

2. The Chinese team was a selection of all-stars from the nation's final tournament. Although individuals on this squad appeared to be the most expert in ball-handling they were defeated in their first game through lack of team play.

3. In some cases a country selected its championship team and added the best players from defeated squads to this nucleus.

4. Canada sent its championship squad intact, including substitutes.

STYLES OF PLAY

All styles of modern offensive basketball were in evidence with none of them worked to excess. Each team adapted its play to the problems presented by the defense it met. All teams made some use of a retreated defense and a few utilized a zone scheme. Poland's play pleased the spectators as on defense it forced action all over the court and many times secured the ball before opponents were able to get it down the court.

Americans probably felt that we could teach other nations how the game should be played. As a matter of fact a majority of the teams were coached by former American players who had taught everything usually done on our courts. At a meeting of graduates of Springfield, Mass., College twenty men representing fifteen countries attended. Other teams were coached by American missionaries. Consequently, practically every squad in the Olympic received its training under men who learned the game in the U.S.A., or Canada.

THE OFFICIALS

The problems of officiating produced considerable suspense which largely was unnecessary as the use of a uniform set of rules, well known in advance, smoothed out matters considerably. An official, no matter how many languages he could speak found teams who could not understand his words so that the use of signs became common. The tournament was worked with a single official for each game. These men were the referees:

Tobin of New York; Powers of Detroit with Canada; Suvoong of China; Marek of Czechoslovakia; Creoux of France; Li of Japan; Seloni of Esthonia; Ugolini of Italy; Luceri of Switzerland; and Baumer of Germany.

On the whole there was little objection to any decisions. In the final game between Canada and the U.S.A., Suvoong of China officiated and kept the game in hand in a manner satisfactory to both teams. Personally, I feel that it is impossible for one man to cover all of the court, and that two officials would prove much more satisfactory.

THE SPECTATORS

Compared with other program features basketball drew small numbers although it did equal the attendance at such events as handball, rowing, fencing and wrestling. Very little was done in the way of advertising, and vast numbers of the Germans had never seen a game.

The stands for each court accommodated between four and five hundred spectators each, and at some games standing room was at a premium. The most interesting game was between Uruguay, champions of South America, and Poland, European champions. For this contest a capacity crowd was on hand and crowd enthusiasm was equal to that exhibited at any of our local games although neither team had many countrymen present. It was a fast game, played all over the court, with the score constantly changing from the favor of one side to the other, and