

was finally overcome and good accommodation close to the Stadium provided, so that the track men could train each day in the Stadium, and the Marathon men on the course.

Mr. Sherring, as trainer, was in every respect a very worthy member of the staff and a great strength to the team. Often running with the men, living in training quarters, and looking after all the details, he proved himself to be a great help to the management.

Of the Marathon race much has been said and you are already well informed in the details and our failure to secure the coveted first place.

I consider it my duty to state that my experience in racing leads me to believe that Longboat should have won his race. His sudden collapse and the symptoms shown seem to me to indicate that some form of stimulant was used contrary to the rules of the games. I think that any medical man knowing the facts of the case will assure you that the presence of a drug in an overdose was the cause of the runner's failure.

Lord Stratheona, as Canadian High Commissioner, and his entire staff, especially Mr. Griffith, Lord Stratheona's Secretary, were of great assistance to the Canadian team in all their arrangements in England, and untiring in their efforts to assist us in every way.

I cannot close my report without drawing attention to the finish of the Marathon race and the lesson we should learn from it. The Canadians were the only men able to finish without a collapse at the tape. From the first appearance of Dorando in the Stadium until the last man in, one could hear nothing but condemnation of Marathon racing.

An examination of the men after the race clearly showed the price they had paid in their effort to win the great event. No true sportsman would ever again desire to witness such a sight as the finish of the Marathon of 1908 revealed. The effect of this grind on men in such perfect form must necessarily be destructive and permanent.

In selecting a team to represent our country in any future Olympic Contest there are two matters we must keep in mind,—

First. No man should be permitted to go who does not make good in the trials, and be sent officially by the Canadian Olympic Committee.

Second.—Only such competitors should be permitted to go who will in trial, reach somewhere near the world's standard.

I append a summary of the places taken by our entries and remarks about same of the contests.—

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. CROCKER,

Toronto, Aug., 20 1908.