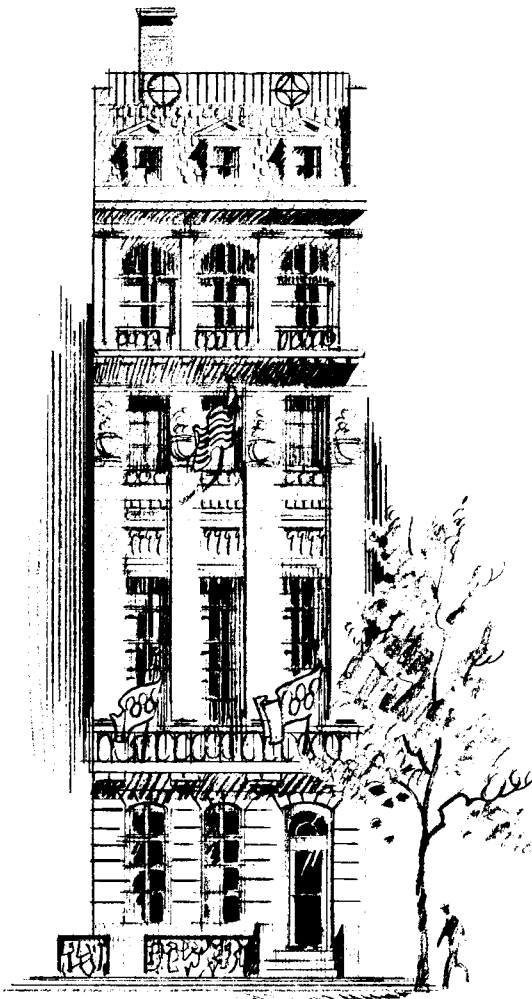


Long experience has taught the U. S. Olympic Committee that the tryout method is the only satisfactory way of selecting the teams. There have been times when highly regarded athletes have failed to qualify in the tryouts or have failed to participate and many people thought they should have been placed on the team regardless. Arbitrary selection of an athlete who did not compete or quality in the tryouts would undoubtedly arouse charges of politics, or race or religious prejudice by friends of the athlete who was displaced.

The U. S. Olympic Committee is deeply indebted to its games committees who, at considerable personal sacrifice of time and money, select the teams and help to raise the necessary funds. They do a conscientious and painstaking job and are one of the most important cogs in the USOC.

UNITED STATES OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS



A HISTORY OF THE FIS

By J. STANLEY MULLIN
Vice President FIS

On February 18, 1910, pursuant to the invitation of the Norwegian Ski Association, the first International Ski Congress was held at Kristiania (Oslo), Norway. The following countries were represented: Austria, Bohemia, England, France, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, Scotland, Sweden and Spain. At this Congress, it was decided to appoint an International Ski Commission consisting of three members, who were to be selected by the Norwegian Ski Association and they, in turn, were to draft the program for the Commission. The three members of the Commission consisted of two representatives from Norway and one from Sweden. Apparently the National Ski Association of America was committed to send a delegate, but the time was too short to make the necessary arrangements. The following appears at p. 64 of the 1910-1911 N. S. A. Year Book:

"The International: The Internationals met at Stockholm last season where a complete set of By-Laws and Constitution were adopted. No international contest outside those held at Holmenkollen have as yet been held, but beginning with this coming winter, every year will see the best European skiers compete for World's honors. The skiers compete under amateur rules, but a professional class will also be on the program; so some day, we shall be able to find American names among the participants in Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, Norway or Sweden, wherever the meeting may be held, and why not in America?"

In the report of the Secretary of the N. S. A., Mr. Aksel H. Holter, in the Minutes of the 6th Annual Convention of the National Ski Association of America held at Coleraine, Minnesota, February 19-20, 1910, there appears the following:

"The Ski Sport is the idolized sport of the old world. The numerous clubs throughout the many countries, where the sport is practiced, found it necessary for their protection to organize themselves into associations, national in aspect as our own, so that today there are more than a score of national associations throughout the world, all working for the promotion of the ski sport. .

Nineteen of these national bodies are tonight represented by delegates at an International Convention in Christiania, Norway, the object being the organizing of all into one great international organization; the establishing of uniform rules and regulations for conducting ski tournaments and discuss other matters of benefit to the ski sport where-ever practiced.

This body of delegates represents tens of thousands of skiers all over Europe, and it will be interesting to learn what steps will be taken, as whatever is done, will eventually have influence on our own association, inasmuch as it is our object to work for a clean ski sport.

As you have noticed from the pages of the last annual, we were informed some time ago of the probability of such a convention, but the invitation to be present was not received until too late to get a delegate ready, namely on January 18, the meeting having been called for February 18.