INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION
President: Dr. Karel Popel (Czechoslovakia)
Secretary-Treasurer: Olov Verner (Sweden)
AUSTRALIAN CANOE FEDERATION
President: L. G. Varcoe
Hon. Secretary-Treasurer: R. N. Chenoweth
JURY

| Chairman: C. Coquereaumont (France) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| H. Jespersen (Denmark) <br> W. Bohle (Germany) <br> W. Vacek (Czechoslovakia) | J. W. Dudderidge (Gt. Britain and N. Ireland) |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Riddle (Australia) |  |
| Technical Delegate: H. Berglund (Sweden) |  |  |  |
| Chief Official <br> Dr. K. Popel | Competition Organiser <br> L. G. Varcoe | Competition Secretary |  |
|  |  | R. N. C | Chenoweth |
| Finishing Line Judges |  |  |  |
| E. H. Radford (Canada) | L. Grapelli (Italy) | G. Loukatin (U.S.S | S.S.R.) |
| Starter | Turning Point Umpire |  | Umpires |
| w. J. Smyth | O. Bonn (Hungary) | E. Riley | y. Hill |

## CANOEING

Seventeen nations competed in the nine canoeing events, which were held on 30th November and 1st December on Lake Wendouree, Ballarat. One hundred and thirteen competitors participated and one hundred and fifteen canoes were on the lake.

The 1,000 metres and 500 metres events were raced on the straight main course, 75 metres wide and $1 \frac{1}{2}$ metres deep. The 10,000 metres races were started on a line 150 metres ong; competitors paddled along a straight course parallel to the main course for more than ong ; competitors paddled along a straight course parallel to the main course for more than 1,500 metres and then rounded a turn into the main course. Once back on the main course, after passing 1,500 metres, they completed a circuit by turning back into the parallel course
close to their starting line. Three circuits were made and the race ended at the finishing line close to their starting line. Three circuits were made and the race ended at the finishing line
of the main course. Banks of reeds grew close to the edges of the course for protection from rough weather. Although the weather was squally for some weeks before canoeing, conditions on both competition days were perfect.


Canoes were delivered to Ballarat and returned, without damage or delay, for shipment They were housed in temporary sheds on View Point, a promontory of parkland which was fenced and guarded for the use of the canoeists. Temporary dressing rooms were close to the canoe storage. Training facilities were provided for five weeks before the events. Control of training and the events was by a course manager from the Australian Canoe Federation and a group of members which built up progressively to a total of fifty-seven.

The President of the International Canoe Federation, Dr. K. Popel, became chief official and with ten other visiting officials and the Australian group, conducted the events with precision.

All points of importance on land or on the lake were connected by telephone and radio. Fast launches for officials carried radio. Public address system, photo-finish camera and electric timing, and teleprinter service, were also in use

The size of the national teams varied from the single competitor of Norway to the ten competitors of U.S.S.R. An average figure was six. The regatta brought surprises, among them

The successes of the U.S.S.R. and Rumanian teams, about whom little had been known in the west
The good performances of the Australian paddlers in this, their first international competition
The lack of successes of the canoeists from the U.S.A. and Canada, even in the Canadian canoe class in which they were once so strong. This was not due to he fall in their standard of paddling but to the great rise in the standard of the European canoeists, especially those from eastern Europe.

Some of the European teams arrived six weeks ahead of the regatta, expecting, since November in Australia is the equivalent of May in Europe and North America, fine and sunny weather. It was cold, wet and windy and the lake was frequently whipped into waves beating into and over the launching rafts. Rough weather on the open water proved a great strain on paddlers in training. Blue skies and calm water on the regatta days, however, combined with efficient organization to produce perfect canoeing environment. The course was well laid and using a microphone connected to a line of loud speakers immediately behind the start line. Short courses were along the same water as the rowing course, but nine lines had been marked out by coloured buoys.

In the 10,000 metres Kayak singles the surprise was the defeat into fourth place of Helsinki Gold Medallist T. L. Stromberg (Finland). At 4,000 metres it was already clear that the race would lie between Fredriksson (Sweden), Hatlaczky (Hungary), Stromberg and Scheuer (Germany). Fredriksson was never more than two lengths in front of Hatlaczky, who in turn was closely attended by Scheuer. In the last 1,000 metres Fredriksson gave his usual agnificent display to win from Hatlaczky with ten seconds in hand and so gain his fourth Olympic Gold Medal. Stromberg, of whom much had been expected, was suffering from aftermath of stomach trouble and was in too weak a state to present his normal standard.


In the 10,000 metres Kayak pairs, after a fast start, the field resolved itself into three groups, and at 3,000 metres it was clear that the medals would be divided between Wetterström and Sundin (Sweden), Green and Brown (Australia), Uranyi and Fabian (Hungary) and Briel and Kleine (Germany). In the last lap, Wetterström and Sundin dropped back and the first three finished about a length apart. The leading crews struggled stroke for stroke until Uranyi and Fabian went into the lead in the last lap. Unexpectedly, the Australian pair took the Bronze Medals.

Fredriksson (Sweden) carried off the 1,000 metres Kavak singles defeating Pissarev (U.S.S.R.) by about seven lengths, with Kiss (Hungary) in third position. Behind Pissarev and Kiss the rest of the field was strung out over some six lengths, Stuart of Australia bringing up the rear. This won Fredriksson a fifth Gold Medal.

By the luck of the draw, five strong teams in the 1,000 metres Kayak pairs found themselves pitted one against another in the first heat ; as a result Ljung and Heurlin (Sweden) and he second and third (Hungary) were eliminas. Kaalest was this heat which eventually pr Raub


With only nine entries, the 1,000 metres Canadian singles event went direct to the final. Rottman (Rumania) won the Gold Medal by 1 second from Hernek (Hungary). This was a surprise ; as also was the eclipse of Bossy (Canada) and Schuette (U.S.A.) who finished more than half a minute behind the leaders.

Two heats were necessary in the 1,000 metres Canadian pairs. These eliminated Drews and Kirschner (Germany) and Byers and Moran (U.S.A.). In the final there was a big tussle between Dumitru and Ismailciuc (Rumania) and Kharine and Botev (U.S.S.R.), ending in victory again for the Rumanians. The remaining competitors were evenly spread except Collins and Oldershaw (Canada) who lagged some 20 seconds behind the leaders. Sylvan and G. Christiansen (Denmark) were disqualified from the seventh place in the final, for
crossing. crossing.

In the two heats of the 500 metres Kayak singles, women, Eskola (Finland) and Hellebrand (Austria) were eliminated. The final was a great race, in which all competitor improved on the times they made in their heats, with the exception of Zenz (Germany) who lost 2 seconds. These lost seconds cost her the Gold Medal to Dementieva (U.S.S.R.), but her performance gave her an easy Silver Medal by 3 seconds from Soby (Denmark)

10,000 METRES KAYAK SINGLES

and Wiedermann (Austria). The final winners, Scheuer and Miltenberger (Germany) emerged from the second heat. In the third heat Raaskoski and Helenius (Finland) were disqualified from second place after colliding with Verbrugge and Van De Moere (Belgium).

The surprise of the 10,000 metres Canadian singles was the triumph of Rottman (Rumania), bout whom nothing had been known to suggest him as a winner. At 3,000 metres, Rottman, Boukharine (U.S.S.R.) and Parti (Hungary) had taken the lead and at 5,000 metres Parti moved into second place, holding it to the end, but never able to challenge the eigh lengths lead of Rottman. The rest of the field arrived over the next 5 minutes

One of the highlights of the regatta was provided by the 10,000 metres Canadian pair with the splendid performance of the U.S.S.R. crew, Kharine and Botev. At 3,000 metres, this pair had gained a lead of twelve lengths, giving a model demonstration which combined a beautiful technique with the effect of tremendous stamina. Their canoe ran smoothly without any of the bucketing so often seen in this event.



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                There were 42 entries from 15 nations; 30 participants from 15 nations.
                    FIRST ROUND
            The first three in each heat qualifed for the Final.
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{3}{|c|}{Heat 1} \\
\hline M. Kaaleste-A. Demitkov & U.S.S.R. & \\
\hline 3. M. Jemelka-R. Klabouch . & \(\therefore{ }_{\text {czechoslovakia }}\) & \\
\hline 4. C. A. Ljung-E. R. Heurlin & Sweden & \\
\hline 5. I. Vagyoczki-z. Szigeti .. & Hungary & . 4 \\
\hline \multicolumn{3}{|c|}{Heat 2} \\
\hline M. Scheuer-M. Miltenberger & \({ }^{\text {Germany }}\) & 3 \\
\hline 3. B. M. Ausalivant-R. C. . . Blick & \(\stackrel{\text { Rumania }}{\text { Gr. Britain and } N \text { N. Ireland }}\) & \\
\hline 4. R. SkwarkkiJ. Gobrki
5. R. Dermond-J. Pagkos & \(\because \substack{\text { Poind } \\ \text { USA }}\) & \\
\hline \multicolumn{3}{|c|}{Heat 3} \\
\hline W. W. Brown-D. A. Green & .. Australia & 4 \\
\hline M. Grarfen-M. Meyer & & \\
\hline C. Smith-L. W. Melia & Canada & \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
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FINAL


10,000 METRES CANADIAN SINGLES 30th November
Previous Olympic Winners

1948 F. Capek


$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text {.. Czechoslovakia .. } 6205 \cdot 2 \quad 1952 \text { F. Havens .. U.S.A... } \\
& \text { There were } 10 \text { entries from } 10 \text { nations; } 9 \text { particicpants from } 9 \text { nations. }
\end{aligned}
$$

$\qquad$
 7. D. W. Stringer
8. F. B. Havens
9. . L. Harper

| Rumania | 5641.0 |
| :---: | :---: |
| ${ }_{\text {Hungary }}^{\text {Hes }}$ |  |
| $\cdots$ Czechosiovakia. |  |
| Germany | $\because 5850.1$ |
| Sweden | 24 |
| Canada | 5957.5 |
| $\xrightarrow[\text { Australia }]{\text { U.S.A. }}$ | $\begin{array}{lll} \\ \\ 61 & 23.6 \\ 62 & 12.1\end{array}$ |

404

10,000 METRES CANADIAN PAIRS 30th November
Previous Olympic Winner

| Previous Olympic Winners |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1936 V. Mottl-Z. Skrdant |  |  |
| 1948 S. Lysak-S. Macknows | U.S.A. ${ }^{\text {Eechosiovakia }}$ | (1) $\begin{aligned} & 50 \\ & 50 \\ & 53.5 \\ & 55.4\end{aligned}$ |
| 1952 G. Turlier-J. Laudet .. | France | 08.3 |
| There were 33 entries from 11 nations; 20 participa |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| 2. G. DRansart-m. Revaiud | France | - 54.48 .3 |
| 4. E. Drews-w. Soltau | ${ }_{\text {Hurmary }}^{\text {Germany }}$ |  |
| 5. A. Dumitru-S. Ismail | Rumania | 51.1 |
| I. S. Duun-F. Haı | Denmark | 4.3 |
| O. Jones-1. Ohman | Australia | $\begin{array}{rl}56 & 18.6 \\ 56 & 48.7\end{array}$ |
| 9. W. R. Stevenson-T. S. Hodsson | Cumada | ${ }^{56} 5650 \cdot 2$ |



Finish of the Canadian Pairs.

1,000 METRES CANADIAN PAIRS
1st December
Previous Olympic Winners

There were 36 entries from 11 nations; 20 participants from 10 nations


FINAL



