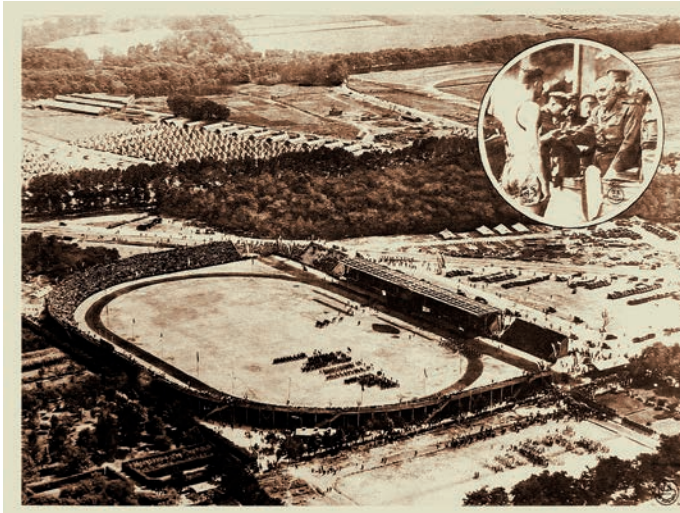
Around 1500 athletes from a total of 18 nations participated in the Games which featured 19 sports. Following the conclusion of the Games, Pershing Stadium was presented as a gift to the people of France from the USA. The area, still known as Le Stade Pershing, continues to be used as an open-air recreation park to this day.

Athletics at the Inter-Allied Games

The athletics competition consisted of 24 men's events, 20 of which counted towards the team scores. The standard international judging rules were applied, with field event results measured in metres, and the winner of the track events being timed by three judges separately.

The 10km cross country race was around Joinville-le-Pont with a start and finishing point within the stadium. The reduced-distance 16km marathon was organised similarly, except the extra-stadium course was around the local streets in the area.

An unorthodox addition to the athletics events was the hand grenade throwing competition. This event consisted of throwing for distance rather than accuracy and the winning distance of 245 feet and 11 inches, set by the US military chaplain Fred Thomson, was declared a world record.

**91. PERSHING STADIUM**

BORCHURE. Joinville, near Paris, where the inter-Allied Army Athletic Contests were held in June, 1919. This Stadium was built by American Army engineers. At the close of the games, when our troops were leaving France, it was presented to the French nation. (Inset) King Nicholas of Montenegro presenting a medal to a Yankee victor in Pershing Stadium games, June 22, 1919. Photo by U. S. Air Service.

Two other events were reserved for men who had served as part of an Army of Occupation during the war: a long jump contest and a 4×200m relay. In the relay, the Italian team protested the victory, but a subsequent run-off resulted in the same outcome, with France first and Italy second.

NB: Cross country, grenade throwing, and the Army of Occupation events did not count towards the overall team standings.

The USA team, headed by team captain and Olympic medallist Richard Byrd and featuring a number of college-level athletes, emphatically topped the points table with 92 compared to runner-up France with 12. Points were assigned on the basis of one point for third in an individual event, two points for second, and three points for first. The gathering marked a key development of the sport of athletics within France, as American personnel and YMCA

sports coaches both coached and demonstrated the various common American disciplines at that time.

The foremost athletes at the Games were Charley Paddock, who won a 100m and 200m sprint double, and Robert Simpson, who completed a similar feat in the hurdles. The 200m hurdles event was won by Simpson in a time just 0.2 short of the world record, even though the athletes had the disadvantage of one of the hurdles being misplaced by a margin of two metres. Frenchman Jean Vermeulen won a long-distance double by taking the cross country and modified marathon titles, despite having a crippled arm from the war.

The USA winning time of 1:30.8 in the 4×200m relay was declared a world record at the time but was later discovered to be inferior to a time run at the Penn Relays one month earlier.

Le Petit Journal

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LA COURSE DES MIDINETTES

21. WOMEN IN SPORTS

In 1919, Alice Milliat, a pioneer of women's sport in France and around the world, started discussions with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the IAAF to also include women's athletic events in the Paris 1924 Olympic Games.

After the proposal was refused by the IOC and the IAAF, a competition was organized in 1921 called the Women's Olympic Games in Monte Carlo; further editions were held in 1922 and 1923.

On 31 October 1921, Milliat formed La Fédération Sportive Feminine Internationale (FSFI) with the purpose to oversee international women's sporting events and lobby for the inclusion of women's events in the Olympics.

1921 Women's Olympic Games

The 1921 Women's Olympic Games (*Jeux Olympiques Féminins*) was the first international women's sports event, a five-day multi-sport event held on 24-31 March 1921 in Monte Carlo at the International Sporting Club of Monaco.

It was the first of three Women's events held annually at the venue, and the forerunner of the quadrennial Women's World Games, organized in 1922-34 by the International Women's Sports Federation.

Events

The Games were attended by 100 participants from five nations: France, Italy, Norway (mentioned by several sources, however no Norwegian athletes appear in the result lists), Switzerland and the United Kingdom.



93. **BADGE.** Fédération Sportive
Feminine Internationale



94. **JEUX ATHLÉTIQUES FÉMININS.**
Monte Carlo appears as Monte
Carle, 1921.



92. LA COURSE DES MIDINETTES.

Le Petit Journal, Sunday 8, November 1903.

The athletes competed in 10 events: running (60m, 250m, 800m, 4x75m relay, 4x 175m relay, hurdles), high jump, long jump, standing long jump (exhibition only), javelin and shot put. The tournament also held exhibition events in basketball, gymnastics, push-ball and rhythmic gymnastics.

The tournament was held at the 'Tir aux Pigeons' in the gardens of the Monte Carlo Casino.

Each athlete in the shot put and javelin throw events threw using their right hand, then their left and their final mark was the total of the best mark with their right-handed throw and the best mark with their left-handed throw. The same rule was applied in the following two editions of the event.

The use of the term Olympic Games for the event was not accepted by the members of the IOC and the organisers changed the name in

the two other editions of the tournament to the Women's International Athletics Games (*Jeux Athlétiques Internationaux Feminins*).

The IAAF unveiled a commemorative plaque at the site of the Games in 2008.

1922 Women's International Athletics Games

The 1922 Women's International Athletic Games was the second international women's sports event, a seven-day multi-sport event.

Events

The Games were attended by 300 participants from seven nations: Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Italy, Norway (mentioned by several sources, however no Norwegian athletes appear in the result lists), Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

95. WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS GAMES.

800 meters. Monte Carlo, 1922. Original photo probably taken by Mr. Charles Kiffer, husband of Suzanne Porter. (number 165), winner of the event.



The athletes competed in 11 events: running (60m , 250m, 800m, 4x75m relay, 4x175m relay and 65m hurdles), high jump, long jump, javelin, shot put and pentathlon. The tournament also held swimming competitions and exhibition events in basketball, cycling, gymnastics and rhythmic gymnastics.

The pentathlon event was the first recorded women's pentathlon, the five events were 60m, 300m, high jump, javelin and shot put (the throwing events were two-handed). A regular women's pentathlon was introduced at the 1934 Women's World Games in London.

1923 Women's International Athletics Games

The 1923 Women's International Athletics Games (*Jeux Athlétiques Internationaux Féminins*) was the fourth international event in women's sports.

Events

The Games were attended by participants from eight nations: Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Italy, Monaco, Switzerland and Great Britain.

The athletes competed in 11 events: running (60m, 250m, 800m, 4x75m relay, 4x175m relay and 65m hurdles), high jump, long jump, javelin, shot put and pentathlon. The tournament also held exhibition events in basketball, gymnastics and rhythmic gymnastics.

Among the spectators were Prince Louis II, Princess Charlotte and Prince Pierre.

Prior to the tournament there was a gymnastics event 'La Quatrième Fête Fédérale de Gymnastique et d'Éducation Physique Féminines' in Fontvieille with about 1200 participants from 71 gymnastic clubs. (This event has sometimes been confused with the athletics competition).



96. MEDAL.

Women's International Athletics
Games. Monte Carlo, 1922.

Voir à l'intérieur : *LES SIX JOURS CYCLISTES DE PARIS; LES DEMI-FINALES DE LA COUPE DE FRANCE DE FOOTBALL; LES POULES DE TROIS DE RUGBY, etc., etc.*

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Photo de l'envoyé spécial du "Miroir des Sports"

L'ANGLAISE MISS LOWMAN SAUTE 1 m. 47 AUX JEUX ATHLÉTIQUES FÉMININS DE MONTE-CARLO

La semaine dernière se sont déroulés à Monte-Carlo les troisièmes jeux athlétiques internationaux des sportives. La meilleure performance a été accomplie par l'Anglaise Miss Lowman qui, de face, a franchi la barre placée à 1 m. 47. Les Françaises ont remporté trois victoires au cours des épreuves qui les opposaient aux Anglaises, Belges, Suissesses, Tchéco-slovaques et Italiennes.

Women's World Games

Events

In response to the refusal of the IAAF to include women's events in the 1924 Olympic Games, the FSFI also organised the first Women's Olympic Games in Paris in 1922.

The IOC objected to the FSFI using the word 'Olympic' in the title of its events. After negotiations the IOC and the IAAF therefore agreed to include 10 athletics events in the Amsterdam 1928 Olympic Games and in exchange Milliat altered the title to Women's World Games. They finally included only five events in Amsterdam (100m, 800m, 4x100m, high jump and discus) and only as an experiment.

The FSFI did not find this satisfactory and organised the third Women's World Games in Prague in 1930 and the fourth Games in London in 1934.

Events

Four regular events were held but a planned 5th was cancelled as women participated in the 1938 European Athletics Championships.

ED.	YEAR	HOST CITY	COUNTRY	STADIUM	DATE	PARTICIPATION
I	1922	Paris	France	Stade Pershing	20 August	77 athletes and 5 countries
II	1926	Gothenburg	Sweden	Slotsskogsvallen Stadium	27-29 August	100 athletes and 9 countries
III	1930	Prague	Czechoslovakia	Stadion Letná	6-8 September	200 athletes and 17 countries
IV	1934	London	United Kingdom	White City Stadium	9-11 August	200 athletes and 19 countries



Following some protracted arguments between the FSFI, the IOC and the IAAF, the FSFI and an IAAF commission agreed that the IAAF should take control of all international women's athletic events in return for the IAAF recognising all FSFI records, introducing a complete programme of women's Olympic events, and the IAAF holding the fifth Women's World Games in Vienna in 1938.

In the event, while the 1936 IAAF Congress agreed to recognise FSFI records, it otherwise only agreed to proposing a somewhat expanded programme of Olympic events to the IOC (the IOC refused) and holding a programme of women's events in the 1938 European Athletics Championships in place of the Women's World Games. The FSFI ceased operations in 1938 without ever accepting or rejecting the IAAF's decisions.

← 97. WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS GAMES, 1923 MONTE CARLO.
Le Miroir des Sports, Paris 1923.

98. WOMEN'S WORLD GAMES.
Gothenburg vignette, 1926.

22. THE BEGINNING OF THE IAAF

THE BEGINNING OF THE IAAF A STUDY OF ITS BACKGROUND AND FOUNDATION⁴

By Dr. Hans Bolling



99. FIRST IAAF CONGRESS
BADGE. Stockholm, 1912.

Stockholm 1912

On 17 July 1912 the first IAAF Congress was carried through. Present were 37 delegates from 17 nations: Australasia (Australia and New Zealand), Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the USA. No less than 11 delegates represented the host nation.

The president of the SAA, Leopold Englund, wished the delegates welcome. He emphasised what the Crown Prince had previously stressed, namely that the interests of the IOC must be respected, wishing: *“that a strong Board may now be formed and that the object of the Board should be, to draw up and agree to rules and regulations for International Athletics, to register all World, Olympic and National records, and also to draw up an amateur definition for international competitions. Our work should, therefore, be confined to these points, as the organisation of the Olympic Games is in the hands of the International Olympic Committee.”*

(J Sigfried) Edström was elected chairman of the Congress, Kristian Hellström secretary (the latter was also the general secretary of the Olympic organizing committee). At last, time to talk in favor of or against the proposed organisation had come. There is reason to give an overview of the discussion and its participants. Who were supportive, who were sceptical, who opposed the idea?

4 Extract from the article **The beginning of the IAAF – A study of its background and Foundation**, by Dr. Hans Bolling, (adviser: Prof. em. Jan Lindroth), Stockholm/Sweden 2007.

Carl Diem (Germany) supported the formal establishment of a federation immediately, convinced that a new organisation would fill a well-known gap in the international world of sport. In fact, Diem stands out as the most dedicated and active spokesman for a positive solution on the spot. The idea, he argued, had met with widespread approval from several nations and all concerned parties were acquainted with it. If some nations did not want to join at once, they could wait, for example, until the next Congress.

Diem gained support from some delegates. Among them we find Maximo Kähni (Chile) and Hans Pfeiffer (Austria). The latter pointed out that no opposition on principle had been brought up and his country was ready to apply for membership at once. However, delegates having a positive attitude demonstrated less activity than did the sceptics and opponents.

It is an interesting observation that the Anglo-Saxon (English-speaking) delegates represented the more or less negative position related to establishing a federation at once. Joseph B. Maccabe, representing the USA, did not accept a federation for the time being. However, he did sympathise with a new organisation as a general idea, appreciating the Swedish initiative. The matter, he added, must be dealt with by his national association. From the side of Australasia and Great Britain as well as France, the same type of argument was noticed.

The delegate from Greece, Ioannis Chryssafis, maintained that he liked the idea of a new

organisation but asked about the relations to the IOC. He pointed out that Coubertin was preparing an international Olympic Congress in Paris in 1914, where rules, regulations, a standard program, amateur definitions etc were on the agenda. Here again, we see how important the Olympic movement, as an older and prestigious organisation, was in the preparations for the IAAF.

Obviously, there existed some doubts as to whether the Congress was meant formally to found a new organisation or only to discuss such a step. Several nations were not prepared to endorse the creation of a federation. They lacked the full authorisation from their respective countries. On the other hand, it seems reasonable to wonder why they were not better prepared, since the proposal had been well-known for a long time. It should be added that decisive opponents, totally rejecting the idea, did not appear.

A voting procedure followed the discussion. The result can be summarised into three categories of votes with reference to the question as to whether a foundation should be carried through at once or not:

- Nine positive votes: Austria, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Russia, and Sweden.
- Three negative: Belgium, Egypt and France.
- Five indecisive: Australasia, Canada, Great Britain, Greece and the USA.

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Angenommen von der

Internationalen Amateur Athletik Föderation

In der Tagung zu

Berlin, Deutschland

20.—23. August, 1913

Herr J. S. EDSTROM, Präsident

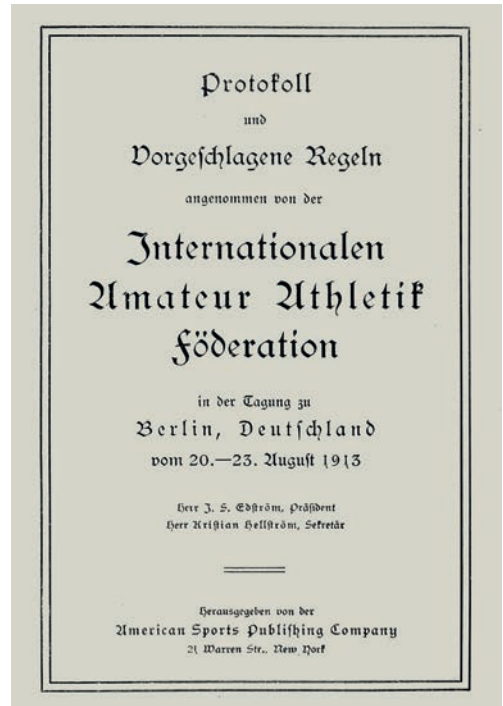
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Because the Congress wanted complete unanimity, it decided to regard the voting as provisional and postpone the final foundation of the proposed entity to the next Congress, which would be arranged the following summer in Berlin. By that time the undecided nations would have had the opportunity to consider the question still more and to formalise their position. However, the Congress achieved more than discussion and provisional voting. A temporary (ad interim) Council was appointed. Edström became chairman, Hellström Secretary. Moreover, the Congress decided that five more countries should be represented in the new Council: France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary and the USA (Austria gave up their originally attributed place, since the delegate from Hungary expressed his wish to become a member). The following national representatives were elected: Pierre Roy (France), Carl Diem (Germany), P. L. Fisher (Great Britain/England), Szilárd Stankovits (Hungary), James E. Sullivan (USA).

To sum up, it stands out quite clearly that the need for a special international organisation dedicated to athletics was not denied by any country. Many were ready to establish one at once, whereas some did not feel any imperative need to move forward immediately and wanted more detailed preparatory work before making a final decision. Probably, all realised that time worked in favor of a positive result. International federations already existed, administering sports such as skating, football, cycling, shooting, swimming and sailing.



100. IAAF FIRST REGULATIONS.

Published by the American
Sports Publishing Company, 1913

Berlin 1913

Some problems arose before the second Congress in Berlin. A Swedish newspaper highlighted one of them in March 1913 under the headline “Will England cause difficulties?”. According to the paper, indications intimated disagreements. The English opinion had shifted over, so it was said, to scepticism due to influences from the president of the IOC. This organisation (Coubertin) wished to have its leading position sanctioned, a strategy of supremacy that it had demanded and carried through several times before.

(Coubertin) wished to have its leading position sanctioned, a strategy of supremacy that it had demanded and carried through several times before. The obviously well-informed paper added that the Congress delegates appointed by the SAA under no conditions should agree to any compromise aimed at diminishing the strength and authority of the new international federation. The SAA was encouraged to neglect nations creating difficulties in connection with the process of creating the new entity; sooner or later they would come back asking for admission into the organisation.

It is interesting to notice how this press opinion, which probably was shared by many other papers and sports leaders, reacted against two traditionally strong forces within international sports: the English and the IOC. Both were expected to withdraw. It was emphasised that England had lost its leading position; associations between countries should/must replace the English organisations in the leading roles.

Another problem, more practical but nevertheless important, was linked to the very days when the Congress should take place. In Stockholm, July or August was the time agreed upon. The Germans, however, wanted to arrange the Congress at the beginning of June, because a new stadium was to be inaugurated on 8 June. As the Emperor would be present, and coinciding with jubilee procedures connected with his 25 years in power, the German hosts wanted as many representative sports leaders as possible to take part.

At the beginning, Edström and Hellström demonstrated sympathy with such a change of the timetable. Later on, in March, they felt forced to choose August as the Congress month, mainly because the American intercollegiate championships in athletics were scheduled for June. The two Swedes at the helm of the temporary council of the new organisation preferred to have the USA securely represented. The German Emperor became a secondary consideration.

However, an influential sports leader from the USA, James E. Sullivan, presented an alternative to Edström: namely, a meeting in connection with the IOC Congress in Paris 1914. This meant postponing the final and formal founding of the IAAF until at least July 1914. This alternative was rejected. Instead, the IAAF was founded during a Congress held in August 1913. Twenty – seven representatives from 16 countries took part.

The results of all proposals, considerations and discussions became the very base of athletics on the broadest possible international level. When the IAAF thereafter, through the above-mentioned James E. Sullivan and the American Publishing Company, edited protocols and accepted rules, it was said that the Berlin Congress undoubtedly formed the most important legislative meeting in the history of athletics.

The Swedish attitude is well mirrored by the instructions that the Swedish delegates brought with them to Berlin. They can be summarised as follows:

1. The federation ought to be founded irrespective of which countries and how many were willing to associate.
2. The federation must not be dependent upon any other sports authority.
3. That a new Congress should be held on the demand of at least three countries.
4. There must be, at least initially, an annual Congress.
5. If the programme of the Olympic Games in Berlin was discussed, the Swedish delegates were instructed to work for repeating the programme of 1912.

The most obvious conclusion from these instructions seems to be that the Swedish leaders demanded a new international organisation for athletics to be established at any price. They were indeed dedicated to their original vision. From the French side an

additional proposal was put forward, namely to include professional athletics within the IAAF. Such an inclusion could prevent newspapers or other private parties from arranging professional championships.

According to one of the French leaders, Franz Reichel, the IAAF would have the opportunity to control when, where and how such championships were arranged. All other countries were opposed to this proposal, because they thought that the relations between amateur and professional sports should be decided on a national level. Reichel withdrew his proposal.

The founding decision was supplemented by rules and regulations for international competitions, registration of world records and amateur definitions.

Moreover, a standard programme for Olympic athletics was accepted. From a Swedish point of view the Olympic programme included one disappointment. As stated above, the Ling gymnastic ideology to some degree prevailed in Swedish sports, prescribing all-round capability. This brought about throwing competitions where both hands should be used (one after the other), the result of both hands being added together. But the opposition against such a procedure (as a contrast to the best hand throw) became too strong.

* * *



J. S. EDSTRÖM,

President International Amateur Athletic Federation; Vice-President Swedish Olympic Committee; President Executive Council of the Swedish League of Sporting Associations; Past President Swedish Amateur Athletic Association.
Wicklund. Photo.

Internationale Amateur Athletik Föderation.

Stockholm, den 8. Okt. 1913.

James E. Sullivan, Esq.,
American Sports Publishing Co.,
21 Warren Str., New York, U. S. A.

Werter Herr!

Wir haben die große Freude, ein Exemplar des Protokolls der ersten Versammlung der Internationalen Amateur Athletischen Föderation, abgehalten zu Berlin am 20. bis 23. August 1913, zu übersenden, als auch die dazugehörenden Anhänge, wie:

Statuten der Föderation.

Vorgeschlagenes Standard-Programm für Leichtathletik
bei ferneren Olympischen Spielen.

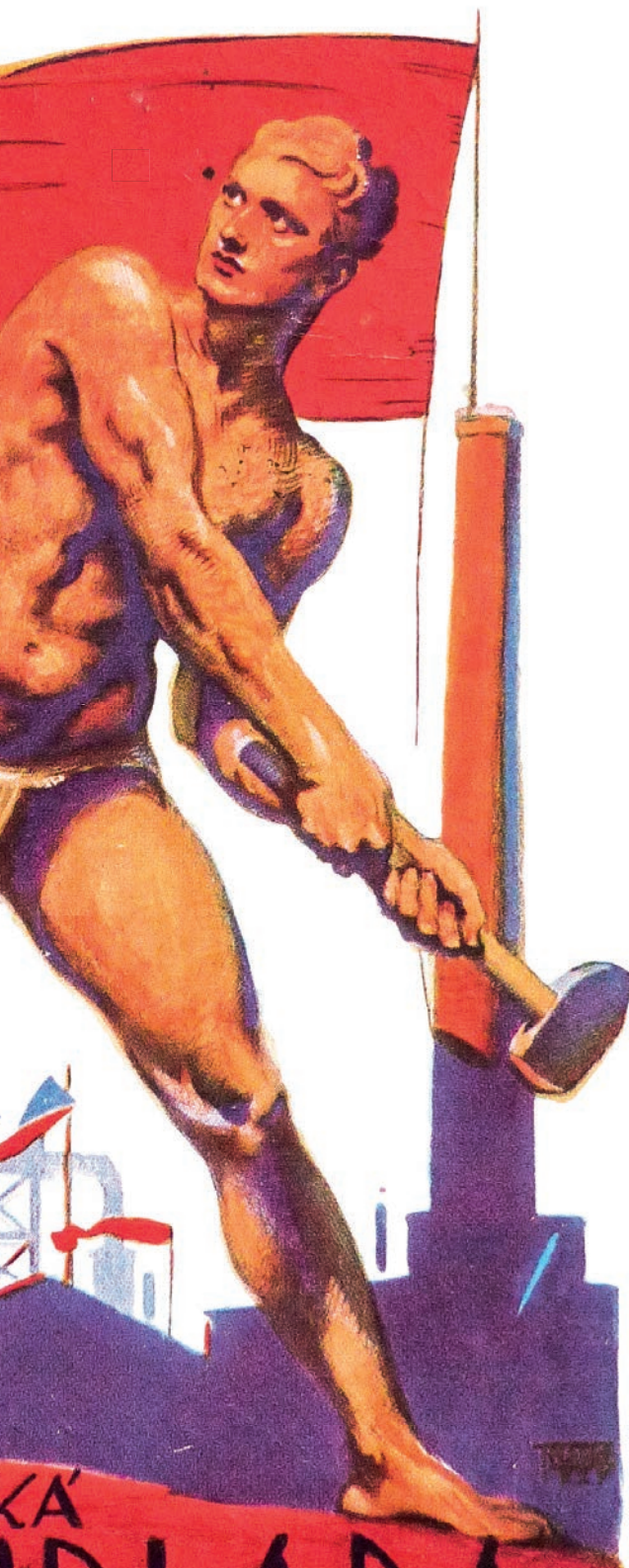
Vorgeschlagene Amateur-Bestimmungen.

Ihre treuen,

Für die Internationale Amateur Athletik Föderation

J. S. Edström, Präsident.

Kristian Sellström,
Ehren-Sekretär-Schatzmeister.



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