

the games so that greater concentration could be had. While the courts in Berlin were side by side, bleachers were erected between the sidelines so that spectators could see but one game at a time. Placing of the courts in a central area and surrounding the whole by bleachers would have permitted spectators to choose their games without changing seats.

A change in the time schedule would have increased attendance, also. Two sets of games were played each day starting at 4:00 P.M., and ending about 6:00 P.M. At the same time important events were held in the main stadium which seated 100,000; in the swimming stadium seating 10,000; and in the hockey stadium which seated 15,000. By starting the basketball games two hours earlier this conflict could have been avoided. The finals in hockey, soccer, and handball were played in the main stadium and drew huge crowds. A similar treatment of basketball probably would have increased interest tremendously, and this could have been done, as usually there was a considerable lapse of time between the morning and afternoon programs.

BRACKET ARRANGEMENT

The tournament schedule was so arranged that a defeated team in the first round was not eliminated but continued in play with a chance for a high position, - the championship still was possible for a first round loser. The original position and opponent was determined by a blind draw. After the first round the losers played each other with the winners of this consolation re-established in the championship flight. An entirely new draw was held, then, for first round and consolation winners with the consolation losers, having lost twice, eliminated. Unfortunately, teams which lost in the third series were considered to have lost two games and were dropped. Some injustice prevailed here as one team which drew a bye was eliminated in the third round with only one defeat. The U.S.A. team drew a bye in the second round due to Spain's absence, but won its third round game and continued in the tournament.

The general plan struck me as being a good arrangement. With a few corrections it appears much fairer than a straight elimination bracket or any sort of a partial round-robin.

THE RULES

It appeared before the games that there might be some difficulty in deciding the rules which should be used. The Olympic Committee settled this matter by adopting, with a few minor changes, the 1932 rules as they were the latest used by some of the nations. For any one game a team was limited to seven players. A withdrawn player could return to the game only once, except those disqualified by personal fouls. Once a team found itself with but four remaining eligible men, but the opposing captain asked that a player be permitted to return and the official agreed.

PLAYER SELECTION

Each country was permitted its own plan of selecting its team members. Four methods were used by the various nations:

1. In the United States eight members of the winning team; five from the runner-up squad; and one additional player from the final tournament were chosen. Thus the U.S.A. team was composed of fourteen players. As only seven could be used in any single Olympic game the squad was divided in half with an agreement that groups would alternate games. The presence of a bye brought some difficulty which was hard to iron out.