THE INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC ACADEMY

SEVENTEENTH SESSION
JULY 1977
ANCIENT OLYMPIA

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SEVENTEENTH SESSION
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REPORT

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY

At

OLYMPIA

ATHENS
1978

«During the next two weeks, in the serene atmosphere of Olympia, the lecturers and participants are going to reflect upon and study a particularly relevant subject: "The present problems of the Olympic Movement".

The Olympic Movement is and will be criticized as it is a human and thus imperfect work. Let us try to improve it and contribute to strengthening its foundations».

LORD KILLANIN

President IOC

(Quotation of message upon the occasion of the opening ceremony of the 17th Session of the I.O.A. on the hill of the Pnyx 9th July 1977)

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PROLOGUE

The Ephoria of the International Olympic Academy and the Hellenic Olympic Committee are proud to present this report of the proceedings of the 17th Session of the I.O.A., held in Olympia, from 8 to 14 July 1977, to be added to the previous volumes that clearly reflect the important and fruitful work that is being quietly carried out in the unique cultural center of world Olympic Movement. And it wouldn't be pointless to repeat once more that the International Olympic Academy with its magnificent facilities in Ancient Olympia, is run under the responsibility and with the financial support of the Hellenic Committee and under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee.

Because the special theme of the 17th Session «The problems of modern Olympism» was extremely topical and the lecturers were known personalities of the international Olympic Movement, the Session's proceedings stirred up considerable interest among participants who represented the N.O.Cs of 33 countries. Possibly because they had been carefully selected this time and were all well informed of Olympic issues they attended assiduously all lectures and took an active part in the discussions to such an extent that one could say, without hesitation, that perhaps this was the first time that an international session in Olympia had proved so successful and fruitful. The extensive debate on the problems of modern Olympism, which we all regard as complex and difficult, showed that both I.O.A. officials and the lecturers and participants are adequately prepared to face them and could agree on most points and propose adequate solutions. The conclusions, according to the customary practice, will be submitted to the I.O.C., however, we should not expect solutions as rapidly as we might wish since we all know that it is one thing to present proposals as a body with limited responsibilities and quite another to take decisions on major issues as the sole responsible organ.

Seventeen lecturers, all prominent personalities in world Olympic circles, took the floor during the 17th Session and most of them remained for both weeks at the I.O.A. and lived together with participants in the grandiose and serene surroundings of Olympia, taking part in the discussions of the language groups; this close contact and direct communication between the young who really yearn to be informed about Olympism and the Olympic movement and these experienced «teachers» was one of the major features of the 17th Session. We note it with deep satisfaction because from the very beginning our wish has been to have lecturers, guests and N.O.C. ana I.O.C. members stay in the I.O.A. facilities throughout the Session, since their daily contact with young participants is many times more beneficial than lectures and reports.

Speakers at the Session included among others the 2nd Vice - President of the I.O.C. Mr S. Padieha, the 3d Vice - President of the I.O.C. and Chairman of the I.O.C. Commission for the I.O.A.., Mr. M. Mzali, Mr. A. Csanadi, member of the I.O.C.'s Executive Board, Mrs M. Berlioux, Director of the I.O.C., Mr M. Herzog, former French minister for sport, Mr Th. Keller, President of the General Assembly of International Sport Federations, Mr. L. Silance, Legal Adviser to the I.O.C., Mr. W. Tröger, old contributor of the I.O.A., and Secretary General of the German Olympic Committee, Mrs N. Lekarska, member of the Bulgarian Olympic Committee, Mr. A. Gresko, member of the Organizing Committee of the Moscow games, Miss J. Lieper from Canada, Mrs N. Pappas from the USA, Mr. Bache from Austria and the Greek lecturers and contributors of the I.O.A., Messrs Cleanthis Palaeologos (17 participations in I.O.A. sessions), Otto Szymicqek (16 participations) and Tr. Karatasakis.

The proceedings of the 17th Session were also attended by the old friend of the I.O.A., Dr. G. de Stefani, member of the Italian Olympic Committee, Mr Epam. Petralias, former I.O.A. President and I.O.C. member for Greece and Mr N.. Filaretos, Secretary General of the Hellenic Olympic Committee.

Mr M. Mzali, who became the Chairman of the I.O.C. Commission for the I.O.A. after the death of the lamented Ivar Vind, was attending an I.O.A. session for the first time, he expressed his appreciation of the work that is being done by the Academy, the excellence of its facilities, operation and organization, leisure - time and cultural activities and was deeply impressed by the splendid spirit of friendship and cooperation that prevails among participants which «surely, he said, is inspired by the sacred and truly idyllic environment of Ancient Olympia and the extensive efforts of the H.O.C. and I.O.A. officials to satisfy all the needs of participants so as to make them feel truly at home».

These sincere words of Mr Mzali are the greatest reward for the people who spare no effort to ensure the I.O.A.'s ever - improving operation.

As in all previous years, participants were entertained with films from the Olympic Games selected from the rich film library of the I.O.A. which is annually enlarged with new films donated by the National Olympic Committees, social evenings they organized themselves, guided visits to the important archaeological sites of the area, excursions to the lovely beaches of Western Péloponnèse, sports and athletic and swimming competitions. The beautiful I.O.A. pool was in great demand as always and remained open from early morning to sunset.

Many visitors and students were also attracted, during the intervals between working sessions, to the rich I.O.A. library which is being completed annually with several hundreds of volumes.

Since the President of the I.O.A. Prof. Nissiotis of Athens University was absent having to attend international meetings in Europe, the 1st Vice - President of the Ephoria of the I.O.A., Mr Cl. Palaeologos who stayed in Olympia for the whole length of the I.O.A.'s summer operation, presided over the meetings. At the Session's opening ceremony, Mr Palaeologos was awarded the I.O.C.'s bronze medal of Olympic merit for his long and dedicated contribution to Sport and Olympism.

As usual, the official opening ceremony of the Session was held in Athens, on the hill of the Pnyx, across the sacred rock of the Acropolis dominated by the majestic Parthenon. During the ceremony, participants were addressed by the 1st Vice - President of the I.O.A. Mr. Cl. Palaeologos, a message of the I.O.C. President, Lord Killanin, was read out, followed by an address on behalf of the lecturers by Mr. L. Silance (Belgium) and a salutation of the Under - Secretary by the Prime Minister's Office, Mr. Ach. Caramanlis. The opening of the 17th *Session was declared by the President of the H.O.C., Mr. G. Athanasiadis.*

In Olympia, at the closing ceremony, following the address of Mr. Palaeologos, Professor Lekarska (Bulgaria) spoke on behalf of the lecturers and Mr. Meinhart (Austria) on behalf of participants and the closing of the Session was declared, on behalf of the H.O.C. by Mr. Ep. Petralias (GRE).

In this volume, readers will find all information about the Session, the texts of lecturers and unscheduled speeches of guests, the addresses at the opening and closing ceremonies, discussions and their conclusions and the full list of lecturers, guests and participants with their addresses.

It is generally agreed, that the 17th Session, under the expert and calm guidance of Dean Szymiczek, was one of the best organized and most fruitful sessions of the International Olympic Academy.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY
OF THE 17th SESSION
ON THE HILL OF PNYX
9 JULY 1977

Opening ceremony on the Hill of the Pnyx. In the background the Akropolis and the Lycabettus Hill.

Opening ceremony, in the first row from left to right Mr. M. Herzog (FRA), I. O. C. Member, Mrs. Herzog, Mrs Sonia Padilha, Major Sylvio de Magalhaes Padilha (BRA), Vice - President of the I.O.C., Mr. G. Athanassiadis, President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, Mr. Ach. Karamanlis, Under - Secretary of State to the Prime Minister, Mr. C. Papanastasiou, Secretary General for Sports, Mrs. M. Berlioux (FRA), Director of the I. O. C., Mrs. H. Athanassiadis and Mrs. D. Ketsea.

Opening ceremony. From left to right Mr. Luc Silance (BEL), Mr. E. Petralias (GRE), I.O.C. Member, Mr. CI. Palaeologos (GRE), 1st Vice-Président of the I.O.A., Mr. Ach. Karamanlis, Under - Secretary of State to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Achilleas Karamanlis, Under - Secretary of State to the Prime Minister, during his address at the opening ceremony.

The President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, Mr. George Athanassiadis, during his address at the opening ceremony.

The 1st Vice-President of the International Olympic Academy, Mr. Clenthis Palaeologos, during his address at the opening ceremony.

Mr. Nikos Filaretos, Secretary General of the H.O.C., reading the message of Lord Killanin, President of the I.O.C.

ADDRESS

By Mr. CLEANTHIS PALAEOLOGOS (GRE)

Honorary Director of the National Academy of Physical Education
1st Vice - President of the I.O.A.

It is with particular pleasure that I greet all guests, lecturers and participants of this year's 17th Session and welcome them on behalf of the Ephoria of the International Olympic Academy.

Our thoughts, at this very moment, are turned in gratitude to the unforgettable pioneers of the International Olympic Academy, John Ketseas and Carl Diem and to co-workers and participants who have stood by us throughout the 16 years of the I.O.A.'s existence.

The International Olympic Academy with the warm support of the Greek government, the high patronage of the International Olympic Committee and the concern and material assistance of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, after 16 years of dedicated work, has become established as an institution of great inspiration and deep significance and is now recognized as the spiritual centre of world sport. Its purpose is to teach, cultivate and propagate in the world all the high principles and humanitarian ideals of the Olympic philosophy.

The undertaking which the Hellenic Olympic Committee entered upon so many years ago was neither limited in scope nor simple or easy. However, the Olympic principles and ideas represent the ancient spiritual heritage of our people, they are nurtured and live in his soul and his mind, they remain immutable and inspire him through his long Odyssey in history.

Greece, faithful and devoted to the ideals which were bequeathed to her by divine Olympia, is proud to have undertaken the charge and responsibility of the I.O.A.'s sessions through the Olympic Committee, she will continue the difficult work with faith and enthusiasm, for she is convinced that her warm and disinterested contribution is an offer to the principles of Olympism. The growing activities of the I.O.A. are the justification of its founders hopes and the usefulness of the institution becomes evident.

In spite of the major changes which after two world wars have disrupted the structure of our social life and have replaced the established elements of the past, and although the times in which we live are troubled and uncertain, I believe that mankind is constantly moving toward its fundamental goal which is the creation of a human being who pursues happiness and well being.

Today, at this decisive turning - point of history, we believe that

the peoples of the world, thanks to the world truce of the Olympic Games, can find, be it. for a short while, the peace and joy they need so that they can elevate their feelings and thoughts above the savage reality of our times, since the spirit of human unity flies above the large modern cities which every four years stage the Olympic event.

The Olympic Idea preaches that side by side with the Olympic arena there is another arena in which the human soul competes in events which are possibly much harder than the athletic contests and wins victories which hand down, from generation to generation, the light of fraternal cooperation, the light of honest toil and the light of man's moral immortality.

We can be certain that world public opinion is following our activities and assesses our efforts and the genuineness of our contribution which will be compared with and evaluated against other fields of social endeavour. For this reason we have taken from the depths of history, the true, philosophical and practical contribution of the Olympic Idea which we generously offer to the world.

In antiquity, the Olympic Idea had imposed its moral teaching to the world and created a civilization which flourished for approximately 15 centuries.

In our modern, complex times its important mission is to bring support to a world invaded by machines, these soulless machines which tend to gain total control over man's life and subjugate and subvert his mind, driven by man himself.

Dear friends,

Your eager response to our invitation shows that you have understood the significance of the task we are carrying out and we are happy because for the next 15 days, in the serene and idyllic environment of Olympia, surrounded by the marble remnants which still speak of its incomparable beauty, you will find many opportunities for creative inspiration and fruitful work and realize once more that we are a fraternal and peaceful community, a model society attached to progress and love of man that our work is aimed at turning mankind into such a community, closely and fraternally linked by the five Olympic rings.

The Olympic Idea represents the great idea of humanity. It was born here, in small, divine Olympia, it has remained alive since then and should be preserved intact in the hearts of the people throughout the world.

This is the task to which the International Olympic Academy which is opening its 17th Session today is fully dedicated.

MESSAGE

By LORD KILLANIN (IRL)
FOR THE OPENING OF THE 17th I.O.A. SESSION 1977

Since the creation of the International Olympic Academy, I have had the opportunity of attending a ceremony similar to this evening's. Each year, representatives of the youth of all continents assemble here before participating in the work of the I.O.A.

From the very first I.O.A. Session, Olympism has been the main subject of discussion. During the next two weeks, in the serene atmosphere of Olympia, the lecturers and participants are going to reflect upon and study a particularly relevant subject: «The present problems of the Olympic Movement».

This is not a new question. The Olympic Movement has always had to fight against hostile or simply indifferent forces. Each step has been marked by victories for Olympism but has also seen difficulties arise that had to be resolved without however losing sight of the main purpose, the Olympic ideal. I do not intend to spell out these problems of which you are no doubt aware as the eminent lecturers you will hear during your stay will put them to you in full detail. Your experience, your research, your doubts even all can lead to solutions which either depend on the I.O.C. or are closely linked to the supreme organisation of the Olympic movement, the movement which, since its creation almost one hundred years ago, has been and still is in perpetual evolution and change. The Olympic movement is and will be criticized as it is a human and thus imperfect work. Let us try to improve it and contribute to strengthening its foundations.

I wish you an enjoyable and successful stay at Olympia!

Lord KILLANIN

President
International Olympic Committee

ADDRESS

ON BEHALF OF THE LECTURERS OF THE 17th SESSION

By Mr. LUC SILANCE (BEL)

Legal Adviser of the I.O.C.

Mr. Chairman, dear Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This evening, the International Olympic Academy has made it possible for us to meet beneath the Acropolis, in this wonderful city of Athens.

Already a capital under Pericles, it remains one of the most beautiful modern cities.

Two thousand years ago, anything that was not part of Hellas in Europe could be considered as inhabited by «Barbarians».

It is with much pride therefore, mingled with humility that, although I am myself a «Barbarian», I have accepted to address you on behalf of the lecturers, in order to express in their name — and I am certain that I will faithfully interpret their feelings — all the gratitude and admiration we owe to your Academy.

For the 17th time during this 17th session you welcome participants from the whole world who will gather in Olympia, the cradle of the Olympic Games, where the Hellenes proved with their athletic performance, that they combined the attributes of the body with those of the spirit. Their civilization had reached a level which no other has ever equalled or approached.

It was not by way of a pun that I have said and repeated to all my friends and reaffirm on this remarkable rostrum that the Academy, founded and kept alive by our hosts, is, even more than the modern Olympic Games the place where the Olympic spirit reigns. It is there in those calm and serene surroundings, in a sporting atmosphere that you ask us to reflect upon the true problems of Olympism.

Thanks to your traditional hospitality we have all come to Greece as the guests of the Hellenic Olympic Committee and the Academy, in order to study together the modern trends of the Olympic movement, its organization and impact, its difficulties and problems, in order to exchange views on this vast subject and, all together, open our eyes and our minds and compare our ideas.

The Olympic Games of the XX Olympiad in Munich and of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal have given rise, like some other, but to a larger extent, to frightful or regrettable political demonstrations. Other recent phenomena which have now been added to these lead to

the evident conclusion that politics more and more interfere with sport. In other to try and return to more simplicity, in order to avoid a repetition of such events, Greece, the mother of the Olympic Games, in whose capital they were revived in 1896, is proposing to offer them a haven of peace of security. This will be, I am sure, one of the subjects to be discussed in Olympia.

At present, after having thanked our hosts, I will simply extend wishes to the Greek government for success at this new evidence of interest in sport in general and Olympic sport in particular.

To participants I wish to say how pleased I am to be able to study with them the fascinating questions which have been submitted to us and hope to be able to share for a few days the sporting life they are going to lead in the facilities of the Academy, combining discussions with sport activities on the grounds and in the swimming-pool.

And now, thinking of the days we will spend in Olympia, let us enjoy, here on the hill of the Pnyx, the end of this beautiful summer day, in front of the eternal beauty of the Acropolis. Before trying to stand up to our task of tomorrow, let us share today the sweetness of this Athenian night.

ADDRESS

By Mr. ACH. GARAMANLIS (GRE)

Under - Secretary of State

Dear friends,

On the occasion of the opening of the 17th session of the Olympic Academy I bring to all of you the warm greeting of the Greek government.

It is a special pleasure for me to be able once again, as the Minister responsible for sport, to welcome to our country some of the most distinguished adepts of the Olympic Idea and I am certain that in the serene atmospere of Olympia you will be inspired once more by this spirit which preaches fraternization, understanding and peaceful competitive emulation.

In those turbulent times in which we now live the Olympic idea is an ever-shining beacon which can help us preserve our humaneness. And we must all strive so that its light can go on burning and illuminate in the world the concepts it symbolizes and which have remained immutable through the centuries.

Dear friends,

The Greek people look up with feelings of respect and trust to you who play a leading role in this effort. I wish you fruitful days of work in this year's session and a pleasant stay in Greece.

OPENING OF THE 17th SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY

By Mr. G. ATHANASIADIS (GRE)
President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee

Mr. Minister,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Hellenic Olympic Committee I wish to welcome all the distinguished followers and dedicated supporters of the Olympic Idea who participate in the 17th Session of the International Olympic Academy.

I am particularly moved because during this session will be discussed the problems with which Olympism is confronted today. There is no doubt that the eternal principles of Olympism, whose purpose is to create a happy humanity through noble emulation, have recently been affected by foreign concepts, contrary to the ideals of the Olympic Idea. With the help of the prominent lecturers, many of whom are members of the International Olympic Committee, you will have the opportunity to delve into the philosophy of Olympism, define problems and discuss solutions.

I am convinced that the impressive surroundings of Olympia will inspire you with an even greater faith in the pure Olympic Idea and will make you its devoted adepts.

I wish you fruitful days of work and a pleasant stay in our country and I declare the 17th Session of the International Olympic Academy open.

CLOSING CEREMONY
OF THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION
OLYMPIA

22 JULY 1977

A D D R E S S

By Mr. CL. PALAEOLOGOS (GRE)
1st Vice-President of the I.O.A.

Dear friends,

After two weeks of good and fruitful work we have reached the end of the 17th Session of the International Olympic Academy. You have lived with us in these peaceful surroundings and have helped us prove, once again, that here in Olympia, people who come from different countries, who speak different languages, who belong to different societies and cultures, can work together in sincere cooperation and understanding for the attainment of common ideological goals.

I wish to tell you that I feel a deep satisfaction because you worked with us with eagerness and dedication and have contributed with your exemplary behaviour and intellectual effort to the achievement of the goals that had been set for the 17th Session.

All of us who are responsible for the I.O.A. have tried to help you in any possible way so that you could share the feeling of freedom which promotes creative work.

I address to all of you my warmest greetings and sincere thanks and to my fellow lecturers my deep gratitude for their positive contribution to the success of the 17th Session.

I hope that everything you have heard in the lectures and during the discussions will constitute sufficient motivation for further study and investigation which will enhance and consolidate the humanistic ideals of Olympism. I hope that when you return to your countries you will speak of the freedom which you have felt here, on Olympic land, fraternal cooperation and our efforts to help you carry through your task thus contributing to the preparation of the new delegation from your country to the next session of the International Olympic Academy.

I wish to all of you a happy return to your countries and ask you never to forget Olympia, never to forget Greece.

A D D R E S S

ON BEHALF OF THE LECTURERS OF THE 17th I.O.A. SESSION

By NADIA LEKARSKA (BUL)

Distinguished guests,

Dear Friends,

It is my honour and privilege to express, on behalf of the lecturers of the 17th I.O.A. Session, thoughts and feelings of gratitude. Before I do so, I wish to acquaint you with an amusing experience of mine. I lately discovered a neat handy volume with an unusual heading. «Speeches and messages for any occasion», a 19th Century edition. The occasions were merry, sad and solemn, as usual. I was amused by the grandiloquent pompousness of the text but suddenly became aware of the fact that our speeches quite often are similar to these of our forefathers. Keeping this in mind, I shall attempt not to lapse in the tune of a formal speech. We have, after all, known each other for two weeks now.

Our sincere thanks go, to begin with, to the Ephoria and the Hellenic Olympic Committee, for the honour of having been invited to lecture at this Session, for the excellent western conditions and very warm hospitality we were offered. Our gratitude goes personally to Mr. Petralias, who in spite of his manifold commitments in Athens, has spent many days with us. To Mr. Mzali, President of the I.O.C. - I.O.A. Commission for his manifest interest in the work of the Session. To Mr. Palaeologos, an embodiment of wisdom and understanding who followed with great attention every word that was pronounced in this hall. To the Dean of the Academy, Mr. Szymiczek, who proved that knowledge and modesty, efficiency, kindness and tolerance can go hand in hand. Mr. Szymiczek certainly knows how to run an International Academy.

We wish to thank Mr. Filaretos, Secretary General of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, who in spite of his business, was with us several days. We have regretted the absence of Prof. Nissiotis, President of the I.O.A. but we all too well understand that he has accepted the high post having previously given his consent to lecture abroad. We wish him the best of success in his Olympic activity.

Also we thank Mr. Broussalis, who in his silent manners, acted as though organization was the easiest thing in life. We thank the secretarial staff, headed by Miss Sophie Christodulu, all assistants and

managerial staff which spared no efforts to turn these buildings into a warm and pleasant home for us.

Our special gratitude goes to the interpreters, who so excellently bridged the language gap between us. And now we turn to the participants. It was a pleasure lecturing to you because you were attentive listeners and challenging opponents during our dialogue. We have learned a lot from your questions and hope that in turn we have helped you to obtain a clearer insight to the problems under discussion. There is more to it still. We became friends and rely upon you as future promoters of the Olympic Movement, to disseminate its basic humanitarian principles of Internationalism, mutual respect, friendship and peace.

«Partir, c'est un peu mourir», say the French but before we say goodbye I wish to revive a memory which by means of association is connected with this Closing Ceremony.

1960. The Olympic Winter Games in Squaw - Valley. It was Walt Disney, this great artist who had placed his accomplished creative imagination in service of the Games. We had however never seen him. He worked through his assistants. On the eve of our departure more than 1500 participants gathered in the hall where entertaining programs were staged every night. Somebody spoke out loud. «Disney on the stage». Everybody joined in the chorus, echoeing from all sides now. There he was, before us, an ageing man with youthful eyes. He watched the audience in silence, as though in want of closer contact. Not a word. Seconds past. Still no sound. Then he bowed deep, remaining bent for quite a while and when finally he regained his upright position he said quite simply, the way people of value speak:

«A bow of respect from an artist to the prowess of the sportsman, a token of admiration for the beauty and grandeur of Olympism».

What more could one add?

Following this example, we symbolically bow to Olympia, to the link between the remote past and today, to its lofty human goals.

Goodbye to all. May our paths cross again in this large and fraternal Olympic Family of ours.

ADDRESS
ON BEHALF OF THE PARTICIPANTS

By Mr. WALTER MEINHART (AUT)

I am very grateful to have been nominated as your representative to deliver this speech and the Austrian delegation as well as myself feel deeply honoured.

We have now reached the point where our paths which crossed 15 days ago will again follow a different course.

Fifteen days is a short time, the length of the Olympic Games. But 15 days can bring more than many years put together, and this I consider is the feeling that predominates among all of us, participants and lecturers alike.

Why do we think that these two weeks are so important?

For numerous reasons, one of which at least must be mentioned for it is the one, in my mind, which allows all the others to expand.

I am referring to the privileged community which we have formed here, coming from different horizons and all continents, with our disparities and similarities, united by the same joy and enthusiasm, both sporting and intellectual. This symbiosis of the body and the mind most of us had never felt it so intensely before our stay here in Olympia.

We have been under the magic influence of one word, Olympia, one site, that of the Academy, one idea, that of Olympism. Without even realizing it, we have left on the banks of the Alpheios and the Cladeos, together with some blankets, the superfluous load most of our fellow-men carry with them all their life long.

With only our hearts and our minds we have tried, with the effective assistance of the distinguished lecturers to whom we had the privilege to listen — and thanks to their advice — to define the meaning which we give to the term Olympism. This has led to a better understanding of the mechanism, the role and operation, as well as the problems of the greatest social force of our time: The Olympic Movement.

Of course the Olympic Movement has problems to solve, some of them crucial. Our stay here will at least have allowed us to understand that it is not always easy to solve them and that our view of them is usually rather incomplete. This can but strengthen our conviction and our desire to serve Olympism and the ideals that were revived by Baron Pierre de Coubertin. While carrying through this task we will be more able to adapt our beliefs to the realities of our modern world, without betraying these ideals.

Mr. Mzali exhorted us yesterday to take over and continue the work of the reviver of the Games, however not as conservative heirs but as creative continuators who will develop and expand the assets entrusted to them.

A noble but difficult and certainly thankless task. No matter, its magnitude cannot but make us ignore the numerous obstacles we will certainly meet on the way. And the hope that we may one day return and find new inspiration in the cool sources of Olympia will certainly sustain us along the difficult road we all have to walk on our own and let me wish that our ways may meet as often as possible.

Before concluding, allow me to thank on your behalf the I.O.C. members who have come here in order to share with us their preoccupation and hopes and in particular the President of the I.O.C. Commission for the I.O.A., Mr. Mzali and the President of the Programme Commission Mr. Csanadi, as well as Mme Berlioux for the clear and simple and at the same time forceful way in which she presented her views, and for her major contribution to the work of the I.O.C.

Our deep gratitude is extended to all the members of the Ephoria of the I.O.A. and in particular to Mr. Petralias, Mr. Palaeologos and Mr. Szymiczek, for their continuous presence and their concern for the perfect preparation and holding of the session, as well as to the Hellenic Olympic Committee for its warm hospitality.

Please allow me to extend our warmest thanks to all the members of the Academy's staff for their cordial hospitality and kindness, which we have all particularly appreciated.

Finally, dear friends, I want to say to all of you goodbye, goodbye and thank you, thank you for your warmth, thank you for your enthusiasm, for your questions, for your songs and dances, thank you for the richness and friendship each of us will carry home with him.

ADDRESS

By Mr. EP. PETRALIAS (GRE)

1st Vice - President of the H.O.C.
Member of the I.O.C. for Greece

I had been asked by the Hellenic Olympic Committee in my capacity as 1st Vice - President to declare the closing of the 17th Session of the International Olympic Academy of which I have been President for six years.

Unfortunately I will have to be deprived of this pleasure for an extraordinary meeting on most important sport questions makes it imperative that I be in Athens at the time when you will be holding your closing ceremony. This is why I have asked the Dean to read this address to you.

The theme of this year's session was «The Olympic Games and their Problems», a question which preoccupies today not only those directly involved with sport — and they are many — but world public opinion and creates serious problems for the leading authority of world Olympism, the I.O.C., with effects on all activities related to sport.

The awareness of the responsibility undertaken by the I.O.C. for the successful settlement of these questions, must unite all the friends of sport and the adepts of the Olympic Ideology in an endeavour to find appropriate solutions adapted to the present conditions of society and the integration of Olympic principles in the general social trend toward progress. A very heavy, difficult, complex and delicate task, but by no means impossible.

On all these questions it would be most useful that the voice of healthy youth which you represent be heard by those who hold the fate of Olympism in their hands.

Distinguished I.O.C. members have presented their views on these questions during the session, and you probably felt that they too are struggling to find the «golden mean», a solution fully adapted to the evolution of society. This solution will be found. You can be sure of that. For there the age factor plays a little part; experience, i.e. the wisdom of the older associated with the impulsiveness of youth.

We do not make laws in this Academy. We simply present our opinion and we ask those who are responsible for the making of rules to take them into consideration as they have done in the past. And when tomorrow you will take their place, with your experience and the ideas and opinions of the young, you will correct what will then need to be put right.

What is modern today will be obsolete tomorrow.

With your enthusiasm and indefatigable efforts we have reached the end of the 17th Session and you should feel proud because you have worked well and offered a positive contribution to Olympism.

You should be thanked and congratulated.

My warmest thanks and congratulations are also extended to our acting chairman, Vice - President Palaeologos and Dean Szymiczek and to all the lecturers who have kept your interest alive with their lectures and contributed to your learning.

I will not forget the staff, the members of the secretariat, the assistants, who have provided the working mechanism for the Academy.

We must also thank the interpreters who with their excellent work have given «life» to the texts.

I have left Mr. Mzali, the Vice - President of the I.O.C. for the end. His lecture is still alive in our memory and it was a revelation for us all, a message of considerable importance for the Academy's future.

I believe that with the help of the new President of the Ephoria, Prof. Nissiotis and the other members, new ways can be opened for Olympism based on mutual respect, friendship and understanding, proving that the Olympic Idea is a power that unites us at the service of peace and fraternity.

This is why I want to place these principles, these ideas, these feelings of friendship, fraternity and understanding in your hands. For you as our successors — which you will become one day, of this I am convinced — will be called upon to implement them. And I finally believe that the future of Olympism looks bright in spite of a few clouds.

After these few thoughts which come from my heart because I am one of you, in spite of my age, and after wishing you a happy return to your countries, I declare the 17th Session closed.

PPOCEEDINGS OF THE 17th SESSION AT OLYMPIA

The opinions of the lecturers do not necessarily reflect those of the International Olympic Academy.

ADDRESS

By Mr. GLEANTHIS PALAEOLOGOS (GRE)

1st Vice - President of the I.O.A.
at the opening ceremony of the 17th Session in Ancient Olympia
11 July 1977

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear co-workers and participants,

It is with feelings of emotion and joy that I stand on this rostrum for the 17th time in order to welcome you to the International Olympic Academy on behalf of the Ephoria.

In this truly serene environment, surrounded by sacred ruins and under the secular shadow of the Cronion hill, you will share with us the immortal Olympic Idea which was born in this sacred area and you will have the valuable and rare opportunity, inspired by its ancient history, to discuss the problems which confront today Olympism and the Olympic Games.

The Olympic Games have always been a world event. In antiquity in this sacred place were gathered the free peoples from Greece, Macedonia, Thrace, the lands beyond the Danube, the sunbathed islands of the Aegean sea, the rich plains of Ionia and Aeolia in Asia Minor, from the coasts of the East and the fertile land of the Nile, Egypt, from Cyrenaea and Libya and the Greek colonies of Italy, in fact from all the corners of the Greek world which had spread to all the coasts of the sunny Mediterranean sea and which represented at the time practically all the known world.

Today, the international character of the Olympic Idea and the Olympic Games in an accepted fact since the I.O.C. gathers more countries than those who are represented at the United Nations Organization.

I welcome you to the headquarters of the International Olympic Academy which is today the official spiritual centre of world sport. The Olympic Idea has extended national sport to an international level and provided it with an active, practical and cultural content, so that we can use its principles in an attempt to improve mankind and bring the people of the world together, thus confirming the principle that athletism and sports when correctly planned, represent a valuable element of modern civilization.

Dear friends,

The officials, staff and facilities of the I.O.A. will always be at your disposal for any information, service or assistance you might require and I want you to feel free to come to us for anything you might need.

For 15 days we will relive together the ancient truce. This is the prescribed length of the libations or, to use the modern equivalent, the «proceedings of the International Olympic Academy».

I wish you fruitful days of work and may divine Olympia stil inspire you when you will return to your far away countries with its eternal message:

Solidarity, understanding, love and peace in the world.

Vie w of the conference and recreation halls.

ADDRESS

By Mr. N. FILARETOS (GRE)
Hon. Secr. Gen. of the H.O.C.

Distinguished members of the International Olympic Committee, My dear Madame, la Directrice of the I.O.C., distinguished guests, dear colleagues, dear friends, participants of the 17th Session of the International Olympic Academy.

Im my capacity as Honorary Secretary General of the Hellenic Olympic Committee and on its behalf I wish to extend to you all a heartfelt and very warm welcome to Greece and to Olympia, the birthplace and homeland of the Olympic Ideal and of the Olympic Games

Dear friends, participants of the 17th Session of the International Olympic Academy, in these serene but impressive surroundings you will be given the opportunity during the next two weeks to listen to and to discuss several topics regarding the Olympic Ideal, the Olympic Movement and the Olympic Games. The Academy's library, one of the richest of its kind, will be at your entire disposal every day, all day long. Do not only make use of it but abuse of it.

When after two weeks you will return to your respective countries you will, I am sure, have become Apostles and Heralds of Olympism. And Olympism needs as many Apostles as possible because in this erratic world we live in, the Olympic Ideal has some enemies who are trying to distort its philosoply and divert it from its real goal. This is the reason why we are deeply concerned about the future of Olympism and of the Olympic Games. Not even one century after their revival the threat to the future of the Games is serious.

Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the renovator of the Games, this great idealist whose heart is buried here in Olympia, his cherished land, once said:

Dear friends, I can only give you one solemn promise. As long as there will be people living on the land which is called Greece the Olympic Flame will be kept burning. We are confident that all of you will help us in this universal task.

Dear friends,

I wish you a pleasant stay and a lot of success in your work and your endeavours.

ADDRESS

By

Mr. SYLVIO DE MAGALHAES PADILHA
(BRA)

2nd Vice-President of the I.O.C.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Now that it is my turn to address you, I am at a loss about the way in which I should do it.

The unusual circumstances that have allowed me to feel the emotion of such a meeting could provide an opportunity for me to speak to you of the physical, moral and intellectual values that the world has inherited from the intelligence of a nation and a people who have embraced the cause of the betterment of man. Truly, I feel myself surrounded by the wonderful inspiration which has come down to us through the centuries, revealing a past which bears the undeniable stamp of the participation of Greek culture and civilization at all times and is indicative of its presence in the immensity of space.

However, were I to elect this approach, I would simply be repeating the same words which have been used by men for centuries in order to extol the virtues and grandeur of a nation which, consciously and resolutedly, has moved toward majesty of beauty and perfection of character. So, I would not want to repeat, probably with less sensitivity, what others have already expressed. And this is why I think it is my duty to admit how unimportant I am before the Olympic grandeur of a people and nation which would shake and annihilate the most daring attempts I might undertake overcome by the granite structure of a civilization whose purpose was and remains the improvement of culture.

It is an honour for me to be here on the sacred soil of Olympia at the time of the opening of the 17th Session of this Academy sponsored by the International Olympic Committee and under the auspices of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, where participants gathered here will be presented with the main elements of a philosophy whose foundations rest on an entity represented by the Olympic Movement. Although I have not done it in the past, for reasons independent of my will, I have maintained a spiritual contact with this activity which is

so closely related to the highest and best interests of the Olympic cause and this is why I feel directly concerned with its plans, its goals and objectives. This is also why, ladies and gentlemen, at this meeting where the most genuine values of international sport are represented, I wish to assure you that I see in the International Olympic Academy an institution which has become a crucible that pours forth the values that are accepted by successive generations who have undertaken to uphold the philosophical principles of Olympism.

Having actively participated in this crusade of work, always faithful to the formal principles of Olympism first as a competitor and then as an official, I have made it my duty to follow closely the implementation of a programme whose purpose is to support the Olympic principles which however, are being adapted to social and economic changes which have marked the world from the time the bases of the Olympic Movement were laid.

It is evident that it would be difficult, in the face of these problems, to maintain the rigidity and immutability of the principle under the uncontrollable influence of facts and events. It is absolutely necessary that we accept formulas that will be adjusted to the eternal preservation of the Olympic Movement so that, without endangering its initial structure, it can become adapted to new factors by giving to these same facts and events, forms suited to the times at which they occur.

This is why the merits of the Olympic Academy are so many. I do not only refer to the conventional meaning of its expression but to the privilege of a forum in which the correct interpretation of the values that ensure the stability of the principle through a careful and progressive evaluation of all alternatives is ensured.

Olympism having been made the object of the most conflicting interpretations, at the mercy of interests not always sincere or loyal, the presence of the International Olympic Academy which the Hellenic Olympic Committee welcomed 17 years ago, sensitive to the ideas and ideals of Ketseas and Diem, its founders, acts as a vigilant and active force for the defence and the preservation of the Olympic principles.

Its importance is growing in direct relation to the analysis to which it is subjected.

In the true spirit of its natural vocation as a trustee and heir of the history and traditions of the Olympic Games, a support to the International Olympic Committee, the Olympic Academy has taken over the role of a university, through the sessions it offers to youth not only on the history, philosophy and ideological principles, but

also for the improvement of technicians and professors, through continuous and uninterrupted teachings.

Thus, in accordance with the foundations of Olympism and its most healthy principles of fraternity, which have become integrated with a strong wish for peace and unity, respect of ethical or conventional principles, preserved and supported by a sporting vocation that has become an incentive to physical improvement, the Academy must assume the role of a guide and counsellor, away from any concessions incompatible with the Olympic objectives and restrictions not adjusted to the new interpretations of life.

Without wishing to formulate a personal definition that would be misplaced on such an occasion, I think that we must reflect on the means to which the Olympic Academy will have to resort in order to establish the bases of the future security of Olympism.

In defining amateurism, Pierre de Coubertin said:

«Unfortunately, amateurism is not a set of rules, it is a feeling, a state of mind. We cannot therefore enclose it within rigid forms, for while it is difficult to formulate a precise definition of amateurism, it is already less complicated to classify on the one hand what an amateur in the true sense of the word is and on the other what he is not».

In this line of thought, I repeat, a personal definition would be out of place. It represents, the recognition of the extreme importance of the Academy's role, as a guide in the progress of the Olympic Movement, which makes it imperative to preserve, defend and extol it as a dynamic force which leads generations through their continuous revival.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I respectfully bow before glorious Olympia, the true shrine of Olympism in its highest sense and I wish to thank you for this opportunity of spiritual communication with the roots of a culture which clearly expresses the civilization of a people and in turn marks the whole essence of man's history, the presence of a Nation chosen for the greatest of fates.

And, together with my gratitude, I have the honour to offer to the illustrious President of the International Olympic Academy, on behalf of the Brazilian Olympic Committee, this memento which symbolizes the identification of the destinies of our two nations, twin sisters in their ardent desire and aspirations for peace and justice.

ADDRESS
BY THE PREFECT OF ELIA

Mr. A. NIKOLAOU, (GRE)
DURING THE INAUGURAL SESSION

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the Prefect of this historic region which contains «the heart of the whole world», OLYMPIA, I welcome you and wish you well in your deliberations and hope that your stay here will be pleasant, a fact that I am sure of, as I know how much care the Olympic Academy takes.

You find yourselves in the unique spot where, 3.000 years ago, the Great Olympic Idea was born, which represents everything that sports and civilisation can offer man; that is, the spirit of youth and of «Beauty», the meaning of true health, both physical and spiritual, the capacity for endless energy and total production and even the sacred contest, tenacity, courage, daring, joy of life and the feelings of co-operation, helping others and brotherhood.

My dear friends, you should not allow yourselves to be impressed by the fact that Altis is in ruins and that its marbles, its ancient temples and its shrines are broken.

The centuries and the great devastations that have passed over the whole world may have destroyed the art works of unique majesty that used to decorate and give splendour to Ancient Olympia; but its great ethical lessons have not been lost.

Olympism is its latest expression and you are the noble workers of the Olympic Idea.

Olympia is now the common nation of all of us and I wish you a good stay here and when you return to your beloved countries, you will take with you the feelings of friendship and love that are the feelings of Olympia.

THE IDEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF THE ANCIENT GAMES

(Religion — The City - States — The Crowd)

By CLEANTHIS PALAEOLOGOS (GRE)

Honorary Director of the National Academy of Physical Education
1st Vice - President of the International Olympic Academy

The main theme of this year's 17th Session of the International Olympic Academy, is the problems facing modern Olympic Games as they are nearing the end of the first one hundred years of existence, and distinguished speakers will contribute many ideas, opinions and views leading to constructive and fruitful discussions.

Having for 17 years always chosen as the subject of my lectures the history of the ancient Olympic Games, I thought it useful to present to you all the aspects that might be of interest to you on this main topic and give you some points of reference for further research.

You certainly realize that it is no easy task to try and link the present to the past, in particular when many centuries separate us from this past and the distance is made even greater by the fact that our worlds are totally different both from the practical and ideological aspect and from the point of view of accepted principles and values which are set and upheld by each world and epoch. It is thus difficult to draw a parallel between the ancient and modern games and use today's criteria to interpret the concepts and objectives as they were defined by the ancient Greeks.

I believe, however, that in investigating the main features of the ancient Games, perhaps without attempting it, we shall be led to parallels and comparisons, looking for the practical or ideological differences which man's development and progress through the centuries have unavoidably brought about.

Today we shall be considering the following points:

— Religion protected the Games since for centuries these were part of major religious rites.

— The city-states used the Games as the main institution for the education of their citizens.

— The participation of the public in competitive education was universal as it was practically compulsory.

— Whether competitive or organizational problems had confronted the ancient games.

It is a fact that the ancient Olympic Games began to be numbered from 776 B.C. and the games of that year were considered as the first, with Coroebus the stadium racer from Elis as their first Olympic victor. This is due to the fact that the historians of that time had not been able to establish and record the winners of the games before 776 ([1]).

The Olympic Games were not established from one day to the other. Man's performance in the field of sports is a biological phenomenon older than history and games as a social phenomenon are first described in Homer's epics as events with a perfectly organized ceremonial, large participation of warriors and specific rules governing the events and even chariot racing. And we should not forget that the Trojan war is believed by historians and archaeologists to have taken place around the end of the 12th Century B.C. ([2]).

Mythology which has surrounded the establishment of the Games with beauty cannot be considered as a reliable historic witness, in spite of the fact that Pindar and Aristotle ascribe the establishment of the Olympic Games to the hero Heracles, the son of Amphitryon, who founded them from the spoils of the war against the King of Elis Augias, in 1235 B.C. Strabo and Pausanias write that the sanctuary of Olympia was already there, at the time of the Trojan war and that is why the Elians had not taken part in war, as they were the sacred servants of Zeus ([3]). Then came the descent of the Dorians and the religious ceremonies and contests held in Olympia were revived by Oxylus, leader of the Aetolians and the Heracleides who mixed with the inhabitants of the Péloponnèse at which time ancient cults were abandoned and the worship of Olympian Zeus was established.

The first historical data on the Olympic Games begin with the king of Elis, Iphitus. And it is now quite clear that Iphitus brought

1. Lists of Olympic victors: a. Eusebius Pamphilus, Chronic book I, chapter XXXIII (Patrology Migne, vol. XIX). b. Pausanias, Eliaka, booksV and VI (cf. Nic. Papahatzis, Pausanias' travels in Greece, p. 29 - 38 where Pausanias mentions the names of victors until the 226th Olympiad. The list goes down until the 292nd Olympiad, but with many gaps, for the names of victors were unknown.

In the list of Eusebius Pamphilus, the victors are named until the 294th Olympiad (217 A.D.).

2. Cf. the games held by Achilles to honour the memory of his friend Patroclus, outside the walls of Troy (Iliad. G.) and the games held by the king of the Phaeacians, Alinous in honour of the wandering hero Ulysses (Odyssey O.).

3. According to Strabo and Pausanias the Elians and Pisans did not take part with the other Greeks in the war against Troy, because they were considered as the holy servants of Zeus.

about a revival and reorganization of the games. The view that games were held in Olympia before Iphitus is supported by the vast numbers of bronze statuettes and votive offerings that belong to the pregeometrical period.

Iphitus, with his farseeing activities and the moral support given by the oracle of Delphi, enhanced the status of the festival and its ceremonial character. He realized that if his area was able to secure a state of neutrality and not become involved in the conflicts that always divided the city-states, Elis would provide for its people wealth and happiness from the religious ceremonies in honour of Zeus and the games that would acquire a Panpeloponnesian character. And he succeeded with the assistance of the Spartan legislator Lycurgus and the ruler of Pisa, Cleosthenes. They signed the truce, the treaty that introduced the institution, remarkable for the time, of the cessation of hostilities before, during and after the ceremonies and games and declared Elis as a sacred and unviolable region. The treaty was written on a copper disc, in 884 B.C. and Pausanias reports that he saw the disc where it was kept at the Heraion, as he passed through Elis during one of his travels, around 174 A.D. ([1]).

After that, we again lose track of the games until historians begin supplying us with information from 776 B.C. onward. This was the third revival of the games. For 13 Olympiads, only a stadium race was held. At the games of the 14th Olympiad (724 B.C.) the dolichos race was included, at the 15th (720 B.C.) a long distance race, the diaulos and then, gradually, more and more events. It is interesting to note that Pausanias does not say that new events were «introduced» in the Olympic Games but «restored» for they had been forgotten during the long period of their interruption ([2]).

For many centuries, the Olympic Games were part of a religious ritual and Olympia became a Panhellenic centre for the worship of

1. «Ὁ δε του Ἰφίτου δίσκος την έκεχειρίαν, ην επί τοϊς Ὀλυμπίοις άπαγγέλλουσιν ήλεῖοι, ταύτην ουκ ες ευθύ έχει γεγραμμένην, αλλ' ες κύκλου σχήμα περίεισιν επί τω δίσκω τα γράμματα» (Paus. V, 20, 1). (On the disc of Iphitus, is written the truce which the Blians declare on the occasion of the Olympic Games: the letters are not engraved on a straight line, but in the shape of a circle on the disc).

2. «Μετά δε Ὄξυλον, μετά τούτον βασιλεύσασα έξέλιπεν άχρι Ἰφίτου τα "Ολύμπια : Ἰφίτου δε τον αγώνα άνανεωσαμένου κατά τα ήδη μοι λελεγμένα, τοις άνθρώποις έτι υπήρχε τών αρχαίων λήθη· και κατ' ολίγον ές ὑπόμνησιν ήρχοντο αυτών, και οπότε τι άναμνησθεῖεν, έποιοῦναο τω άγώνι προσθήκην» (Paus. V, 8, 5). (After the reign of Oxylus, the Olympic Games were interrupted until the reign of Iphitus. When Iphitus revived the games, as I mentioned, the people had forgotten what happened formerly but they gradually remembered; every time they remembered something they added it to the games) (Paus. Eliaka, Papahatzis, p. 241).

Zeus where the games, under the protection and inspiration of the gods, reflected the harmony that must prevail among natural and spiritual forces. The tradition of all ancient games and their mythology begin with the gods, for the reason that ancient gods were not much different from men, since they shared the same feelings, passions and weaknesses. The gods are beings and in them and around them life, love, hate and conflicts and all the other passions of human soul are thriving.

According to Hesiodus' theology, gods and men were born of the same mother Earth. The gods ascended to the immovable sky, immortal and omnipotent, whereas men were given a short existence like to the earth from which they were made and to which they return.

Limited as they are in power and spirit, the mortals cannot know what fate has in store for them, they do not know the will of the gods, they cannot predict the development of things, they do not know the causes of events, nor what tomorrow will bring. The line beyond which they cannot move remains firmly fixed.

Thus, the gods arrange everything concerning the life of men and they never fail in anything they attempt. There is nothing unbelievable and unattainable for the gods, there is no limit to their power. Custodians and trustees of secular order, of harmony and life, they crush any transgression, humble he who dares violate their law and reach beyond human possibilities. Monstrous powers that tried to disrupt the state of harmony, Typhon, the Titans, the Giants, were beaten and buried under mount Etna. World harmony which finds expression in social order and temporal life are within men's possibilities and they, ephemeral beings that they are, can only live and progress under the protective cover of the gods, observing their cult and not attempting to overstep the boundaries that the gods have laid for them.

There are, however, among the men some who are favoured by the gods, men of sound mind, great beauty or powerful body.

These men receive divine grace, virtue which is the culmination of their great and magnificent deeds.

And so we see that the ancients believed that all of man's attributes are godsent, gifts generously given by the gods. However, both inherent and godsent qualities, are not by themselves sufficient to bring the fruit of virtue. The constant and permanent toil of work, the everpresent danger of trial, the daring confrontation in contests. And notwithstanding all these efforts and toil, ultimate success depends on the will of the gods. This is why man must win their favour by honouring their name with his respect and worship and with the observance of moral, social and political order which was established by the

gods. And when glory, the ultimate gift is bestowed on them, men should not forsake «aedo» («αιδώ - humility) and try to reach «hybris» (ύβρις, i.e. the violation of moral law and arrogance).

So it is pnly honest virtue, which triumphs after long toils, privations and struggles, that can bring true happiness to man for the remainder of his life.

All this shows how closely the ancient games were related to religion and how athletes and victors furthered social aims and were considered as the guardians of public order, the laws, institutions and principles of the state.

The social role of victors was supported by the cities which paid great honours to the athletes who had been crowned with the wreath of victory. The winner earns the admiration of his fellow-citizens, his origin and lineage are acclaimed, his virtues, strength, wisdom, skill and beauty are extolled and even his coach is praised.

All this was aimed at developing a special philosophy cultivated by the state which, by praising the exploits of its citizen wishes to assimilate them to its past glory and emphasize, in the transient figure of the Olympic victor, the principles that incarnate virtue which is the ultimate goal it wants to attain for its people.

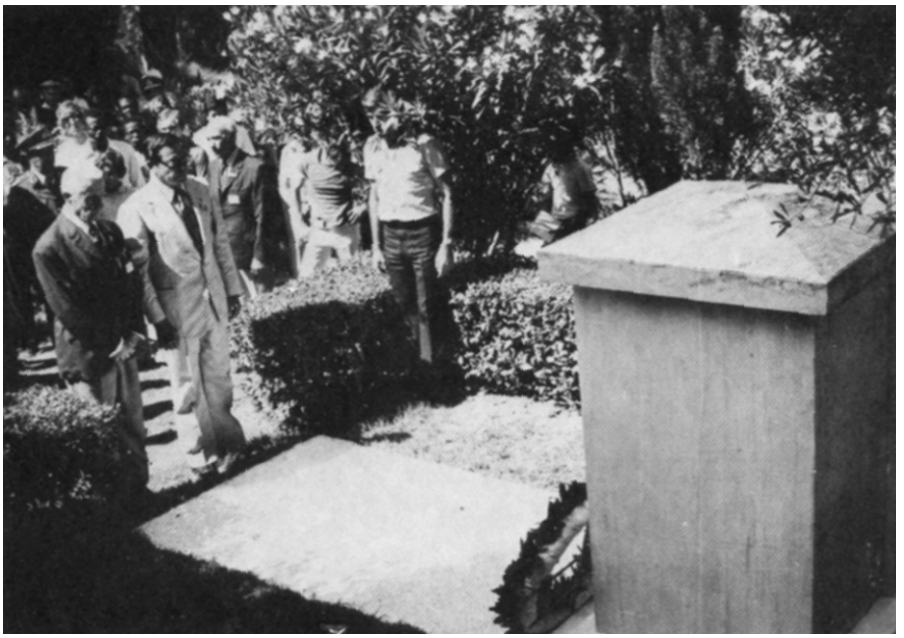
Here there can be of course no parallel with the winners of modern Olympic Games. From what was stated previously it is clear that a victory — an Olympic victory in particular — in antiquity was a major event, quite different from a modern Olympic victory. The victory of the ancient athlete had a religious, moral and spiritual meaning; the victor became a «sacred person» as the honours that were bestowed upon him show, whereas a victory today in spite of the effort to turn it into a reflection of the political regime that rules the competitor's country, fades almost as soon as the applause that greeted his ascent to the winner's podium dies out.

The ancient victory was consolidated by another fact: its moral value.

It was tarnished by no moral or other material benefit. The ancient games were games of honesty and emulation where personal value prevailed, where personal effort was recognized, that of the athlete who had conquered victory with pain, danger and long efforts, with a feeling of honour and dignity, so that, in front of a crowd assembled from all corners of Greece, he could be crowned with a plain wreath, which was considered more precious than any wealth or jewel and which honoured, the family, the lineage, the ancestors, the parents, the country and its gods.

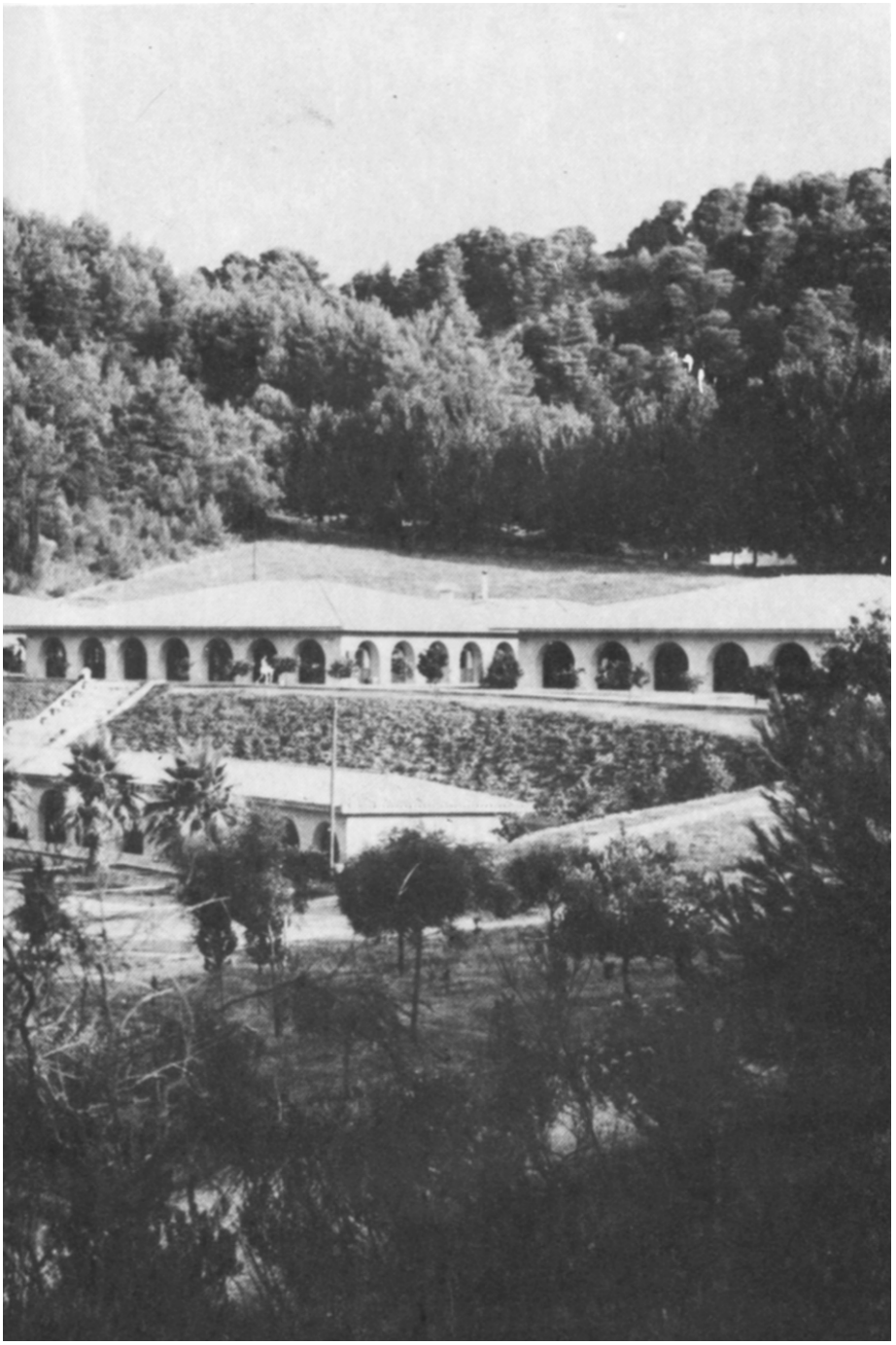
With such traditions it is no wonder that the games maintained

Laying of wreath to the monument of Pierre de Coubertin in the I. O.A. grounds.

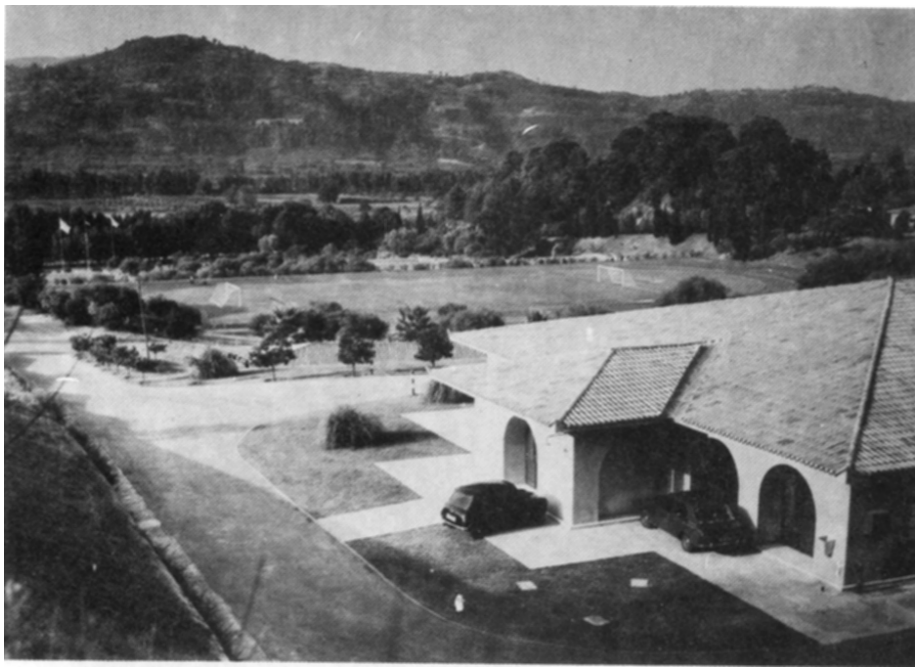


Laying of wreath to the stele of J. Ketseas andC. Diem pioneers of the I.O.A.

View of the I. O.A.



in Olympia.



View of the I. O.A. installations in Olympia.

View of the I. O.A. dormitories.

their moral harmony for so many centuries and it was only when their moral base and principles were adulterated, when the barbarian and Eastern mentality invaded the country that they lost their integrity and prestige, the athletes came down in the conscience of the people and decline became debasement and death.

Since the vast majority of the population in ancient times was a rural population with a few sailors, craftsmen and potters, the economy, which was mainly rural depended on favourable climatic conditions and the presence of the gods was strongly felt and accepted principles and values were based on religious ideas, the countryside was filled with shrines and the priests could impose the awe of the gods on the mystical people.

For many centuries therefore, the games were an integral part of religious ceremonies and it was only from the end of the 5th century B.C. when the effects of exercise had been truly felt and the natural emulation instinct had become «education», that the games gradually developed into the major event of panhellenic assemblies, the large competition centres grew, Delphi, Corinth, Nemea and Olympia and religious ceremonies remained as an essential and respected complement of the games.

The people's participation and response to these athletic gatherings grew with time, as the prestige of the games increased and the cities strived hard to make their presence felt with impressive delegations and athletes who would compete for the glorious victory.

The crowd attending the games was not made up as today of sport-loving spectators. With the exception of the older men, all other spectators in the stadia were people who spent their day in the gymnasia and the palaestras and «lived» the competitions with the athletes. The interest of the ancient people in the games was considerable, as it was being kept alive not only by the efforts of the state which considered everyday exercise for its citizens a basic obligation until they reached the age when they could take up arms, but it was also enhanced by the legends of competitors and heroes and traditions about the magnificent feats of former renowned Olympic victors whose fame-covered names were engraved on the bases of the splendid statues in the Altis.

The participation of the crowd was therefore universal and its demonstrations enthusiastic as we learn from the texts of ancient authors. Dion Chrysostome informs us that there were «factions» in the crowd, which supported fellow-citizens or friends or competitors who stood out because of their beauty or moral integrity. There were also cheers of encouragement and acclamations and cries of disapproval and contempt.

The Commentator of Pindar reports that «they showered fresh leaves and branches on the winners» (Pythion. D. 426). Plutarch says that they used «roses and wild flowers, while some threw apples and pomegranates» (Symp. 8, 4). Philostratus describes the enthusiasm of the crowd when Arrachion, who was by then dead, was declared the winner: «They cheer, raising from their seats; some wave their hands, others a piece of clothing, they jump high in the air, while others overcome with joy are engaged in mock fighting with their neighbours». We have to believe that the enthusiasm of ancient crowds after a difficult and captivating competition, was considerable, since their triumphant cheers could be heard beyond the Alpheios river. But just as great was the disapproval of spectators when competitors broke the rules and tried to win with illegal means or were inordinately cruel to their opponents. Philostratus gives us a description of a wrestling match that caused the disapproval of spectators. «One embraced his opponent from behind, in a tight lock, trying to strangle him, while the other is unable to move his arms and legs. He is suffering but manages to get free from the strangling embrace, by breaking one of his opponent's fingers which can be seen hanging, separated from the others. And he, enraged by the unbearable pain bites and cuts off his opponent's ear. Well, spectators reacted violently to this». (Phil. Eikones, 77).

* * *

It is clear that in ancient times no special effort was made by the cities to prepare, in any special way, Olympic competitors as is the case nowadays. Love for bravery and distinction were cultivated among all citizens and social classes by the educational system that was applied in every city. The good athletes who take part in the major games, competing for the glorious prizes, come out of the vast crowd and they are alone.

Philostratus writes, characteristically, that when the athletes arrived in Olympia, the Elian game officials gathered them all together and told them: if you have trained sufficiently for the Games of Olympia and have done nothing base or illegal, you can go to the games without fear, but if you are not well prepared you should go away from here[1].

The fact that athletes came from all the classes of society can be

5. «Ηλείοι *Sé*, έπειδαν ίωσιν ές Όλυμπίαν, διαλέγονται πρός τους άθλητας **ώδε:** *εἴ* πεπόνηται ύμῖν επαξίως του ες Όλυμπίαν έλθεῖν και μηδέν ράθυμον μηδέ άγεννές είργασται, ίτε θαρροῦντες, οϊς δε μη ώδε ήσκηται, φωρείτε οι βούλεσθε». (Phil. Apol. Tyan. 203, 8 et seq.).

proved just by quoting the names of some of most famous Olympic victors of antiquity.

The famous wrestler, Glaucus from Carystos was a farmer, Polymestor, Olympic winner in the stadium race for boys, was a goatherd from Miletus, Amesinas from Varki of Cyrenaea, Olympic winner in wrestling was a shepherd, Chionis from Lacedemon, three times winner of the stadium race, had become the leader of a colony in Cyrene, Orsippus from Megara, winner of the stadium race at the games of the 15th Olympiad, the first athlete ever to compete in the nude became a general of the Megarians; Phayllus from Crotón, famous from the 55-feet jump, took part in the battle of Salamis with his own ship which means that he was a wealthy lord, Cylon, winner of the diaulos race during the 35th Olympiad, became famous because he wanted to become a tyrant in Athens; the King of Macedón Alexander, son of Amyntas competed in the stadium race in Olympia, Milon of Crotón, the famous wrestler, five times Olympic victor, belonged to the Pythagorians and they say he left written works; Plato was said to have competed in the Pythian and Nemean games, Empedocles, a Pythagorian philosopher from Agrigentum of Sicily, Olympic winner in an equestrian event, was the son of an Olympic victor and the father of Exaenetus who won two Olympic victories in the stadium race. Democritus from Abdera, the famous philosopher who first formulated the philosophic theory on the atom, was a pentathlon athlete, the renowned Athenian orator, Aechines is described as well-built, strong and daring because he exercised his body in the gymnasia. Isocrates, another wellknown Athenian orator, excelled in exercise and a statue had been erected in his honour in the «spheristirion» (the gymnasium for ball games).

Chrysippus, a famous Stoic philosopher from Cilicia competed in the dolichos race. Pythagoras was a boxer, Keras from Argos, the winner of the wrestling event in the games of the 120th Olympiad, was a shepherd, Diagoras of Rhodes, the famous Olympic champion, was the great-grandson of the king of Ialysos of Rhodes, Damagetus. His son Dorieas, fought with his own ships against the Athenians and his two brothers, Damagetus and Akousilaus were archons of Rhodes. The famous Olympic winner Ladas from Sparta, a stadium runner, was a herald.

With the generally accepted belief on the value of physical exercise, it is no wonder that competitive training in Ancient Greece was kept alive for 12 centuries and that civilization flourished while the major games were in their prime.

In the long course of the ancient Olympic Games, many problems confronted the organizers from time to time. There problems were

mainly of a political nature, claims on the presidency of the games and later, when decline began, questions of violation and transgression of the unwritten rules of the games.

From the moment that the Olympic Games became established as a Panhellenic event, thousands of visitors came, every four years, to Elis; the country, protected by the institution of the truce, remained untouched by war conflicts and political strife, wealth flowed in, in the form of valuable gifts and votive offerings to the sanctuaries and Elis became renowned throughout Greece.

Pisa, situated on the border of the sacred Altis is jealous and its rulers, although they have signed the truce, claimed the presidency of the games, that is the right to organize and set the events.

The Spartans who profited from this important institution and especially from the permanent neutrality of Elis, offer protection to the area and this enhances their prestige. The Messenians, the Argians and the Arcadians remain their rivals and they either fight against or become allied to Sparta whenever conflicts arise among them.

The Pisans, on numerous occasions, caused peace to be disturbed in the region of Elis, by becoming allies either with the Argians, or with the Arcadians, or even with the Spartans. In their attempts to win the presidency of the games they waged war against the Elians. The first time, with the help of Argos, they won the right of setting the events in 748 B.C. and staged the 8th Olympiad. This happened again, under King Pantaleon, in 644 B.C. and again under King Damophon, Pantaleon's son. The Elians invaded Pisa, the Pisans were overcome and swore to observe the treaties. But, Pyrrus, the brother of Damophon, broke his oath and declared war. The Elians gathered an army, invaded the country, beat the Pisans, tore the city to the ground and massacred its people.

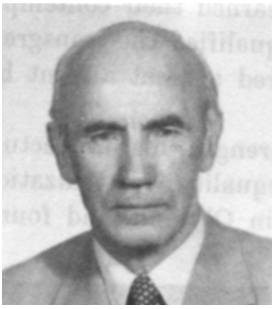
However, after the destruction of Pisa, interferences on the part of other neighbouring cities did riot stop. The Spartans violated the treaties on two occasions because of conflicts with the Elians, in 421 B.C. under King Agis and in 404 B.C. under King Pausanias. The Arcadians won the right to organize the games in 365 B.C. and they celebrated the 104th Olympiad. The battle was held outside the Altis during the games and this was the last attempt to take away from the Elians the presidency of the Olympic Games which they had inherited for so many centuries.

It should also be noted that the only power which united the people of antiquity in the great religious and competition centre of Olympia was a moral power, i.e. an unwritten law, shared and respected by all Greeks. And no one dared violate the few rules of this law, because

he came down in the conscience of others and earned their contempt. In any event, the Elians, just and impartial, disqualified the transgressor's city from the games and this was considered a great affront by the cities.

The spirit of faith in man, in his physical strength, his intellectual capacities and moral integrity, in democratic equality, fraternization of all men, in love and world peace was born in Olympia and found its expression in the Olympic Games.

The marble stele of Pierre de Coubertin in which his heart is deposited.



OLYMPISM IN A PROCESS OF CONSTANT EVOLUTION

By OTTO SZYMICZEK (GRE)

Dean of the I.0.A.
Technical Adviser of the H.O.C.
President of the International Track and Field Coaches Association

In the Academy's sessions we always try to present subjects that are attractive for our young friends and will stir up their interest for future specialized studies and research.

There are two groups of subjects from which we select every year the topics to be considered.

The first includes historical information on Olympia and its great games, education in Ancient Greece and the ideological foundations of Olympism.

The second covers modern Olympism and includes the elements which compose contemporary Olympic philosophy around which revolve the objectives of the Olympic movement and the Olympic Games, administrative questions, scientific issues of modern sport, questions related to the organization of the Olympic Games, and others.

During each Session we begin our work with an exhaustive study of the subjects of the first cycle and having thus set the historical and ideological framework of the ancient games for the participants, we can then move to the subjects of the second which refer to our times and allow participants to examine the problems at present confronting Olympism and reach, with the cooperation of lecturers, useful conclusions and recommendations.

We do not in any way pretend that with our recommendations and thoughts we can always reach the perfect solution that will help modern Olympism to pursue its course; we believe, however, that our open debates show new ways, provide useful ideas and allow us to move forward, at a steady pace, always looking for something better, something fully compatible with the basic principles of the Olympic Idea, as it was handed down to us by its Greek creators.

Our whole endeavour is basically aimed at one thing: to reach the ideal solution. There have always been problems. Problems are born out of life itself and human relations. We believe, however, that by pinpointing difficult areas and trying to find solutions through

discussions, we move each time a little closer to the ideal and this alone should be considered as a satisfactory achievement.

With my lecture today, I will try to outline the basic principles of Olympism and underline the specific items that mark contemporary trends.

The content of the Olympic Idea was defined by Pierre de Coubertin in his numerous books, statements, declarations and other publications, filled with faith and enthusiasm.

Who was Coubertin, the man who knew the happiness of becoming the reviver of the Olympic Games and leave a glorious name for the centuries to come?

Coubertin, a French nobleman, started to study history from early youth for he wanted to introduce in his country a new, live and meaningful education. He studied the different pedagogical systems of his time, he visited England and its colleges, he perused the history of Ancient Greece. He was a fervent patriot and he wanted the young generation of Frenchmen to grow up, no longer with the fossilized, scholastic education of schoolteachers, but with an education which, while it strengthens the morale and supports faith, builds up the body and creates brave and sound men, with a strong character.

His study of ancient history and the history of the Olympic Games, together with the information that reached him from Greece concerning an attempt to stage local Olympic Games, with the generous donation of Evangelos Zappas, inspired in him many thoughts.

Why could the ancient Games attract the interest of the peoples of the Mediterranean and contribute to the unification of the many tribes of Ancient Greece?

Could it be that if we tried to revive, in a modernized form, the ancient games and turn them into a world event, we would be promoting fraternal coexistence and world peace?

Investigating the question of the games, Coubertin realized that the ancient Greeks had developed competitions not in order to build up the body and create cheap spectacles, but in order to educate men. They believed that in order to shape strong characters they had to cultivate the body and that by cultivating the body in athletic contests, they would broaden and strengthen the mind, thus creating a perfect and fulfilled individual.

Coubertin knew that youth represents the happy future of mankind and that peace and civilization of modern nations depend on the careful education of youth. He thus had the euphoric inspiration that he could achieve, through sport competitions, what the ancient Greeks had achieved in the education of youth. From that moment, the French

patriot embraced the world and his preaching became universal. Coubertin appears to have been deeply influenced by the remarkable institution of the *Truce*. For a certain period, before and after the celebration of the ancient Olympic Games, hostilities ceased among ancient cities and the region of Elis became sacred and unviolable. No armed men were allowed in it.

We should point out here that this very important institution, which remained an integral part of the games throughout their existence, i.e. for about 1200 years, was maintained without the use of any power, political or military, through its moral impact alone. It was in this moral content of the games that Coubertin believed when he wrote:

«The Olympic Movement and the Olympic Games serve a *national and wise peaceful internationalism* and promote *social peace, sound morals* and *healthy education*».

It is clear that Coubertin, the visionary, did not work for antiquity. He merely used it as a source of inspiration in order to better serve the modern world. He proposed the organization and celebration of Olympic Games to which he added the elements that were, to his mind, necessary in order to meet the expectations of contemporary men: the international character of the games, the inclusion of more sports and events, amateur and voluntary participation, the promotion of friendship and cooperation among the people, of relations and exchange of views, since in this way world peace can be strengthened and consolidated, the abolition of racial discrimination and finally, the establishment of an International Committee which would become the trustee of Olympism.

His proposal was presented for the first time in Paris, in 1892, in the amphitheatre of the Sorbonne.

In 1894, he convened the first International Sport Congress during which his proposal for the revival of International Olympic Games was accepted and the first International Olympic Committee was set up under the presidency of the Greek Dimitrios Vikelas.

The organization of the first Olympic Games was assigned to Greece and their spectacular success in the Panathenean Stadium — reconstructed with marble for the purpose — in 1896, ensured the survival of this daring idea. 311 competitors from 13 countries took part in these first games. Within 80 years, the Olympic Movement has known an unprecedented growth. In 1972, at the Munich games, there were more than 10.000 competitors from 124 countries.

In this way modern Olympism was born; from Coubertin's time until today it has gone through several stages of development, following the ever-faster progress of technology and the numerous social changes

and upheavals that occurred in the interval between the two world wars. In any event, the fundamental idea of the Games has remained unaltered and unshakeable and it is still based on the ancient heritage.

Olympism today is a philosophy which, together with the development of physical skills, aims at improving the mind, thus leading to the harmonious and symmetrical formation and improvement of man. Its purpose is also to educate man, forge his character and morals, to create the ideal of the ancients, the «kalos kagathos».

We can now see that the philosophy of Olympism pursues purely educational and pedagogical goals and that it involves not only those who take an active part in the sport movement, but also the vast crowds of the general public.

Olympism, a major and powerful social phenomenon of our modern era, embraces world society without any discrimination, cultivates the spirit of mutual recognition, cooperation and friendship among the people, sincere understanding, recognizes honest and fair competition on equal terms and sets a specific and tangible example to the people who compete with one another in other fields of social activity. Olympism recognizes and extols individual effort and accepts no discrimination among nations, races, political systems, classes, etc.

In this way, it promotes international understanding, teaches the correct concept of freedom to the young and creates the conditions for ideal social coexistence.

Ideal society is founded in people who have mastered the principle of «know thyself» people with self-confidence, respect for the others, faith in ideals, independence of mind and action, a good and healthy social mentality and behaviour.

The late President of the I.O.C., Avery Brundage wrote: «We live in a socially, politically and economically sick world; and the world is sick because human relations have been deprived of the sense of honest competition, mutual esteem and mutual respect — feelings which at bottom are appreciated by the great majority of mankind, by all groups, all classes and all races. The world is being whirled around in a vortex and nations in utter confusion are enraged by a flood of doctrines, absurd theories and bizarre, entirely unfamiliar, philosophical thinking. We are neither competent nor able to remedy the whole situation. But by faithfully applying the lofty ideology of the Olympic Movement, we can set a good example and then perhaps the world will find the solution to its unsolved problems».

We all know of course that it would be Utopian to believe that people will love one another. But we can make them show understanding. To reach understanding, however they must first learn to know one

another. And for this a common point of contact is needed, a theory in which they all believe, a philosophy they can accept and share. If they start from a common basis they can better understand the problems of others. The philosophy of Olympism covers all this in the best possible way. Its activities include the quadrennial celebration of the Olympic Games, living together in the Olympic village, rules jointly accepted, compliance with objective judgement and acceptance of the principles of the Olympic spirit.

Olympism is an international institution, fully independent and free of any national, political, economic or other constraints. This independence ensures the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Olympic philosophy.

Coubertin thought that the autonomy of Olympism was a unique factor in its development and a safeguard for its continuity and this is why he did not allow, from the very beginning, any political, economic or social interference. He established an independent International Olympic Committee, in the form it maintains to this day, and introduced an original and peculiar system for the renewal of its members. The exclusive duty of I.O.C. members is to safeguard, with faith and dedication, the principles of the Olympic Idea. This precious independence also extends to the National Olympic Committees and in this way the automony of Olympism on a worldwide scale is guaranteed.

The essence of the philosophy Olympism was from the beginning and remains, the education of man at the social, cultural and national level. The development of an independent, free, well-balanced and strong-willed human being. The creation of an individual who with his physical capabilities developed to the highest possible level, a clear mind and sound moral principles, can become integrated within his direct and wider social environment and offer a positive contribution to the community.

The means through which the aims of the Olympic Philosophy can be achieved is the systematic practice of exercise and sports.

The principles of the Olympic Philosophy are an immutable dogma. However, in the course of an 80 year long evolution some essential changes have been brought to individual rules, partly as a result of an adaptation process to social, ideological and other moral developments, but mainly because Olympism had expanded, had reached the wider masses and had become a live social phenomenon.

Olympism is a general concept which brings together, in a luminous beam, all the principles that contribute to the betterment of man. Olympism does not appeal to one group or class of people, a race or

a given nation, but to all the men of the world, men of any social class, origin, race, colour, religion and country.

The complexity of Olympism, its humanitarian and idealistic philosophy are fascinating because they are addressed to the whole world and each man depending on his background, ideas, convictions, can integrate his interests within the principles of the Olympic Philosophy and adjust to them in a natural and easy way.

We should say that even partial adjustment to the principles of Olympic Philosophy, will bring beneficial results. The only disadvantage of this complexity which characterizes the principles of Olympic Philo sophy is that it provides an opportunity for exploitation of these same principles to further unrelated political, commercial, racial, nationa listic or personal interests. In this way, the principles of Olympism are isolated and they can no longer be applied in a balanced and har monious way. It is true of course that isolation and the inappropriate application of the philosophical principles of Olympism are usually the result of ignorance or incorrect interpretation of the texts and only very rarely intended.

The primary activity is the Olympic Movement which is eternal, open to all ages, to all levels of athletic skill, to all social strata, to all the men and which includes all sports and games. The object of the Olympic Movement is the attainment of the aims of Olympism, thus ultimately leading to the harmonious development and perfection of man.

The Olympic Movement is the permanent school of Olympic Philosophy, of chivarly and the idealization of man where, at the same time, the principles of Olympism are taught so as to become an experience that will accompany man to the end of life and be automatically transmitted to other fields of activity and knowledge of his social existence.

All sports are part of the Olympic movement because the basic principle of effort, fair play and distinction is inherent in each of them.

The activities and special aims of the Olympic movement vary according to the age, sex, idiosyncracy and preferences of the sportsman. This is necessary for purely biologic and hygienic reasons. The biorhythm of growth, maturity and the conservative age of life should under no circumstances be disturbed.

Consequently, the Olympic Movement is open to all; its purpose is not to allow a limited few to collect gold medals. On the contrary, it wants to provide the opportunity to all men, independent of their age and sex, to practise sports, for the slogan which can now be heard the world over is: «Sport for all».

The Olympic Games are another activity of the Olympic movement.

The games are a periodic event that takes place every four years. Participation in them is of necessity limited since only top athletes from all nations can compete. It is natural that during the Olympic Games, emphasis is being laid on the element of distinction and promotion of the best athlete and highest performances, since the flower of world youth participates in the games in a strong and admirable competition. Each young competitor, when he enters the Olympic arena, feels immensely honoured for he represents his country and will be competing against the best athletes of the whole world. To be able to take part in the games means, however, that he has studiously attended the school of the Olympic movement, has worked hard and with dedication and could thus be selected to represent his country.

We have said that the pursuits and values of Olympism cover educational, social, aesthetic, moral and spiritual fields. These values are many and varied and it would be a mistake to attribute their fulfilment solely to the Olympic Games, although some of these principles find their best opportunity for expression in the Olympic Games.

During his long involvement with the Olympic movement, the individual is taught the value of effort, the desire for distinction and victory, honesty, courtesy, chivalry, altruism, self-discipline, idealism, disinterestedness, endurance, voluntary pursuit of a goal. He also learns how to lead a healthy and clean life, how to uphold moral principles, how to shed fanaticism and accept and recognize his opponent's victory. In general, the individual is taught to enjoy the experience of athletic effort, to try and constantly improve his abilities and he thus acquires a good and stable character and becomes a useful man for society, the true model of «kalos kagathos» as defined by the ancients.

In the great peaceful world festival of Olympism, the Olympic Games, only a few from the vast numbers of those who practise sports can take part. And it would not be possible to promote and consolidate the moral values without the long and strenuous efforts of the Olympic movement and its educational work. It is clear therefore, that the association of the activities of the Olympic movement and the Olympic Games, guarantee the fulfilment of the lofty ideals of Olympism. The Olympic movement and the Olympic Games form an indivisible whole and cannot act separately. The International Olympic Committee and the N.O.Cs should extend all possible efforts to ensure that both these activities will be carried through with devotion.

Pierre de Coubertin worked hard in order to impose the Olympic Games and attract the people to the philosophy of Olympism. His main efforts, however, were concentrated on the establishment of the

Olympic Movement for on it he had based his entire educational edifice.

It is true the Olympic Games have gained acceptance in the conscience of the people as an institution of world-wide prestige. We now must, with courage and decisiveness, move to the second phase of our endeavours, to the consolidation of the Olympic Movement for it is only with the activation of the two activities of Olympism that the principles of the philosophy of Olympism will prevail, without compromise or deviations. We firmly believe that we serve a just and secular philosophy which combines thought with action and aims at improving man for the benefit of world society.

Before concluding this lecture I would like to tell you, with justified pride, that Greece, true to its glorious past, has handed down to the world, with its traditional generosity, the precious Olympic Idea and is striving for its preservation and dissemination.

For this purpose it has founded the International Olympic Academy with its excellent facilities, here in Ancient Olympia and has succeeded, in 15 years, through hard efforts and considerable financial sacrifices, to make it the intellectual centre of world Olympism.

I want to ask you to take part with eagerness and love, in the activities of the International Olympic Academy whose two-week sessions are attended each year by approximately 150 young people from all over the world who find here knowledge and inspiration.

I hope that when you return to your countries, like true apostles of the noble ideals of Olympism, you will convey to the youth of your country the lofty teachings of the Olympic spirit, for the benefit of the whole world.

May sacred Olympia fill your hearts and inspire you in your future activities.

THE ACTIVITY OF OLYMPIC AUTHORITIES OLYMPISM IN PERSPECTIVE

MONIQUE BERLIOUX (FRA)

IOC Director

First of all, what is Olympism? It is the resurrection of the ideals which revealed their brilliant perfection during the quadrennial gatherings in Olympia.

There is a thirst for purity in Olympism. I have in mind the lines of Paul Valéry:

«Tête parfaite et complet diadème ([1])
Je suis en toi le secret changement. . . »

The ancient principles of harmony may be defined by an entire culture, a culture which develops the mind, moral consciousness and the body; the harmony of classical Olympism embraces beauty, the balance of values, strength and faculties; the capacity to assimilate all civilisations and to be a factor of progress within them. Today, it is a complete adaptation to the industrial, scientific and social revolutions.

The ancient Games were born in Elis, under the sign of Zeus, more than thirty centuries ago and the most famous of them were celebrated every four years starting in 776 BC in the small sacred area of Olympia. The Olympic Games were to continue for a little more than one thousand years until Theodosios I, sovereign of the Later Christian Empire, prohibited them in the year 392 AD because they constituted a pagan festival and because with the decline of the Hellenic civilisation the gatherings in Olympia had lost their heart.

Olympism has its place in a tradition which maintains that man has always had the same needs and the same aspirations. The Olympic Games were abolished for fifteen centuries but the ideal which inspired them lived on. Throughout the ages we come across not the whole of this ideal but some of its major elements. Under Charlemagne this

1. «Perfect head and complete diadem.
I am in thee the secret change. . .».

was seen in the attempt at a balance between sport and the mind; later, the vigil of arms of the knight, which in many respects recalls the experience of the Greek athletes before the inauguration of the Games; the education of the Samurai, the humanism of Rabelais and the Renaissance, etc.

Thus the return to the path of the Altis was prepared. A return which for a long time, as you know, had a solitary apostle, Pierre de Coubertin. Who was he?

In deciding to propose the re-establishment of the Olympic Games, Pierre de Coubertin wanted to give the youth of the world a new philosophy, another way of life. But he was more ambitious than that. The Olympism conceived by Coubertin is a religion. It is also human harmony through eurhythmies, a neologism which means a «proper equilibrium of the faculties».

To attain this symbiosis between muscle and mind, or rather to incite youth to it, by guiding their taste for amusement and achievement, was the task which Pierre de Coubertin set himself. He was to find the main solution by organising a sports competition on a world - wide scale which, like classical tragedy, was to have its rules of unity:

* place : one city
* time : two weeks
* participation : all would be admitted to compete without racial, religious or political discrimination.

Pierre de Coubertin was to add an ideological condition: only those who practise sport for their pleasure and their harmony and not for the lure of gain could be admitted to the Olympic Games. The Olympic athletes would compete loyally with all their strength but their reward would not be found in victory, symbolised in ancient times by the single olive branch, but in participation alone.

How to re-create the Olympic Games? By means of a stable and flexible institution. This was to be the International Olympic Committee.

In 1894, Pierre de Coubertin was the instigator of the International Athletics Congress in Paris for «the study and the propagation of the principles of amateurism». The second part of the agenda of this Congress was headed «Olympic Games». 49 associations and 12 countries were represented at the Sorbonne where, on 23rd June, the principle of re-establishing the Olympic Games was voted unanimously. As a link with the Greek past, Athens was chosen to host the Games which were to celebrate the first modern Olympiad two years later in 1896.

From the very beginning, Pierre de Coubertin had made a distin-

ction between the organisation of the Games — with which he dealt only in the broadest outline once he had established the principles and the regulations — and the creation of a company which would be the guardian of the temple and would lay down general policy. This company would be independent, international, sovereign. It would ensure the regular and correct celebration of the Games. It was born immediately after the Paris Congress in 1894 under the name of International Olympic Committee.

The International Olympic Committee, as was the wish of its founder, was originally, and remains, an independent and permanent body which has as its principal characteristic its method of recruitment: it is, as Pierre de Coubertin put it, a «self-recruiting body» which means that its members are co-opted and not elected from outside. At the beginning there were ten. Today they are 85. Their average age is a little more than 59. They come from 76 countries and their continental distribution is as follows: Europe 38, Africa 13, Asia 13, America 18, Oceania 3.

The International Olympic Committee is the opposite of a club. Otherwise, it would not have known the tremendous success which has earned it so much jealousy and which spurs so many well-meaning souls and international organisations to want to take its place. Co-option, one of the pillars of the I.O.C., has at all times been a fair and light election. The candidates are presented either by their National Committees or by a member. Their biography is studied and they make themselves known. Quite naturally the members want to know with whom they are dealing. A core of candidates with real chances surfaces every year following the first discussions within the Executive Board. According to custom, it is the Board which proposes the candidates to the Session. It has happened that this vote takes place by secret ballot and also that the assembly does not approve the proposed candidates.

It is essential to have important and dignified personalities. I.O.C. members are chosen for their influence, merit, knowledge of sport, independence and availability; essentially, they must be free of all restricting ties. In addition each I.O.C. member must fulfill certain conditions, of which the essential one is to be able to be an efficient, loyal and suitable representative of the I.O.C. in his own country. Let us emphasise that the I.O.C. members are the ambassadors of the I.O.C. in their home countries and not the spokesmen of their countries within the I.O.C. The newly elected take an oath before taking their place in the assembly. The words of the oath deserve to be quoted in full as they include the oath on honour to defend the I.O.C. and its fundamental principles:

«Recognising the responsibilities that go with the great honour of serving as (one of) the representative (s) of the International Olympic Committee in my country, I bind myself to promote the Olympic movement to the best of my ability and to guard and preserve its fundamental principles as conceived by the Baron Pierre de Coubertin, keeping myself as a member free from all political, sectarian or commercial influence».

The members meet annually in general assembly, called a Session. There are two Sessions in Olympic years, one before the Winter Games and the other before the Summer Games.

Institutions bear the mark of their leader. The I.O.C. has made no exception, all the more so since it has always elected powerful personalities to its head.

The seventh President of the International Olympic Committee, in office since 12th September, 1972, is Mr. Michael Morris, Lord Killanin. This Irishman has already widely proved his qualities of firmness and skill, his sense of reality, his fairness and an astonishingly quick intelligence. It should not be forgotten that, on the one hand, this «son of the slain» and citizen of a neutral country, served in the British Army from 1939 to 1945, and that on the other hand, he is Christian, pacific and has a highly developed sense of the great changes of our times. His is the difficult privilege of having to reconsider Olympism in the light of today's problems and trends.

Lord Killanin is by nature and by will a democratic President. He soon began to «open the doors» — this is one of his expressions — that is, to implement a modern idea of sport and of human societies, whilst at the same time safeguarding the great principles which have caused the lightning success and need of Olympism.

Thus, we already owe him a new rule of eligibility for the Olympic Games, a crucial change which does away with an out-moded concept of amateurism. We also owe him the successful staging of the Xth Olympic Congress in Varna, Bulgaria, in 1973 after more than thirty years of interruption. Preparations are now under way for XIth Olympic Congress to be held in Baden - Baden, Germany, in 1981 and which will undoubtedly be outstanding. Its organisation has been entrusted to Mr. Willi Daume, the «great leader» of the Munich Games. More than one thousand delegates and guests are expected.

But what is the Olympic Congress?

It is Λ free, orderly discussion in depth on all the problems of the Olympic movement, in which the members of the International Olympic Committee, the leaders of the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees, the representatives of other interested

organisations and distinguished guests of the International Olympic Committee take part.

Lord Killanin has undertaken a lengthy and delicate task: the return of China to Olympism. He will go to Peking in early autumn. At the same time, faced by desires aroused by the extraordinary success of the Games and the influence of Olympism, Lord Killanin and his team must preserve the independence of the I.O.C., that is, the freedom of Olympic sport.

Certain powerful forces, for nationalistic, political or personal reasons, would like to imprison Olympism in the fetters of States by means Of an international institution which would politicise Olympism by making all sport an affair of State. This would destroy freedom, disinterestedness, international fraternity, in short, the Olympic ideal.

However, it has always been the I.O.C.'s intention to fight fiercely against this nationalisation. Can you imagine a representative of a certain country at the UN, UNESCO or elsewhere, taking a different stand to the one he had been told to take by the government of his country? Should he dare to be so defiant, he would be dismissed immediately. This would be the death of free sport. It would be war in competitions, the race for victory at any price, the aggravation of nationalism, the transformation of athletes into civil servant-slaves, it would be absolute professionalism, a terrible, deadly iron hand on world sports competition.

As for this idea of one member per country, we have seen in the largest international organisations to what this relentlessly leads: blocks of nations, long paralyses, the powerlessness to take decisions. In the sphere of world politics, such institutions undoubtedly have some advantage in that they act as a forum, a meeting place, a valve too — but this is not our problem. What we do know is that this system, spurned by the renovator and all Olympic leaders in modern history, would quickly lead to the aggravation of nationalism, the cyclonic entry of politics into Olympism, the war between blocks and the paralysis of Olympism. But perhaps this is what certain people are seeking: to kill Olympism by killing the International Olympic Committee.

Even with the present system of co-option, the principle of one member per country would be pernicious — and deadly so! For the members would be submitted to incessant bombardment from their respective States, and experience has shown that in all assemblies of this type, the usual blocks form without fail. All the more so that we would soon have to annul the secret ballot in favour of a «posted» ballot used by the United Nations, UNESCO and associates.

This principle of one member per country is moreover contrary

to the ethic of Olympic representativeness and of fairness in the distribution of seats. I would explain this. The I.O.C. would find it abnormal for countries like the United States or the Soviet Union to have only one member, that is as much as Andorra or San Marino. Furthermore, countries with great Olympic tradition should not, for the good of sport, be put on the same footing as those where this tradition is totally non-existent. This is in opposition to Olympic ethics.

Let us now have a look at the organisation of Olympism today, the main elements of which are grouped under the generic name of Olympic movement. This will make it easier for us to understand how the I.O.C. managed to create the Winter Games of which the thirteenth edition will be held at Lake Placid and the huge gathering of the Olympic Games, the nineteenth celebration of which will take place in Moscow in three years' time.

At the head is the assembly which is at the origin of its great renaissance: the International Olympic Committee, cornerstone of the edifice. In addition, the Olympic movement comprises four pillars:

1. The International Federations which are responsible for the direction, management, techniques and influence of their respective sport;
2. The athletes, illustration of Olympism in action;
3. The National Olympic Committees, representatives of the International Olympic Committee and delegates by it to promote the Olympic movement in their respective territories and to ensure that the I.O.C. Rules are observed;
4. The Organising Committees for the Olympic Games and Winter Games (OCOG) which have the practical task of organising the quadrennial meetings.

The International Olympic Committee is a senate in the historical sense of the world. It maintains the links between the bodies. It creates the Rules, ensures their observance and amends them. It helps to spread sport and Olympism. It forges the future of the Olympic movement by preserving its ethics and its traditions. It advises, it controls. It is the guide, the guardian, the arbiter.

The I.O.C. elects its President, its three Vice - Presidents and the five other members of its Executive Board by an absolute majority. These members direct the movement by accounting to the general assembly each year.

The most eagerly awaited election in the I.O.C. is that of its President. Up to 1924, the President was elected for ten years. At present his terrn of office lasts eight years. He is then re-eligible for successive

periods of four years. The presidential election obviously constitutes a world event. It takes place at a Session held during the Olympic Games (a title reserved for the Summer Games).

The first, second and third Vice-Présidents are elected for four years. They are not immediatelly re-eligible and promotion is by seniority.

The five other members of the Executive Board are also elected for four years and can only stand for re-election after one year's absence.

The annual Session is obviously an essential part of the life of the I.O.C. The 79th Session was held in June 1977 in Prague with 69 participants. The first Session, held in 1894, numbered fifteen members, including the renovator, from twelve different nations.

It is during these meeting that the programme of action of the supreme Olympic body is discussed and re-defined. The Sessions are restricted in time: three to four days. Naturally, it is the General Secretariat which is responsible for the organisation, drawing up the agenda and writing the minutes.

Should there be an urgent problem between Sessions, the President may hold a postal vote.

The great majority of decisions have, up to the present, been taken on the recommendation of the Executive Board and often unanimously. Where there is a vote, a simple majority is sufficient except for Rule changes where a two-thirds majority is required.

The I.O.C. has created a number of specialised commissions which may include personalities from outside the «Olympic Senate». They are composed of 4 to 24 members. They may be bi - or tripartite, that is with representatives of the I.O.C., the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees. Among them let us mention the Commission for Olympic Solidarity which is the largest, the Finance, Programme, Press and Television Commissions, etc. They clear the ground, present reports and submit recommendations to the Session which makes a decision after hearing the opinion of the Executive Board.

Obviously such an active and complex institution needs a central administrative and coordination body. This role is filled by the General Secretariat of the I.O.C., at present situated in Switzerland, in the Château de Vidy at Lausanne. The tasks of the General Secretariat are increasing with the Olympic boom. In daily contact with the President, it must follow closely all activities which are related to the Olympic movement and all the problems which may arise. It is in permanent contact with all continents. It also has to develop public

relations, a role it plays in particular through the *«Olympic Review»,* a monthly magazine published in French, English and Spanish.

At the head of the General Secretariat there is a Director, myself. I have directed the General Secreatariat for eight years. The Director is assisted by a Technical Director, Mr. Harry Banks, a Briton, who has occupied this post since the beginning of 1973. Previouly he was Secretary General of the Fédération Internationale de Boxe Amateur for twenty years.

We have a branch in Rome where Olympic Solidarity, which is responsible to the General Secretariat, is located. Olympic Solidarity's role is to provide technical assistance to the National Olympic Committees on their request, and of which there are many. Training courses, provision of trainers and material and advice of all kinds are the most current forms of assistance. At present, the coordinator of Olympic Solidarity is Mr. Giulio Onesti, President of the Italian National Olympic Committee, and a member of the I.O.C. He is assisted by Mr. Marcello Garroni, former Secretary General of the Games of the XVIIth Olympiad in Rome.

For about twenty years it has been the custom for the Executive Board to meet separately every two years with the International Olympic Federations and the National Olympic Committees. In the course of these working meetings the parties concerned express their problems and formulate proposals which will later be examined by the Session. This procedure has proved very effective and fruitful for it has enabled links in the Olympic world to be tightened, the pulse of world sport to be taken and misunderstandings to be eliminated. This interval of two years is being reduced, since in October 1977 the Executive Board will again see the International Federations which it had already met in Barcelona in 1976.

And here concludes this brief outline of the organisation of the International Olympic Committee.

Let us now take a look at the International Federations and then the National Olympic Committees.

The International Olympic Committee today recognises twenty-six International Sports Federations. Twenty govern the summer sports, five the winter sports and one, the pentathlon and biathlon federation, controls one summer and one winter sport. There are other federations of course, but their sports have so far not been admitted to, or are no longer on, the Olympic programme because their practice does not fulfill, or no longer fulfils, the standards laid down. Among these non - Olympic federations there are some which are well-known: tennis, rugby, baseball, etc.

Technical responsibility for the competitions in the Olympic Games has been the prerogative of the International Sports Federations since the 1921 Lausanne Congress. It is therefore their responsibility, after having laid down the rules inherent to each discipline, to control the Olympic competitions, to compose the juries, to train and then to select the referees, judges and timekeepers, and to ensure that the events take place correctly.

Pierre de Coubertin was always afraid that the I.O.C. would lock itself up in an ivory tower. He wanted National Olympic Committees (NOCs), these subsidiaries of the I.O.C., to be set up in every country to facilitate and control the participation of athletes from the entire world in the Games.

The NOCs must include at least five national federations recognised by the corresponding International Federations. The I.O.C. only recognises a National Olympic Committee after it has approved its statutes. Recognition can be revoked, as we have seen. Today, there are 133 National Olympic Committees.

It is the task of the National Olympic Committees to ensure the representation of the athletes of their countries or territories at the Olympic Games, to organise and supervise participation of their delegations, to provide equipment, transport, housing, insurance and medical attention. Throughout the years, during the Olympiad, they must also ensure the protection and the development of the Olympic movement and sport.

A word on the organization of the Games.

It is entrusted to the National Olympic Committee of the country where they will take place. The NOC, with the agreement of the municipal authorities and the organisations concerned, usually delegates this power to an Organising Committee, the OCOG. From then onwards, the Organising Committee deals directly with the International Olympic Committee, the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees.

The powers of the OCOG expire at the end of the Games and it becomes the National Committee's task to settle disputes, which always last more than a year, for it is a question of liquidating an enormous enterprise.

The Organising Committee is not alone in facing the many tasks which beset it. The International Olympic Committee and the International Federations help and advise it and control its actions from beginning to end in all sectors. In the last resort, it is the I.O.C. which settles disputes.

The Greeks gave the name Olympiad to the four - year period between the Games. Coubertin adopted the rhythm but not the unity of place. The modern Games had to belong to the whole world. A major task of the I.O.C. is to designate the cities which will have the honour of organising the Games. Well before the official candidatures, the groups which want to see a certain city enter the lists, evaluate the chances, sound out public opinion, municipal and federal authorities and draw up an indicative budget. Many have to give up on the way... On the day of the fateful vote only those cities which have some hope of winning stand for election. Hitherto, the cities were designated by secret ballot six years in advance. The last Session decided to extend the period to seven years, for it is true that the greater the success of the Olympic Games, the more time and work they will require. This measure will be applied not for 1984 but for 1988. The organising cities for the 1984 Games will be elected next year at the Athens Session in May. Those which will host the 1988 Games will be chosen in 1981 during the Baden - Baden Session which will coincide with the Olympic Congress.

At the end of this brief sketch, we think that it may be useful to call to mind other decisions taken at the Prague Session last month, vital decisions in fact because the I.O.C. showed its fidelity to an ideal and its will to prepare the future.

One of Lord Killanin's main aims has always been to make the Olympic movement a daily, rather than a four-yearly, activity. The I.O.C. and all the organisations which are attached to it must serve Olympism every day and in every country. And Olympism is first and foremost an ethic, a chivalry. This is why Lord Killanin has reminded members of the I.O.C. of their missionary duties. This is also why Olympic Rule 1 has been profoundly amended.

You will be among the first to hear it in its new, all revealing text:

«The aims of the Olympic movement are:

— *to promote the development of those physical and moral qualities which are the basis of amateur sport,*

— *to educate young people through sport in a spirit of better understanding between each other and of friendship, thereby helping to build a better and more peaceful world,*

— *to spread the Olympic principles throughout the world thereby creating international goodwill,*

— *to bring together the athletes of the world in a great four-yearly festival of sports».*

The 79th Session was also marked by a radical change in the IOC's reaction to acts contrary to Olympism. This is a necessary hardening of attitude. Hitherto, the I.O.C. has not applied sanctions itself. Statutorily, it could do so, hut henceforth it will be able to. Two Rules, 23 and 25, were adopted to this effect. Sanctions will be applied, according to the seriousness of the offence, against all those who infringe the Olympic Rules, whether the guilty parties be members of the I.O.C., members of a N.O.C., officials, leaders or athletes. There was too much tendency to judge the athletes and not the leaders. Henceforth, no one will be able to evade his own responsibilities. For example, any N.O.C. which has entered its delegation in the Games, and which withdraws, will be subject to sanctions. It is better if there are only 99 participating countries if the 100th country is going to be an element of disorder, discord or defiance in the Olympic movement.

What other decisions! Prague 77 has proved the vitality and steadfastness of Olympism.

What is the future of the Olympic movement, so ancient and so young, born in this very country? The causes of the decline of the Games in Olympia have been analysed many times: invasions and wars, politicisation, commercialisation, cult of the Olympian, degradation (slow at first and then at increasing speed) of all those — champions and leaders — to whom victory and power brought too much, directly or indirectly. The Tarpeian Rock is close to the Capitol... but the world would have to be mad to hurl the Olympic movement, this formidable factor of concord and health, from the rock.

As far as sport is concerned, impressive forces are rising, clashing and seeking each other within different important international bodies. In this respect let us mention the Internationa] Federations and their dynamic gathering: the General Assembly of the International Federations (GAIF), UNESCO, the regional and world associations of the NOCs and also the small or very great sports which are not admitted to the four-yearly Games. We have to reckon with these forces, either positively or negatively. To ignore certain of their currents would be fatal. To give in to certain of their political, nationalistic or State trends would lead even more rapidly to the assassination of Olympism.

On 15th June last, at Charles University in Prague, during the official opening ceremony of the 79th Session of the I.O.C., Lord Killanin made an historic speech from which in conclusion I quote:

«*... It is essential that the fundamental principles are accepted and implemented by the National Olympic Committees and International Federations. If they find that their goverments make this impossible, then*

unfortunately it may be that the athletes suffer for some time until this situation is remedied. In the world today there are governments of the left, right and centre, which for reasons which may be absolutely justifiable to themselves, take actions which in the interests of their own security prevent complete freedom and liberty. Personally I regret any restraint on individual liberty but would reiterate this is a matter for goverments, as the matter of sport, and especially Olympic sport, is for the International Olympic Committee, the International Federations and the National

The marble monument of the pioneers of the I.O.A.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE SPIRITUAL WORLD TO OLYMPISM

By TRIANT. G. KARATASAKIS (GRE)

Honorary General Inspector of Physical Education

Nowadays, a visit to Ancient Olympia can easily be made by anybody. Whether you are Greek or a foreigner, you can easily journey to this magnificent site. And feel, once you have reached your destination, a divine, mysterious serenity, which permanently imbues this «most beautiful» area of Greece. Without any difficulty, you can walk or linger, for as long as you like, through the ancient and mutilated remnants of a remarkable art. Close to the «eye-witnesses» and «narrators» of the intellectual grandeur of a long gone epoch. It is easy and pleasant to examine, at leisure, all these treasures which can either be found scattered here and there in the open or are exhibited, in carefully arranged order, in the Archaeological Museums.

And it will seem as though they have been standing for centuries, silent and immobile, as if waiting, with Olympian fortitude, to give an answer to the questions of someone from the numerous visitors who would like to put them but who could also speak and understand their language. Or maybe even more to the one who would at least be able to hear the voice of their silence! A silence so suggestive and so eloquent!

But here a difficulty might arise. A rather serious difficulty which becomes a real problem for many visitors. A problem of communication with monuments; a problem of understanding the deeper Olympic spirit which the immobile and silent monuments of Olympia symbolize. And this because, on the one hand, it is not possible for each visitor to find the necessary time or to have reached the stage of inner preparation or ability, which is a basic prerequisite for such a profound study of the meaning of silence and the reading and understanding of the written language of inscription-bearing monuments.

On the other hand, all these monuments which symbolically «narrate» the stories, myths and legends, expressing with these elements the deeper spirit and the fruits of the spirit of Olympia, do not speak, in the true sense of the word, so that one might first hear and then

understand what they are saying. They do not speak, they only «proclaim». They express their deeper meanings but only semantically, only with their tell-tale silence. With this silence they only say little but they mean a lot. They express the whole, wide meaning of the Spirit of Olympia.

It is with its monuments therefore that Olympia expresses its deeper spirit, without saying or hiding anything. Its deeper spirit is revealed, symbolically, but not to those who are moved by some superficial curiosity of tourists. Only to those who feel an unquenchable thirst for truth which will allow them to absorb its deeper meaning. Those who are animated by a burning spirit which embraces the whole sphere of man's life and spirit.

This conversation with monuments, this unique type of spiritual communication and progress toward the inner meaning of things can take place, here in Olympia, with the symbolism of art monuments on the one hand, reflection and creative imagination on the other, the most important functions of human intelligence.

However, the deeper vision of the Spirit's essence can be more safely achieved, not through physical senses, but with the eyes of the soul and the immediate presence of the spirit. On the whole, the physical senses of vision and hearing are insufficient, not to say unable, to allow one to conceive and understand the deeper meaning of Truth which is associated with the deeper essence of phenomena and things. The visitor to Olympia can of course, by using his senses, see, hear and enjoy the magnificent spectacle and the harmonious sounds which are the permanent features of the Olympic valley. This blessed valley, with its green and fertile slopes, beneath the crenellated mountain-lines- He will be carried away by the mysterious and unwordly murmur o the Alpheios river. The eternal beloved of Arethusa and at times violent invader of the valley of Olympia who then subsides as he passes through it, with its slow-flowing waters, moving unperturbed, with a «slow and measured tread». Imposing as a judge entering a full stadium before the games!...

Visitors will therefore have no difficulty in seeing and enjoying the external and superficial beauty of the landscape of Olympia. This indescribable beauty which appears to owe a lot to the spiritual radiance of Olympia and its scattered monuments!...

The difficulty for the visitor therefore is how to grasp the ideal and understand the deeper spirit of Olympia. For it is this deeper meaning and not in the beautiful external aspect of the landscape that resides the true and eternal spiritual beauty of Olympia. The spiritual light of Olympia has shone, from the beginning of time, in the deeper meaning

of Olympic ideology, as though preserved in a mystic altar. Since it is a spiritual light one cannot see it with the eyes of the body. Only with the eyes of the soul and the mind, can one see and understand it!

For the spiritual light of Olympia is not of course the symbolic light of the «Olympic Flame» which, since 1936, is lit every four years, with the help of concave mirrors, in the Sacred Altis, in front of the very ancient temple of Hera. It is not the material light of the «Olympic Torch» which, like a resurrection message of the ancient Spirit is received by the Priestess and solemnly handed over to the vigorous torch bearers who will carry it to any one of the distant countries of the world where with pomp and ostentation the modern Olympic Games are staged since 1896. Contemporary man can gaze at this symbolic light and not feel moved. He considers it to be a usual, common light. This is because he does not understand its symbolism, because he does not know and feel, deep down inside, the meaning of the true, spiritual light of Olympia.

In spite of all the truly astounding achievements of the mind, today's man cannot or finds difficulty in grasping the truth which is hidden in some apparently insignificant but in fact most important things for the understanding of life. Chasing the vision of his external happiness, the world of today, without realizing it, is being carried away in the vortex of the major crisis which his civilization is now facing. By seeing and examining only the practical means and superficial events of today's sport activities it does not enter into the depth of the Idea of sport. In any case, our present world would be unable to carry out such a profound study. This is the result of the cultural crisis and not due to the intellectual origin and nature of Olympic Sport. It is not Olympism but our modern civilization which faces a crisis. And crisis, of civilization means crisis of humanism, of theism, and all moral and spiritual values.

One, perhaps the most significant, of the difficulties which prevent modern man to achieve a deeper and wider vision of the meaning and humanitarian purpose of Olympism, originates from the institution's scope, its moral and spiritual dimensions. Dimensions that cannot easily be conceived or investigated by the mind of a common man, particularly the man of our time. Modern man who, abandoned to an avid materialistic pleasure hunt, confuses the deeper meanings with the purposes and means of the spirit in general. In this confusion he affirms and wishes to believe that even «Olympia was a workshop of material muscular strength». And this, because he cannot understand that it was something totally different, a true crucible of physical strength from whose burning competitive processes the flame and light

of a magnificent humanitarian spirit would spring: the Olympic spirit.

Modern man cannot understand today, with comparisons and parallels, that the spirit which truly ennobles and humanizes Man's life can be cultivated with practical, material and physical means and not solely with the implements and means of knowledge and the rules of Olympic Ideology. Exactly in the same way as with material, practical and technical musical means and instruments, the chisel, the brush, the hands and muscular strength of the artists of Music and Painting on the basis of established rules, it is possible to cultivate that deeper spirit of man's inner culture.

In this confusion of concepts and things, modern man is unable to understand that the material body and its strength are cultivated and used, unavoidably, as means during man's practice of sport, for the sole reason that the deeper and direct aims pursued refer to the man who practises sport himself. Modern man is also unable to understand that this precious physical health and strength, sport implements and records and the award, finally, that is given to the winners of competitions, are used as fundamental and necessary means for the deeper, cultural purpose and spirit of the practice of sport.

Neither the millions of visitors to Olympia, nor the numerous and fanatical adepts and supporters of modern sport, nor even many of the well intended and famous world champions who through their hard physical and mental effort and stress cultivate and reveal, in whatever way they can, the deeper spirit of true sport have been able to understand this profound meaning of Olympism.

Our present materialistic and pleasure-seeking world cannot understand the high ideas of Truth, beauty and «kalokagathia» which are reflected in the monuments, the history, the legends and myths of Olympia. What's more it does not know or refuses to accept that these ideas represented the «miracle» of a secular civilization where, in the Sacred Altis, Theism and Humanism met in full mutual understanding. When with the enlightened spirit of religion, the prestige of the state and the full understanding of the eminent representatives of political, military and religious authorities, the sacred Altis, a place of worship also, becomes the arena of a sport stadium. An arena for the holding of various events, governed by a wise system of moral and spiritual rules inspired by the supreme law of Good and established by man himself guided by the vast and rich experience he had acquired in the study of his own life. The moral of spiritual sporting rules which when they are observed by man, either as a performer or a spectator of athletic contests, make him assimilate and develop ways of thinking, of behaviour and action by means of which he is able to create and

constantly improve his own civilization. Our modern world truly failed to understand that under the influence of the beautiful and serene natural environment and spirit of Olympia, Man's soul and spirit were freed by the power of the truce established for the sake of the Games and that of education based on learning and physical exercise. And, like the white dove of peace it flew up high in order to bring the message of true civilization to the ancient world.

The free and liberated spirit and soul of man could thus conceive a new and more real idea on God and Man. In this way, fear and anxiety were transformed into a deeper love for God and Man. Man became «Kalos Kagathos» and the old and fierce-looking God of the Homeric age, the harsh punisher, the creator of discord and war, has taken on a new image in man's soul. A joyful figure which materialized in a miracle of Intellect and Art and was majestically erected in the Great Temple of Olympia of which we find only some ruins in the centre of the sacred Altis. Under the influence of an educational system which combined learning with physical exercise and competition and with the incomparable act of Pheidias' chisel, the divine image of the new god expressed a perennial expectation of man's soul wishing to be ruled by a new Spirit. By a god who was «loving, peaceful, calm, ever-present, soft, a bestower of goods». By a happy expression of the Idea of Good. By a god who would be the «creator and governor of a peaceful, undisturbed and harmonious world». By a spirit in all ways similar to the one expressed by the art monuments which visitors and students of Ancient Olympia can see, scattered, silent and mutilated.

This was the spirit expressed by the beautiful statue of Olympian Zeus. The same spirit was symbolically expressed by the god Apollo, the God of Music and Peace, whom we can see standing erect in the centre of the fragmented group of statuary depicting the battle of the Lapiths against the Centaurs'. A silent monument of art, whose fragments can now be seen in the Museum of Olympia but which once impressively decorated the frontispiece of the Great Temple in the centre of the Sacred Altis.

This same spirit of just and regular succession of human generations and the rules governing the evolution of life, is symbolically expressed by the unknown god who is shown as a virile and impartial judge in the centre of the group depicting the chariot race between old Kind Oenomaus and the enamoured youth Pelops who is risking his life for the throne of Pisa. This magnificent and unique example of sculpture decorated, in antiquity, the Eastern gables of the Great Temple. Today, in spite of its severe mutilation by the powers of time

and Nature, it still expresses the eternal law of renewal and continuity of the life of men and the cosmos.

Today's man cannot imagine or understand that the beginning, the starting point of the Olympic spirit was and is still to be found in the high Idea of the Good. That its process starts from the concept of the Divine, from man's spiritual and moral concept of God. And that its end, i.e. the final purpose of Olympism, is addressed and constantly directed toward Man himself. Man in the universal sense of the term. Today's man cannot imagine and believe that for the Olympic spirit to reach purpose, i.e. the ennoblement of Man, it must cover with the wide and profound meaning of its wise idealistic legislation, the whole field of human life and embrace the whole sphere of the human mind.

This universal spirit and its deep humanitarian content cannot easily be understood today by the finite mind of the simple and passing visitor to Olympia, the site where this remarkable spirit was born and acquired its spiritual radiance after a long period of wise and multiform cultivation.

For these reasons the presence of the spirit is essential. The direct and responsible contribution of the truly intellectual world of the mankind of today. For this spirit, independent of any practical means or material powers, can only be grasped and understood by the faculties of the mind. For the study and investigation, the analysis and propagation of this spirit to the men of today, the intellectual contribution not of one man but of the whole spiritual world of today is required.

Because of their free and clear thought, their enlightened spirit, the spiritual men of today possess the ability to analyze and use the ultimited teaching material of Olympism for a true moral and spiritual teaching and proper education of today's world. A world which lives not only as a result of his own responsibility and error in anxiety and frenzy and under the threat of a cruel inhumanity. It suffers not only as a result of his own fault, but also because of many known and unknown omissions or mistakes of his political, religious, social, philosophical, educational leaders who exercise any ruling powers and influence the fate of man's life.

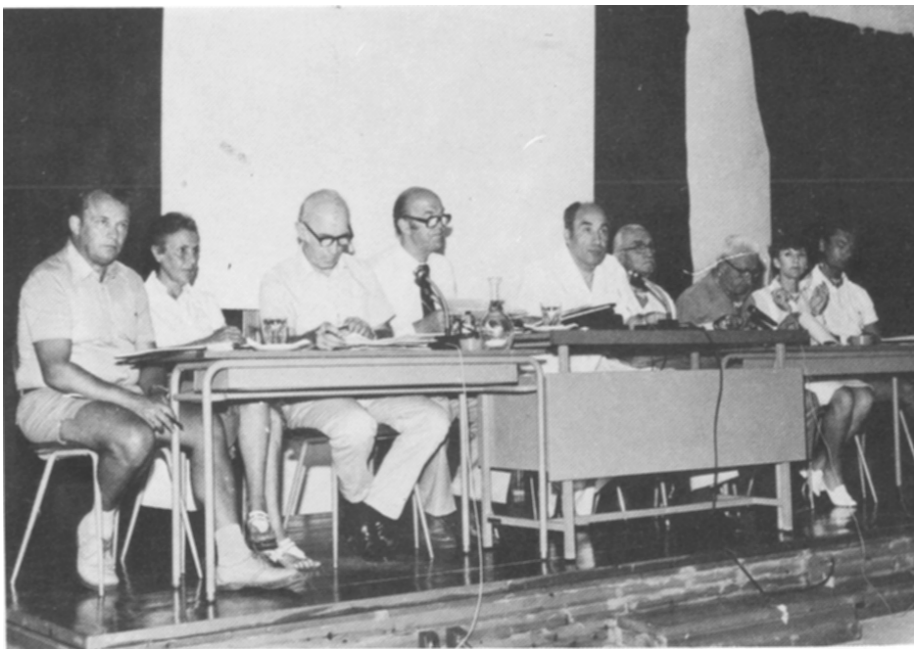
These spiritual leaders have this great moral duty, which arises from this leading role and mission. For these men have a direct and great moral responsibility toward the peoples of the world whom they influence with their thoughts, rule with their decisions and intellectual creations, teach, educate, cultivate. These eminent representatives of the intellectual world are as educationists, as spiritual and moral teachers of the whole world. They are considered as Olympic com-

petitors who, without seeking any material reward, compete in the arena of world intellectual life for a high moral Victory of Man, for the pursuit of truth which exists in the profound meaning of the world's life which watches them. For spiritual men understand the deeper meaning of freedom, peace and democracy which constitute our present world's moral demands.

For this is the true meaning of «spiritual man». It means the athlete of the mind who, with disinterested efforts and struggles cultivates and utilizes his mind, and not his irrational material strength, as a unique and irreplaceable instrument of spiritual teaching and moral elevation. In order to reveal and proclaim the truth which usually lives in the unseen depth of the things and problems of life. And the power of the teaching on truth, educate and shape the world's thought and soul.

For this is the only way in which spiritual man can be recognized as a world champion and teacher in the arena of knowledge and action. He stands revealed as a truly Herculean figure, a competitive and creative entity who with the titanic power of the mind, the vigilance of conscience and physical effort, attempts the «descent» to the usually dark and invisible depth of things and returns, tired and weak, like the mythical hero, but a victor! He returns in triumph, bringing, like the mythical Hercules, the spirit of Truth which, with Olympic disinterestedness and generosity he offers to mankind. Just like the ancient Olympic victors — and here we have the symbolism of the Herculean myth of the bringing of Cerberus up from the darkness of the Hades — who offered the wreath of their Olympic victory to the temple of their city. The truly spiritual man is always identified to such a heroic figure. Endowed with an indomitable competitive will and idealism, he struggles and suffers for his fellow-man and the civilization of the world. He may think and reflect alone, but he lives, toils and teaches, thinking of the true progress of mankind...

For the spiritual leader is and cannot but be a transcendental individual. Spiritually he stands much higher than the common usual type of man. His image, his figure are super-human, truly heroic. He is the truly free and brave man. He is the «Gymnos» with the deeper, philosophical sense of the term. Free of any «earthly» and material bonds. He whose life and activities are «Gymnastiki», with its true meaning in ancient Greek education: free and disinterested occupation; real sport: Olympic sport! Only spiritual men can understand and reveal and teach with their actions that the deeper meaning of Olympic truth is not limited to or terminated in the formation of isolated individuals. On the contrary, through this healthy social cell it can move toward a wider humanitarian ideal. Toward the inner civilization



Panel discussion between the Members of the I.O.C., the lecturers and the participants of the •Session. From left Mr. W. Tröger (GER), Mrs. Lekarska (BUL), Mr. O. Szymiczek (GRE), Mr. A. Csanade (HUN), Mr. M. Mzali (TUN), Mr. E. Petralias (GRE), Mr. CI. Palaeologos (GRE), Mrs. N. Pappas (USA) and Mr. P. Pilsl (AUT).

Mr. M. Herzog (FRA), I.O.C. Member, during his lecture.

Commemorative .

of the 17th Session.

From the work of the Session. From left in the first row: Mr. E. Patralias (GRE), I.O.C. Member, Mr. M. Mzali(TUN), 3rd Vice-Président of the I.O.C. and President of the I.O.C. Commission for the I.O.A., Mr. A. Csanadi(HUN), I.O.C. Member.

Participants of the 17th Session.

of the whole human community! Only the spiritual world can study in depth, analyze and teach to humanity what is symbolized by the remarkable phenomenon of the breaking of even the most spectacular Olympic records. A phenomenon which is perhaps irritating to some but indicates and means that there are no insurmountable and final limits to man's progress toward civilization in the Olympic philosophy. There is not untrodden peak for the human spirit.

For all these reasons, but mainly because of the present crisis of civilization, the spiritual men of the world have a moral duty to fight with the armour of their spirit like the ancient competitors in the hoplite race, the event which in ancient Greece was intentionally entered as the last event on the programme of the Olympic Games. Precisely so that it could linger as the last memory of Olympia and give rise to the comforting thought which nurtures the ultimate hope that remains in Pandora's box. In Man's soul for the verification of the deeper meaning of his life.

It is on this struggle of the spiritual world that today's mankind has grounded her last hope. The hope that the true spirit of moral competition, the spirit of Olympism, will finally prevail in order to teach the world, that with the wealth of knowledge and material means he has at his disposal, he must create and cultivate not only his outer but also his true, inner civilization.

OLYMPISM AND POLITICS

By Mr. MOHAMED MZALI (TUN)

3rd. Vice - President of the I.O.C.
President of the I.O.C. Commission
for the I.O.A.

Among the many problems confronting the Olympic movement today, that of political interference in sports is probably the most delicate and the most immediate.

The constantly growing success of the Olympic Games in the modern era, their universality, their impact on the masses on all continents, the fascination they have for the young and the not-so-young especially since they have been «mass-mediased», the effects and the psychological and political repercussions of individual victories and collective successes,… all this has given them a new dimension that was unsuspected after World War II, and has created a social phenomenon which cannot leave political or even religious men indifferent.

Among the numerous messages addressed to the Canadian government and people on the occasion of the XXI Olympics, it is interesting to note that of the Pope, where he says: «We are persuaded that this sports event can expand human values of great worth for all people and that are particularly dear to Christianity, while at the same time favouring peaceful and respectful relations between peoples, in an area where all opposition must give way to peaceful emulation. This is the hope that prompts our cordial wishes».

The message of Kurt WALDHEIM, Secretary - General of the United Nations also deserves to be mentioned, because it was sent on July 18, 1976, the day after certain African countries withdrew from the Games, and includes an appeal to those involved «to pursue their efforts so that the problems involved in the participation of the African athletes in the XXI Olympics can be resolved». It is true that he adds: «The Olympic Games are an event of particular significance in the search for brotherhood and understanding for Humanity».

The interest of politicians is manifested in different ways according to their ideologies and the conception they have of their mission according to the level of their resposibilities.

Certain politicians who are aware of the significance of transferring

sports to the political arena spare no effort in helping their fellow countrymen succeed, in the hope that some of their prestige will be attributed to themselves, either as leaders or heads of parties or regimes.

Others exploit the sports arena to illustrate the supremacy of their socio-economic system or their political ideas; to affirm their existence, remind the world of the legitimacy of their claims, or even to denounce an injustice or reveal a mystery.

Nevertheless, whether they are being sincere or strategic, the majority of politicians find themselves forced to take an interest in sports, as a result of the pressure exercised on them by the young, sports directors, educators, in order to develop the infrastructure of sports, organise adequate timetables for physical education in school programmes, promote a policy of leisure, finance clubs and associations and thus allow national and international competitions to take place under satisfactory conditions.

The 'fall out' of political choices, the weight of contradictions that never stop appearing and emphasising the attitudes of politicians, the 'damages' that result from nationalist rivalries or the ideological 'competitions' which wax or wane according to circumstances, weigh more and more heavily on sports and particularly on the Olympic movement whose ethic is humanistic and universal and whose goal is to unite the world's youth in an ideal of self-transcendence, of understanding, of brotherhood, and of peace.

This explains the attitude of a large number of sports functionaries who denounce politics; some of them predict an apocalyptic future if sports cannot be immunised against the virus of politics. According to them it is necessary to revise the rules and the statutes so that «the action of the governing bodies can be blocked» and to be armed against the dangers of political interference in sports.

How simple and easy seems to be this attitude which, in the face of a phenomenon serious enough, in fact, to threaten Olympism in its soul and its sacred values, is content, as a defence, to close in upon itself, to radicalise, in the restrictive and repressive meaning of the term, sports regulations to better distribute the anathemas and the exclusives, and thus solve the problem by ignoring it. This 'policy' of the ostrich is, in my opinion, not only immediately dangerous but will also be dangerous in the future. Therefore, I propose to make a few personal comments within the prestigious and evocative frame of Olympism, which in no way represent the opinions of the I.O.C. or the Tunisian Olympic Committee, and thus to participate in an open debate in an attempt to define an attitude that is more lucid, more courageous and more effective than that which could be held by sports

directors devoted to Olympism in regard to the problems which are imposed upon us by politics, in other words the present time.

But first, is the phenomenon of political interference in sports in general and Olympism in particular something new? I think not. More than the evidence of ancient and especially modern history, even a superficial analysis of the sense and meaning of the term 'polities' shows to what an extent the attitude of those who carry the banner of apolitical sports is unrealistic and Utopian.

In its most noble and accepted sense politics is the art of governing a state or directing an institution in the name of moral principles, of legal rules… for which there is a large consensus or the adherence of the majority of the parties involved. It is not a matter of politics, but of a commitment to serving others, of devoting oneself to a community which one chooses to be a part of freely; it is a case therefore of serving an ideal, a community, not of using it; of giving, not of having; of being, not seeming.

Therefore, one cannot decently manage or direct the affairs of a nation, of a municipality or of an association of a social or a cultural character without reference to a moral scale, without a conception of good and evil, of truth and falsehood, of the beautiful and the ugly, the sacred and the pagan, the man and the beast. All the choices with which we are faced, the decisions that we must make, would be done blindly and would testify to our incoherence or our futility if they did not come from a global vision of life, if they were not in harmony with the meaning we give to existence, with the sense we have of human destiny.

We have to admit, however, that the grandeur of our ideology and the generosity of our ideals are not equalled in relation to space and time. In this area it is useless and idle to pretend to the existence of objective and scientific criteria. No one can presume to incarnate history or to possess the secret of infallibility. We are all shaped by our education, our cultural heritage, our social circle; the prevailing ideology, individual and collective, guides our actions, conditions to a large extent our behaviour, and often guides our judgment.

Among the factors that emphasise the lack of comprehension of men, which sharpen national rivalries and make men exceed their limits when they are politically involved, let us quote with Pierre de Coubertin on history as it is taught in the great majority of countries: «a factory of forced increase when it does not become a factory of nationalistic frenzy» ([1]). Therefore, at the moment when speeches resound,

1. Cf. letter addressed to the Society of the United Nations in 1933.

reaffirming the faith of their authors in mankind, or when certain attitudes which are probably sincere and surely candid, shine by their attachment to an ethereal and disincarnated conception of sports, which is seen as being above dissension, far from political squabbles, socio-economic restraints, the condition of a real dialogue — especially modesty if not humility, the effort necessary to know the other first and then recognise him, tolerance, shared respect — are not gathered together, because minds become closed since, as Pierre de Coubertin affirms, they are already «formed by the premature teachings of national history with the inevitable exaggerations and misinformations».

At this point, how illusory seems the theme of apolitical sports which pretends to ignore the realities of the world today and how suspect, or at least debatable, is the theme of politisation of sports, which allows all to virtuously and modestly wrap themselves within great principles and reproach others with what they themselves are accused of.

No less annoying is the attitude of those who, without casting stones at politics and without accusing politicians of all the evils that sports suffer from, retreat into a well meaning neutrality and refrain from taking part in the conflicts which could appear in the world of sports and that divide men.

But is it possible to participate wholly in the management of a sports organisation without clearly committing oneself on all questions which are posed or imposed by the lack of adaptation of sports rules and regulations to present realities, their inadequacy in the face of the new political geography, due to the achievement of independence and freedom of a great many nations, to social changes as rapid as they are deep that have taken place on all continents, in developed as well as emerging nations, without being aware of the emancipation of women, of the dignity and pride that the 'dammed of the earth' exhibit today as they struggle for a place in the sun and who are still faced and prevented by outdated prejudices and traditions from becoming fully free and responsible? How is it possible to sensitise thousands of young men and women to the grandeur of Olympism, how does one get them to identify themselves with it and accept it as an ethic and a philosophy if elsewhere, in a world where inequalities, injustice, racial discrimination... remain no matter what is said, and they see apolitism as a negative attitude, an alibi which consolidates privileges and reinforces conservatism?

Are they being political, those who have militated and managed to expel South Africa from the Olympic family because that country officially practices apartheid? Is it a sign of political madness, to toil for a more democratic representation of all continents in the I.O.C.

or the International Federations? Is it politics to toil for the revision of Olympic rules so that the honour of celebrating the Olympic Games is no longer taken by one city but by a country or a region ? How much longer can certain participants hang on to the old rules on the conditions made about women in the Olympic trials? How can one convince the young women of the world that it is normal and right that Summer Olympics, in spite of the marked progress made in this area in the last ten years, should consist of 44 female events against 137 male events? ([1])

Isn't this a testimony of sincerity towards sports, of loyalty, of intellectual courage which allows us to fight against inertia, conformity, old ideas, ins't this a visual acuteness in sports that is healthy and necessary to adapt the rules to the harsh necessities of the moment and thus prevent all the causes that could cast a shadow on the distinctive image of Olympism or prejudice the growing radiance of the Olympic Games ?

Everything changes, people as well as things. Was it not Socrates, father of philosophy and a worthy son of the Greek soil full of history and wisdom, who was the first to teach us with his immortal 'What is' to analyse words, to study morality, to observe reality ever more closely? He drank hemlock and his body perished. But he remains alive among us, never ceasing to teach us how to outdo ourselves, to be wary of mystifications, to reflect objectively on axioms, habits, prejudices, to search for the truth and to create and recreate constantly, to invent the future.

History makes facts and ideas relative. For those who insist on hanging on to the status quo in the name of apolitical sports or Olympism, it is good to remember this statement of Pierre de Coubertin's, the renovator of the Olympic Games: «Too accustomed to living with general history, and to studying omens to misunderstand the value of the idea of evolution, I would not dare be surprised, let alone indignant, of finding it everywhere. All institutions, all creations, no matter how alive, develop according to habits, to the passions of the moment. *Today, politics reach into the centre of all problems.* How would you expect sport, *Olympism* itself to escape?»

I believe that these words of the renovator of the Olympic Games will contribute towards lessening the allergy that afflicts the believers

1. For the Winter Olympics: 23 male events
12 female events
1 mixed events.

in apolitical sports, in other words the champions of the most depressing status quo.

Pierre de Coubertin denounced several times in his *Olympic Memoirs* inflexible conservatism, just as he underlined the inaneness of simply opposing modern tendencies to the fragility of tradition.

It is in the name of a real, generous policy of sports whose first and final responsibility lies in consolidating Olympism by making it more credible and more attractive in the eyes of citizens of all the countries in the world, without any discrimination and by making it a factor of the revivification of youth, an instrument of promotion, education and liberation that Pierre de Coubertin toiled, vainly as it turned out, for this 'conquest of Africa' (in the name of Olympism naturally) which remained with him until the close of his Olympic career.

It would not be useless now, with the context of African sports being what it is, to quote a page from *Olympic Memoirs,* where the author remembers the efforts he had made in this direction since the 1920's.

In the speech addressed to King Victor - Emmanuel at the inaugural session of the I.O.C. at the Capitol there was this passage (by Pierre de Coubertin): «Perhaps it would appear premature to try and implant, in a *backward continent,* among populations that are still without even elementary culture, the principle of competitiveness in sports — and it would be presumptuous to expect from this a bastion that would help accelerate in these parts of the world *the march of civilisation.* Let us think, however, of what *tortures the African mind.* Untapped strength — from individual laziness to a collective need for action — *a thousand resentments, a thousand jealousies* against the white man and yet the desire to limit and thus share in his privileges — the contradictory worries of *accepting discipline and yet removing oneself from it* — in the midst of a sweetness that is not without its charm, and the sudden surge of ancestral violence... these are, among several others, some of the traits of the races which the new generation are interested in. These are precisely the ones who have received great boons from sports. It has toughened them. It has given them a healthy taste for muscular relaxation and some of the *reasonable fatalism* which is that of *energetic beings,* once their task is accomplished. *But if sports strengthens, it also appeases.* On condition that *it remains an adjunct and does not become an end in itself,* it can produce *order* and clarifies thought. *Let us not hesitate, therefore, to give it its part in Africa.* Delegates with appropriate powers have come here to talk to us… ».

And Coubertin continues: «In fact, in the margin of the I.O.C. meetings will be held of a consultative committee where there will be, as well as a representative of the Italian Colonial Minister, delegates

from Algeria, Morocco, the Regency of Tunisia and Colonel See, bearer of a special message from Marshal Lyautey, the then Resident - General. The Count of Penha - Garcia was resposible for making his country an associate. I will not go into the details of the discussions, but I will say right away, so that I do not need to return to the same subject, what the outcome was of this enterprise: a provisional outcome, because I am sure that this plan will be taken up again. This plan consisted of African Games» to be held every two years on the periphery of this huge continent, with a very simple programme to begin with and which would naturally have an almost exclusively regional character. I would have liked to see them held entirely for the native populations. It was deemed preferable to add events for colonials with two years' residence within a country. Or course this point of view has its merits, but it had created complications from the outset. The cities that were considered fit to host the first games were Tunis, Rabat, Casablanca, Dakar for French Africa, Tripoli, Benghazi and Asmara for the Italian possessions, Libreville in the Belgian Congo, Luanda and SUMAC for Portuguese Africa, Cape Town and Nairobi for Southern Africa. My mistake was to envision (and communicate to the I.O.C.) the opportunity for a solemn inauguration that would have prestige, to be held at Algiers in 1925. At first this suggestion was supported by Algeria and Mr. Th. Steeg, the then Governor - General, was very interested. But he soon ran into opposition that was all the more formidable because it had neither precision nor a core. It was mainly an attempt to waste time, and to annoy those with good will. There existed rivalries that were perhaps personal, in any case administrative. The result became that the inauguration would be delayed until 1929 and Alexandria would take the place of Algiers. Preparations were truly considerable, and a beautiful stadium, was built. Our colleague for Egypt, A.C. Bolanachi, gave of himself to this enterprise with a fervour and a generosity which highlighted his competence, that was recognized by all… At the last minute a political manoeuvre by the English, which France took part in, negated all this effort and King Fouad was forced to inaugurate that beautiful stadium discreetly and locally. I cannot explain this difficult situation any further because, by the time it had developed, I had resigned from the presidency of the I.O.C. But deep down was the same basic conflict, the fight between colonialism and any attempt at emancipation of the natives, attempts fraught with peril for headquarters in the capital cities. All argument would have been useless... At some other time; but they belong to a dead past. It has been a long time since they could have been of use. The *Olympic Review* had dealt with this worthwhile subject in January

1919. Twenty years later, I believed that minds had evolved sufficiently to pass from theory to practice! but it seems that the time was not yet ripe. By now it should be ready enough and I remain convinced *that before long African Sport will be organised in spite of everything, but less well than if Europe, at the right time, had known how to take over its management.* What remained was the 'African Medal' which was made available to the heads of missions... for the encouragement of sports. It is still better than nothing. It shows a black throwing the javelin and, on the reverse, legible through a clump of bamboo, a Latin inscription — since Africa is polyglot for the colonials as well as the natives — Athlete proprium est se ipsum nascere et vincere». To know oneself, to govern oneself, to conquer oneself, the eternal beauty of sports, the fundamental aspiration of the real sportsman and a condition of his success».

Apart from a few value judgments on African psychology that are of doubtful value, there is no doubt that Pierre de Coubertin was a visionary on this subject. He was trying to ensure the permanence and the invulnerability of the institution of the Olympics by allowing it to develop both in depth and in breadth, internationally. He was convinced that one had to reach towards Africa, help it rid itself of its demons, an example to the other continents, to clarify matters for the blacks and the whites... If he had succeeded in his enterprise Olympism would undoubtedly not have its present problems in Africa. But the 'shortsightedness' of the times, as Coubertin himself said, decreed that it should be otherwise.

Undoubtedly Pierre de Coubertin has been accused by some of dabbling in politics. It was one thing to want to reserve the African Games for the Africans. It was another to demand that events should be added for 'colonials with two years' residence. In this matter, as in so many others, no one can remain neutral. There were two political beliefs present: one that respected national entities and favoured the self-determination of peoples, the other that aimed at the consolidation of the colonial order, the supremacy of one continent over another. The honour and the genius of Pierre de Coubertin were to have a sense of history, they were to have conceived and had the courage to argue for a policy that conformed to the Olympic ideal with a dynamic and generous perspective.

Pierre de Coubertin's writings, especially his *Olympic Memoirs,* make for edifying reading in terms of appreciating his vision of the relationship between sports and politics and also his courageous and positive attitude with politicians and especially the profit he was able to draw for the triumph of the Olympic cause.

Speaking of the Berlin Session (1909) he underlined as an exception, the fact that «the minutes of this session do not raise this year a single procedural point in the least bit political».

And more! Pierre de Coubertin sought for co-operation with countries represented by monarchs, presidents of republics, ministers... he chose several members for the I.O.C. from reigning royal families, political personalities... The Olympic charter foresees in any case the participation of heads of state in the most important Olympic functions.

In discussing the positive development of sports in Sweden, and particularly gymnastics, Coubertin did not hesitate to pay homage to the «good will of kings and princes» for having persuaded sports federations in making concessions to conform to the Olympic programme of the Games at Stockholm.

He did not fear, either, to collaborate with the Minister of State Eyschen, head of the government, in the preparation of the Luxembourg Session (1910). Paradoxically, he found in this politician the help and encouragement that allowed him to overcome the resistance and the hesitations that had appeared in the ranks of the I.O.C. itself.

The paragraph in *Olympic Memoirs* in which he mentions these facts is worthy of being quoted and meditated upon:« The Minister of State Eyschen gave his welcoming address, praised with conviction the constitution of the I.O.C., which so far had been criticised by the heads of federations whose ambitions it was thwarting (sic)! ..... (Eyschen).....whose political acumen is highly thought of in Europe, had *perceived* and appreciated the originality of the machinery appropriate for giving complete independence to the Committee and the defense of Olympism against all. This was valuable encouragement in my fight against a certain timidity which had manifested itself in our ranks»...

Convinced that it is difficult to ignore those that are politically responsible; they are in charge within their frontiers of their respective countries and they have to be approached for credit and assistance, Coubertin recalls with a touch of irony the attitude of one of his colleagues from the U.S.A. (Caspar Whitney) who demanded from his Embassy in Paris, shortly before the 1900 Games, that it obtain from the Exhibition a withdrawal of the original plan and that it should simply be renamed «Money and freedom!» to those people chosen by the I.O.C. If he ever regretted the occasionally pressing demands from politicians for the admission of new members to the I.O.C., he was too intelligent and too attached to the success of his Olympic task not to take them into account. He did not forget to mention in his

Memoirs that Count Thun Valtessina, the Chamberlain of Franz Joseph, asked in the name of the emperor on April 14, 1900 «that in view of the Games of Paris» there should be an Austrian member on the I.O.C.; the Canadians made a similar request that year.

It would take too long to multiply the examples and the quotations that would show the relativity of Olympism and sports on the one hand, and to illustrate on the other the 'political sense' of Pierre de Coubertin who, to reinstate the Games, to universalise them and to assure their success and duration, did not hesitate to take advantage of the social and political realities of his era, or to seek and obtain the co-operation and the collaboration of all those who had the authority, that is the power of decision, of providing, by an interpretation of the law and through budgetary and administrative means, a programme for the encouragement of sports, and an educational strategy for the formation of youth.

Essentially, we have to know what we want. If it is not only a matter of organising the Games every four years, but rather of being the spiritual heirs of Pierre de Coubertin, by shouldering and pursuing the task undertaken by this great humanitarian and eminent educator, if it is a matter of being the pioneers of a sports ethic and the missionaries for international understanding and peace in the world thanks to sports, then it is useless pretending to ignore politics, in other words to cut oneself of from life and opt for splendid isolation.

A devotion to Olympism demands that, beyond the acts of faith and periodic ceremonies, there should be daily action, at all levels, to permeate the educational systems of the entire world with the meaning of the Olympic ethic, to enrich the programme of the formation of youth with a healthy training in sports, seen as an element of the development of all the physical, psychic and moral faculties of man, as a means of understanding and friendship between peoples. The Olympic Games, qualified by Coubertin as the feast of mankind's spring, would be the crowning of a tireless task carried on for four years without rest, and would inaugurate another four-year period of unstinting effort.

Paradoxical as it may seem, I would say that sports directors and Olympic dignitaries have no interest in seeing the politicians indifferent to the progress of sports in their countries!

These directors have often suffered, in fact, from the isolation in which they have found themselves when they tried to put into action a plan for sports education in the favour of young people. Patronage and good will are out of date. The realisation of a modern and relevant infrastructure in sports, which is becoming more and more demanding,

of the international federations, assumes the availability of human and financial resources beyond the reach of the directors who do their recruiting on the basis of unpaid volunteerism and who can only offer to sports their free time and their love for youth.

What was perhaps enough half a century ago is no longer so today. We should, therefore, in the footsteps of Coubertin, sensitise those in authority in government, municipalities, the deputies, socio-economic structures, intergovernmental and international organisations, and convince them that Olympism, far from being an esoteric system, an exclusive club, is a humanistic philosophy and an educational concept which aims at the happiness of youth, transcending conflict and individual and collective egoism, exorcising the old demons of hate, war, evil, fighting chauvinism and exclusivity.

Pierre de Coubertin gives us the example once again: faced with what he believed to be, in the 1930's, a rise in the perils which threatened, according to him, the rehabilitation of sports and 'the victories of a just feminism', and which were, in his eyes, disorder in education, morality in shreds, morbid eroticism, cowardice, and, to use his own words, egoism in parents, he was not satisfied with lamentations or imprecations within the I.O.C. or in private meetings.

Parallel with the contacts he never ceased to have, courageously and perseveringly, with the politically powerful for half a century, particularly in European countries, he did not hesitate to send an open letter in 1931, when he was in his seventies, to the President of the Council of the League of Nations denouncing the evils that youth suffered from, analysing the causes and asking him, in the name of the Olympic ideal, of love for youth and the progress of humanity, to undertake vigorous action for a moral cure on a planetary scale.

It is not without use, in this respect, to mention how little interest international organisations, as well as a large number of governments, continued to express in sports until after World War II.

In the 1,216 - page book that the Brookings Institutions ([1]) published in 1957 on the social activities of the United Nations, the word 'Sports' did not appear even once.

If today UNESCO seems interested in sports, is it not a good opportunity to agree with it, and through it with all the ministers or dignitaries responsible for youth, sports and culture in their respective countries, a useful dialogue to:

a) Help them to better understand Olympism, to serve it so that

I. The United Nations and the Promotion of the General Welfare.

they can better serve the youth of their countries; to respect the Olympic charter.

b) Ask them to provide sports in schools and universities not only to form healthy bodies but also to strengthen the characters of the young and develop what Coubertin called the moral muscle of man. The author of *Sports Education* finds admirable expressions to hold the imagination. «The alpha and the omega of sports education», he says, «consist of provoking or favouring the operation of moral tanning along with physical tanning, by tanning the soul when tanning the body». This obviously does not refer to suntanning, it is a matter of making each youth 'a man of bronze' so that the body and the cha racter can be prepared for «the battle of life», to teach man to respect the rule, freely accepted, of controlling his impulses, of governing him self. «If sports», adds Coubertin in his *Sports Education,* «gives the body (broad) shoulders, they are also there for bearing burdens, and if it has made solid muscle, it is to quieten the nerves and make each man master of himself».

c) To introduce or generalise sports in work areas as a restorative and recreational activity, contributing to the lessening of man's sense of alienation, and helping him to live better.

d) Fight with all the means at the disposal of politics against commercialism, chauvinism, fanaticism, the drugtaking that perma nently affects the health of young people.

e) Build stadiums, swimming pools, gymnasiums, well ventilated centres, organise youth camps... and consolidate this investment, which is as profitable in the medium range, if not more so, than the building of roads, the construction of bridges, land development, in any case more useful and less harmful than the billions that are spent annually for building weapons.

In this way, instead of ignoring or opposing authority, let us imagine and put into practice a positive and fruitful cooperation in the service of the world's youth.

Instead of denouncing the rise of nationalism and pretending to believe that the solution lies in the banning of anthems and flags, let us make the distinction between patriotism, which is a noble and legitimate sentiment which should be encouraged and sublimated and nationalism, which is a morbid and absurd deviation. Let us encourage the former and attack the latter at the roots, in collaboration with all the competent authorities and by all available means. Firstly, through education in schools and the mass media, which are controlled in the majority of countries by the government or financial interests.

If we want to work positively and usefully for the glory of Olym-

pism, se should not ignore politics, because politics does not ignore us.

For this reason, there must be an Olympic policy that is constantly revivified, renewed, adapted to the needs of our times and yet faithful to its foundations and its intangible principles; it has to be clearly formulated and we must be ready to defend it.

If we have to fight against politics, it is against those politicians who try to exploit sports for the betterment of their own careers, who take advantage of the prestige of the Olympic Games and national or international championships to show the virtues of their regimes or to appease their passions.

The intervention of these sorcerer's apprentices is equalled only by their ignorance of sports and the contempt they feel towards youth.

This is a further reason for taking the offensive and moving ahead so that youth can be won over to the Olympic ideal, and take public opinion as a witness.

Certain Cassandras are never tired of remembering the difficulties and the crises which have surrounded Olympism. There is nothing new in this. Coubertin himself spoke of the ill-omened prophets who never hesitated to say that each Olympiad would be the last. «Common sense, in default of science», he remarked, «is sufficient for understanding that the ancient Games were not exempt either from unpleasant incidents, or low periods, nor attacks by implacable enemies. Olympia had its share of scattered destinies. Olympism passed through them without being destroyed. Neo-olympism will evolve in the same way. The re-established Games have a double advantage over their predecessors: their global character and their moving ceremony. They are thus both more solid and more flexible. It is in the beginning that they run risks: now the sap is too high to dry out».

Pierre de Coubertin's confidence in the Olympic Games will prove itself in the future as long as his disciples and heirs are always inspired by his task and his methods of work, adapting them to the conditions of the world today and the needs of tomorrow's youth.

In terms of the relations between Olympism and politics, the subject of this conference, the essential is that we, as educators and sports directors guided by an ideal — loving youth and devoting ourselves to the construction of a more livable and viable world, should, know what we want. In other words we should have our Sports Doctrine, and defend it, illustrate it and co-operate on it with all those who, thanks to their positions of authority, have the means to put it into practice.

What is important is that sports directors have the strength of character, the flair and, through their personal gifts, their moral beha-

viour, their influence, are able to impose themselves and demand respect; convince, persuade and rally others to their cause.

It is important to avoid, through the pretext of defending oneself against political adulteration, that one should find oneself in opposition to certain rules considered as sacrosanct, or that one should defend a state of being that is condemned by history, progress and modernity.

It is one thing to defend Olympism, to keep watch over the independence of sports organisations, and quite another to vulgarise our sports ethic and to safeguard the unity of the Olympic movement only with our moral strength. The rules do not suffice. The level of men, their personality, their imagination are more important. Men can change the rules and adapt them while documents cannot animate themselves and are given adequate consideration only through the loyalty and the intelligence of men.

This summary does not presume to having given a definite conclusion, even less to having given the definition of a formula for overcoming the problem of political interference in sports. It is a quest where every objection is a question, where it is an effort to establish a dialectic between a generous ideal and a constantly shifting reality. Certainly, all this moving around is not convenient. Some prefer the comfort of general ideas, other display a realism which is abandoned and deserted in the face of the cruel and embarrassing conditions of reality.

This unstable equilibrium is available to all those who prefer a Socratic delivery, with or without pain, to the lullaby purrings of prejudice and traditional ideas. «Look far, speak truthfully, act firmly»: this motto of Pierre de Coubertin's appears to me as the golden rule that all sportsmen should remember when confronting these problems and taking a stand in relation to politics and politicians. It would be... good politics.

OLYMPISM: LIFE OR DEATH?

By Mr. MAURICE HERZOG (FRA)

Chief of protocol of the I.O.C.

Is the journey to Olympia a pilgrimage from the moment when I embrace this land of our ancestors, this land on which in 776 B.C., first certain date in Greek history, they say, were held the first Olympic Games?

Is it a retreat, then, that I would wish to pray in the serenity of this sacred spot?

Whatever the case might be, I come here full of the will to consolidate and amplify the work of Pierre de Coubertin whose heart, a few steps away, has never ceased to beat for us.

Like the apostles, his successors have known how to reinforce the Olympic movement, in spite of the vicissitudes of history. They have done so by extending its scope beyond that of the few original member nations and by ensuring the success of the Olympic Games, these exceptional feasts of the youth of the world.

* * *

Today I wish to speak in my own name, to share with you my fears and my hopes. It goes without saying that I do not now speak either for the I.O.C., the N.O.C. of France, nor anyone other than myself. In effect, I believe that Olympism has now reached a crossroads. As the prisoners of success, we have the choice of two attitudes in the future: We can either voluntarily restrain the extent of Olympism in general and of the Games in particular, in order to maintain our control over them. Or else we could adapt them to the modern world which now comprises many new nations, which imposes a gradual evolution.

In the first case, by maintaining the status quo. we maintain the privileges that the creators and a few associates enjoy. This choice, which has been put to the test lately, unfortunately has the corollary of keeping away from the managing team a considerable portion of the rest of the world.

In the second case, we opt for the difficult but advantageous way of progressive integration of several countries which undoubtedly have their own N.O.C., but are not members of the I.O.C.

The dilemma is a cruel one.

Should we freeze tradition into the framework and conditions of the original era? In that case, we run the risk of distorting, by lack of adaptation, the heritage of our predecessors.

Should we revise our conceptions to meet the aspirations of our times? It is only in this way that we can safeguard the essence of the message that has been transmitted to us and of which we are the keepers.

* * *

Some fear that the Olympic Games will be compromised in the future by the race for bigness. There is no need to worry about those in Moscow in 1980. The necessary steps that have been taken by the Russians and the techno-political context indicate that they will be a great success. I hope so.

But is this the swan song?

One could fear so. What city as important as Moscow and what country as powerful as the Soviet Union could in the future put themselves in the running to organise the Games with such splendour, except for the United States? And then what? Energetic measures must be taken from now to decelerate this race for bigness. Heart-rending decisions must be taken. The increase in the number of events and athletes must cease. I do not even speak of new categories! An 'anti - inflation' and even a 'deflation' plan must be developed and imposed on all. The sacrifice in the number of medals must be fairly, that is proportionately, borne by all the categories. It has become abnormal that certain games that are no longer played should be included in the programme. Especially as they often cost a fortune in terms of equipment and I know that certain cities have not put in their candidacy for this reason.

On the other hand, selection is not sufficient and there are no official elimination heats at the Olympic Games. The suggestion would not hurt. I have been asking for this for the last twenty years.

The Regional Games should be the elimination heats. Only the best among the champions should, according to this hypothesis, have the right to participate in the Olympic Games. This decentralisation of sports would also have the advantage of encouraging active partici-

pation in the Olympic movement by new nations and particularly those of the Third World. The expenses in this case would be less. It would be best for these countries that are in a full development phase in sports to win medals in the Regional Games rather than be outclassed and discouraged at the Olympic Games. Naturally this does not exclude occasions, which I hope will be as frequent as possible, where contests and victories will take place at the summit.

Unfortunately we have been too reserved so far about these Regional Games. We are suspicious spectators rather than dynamic participators. The tremendous success of the Panamerican, Panafrican or Panasian Games, to mention but a few, should make them all worthy of greater consideration.

A new policy that consciously takes into account these Regional Games could not help but reinforce Olympism and ease the Olympic Games. The latter, for the same reason, would benefit by being more reasonably proportioned. Simpler, more concentrated and more homogeneous, their world fame would be even more striking.

As they stand at present the Games have become, according to many, a challenge to common sense. This explains the anxiety manifested here and there about things remaining the same.

* * *

It is true that these saturnalia of modern times lead to excessive overcrowding, which makes them dangerous for the participants, the journalists and the dignitaries. The epic battles of the heroes of the stadium are seen by millions of spectators on television. The Olympic Games, and we should feel proud about this, have become one of the most tremendous spectacles of the world. Beyond a certain threshold, however, any event takes on a political dimension. This reality has now made Olympism a colossus with feet of clay.

I therefore have to admit that I was deeply upset by the tragedy of Munich and the withdrawal of 18 African nations at Montreal. We should think on this withdrawal. Naturally, as with all of us, it poses certain questions for me. But there are no recriminations, in spite of my regret. Are these African nations ultimately responsible? It is not wise politically to remove then from the direction of world sports. Opposition and feelings of frustration should not be allowed to occur. The pretexts given for this withdrawal, real or not, should not hide the protest movement that they cover. It is a grave warning. At least, I have seen it as such. Let us avoid having to think, with Flaubert,

that: «The future torments us and past restrains us. This is why the present escapes us».

* * *

After Montreal, the President of the I.O.C., Lord KILLANIN, asked us for our views on the future of the Olympic Games. Without wanting to be a Cassandra I said that the incidents of today will become the tragedies of tomorrow, and that one should innovate constantly in order to last. One of the three Vice - Presidents of the I.O.C., Mr. PADILHA, said it himself when he inaugurated this 17th Session: «It would be difficult to maintain the rigidity and the immutability of principles in the face of the uncontrollable evolution of facts and events». As with the Games of the ancients, that were in a state of constant change, how can one fix the forms of the last century? «Tradition», said Paul Valéry, «is not to repeat what others have done before us, but to catch the spirit with which these things were done».

If sports is no longer reserved for titled or wealthy gentlemen, it is reserved for the more advanced countries. The first point is universally acknowledged. Not so the second. But world sports cannot be governed by one country out of two. The other half must be linked intimately to this labour. We are, rightly, struggling against apartheid, racism in all its manifestations, the intrusion of politics, nationalism and chauvinism into sports, financial and commercial pressures, and yet, paradoxically, we allow a de facto discrimination to establish itself among countries. Some small nations have two members on the I.O.C. while others, like the majority of African or Arab nations, for instance, have none. Mr. M'ZALI, another Vice - President, shares this opinion and expresses it with the following query: «Is it a proof of political madness to struggle for a more democratic representation of all continents on the I.O.C. or the International Federations?»([1]).

1 llore are a set of statistics that indicate (except in case of mistakes) the representation by continent (except for Oceania). This is to clarify Mr. M'zali's point.

EUROPE 28 countries (including Andorra and San Marino)
21 are represented on the I.O.C. by 38 members - 45 % of tota
Rate of countries representation 24/28 – 86%

AFRICA 35 countries
13 aro represented on the I.O.C. by 13 members - 15 % of total
Rate of countries representation 13/35 – 37%

Certainly the members of the I.O.C. do not represent, 'stricto sensu', their countries as such. This does not alter the fact that an I.O.C. member is a valuable link, a kind of umbilical cord between his native country and the Olympic movement.

Naturally one can hold a different opinion. If such perils exist why would the I.O.C. itself have changed its rules? A few years ago, certain 'historically Olympic' countries had three members each. Nowadays they have two. Olympism is not dead. Far from it. Andorra and San Marino have as much right to exist as the Soviet Union or the United States. The position of the last two would not be weakened, you can be sure, if they each had only one member instead of two.

On the other hand, for reasons of independence I am against the idea of members being designated by their respective governments.

To be absolutely clear, there can be no question of facilitating in any way the influence of countries of international institutions on the Olympic movement.

* * *

As with my other colleagues on the I.O.C., I was asked to make suggestions at the Prague Session. Since many of those relate to the problems of internal organisation of our institution it is not up to me to make them public and even less so to comment upon them. These specific proposals are therefore reserved for the I.O.C. I can only repeat what has already been stated by the governing authorities of the Olympic movement or what had appeared in the press at the time of the session.

Briefly, and I do not quote them all because I must admit I intervened often during this meeting, these proposals dealt with the composition of the I.O.C. whereby there would be only one member

AMERICA: 34 countries (including Antigua, Barbados, Bahamas, the Bermudas, Belize, the Cayman Isles, the Virgin Isles...)
15 are represented on the I.O.C. by 18 members - 21 % of total
Rate of countries' representation 15/34 – 44%

ASIA: 23 countries (not including Mainland China)
11 are represented on the I.O.C. by 13 members - 15% of total
Rate of countries' representation 11/23 – 44%

THE WHOLE WORLD: 133 countries
67 countries are represented by 85 members
Rate of countries' representation 33/67 – 50%.

per country. The aim of this is to associate the countries of the Third World, and reserve seats for them as they become available. The second member would not be replaced on his retirement or his disappearance. We had acted in this manner earlier, when we had changed, as I said above, from three members to two.

My suggestions also touched upon the way in which elections should be held for new members, for committees and their presidents, on the need for each of us to be persona grata in our own countries (being absolutely independent withal), which is difficult to define and codify. Finally, we also discussed the possibility that the Games be conferred on a region rather than a city...

These suggestions could appear disparate and irrelevant in the eyes of some. That is not the case, however, at least if one judges according to reactions. By acting in this way within the framework of the I.O.C. and not outside it, I believe that I serve loyally and positively the Olympic movement that I swore and oath to, like all my other colleagues, at the time of admission. I do not want anyone to read meanings into my actions on this head. I have never said that the I.O.C. should be more or less attached to UNESCO. On the contrary, I have indicated that we could have problems with this international institution that could be tempted some day to gather all malcontents. It is up to us to intervene and dissuade it and especially to dissuade the countries who do not have a member with us.

Quite the opposite, I truly wish for and aspire to a powerful and independent Olympic movement. If we do not want to become obsolete or deleterious, we have to act in the name of a certain conception of our role in the world that is larger and more embracing. We should also be constantly seeking the consensus indispensable to the success of our mission.

Otherwise, I fear — even at the risk of being seen as pusillanimous or pessimistic — that we will be accused by the nations that feel themselves to be ostracised.

* * *

One could object and ask if these nations themselves are ready to follow this path. Actually, it is not the countries that are concerned by these questions but my colleagues. Among them, and I have to thank them for this, many have offered me their approval and their encouragement. What are we dealing with if not the careful preservation and the permanence, under a different form, but with the same principles, of the heritage that Pierre de Coubertin and his successors

have willed to us? Let us rememier what Lamennais advised: «Let us avoid revolutions by creating them ourselves».

* * *

Among the many decisions taken in Prague, one in particular made me rejoice. That of being able to assign the Olympic Games in the future to a natural geographic region as well as a city. Although nothing has as yet been written into the rules, this is a measure of progress that cements reality. In any case the Games will continue to be given to a city and a large city at that, which is in a position to assume such a heavy responsibility.

The change in interpretation involves the present decentralisation of the Summer Games, such as yachting, riding, shooting, soccer... but it transforms the candidacy for the Winter Games. The resorts that are known to be too small in relation to the importance of the Games could band together with the condition naturally that they are within the same geographic area and with unreasonable distance of each other. Due to their lack of capacity and global possibilities, resorts have had to give up, little by little, the organisation of the Winter Games. Cities, sometimes large ones, that have never been considered as centres for winter sports, have progressively supplanted the resorts. As with the Summer Games, they have been forced to decentralise the different events, sometimes at a great distance. The unity of place could be maintained better with the resorts if actual distances were shorter. The atmosphere of youth and sports would benefit and so would Olympism.

* * *

Our Greek friends have transmitted to the I.O.C., through our dear colleague and present host Mr. PETRALIAS, the proposal of Mr. Constantine CARAMANLIS, Head of the Government, that future Games be organised in this country on a permanent basis. All tradition lovers would be satisfied in this way. A distinction should be made, however, between ancient tradition and modern tradition. At first, I must admit I had my reservations, undoubtedly like many others. The universality of the Games, primary condition of the continuity, required, in my mind, that they should be held on each continent in turn, on a 'rotation basis' if I can so express myself, so that the Olympic irradiation' can be felt throughout the world. But I have since revised my opinion. Olympism is going through a delicate phase. Incidents such

as those of Taiwan will be repeated, unfortunately — and I know how difficult this is — due to a clear stance having been taken in regard to China. It is unthinkable that a quarter of mankind should continue to feel itself the pariah of the Olympic family.

If this integration is not effected rapidly, we shall have to expect grave and constant upheavals in international sports relations. Perhaps I am pessimistic, but I fear that the Olympic equilibrium itself may one day be affected.

On the other hand the withdrawal of the 18 African nations sounded like a knell. I cannot get over it. However, we should not wait for the death blow.

I pass over the other political threats that could affect the normal run of the Games and the regular functioning of Olympic organisations. Many know what these are. What is more, it has to be admitted that they are disagreable to mention. In such vulnerable circumstances, it seems to me that in the long run it would be opportune and prudent to surround ourselves with a maximum of guarantees.

A second argument 'a contrario' must also be expressed. If, as I wish, the Regional Games became an integral part of the Olympic structure, the global decentralisation by a rotational system of the Games themselves would no longer be necessary.

Finding an asylum as well as sanctuary for the Games, — why not? «Greece», André Malraux used to say, «is never greater than when it is so for all men».

This land is sacred. It does not belong only to the Greeks, but to the world. The home of the famous and admirable Olympic truces, no other spot, in these perilous times, could have been better chosen. Let us proclaim it neutral for all nations. Let us ask our Greek friends to grant extraterritoriality to the enclosure set aside for the new Games. Let us all participate in the erection of a new Olympia, dedicated to the youth of the world, to the sources of our civilisation, to the brotherhood of man and to peace on earth.

«SPORTS PROGRAMME OF THE MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES»

By Dr. ARPAD CSANADI (HUN)

Member of the I.O.C. for Hungary
Member of the I.O.C. Executive Board

The basic objectives of the Olympic movement are formulated in I.O.C. Rule 1 as follows:

«The aims of the Olympic movement are to promote the development of those fine physical and moral qualities which are the basis of amateur sport and to bring together the athletes of the world in a great quadrennial festival of sports thereby creating international respect and goodwill and thus helping to construct a better and more peaceful world».

These aims of the Olympic movement are realized in the practice through the Olympic Games and within this through the competitions of various sports.

The key-factors of Olympic Games are those sports and competitors, respectively, which have obtained the right to be included and entered on the programme of the Games. I think this is natural. It is first of all the athletes participating in the events of various sports who draw the attention of sports loving public and everything that is going on in connection with the sports programme should serve the athletes first. Of course, I do not wish to diminish by this the importance and value of other tasks of the Olympic movement or the organization of the Games. I should like only to emphasize the simple fact that there can be *no Olympic Games without sports programme, competitions and competitors.*

It has always been a question of prestige to be included on the programme of the Olympic Games for any sport. It is known that there are 22 sports on the programme of the Olympic Games and 6 sports on that of the Olympic Winter Games. In the last decades - despite the fact that in the majority of sports more and more important international competitions — World Championships, continental competitions, etc. —are organized— the conception concentrated on the Olympic has become stronger and stronger both within the individual sports and in the sporting life of countries in general. Parallel with

the development of international sporting life more and more sports have requested and even obtained a place in the programme of the Olympic Games. And this process is still going on: even at present the IFs of several sports make great efforts in order to be included on the programme of the Games. Participation and success at the Olympic Games considerably exceed the importance of good results achieved at World Championships or Continental Games, except for a few sports (e.g.soccer), both in the eye of the public and that of the athletes.

1. Development of sports and events (competition) programme of the Olympic Games as reflected by figures:

	Number of Sports	Events
1896	8	43
1900	9	56
1904	9	73
1908	23	109
1912	16	107
1920	22	158
1924	19	131
1928	16	122
1932	17	126
1936	21	144
1948	19	150
1952	19	149
1956	19	151
1960	19	150
1964	21	163
1968	20	172
1972	22	195
1976	22	198

Development of sports and events (competition) of the Olympic Winter Games

	Number of Sports	Events
1924	4	14
1928	5	13
1932	4	14
1936	4	17
1948	5	22
1952	4	22
1956	4	24
1960	4	27
1964	6	34
1968	6	35
1972	6	35
1976	6	37

The programme of the Olympic Games has shown a continuous, and in certain periods even a very rapid development from Athens to Montreal. While at the 1896 Games in Athens only 9 sports had heen on the programme, in Montreal competitions and Olympic championships of 22 sports were organized already. Similarly to the situation with sports also the number of events within the individual sports has developed, in some sports at a very rapid and uneven rate. While in Athens only 43 events had been organized, in London 1948, following World War II already 136 events and competitions were organized in 18 sports and even these numbers increased to 198 and 22, respectively, in Montreal 1976.

Statistical data reflect, of course, only to a small extent the fluctuation that can be recognized within the development of the sports programme of modern Olympic Games up to now. I should like just to mention as an example that winter sports had been on the programme of the Games even before the starting of Olympic Winter Games in 1924. Thus skating was on the programme in 1908 and skating and ice hockey in 1920. It must be mentioned as well that between 1912 and 1948 also arts-competitions had been organized with a number of events ranging from 5 to 15. The variety of the programme up to now is characterized by the fact that at one or more Olympic Games also the following sports were on the programme in the period between 1896 and 1976: lawn-tennis (6 times), equestrian polo (3), tug-of-war (3), rugby (2), alpinism (1), jeu de pomme (1), lacrosse (1), motorboat (1), racquets (1). There are sports that have been recently included on the programme, namely *judo* with three participations (1964, 1972, 1976), and *archery* with four (1908, 1920, 1972 and 1976). But the latter had already been organised in 1908 and 1920, too! There are 9 sports on the programme of the so called «Summer Games» that had already been organized in 1896, too, but only 4 of them — athletics, gymnastics, fencing and swimming (waterpolo only from 1900 on) — have been permanently on the programme ever since then.

At the Olympic Winter Games starting with 1924 speed - and figure skating ice hockey as well as ski are permanent sports on the programme.

2. Some contradictions of the development

If the development outlined above is regarded without mentioning the circumstances, then the picture obtained is undoubtedly positive. But, if the circumstances of the development of the programme are taken into consideration, too, then this positive tendency might be accompanied here and there also by some criticism.

Namely, considering the development of the programme of the Olympic Games it must be stated that up to recently no general «programme policy» has developed within the International Olympic Committee destined for deciding on the structure of the Olympic programme, naturally after consultation with the IFs, that could have provided some guidelines for the IOC when including or deleting sports and modifying the programme in general. This resulted then in the fact that IOC - members not being expert in all technical matters of sports, which is natural and understandable, were often influenced by subjective opinions when making their decisions.

One of the reasons for the uneven development of the Olympic programme was that some personalities of authority had often tried to influence the IOC by their personal opinion. I should like to refer to the historical fact, for example, that the deletion of team sports —being a subject of discussion even today— had been put on the agenda already in 1924 and later on even such efforts had been made that all events of team character should be deleted from the Olympic programme and only individual events be included. Certain subjective circumstances had a part as well, when the events programme of some sports had been considerably increased, sometimes even doubled from one Game to the other. On the other hand, it is also a sign of the unbalanced character if the development of the programme that the participation of women at the Games lagged behind until 1972 as compared with the genera] international development of women's sports.

As a matter of fact, the IOC itself is responsible for all these contradictions —if the question is simplified— since as it is stated also in the IOC rule, IOC is the organ that finally decides on the programme of the Olympic Games. Nevertheless, I must mention that also the different IFs had a part in that the stability of the Olympic programme had, iff certain periods, been upset and is not completely balanced even today. Events within the individual sports had often been changed, not to speak about sports with weight categories where categories has not always followed the requirements of overall development. There have been several IFs regarding Olympic competitions as possibility for experimentation of certain events, with the permission of the IOC.

It is a very interesting fact, with regard to the stability of the events programme of sports that for example in athletics 16 events of the total of 37 events for men and women being on the programme at present have been on the programme from the introduction of the Games on. It is also interesting that the programme of men's events in rowing has been unchanged with one exception since 1920. A cer-

tain stability can be observed also with fencing. On the other hand, the programme of some other sports, e.g. swimming, shows considerable fluctuation despite the fact that this sport has also been on the programme ever since the first Games.

At the same time it must be admitted that in certain circles gigantism of the Olympic programme is often mentioned. Although this expression was deleted from the «Olympic vocabulary» at the Varna Congress in 1973 —at least with regard to the programme— we still must deal with this question since the judgment of the development of the Olympic programme can be misinterpreted if no precise distinction is made. I myself do not share the view that the Olympic programme has become gigantic. This opinion was confirmed also by Mr. Willi *Daume's* report held at the Varna Congress in which he evaluated the successful realization of the programme of the 1972 Games as bearable. However, it is another question that the Olympic programme is not balanced, nor properly coordinated with the requirements of development, furthermore some disproportionateness can be observed just as the lack of a general policy which caused difficulties already in the past and will do so also in the future if the IOC cannot change the situation in this field.

3. Recognition of the IOC

Experience obtained at the last few Games, opinions of certain circles and also those of several IOC-members have induced the IOC to examine the question of the programme not only partly but from a general point of view and a long-term policy should be developed. As a result of this recognition the IOC has set up in 1968 a so called Joint Commission where IOC and NOC members familiar with sports technical aspects of the sports programme are included. This Commission was given the task to revise, on the one hand, the present programme and to submit proposals gradually aimed at the modernization of the Olympic programme, on the other. This Commission has been continuously working since 1968 and submitted proposals to the IOC on some important partial questions after thorough analysis and setting up some principles. The task of the Commission was not just to make reduction for itself as expected from several sides, but to try to change the existing unbalanceness of the present programme, to set up standards and requirements on the basis of which it can be unambiguously stated which sports should be on the programme of the Olympic Games arid which are those having hopes to be included on it if they fulfil the requirements.

The Commission approached the question from several aspects in

its work. Beyond the interest of the IOC also those of the IFs, the participating NOCs and, of course, of the organizers have been taken into consideration. When fulfilling its task the Commission proposed to the IOC to adopt such principles that only sports widely spread all over the world and popular can be adopted on the programme independently of the fact that it is about individual or team sport; the Commission took into consideration as well that eventual modifications in the programme should not impose any burden either on the organizers or the competitors from financial or organizational respects; it took a stand for providing more possibilities for female athletes for participation according to international development.

On the basis of these principles the Commission submitted some general and detailed proposals to the IOC since 1968. Accordingly, the IOC made the standards of participation included in Rule 33 more severe in 1970. It was adopted as well that from time to time —considering statistical data on the popularity of sports and events —modifications of the programme might be carried out, as well as in some sports (e.g. rowing, basketball, handball) also women might participate at the Olympic Games. In certain sports the events programme was modified or reduced, too, mainly where popularity was not adequate (e.g. tandem in cycling) or the organization of the given events imposed too great burdens on the organizers and participating countries, respectively, (e.g. slalom, events in canoeing, 300 m in shooting, etc.). The Commission submitted proposals concerning the settlement by the IOC of disproportions still to be experienced in the number of possible entries. It was suggested that the number of teams in the finals of team sports should be reduced from traditional 16 to 12 —except for football— or, where also women are participating, limited in a total of 18 teams lor men and women with the stipulation that the number of women's teams should be at least 6. Detailed proposals were sub mitted to the IOC concerning the reduction of the number of substitutes as well. Almost all of the proposals were accepted by the IOC and declared as resolutions.

The activity of the IOC and its Programme Commission has not been finished however, with the adoption of these modifying proposals. *Lord Killariin,* President of the IOC said the following in his speech at the Vienna Session 1974 when he held his opening address on the necessity of the modification of the Olympic programme.

«It will be necessary for the International Olympic Committee to consider criteria for an Olympic snort. There is fairly general agreement that any additional sports should be those which are judged by the clock, by the stopwatch, the tape or by the scoring of points such

as goals, but not by the individual opinion of judges or by demanding expensive equipment».

4. The Games and their future sports programme.

In his speech Lord Killanin referred basically to those debates that were going on in connection with the future of the Olympic Games and Olympic Winter Games and their programme at the Varna Congress in 1973. The theses of the Varna Congress on the sports programme have been analyzed by the Programme Commission and submitted to the IOC. This analysis refers to that it is not just about the modification of the Olympic programme and this question must not be limited to a technical one connected with the programme only. Concerning the future also the question should be discussed whether the present system of organization of the Games would not require some modification in the future. It has often been raised whether it is good to maintain the principle of «one time and one place» and whether there is no need for changes in the organization of future Games. In the meantime also some concrete proposals have been formulated. Thus a Greek proposal is known according to which Greece would be the permanent place where the Olympic Games are organized; also such opinions could be heard that the Games should be organized by more countries or a geographical region in the future; a more moderate proposal is that —beside the Olympic city chosen by the NOC —several cities of one country would organize the Games.

These proposals will be discussed in Prague, June 1977 where the Programme Commission is likely to be in favour of the «unity of place and time» with the modification that certain competitions of some sports might be organized also in other cities than the so called «Olympic City» if they are near to it and certain conditions are maintained.

The Programme Commission is firm on that the Olympic Games should be organized at one time also in the future, otherwise the Games would become, as a matter of fact, a series of World Championships in various sports.

In the meantime the Programme Commission made necessary analyses concerning the sports and events. Upon the request of the Varna Congress and Lord Killanin personally, criteria were set up on which the future sports competition concept of the Olympic Games can be based. It would be too early to go into details, nevertheless I consider as necessary to fix some basic principles by which the Programme Commission was led when making its proposals. Such are the following:

a) The sport should be widely spread all over the world.
b) The Olympic programme should reflect the world-wide development of international sports and give place to traditions only exceptionally.
c) The International Federations of sports being on the Olympic programme must respect the referring rules of the IOC.
d) Only the best athletes should participate at the Olympic Games for which a precondition is to establish rational selection procedures and set up adequate standards.
e) Sports and their competition programmes should not considerably increase the financial burdens of the future organizers and the facilities could be economically used also after the Games.
f) Sport and events (competitions) programme should be as stable as possible and no experimentation or testing of certain sports and events should be allowed in the Olympic programme.
g) A certain balance should be established between the events of sports and no sport might increase the number of its events to the detriment of others.
h) Competition programme should be transformed so that this should not result in the devaluation of Olympic medals.

The IOC Programme Commission consisting of an equal number of IOC-members and representatives of NOCs, respectively, and after 1973 also a representative on the part of IFs, discussed basic principles with the NOCs and IFs at a series of meetings. On the basis of the criteria set up (to be found among the bye-laws of the IOC Rules Book) and statistical data obtained from the IFs a detailed analysis was carried out, on the basis of which the Commission will submit to the Full Session of the IOC a long-term programme conception by May 1978 at the latest, i.e. by the date when the 1984 Games will be awarded.

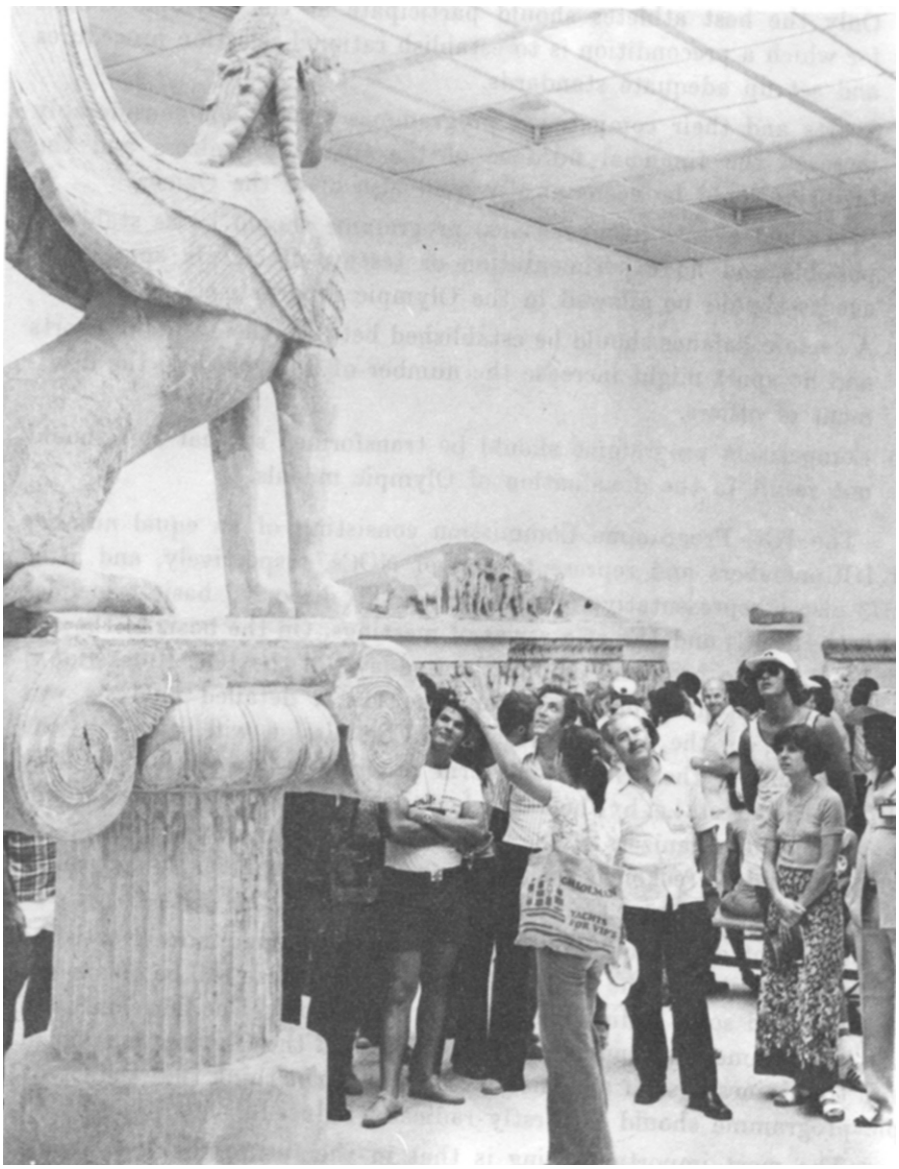
Thus the organizers of the Games will be aware of the programme which should be reckoned with in the course of preparations and which cannot be later changed according to Rule 33 of the IOC.

I do not expect all interested parties to be unanimously satisfied with the decision of the IOC. I think that also those will be disappointed who had some radical reduction in their mind. The enrichment of the programme is an indicator of the success of the Olympic movement and the Games first of all. Therefore, I would not think that the Olympic programme should be firstly radically reduced.

The most important thing is that in the future the IOC should make its decisions on the basis of the most objective knowledge possible

and of a determined policy on the programme. Thus any one-sided development of the Olympic programme will be avoidable.

Such a firm policy on the programme would strengthen the position of the IOC, promote the successful work of IFs, participants and organizers as well, and after all further increase the respect for the Olympic movement and the Games. And this is the aim that is above all partial interests.



Visit to the Museum of Delphi.

Annexe l.

SPORTS AND EVENTS **PROGRAMME OF THE OLYMPIC** GAMES

		1896	1900	1904	1908	1912	1920	1924	1928	1932	1936
Athletics	m.	14	23	24	26	30	29	27	22	23	23
	w.		-	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	6
Wrestling	f. s.	1	-	7	5	5	5	7	7	7	7
	g-r.s.		-	-	4	-	5	6	6	7	7
Rowing			5	4	4	4	5	7	7	7	7
Hookey			-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	1
Archery	m.		-	-	2	-	10	-	-	-	-
	w.		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canoing	m.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Cycling		6	1	-	6	2	6	6	6	6	6
Handball	m.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Basketball	m.		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Football			-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	1
Equestrian Sports			-	-	-	5	6	5	6	5	6
Polo			-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
Boxing			-	7	5	-	8	8	8	8	8
Modern Pentathlon			-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1
Shooting		5	7	-	15	18	21	10	-	2	3
Weightlifting			-	-	-	-	5	5	5	5	5
Lawn-Tennis	m.	2	-	2	4	4	2	2	-	-	-
	w.		-	-	2	2	2	2	-	-	-
	d.m.		-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-
Gymnastics	m.	8	1	12	2	4	4	9	7	11	8
	w.		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Swimming	m.	4	8	9	6	7	7	6	6	6	6
	w.		-	-	-	2	3	5	5	5	5
Diving	m.		-	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	2
	w.		-	-	-	1	2	2	2	2	2
Water-Polo			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Yachting			3	-	4	4	14	3	3	4	4
Fencing	m.	3	7	5	4	5	6	6	6	6	6
	w.		-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1
Alpinism			.	-	-	_	_	-	_	1	_
Jeu de Paume			-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tug of War			-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Lacrosse			-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motorboat			-	-	3	-	-	-	_	-	_
Racquets			-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	_
Rugby			-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Ice Hockey			-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Skating	m.		-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
	w.		-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	_
	d.		-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Arts Events			-	-	-	5	5	5	13	9	15
Events:	m.	43	56	73	104	100	148	120	108	112	129
	w.		-	-	4	5	8	10	14	14	15
	d.m.		-	-	1	2	2	1	-	-	-
Total of events:		43	56	73	109	107	158	131	122	126	144
Total of sports:		8	8	β	22	15	21	18	15	16	20

Annexe 2.

SPORTS AND EVENTS PBOGRAMME OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

		1948	1952	1956	1960	1964	1968	1972	1976	1980
Athletics	m.	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	23	24
	w.	9	9	9	10	12	12	14	14	14
Wrestling	f.s.	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10
	g-r.s.	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10
Judo		-	-	-	-	4	-	β	β	8
Rowing	m.	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8
	w.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
Hockey	m.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	w.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Archery	m.	-	-	-	_	-	-	1	1	1
	w.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Canoing	m.	8	8	8	5	5	5	5	9	9
	w.	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Canoe Slalom	m.	-	-	_	-	_	-	3	_	.
	w.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Cycling		6	β	6	β	7	7	7	6	6
Basketball	m.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	w.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Handball	m.	-	-	-	-	_	-	1	1	1
	w.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Football		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Equestrian Sport		6	6	6	5	6	6	β	6	6
Boxing		8	10	10	10	10	11	11	11	11
Modern Pentathlon		1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Volleyball	m.	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
	w.	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Shooting		4	7	7	6	6	7	8	7	7
Weightlifting		6	7	7	7	7	7	9	9	10
Gymnastics	m.	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
	w.	1	7	7	β	6	6	6	6	6
Swimming	m.	6	β	7	8	10	15	15	13	13
	w.	5	5	β	7	8	14	14	13	13
Diving	m.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	w.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Water-Polo		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Yachting		5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6
Fencing	m.	e	6	6	β	β	β	β	6	β
	w.	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Arts Events		14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Events:	m.	131	124	125	121	130	133	152	149	153
	w.	19	25	26	29	33	39	43	49	50
Total of events:		150	149	151	150	163	172	195	198	203
Total of sports:		18	17	17	17	19	18	21	21	21

Annexe 3.

SPORTS AND EVENTS PROGRAMME OF THE OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES

		1924	1928	1932	1936	1948	1952	1956	1960	1964	1968	1972	1976	1980
Biathlon		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	2	3
Bobsleigh		1	1	2	2	2	2	2	-	2	2	2	2	-
Skeleton		-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tobogganing	m.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	2
	w.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Skating	m.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	w.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	d.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
Speed Skating	m.	5	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5
	w.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4	4	4	4
Ice Hockey		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Skiing	m.	4	4	4	6	8	8	9	9	10	10	10	10	10
	w.	-	-	-	1	3	4	5	5	6	6	6	6	6
Events:	m.	12	11	12	14	17	16	17	16	21	22	22	23	22
	w.	1	1	1	2	4	5	6	10	12	12	12	12	12
	d.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
Total of events:		14	13	14	17	22	22	24	27	34	35	35	37	36
Total of sports:		5	6	5	5	6	5	5	5	7	7	7	7	6

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE I.O.C, and the IFs

By Mr. THOMAS KELLER (SWI)

President Gen. Ass. I.F.s.

The Olympic Summer and Winter Games are staged every fourth year and attended by approximately 10,000 competitors. Hundreds of millions of people do, however, practise sport daily all over the world. There are as important to the International and National Sports Federations as the top athletes.

First, a short glance at the history of modern sports. Some of them date back to the 18th and 19th century. Many were invented in England which was then the leading industrial nation. As an example, I can give you some details concerning the development of the sport I know best: rowing.

In the 17th, 18th and 19th century it was practised professionally by the watermen on the Thames. They numbered up to 40.000 and some of them raced for prize money. The oldest event which still is staged today, the Doggett's Coat and Badge, dales back to 1715. Towards the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century, English students became interested in the sport as amateurs. The University Boat Race between crews from Oxford and Cambridge was held for the first time in 1829. The Regatta at Henley started in 1839. The first World Championships in professional single sculling dates back to 1831.

In the course of the 19th century the sport spread over Continental Europe, North America and Australia. First it was practised on a local basis and clubs were formed. Many of them are now over 100 years old. With the development of means of transport (railways), competition became regional, national and continental. Today's jet age has made sporting competitions global.

When competition grew beyond local level it became evident that different rules were applied for the same sport in different areas. International Sports Federations were founded to establish uniform rules of the game. As they are the fundamental element for every sporting competition it may be worthwhile to add some remarks. The rules

of the game contain some fascinating elements, they can be invented freely and do not have to be rational or influenced by normal necessities of life. They put all competitors on the same level and permit them to gain experiences which they could never acquire in ordinary life. They are in force during competition only and cease to exist as soon as the game is over. They put human individuals on an identical level regardless of differences which may separate them in daily life. This is one of the most fascinating aspects of sport and Baron de Coubertin was among the first to grasp fully the true meaning of these facts and their possible consequences. He conceived the modern Olympic Games and realised them in 1896. Three International Sports Federations existed then already: Gymnastics founded in 1881, Rowing and Skating founded in 1892.

The real success of the Games started in 1912 in Stockholm. Since then they have greatly helped the development of competitive sport and also the International Sports Federations. From 1920 onwards the IOC has entrusted them with the technical preparation and the actual running of all sporting competitions of the Games.

Around the same time in various countries the National Sports Federations started to get together and form National Sports Confederations (Sportbund, Landesverband, etc.). Unfortunately there exists at present no generally accepted and uniform terms for these organisations.

Since 1921 regular meetings have been held between the members of the IOC Executive Board and the Presidents and General Secretaries of the International Federations whose sports are included in the programme of the Olympic Games to discuss technical matters. Some of the items treated then are still to be found on today's agendas. Frequently these meetings were somewhat frustrating for the IFs as they did not coordinate their wishes and intentions and were therefore weak. As a consequence the IOC took little notice of them, a fact which was accepted by the IFs for a long time. In 1967, mainly on the initiative of the late Roger Coulon, President of the International Wrestling Federation, 19 IFs and 6 other organisations with similar goals formed GAIF (General Assembly of International Sports Federations). Its members decided to meet annually. They quickly discovered that additional topics of common interest existed which made it worthwhile to hold regular meetings to exchange and obtain information, coordinate their activities and work together where indicated. In 1977 GAIF opened new offices in Monte Carlo and intended to transform its loose ties into a more closely-knit organisation. Today GAIF's membership amounts to 50 IFs and similar organisations.

In the past the individual disciplines of sport could exist in a largely independent way. This is no longer possible as a consequence of the important role which sport plays in today's human society.

Here, I should like to mention a few areas of common interest to all the various IFs.

The impact of television forces the IFs to coordinate to a certain extent the schedule of their main events (e.g. World Championships).

Certain medical information (e.g. on doping or anabolic steroids) is of vital importance for most sports.

The fact that the leaders of so many International Sports Federations are assembled permits them to invite most important and competent speakers to address the meeting on specific subjects and provide them with first hand information. This could never be done individually for each IF. The possibility of discussing problems of mutual interest with colleagues from other sports can be most interesting and beneficial to everyone concerned. New topics of common interest are emerging continuously.

The fact that various sports leaders are getting to know each other much better has helped to solve many problems.

The opportunity to meet various IFs individually is particularly important for Organising Committees of major sporting events where different sports are involved, e.g. Olympic and Regional Games.

Representatives of commercial enterprises play an important part in the organisation of major sporting events (e.g. data processing, television, time keeping, etc.). They too are present, but do not attend meetings unless specifically invited.

Before World War II, technical aspects connected with sporting competitions in general and the Olympic Games in particular were relatively simple; today they have become extremely complex and require a great deal of experience, know-how and skill. If all parties concerned can meet at regular intervals work can be done in a very efficient and rational manner, thus saving time and reducing expenses.

Cooperation between the IOC and the IFs

As mentioned earlier, the IOC Executive Board and the representatives of the IFs whose sports are included in the programme of the Olympic Games used to meet every second year. From 1977 on these meetings will be held annually.

As the IFs are fully responsible for all technical preparations and the actual running of the competitions during the Olympic Games the following steps are necessary:

Candidates which intend to organise the Olympic Games must complete questionnaires concerning each sport on the programme. The Federations are particularly interested in facilities, sites and stadia already available. If new facilities have to be constructed, the Federation must know all the necessary details.

The questionnaires are of considerable help to the candidate cities because they get to know in detail what is expected of them. Important questions must be solved, (if necessary on the spot), by the candidate cities and the Federations concerned *before* the application is presented to the IOC Session which attributes the Games. These questionnaires and the answers will in future form the basis for future cooperation between the Organising Committee and the IFs. In the course of the IOC Session which selects the host city, the candidates must present their applications, explain technical and other details and answer questions from IOC members and representatives of the IFs. At a later stage, every IF expresses its views on the technical aspects of the various applications to the IOC members before their votes are taken. Immediately afterwards a close cooperation between the Organising Committees and the IFs starts which lasts for the entire period (6 or 7 years) until the Games take place.

For the staging of Olympic competitions, the venues and installations must be up to the latest standard and correspond to those applied for World Championships. The IFs' sphere of competence is restricted to the actual arenas, technical installations, structures, etc., which are essential for actual competition. They are also responsible for correct results.

To achieve this, the IFs must cooperate and coordinate their activities with the IOC, the Organising Committees and the commercial enterprises responsible, e.g. for time keeping, data processing, etc. They must cooperate with those responsible for the information of the site (e.g. score boards) and through the news media, in particular television, etc. In every case, clearly formulated limits have to be determined defining spheres of responsibility In many other fields they have to act in an advisory capacity, e.g. concerning spectators, victory ceremonies, etc.

It has been stated that excessive demands by the IFs have, in the past, considerably increased the cost of Olympic Games. Today the main expenses in connection with Olympic Games are created by the installations for the public, the Olympic Village, improvements of the infra-structure of the host city and tele-communications.

Cooperation between the IOC and IFs has recently been extended. The IFs are now represented in various IOC Commissions, such as

the Press Commission, and the Commission for the Olympic Programme. They are directly or indirectly connected with the Medical Commission and would like to be represented in the Commission for Olympic Solidarity. The most important one is the «Tripartite Commission», presided over by the President of the IOC and composed of his three Vice Presidents, three elected representatives of the IFs and three elected members of the NOCs. This body was originally formed to organise the Olympic Congress which took place in 1973 in Varna. It proved its worth as a means of information and coordination and therefore it was transformed into a permanent institution. It now meets, depending on requirements, two or three times annually.

Cooperation between the IOC, the IFs & NOCs

In the past there were few direct contacts between the IFs and individual NOCs. They were established mainly on the level of the National Sports Federations or the National Sports Confederations. Approximately ten years ago the NOCs which in the past met every second year with the IOC Executive Board also started to organise themselves. They have been represented on various IOC Commissions for a long time. Furthermore, most IOC members have been closely connected with their NOC. As IOC members, they are ex officio members of their NOC. On the other hand the great number of NOCs and the different roles they play in the sport of their country complicates cooperation among themselves and with the IOC considerably.

The fact that in the recent past TV has taken a great interest in the Olympic Games has brought about many changes. Considerable amounts of money became available through the sale of TV rights and the IOC decided to divide its share of these sums up into three equal parts: 1/3 each for the IOC, the IFs and the NOCs. The IOC uses its share to run its own operations, the IFs split it up among themselves which requires them to reach an agreement, and the NOCs' money goes into «Olympic Solidarity».

This institution is organised under the control of the IOC for the benefit of the NOCs. Assistance and aid is granted essentially in four fields: Organisation of sports, training of technical specialists, technical communications and sports venues. These fields of activity sometimes clash in part with the sphere of competence of the IFs.

The IFs support the help granted by Olympic Solidarity to the NOCs but they want to have their say when technical aspects of their sport are involved. It is necessary to coordinate the various efforts made in this field and to choose the most qualified persons to perform certain tasks.

Coordination and cooperation between the IOC, the IFs and the national Non - Governmental Sports Organisations (National Sports Confederation and NOCs) has now become an absolute necessity. Various governmental and intergovernmental organisations such as UNESCO, The Council of Europe, the European Conference of Sports, etc., have started to take a very active interest in sports.

From the point of view of the Non Governmental Sports Organisations, these developments can lead to positive and /or negative results.

We fully agree that sport should be furthered by Governmental Institutions at its roots (schools, mass sports, etc.) but we shall certainly resist governmental and political interference in international competitive sport.

To do so successfully it is absolutely necessary that the various non - governmental organisations define their goals, functions and spheres of competence in clearly formulated simple terms.

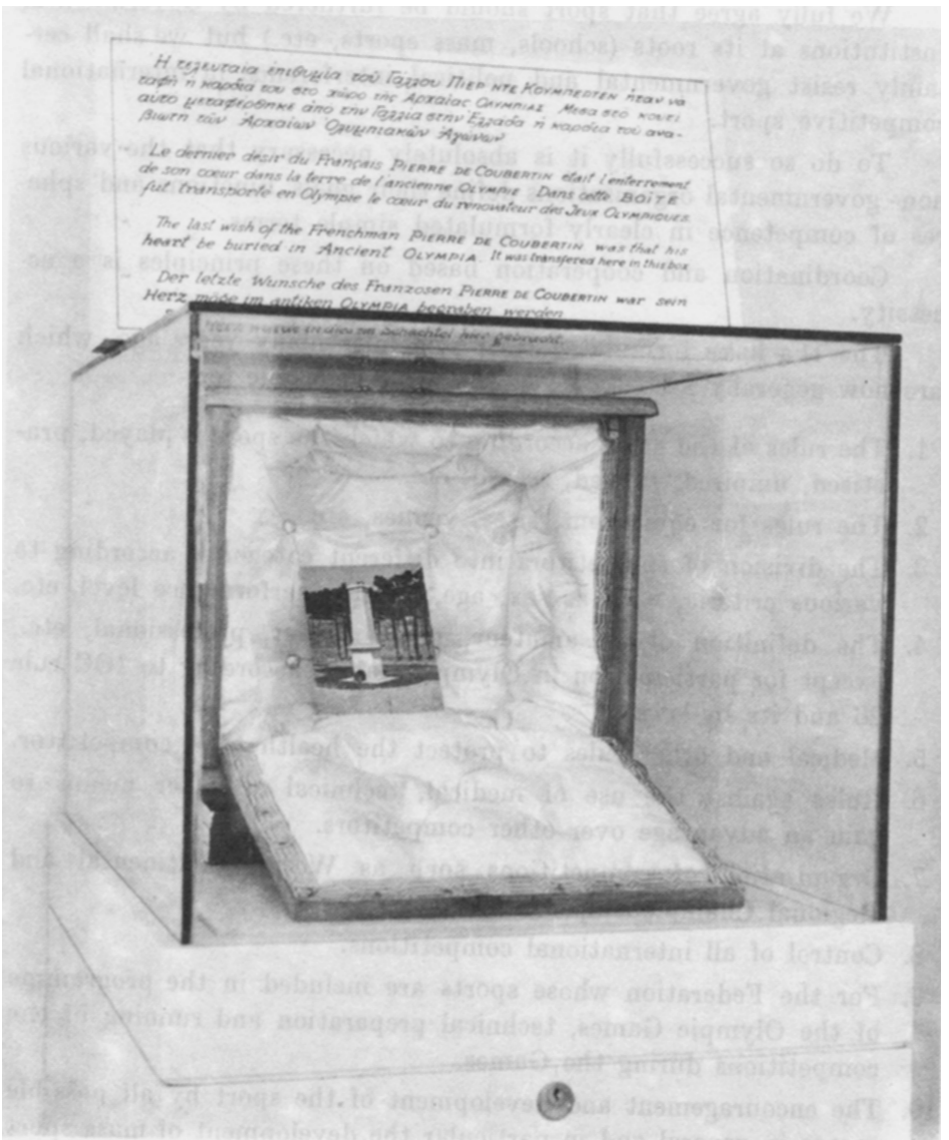
Coordination and cooperation based on these principles is a necessity.

The IFs have formulated such principles many years ago, which are now generally accepted. The IFs are responsible for:

1. The rules of the game according to which the sport is played, pra ctised, umpired, judged, scored, etc.
2. The rules for equipment, sites, venues, etc.
3. The division of competitors into different categories according to various criteria, such as sex, age, weight, performance level, etc.
4. The definition of an amateur, non amateur, professional, etc., except for participation in Olympic Games according to IOC rule 26 and its by-laws.
5. Medical and other rules to protect the health of a competittor.
6. Rules against the use of medical, technical or other means to gain an advantage over other competitors.
7. Organisation of competitions such as World, Continental and Regional Championships.
8. Control of all international competitions.
9. For the Federation whose sports are included in the programme of the Olympic Games, technical preparation and running of the competitions during the Games.
10. The encouragement and development of the sport by all possible means in general and in particular the development of mass sport through recommendations to the National Sport Federations.

11. Assistance towards coordination of the activities of its member Federations.
12. Coordination of its activities with organisations with identical or similar goals (e.g. other IFs, IOC, etc.).

The IOC, the NOCs and the National Sports Confederations do not all as yet have such clear definitions. I consider it of the utmost importance for the future of international sport that these problems be tackled without any further delay.



The wooden case in which the heart of Pierre de Coubertin was transported in order to be placed in the marble stele in the I. O.A. grounds (from the Museum of Modern Olympic Games).

ALIEN ELEMENTS TO OLYMPIC PRINCIPLES

By NADIA LEKARSKA (BUL).

Member of the Bulgarian Olympic Committee

The basic Olympic principles can be divided into three separate and mutually interrelated groups:

1) social,
2) technical, and
3) pedagogical.

Pierre de Coubertin was obviously against grand-style phrases deprived of practical impact. He therefore shaped numerous rules setting the conditions for the application of the theoretical principles of Olympism in the Games and the Olympic Movement as a whole. This correlativity, well founded and clairvoyant, is unique in the sphere of sports. I shall attempt to draw, against the background of this relationship, those elements which can be regarded as. alien to the basic Olympic principles.

1. SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

Internationalism, friendship, peace

Article 1 of the Olympic Rules reads: «The aims of the Olympic Movement are to promote the development of those physical and moral qualities which are the basis of amateur sport and to bring together the athletes of the world in a great quadrennial festival of sports, thereby creating international respect and goodwill and thus helping to construct a better and more peaceful world».

The end of Article 3 stipulates: «No discrimination in the Games is allowed against any country or person on grounds of race, religion or politics».

These basic principles of peace and friendship are not a matter of wishful thinking. They are embodied in several rules and ceremonies, in the recognition, suspension or exclusion of National Olympic Committees from the Olympic Movement. Some of them are being challenged at present One of them is on.

«Unity of time and place». The regulations require all participants (at present approximately about 10.000 sportsmen from all five continents and more than 120 countries), to live in one and the same village, where they take their meals in neighbouring dining rooms, take part in the same social and cultural programmes, use the same transport and meet constantly in the lanes of this enormous international housing complex. New contacts and friendships are made in this Olympic environment and all psychological difficulties and language barriers are easily overcome by a smile, a joke, a handshake.

This healthy spirit is, however, increasingly menaced by tendencies pursued by certain international sport circles who advocate the necessity of decentralizing the Games. They challenge the principle of 'unity of time and place' which means the organization of the Games in one place and at one time, by contending that their volume was taking alarming proportions and that the ensuing organizational problems have raised the expenditure to astronomical proportions. The apologists of decentralization suggest the division of the Olympic Games in cycles, as follows:

— Winter, and Summer Games, but with all indoor sports trans ferred to the Winter Games;

— Winter, Spring and Summer Games, with indoor sports for the Spring cycle;

— Neighbouring countries to host the Games, etc.

A decentralization of the Games into cycles and neighbouring countries would transform them into a series of separate world championships and would deprive them of their unique spirit of a world sports festival. It would have no other result than to belittle the importance of the Olympic Games and to gradually enhance the importance of World and regional championships. A decentralization of the Games is therefore alien to one of the most important principles, according to which the Games should be the biggest word festival.

It would in that case be wrong to adopt an attitude of wait and see. Means, measures and actions are needed to place the unhealthy growth of the Olympic Games under control. I shall go into more detail on that matter in the chapter on 'Technical Principles'.

Ceremonies. Mutual respect and goodwill are also incorporated in the opening and closing ceremonies of the Games, as well as in the prize awards. Under the provisions of Article 8 of the Olympic Rules — 'Only citizens of a country or area in which a National Olympic Committee recognized by the IOC operates are qualified to compete in the Olympic Games under the colours of that country', and further

on: 'At the opening ceremony all sportsmen join their national group in the parade, preceded by their national flag'.

These rules are honouring the fact that the sportsman is not a citizen of the world, but that he belongs by origin, heart and formation to his homeland!

The medal award ritual requires raising the flags of the first three and playing the national anthem of the Olympic winner. While there has been no objection to the somewhat national character of the international opening ceremony, the prize awards have in the past few decades given rise to unrelenting comment. The principal argument against the use of national emblems is that they tend to transform the Games into a competition between countries, thus fanning up nationalistic sentiments. In spite of the fact that most competitions are held between individuals (only team sports are represented by their national sides), it is, to my mind, wrong to artificially disrupt the most natural link between the sportsman and his country. As to the nationalistic sentiments which the prize award ceremony might provoke, they do not seem to be of such nature as to endanger the integrity of the basic Olympic principles. Pride motivated by the victory of a compatriot, expressed by spectators attending the Games, or by the millions of television viewers in his homeland, should be considered as normal and legitimate. A healthy sense of patriotism has nothing in common with narrow-minded chauvinism. This dividing line ought to be drawn very clearly. Without the national emblems, the award ceremony of the Olympic Games would hardly differ from the distribution of medals at some local Sunday competition and would thus be deprived of the emotional spell, so very typical for the Olympic Games.

Discrimination. The main form of discrimination practised in sport is related to racial prejudice and in particular to the distinction of colour. Discrimination not only exists but is being cruelly practised in some countries. For this reason the National Olympic Committees of South Africa was excluded and of Rhodesia suspended from the Olympic Movement. At the Games of the 21st Olympiad in Montreal, Africa as a whole withdrew from participation because of the presence of sportsmen from a country which maintains some sports relations with South Africa (in this case New Zealand). The drop-out of a considerable number of African Countries was a blow to the Montreal Games, to their integrity and also to the sharpness of competition. This incident gives ground for thought. Although the National Olympic Committees are not responsible for the conduct and actions of

national federations belonging to non - Olympic sports, it would be, to my opinion, useful if they voiced protest against the maintenance of sports relations in general with countries practising discrimination of whatever nature in the field of sports. This is a humanitarian issue of an all embracing nature. Coordinated actions between the IOC, which gave the good example, the IFs and the NOCs should bring about positive results against this plague in sports. It would, on the other hand, be no less justified if all those who intend to participate in Olympic Games become the IOC's most active collaborators, in view of maintaining the Olympic grounds as an area of sports, mutual respect, goodwill and friendship.

Nationalistic extremism. Whenever national sentiments are driven to the extreme, they are bound to be harmful. They become utterly unacceptable when they acquire the form of violence. The IOC was faced with the solution of an extremely difficult problem, following the terrorist action at the Munich Games in 1972. Should the Games have been cancelled because of the heavy shadow cast on them? The decision adopted by the IOC was, to my belief, the most appropriate one. The Games had to be held for the simple reason that they should never shrink under the pressure of their ill-wishers.

Is it possible to safeguard altogether the Olympics of such wickedness? I would say yes, and to some extent no! Extremists have unfortunately always existed and it is not probable that they would disappear just because we wish them to! In order to prevent their harmful interference, security measures are of paramount necessity. I wonder, however, if it would not be possible to avoid their all too flagrant blatancy, so that the Olympic villages would not resemble a prisoner-of-war camp with sentinels patrolling along heavily wired fences! I well understand the responsibility of those who organize the Games, but while ensuring the necessary security measures, the Olympic areas should regain their partly lost charm. The ancient Greeks splendidly embodied the principle of peace and goodwill during the Olympic Games. A general truce was proclaimed and, what is more, respected! To envisage at present such a possibility would be synonymous to fiction, but to struggle against violence should be the task and duty of all who respect, the Olympic principles.

Behaviour of the public in the stands. One of the manifold forms of nationalistic passion alien to the basic Olympic principle is reflected in the behaviour of the spectators in the stands. It happens that, due to subjective ill feelings towards one or another country, spectators behave most unfriendly to the competitors on the stadium of the res-

pective country. No matter that such incidents are rare at Olympic Games, any animosity against sportsmen should be openly censured by the National Olympic Committee of the Olympic host country. The representatives of the mass media could surely be of considerable help in this respect. Many a journalist would gladly criticize such rude conduct.

Biased judging. Nationalistic exaggeration also interferes in judging and particularly in such sports which permit human error. The international federations of Olympic sports are making laudable efforts to ensure the best possible arbitration, but no matter how hard they try, subjective judging is unfortunately not a rare phenomenon. A new rule, is being envisaged which will have a beneficial effect on this crucial matter. It has been suggested that the travelling expenses of Olympic judges should be covered by the income of the Olympic Games. This would mean that national federations of whatever sport would no more be entitled to send their own judges on their own expenses and choice to the Games. The International Federations would be solely responsible for the selection of the best qualified international judges. That in itself should be a certainty of the expected improvement.

Is the Olympic Movement apolitical? This problem is, to my opinion, in want of clarification. One of the delegates to the Tenth Olympic Congress in Varna, 1973, suggested the setting up of a world summit organization of sports, entirely devoid of political influence. I presume that he must have been displeased at the thought that the IOC is also obliged to deal with problems of a political order. His proposal seemed detached from reality and was therefore not seconded.

The Olympic Movement is composed of all those who adhere to its basic principles. However, it exists and develops in a world of hard knocks, of ideological differences, of discriminating attitudes — a world with frequent local wars, full of tension, reminding us of the days of the cold war, of moves in favour of lessening tension and counteracts intensifying contradictions. Could any one expect the Olympic Movement and its leadership to live in the vacuum of naïve bliss? The International Olympic Committee can by no means take upon itself such irresponsibility, considering that it is compelled to defend its ideals from undue interference. Whenever the IOC is faced with the solution of a political problem, its members are obviously feeling obliged to approach the matter with utmost care and a strong sense of duty towards the sportsmen of the world. This, in turn, requires outsight political maturity, versatile and accurate information. Although the

IOC is in no way a political organization, its members cannot behave apolitically whenever faced with the solution of political problems. This has been proved over and over again and I don't see why it should not be openly admitted.

Within the limits of one lecture it is hardly possible to touch upon all matters related to social problems having an adverse effect on the content of the Olympic principles.

2. TECHNICAL PRINCIPLES

Growth of the Olympic Games

The Olympic Games are a traditional indicator of the development of world sports. The Games have never been an aim in themselves, isolated from the life of world sports. How far is one to go in order to keep the size of the Games within healthy limits, what is to be encouraged and what stopped? Some are of the opinion that the Olympic Games are bound to collapse under their proper weight, while others contend that such danger is not eminent. There are still others who are worried about the incessant expansion of the Programme. Let us note some dangerous trends: There is at present a peculiar emulation between some Olympic sports federations in view of gaining enhanced Olympic prestige. This endeavour is expressed in a constant increase of the number of events and participants mostly in the individual sports. The underlying intent of this unofficial competition is not harmful in itself. It only shows the value which sports attach to the Olympic competition. In practice, however, such policy is divested of foresight. The following data are meant to prove it. In 1896 the number of sports was 9 with 42 events. Today the number of individual sports has gone up to 16 with 191 events. This means that the number of sports has doubled, whereas the events have increased five times. A limit ought to my mind be set to the number of events, with the possibility for each international federation to keep or amend its respective programme.

The International Olympic Committee has in the past few years adopted several suggestions, submitted to its attention, by the Olympic Programme Commission. This had the effect of causing significant updatings. I believe that a healthy balance between sports and events, so as to prevent the development of some to the detriment of others, will be struck in the not too distant future. This will lead to the prevention of the unhealthy blow up of the Olympic Programme.

Luxury and glamour are another element increasing the cost of the Games. Overelaborate architectural design, requirements for per-

marient modernization of sports venues, demands on behalf of Olympic team officials for living conditions for their athletes which they generally do not have at home, a cultural programme with the world performers, which practically never reaches the competitors, etc. All this is not in the spirit of sport and the purpose of Olympism. Coubertin insistently advocated modesty as its symbol. But some wrongly understood organizational forms tend to make the Games a very expensive venture, highly luxurious and quite often cheaply glamorous. Considering the development of science and technology, the growing economic potential of countries placing their candidacy to hold the Games, one might conclude that the strife for luxury is not to that extent detrimental. But as there is no end to ambition, the cost might attain astronomical proportions which will deprive smaller countries, and it already does, to stage the Games. At the time being, however, taking into account the healthy measures which the IOC and particularly its leadership take to prevent an undue expansion of the Games, there is no danger, I believe, that they should collapse under their own weight. It should, however, not only be the concern of the IOC but also of the IFs and NOCs to contribute to the fulfilment of this aim.

3. PEDAGOGICAL PRINCIPLES

Sport as a stimulus for the development of human personality.

«Mens sana in corpore sano» is the symbol of the balance between physical prowess and willpower, between the performance in sport and high professional qualification, between fairness on the stadium and honesty in every human endeavour. The concrete conditions for the expression of this sum of qualities are laid down in the ethic traditions of Olympism: the spirit and manner of competition, how to take victory and defeat, how to behave in the stadium as an amateur, etc. Olympic, ethics require that those who have lost should be the first to congratulate the victors, an act of courtesy, watched by tens of thousands in the stands and by millions on television. May the best man win is the motto before and after the event. Arguments with judges and referees, coarse and insulting words and gestures are considered grave violations. The Olympic venue is a forum of honest and fair relationships and all parties concerned are responsible to keep them that way.

«Citius, Altius, Fortius» is a stimulating motto. However, though victory is the goal that every sportsman pursues and although it fosters his ambition, and willpower it is not the only factor which will contribute to the harmonious development of the sportsman. The sports

arena might easily turn into a cheap display of brawn, having little in common with the Olympic ideals. In spite of the fact that this is a rarity at Olympic Games, it should be severely condemned, whenever it might occur. The Olympic competitor should adapt his conduct to the value of the Olympic principles and model.

Stimulants. The ambition to reach perfection does not always lead to honest victory. Numerous competitors take drugs increasing strength and muscle growth. The decision of the IOC to firmly oppose such harmful habits should be strongly supported. Sports are meant to enhance health, and Olympism — to foster honesty and fair play. It therefore should be the task mainly of the National Olympic Committees to fight energetically these harmful practices which are, unfortunately, quite often approved by coaches and in some cases even by physicians!

Eligibility. This problem has been discussed for years. It has at present acquired a far more realistic aspect. Eligibility was initially identified with amateurism. Today no classical definition of amateurism exists, but the rule clearly states what a sportsman may do and what not. The amateur of 1896 and the sportsman eligible to the Games of today differ as greatly as does the critérium of growth of the Games. Conservatives still contend that amateurism is a vocation, whereas realistically - minded people say, and can prove, that eligibility is a socio - economic and educational problem. The last formulation of rule 26, adopted at the 75th IOC session in 1975, complies with the realities of life. The rule involves in addition to other updating factors the interaction and joint responsibilities of the competitor, the IOC for shaping the clauses, the IFs in order to adapt their eligibility rules to those of the IOC and the NOCs in view of educating their sportsmen in the demanded spirit. This positive result is, however, challenged by a tendency in favour of the so-called «open Games», at which amateurs and professionals would compete jointly. Should this become a reality, the International Olympic Academy would have, unfortunately, no justification to exist. This would mean the end of the Games, such as they have been created here in Hellas by men of brain and foresight, and such as they have been further on developed by the perspicacious idealist de Coubertin and his followers.

No efforts should be spared to keep the «Open Games» on the other side of the fence of Olympism.

All those who have participated or attended Olympic Games know that they are a thrilling event imbued with great tension and emotional impact. This is not only due to outstanding performances, but mainly

to the fact that the moral principles of Olympism are implemented by rules and tradition in the Olympic Games and Movement. All elements which are alien to the Olympic principles become sooner or later obvious, so that adequate measures can be taken in due time to prevent their harmful influence. This, however, does not mean that the Olympic Movement will be deprived of problems. They are bound to exist, because the Games and the Olympic Movement are part of the social life at the peoples and therefore cannot be isolated from pressing world issues. This, in turn, indicates that the IOC will be obliged to solve now and in the future, too matters which are not necessarily related to the pure practice of sports. It would, under these conditions, be appropriate that the IOC should be able to count on the understanding and cooperation of its closest partners — the International Federations and the National Olympic Committees. The safeguard of the humanitarian Olympic principles from undue interference deserves concerted efforts to fuse into one indissoluble whole theory and practice, international in spirit, national in form and highly educational in content.

Front view of the Museum of Modern Olympic Games in the village of Olympia.

PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TECHNICAL ORGANIZATION OF OLYMPIC GAMES

By WALTHER TRÖGER (GER)

Secretary General
of the German Olympic Committee

The subject I have been asked to deal with is the technical problem — in the broadest sense of the phrase — arising from the process of the sports competitions at the Olympic Games. Although I shall also be touching on questions of fundamental significance, it is a comparatively dull subject, for which I beg your forbearance in advance.

The sports competitions are the focal point and the original motive for the holding of the Olympic Games, and for this reason their process and precise organization occupy a special position. Although consideration is paid to the spectators and reporting media, the orderly preparation and execution is primarily done out of respect for the athletes, who, after extensive and often under great sacrifice completed preparations, can rightly expect the best prerequisites for undisturbed, regular competitions, with the same conditions for all involved.

In the main, the tasks and problems of the organizers, i.e. of the organizing committee for the Olympic Games with the representatives of international and national associations for specific disciplines will be dealt with, not however those of the participating NOC's within their team.

The organizers are responsible for all details of organization and must devote their attention to the smallest of fields.

According to regulations, the IOC decides on the program as a whole and also in respect of the individual competitions. The ruling state that there should be no more changes after the Games have been assigned to the place where they are to be held, but it nevertheless sometimes happens that competitions are added or withdrawn, which naturally affects the organizers' planning data.

In accordance with regulation 41 of the IOC, the competent international federation is responsible for the complete control of technical organization in its field of sport. This includes the sports premises and facilities as well as the adherence to the sporting rules, the use of equipment and control apparatuses, and to a certain extent the

registration of the athletes. Difficulties for the organizers arise from the considerable differences between the individual types of sports in the Olympic program. Team games require a different approach as compared to types of sports for individual persons. Single contests differ from those involving several disciplines. Open air sports must be organized differently to events held indoors. There are essential differences between sports involving expensive equipment and those which depend almost exclusively on the strength or skill of the athlete.

Today's report is not concerned with the expensiveness or basic points of the Olympic Games program and structures. I went into detail on that subject here four years ago in my report on the Olympic Games in Munich.

Scarcely any city that wishes to stage the Games already disposes of premises and facilities that can meet modern requirements and regulations, or even accommodate the expected number of spectators, on an international level.

Apart from improvement of the infrastructure and means of communication, extensive building work on new structures and renovation work must thus be started immediately after assignment of the Games. This is also controlled, right from the outset, by the international federation, which must check that the regulations are adhered to.

The IOC, which is responsible for the appropriation of available funds and for justification of expenses to the financial backers, must see that distribution is fairly balanced. The wishes of the international federations above and beyond the regulations are not always in agreement with this. Fortunately, the earlier ruling of the IOC, whereby TV receipts are distributed according to the calculated number of viewers, no longer applies, thus removing one source of boundless disputes between Organizing Committee and Federations.

From Munich we have the example of the International Volleyball Federation, which altered its rules after completion of the indoor courts and thereupon demanded a change in the height of the ceiling.

Every Organizing Committee must maintain a proper balance of both the stated responsibility towards the financial backers and the obligation towards the participants in the Games. This means that stadiums and similar facilities must to some extent be able to accommodate the anticipated number of spectators during the Games. Thought must also be given to amortization through post-Olympic use and the use of facilities for sports which are not so popular in the host country must be taken into account.

Meanwhile there are Olympic ruins to be found in nearly all con· tinenta. Apart from living accommodation such as Olympic villages

these consist mainly of facilities erected without any regard for post-Olympic requirements and for which there is either no longer any adequate use or where a few hundred spectators are lost among seat tiers built to accommodate huge crowds during the Olympic Games. They naturally serve to strengthen the arguments of those who are always talking of so-called gigantism and are really only a sign of a lack of foresight or of completely un-Olympic megalomania.

A program for the Games must be already roughly outlined before construction is planned, in order to ensure full use of the facilities through consecutive use for various types of sports.

Consideration for the reporting media and consideration for the athletes, who desire uniform conditions for all competitions and in all sports sites, also have a determinative effect on sports programs and construction planning. The same applies to a considerable number of training facilities. These should also be constructed so as to provide at least similar conditions as " the actual competition sites and they must be available to the individual teams at appropriate periods, and be conveniently accessible.

The second phase of construction for the organizing committee covers the necessary service facilities and the necessary technical equipment for control and execution of competitions. The planning must of course go hand in hand with that of the structural work. In the period of six years between assignment and execution of the Games, however, considerable technical progress can be expected, so that the Organizing Committees must also be prepared to take improvements at short notice into account, or even to use and install newly innovated or improved apparatuses.

The Olympic Games are the main, if not the sole, impulse for the exchange of information and coordination between the individual international federations, who, as a rule, only organize, and are familiar with, their own competitions. This means that the organizing committee plays an essential role as a mediator. During the Games it will provide and use facilities and technical equipment far beyond the limits of the individual types of sports, and will offer these to other fields of sport. These, in turn, can then increase their effectivity and incorporate the improvement in their own championships.

Even the most modern of high-grade electronic equipment can only supplement human participation in the control of, and decisions on, the sports scores, and not replace them completely. At the last Olympic Games, hundreds of umpires, referees and match officials, who had to time scores and make decisions, and members of the committees of judges had a hand in the organization. A lot of them are

selected from the organizing country but a large number, on account of necessary qualifications and impartiality, come from other countries.

One big problem was the question of the costs for these people. In the past, the IOC and federations had mainly worked on the principle that the travel, and often, living costs for officials from abroad were to be borne by the officials themselves or by the national federations or National Olympic Committees of their home countries.

Alone the IOC regulation 42, which states that technical officials and members of the committees of judges do not belong to the delegation of the National Olympic Committee and are not allowed to live in the Olympic village, but rather come under the jurisdiction of the international federations, contradicts any such ruling. In addition, there was a lot of uneasiness about the fact that officials with important authority of decision could thus be selected not according to their qualifications, but merely according to whether or not they or their national organizations were in a position to bear the costs involved The National Olympic Committees have been against this ruling for many years, for exclusively objective reasons. One form of solution, that has been suggested for quite some time, now seems to offer itself, namely that the costs for officials be paid out of TV receipts prior to profit distribution. Selection of officials is thus not subject to random decisions of the national organizations.

This is in so far a good foundation for unaffected activity and partiality.

The Olympic Games have often been held in countries where some of the types of sports in the Olympic program are unknown or of very limited popularity. Consequently, there are no qualified officials, or only an inadequate number, available. The international federations must, in such cases, pay more attention than they have done so far to the long-term coaching of such officials. The aim should be to have the majority of the required experts for the Games available in the country. This is also an important aspect in view of popularization of little-known sports in a host country for Olympic Games.

The IOC recently adopted criteria for the evaluation of types of sports and their inclusion in the Olympic program which its program commission has drawn up. One of the most important sectors of these criteria deals with the elimination of the so-called human error. For many Olympic sports, human judgment is still the only possibility of reaching a decision on a result. Technical aids and guiding-principles are often inadequate here. This can also apply to official and referee activities in ball games, but mainly affected are those types of sports and disciplines where points are awarded, for instance artistic gymnastics,

diving, figure skating, etc. Obscure evaluations and the virtually unavoidable partiality of referees have led to very unpleasant occurrences and even to frauding of willing participants, not only in the championships in these types of sports, but also in the Olympic Games.

The IOC has called upon the Olympic organizations to go more deeply into the matter of the improvement of technical aids as a replacement of human judgment and the objectification of guiding-principles for this judgment.

One of the most important foundations for the technical preparation of competitors are the entry registration lists. This is one of the most problematic organizational bottle-necks. Despite the use of modern computer technology, the organization is dependent on the registrations of the National Olympic Committees responsible for the teams, which are faced with a flood of formalities often filled with detailed technical data. The registrations not only decide on the inclusion of the various competitions, but also on the calculation of the permissible number of team officials, the official participation lists, the prize-awarding ceremonies, and many other corollary features.

For most athletes from temperate zones the Olympic Games occur in the middle of their competition season, so that national qualifications and selections are often still being held when other members of the team are already en route, or continue until the last day before the closing date for entries.

The bureaucratic registration procedure is just too much for a lot of the small and inadequately organized National Olympic Committees. This often makes it very difficult for the OC to evaluate the provisional and final registrations. A practicable system, which meets the NOCs' wishes for as late as possible deadlines and fulfils the necessity of having all the important data punctually on hand for · .· organization, has so far not yet been found.

A further problem arises from the accommodation of the athletes and their attendants in the various sports facilities. The officially accredited team attendants have manifold functions. This means there is n greatly differentiated demand for access to training equipment and grounds, changing rooms, medical facilities, etc.

The admission and identification system must be urgently improved in this respect. For the athletes and their attendants the difficulties start already with the opening ceremony. According to IOC regulations, only four team officials are permitted for the official marching-in ceremony. Athletes, particularly those who must compete on the same or following day, often do not feel up to the strain of marching in during the opening ceremony, which can last up to four or five hours all in

all. They all want to be an active part in this important event, however.

The rules say that there must be seats for athletes in all stadiums. This applies particularly to those who have already completed their competitions or who have spare time and wish to visit their team mates and friends, or familiarize themselves with other types of sport. It is exactly this that is an important aspect of the universality of Olympic Games.

Finally, in strict adherence to the IOC regulations, only six athletes per nation are permitted for marching-in to the closing ceremony. The situation leads unavoidably to discrepantes between the organizers' wish to provide the general public with as many seats as possible and the justifiable wish of team participants to have a suitable place, even as spectator, at "their" events.

The provision of a suitable balance by means of audiovisual transmissions will be an important task for the future.

Let us just take a look at one or two of the many other problems. As with all fields of competition organization which are subject to technical or scientific progress, doping and sex controls are difficult to deal with. Experience has shown that restrictions which cannot be checked and penalized are ineffective, whereby infringement of regulations is often not intentional, but the result of ignorance. On the other hand, developments in technology and pharmacology continue, bringing with them new possibilities for technical manipulation and medicative treatment, which, on investigation, must possibly be forbidden and thereafter checked on.

A complete control system, enforced by the organizing committee under the responsibility of the Medical Commission of the IOC, must fulfil all requirements. There should be a minimum of stress and hindrance for the athletes subject to the controls, but the system should nevertheless ensure a maximum of correct results. The slightest shadow of a doubt with regard to the methods of control results can put the athletes' honour and reputation, and the Olympic Games themselves, in a bad light.

The IOC has drawn up precise guidelines on the issue of prizes to winners and runners-up and commemorative gifts to all participants. These prizes represent a coveted and important visible sign of achievement. They must not only demonstrate this merit, but must be presented to the athletes punctually and in a suitable form.

I mentioned beforehand that it is sometimes difficult to get all the necessary data in time. The organizing committee in Munich developed a system whereby it was possible to have the name of each medallist engraved on his or her medal within a few minutes between the

end of the competitions and the actual victory ceremony. The prizes, particularly the stipulated diplomas, do not always correspond to the desired form, and they are often not available in time for the victory ceremony. In some cases, if there are several winners for a particular medal, the handing over of the medal must be postponed. An organizing committee should be obliged to have the necessary engraving and printing facilities on hand so as to ensure that not only the medals, but also the certificate with the relevant winner's name are already available prior to the victory ceremony. It is also imperative that the newly innovated diplomas for all active participants be handed over before the athletes leave for home.

Allow me to close with one final example. I have repeatedly stressed that the athlete must be the focal point of all organizational efforts for the Olympic Games. He is not always experienced enough to cope with all the difficulties of strange surroundings, and there is not always one of his limited number of attendants there to help him. There have been Olympic competitors who have waited in vain in front of lift doors in the multistorey buildings in which they have been housed, or have even been stuck in the lift, whilst their particular events had already begun. Any athlete who finds him or herself caught in a traffic jam, and thus prevented from taking part, will not be inclined to look back on the Olympic experience with any particular pleasure. It is true that the athlete himself or his team manager is responsible for his punctual turn-out, but an organizing committee can do a great deal to help by providing independent means of transport and by making sure that technical emergencies are quickly dealt with.

THE LEGAL PROBLEMS OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

By LUC SILANCE (BEL)

Legal Adviser of the I.O.C.

Sports nowadays face more and more numerous legal problems. This is partly the result of modern life's growing complexity, but mainly the effect of the importance that leisure activities acquire in the life of man in the 20th century.

This growing importance is evident by several elements.

First of all the number of competitors has increased in a very significant manner, if one compares the games of 1892 in Athens and those of 1976 held in Montreal. From a few dozen we have reached several thousand. Even the Winter Games now gather 1368 athletes.

In addition, the numbers of spectators have also increased. Only the figure of paying spectators has risen from 1.247.000 in London, in 1948, to 3.137.000 in Montreal, in 1976. As for the Winter Olympics, from a few thousand in 1948 in Saint Moritz they have reached 1.500.000 in 1976 in Innsbruck.

Finally, information media broadcast these games in the whole world both through the written press and radio and television.

For Moscow the estimated number of journalists is of the order of 8.000.

In addition, all agree that facilities alone will cost more than 50 million dollars, to be supplied by the American company N.B.C; without including the press centre in which all information media will be housed.

In the face of such a spectacular increase in the figures of persons involved in the organization (several thousands take part in the administration of the Games), broadcasting of and participation in the Games, it is not surprising that legal problems have arisen. We will be examining some of them, related to:

a. The organization proper and the relations of the International Olympic Committee with the host city or country and the organizing committee of the Games;

b. Television contracts;
c. the protection of emblems;
d. eligibility rules;
e. insurance of sportsmen;
f. juristiction and sanctions.

2. The International Olympic Committee directs the Olympic movement, which includes apart from the I.O.C., headed by its President and its Executive Board composed of several members, the National Olympic Committees and International Sport Federations. The constitution and powers of the I.O.C. are laid down in the Olympic rules and regulations, supplemented by bye-laws. The I.O.C. maintains all rights on the Olympic Games and the Winter Olympics.

The honor of staging the games is given to a city. This last provision was amended in Prague, in 1977, when the I.O.C. agreed, for the first time, to assign the games to a country.

Applications must be submitted with the approval of the National Olympic Committee which must guarantee that the games will be organized to the satisfation of and in accordance with the requirements of the I.O.C. This N.O.C. shall be responsible for all commitments undertaken by the elected city or country.

Before the decision on the election of a city — and at present a country — is taken, a questionnaire is sent to all candidate cities which must respond, providing guarantees on the observance of the I.O.C. rules and regulations, general and cultural information a» well as on organizational and financial matters.

The Organizing Committee possesses legal status. It is the executive body appointed by the International Olympic Committee to organize the Games on its behalf and to be responsible for all the physical probleius of organization.

In order to avoid the untimely withdrawal of candidatures, the I.O.C. has decided to include in the conditions imposed on the cities, the payment of a sum of guarantee, fixed at 100.000 Swiss francs for any candidate city. This amount is immediately returned if the city is not elected. In the event of a city's election, the sum must be completed, since the guarantee has been fixed at 500.000 Swiss francs for the candidate city chosen to organize the Games (250.000 for the Winter Games).

These rules have been made necessary following the difficulties which arose as a result of some defections, in particular that of the city of Denver which had to be replaced at the very last moment by the city of Innsbruck.

One will also recall the problems that arose during the preparatory

stage for the games of the XXI Olympiad of Montreal: strikes, social issues and various other incidents, accidents to persons in particular, compromised and jeopardized at times the organization of the Games in Montreal to such a degree that Mexico had proposed to replace it. The nature of the agreement signed between the IOC and on the other of the copyright belonging to the IOC is its capacity as organizer and owner of the games.

The newspapers are already quoting the huge amounts offered by the various TV networks for the broadcasting of the Moscow Games which will by far exceed the already considerable sums paid for the retransmission of the Montreal Games. The quoted figure is that of 85 million dollars, including 50 million dollars for technical facilities and 35 million for the exclusive rights for the USA. These rights are divided on the basis of an allocation scale between the I.O.C. and the Organizing Committee of the Games. The I.O.C.'s share is divided among the I.O.C., the N.O.C.s and International Sport Federations. Just as the assignment of the games poses legal problems, the awarding of exclusive TV rights requires the drawing up of a complicated agreement, often discussed down to its smallest detail. The I.O.C.'s Legal Commission recommended and the executive Board adopted a questionnaire on radio and TV facilities and directives for the drafting of contracts. In addition to the agreement for the US, there is one for Western Europe concluded with the European Broadcasting Union, another for Eastern Europe (with the O.I.R.T.) and others with the organizations of Africa, Asia, Japan which negocíate separately and South America. The I.O.C. has set up a special Television Commission and it is assisted by advisers for the drafting of contracts.

The nature of I.O.C. rights has not yet been clearly defined in law. They certainly include a property rights and also copyright.

This right, however, is not governed by any of the international conventions which settle questions pertaining to copyright.

To date, the rights of competitors also remain unsettled.

The 1961 Rome Convention on the protection of artist, interpreters or performers, record producers and broadcasting organizations, does not settle the problem or if it does the solution is favourable to the organizers of sport events.

Broadcasting and TV companies claim that they have the right to look for and transmit information on recent events. Their position is in conflict with that of organizers who, for football games and track and field competitions in particular, claim that TV transmission may reduce stadium attendance.

Apart from private sets, those installed in public spaces, cafes,

restaurants, hotels, attract a great number of spectators who are in a way diverted from the place where the event is held. The definition of artists contained in Article 3A of the Rome Convention of 1911 restricts its application to interpreters or performers, i.e. to use the terms used in the convention «actors, singers, musicians, dancers and other persons who act, sing, recite, declaim, play or perform in any other manner literary or artistic works». During the work of the diplomatic conference it was determined that the terms «literary or artistic works» should be understood in the sense given to these words by the Bern convention and the universal convention on copyright (Geneva 1952). Some attempts to obtain legal protection have failed, for ex. in Great Britain in 1966.

Since then, conditions have greatly changed and it no longer seems reasonable to deny to the organizers of sport events who conclude with TV networks agreements involving millions of dollars the copyright on the organization of sport events. This right should be governed by an international convention which, at the same time — could define the rights of competitors: on the one hand amateur athletes whose share could be paid to a solidarity fund and on the other, professional athletes (cf. Olympic Review, February - March 1972, No. 53, Copyright on sport events, report of the E.B.R., Olympic Review 1974, No. 76. The broadcasting of the Olympic Games by Alain Coupât).

4. Emblem protection

Article 6 of the Olympic rules and regulations describes the Olympic flag. Its coloured rings are the Olympic symbol, which is the exclusive property of the I.O.C. Its use for commercial purposes, of any kind, is strictly forbidden. The N.O.C.'s may use the Olympic symbol in order to create their own Olympic emblems consisting of a combination of this symbol and another distinctive sign. N.O.C.s may use these emblems within the framework of their individual activities, they may assign this right to third parties for a fixed use under their control, but they must not through the use of this emblem of the Olympic terms, reflect on the dignity of the Olympic movement. Likewise, the organizing committee of the games may create its own emblem. Special regulations govern, in a very detailed way, the protection of the Olympic symbol, appellations and emblems.

The I.O.C, must take the necessary measures in order to ensure the protection of the Olympic symbol and emblems. It supports the N.O.C.s efforts to ensure this protection within the framework of their national jurisdiction and endeavours to obtain international protection of the Olympic symbol.

The Olympic flame is solemnly lit in Olympia in the year of the Games. The idea of the Olympic flame and torch, as well as the whole Olympic protocol, are the exclusive property of the I.O.C. and their use or imitation by third parties is strictly forbidden.

Legal protection for the above-described items is not easy to obtain.

One would use as basis the copyright protection by stating that the I.O.C. is, because of Pierre de Coubertin's creation, the author of the Olympic symbol. Trade mark law in our opinion does not apply to the various symbols and emblems since it only provides protection to merchandising or manufacturing labels which is evidently not the case here. The last organizing committees, those of Montreal and Moscow have registered their emblem as name and as a sign. They have commercialized their use by assigning this right to commercial firms which reproduce the emblem on various articles which are sold closely before and during the Games, and which allow the organizing committee to collect certain amounts, in the form of royalties, for the financing of the Games.

A book has been written on the problem of emblem protection by Mr. Schrader who was on the organizing committee of the Munich Games.

5. Legal status of the International Olympic Committee, the Organizing Committee and the N.O.C.s.

The I.O.C.'s juridical status is defined in article 11 of its rules and regulations. It is a body corporate by international law with perpetual succession. Its headquarters are in Switzerland. According to the rules, the organizing committee must also be a legal entity in the country where the games will be held. N.O.C.s are constituted in the manner stipulated in article 24 and it is recommended that they be constituted on a basis ensuring their legal status.

6. Eligibility rules

The problem of the amateur status of Olympic athletes has always been a widely controversial legal (and ethical) issue.

Article 26 of the Olympic rules and regulations contains an «eligibility code» which defines the conditions which must be met by a competitor in order to be allowed to take part in the games;

— observe and abide the I.O.C.'s rules and regulations and in addition the rules and regulations of his or her international federation;

— not have received any financial rewards or material benefits in connection with his or her sports participation, except as permitted in the bye-laws to this rule. This rule might conflict with the less severe

rules which exist in the competitor's country. In this case he runs the risk of not being allowed to participate. Only the National Olympic Committees which are recognized by the I.O.C. can enter competitors in the Olympic Games. Entries are received from the national federations by the National Olympic Committee which in turn, if they are approved, will forward them to the organizing committee.

Competitors must comply with the provisions of the eligibility code and be a member of the international Federation, recognized by the I.O.C. as governing his sport. The entry form includes a statement signed by the athlete: I, the undersigned, declare on my honour that I have studied all the rules and comply with the Eligibility Code of the Olympic Games as specified on this form.

The national federation which governs the sport and the National Olympic, Committee must also sign the form HO as to certify that they have informed the competitor of all the rules. Entries are not valid unless the above rules are observed.

7. Insurance coverage for sportsmen

The I.O.C. has recently included in its rules the obligation on the part of National Olympic Committees to provide insurance coverage against risks incurred during the games. These risks include, on the one hand, the liability of the N.O.C. and that of their athletes toward third parties and, on the other, the risk, for competitors and officials, of being injured, ill, incapacitated or even die during the games. A civil liability insurance in the first case and an individual insurance in the second can cover these risks. They can be covered either by a conventional insurance company (commercial firm) or by a mutual insurance company as is the case in Italy and Spain and for most cases in France.

8. Doping

The International Olympic Committee has provided for a «medical code» in article 27 of the rules and regulations. Doping is forbidden and the I.O.C. has drawn up the list of all prohibited drugs. In addition, all competitors must submit to medical control and examination performed in conformity with the rules of the Medical Commission.

Any competitor refusing to take a doping test or who is found guilty of doping shall be eliminated. If this competitor belongs to a team, the match, competition or event during which infringement was committed shall be forfeited by the team.

A team in which one or more members have been found guilty of doping will be disqualified from the games.

A medal may be withdrawn by order of the Executive Board on the proposal of the I.O.C.'s Medical Commission.

Furthermore, Olympic competitors in sports restricted to women must comply with the prescribed tests for femininity.

The observance of the medical code is controlled by a Medical Commission whose members may not act as team doctors.

9. Necessary conditions for wearing the colours of a country

Only citizens of a country can represent that country in the Olympic Games, subject to certain exceptions.

If a competitor has represented a country in the Games he may not represent another country, except:

1. when his former country has been incorporated in another state;
2. when he represented the former country, he did so because his native land at that time had no N.O.C.;
3. when he has become a naturalised citizen of another country and at least three years have elapsed from the date of his application for such naturalisation;
4. after one year from the date on which he last represented his former country, but in this case only with the agreement of the two National Sports Federations and the approval of the relevant International Federation and the permission of the International Olympic Com mittee;
5. in the case of a woman, if she changes her nationality by marriage, she may represent her husband's country.

More complicated rules define the participation of citizens of dominions or former colonies.

Finally it is stipulated that a person born abroad in a different country to the country of which his parents have cilizenship can compete for the country of his parents provided that he has established the nationality of his parents and has not previously represented the country of his birth.

10. Jurisdiction and sanctions

The I.O.C. is the final authority on all questions concerning the Olympic Games and the Olympic Movement.

In all respects, even for disciplinary questions, the powers of the I.O.C. are paramount. It may impose final or temporary sanctions of which the most severe are suspension, dismissal disqualification, exclusion.

The technical control is delegated to the international federations.

In addition there exist special bye-laws of jurisdiction and sanctions.

Jurisdictional power is delegated to the Executive Board.

The juries for the various sports decide all technical questions concerning their respective sports and their decisions are final, without prejudice to additional penalty imposed by the I.O.C. and applicable to the Olympic Games or the other events under I.O.C. patronage.

The Executive Board decides all matters of controversy of a non-technical nature concerning the Olympic Movement and the Games. It may intervene ex officio or on the request of a member of the I.O.C., a N.O.C., an International Federation or C.O.J.O.

The relevant procedure is described in the bye-laws: a member of the Executive Board acts as an instruction judge. He submits a report to the Executive Board which takes a decision by the majority of members present. The member may be assisted, at his discretion, on legal or technical questions by an I.O.C. commission or by one or several legal or technical experts. A defense may be presented either in person or in writing. The person, the committee or federation concerned are notified by registered mail of the charges or infringements and of the date on which the Executive Board will consider the case. During the games, once the delegation has registered in the Olympic village, the decision will be communicated to the Chef de Mission or to his representative at the village or the hotel where he stays.

The measures which the Executive Board may take vary depending on the persons but in all cases include warning and reprimand.

For I.O.C. members, the loss of membership and dismissal.

For international federations, the loss of the right to be included in the Official programme, the loss of recognition.

For N.O.C.s, the absence of invitation, the loss of the right to attend the games, the loss of the right to enter competitors, loss of recognition.

For athletes and competitors, non-admission, permanent or temporary disqualification. In addition, the competitor or team may be compelled to return a medal they have won.

N.O.Cs undertake to control the enforcement of the decision.

Conclusion

The impact of law on the Olympic Games, their organization and celebration is not considerable. If one tries to study the phenomenon a little closer one must admit that law is ever-present.

First of all in the constitution of the organizing committee and its relations with the I.O.C., it is important to define the precise legal nature of these relations.

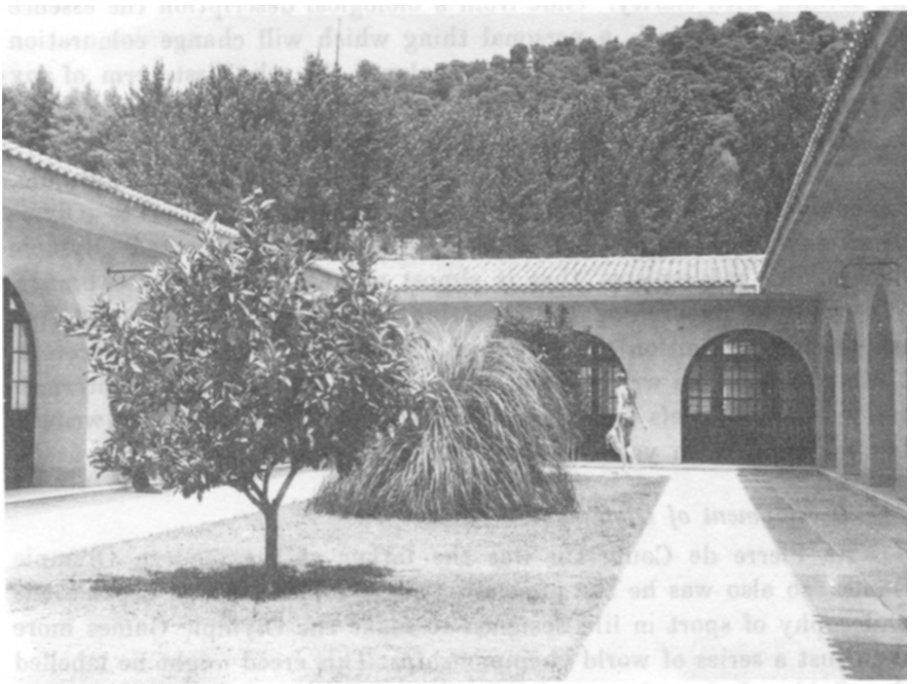
The financing of the Games directly depends on important legal

problems: contractual relations are discussed and established in legal terms. The mere example of TV contracts and licenses to use the Olympic emblems is sufficient proof.

Participation of the athletes themselves is related to law since eligibility conditions represent a commitment of the competitor and the N.O.C. Insurance covers travel and participation risks.

Doping control and femininity tests, together with jurisdictional control and penalties complete this brief outline.

As a minor aspect, sport law is also present during the games to describe and possibly solve problems that arise. Procedures which have been introduced for the emblems and broadcasting rights prove that unfortunately, just as in the case of politics, law is becoming more and more involved with the games.



View of the I. O.A. installations.

WOMEN AND MODERN OLYMPISM

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The topic I am to discuss with you is «Women and Modern Olympism». My first task, of course, is to define the terms used — probably the most difficult aspect of the whole paper. Who can understand or explain «women?» History has shown us that men have never solved the problem, so recourse to the dictionary is useless because it was written by men. One might expect a woman to be able to define womanhood. Have you yet met one who can? I certainly can't, and would not care to lose all my female friends by trying. But neither can «man» be defined with clarity. Beside from a biological description the essence of woman, or man, is a personal thing which will change colouration according to the *individual* being analyzed. So, the first term of my topic will remain nebulous, with each of you applying your own picture based on your own experiences and conceptions.

The second term, «Modern Olympism», is not much easier to handle. Certainly «Modern» gives us little trouble, at least in relation to «Olympism» — it obviously refers to the era of the re-instituted Olympic Games. But «Olympism», that is almost as unfathomable as «woman». When I was researching this question three years ago, I could find no succinct definition of Olympism, official or unofficial. Therefore, I went back to the writings and speeches of Coubertin and to interpretations of his beliefs and works by his biographers and other writers. Let me share with you the results of my research.

The Development of Olympism

As Pierre de Coubertin was the father of the modern Olympic Games, so also was he the progenitor of Olympism was to become the philosophy of sport in life designed to make the Olympic Games more than just a series of world championships. This creed might be labelled the «Golden Rule», of sport, in that it is based on the personal values to be attained from participation in sport, under conditions inherent in the concept. The doctrine of Olympism includes the idea that sport

participation provides the performer with: physical and character (moral) development because of the exercise involved and the discipline and control over both mind and body required during training and competition; an attitude of respect for competitors- from other nations; and an aesthetic sensitivity flowing from the appreciation of the beauty of movement into other areas of culture. These benefits can be obtained only if the performer is an amateur who does not use sport for his means of livelihood. The expression of these values and conditions would be an enriched life experience which encouraged the development of a «fully integrated individual, possessing physical robustness, keen intellect and sublimity of spirit»[1].

The Olympic Movement is the world-wide effort to promote Olympism which is celebrated every four years in the festival of the Olympic Games. The Games bear a heavier responsibility than merely drawing together the athletes of the world in competition. Their role is to present the Olympic Ideal to the world through the medium of the sport contests. All the performers in the Olympics are expected to exhibit the Olympic Ideal in their behaviours, attitudes, and skills. The appreciative on-lookers then return to daily life determined to emulate the behaviours they observed. Whether or not this happens, the emphasis on Olympism as a continuing creed, with the Games as the festival celebrating the creed, can be interpreted only as having had such an intent. Certainly Olympic leaders are prone to stress the quadrennial festival aspect of the Games, reminding the public that the athletic contests are a means to disseminate the Olympic Ideal, not just a sports competition.

Coubertin apparently developed the fullness of the philosophy of Olympism over a period of some years. The creed grew out of his desire to see physical exercise become an integral part of the school curriculum. He was faced with resistance from intellectual circles, and in his efforts to convince the academic world, he accented the non-physical values of sport. As the idea of re-establishing the Olympic Games became part of his project, his explanations of the benefits of these ventures began to form what is now called Olympism.

There were two major influences on Coubertin which shaped his attitude to sport participation and the values therefrom. One was the emphasis on sport in the English school system. Coubertin accorded Thomas Arnold (the famous headmaster of Rugby school) the credit

1. John Aposlal Lucas, «Baron Pierre de Coubertin and the Formative Years of the Modern International Olympic Movement, 1883-1896», (unpublished Doctoral dissertation, University of Maryland, 1962), p. 29.

for this innovation in education. The Baron accepted without question the view that Arnold had believed that sport could build socially approved character traits in its practitioners. Modern analysts are equally convinced that Arnold held no such exalted views of the role of sport. Although Coubertin was mistaken in praising Arnold's vision in appreciating the potential of sport to produce honest and courageous citizens of tomorrow, the impact of Coubertin's belief on his attitude to competitive sport was immense.

The second influence which shaped Olympism was Coubertin's admiration for ancient Greece, and the role of athletics at the height of Greece's glory became the focus of Coubertin's Olympic Games promotion. The ideal Greek male was that individual who incorporated physical health and skill with intelligence, culture, and spiritual values. These gifts from Zeus could not be ignored; they deserved to be developed by training and application. Coubertin's interpretation of the Greek attitude was that: «By chiselling his body with exercise as a sculptor chisels a statue the athlete of Antiquity was "honouring the gods" [1]». Competitive sports became an expression of the wholeness of man through the great «crown festivals» where physical and aesthetic activity were joined in a spiritual thanksgiving and dedication to the gods. Coubertin's veneration of the Greek search for a balanced existence was conveyed in his assertion that:

> The Athenians are entitled to the honour of having found the most attractive and genuine formula for sport — sport for the harmony of the human machine, for the smooth equilibrium of mind and body, for the joy of feeling oneself more intensely alive [2].

Therefore, aspects of English sport and the Greek athletic ideal were the sources from which Olympism was desired. All the attitudes and beliefs which are now seen to comprise Olympism were present in Coubertin's theories at the time of the restoration of the Olympic Games, although some were not then stressed in his speeches and writings. It is doubtful that Coubertin ever sat down and structured the tenets of Olympism before presenting them to the world. The total concept might well have existed in Coubertin's mind, but he apparently did not enunciate complete Olympism to the world at the beginning.

It was some years before the term «Olympism» came into common usage. In 1894, in a speech to the Paris Congress, Coubertin alluded

1. Pierre de Coubetrin, *The Olympic Idea: Discourses and Essays,* rev. ed., eds. L. Diem and O. Andersen; translated from the French by J.G. Dixon (Lausanne: Carl-Diem-Institut, Editions Internationales Olympia, 1966), p. 131.

2. Ibid., p. 7.

to «Hellenic Olympism»[1], suggesting that he saw Olympism only in relation to the Greek athletic ideal. The suggestion was supported when, later in the same speech, he referred to the:

> ... Olympic idea, which has traversed the mists of the ages like an all-powerful ray of sunlight and returned to illumine the threshold of the twentieth century with a gleam of joyous hope [2].

Olympic historian, P.M. Messerli, suggested that «Olympism» has been employed with its present connotation only since 1912 [3]. Certainly Coubertin's most prolific use of the word occurred in later years, particularly when he was recalling the motives and events surrounding the re-establishment of the Olympic Games.

Factors of Olympism

It must be admitted that no specific definition seems to exist which identifies the factors of Olympism. Number 3 under «Fundamental Principles» of the Olympic Rules and Regulations (1974) is as near to an explanation as could be found from «official» circles:

> The aims of the Olympic Movement are to promote the development of those fine physical and moral qualities which are the basis of amateur sport and to bring together the athletes of the world in a great quadrennial festival of sports, thereby creating international respect and goodwill, and thus helping to construct a better and more peaceful world [4].

However, Principle 3 did not seem to cover the subject sufficiently. Coubertin, in his writings and speeches, appeared to include interests that the above rule ignored. Notable among these was the theme of aesthetics as an important aspect of true Olympism. At various times Coubertin seemed to stress some facets of Olympism while leaving others to a different occasion. The totality of his statements suggested a grouping of the elements of amateurism, physical and character (moral) development, internationalism, and aesthetics and arts and letters, as being the factors which formed the philosophy of Olympism.

1. Pierre de Coubertin, Speech at the closing banquet, June 23, 1894, *Bulletin of the International Committee for the Olympic Games,* (July 1894), p. 3, col. 3.
2. Coubertin, *The Olympic Idea,* p. 7.
3. F. M. Messerli, «Olympism», extract from a speech cited in *Bulletin of the I.O.C.,* 81 (February, 1963), p. 60.
4. International Olympic Committee, *Olympic Rules and Regulations,* (Lausanne: The Committee, 1974),. p. 3.

Amateurism

Pierre de Coubertin's version of amateurism was apparently different in some degree from the opinions of those around him. Although he saw the need for a rule stating the qualifications of an amateur, he was determined to keep only the true professional out of the Olympic Games. He did not believe in «absolute amateurism» primarily because he felt that it led to class inequality. Coubertin would have been content to permit lost salary reimbursement, sport teachers as amateurs, reinstatement of professionals under certain conditions, and «much indulgence for pecadillos»[1], although he denounced «all source of direct profit and of appreciable value» [2]. This rather surprising attitude was based on his contention that «sporting spirit» and «sporting loyalty» were the important sentiments to be promoted by the Olympic Games, and that these could not be legislated. Coubertin summed up his judgement by stating: «Amateurism is not a rule; it is a sentiment, it is a state of mind. One cannot then enclose it in the narrowness of formulas; it overflows in all ways» [3].

This position must not be misinterpreted as a lack of faith in amateurism. For Coubertin, the avocational nature of sport was a necessity if the character-building potential was to be achieved. To sell his talent would jeopardize the athlete's «disinterestedness», which Coubertin felt was an essential component. This term appeared to mean that if the gain were more concrete that satisfaction at an achievement, the purpose of the involvement was denigrated from the spiritual level to the practical one. The victory became more important than the participation, it was the achievement of sizable financial gain from sporting activity that was the central problem to Coubertin, not the punishment of athletes for «pecad illos» or small compensatory income. He was also fearful that the benefits of sport participation would be denied to those of the lower classes if an «absolute» amateurism was required. In 1919, he expressed his thoughts of many years by asking:

> In virtue of what aristocratic decrees could there be any link between — on the hand — the physical beauty and muscular power of a young man, his perseverance in training and his will to win

1. Pierre de Coubertin, *Mémoires Olympiques* (Aix-en-Provence: Paul Roubaud 1931). p. 107.

2. Marie-Thérèse Eyquern, *Pierre de Coubertin: L'Epopée Olympique* (Paris Calmann-Lévy, 1966), p. 272.

3. Pierre de Coubertin, cited in *A Travers les Anneaux Olympique»·*, Otto Mayer (Geneva: Pierre Cailler, 1960), p. 53.

and — on the other hand — the list of his ancestors or the contents of his wallet? [1].

Unfortunately, Coubertin's method for assuring amateurism was too idealistic to achieve its purpose. His solution was to have the athlete swear an oath of fidelity to the Olympic spirit, all that was necessary — in his mind — to guarantee the amateurism of the competitors. His confreres of the I.O.C. obviously had less faith in this scheme, as they continued to structure more definitive rules as the years passed.

Another example of Coubertin's preference for the amateur athlete was revealed in his famous adage: «The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part ...»[2]. For a professional, winning was the most important thing. The culmination of the above quotation disclosed firm testimony as to Coubertin's point of view on the relationship between amateur sport and life when he concluded: «.. .just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well»[2].

Physical and Character (Moral) Development

An emphasis on physical training for health was a central factor of the Greek athletic ideal, but it was not achieved simply by body-building techniques. The trained body had to be not only pleasing to the eye, but the individual also had to be a capable athlete. This requirement that unity must exist between beauty and ability was the foundation of Greek athletics. Coubertin did not seem to be overly dedicated to the purely physiological result of training. His aim was more in the direction of a total fitness: on the benefits for «physical and mora] hygiene»[4]. He wrote often of the «physical joy which results from intense muscular effort» [5]. The emphasis he placed on intensity of effort made it obvious that «play» could not achieve the ends he desired. These ideas were combined in his pronouncement: «It is a question of the intense physical pleasure which is necessary to the equilibrium of the adult and which he can obtain in a healthy form only through sport» ·.

1. Coubertin, *The Olympic Idea,* p. 74.
2. (I.O.C.) *Bulletin of the International Committee for the Olympic Games,* 1 (July, 1894), p. 4, col. 1.
3. Coubertin, cited in Eyquem, p. 273.
4. Coubertin, *The Olympic Idea,* p. 71.
5. Ibid, p. 123.
6. Ibid., p. 79.

Coubertin also firmly believed that physical exercise «can help to forge character (and create) moral force» [1]. The greatest importance of the physical factor was, therefore, as a vehicle to empower the development of moral character. The character and moral development of the performer had a closer connection with English attitudes of sportsmanship, of group loyalty, of «Play up! Play up! and play the game» [2], and of the importance of the contest over individual ego, than with Greek attitudes. The personal fame which was an integral part of the Greek athlete's victory as a facet of the religious connotation had little relevance in the English sport model. The ancient athlete, of course, swore to obey the rules, but this was somewhat different from the Anglo-Saxon concept of «fair play» which Coubertin admired.

As we have seen, the source of the belief in the character formation potential of Olympism Coubertin placed directly in Thomas Arnold's use of sport in the English schools. The Baron said: «Arnold makes the muscles more educated, more meticulous and more constant servants of character formation» [3]. Modern sport psychologists would find it difficult to agree that such a transition from the physical to the social-psychological would occur. Coubertin felt that the search for performance excellence alone was insufficient, and explained by pointing out that:

> Sport plants in the body seeds of physio-psychological qualities such as coolness, confidence, decision, etc... These qualities may remain localised around the exercise which brought them into being; this often happens — it even happens most often... how many swimmers there are who are brave in the water but frightened by the waves of human existence... The educator's task is to make the seed bear fruit through the organism... from a special category of activities to all the individual's actions [4].

Other positive character traits accruing from «the voluntary and habitual cult of intensive muscular exercise were initiative, perseverance, intensity, search for perfection, and disdain for possible danger» [6]. Coubertin suspected that «moral mobility» could be attained through Olympism, but only if two further qualities were developing in the athlete:

1. Ibid., p. 57.
2. Henry Newbolt, «Vitai Lampada», in *Physical Education in England since* 1800, Peter C. Mclntosh (London: Bell and Sons, 1968), pp. 68-69.
3. Coubertin, *The Olympic Idea,* p. 113.
4. Ibid., p. 48.
5. Ibid., p. 108.

> Olympism may be a school of moral nobility and purity as well as of physical endurance and energy; but only on condition that you continually raise your conceptions of honour and sporting disinterestedness to the height of your muscular strength [1].

In Coubertin's opinion, the moral values developed through sport participation were expressed during competition by attitudes of sportsmanship. He preferred the word «chivalry» to describe the ideal conduct of athletes but identified as analogous the British concept of «fair play» [2].

All these character and moral traits which Coubertin believed derived from sport were fundamental to Olympism, in that competitive sport was the agent through which Olympism operated.

Internationalism

The idea that,

> ... contests on the friendly fields of amateur sport... could be instrumental in... creating international respect and goodwill and helping to construct a better and more peaceful world[3].

was a vision of Coubertin, who was impressed by the truce which had occurred during the ancient Games. However, his knowledge of Greek history must have reminded him that no lasting cessation of hostilities ever resulted from the Olympic peace. Nevertheless, he promoted the Olympic Games as a vehicle of international understanding, if not peace, throughout his life, notwithstanding the incursion of World War I.

The importance of the international aspect of Olympism was underscored by Coubertin's insistence from the beginning that Olympic Games were to include all the nations desirous of taking part. The spread of the salutary characteristics that sport was capable of generating in humanity could not be limited to any one group in society or any few nations. Ease of travel was increasing rapidly at that time and international sport contests were no longer a unique occurence. Coubertin was convinced that sport contacts between athletes of various countries could encourage the respect and knowledge of one for the other. He maintained that:

> ... to ask the peoples of the world to love one another is merely a form of childishness. To ask them to respect one another is not in the least Utopian, but in order to respect one another it is first necessary to know one another [4].

1. Ibid., p. 100.
2. Ibid., p. 19.
3. I.O.C.,... *Regulations,* 1967, p. 11.
4. Coubertin, *The Olympic Idea,* p. 134.

Coubertin explained the process of reducing animosities through the fellowship of international sport in the Olympic Games in an 1894 speech:

> .. .every four years the revived Olympic Games must give the youth of all the world the chance of a happy and brotherly encounter, which will gradually efface the people's ignorance of things which concern them all, an ignorance which feeds hatreds, accumulates misunderstandings and hurtles events along a barbarous path towards a merciless conflict[1].

B. Henry (whose manuscript was approved by Coubertin) published an interpretation of Coubertin's idea that the chain of goodwill necessary to produce international understanding and peace had its most significant link in the individual.

> Peace, Coubertin hoped and believed, would be furthered by the Olympic Games. He said so on many occasions. But peace could be the product only of a better world; a better world could be brought about only by better individuals; and better individuals... could be developed by the give-and-take, the buffeting and battering, the stress and strain of fierce competition [2].

Although the Olympic contestant was the base of sporting internationalism, Coubertin felt assured that not only athletes but also spectators and nations would come to develop mutual respect in the non-political setting of the Olympic Games. This certainly did not deny national pride which he felt was essential to the Olympic Games, but, rather, strong national feeling could be set aside in the face of athletic excellence:

> We must reach a point where... applause is vouchsafed solely in proportion to the worth of the feat accomplished and regardless of any national preference. All exclusively national sentiments must then be suspended and, so to speak «sent on temporary holiday»[3].

The community of appreciation so developed would overflow into an expression of esteem for the athletic quality of athletes of other nations.

There was another type of peace which Coubertin thought could assist in the attainment of world peace. This he called «social peace», possibly to differentiate from the more politically oriented idea of

t. Ibid., p. 9.

2. Bill Henry, *An Approved History of the Olympic Games* (New York: Put nam's Sons, 1918), p. 12.

3. Coubertin, *The Olympic Idea,* p. 132.

world peace. By this phrase he apparently meant an ever-increasing tolerance for those who came from different backgrounds, whether national, class, colour, or religion. He contended that these social barriers could be lowered through sport in general and the Olympic Movement in particular.

In the circular sent out in 1894 to announce the Congress of Paris, Coubertin wrote:

> The revival of the Olympic Games on bases and in conditions suited to the needs of modern life would bring the representatives of the nations of the world face to face every four years, and it may be thought that their peaceful and chivalrous contests would constitute the best of internationalism [1].

Therefore, from the first days in the evolution of Olympism, internationalism was an indispensable ingredient.

Aesthetics and Arts and Letters

One of Coubertin's strongest convictions was that beauty and sport belonged together as they had in Greek antiquity. From early moments in his design for the reconstruction of the Olympic Games he planned that some day «arts and letters» would be contained within the Olympic circle in order to bring sport and culture into contact again with each other. The aesthetic element included not only the physical harmony of muscles and grace, but also culture in the form of music, painting, sculpture, architecture and literature.

Coubertin's feelings about the ability of sport participation to create beauty in the human form were vividly expressed in the second verse of his poem «Ode to Sport». He wrote this under a pseudonym for the arts and letters contest of the 1912 Games in Stockholm, and won a gold medal:

> 0 Sport, you are Beauty! You — the architect of this house, the human body, which may become abject or sublime according as to whether it is defiled by base passions or cherished with wholesome endeavour. There can be no beauty without poise and proportion, and you are the incomparable master of both, for you create harmony, you fill movement with rhythm, you make strength gracious, and you lend power to supply things [2].

Coubertin believed that cultural events, performed as part of the Games ceremonies and concurrent with the competitions, would im-

1. Ibid., p. 2.
2. Ibid., p. 39.

prove the attitudes of all concerned: «.. .an alliance must be concluded between athletes, artists and spectators»[1]. The existence of poetry, art, and music in conjunction with the Games would «tone down the exceptional and technical aspect of present-day athletics... and the artist would find... forgotten sources of nobility and beauty» [2]. Coubertin suggested that in the early years of the competition many of the artists might well be athletes themselves, as this «marriage of muscle and mind», being dead for so long, would not be accepted immediately, particularly in the art world. This was not a weakness, but only a necessary step toward the stable reunion of «brain and brawn»:

> No doubt at the outset they will only tempt artists and writers who are personally given to the practice of sports. Even the sculptor, if he is to interpret well the muscular tempest which effort arises in the body of the athlete, should have felt something of the sort in his own body, should he not?»[3].

In 1906, in Coubertin's «Opening Address to the Consultative Conference of Arts, Letters, and Sports», he informed the delegates that their objective was to study:

> .. .to what extent and in what form the Arts and Letters could take part in the celebration of the modern Olympiads, and in general associate themselves with the practice of sports in order to benefit from them and annoble them [4].

The presentation to the world of the doctrine of Olympism came a step closer to completion in 1912 when, for the first time, competitions in arts and letters were included in the Olympic Games. With this addition, Olympism became a unified philosophy using the Games to celebrate its creed. The only task remaining to Coubertin was to convince the world to accept Olympism with the devotion usually reserved for structure religions.

During and since my writing of that description of Olympism and its sources, I have discussed my conclusions with many people. Two reactions were universal: (1) persons not involved with Olympic theory and history had little knowledge of the word and were not very interested in finding out about it; and (2) knowledgeable persons were not very sure my «definition» was correct and felt that one or more

1. Pierre de Coubertin, «Arts, Letters and Sport», *Cultures*, 1(2), UNESCO and la Baconniere, 1973, p. 163.
2. Coubertin, *Cultures*, p. 164.
3. Coubertin, *The Olympic Idea*, p. 17.
4. Ibid., p. 16.

factors should be removed and/or other ones added, but they never agreed with each other. Therefore, I concluded that my definition at least gave me a working position.

Now, let us investigate the woman in relation to Olympism. Because the athlete, coach, sports administrator, etc., is a woman, is her view of Olympism likely to be any different than that of the man in the same role? In other words, is Olympism a different concept for the woman *because* she is a woman? Is Olympism sex-linked? (Be careful to keep your mind concentrating on *Olympism*, not on the actual Olympic Games when you try to answer that question. It is the philosophy we are dealing with, not the extravaganza in total). I cannot accept that Olympism means one thing for men and another for women.

However, the Olympic Games, (the competitive sport festival which celebrates the philosophy of Olympism) certainly have provided a very different history of experiences for women that those men have undergone. Let us look at that history to see if it presents us with any clues for an answer.

One would think that the most influential beliefs would be those of Coubertin, and the Baron was an adamant opponent of women's competition in sport. His opinions can be discerned from the following quotations: In 1910:

> … no matter how toughened a sportswoman may be, her organism is not cut out to sustain certain shocks. Her nerves rule her muscles, nature wanted it that way. Finally, the egalitarian *discipline* that is brought to bear on the male contenders for the good order and good appearance of the meeting risks being affected and rendered inapplicable by female participation [1].

In 1912:

We feel that the Olympic Games must be reserved for men... As the saying goes: a door must be open or closed. Can women be given access to *all* the Olympic events? NO?... Then why permit them some and bar them from others? And especially, on what basis does one establish the line between events permitted and events prohibited? There are not just tennis players and swimmers (already in the Olympics). There are also fencers, horsewomen, and in America there have also been rowers. Tomorrow, perhaps, there will be women runners or even soccer players. Would such sports practiced by women constitute

1. Ellen W. Gerber et al., *The American Woman in Sport*, Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1974, p. 137.

an edifying eight before crowds assembled for an Olympiad? We do not think that such a claim can be made.

.. .Such is not our idea of the Olympic Games in which we feel that we have tried and that we must continue ¡to try to achieve the following definition: the solemn and periodic exaltation of male athletism with internationalism as a base, loyalty as a means, art for its setting, and female applause as its reward [1].

In 1928:

As to the admission of women to the Games, I remain strongly against it. It was against my will that they were admitted to a growing number of competitions [2].

In 1934:

I personally do not approve of the participation of women in public competitions, which is not to say that they must abstain from practising a great number of sports, provided they do not make a public spectacle of themselves. In the Olympic Games, as in the contests of former times, their primary role should be to crown the victor [3].

However, Coubertin was defeated on this point of women's participation early in Olympic history. Without the I.O.C. saying aye or nay, women took part in 1900 and 1904. This could very well have occurred because of the connection of these Games with World Expositions. As a result, much of the planning was out of the hands of Olympic sympathizers and the organization of the Olympic Games aspect of the celebrations was geared to the total festival. Consequently, many «extra» events were labelled «Olympic». But in 1908, it was no accident that woman's events in archery, figure skating, and tennis were organized. Also, a woman took part as helmsman in a British yacht[4].

A benchmark in women's Olympic competition came in 1912 when swimming and diving was instituted for female competition and 41 participants vied for the first aquatic laurels [5]. The reason why the U.S.A. sent no women to these games is an example of the attitudes to women's competition which were still very prevalent at the time. «The American Olympic Committee... was opposed to women taking

1. Ibid., pp. 137-138.
2. Coubertin, *The Olympic Idea*, p. 106.
3. Ibid., p. 133.
4. Uriel Simri, *A Historical Analysis of the Role of Women in the Modern Olympic Garnen.* Wingate Monograph Series No. 1. Netanya, Israel: The Wingate Institute for Physical Education and Sport, 1977, p. 10.
5. Ibid., p. 12.

Participants of the 17th Session.

Participants of the 17th Session.

Messrs W. Tröger (GER), Secretary General of the NOC of Germany and T. Keller (SUI), President of the Permanent General Assembly of the I.Fs attending the work of the Session.

Participants of the 17th Session.

part in any event in which they could not wear long skirts»[1]. Women's Olympic competition was not to be denied by such Victorian beliefs and by 1924 over 100 women competed at Paris. The major forward step came four years later when women's Track and Field (Athletics) was accepted. Again Coubertin protested, but if his opinions had been ignored thirty years earlier, they were unlikely to be heard now that his official connection with the I.O.C. was severed. However, the events were limited to five items —100 m., 400 m. relay, 800 m., high jump, and discus [2]. It is interesting to note that countries that have been unimpressive in recent years took home medals in 1928. One of the first Asian women to compete in the Olympics won a silver in the 800 m.[3], and Canada gathered gold in the high jump and relay, and silver and bronze in the 100 m.[4].

The 1932 Games produced a drop in the number of women competitors but with the fabulous «Babe» Didrickson performing, the quality was, indeed, not impaired. Despite such progress, all was not peaceful on the women's international sports front. The I.O.C. was not supporting a broadening of the number of sports and events for women, and the ladies decided to request the I.O.C. to end their participation. The group involved was the Federation Sportive Feminine Internationale (FSFI), formed in 1921 by M. Milliat of France, who had instigated a series of Woman's World Games in 1922, held again in 1926, 1930 and 1934 [5]. M. Milliat stated that the FSFI would run their own game, and include all sports registered with her Federation. The I.O.C. ress ponded that they could not entertain the suggestion until she had the agreement of the concerned International Federations of Sport [6]. M. Milliat thought that the I.O.C. was restricting the opportunity for women to compete by limiting the sports open to women in the Olympic Games. By the way, Simri and Cox (both males) suggested that «...the Olympic program for women, when set up, has been set up by dominant males to keep the females subservient and that male skill and prowess have determined the Olympic and... practically the whole modern sport program for women» [7].

1. Gerber, p. 139.
2. Ibid., p. 141.
3. Simri, p. 18.
4. Henry Roxbomuffh, *Cunada at the Olympics,* Toronto: Ryerson Press, 1963, p. 72.
5. Betty Spears, Women in the Olympics: An Unresolved Problem, *The Mo dern Olympics, e*d. Peler J. Graham and Horst Ueberhorst, Cornwall, N.Y.: Lei sure Press, 1976, p. 70.
6. I.O.C., *Minutes of the I.O.C.,* Oslo, 1935, p. 13.
7. Simri, p. 8.

The American women's physical education organizations also objected to Olympic competition for the female, but for different reasons. They were particularly opposed to track and field because it:

1. Entails the specialized training of the few.
2. Offers opportunity for exploitation and commercialization.
3. Stresses individual accomplishment and winning of championships.
4. Places men in immediate charge of athletic activities for girls and women.
5. Offers opportunity for possible overstrain in preparation for or during the Games themselves [1].

This petition evidently was sent to the I.O.C., but one report says it happened in 1930[2] and another reports its discussion at the 1938 I.O.C. meeting[3].

One receives the impression that the 1936 Olympic Games would have opened the doors to an expansion of women's sports and events because of the Nazi belief in a strong womanhood. However, only one new sport and one new event was added [4]. For women at this time, the Summer Games included swimming, fencing, gymnastics, and track and field, plus open events, and the Winter Games provided figure skating and Alpine skiing. In 1976, there were thirteen summer sports, but only 34 % of the total offerings for competition were open for women [5].

In other areas of Olympic tradition, the picture for women is similarly mixed. In 1968, a woman carried the Olympic flame into the Mexico City stadium and both Summer and Winter Games have had women take the Olympic oath of the athletes [6]. Montreal shared the flame bearers role between a boy and a girl. The flags of various countries have been carried by women in the Opening Ceremonies and women have headed the national delegations at the Games. Even the I.O.C. bureaucracy is headed by a woman, M. Monique Berlioux. However, these examples are easy to identify because they are the exceptions, not the norm. In the higher echelons of the Olympic administrative and decision-making hierarchy (I.O.C., N.O.Cs, and I.Fs) women rarely hold positions. There has never been a woman member of the I.O.C.

1. Gerber, p. 151.
2. Ibid., p. 151.
3. Otto Mayer, *A Travers les Anneaux Olympiques,* Geneva: Pierre Cailler, 1960, p. 163.
4. Simri, p. 20.
5. Ibid., p. 25.
6. Ibid., p. 28.

Some N.O.Cs in the socialist countries have women on their executives but the number is low, and the rest of the nations appear to have none. Occasionally, women sit on I.O.C. committees and one I.F. committee has a woman president.

We have seen that the inclusion of women in the Olympic Games has increased over the years, although both there and in the administrative aspects there is still room for improvement. However, the question remains of whether, as exemplars of the philosophy of Olympism, women believe and behave differently from men. Let us examine the factors, one by one.

Amateurism. Women have not been affected by this factor as deeply as have men. The prestige for women winners, either commercial or national, has developed only recently so the chance that they had taken illegal money was severely limited. The major problems of mxateurism — reimbursement for lost salary, money prizes, or payments for competing, product endorsements, etc. — never affected women to the same degree as it did men until the 1960's. This was because many young women athletes were supported by their families, the value of their prizes was slight, and rarely being able to sell their skill profesionally limited their advertising worth. The women most reverred for their Olympic success were almost exclusively figure skaters, skating being the only sport facing the professional problem as golf and tennis had such short lives as Olympic sports. Some women were affected by the ban on ski teachers, but again, it was primarily a man's world.

Was it a difference in attitude and ethics that kept women relatively free of condemnation or the lack of opportunity for financial gain? Based on recent developments in the world of women's sports, one would have to admit that the opportunity presented itself, the women were most ready to receive financial assistance, either from government or other sources, and to turn professional. The reasons are the same as those influencing men: to support the cost of their training, or to turn their skill into a full time profession. Their dedication to the Olympic ideal of amateur competition is probably equivalent to the men's.

Physical and character development. In the early twentieth century, the arguments against women's participation in competitive sport were based on the «delicate womanhood» image, both physical and emotional. Since World War II, this myth has been systematically destroyed by the stunning performances of women such as Fanny Blankers-Koen, Laris Latynina, Dawn Fraser, and even little girls of the age of Nadia Comaneci. The healthy, trained body of a woman, graceful, powerful,

and highly skilled, is no longer censured as unfeminine, but is seen as a goal worthy of attainment by the general population. Women are even now proving their capability of competing in endurance events. In spite of the fact that long distance events (for example the Marathon) do not exist for women in the Olympics, women participate in such strenuous sports in other competitions.

As far as character (and emotional) factors are concerned, experience shows that women are just as likely to display courage, perseverance, concentration, dedication, and good sportsmanship as men. Equally, they can falter under stress showing behaviour (as men have done) far short of model. All these traits are individual, applying to all facets of life, not just sports, and determined by the person's upbringing, education, and experience, High level sport competition makes these factors more visible and the expanded opportunity for women to compete has shown that they can handle both physical and mental challenges at least as well as men.

Internationalism. In this area of focus there is no reason to believe that the benefits of Olympic competition are greater or lesser for women or men. The athlete's reaction to his fellow competitors from other countries will depend on his own values and attitudes. For both men and women, the potential for enriching contacts with foreign athletes exists. The degree to which any athlete grasps the opportunity is, again, an individual decision. The sex of the participant is unlikely to be the factor determining involvement.

Aesthetics and arts and letters. Appreciation of the beauty of movement and the ability to produce it surely is not sex-linked. The opportunity that women have to emphasize this facet more than men is in the events of gymnastics. Grace and beauty of the movement sequences are special components of floor exercises, the parallel bars, and the balance beam. Otherwise, «beauty is in the eye of the beholder». If the spectator or athlete is sensitive to the beauty in sport, he /she will find it with ease. Similarly, the creation of static works of art — paintings, etc. — can be achieved by anyone with a talent for such invention, men or women, athlete or non-athlete. Throughout the history of the Arts and Letters competitions in the Olympic Games, women entered items and some received medals. Again, the lower involvement of women was less a case of inability than one of the social role expected of women during the period.

In conclusion, we must admit that the occasion for women to *project* their interpretation of the philosophy of Olympism has been limited in the past, their *ability* to absorb it and live it is as great or little as men's.

THE XIII WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES, INNSBRUCK 1976

By Dr. PETER PILSL (AUT)

Secretary General
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When, at the end of 1972, the city of Denver definitely withdrew from organizing the XIIth Olympic Winter Games 1976, the future of the Winter Olympics was in serious danger. The situation was further aggravated by the fact that Avery Brundage, though at that time only Honorary President of the IOC but previously its most dominating personality, had repeatedly and expressly stated what he thought of the Olympic Winter Games — namely very little.

Austria was quick to step in. One had soon realised that a candidature might be successful. After consultations with the responsible bodies, the City of Innsbruck immediately filed its application for the Winter Olympics 1976. During the last days before the final decision it became obvious that the only serious competitor of Innsbruck was the French Mont Blanc region with its centre Chamonix. The decision of the IOC is sufficiently wellknown. The International Olympic Committee came to the conclusion that Innsbruck, the Tyrol and Austria would be best suited to fill the breach, left after the withdrawal of Denver. The official allocation was made exactly three years before the opening day of the 76 Winter Olympics, which was scheduled for February 4. The vote of confidence from the IOC had no doubt been prompted by the memory of how well the Games had been organized in 1964, when they had attracted a record number of about 1 million spectators.

The time available to the City of Innsbruck for the organization of the second Winter Olympics within twelve years was desperately short. This difficulty could in part be overcome by recruiting to about 80 % the experienced organizing team of 1964. But the greatest advantage and, indeed, the reason why the application to allocate the Games once more to Innsbruck had been filed, was the fact that practically all the Olympic competitions of 1976 could be held at the sites of the IXth Olympic Winter Games in 1964. The only new constructions were the artificial bobsleigh and toboggan run at Igls and an ice rink

in a pressure inflated dome on the Tivoli grounds. All the other buildings erected for the Games were designed for later use by the population. Greatest care was taken not to construct «Olympic ruins» or to give in to a trend towards gigantism.

It was out of a profound conviction, enhanced by the time shortage, that the slogan issued for the organization of the Innsbruck Winter Olympic was: «simple, but technically perfect Games».

And the Organizing Committee — composed of representatives of Austrian sports, the Republic of Austria, the Province of Tyrol, and the City of Innsbruck — consistently adhered to the motto of the «simple Games».

For more than a year the XIIth Olympic Winter Games Innsbruck 1976 have now been a thing of the past. Looking back it can justifiably be said that they were a success. A success mainly because they were free from attacks from the outside or scandals and negative sensations from the inside. A success too, because over one and a half million on - the - spot spectators and over 600 million television viewers all over the world were shown superb Winter Games in a superb moutain setting.

The Organizing Committee's wish to place the athlete and his performance in the centre of events was fulfilled. In Innsbruck there were encounters with great sporting personalities and there was admiration for magnificent performances. It is the Organizing Committee's opinion that the demand for «simple Games» was also met because any measures or investments not absolutely vital for the sporting events were forgone, the organizers restricting themselves to those essentials laid down by the IOC rules for Olympic competitions.

The unexpectedly high attendance figures were to provide the biggest surprise of the XIIth Winter Olympic Games Innsbruck 1976. In spite of total television transmission on a scale hitherto unknown, over one and a half million people chose to inhale the Olympic aura on - the spot for themselves as visitors to the Olympic events. This stream of visitors presented the organizers with their biggest problems. Most of the Olympic competitions take place outdoors, many of them in the mountains. The approach roads are mountain roads and access is usually of an Alpine character. Bergisel jumping stadium, which registers about 25.000 spectators at the most at the annual events held there, was filled to its full capacity, nearly 50.000 people, at the opening ceremony and the jumping event. Thus it was that before these events crushes occurred at the entrances, some of the visitors leaving the stadium before the events commenced. These incidents were the only serious calamities of the Winter Games. It must also

be mentioned, however, that exact traffic planning made it possible for spectators to be transported to and from awkwardly located events — the Alpine contests in the Axamer Lizum, for instance — without any difficulty and without any undue delays. The entire traffic concept more than proved its worth and this is applicable to organization traffic, too. The vehicles driven by Tyrolean taxi drivers and the coaches, small buses and cars provided by the sponsor firms and driven by professional drivers and students did their work splendidly and certainly to the satisfaction of the guests.

In spite of intensive preparation work, it was possible to prepare and organize the 77th IOC session preceding the Games, and all the subsidiary events, without a hitch.

The accommodation difficulties were finally solved to the satisfaction of the guests; in fact, the question of guests of honour presented the most difficult task of the Games. The stands for guests of honour were small, in keeping with simple Games, so that it was difficult or practically impossible to maintain the order of precedence for the IOC and for guests from abroad and from Austria. However, any annoyances or complaints arising from this were finally all smoothed out by the Organizing Committee, as far as it is known until now.

There were scarcely any problems, however, in connection with the athletes accommodation in the Olympic Village; everyone was most enthusiastic about the catering service and the way the recreation centre was organized. This enabled the athletes to forget that from the outside the Olympic Village resembled an encampment under siege, due to the necessary security precautions. In the Olympic Village, too, the friendliness of Organizing Committee employees helped to solve any minor problems occurring.

The 1976 Olympic Village, built to the south of the 1964 Village, consisted of 35 apartment blocks, a school building with triple gymnasium, an indoor swimming pool with sauna bath, the reception building and a multi - purpose hall with youth centre for the recreation centre. The actual Olympic Village itself, consisting of 20 apartment blocks, school and reception, housed the officials and athletes and other Olympic Village services and was entirely fenced off, the fencing itself being fitted with an alarm system. One of the above blocks contained the housing and medical section's offices, the section for ceremonial, the hostess centre and the section for culture.

The remaining 19 blocks and the 3 upper storeys of the administration building accommodated officials and sportsmen from the various nations. The chefs de mission had their offices here, too.

The reception building in the north of the Olympic Village between

the drive in to the Village and the recreation centre served as a check - point l'or officials and athletes as they arrived and for visitors and functionaries. Here accommodation was allotted, meal vouchers issued etc. A number of counters were also adapted here to deal with accrediting, the issue of passes for press and other visitors, a traffic counter for official traffic, etc. Anyone entering the Olympic Village had pass the reception buiding; identity checks and other security checks were also carried out here. Visitors to the recreation centre also had to pass reception controls, so that this also constituted a security factor for visitors.

A shopping centre was installed in the basement of the school building mentioned at the beginning. This became a popular meeting place for athletes, officials, visitors and press people. The ground floor of the school building also housed kitchens capable of producing 6.500 meals at a time and distributing these on a self-service basis. The ground floor of the school building was used as a dining room with a seating capacity of approximately 750 for athletes and officials. Doping laboratories were also situated on the ground floor. The triple gymnasium was used as a dining room for the functionary section; it held seating for approximately 950 and could only be entered via the functionary section, i.e. from the non-closed part of the Olympic Village. The Olympic Village medical centre with all up-to-date equipment as found in a modern clinic was situated on the first floor and a part of the second floor. A further part of the 2nd floor served as oecumenical spiritual guidance centre, the rest being set aside as an assembly room for the nations meetings. Two large garages in the area of the Village enclosure provided car parking facilities.

An indoor swimming pool with sauna bath was also available for athletes and officials in the area of the Village. Although not actually situated inside the Olympic Village itself, this came under security precautions and could only be entered with a special pass.

A further 15 blocks for the Olympic Village were outside the enclosure and served to accommodate functionaries and personnel. 3 school buildings in Innsbruck were also available to the Organizing Committee, in addition to these apartments, to accommodate these groups of people.

The highest overnight stay figures in the enclosed Olympic Village were registered on 7.1.1976, the figure being 1.960 persons; the highest figures in the functionaries' part of the Olympic Village were 3.550 persons on 6.2.1976. The total overnight figures in the Village enclosure were 32.343, and in the functionaries' part 71.378.299.212 individual meals were issued in the Olympic Village kitchen.

In addition to these there were approximately 12.600 meals for kitchen staff, so in all 311.812 meals were prepared in this kitchens 29,560,53 kgs meat and 11,270 kgs poultry were used to prepare meal in the Olympic Village. 189.064 white bread rolls and 10.051 brown bread rolls were consumed, as well as 3.744 kgs brown bread, 261,80 kgs toast and 455 brioches. 1.470 kgs salt were used, 9.470 kgs peeled potatoes and 4.565 kgs chip potatoes. The kitchens also required 2.070 kgs rice, 7.216 kgs frozen vegetables and 14.366 kgs fresh vegetables, 93.780 fresh eggs, 77 kgs yolk and 1.200 kgs eggs in all. These are only some of the groceries which were used to prepare the meals.

The apartments and the dining rooms were mainly furnished with Austrian army fittings. For this purpose 6.646 wardrobes, 2.303 wooden beds and 4.565 bunks were placed at the Organizing Committee's disposal by the Austrian Army. These were supplemented by 3.003 tables and 15.360 chairs, together with 18.912 woollen blankets, all from the army as well.

A sponsor firm provided the inhabitants of the Olympic Village with a special service in the form of 126 television sets, 80 musical alarm clocks and approximately 300 electric razors.

The sporting competitions are intended as the very core of Olympic Games and proved to be such in Innsbruck. There were no scandals, no organizational problems, and not one single protest. A considerable factor here was the Organizing Committee's aim to place special importance on observing all safety precautions when building and adapting the competitive sites and this was realized to the full. There were few injuries in relation to the number of participants, and none of a really serious nature, only four fractures. This was in no small degree due to the perfect preparation of all competitive venues, thanks to Austrian national servicemen under the supervision of Organizing Committee experts. Numerous athletes and nearly all the delegation leaders declared after the Games that the athletes had hardly ever before met with such excellent conditions, both in respect of the accommodation, catering and transport, and the sports events.

The question of security, examined so thoroughly in the period preceding the Games, was solved in the best possible way by the Austrian security services in collaboration with the Organizing Committee. The radical security measures were absolutely essential and scarcely aroused any criticism. Here I may quote an American journalist, Mr. Grimsley, writing for Associated Press, «We all arrived, uncertain and sceptical. Your 5.000 police, fierce dogs and electric barbed wire fences prophesied 'Gestapo Olympics'. This was never the case. Your police were all magnificent, a part of the scenery, never obtrusive, never discourteous,

but reliable and ever-present. A warning to any potential terrorist». The Games remained, in fact, free from any incidents, although there were threats and dangerous situations enough.

Collaboration with sponsor firms and commerce was excellent. The official services worked smoothly and perfectly fulfilled the tasks set to them; approximately 50 million schillings were raised by sponsor firms.

As in 1964, the assistance given by national servicemen was invaluable for the XIIth Winter Olympics. Olympic Games involve such a multitude of various tasks that a civil organization alone would not be able to cope with them.

Main tasks of the national servicemen were the completion of the cross-country courses, preparation of the ski runs, laying of cables and water pipes, furnishing of the entire Olympic Village, adapting of 2 dining rooms each with seating for 900 persons, putting up and taking down the stands.

The number of troops involved in preparing and running the Winter Olympics in Innsbruck shows how vital the Austrian Army was for the Games. In all, 144,712 men put in 1,354,218 hours' work for these Games between 3rd September 1973 and 31st May 1976. During the actual Olympic Games, i.e. from 4th February to 15th February 1976, 2.483 men on average put in 23.397 working hours per day.

The organizers realize that the marvellous weather played a considerable part in the success of the events. Just enough snow, sunshine in abundance and clear roads all played their part in the smooth running of the sports events.

The Olympic flame was ignited before the temple of Hera in the glade of Olympia and was brought by air to Vienna, from where it was carried through Austria on two different routes, celebrations to mark the flame's arrival being held in every Austrian provincial capital. So the Olympic flame's journey through Austria enabled large sections of the population to take part in the pre-Olympic festivities.

50 torch bearers — very popular Austrian athletes, including some Olympic gold, silver and bronze medal winners — carried the Olympic flame on a northern and a southern route into the provincial capitals and into those winter sports resorts holding welcoming ceremonies. On its path through Austria to Innsbruck the Olympic flame covered 867 kms. on the northern route and 751 kms. on the southern route. In all, 23 ceremonies were held in Austria to welcome the Olympic flame.

The strict protocol prescribed for the Olympic opening and closing ceremonies was relieved by means of folklore and local insertions.

For the first time at an Olympic opening ceremony the Olympic flame was lit in two vessels, as a symbol of Winter Olympics being held twice in Innsbruck. The 1976 flame was lit by the Olympic gold medal winner in the luge events of 1964, Josef FEISTMANTL, who was also the torch bearer of the 1976 Olympic torch relay, that for 1964 being ignited by the 1964 Olympic down hill champion Christi HAAS.

The use the eidophor apparatus at the daily victory ceremonies proved to be most successful. Here the athlete as such was placed particularly in the foreground — in accordance with the organizers' principles — when the decisive phases of the winner's sporting performance were shown.

The accredited press, too, were with few exceptions satisfied with the facilities available to them. This was expressed in many thousands of favourable reports throughout the world on the subject of the XIIth Winter Olympic Games Innsbruck 1976.

Two months ago the International Association of Sports Journalist awarded the prize for the best organized press facilities in 1976 to the Innsbruck press services. Austrian Broadcasting Cooperation Television did marvellous work, both the (ORF), who made the colour video signal at all events and the international sound available to the whole world, and the American television company, ABC, who transmitted television reports on Innsbruck, the Tyrol, Austria and the Games — specially edited for America — to the United States of America and to several Central and Southern American countries. For the first time winter sports events on a large scale were shown in countries like Venezuela, Mexico, Iran or the Sultanate of Oman The total income from television rights amounted to approximately 208 million schillings. Of this approximately 66,5 million schillings went to the International Olympic Committee, according to the valid regulations.

763.690 tickets were sold in the fund-raising scheme which was introduced on 4th November, 1974 and which went on until 15th February, 1976, resulting in gross proceeds of 38.184.500 Austrian schillings. This unexpectedly great financial success (a net profit of 22 million schillings) can be put down to the effects of advertising on radio and television, and most of all to the participation of the Austrian population which was unexpectedly high. It was not only the prizes, some of them extremely valuable, which incited many to take part, but also the wish to make a personal contribution to the XIIth Winter Olympic Games in Innsbruck. The scheme's main slogan «Your ticket can help, your ticket can win» was most effective.

On the very important transport sector, too, the Organizing Committee had at its disposal people with Olympic experience. Despite many fears to the contrary, it was possible for the Olympic transport to be arranged almost without a hitch. Some cases of traffic jams, as for instance on 7th February 1976 at the jumping in Seefeld, were due to road conditions which cannot be altered in such a short time.

Apart from arranging for spectator traffic by means of public or private transport, the Organizing Committee had to deal with a series of internal transport duties. These applied mainly to traffic in the Olympic Village and from the press centre and other centres to and from the competitive sites. Here, too, everything ran smoothly. To quote a few figures:

a) the official vehicle fleet consisted of 180 small buses from the car hire and taxi trade and of 250 cars provided by sponsor firms, their chauffeurs being for the most part students (approx. 30.000 jobs and about 160.000 people conveyed);

b) the official service, consisting of 25 coaches which totalled 57.000 kilometres and which conveyed 120.000 people.

In accordance with the IOC statutes, the cultural section endeavoured to produce a cultural background programme worthy of Austria's cultural reputation for the period of the XIIth. Winter Olympics in Innsbruck. The Organizing Committee culture section's role here was merely of a co-ordinating nature since the cultural programme itself was financed by municipal, provincial and federal authorities.

Contrary to the expectations of many, particular interest was shown in the cultural events.

The Olympic Ball was organized by the Austrian Olympic Committee and Austrian Aid to Sport. Thanks to commerce's generous sponsorship, this was a social highlight and a big financial success for both organizing bodies.

Realizing that the Olympic Village should contain sufficient facilities for the athletes to relax, the organizers again adapted the children's creche, which was a part of the 1964 Village, to make a recreation centre. The rooms met with all the demands made of them and fulfilled all expectations. The function planned for the recreation centre — a meeting point for the press and athletes — proved to be ideal, numerous interviews and television filming taking place here, including a live programme for the German ZDF sport studio. In the 26 days durirg which the recreation centre was open approximately 30.000 visitors came here.

The cinema installed in the recreation centre enjoyed great popu-

larity. The films most in demand were action films like James Bond and Terence Hill / Bud Spencer, but musicals like «Jesus Christ Superstar» and «My fair Lady» were also in favour. There was less interest in all the sports and culture films.

Neither of the televisions rooms — each of which were equipped with two colour sets — were frequented until the sport transmissions during the Games. During the Games all events transmitted by television were recorded on cassettes. Four television sets were available, each with a video recorder, and the athletes showed great interest here, watching their own events again and again..

In the reading rooms and the music bar there was a choice of 250 music cassettes of every kind and 55 Austrian and foreign newspapers and magazines.

Apart from the cinema and live enterainments, the main attraction in the recreation centre was without doubt the of course, very well frequented discotheque.

The costs of Olympic Games depend to a great extent on those sums required for the Olympic constructions. Innsbruck decided to make full use of the 1964 Olympic sites and to modernize these, only undertaking any new building work where this was absolutely essential.

When talking of the costs of Olympic Games, it is necessary to distinguish between buildings purely for the Olympics and those which had at any rate been planned, but which were put forward because of the Winter Olympics. All three authorities — Federal, Provincial and Municipal — put forward projects, but also participated in the construction of buildings purely for the Olympics.

The costs of the 1976 Innsbruck Winter Games can by no means be termed high. The modernizing and building work purely for the Olympics cost approximately 230 million Austrian schillings. Buildings put forward on account of the Winter Olympics — the Olympic Village, a secondary school, an indoor swimming pool with sauna baths, various road projects and a new bridge over the Inn ·— ran up total costs of 1.340 million schillings. This expense has decisively improved Innsbruck's infra-structure. The three authorities who met these costs, federal, provincial and municipal, showed great foresight in setting the Organizing Committee's expected financial loss at 60 million schillings from the outset. This meant that the Organizing Committee could not spend more, but had to control its income and expenditure in such a way that this expected deficit was not exceeded. As we can evaluate now, the deficit will not reach the figure of 60 million schillings, to that the Organizing Committee is in a position to repay part of the

payment in advance to the federal, provincial and municipial authorities.

All these financial aspects were to provide a model for the future and for the organizers of coming Games.

Summing up the actual Olympic costs are therefore composed of 230 million schillings for the Olympic sites, mainly the new artificial bobsleigh and toboggan run, a maximum of 60 million schillings for the planned deficit of the Organizing Committee and 309 million schillings for non-return-bringing costs of the Austrian Broadcasting Company, the Austrian Railways and the Austrian Postal Authority. This gives a total sum of only 599 million schillings, about 35 million dollars.

Winding-up work commenced during and immediately after the Games, the Organizing Committee had provided for liquidation with a series of contracts which made things much easier. There was an immediate drastic decrease in personnel and restrictions in the entire organization which have saved costs. The essential work has already been completed by the end of 1976, the final winding-up of the organization can be effected most probably before the end of this year.

For anyone who had witnessed a series of Olympic Games and big sports events, however, the appearance and the discipline of the 1.261 participating athletes from 37 nations was, in fact, the loveliest sight of these XIIth Winter Olympic Games. The 1.013 male and 248 female competitors not only gave excellent demonstrations of their sport, but also created an extremely favourable impression of the world's sporting youth. They were the true upholders of the XIIth Winter Olympic Games of Innsbruck 1976.

May I conclude with a quotation from the largest French sports paper, 'L'Equipe', that wrote after the end of the 1976 Olympic Winter Games:

> «The Innsbruck Games were the nicest since the first Olympic Games were held. The main result is that the Olympic idea found its secound youth in Innsbruck».

GAMES OF THE XXII OLYMPIAD
(Moscow, July 19-August 3, 1980)

By A. GRESKO (URS)

Member of the USSR Olympic Committee Presidium, Member of the Executive Board of the Olympiad-80 Organizing Committee

HISTORY: ORGANIZATION: PERSPECTIVES

The Games of the XXII Olympiad will take place in Moscow, the USSR capital, from July 19 to August 3, 1980. The world best athletes will compete for 203 sets of Olympic medals.

The international Olympic movement has grown into one of the greatest and most popular social phenomena of the present age. The Soviet people in their endeavour for the best organization of the 1980 Games are therefore regarding the success of the Games to be their personal contribution both to the development of the Olympic movement and to the relaxation of international tension and world peace.

In his greetings addressed to the members of the International Olympic Committee, the Organizing Committee and the participants of the XXI Summer Olympic Games of 1976, Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, wrote: «The Olympic Games are an all - important event in international sports; they attract the close attention of millions of people across the world and reflect mankind's inconquerable aspirations to peace and progress. The fact that sportsmen of all continents have gathered under the Olympic flag is added evidence of the wish of the nations to live in an atmosphere of friendship, mutual understanding and active cooperation».

Olympic researchers cite scores of names of historians, archaeologists, teachers, and soldiers who contributed in various degrees to the revival of the Olympic Games. Yet the main honours are unanimously ceded to the French humanitarian Baron Pierre de Coubertin. It was at the Paris Congress of 1894, which adopted a decision to held the first modern Olympic Games in 1896 in Greece, that he was justly christened «the godfather of the revived Olympics».

De Coubertin thought that the Olympic ideas would inspire mankind with a spirit of freedom, peaceful competition, and physical perfection.

De Coubertin's motto, «Oh, Sport, you are Peace!», permeats his truly titanic efforts in promoting the revival of the Olympic movement. His principal aspiration in drafting the Olympic Charter was to make the Olympic movement serve the cause of peace among the nations.

It is common knowledge that Russia was one of the 12 countries whose representatives formed the International Olympic Committee at the Paris Congress of 1894. The participation of the Russian prerevolutionary sports organizations in the Olympic movement was essentially reduced to that single appearance. It was only in 1912 that a Russian sports delegation came to the Stockholm Olympic Games to share the 15th and 16th places with Austria in the unofficial tally.

On May 3, 1951, the IOC session held in Vienna recognized the National Olympic Committee of the USSR thus granting to the Soviet athletes the right to take part in Olympic Games.

Joining the Olympic family the spokesmen of the Soviet athletes announced from the rostrum of the Vienna IOC session:

«The athletes of the Soviet Union will always and everywhere sacredly observe the Olympic traditions, multiply and enrich them, make the greatest possible contribution to the lofty idea insribed in the Charter, which proclaims as the essential purpose of the Games to hold great sports festivals and thereby create international confidence and promote a better and more peaceful world».

It is universally acknowledged that the 25 years' active participation of Soviet athletes in the international Olympic movement has constituted a new stage in its history.

Following the Olympic motto «Citius, altius, fortius!» Soviet athletes vividly exemplify the amazingly great human potentialities for physical perfection and the attainment of phenomenal sports results.

The Olympic arenas of Helsinki, Melbourne, Rome, Tokyo, Mexico City, Munich, and Montreal heard the USSR National Anthem played 258 times to honour the victories of the envoys of the Soviet sports. In addition, during this period our Olympic athletes won 221 silver and 204 bronze medals.

The XXI Olympic Games in Montreal brought 125 medals to our athletes, including 47 gold, 43 silver, and 35 bronze medals. The Olympic history had no precedent that any national team had achieved such results.

The Soviet people take pride in great sports achievements of their athletes. No less proud they are of the fact that the representatives of the Soviet sports, wherever and whenever they make their appearance at the international area, have shown their moral loftiness inherent in the people of socialist society, broad outlook, valour, honesty,

and sincere friendliness toward the athletes of other countries. It is no mere chance that a public, opinion poll undertaken by the television network of the Federal Republic of Germany during the XX Olympic Games in Munich voted the Soviet athletes the most sociable of the participants of the Games.

The sports organizations of the USSR maintain regular contacts with 100 countries of all the continents. They are members of 70 international sports federations, including all the federations represented in the Olympic programme. Soviet representation numbers 117 officials, including four presidents and 18 vice-presidents, elected to various governing and technical bodies of these organizations.

In 1970 Moscow had already a sufficient sports base and adequate experience in organizing various world and European championships to host top-level all around competitions, which Olympic Games are. The city's sports facilities comprised 69 stadiums, ¡nearly 1.500 gymnasia, 22 swimming pools, etc.

It is well known that the USSR Olympic Committee and the Executive Committee of the Moscow City Council first bid for the XXI, Summer Olympic Games of 1976 at the IOC session of 1970 held in Amsterdam. At that time the IOC chose Montreal to host the Games.

In order to make productive preparations for the, 1974 IOC session that was to select the hosts of the 1980 winter and summer Olympics an organizing committee was set up to promote the nomination of Moscow as a candidate for the XXII Olympic Games. In the course of its activities the organizing committee made every effort to prepare and submit to the International Olympic Committee all information required by the IOC and International Federations.

October 23, 1974, was our red-letter day.

It was on that day, in the time-honoured building of the Vienna Municipality, that IOC President Lord Killanin informed the delegates of the cities, top officials of the international sports organizations, and the press of the session's decision to select Moscow as the host of the XXII Olympic Games of 1980.

In March 1975 an Organizing Committee was formed to ensure successful preparations for the 1980 Olympic Games. Proceeding from Article 51 of the Olympic Rules the USSR Olympic Committee has delegated its powers in organizing the Games of the XXII Olympiad to the Organizing Committee.

The Organizing Committee of the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow is a public organization functioning on the basis of Article 126 of the USSR Constitution, and its aim is to prepare and stage successfully the Games of the XXII Olympiad. The Organizing Committee is made

up of 53 representatives from governmental, public, and sports organizations of the USSR, and is headed by its President I.T. Novikov, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The Organizing Committee coordinates the efforts of governmental, public, and sports organizations in all organizational, technical, and other matters related to preparing and staging the 1980 Olympic Games. It effects regular control over the designing, construction, and preparation of sports, technical, and other installations for the Games. It draws up and signs agreements, treaties, and contracts with foreign firms and organizations on matters within its authority.

It should be stressed in this connection that the widespread popularity of Olympic Games, the attention paid to the Games by statesmen, politicians, scientists, scholars, journalists, and various strata of population in all countries, and the active participation of the modern mass media, particularly television, in the coverage of Olympic Games provide the organizers with a unique opportunity to present their country and life of the people.

That is why each Olympics involve in the orbit of preparing and staging the Games an ever growing number of governmental, public, economic, and other organizations, private companies and firms which invest huge resources into the construction of costly sports projects and their up-to-date equipment, into the city infrastructure and the organization of various exhibitions during the Games. They carry out multifaceted and purposeful propaganda campaigns viewing the staging of the Games as a challenge to their nation and national prestige.

One of the functions of the Organizing Committee is to maintain contacts with the International Olympic Committee, International Sports Federations, National Olympic Committees, and other international and national organizations on questions pertaining to the preparation and holding of the 1980 Olympic Games.

The tasks of the Organizing Committee are: to assist news agencies and departments, publishing houses, and the mass media in covering the preparations and staging of the 1980 Olympic Games; to issue informative publications and to direct them to the International Olympic Committee, International Sports Federations, National Olympic Committees, and other international and national organizations.

The Organizing Committee has formed a Presidium of 11 members and assigned 20 standing Commissions with different aspects of the preparations for the Games. The working body of the Organizing Committee is directed by the Executive Board.

Discoursing the current activities of our Organizing Committee

one should mention the problems it has to face now, three years before the opening of the Games in Moscow.

The construction and renovation of the Olympic sports facilities and other structures essential for the successful holding of the 1980 Olympic Games have been given major attention and prominence. Eleven new sports installations are to be built, including a multipurpose indoor stadium for 45.000 spectators, an indoor football and track-and-field arena, a multipurpose gymnasium, a cycling circuit and indoor velodrome, an equestrian centre, a shooting range complex, an Olympic swimming pool, and the Tallinn Yachting Centre.

At present the work is under way on all the Olympic sports projects in Moscow and Tallinn. Sports facilities are also undergoing renovation in Leningrad and Kiev where the preliminary football matches are to be held.

The Olympic building programme has been made part of the Tenth Five - Year Economic Development Plan and inluded in the general development plans of the appropriate cities.

The conditions for holding Olympic Games and for their material and technical supplies in a socialist state differ considerably from the organization of all previous Olympics. In this connection it should be emphasized that the majority of new sports projects in Moscow and Tallinn suitable for staging Olympic competitions were provided for in these cities' development plans irrespective of holding the 1980 Olympic Games. For example, the Moscow General Development Plan made provisions for the construction of 24 major sports centres in various city districts, with each centre designed to accomodate 250.000 - 300.000 inhabitants. The same applies to the construction of hotels, camps, restaurants, and other public service facilities, to the improvement of the communications network, etc. The· development of sports base in our country has never been subject to the holding of international competitions, for the physical education of the Soviet people is one of the major tasks of our society. It is noteworthy that significant attention is being given right now to the ways all the Olympic installations will be used after the Games for the benefit of the population to further Soviet physical culture movement.

Of paramount importance is the problem of creating the necessary conditions for the participants of the Games, officials, guests, journalists, and tourists. Their joint influx at one time will amount to nearly 250.000 persons. This is one of the major problems.

Athletes and members of the national teams will be traditionally accomodated in the Olympic Village which is now under contruction

in the vicinity of Moscow University. The area of 107 hectares will be built up with eighteen 16-storey appartment houses.

All the appartments will consist of two or three bedrooms in addition to a kitchen and a spacious anteroom. Each bedroom of 14 to 18 square metres will be tentatively occupied by two athletes. The overall useful space in the appartment houses of the Olympic Village mounts to 220.000 square metres.

Besides the apartment houses, several other buildings and premises will be constructed in the Olympic Village. These will include an administrative building; a shopping centre comprising a restaurant with the capacity of 4.000 seats, several cafes and bar-rooms, and a department store; a cultural centre comprising a concert hall capable of accomodating 1.200 spectators, two halls with 250 seats each, a dance hall, and other premises. The Olympic Village will also include an excellent sports complex comprising an open-air football field, tracks, jumping and throwing sectors, volleyball and basketball grounds, as well as indoor gymnasia and swimming pools.

After the Games the Olympic Village will be opened for tenancy.

The members of the IOC, International Sports Federations, presidents of National Olympic Committees, and delegations of observers will be accomodated in the hotels of the International trade and Foreign Scientific and Technological Relations Centre.

TV and radio journalists will be lodged in Hotel «Cosmos» in the vicinity of the Exhibition of National Economic Achievements, while newspapermen and press photographers will be quartered in the dormitories of Moscow University.

Soviet and foreign tourists will be provided with lodging in hotels, motels, camps, and student dormitories.

It is expected that the number of Soviet and foreign tourists to arrive concurrently in Moscow will near 220.000.

The city's hotels can presently accomodate approximately 50.000 guests. By the time of the Olympic Games their capacity will increase by nearly 30.000. The projects to be built include: the Izmailovo hotel complex for 10.000 guests, the Volkhonka - ZIL hotel (4.000), the Troparyovo hotel (2.000), a hotel on the Dmitrov highway (1.600), and other hotels.

In conformity with the drafted plan by the opening of the Games the competition venues and major thoroughfares will be covered with a network of restaurants, cafes, cafeterias with the overall capacity of 70.000 seats.

The Air Terminal Complex of Sheremetyevo Airport will be completed, while Vnukovo and Domodedovo Airports will be renovated.

The establishment of convenient and reliable telecommunications network has been given due attention. By the beginning of the Games a new building of the Moscow TV Centre, an international automated telephone exchange, four automated telephone exchanges with 50.000 numbers, and three main telephone centres will be put into operation.

The main press centre, the «Olympiad» automated control system, and the Olympic radio and television centre, all presently under construction, will provide services for journalists and commentators.

Specialists predict that some 2.5 to 3 billion people of the entire world will watch the Moscow Olympics on TV. Colour TV broadcasts from Moscow are to be transmitted over 18 channels. (For the sake of comparison, the TV broadcasts from the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City were transmitted over seven channels for the audience of 500 million TV viewers; from Munich in 1972, over 12 channels; and from Montreal in 1976, over 17 channels for the audience of 2 billion TV viewers). The interest for Olympic Games has now grown so considerably that every national TV company requests a special programme for its country.

According to our estimates, the Olympic projects plan is carried out successfully.

Contruction workers in a number of Olympic projects have proposed to put them into operation ahead of schedule in the first half of 1979. Some 2.000 best foreign athletes are expected to take part in the finals of the Seventh USSR Games which are going to be a dress rehearsal for the Moscow Olympics.

An important role is attached to the arts programme which will be a component part of the Olympic Games.

The arts programme will feature the achievements in culture brought about by the developed socialist system and the flourishing of the multinational arts of the Soviet republics.

Foreign and Soviet tourists, when not visiting any sports competitions, will have an opportunity to see and appreciate the span of social, economic and technological transformations taking place in our country. They will be able to acquaint themselves with the rich cultural heritage of Moscow and its environments and to join the specially organized cultural programmes which will include visits to theatres, museums, exhibitions, arts festivals, etc.

To prepare the city for the Olympic Games there is a lot to do but no efforts are spared so that the participants and guests of the Games might never forget not only the fiery sports contests but also our capital and its picturesque streets and squares, its places of interest and historical monuments and affable inhabitants.

You are well aware that the staging of Olympic Games requires significant material and financial expenditure. We are trying to recoup to a certain extent our outlays through a number of economic programmes initiated by the Organizing Committee.

One of these economic programmes is the sale of television rights for the coverage of Games of the XXII Olympiad. Signing the TV rights contracts the Organizing Committee will naturally expect some profits, since the expenditures for the technical maintenance of the Olympic are quite large and by far exceed the receipts from the sale of television rights.

A novelty in our experience of television rights contracting consists in the fact that the agreements go beyond the framework of a purely financial contract. The agreements signed with the NBC company may be cited as a typical example of this new attitude. They make provisions not only for the broadcasts for the XXII Olympic Games to be transmitted to the USA but also for a wide range of cooperation throughout the entire period prior to the Games. The cooperation embraces the exchange of information and programmes, mutual consultations concerning the technical equipment of the Olympic Radio and Television Centre, and other aspects.

Among other sources of income one should first mention the marketing and licensing programme.

Several thousands of Soviet enterprises expressed their wish to produce goods marked with the Olympic symbols. The Organizing Committee has already granted its diplomas to more than 500 entreprises conceding to them the right to manufacture over 2.000 different items.

The Organizing Committee is actively cooperating with National Olympic Committees in the marketing and licensing fields. Appropriate agreements have been signed with the National Olympic Committees of Bulgaria, Greece, Spain, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Cuba, Japan, USA, Belgium, Hungary, and Luxemburg. These agreements entitle the corresponding National Olympic Committee to 25 percent of the Organizing Committee's revenues from the sale by foreign firms of the merchandise with the Olympic insignia in their respective countries.

On the Organizing Committee's suggestion, the USSR Government has adopted a decision to issue and distribute commemorative coins devoted to the Games of the XXII Olympiad in Moscow. Series of platinum, gold, silver, and coppernickel alloy coins are planned to be issued.

An extended programme has been-devised and approved to issue Soviet postage stamps and other philatelic articles to commemorate the Moscow Olympic Games. During 1977-80 43 postage stamps and six commemorative blocks of stamps devoted to Olympic sports are planned to be issued. First-day covers of the Olympic sports series, special philatelic sets and other items are also to be issued.

The first three Olympic postage stamps and a commemorative block have been already issued and are on sale

In the course of preparations for the 1980 Games the Organizmg Committee has been consolidating its ties with the Internationa Olympic Committee, International Sports Federations and National Olympic* Committees. Constant contacts are maintained with IOC President, Lord Killanin and the IOC headquarters in Lausanne. The Organizmg Committee provides the IOC with regular information on its activities.

A detailed report on the progress of preparations for the, Moscow Olympics was recently submitted to the 79th session of the IOC held in Prague. The IOC members voiced their satisfaction with the Organizing Committee's report. .

The session considered certain additions to be mcluded in the Olympic programme.

After the additions have been incorporated in the programme the participants of the Moscow Games will compete for 203 sets of medals, which is more than at any previous Olympic Games.

The IOC session approved the day-by-day schedule of the Games of the XXII Olympiad submitted by the Organizing Committee.

The session also approved the Organizing Committee's suggestions on the number of the mass media representatives to be accredited at the Games of the XXII Olympiad. Their number is expected to be 7 400 of which there will be 3.100 newspapermen, 400 press photographers, 100 camera men, 800 television and radio commentators, and 3 000 TV and radio technical personnel.

The Organizing Committee has elaborated and is successfully implementing the long-term programme of cooperation with Internatïonal Sports Federations. The programme is aimed at the timely coorditt'on with them of the principal sports and technological questions involved in preparing and holding the Games of the XXII Olympiad. The Organizing Committee's report to the meeting o the IOC Executive Board with International Sports Federations held last October in Barcelona (Spain) presented an opportunity for the valuable exchange of options.

Representatives of most International Sports Federations made visits to the Organizing Committee. They were acquainted m detail

with the progress of preparations for the 1980 Games and with the architectural and spatial solutions of all the Olympic sports under construction and renovation. The nomination of technical delegates authorized, in conformity with the IOC Rules, to exercise direct supervision of the preparations for the competitions and solve the problems arising therefrom has been practically competed.

Among our guests were representatives of the National Olympic Committees of Greece, Bolivia, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Yugoslavia, France, the German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria, Sweden, USA, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, the Federal Republic of Germany, Nigeria, Japan, Czechoslovakia, Mongolia, Cuba, and the People's Democratic Republic of Korea.

An important place was assigned to the Organizing Committee's meeting with the heads of National Olympic Committees in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) during the meeting of the IOC Executive Board with National Olympic Committees in March-Ajnil 1977.

The heads of the National Olympic Committees were informed in detail by the Organizing Committee on the progress of preparations for the Games of the XXII Olympiad and on the conditions to be provided for the athletes to ensure participation in the competitions, training and rest. The report arose great interest. The heads of the National Olympic Committees unanimously passed a resolution welcoming the holding of the Olympic Games in Moscow and expressing their overall support of the Organizing Committee's efforts in the successful preparation and staging of the Games. We highly appreciate this support, for it is our wish that the greatest possible number of athletes from the countries whose National Olympic Committees have the IOC recognition take part in the 1980 Olympic Games.

The Soviet public views the Moscow Olympics as one of the concrete instances of realization of the Helsinki Meeting's Final Act. Soviet people wholeheartedly subscribe to the Olympic ideals.

The Organizing Committee attaches special significance to the dissemination of timely and accurately fair information about the progress of preparations for the Moscow Games. To achieve this aim the Organizing Committee publishes and directs to the International Sports Federations, National Olympic Committees, the editorial boards of the world major newspapers, and international press agencies its magazines which include the quarterly «Olympic Panorama», the monthly «Olympiad-80», and the photograph selection «Olympic Lens». The Organizing Committee also releases films and television loops. The Organizing Committee holds almost daily meetings press conferences with the representatives of the press, radio, and television.

The Soviet people are striving to make their contributions to the preparations for the 1980 Olympics. This is evidenced by the initiative of construction workers to put into operation many Olympic projects ahead of schedule, by donations and voluntary work of people in the construction of the Olympic projects, by the mass-scale participation in the Olympiad-80 Emblem and Mascot contests.

In conclusion, I would like to note that the policy of peace and relaxation of international tension that the Soviet state pursues consistently and unswervingly creates extremely favourable conditions for the successful preparation and hosting of the Olympic Games in Moscow.

«The USSR will support the Olympic movement as before», L.I. Brezhnev wrote in his greetings to the members of the IOC, the Organizing Committee and the participants of the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal, «At present, the people of the Soviet Union are preparing for the Moscow Olympiad in 1980 and will do everything they can to assure its high standard and to give new impulse to the lofty ideas of friendship and peace».

Chinese dance at the social evening.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF SPORT MEDICINE TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF PERFORMANCES

By Prof. Dr. LUDWIG PROKOP (AUT)

President of the International Federation of Sports Medicine

The time when sports were nothing more than an enjoyable recreation for individuals is irrevocably past. The phenomenon of sports today intervenes in many fields of human endeavor and very often it even has a central position. Sports have thus experienced an enormous extension qualitatively as well as quantitatively, with many positive, but also negative aspects. Apart from health sports with their special meaning as a prophylaxis against civilisation damage and as manysided therapy, there is high performance sport. Nowadays unfortunately it is too often used as a means of political demonstration and as a pretext for commercial intentions. Apart from that it has very often nothing to do with health either.

Specialisation and intensification of sports of necessity demands an absolutely serious and professional foundation. This necessity has led to the development of special scientific sports subjects covering the needs of medicine and physiology, motion mechanics, training theory, pedagogics and sociology, as well as some other marginal areas. Sports medicine is, however, the most important, because it touches most directly on some of man's most vital areas and in relation to its scientific foundations it possesses peak importance due to the number and quality of its scientific publications. Sports medicine has therefore achieved decisive importance and has become irreplaceable because of its flung spectrum and through its direct relationship with health and functional capability. Within the framework of medicine it has a spelcial position, because, like no other field of medicine, it has to dea with all fields of the human organism and with man as an entity intensively and universally.

The fact that sports medicine has to deal scientifically with the functional capability of man makes it a valuable aid to labour (vocational) medicine. This is obvious because sports is akin to work, although it is or should be joyous. Experience has shown that sports medicine is able to register performance and functional capability of man better

than vocational medicine, because only sport represents the ideal model of human performance.

Sports are also — at least until now — free from class-political or trade-union considerations, which have often made a true analysis of performance impossible.

Many results of sports-medical research may have a secondary influence, that is nevertheless often decisive in other fields of medicine, e.g. cardiology and in many other fields of human health. Nevertheless the primary task of sports medicine is work with sportsmen and to see to it that sports will be optimally conducted in theory as in practice. This is as true for performance, as it is for health sports, because for the untrained person health sports may be a much greater subjective and objective strain than hard performance training for top athletes. This is often the case, when people under family or professional stress rush into sports as an over-compensation for their personal problems and do too much of good thing. Then sports will no longer serve recreation and balance, but rather become a great additional and really dangerous burden. This causes people to become overextended and driven all the more quickly into that state of chronical overtiredness, characterized as managerial disease in our always rushed over-civilisation.

The extreme performance principle in modern high performance sports makes the task of sports medicine of bringing man to his most optimal performance without passing the limits to the pathological all the more difficult. The difficulties are last not least due to the fact that, on the one hand the pathophysiological limits of man could only be objectivated in very isolated cases, while sports of today are doubtlessly taking place in biological border areas. The incidence of damage and injuries caused by sports during the last years is impressive. There is no need to prove specially that the extreme performances demanded today with the attendant complete and consequent exhaustion of the psychic and physical strength potential will usually result in lasting disadvantages. Every increased performance demands increased input, increased engagement in its turn leads to increased stress. Any stress beyond a certain level, in man as well as in material technology, leads to increased wear of the tissues so strained. In most cases unfortunately, particularly in the apparatus of motion, this will already cause an irreversible negative change towards sports damage.

Sports medicine may only be used to support increased performance, while this does not lead to serious exploitation without any regard for losses. That means that the sports physician must never demean himself to become the handy man of fanatic or of unscrupulous sports managers sacrificing people to performance and success

for reasons of national prestige, personal ambition or for commercial interests.

Problems will however ensue in the attempt to establish performance limits of individuals and the fixing of yet permissible loads, making great demands on the professional knowledge and his readiness to accept responsibility. Thus the sports physician is led to the basis of medicine and ethics, where the supreme maxim determining his action in all circumstances will have to be the demand for the «Primum nil nocere».

The most important contributions of sports medicine to the problem of human performance lie primarily in the area of heart circulation, of the physiology of performance and of metabolism in its most extended meaning and more in the physiology and pathology of the apparatus of motion. Theory and practice have soon shown that there are large-scale differences between the possibilities of various organ-systems with regard to their development through training and thereby with regard to the physiological limit load that is still reasonable. There is a very clear lack of congruence as to functional capability, trainability and purely physical organ stressing for different tissues under intensive training. There is a particularly great divergency between the development capabilities of the heart, the musculature and the passive apparatus of motion. As proven by sports heart research there are scarcely any limits to the trainability of the healthy heart. It possesses a practically unlimited performance reserve, preventing its being overstressed at will and damaging it thereby. It cannot be endangered even by extreme muscle work, because skeletal muscles tire long before there are any problems for the heart. This decisive knowledge has been used to develop those methods of endurance training for runners, cross-country skiers, swimmers and cyclists, serving today as basis of the performance explosion along the long distances. The methods of spiro-ergometrics and telemetries developed by sports medicine for the control of heart and circulation, which, at present, is the only basis for an objective performance assessment, has in the meantime become an indispensible diagnostic component of clinical cardiology and pulmonology.

The surely greater effects of these scientific bases lie within the field of prevention and the therapy of cardiac/circulatory diseases, e.g. the prevention and treatment of cardiac infarction. Sports-medical findings that the human heart is trainable all through life in accordance with age, constitution and condition are of enormous vital importance for civilisation damaged people with their motion deficit. While trained persons are found to be lo to 2o years younger with

regard to actuarial age despite slowly creeping-in heart-circulatory alterations, inactives reduce their chances. Not only do they accept the risk of a small and inefficient office-heart, they also slip into the vicious circle: lack of exercise — overweight — inability to master one's own body — functional weakness — further inactivation — resignation — illness. From a socio-political point-of-view the effect of these research results is of enormous importance, because early incapacity and invalidity due to degenerative heart and circulatory diseases has reached no longer manageable dimensions. Sports medicine can contribute decisively to an extension of life, but also the retention of health and functional capability making life more meaningful and liveable. The apparatus of motion is the biggest problem, still showing many unmanageable aspects. While the musculature can hypertrophically be enormously increased through training and many other possibilities, the passive apparatus of motion offers little opportunity for organic and functional development. This disproportion in functional adaptability results in today's very frequent states of irritation of muscular insertions, tendons, periosteum, articular cartilage and bones, that are usually very refractory to therapy. Classical examples, more or less typically localised according to the type of sports, are the tibial pains of gymnasts, the patellar border pain of basketballers, weightlifters, wrestlers and fencers, the pain in the induinal region of the football-players up to the tennis — and throwing-arms. The misunderstood interval — and weight training, long carried on without any scientific foundations according to the principle of «the more, the merrier», was and still is a real problem.

Research showed at an early time that training must mean taking the load off the so-called bradytrophic tissue, whose metabolism and regeneration cannot keep in step with muscular tissue. In many cases, as e.g. with the tendons, but also with the intervertébrale discs and even with the musculature the problem only concerns the purely mechanical stressability and strength of the tissues. This is to say: unlimited drive to achieve new records, e.g. in weight-lifting, will of necessity cause the barrier of tissue strength to be transgressed, which is one of the most important performance — limiting factors. The classical example: in younger people the intervertebral discs do possess a load-limit of 1.000 kg. In extreme lordosing, kyphosing and particularly in sideways flexure this pressure is already reached, due to the lever effect of the vertebral bodies, when the arms lift handing weights of a little over 100 kgs. Sports-medical research was, however, able to demonstrate in this case, that damage risk could largely be contained through suitable techniques. This is primarily achieved by the reduction of flexure of

the spine and retention of a straight spinal posture so as to reduce the dangerous lever effect on the intervertebral discs. A well-developed muscular corset is a necessary precondition. Sports-medical Research has also been able to give valuable pointers for the development of technique in many other fields. These do not only contribute to performance improvement, but also decisively to the reduction of risk.

The so-called plastics syndrome is another example of special topicality. The notable incidence of pathological effects including injuries due to the use of plastic tracks for training and competition in the last few years has made scientific clarification of the specific causes necessary. Problems of the «Tartan» - Syndrome are not limited to athletics and competition games, but have, due to its relevance for school sports, a further effect on a rather large group of persons. Our studies have shown very early, that at the moment where the foot touches down on the plastic track, when running or taking-off in jumping, there is a complete lack of the short slide phase met with on a cinder track. Due to deformation of the highly elastic track and the lack of any damping an enormous energy storage results. At the same time vibrations (oscillations) up to 100 Hz appear due to the elastic deformation balance and the high adhesive friction at the moment of touch-down can cause retardation of up to 20 g depending of the kind of surface. This energy storage does cause this catapult-effect, making the track quicker, especially for sprinting and jumping, but at the same time it causes a great mechanical load especially on different tissues of the leg. The «Tartan» - syndrome confirms the old factual experience, that everything conducive to performance will always cause serious sports-medical problems related to the apparatus of motion.

Plastic tracks remaining a continuing reality, it was necessary that sport-medicine should be able to offer a solution protecting the athletes. This consists in the design of a sufficiently damping shoe sole, at the same time characterized by slight adhesive friction and high sliding friction. At the same time it will be necessary to reduce training on these tracks and in some cases there will be need for a change in technique. The shoe industry has so far dragged its heels in the realization of this sports-medical demand of the highest prophylactic importance, mainly for reasons of price and technology. This example shows, at the same time, that the solution of some problems connected with high performance sports is not possible through efforts of sports - medi cine alone, but that sciences will also have a decisive role to play.

The constitutional complex of factors doubtlessly has a big role to play with regard to trainability, as well as for the resistance vis-a-vis negative and unphysiological loads. Genotypical characteristics of the

apparatus of motion, the circulation, metabolism and the nervous system, given by hereditary predisposition, make up to two-thirds of the basis for top performances always depending on the kind of sport practiced. Because many of these endogeneous and in principle fixedly pre-given factors preclude certain performances from the start, it is of the greatest importance to make a proper choice of children and juveniles for later performance training. The type of constitution and bodily development not being readily discernible at the age where a decision for later performance sports has to be made, there is need for special examinations, e.g. evaluation of the state of maturity of the carpal bone, together with an exact medical and sporting family anamnesis to be used for prognostication. This type of research is already being undertaken in some countries with great consequence and a lot of success, but unfortunately it is not yet generally applied in practice to the extent that would be necessary to avoid wrong health investments, as well as those of time and money and to prevent the most severe frustration of wrongly trained children.

Constitution largely determining the possibility of functional adaptation and thereby real trainability, it must be concluded therefrom that the chances of performance development to be achieved through training cannot basically be the same for all people. It is not popular to say something like this so decidedly, but it remains an incontrovertible fact, unfortunately, that there are constitutionally high class and less than high class people for any kind of performance.

This knowledge is still not applied sufficiently in the choice and dosage of necessary health sports, even if it is only practised to offset or for therapeutic reasons.

Constitutional factors do, however, also play an important role in the stress - system based on the hypophysis and the supra - renal cortex, giving to man his individual adaptability. Our studies have shown, that with extreme endurance training, where the heart has already reached its maximum heart weight, the suprarenal cortex continues to enlarge still further. The weight increase of the suprarenals noted is therefore almost exclusively due to the suprarenal cortex, which is decisive for adaptation.

This is not only responsible for the adaptation of man to performance and specially for top sports performances, but also for the mastery of numerous other exogenous demands from every day stress to certain diseases. Resulting from too high adaptation demands on the performance sector, difficulties will of necessity have to arise in the defence sector. Due to an overload of his stress system, the individual will then be unable to cope fully with infections, adaptation to

climatic changes, changes of life rhythm, of nutrition and of the psychic situation. Resulting from this it is understandable that the highly trained person, as is demonstrated in the alteration of certain immune bodies, will be more easily affected by banal infections than the average person. It would therefore be wrong to claim special toughening and resistivity for highly trained sportsmen. In its turn this means that highly trained individuals need special health guidance and continous current prophylaxis.

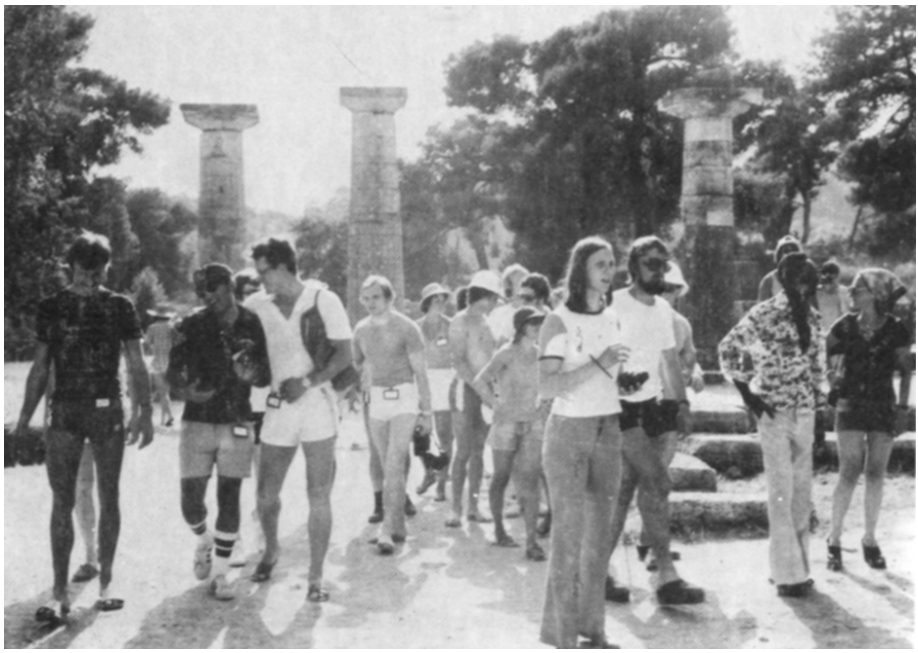
The results of sports - medical research in metabolism by means of spiroergometric and blood - chemical examinations can be greatly objectivated and abolutely assessed. This is true, e.g. for the very complicated and extensive studies of carbohydrate metabolism, of the metabolism of albumins and fats, for the energy - supplying and chemically fermentative processes in the muscle fiber, in the liver and in the ganglium cell. These studies, originally undertaken with respect to possible performance increase, have today become the basis for the understanding of decisive processes in cellular metabolism and the precondition for possible therapeutical measures.

The great complex of fatigue is a central field of sports - medical research that can be directly transferred to the every day load of people especially at work. Fatigue is such a decisive factor, because it plays a role not only in performance improvement, but, may, at the same time, due to the concurrently obtaining, unphysiological wear, influence the prognosis of further life negatively. Any work done in a fatigued state not only impairs human work capacity directly, but furthermore also life capacity. Work and training in a fatigued slate is the first step to an accelerated consumption of human substance and particularly in top performance sports the cause for early wear-out. The problem of fatigue reduction or respectively of a speeded-up recovery is all the more topical because of the fact that man with his extended span of life shows rather a retrograde tendency in his working-and sporting abilities.

This is not only true for acute fatigue, which is a true limiting factor for topical functional capacity, but even more for chronic fatigue. This phenomenon known in sports as overtraining and as managerial disease in professional life is enornously complex in etiology as well as symptomatology. In the course of a high performance training as in the stress of professional life it demands a highly specialised and continuing diagnosis. The fact of performance reduction in a fatigued stale is less problematical than the general loss of economy, the appearance of sometimes irreversible local structural changes in tissues and organs, as well as the general disturbance of coordination in the course of

Major S. de Magalhaes Padllha (BRA), 2nd Vice-Président of the I. O. C., handing over on behalf of the I.O.C. to Mr. CI. Palaeologos, 1st Vice-Président of the I.O.A., the medal of Olympic Order with the relevant diploma, in the presence of Mr. E. Petralias, I.O.C. Member.

Lecturers and participants in the Pierre de Coubertin grove.



Guided visit of the participants in the Sacred Altis of Olympia.

Guided visit of the participants in the Sacred Altis of Olympia.

reflex automatisms. Chronic fatigue very often is not the result of physical overstress but of additonal, non-mastered load of physical and psychic origin. Faulty nutrition, style of life, climatic adaptations and lack of recreational facilities, psychical stress of the most varied origin cause conditional disturbances that make the effects of overtraining truly problematical. The effects extend from an increased susceptibility to infectious diseases, e.g. tuberculosis, affectations of the cardiac muscles, hormonal disturbances, particularly with the sexual glands, all the way to increased accident proneness. This can have the most serious effect with sports requiring high speed and fast reactions, e.g. with skiing, cycling, but also in gymnastics.

Problematical overstress is very often compounded by the gap existing between ability and intention on the physical, as well as on the psychic level. This obtains very often unfortunately, where intelligence and purely physical prerequisites diverge too greatly. The age-old «cerebrum-biceps» antagonism has thus become a topical problem of joint concern to sports physicians, pedagogues and psychologists, that can only be solved by all of them together. In practice it is not at all rare, that with absolutely normal or even more than average intelligence of the athlete, overstress results because the athlete has been wrongly assessed in his biological capabilities. This results in the athlete being rushed into situations by his manager, trainer or the sensasionalist press, where he is forced into overstressing performances. This also includes the enforcement of a sports performance through hypnosis or extreme external suggestion, which is not only problematical biologically, but also foreign to the sporting ideal per se. Where the personality of the athlete, which should be solely decisive in sports, is excluded and he himself is turned into a remote-controlled robot, this is a situation far removed from sports. The sports physician with his rejection of such problematical methods is unfortunately very often a prophet in the desert.

The struggle against doping as a method of unphysiological performance increase through various pharmaceuticals and drugs goes in the same direction. Doping truly shows the diseased development of extreme performance sports, taken where there is no serious sports medical control. The reference often cited, that sports doping is really nothing but a model case for the forcing and manipulation today rampant in everyday life and professional life by means of medication and stimulants, is anything but an exculpation. Based on illuminating and partly tragical examples the basic question first raised, is how far man is entitled to force himself or others beyond a normal and adequate performance. It is a sad fact, that physicians have also decisively par

ticipated in the development of doping and the introduction of doping substances. Physicians, who sacrificed their medical conscience and the necessary care practised by the physician to personal interest motivated by ambition, commercial interest or national fanaticism. What is paradoxical and a tragic irony is that, as numerous experiments with doping agents in double blind tests and those with ineffective placebos have shown, the mechanism of effect is almost exclusively autosuggestive. Thus the application of the toxic substances usually used in doping is not only dangerous, but with a very few exceptions absolutely useless.

Together with analytical chemistry it is the merit of sports medicine to have worked out methods of proof, which today allow us to check on the observation of doping prescriptions. Even the hottest issue, the use of anabolic hormones, has submitted to control in principle. The necessary consequences resulting from this problem cycle are still subject to certain organisational and financial difficulties. Nevertheless it may be claimed, that, as with classical doping, which can be said to have been mastered, there will be an end to the era of anabolics sooner or later.

Bodily condition is a concept of importance for every individual, which has been worked out specially by sports physicians in theory and practice. Here condition is seen to be the topical general physical and psychic readiness for performance, which is the prerequisite for every good specialist performance. Condition is subject to necessarily great variations, due to many labile factors impinging upon it. Many hundreds of individual factors of general life conditions, of life rhythm, of nutrition, of conditions of training and work, recreational opportunities, family situation, sickness, injury and other exogenous influences, as e.g. those of climate, are in continuous motion. According to a summation of positive or negative factors the initial situation of a performance will be better or worse. The objectivation of a state of decisive importance for the prognostication of performance is, up to the present only possible from the physiological side. Since any worsening in the economy of the musculature, metabolism, circulation and the nervous system is finally expressed in circulatory function, spiro - ergometrical methods supply the most reliable references. Many possibilities for the improvement of sporting performance have been worked out by sports - medical experts in connection with condition and have become common knowledge meanwhile. These include special nutritio-i nal problems, problems of recreation and rehabilitation, up to questions of detail such as sauna and autogenic training. Autogenic training as an attempt to redirect the vegetative system in direction towards this

recreation-supporting nervus vagus, has today become nearly a routine method in high performance sports and has achieved a fixed position in mental training.

In the face of these important tasks of sports medicine it is understandable that we need the cooperation of pedagogues, psychologists, pharmacologists, chemists and physicists. The core field of sports medicine, the increase of physiological functional capacity, clearly demonstrates that the goal cannot merely be the improvement of special organ functions. Last not least it will always remain necessary to include man as a total personality, that has to be properly assessed and positively influenced.

With all the progress made by sports medicine we cannot hope to defuse all the dangers inherent in the top performance sports situation. This particularly, because the scientific methods of performance capacity improvement bring man more and more near his physio - pathological limits, so that even the slightest unforeseen load may already mean a transgression of pathological limits. Nevertheless we should not overestimate the risk o£ physical overload. It is finally always still smaller than that of underloading. It is furthermore among the fates of man to be subject to risk and to pass through a development using up his substance during the passage of time. Any absolute prophylaxis in this respect would in principle exclude any real calling. Danger and risk do in some manner exert a positive influence on the personality of man and make of him what is meant in the good sense of the world — a real sportsman.

Sports medicine is contributing decisively today in theory and practice to this task of any humanist science worth its name, the improvement of the human total personality.

THE PROMULGATION OF THE OLYMPIC IDEAS OF PIERRE DE COUBERTIN, CARL DIEM AND JOHN KETSEAS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By NINA K. PAPPAS (USA)
University of Illinois — Chicago

«From *the* rivereine of Alfeios from the blue-
white bosom of Arethousa and from the stone
eye of Zeus, from within the wounded marbles
where the souls of Ion and Doreus shine and
from the capitals where the sun tethers his
weary horses, from the entwined fingers of pine
and laurel,
«Here,
in this virgin womb of Olympia
which has not changed, has not been tainted shall never die,
Here the Light will be born again» [1].

These are familiar words to many in this assemblage. The Olympic Light has attained a new significance in the United States of America through its manifestation in the concept of a National Olympic Academy. This paper will deal with that concept. Therefore, instead of speaking of «The Problems of Modern Olympism», the special subject for this session, this paper will relate to a program for the prevention of these problems. This is not an original or even a new idea. It was, in fact, a recommendation of one of the discussion groups of the International Olympic Academy in 1972:

> «N. 0. Cs should identify educational institutions and individuals who are informed and dedicated to the Olympic Principles and ask them to speak at Teacher Training Institutes, Athletic Clubs, and other interested groups where they can help teach these principles to all ages» [2].

1. Doxas, Takis. *Light of Olympia* (Athens: Greek Olympic Games Commit tee, 1958) translated by Athan Ariagnostopoulos, p. 2.

2. *Report of the Thirteenth Session of the International Olympic Academy* (Athens: Hellenic Olympic Committee, 1976) p. 235.

Again, in 1976, the findings of both the discussion groups recommended the formation of National Olympic Academies to assist in the task of spreading Olympism in other countries [1].

Inculcation of the Olympic Principles and Ideals within society through their incorporation into educational programs of all levels could make a positive contribution toward preservation of the Olympic Games and the little understood Olympic Ideal.

Baron Pierre de Coubertin's concerns regarding the future of the modern Games, and in particular, their educational and moral aspects, were heard by John Ketseas of Greece in April 1927 during a fortnight of discussions with de Coubertin and others in Ketseas's office in the Athens Lawn Tennis Club. Later, de Coubertin stressed the desirability of an educational center in his letter to the German Government of March 16, 1937 :

> «I have not been able to carry out to the end what I wanted to perfect... I believe that a Center of Olympic Studies would aid the preservation and progress of my work more than anything else and would keep it from the false path which I fear» [2].

In 1939 Carl Diem, who had been collaborating with John Ketseas for the purpose of establishing an Olympic Academy since the I.O.C. Session of 1934 in Athens, wrote a letter to the Greek Government proposing guidelines for the establishment of the Academy:

> «.. .But every year the Olympic Academy will assemble in it, one hundred young students from the whole world. Each one of them shall be selected and delegated by his nation for this lofty purpose. Under the guidance of teachers, selected from amongst the experts of all nations, they will work together for two months. Like the sportsmen of that great Classical Age will live together in tents, live on the simple food of Sparta. But they will revel in the experience and study of the noblest treasures of art which Olympia has kept for them, found already today or expected to be unearthed in future. They will enjoy the great treasure of the spirit, which has been the code of Old Hellas which has created our Western and Occidental culture; they will experience the harmony of noble physical, spiritual and cultural discipline which is immeasurably valuable if combined with the duties of serving

1. *Olympic Review.* «XVI Session of the IOA» (Lausanne: Comité Interna tional Olympique, 1977) No. 1ll, January, pp. 25-26.

2. Diem, Carl. «Introduction». *Report of the First Session of the International Olympic Academy,* 2d ed. (Athens: Hellenic Olympic Committee, 1961) p. 7.

the community of man. Sportsmen, teachers, artists and young scientists are to be united here by this annual course... »[1].

In his proposal presented to the I.O.C. in 1949 for the establishment of the Academy, John Ketseas included the following statement as part of his rationale:

> «We believe it is much better to prevent and restrain by persuasion tendencies towards sporting exaggerations and deviations than to oppose them by coercive measures and rules so often eluded»[2].

That we are here in Ancient Olympia today is due to the vision and perseverence of these three men which resulted in the establishment of this Academy in 1961 — only 16 years ago. Let it be clearly understood they did not accomplish this fear alone, however. Very importantly, the Greek Government supported the idea financially. Then there were other men, some of whom are still dedicated officials of this Academy, who worked with John Ketseas since the late 1940's toward the realization of their dream. Following the actual establishment of the International Olympic Academy in Olympia, these men continue to persevere in the task of conducting annual sessions which enable the Academy to fulfill its mission of being the guardian of the Olympic Spirit on its native soil with dignity and simplicity.

Contributing to this success are not only the academic, social and cultural components of the program, but the incomparable setting. The late Avery Brundage expressed this so well in his greeting to the participants of the Third Session of the IOA in 1963:

> «...May the serenity and sacred stones of Olympia remind you of the high moral principles and the lofty ideals which were exemplified through all the lands of the Greeks for almost twelve centuries by the ancient Games... » [3].

In his First Olympian Ode, Pindar wrote: «Olympia will cover with her Glory all Greek land just as the sun covers, during the day, all the stars of heaven» [4].

1. Daume, Willi. «Address». *Report of the Fourth Session of the International Olympic Academy* (Athens: Hellenic Olympic Committee, 1964) p. 35.

2. Ketseas, John. «Explanatory Memorandum regarding the projected institution of an Olympic Academy in Greece». Athens, January 1949.

3. Brundage, Avery. «Message of Greeting». *Report of the Third Session of the International Olympic Academy* (Athens: Hellenic Olympic Committee, 1963) p. 8.

4. Pindar. *The Odes of Pindar,* (Cambridge, Harvard University Press and Heinemann Ltd., 1915) translated by Sir John Sandys, Olympic Ode I, p. 6.

The United States of America took up the torch of Olympia this past month for a short period of time. The United States Olympic Committee plans for it to continue burning brightly through annual sessions of the National Olympic Academy held and supported by various universities throughout the nation. The First Session was conducted last month, June 19 - 23 by the College of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation of the University of Illinois at Chicago. The speaker was the initiator and coordinator of this first Olympic Academy held in the USA.

HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY IN THE USA

Several years of effort by Dr. Harold T. Friermood, Chairman of the USOC - IOA Committee, proceded this initial session and are modestly and concisely described in his own words:

> «When the number of delegates from a country was cut from 10 to 7 in 1973 I began thinking how the experience, the idea, of the IOA program could be reproduced in the USA — and reach many more people.
>
> «January, 1974 — proposed the idea of a 'Mobile Academy' to the USOC - IOA Committee.
>
> «July, 1974 called a one day consultation of 15 - 17 people at Olympic House to examine the idea. Received support. USOC - IOA Committee sharpened up the concept. During 1975 developed a general framework.
>
> «April, 1976, assembled in Milwaukee, representatives from 20 - 25 universities. Received bids, including UI at CC»[1].

As a representative of the University of Illinois - Chicago, the speaker attended the Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and, subsequently, submitted a formal proposal to the USOC - IOA Committee. Attendance at the Twelfth Session of the International Olympic Academy in 1972 greatly facilitated the preparation of this proposal as well as provided inspiration for its implementation. After consideration by the Committee and an inspection of the university facilities on January 25, 1977 by members of the USOC - IOA Committee, the proposal was granted enthusiastic endorsement exactly one month later.

1. Friermood, Harold T. personal letter,

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL

Time was now of the essence. With the Opening Day only four months away, the speaker's efforts, augmented by the Office of Conferences and Institutes at the university, intensified. A Community Committee was formed which consisted of representatives of the City of Chicago Mayor's Office, the Chicago Park District, Young Men's Christian Association, the Greek Consulate, the University and members of the Chicago business and Greek Community. This committee was charged with the responsibility of providing the necessary financial support and assistance in and with the ceremonies for the Opening Day Program. Ten thousand announcements were printed and distributed and other promotional efforts undertaken. Prominent scholars from the U.S.A. and Canada were invited to lecture. University course credit for the Academy experience was arranged. The multitudinous details were finally completed and everything was in readiness. During this process, the United States Olympic Committee offered moral as well as tangible support in the form of promotional efforts as well as materials and some financing.

REALIZATION OF THE DREAM

Sixty people registered for the First Session which opened with a formal ceremony in the University amphitheater preceded by a Flame Lighting Ceremony outside of St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church. The torch was then carried by a runner into the amphitheater where it was heralded by a trumpet call and followed by appropriate pageantry. The following proclamation by the Mayor of Chicago was read:

«PROCLAMATION»

«WHEREAS, The United States Olympic Committee has selected The University of Illinois at Chicago Circle to host the First National Mobile Olympic Academy, the first ever Academy outside Greece; and

«WHEREAS, The Academy is designed to reinforce the need for community, national and international cooperation through sports and cultural activities; and

«WHEREAS, the City of Chicago supports The University in its dedication to excellence in the physical and mental development of the complete person; and

«WHEREAS, The University of Illinois at Chicago Circle College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation and Office

of Extension, in cooperation with city, state and national leaders have cooperated in designing a program which is academically and culturally exemplary; and

«WHEREAS, academic content of this Academy is designed to prepare leaders and potential leaders for Olympism:

«NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael A. Bilandic, Mayor of the City of Chicago, do hereby proclaim the period of June 19 through June 23, 1977 as *The First National Mobile Olympic Academy Week in Chicago* and urge all citizens to take cognizance of the special events arranged for this time.

Dated this 31st day of May, 1977.

(signed) Michael A. Bilandic
Mayor»

After presentation of the Olympic, Greek, city and national flags, the Olympic flag flew from the main flagstaff of the university for the five-day session.

The theme of this First Session was: *Perspectives of the Olympic Games.* Papers were presented relating to ancient, contemporary, political and feminine perspectives. The topics of the lectures and the presenters were as follows: «Ancient Greek Athletic Festivals», John T. Powell, University of Guelph, Canada; «The Great Panathenea», George Coróneos, Ohio State University; «The Dilemma of the Revised Olympic Rule 26», John A. Lucas, Pennsylvania State University; «Participation of Women in the Olympic Games», Paula Dee Welch, University of Florida; «Olympic Sports Development in the USSR and Selected Eastern European Countries», Bill Johnson, University of Illinois at Champaign; «The Footrace at Olympia», Wilma J. Pesavento; «Politics and Ancient Olympics», Ronald P. Legón; «The Greek Concept Realized in the Founding of the International Olympic Academy», Nina K. Pappas; «The Olympic Games from the Perspective of the Judge», William H. Roetzheim; and «The Sanctuary of Zeus at Olympia», Elizabeth R. Gebhard. The last five presenters were from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Several fine films were shown including Leni Riefenstahl's *Olympia,* Eric Segal's *Ancient Pentathlon* and highlights of previous Olympic Games. In addition, films of the Official Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the 1976 Olympic Games at Montreal were loaned by the Canadian Educational Television Authority. With the inclusion of group discussion periods, the program was complete. The content of the program had top priority in the planning since the aim was to construct a paradigm for future academies in the USA.

In the final analysis, the program was indeed unique. It was an inter — and intra — campus program as well as being interdisciplinary. Professors of History, Classics and Physical Education from the Chicago Campus as well as the Champaign Campus participated. The Academy provided a forum for historians, sport historians, classicists, archeologists, a judge of the Olympic Games and officials of the United States Olympic Committee.

It is significant that six out of the ten speakers at the First National Olympic Academy had attended the International Olympic Academy. Thus, it is axiomatic that the Academy is successful in its efforts to create votaries of Olympism.

The dissimilarity between the physical setting of Chicago and Olympia is apparent. Instead of the Cronion Hill, there are skyscrapers of glass and steel; instead of the Alpheos River, there is Lake Michigan; instead of the olive groves and cypress trees, there is the busy expressway system with its intricate intertwining arteries. While the serene ambiance of Olympia cannot be recreated for a learning environment anywhere in the world, the quality of the papers presented became the focal point and provided the inspiration for the participants to continue to be, or to become, imbued with the principles of Olympism.

The goal in planning the Olympic Academy Session was to simulate the program of the International Olympic Academy. No greater compliment could be bestowed upon past and present officials of the International Olympic Academy than the knowledge that the program which they offer is of such caliber that another nation attempted to emulate it.

The National Olympic Academy of the United States of America is no longer a dream; it has become a reality perpetuating the philosophies of Baron Pierre de Coubertin, Carl Diem and John Ketseas. In the future, attendance at a National Olympic Academy will be a prerequisite for candidates of the United States being considered for the International Olympic Academy.

The United States of America is entering a new era in the Olympic Movement as it contributes to the cause of Olympism by educating increasing numbers of Olympic adherents to become apostles of the Olympic Spirit.

The political world has issued its global challenge. Let us answer unequivocally and firmly that we see the challenge and let us compete agaiast it in the name and in the spirit of Olympism. We also issue a challenge to the world of youth to compete at every level to enjoy, excel, travel, meet, make friends and use the Olympic Festivals as their meeting ground, their own United Nations, in the spirit of friendly

rivalry; not of nation against nation, but of people competing against people for better understanding in the name of Olympic peace.

As we consider the necessity of establishing National Olympic Academies in other countries, let us take heed of Edgar Fried's warning:

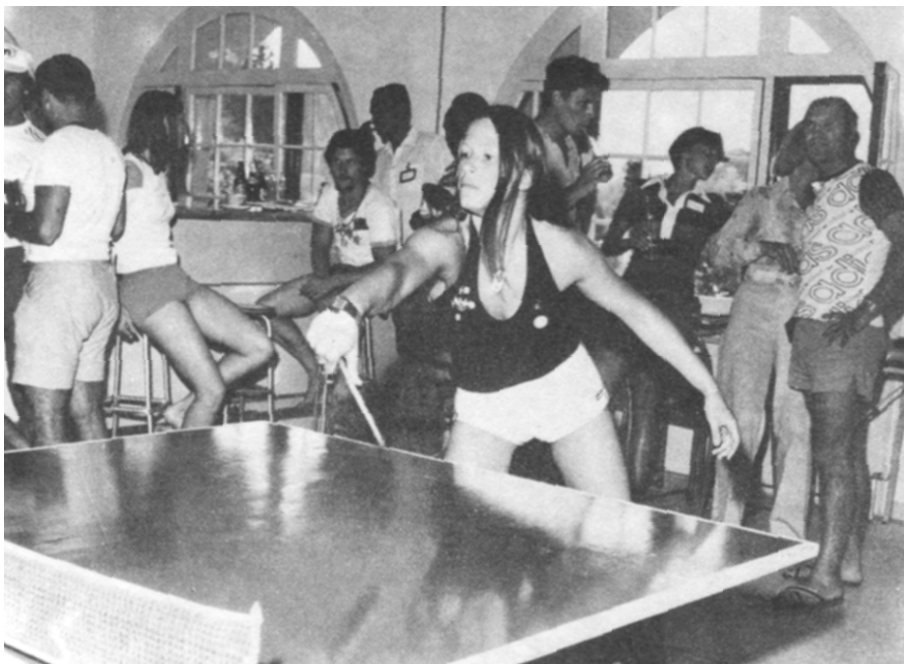
> «The Olympic Movement has no weapons and no arms to fight for its ideals such as other doctrines have, which wish to conquer the world. We only have the power of an idea and nothing else»[1].

1. Fried, Edgar. «Farewell Speech». *Report of the Third Session of the International Olympic Academy* (Athens: Hellenic Olympic Committee, 1963) p. 23.

IMPRESSIONS FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Apart from the lectures and discussions, another very important subject at each Session is the presentation of impressions by competitors in the Olympic Games. The period of intensive preparation, the trip, fellow competitors, meeting with distinguished athletes the country and its people with which they come into contact for the first time, and especially the moving moments of competition in the packed Olympic stadium, are impressions and experiences that attract the interest of participants Such impressions have already been presented at the IOA Sessions by Olympic winners such as Jesse Owens, Bob Mathias, Ralph Johnson, Emil Zatopek, Lia Manoliou, etc.

We give below the impressions at this Session by some participants who had the luck to attend and compete in the Olympic Games.



«Vassos» attending with great interest the table tennis final.

PARTICIPATION IN THE WINTER OLYMPICS, SAPPORO 1972

By MARIANNE HEFFI, (SWI)

Since there is no interpretation for German, my mother tongue, I will have to speak French which might cause some problems.

When I attended the Winter Olympic Games of Sapporo I was eighteen. I competed in skiing, in the downhill race. In the slalom and giant slalom I had the honour of opening the race. During those moments I was unaware of what was happening around me. We had received no real preparation for the Olympic Games, since we did not know whether we would go to Sapporo and how many competitors Switzerland would be sending although there were only two weeks left before departure. You can imagine my joy when I learned that we had made it. I would have the honour of representing my country at the Olympic Games and the opportunity of taking a long journey to another continent I had never visited. We were all filled with pride and hope. We would meet new people and see a lot of things.

Now, I would like to speak a little of my impressions from my stay in Japan, although I cannot convey with words how I really felt. However, I can say that I felt a sense of pride and personal recognition to be able to participate in the Olympic Games. Unfortunately» I could not take part with the other members of my delegation in the opening parade for I had been injured during training for the downhill. I believe that this ceremony represents a special event for every competitor. Preparations, the starting signal and the parade in the stadium are something remarkable. In any event, I was deeply moved by the whole ceremony and very sorry that I had to remain seated on a chair, without taking part in it.

As far as the competitions proper- are concerned I must admit that I did not find any difference from the World Cup. They were just skiing competitions with the only difference that there was an Olympic Medal to be won.

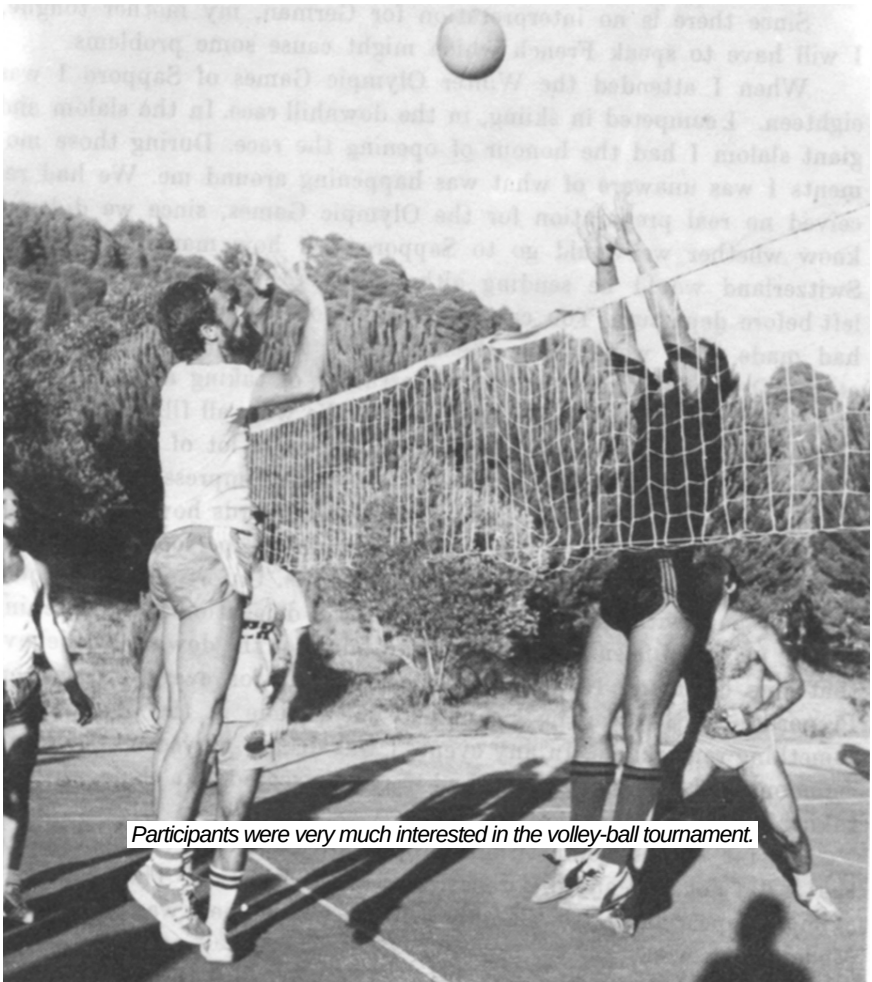
On the whole we had rather good contacts with the athletes from the various countries. It is really very pleasant to be able to talk — be

it with some difficulty — with foreign competitors and exchange views and ideas. I would like to insist that the Olympic Games, just like all other major competitions, are an unforgettable event which are only lived once.

Finally; I would like to come back to the problem of women in sport which we have discussed during this Session.

I can assure you that I could and did remain a woman in spite of my participation in top performance sport.

Before concluding, I would like to thank Grégoire, of the French delegation who helped me with the translation of my text from German into French.



Participants were very much interested in the volley-ball tournament.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES DURING THE OLYMPIC GAMES (INNSBRUCK 76)

MONIKA SCHEFTSCHIK (GER)

My experiences, which I had during the Olympic Games are-with some exceptions — thoroughly positive. This may be for I started in a discipline — namely toboggan — which is not especially popular and in which financial compensations from any firms are not important. The number of participants in my discipline is — in comparison with other kinds of sports — relatively low (about 30 women and 60 men in Innsbruck). This, however, has the advantage that you know another very well and in many cases there exist good friendships.

My experiences dealing with the organisation of the games were rather good. The timetable of training and competition program with all its necessary transports and controls was relatively free of troubles.

The scheduling of our four races, in our discipline, however, was not completely satisfactory : the first was started at night, the other three at 9 o'clock in the morning of the following days. The first course began on the opening day at 7 o'clock in the evening, which meant that we returned to the Olympic Village about 11 o'clock p.m. There we had to prepare our toboggans for the courses on the following morning. It really would have been an advantage to have had time between the two courses.

The scheduling of the courses into four races for different days was really unusual for us, because the races normally took place over two days (which means three courses on the first and one on the second day). In the afternoons, however, the training of the bobsleighs took part. These heavy toboggans caused many ruts at uneven places in the track, which made the course change every day. This was the fate for many of us — including me —.

Many people criticised the hard security controls of Innsbruck. You had to show your identity card if you wanted to go io the recreation center, to the meals and to reach your own lodging.

Around the village there was a fence of 2 m. in height. Every day, there was installed an alarm-bell, which gave signs at the slightest

touch. Also many policemen with clogs watched around to guard against unexpected incidents.

Perhaps too strict was the separation between men's and women's village. Female participants were allowed to go the men's lodgings, for the men, however, it was strictly prohibited, to set foot in the womens lodging — except the chef de mission and the official doctor of the team, who were allowed to go in. It was not allowed even for the trainers to go to the women's lodgings and this made a lot of technical problems.

In my experience the Olympic Games help much for people to understand another. In the different places of competition and in the Olympic Village you become acquainted with many people and therefore this could minimize many prejudices. You talk together, eat together, you go together to the recreation center to hear music, to play table - tennis, to dance and to do many other things.

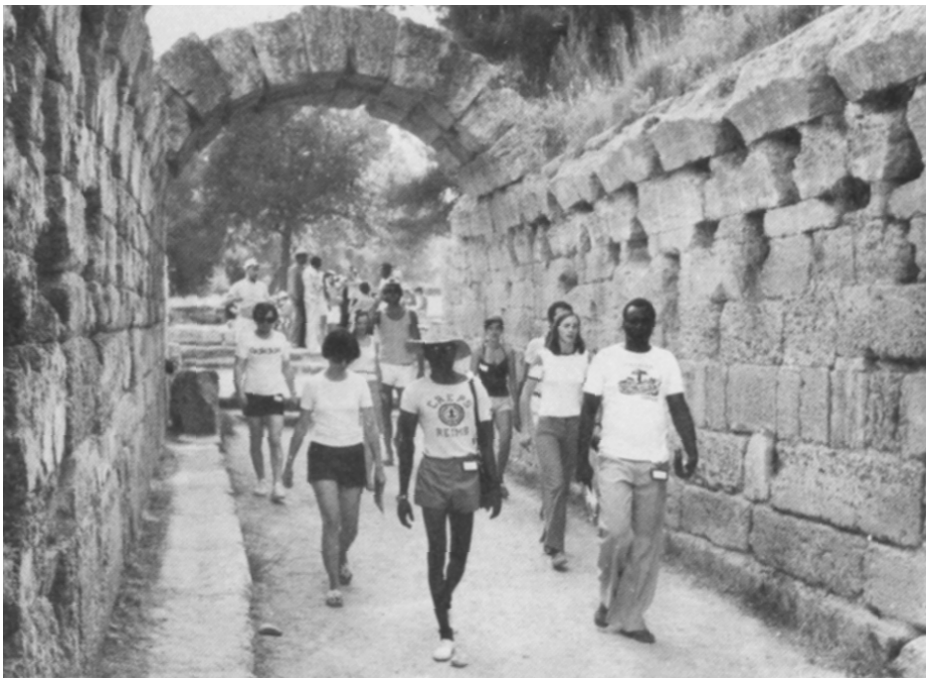
At Innsbruck we had great matches in football and table-tennis. Our teams did not consist of certain nations, but in most cases we started according to the colours of our shirts, we were at the time. Every day after the recreation center was closed one could see the «embraced way back» of many sportsmen of East and West. One could not see any signs of national prestige or political systems in competitions.

I never saw anybody discriminated against because of his nationality, his skin colour or his meanings.

I want to say that the life in the Olympic Village-especially for athletes who had finished their competitions — as far as I know is very similar to the life here in the Olympic Academy.

With respect to the fair play perhaps I will differ in my point of view with the opinions of others. As I said, in our discipline most athletes know one another very well, because we were starting in the same competitions and at the same toboggan courses for same years. You had found real friendships with the participants from the other nations. Nearly everybody would help everybody else, perhaps—for example — if somebody had forgotten his glasses or his gloves, if some body was in hurry beacause he was too late. If there was enough time we exchanged experiences or told funny stories at the skating house. In an International race after the Olympic Games, this occurred that we all forgot the start and needed special instructions to comment. While being an active competitor I never heard of anyone being expelled from the Games for unfair play.

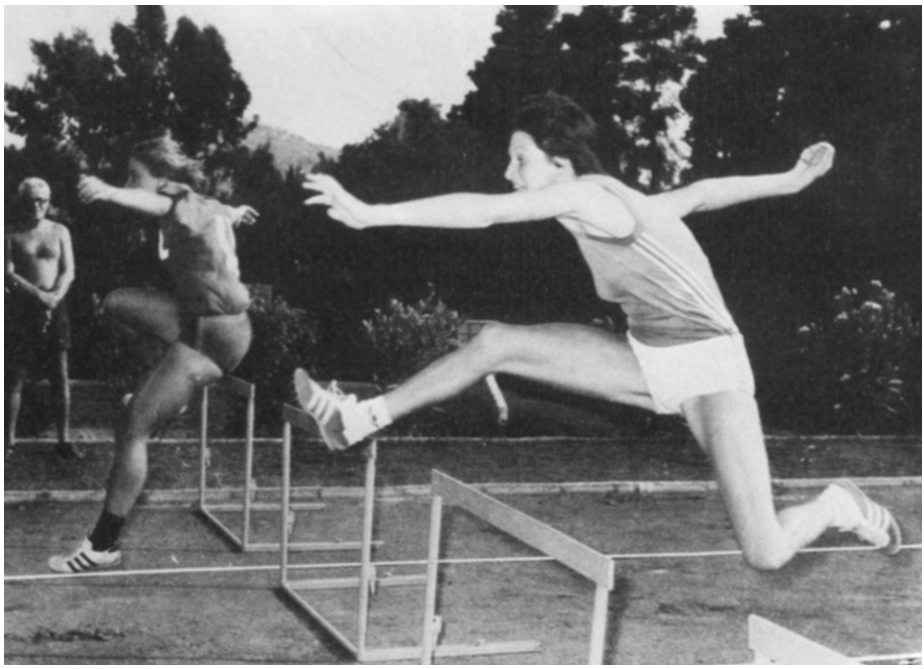
So you see, that my opinion about the Olympic Games is mostly positive and perhaps you will unerstand that — because of my experiences — 1 find it really necessary to continue;, with the Olympic Games in spite of all the negative influences.



Entrance to the ancient Stadium of Olympia from the Sacred Altis.

Participants studying the starting place at the ancient stadium.

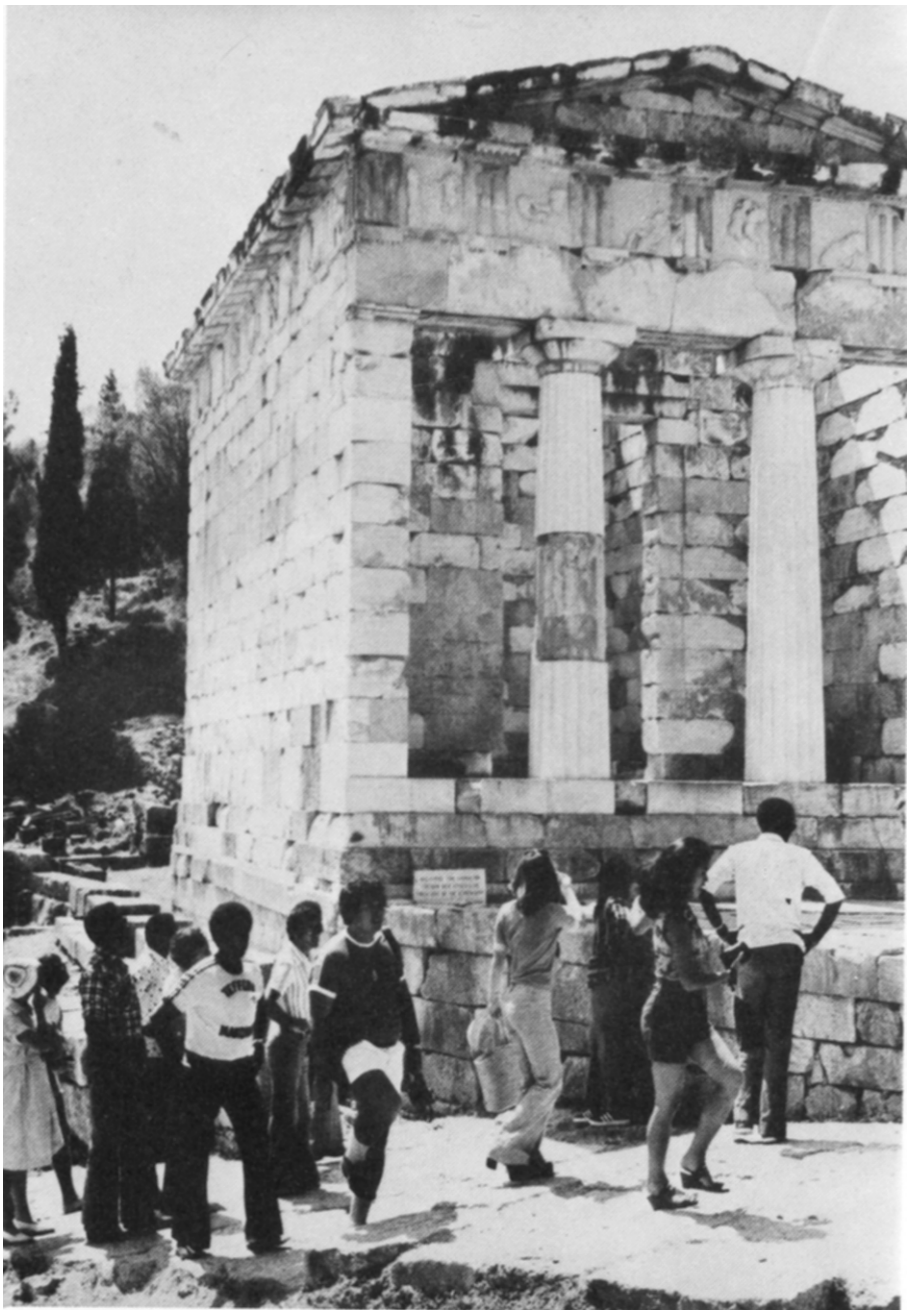
Excursion to KaJafa Beach.



In the program of the athletic games a hurdle race for women was also included.

At the social evening the Chinese dance was a great success.

Visit to the Temple of Apollo in Delphi.



The Athenean Treasure in Delphi.

EXPERIENCES FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES

JEAN JACQUES MULOT (FRA)

The Olympic Games always represented something special for me because I had watched with fascination, at the age of 11, the 1960 Olympic Games of Rome on television, a fact which surely contributed to my love for sport and of course also because the Olympic Games are every sportsman's dream. I have had good fortune of participating twice in the Olympic Games, in Munich in 1972 and again in Montreal in 1976 and I will try to tell you, very briefly, what I felt at the time and afterwards and how I see the future of the Games.

When I found myself in the Olympic Village, I felt deep satisfaction mingled with pride, especially the first time. I very sincerely believe that this satisfaction was due more to the fact that I was among the best athletes of the world than to the fact that I represented my country. This is normal, considering that when one practises top performance sport one acts in a very self-centered way without noticing much what is happening around him. For fifteen days, on two separate occasions, I have lived unusual, fascinating moments; I have lived in a dream and felt strong emotions, in Munich particularly, at the swimming pool. It was the day of the finals of the 200 m butterfly. I was standing almost on the edge of the swimming pool. I had never before watched an Olympic final with my own eyes. Mike Spitz won and then came the victory ceremony. Listening to the American national anthem I felt very moved, although it was not the French anthem. I think that what moved me was the music more than the anthem and in any case, the victory ceremonies at the FISA championships which I attended had moved me just as much. At these championships there are no anthems or flags, just a band which accompanies the awards. Should I add that I am against national anthems?

My rowing events were held, on both occasions, during the first week. I was thus able afterwards to watch many other competitions, all more beautiful than the others: track and field, swimming, Gymnastics, judo, basketball, equestrian events.

It is really a pity that competitions are only given free access to the Olympic stadium. For the other places one has to be cunning, borrow passes which leads to funny situations.Thus, I watched the handball finals in Munich in the press stand, surrounded by journalists and the weightlifting (heavy weight) finals in the stand reserved for weightlifters which did give me some complexes. 1 did not attend the opening ceremony for both times I had to race on the next day. I believe in this respect that the opening ceremony should be held two days before the first events so as to allow all athletes to take part in parade. I was, however, present in the stands at the opening ceremony for the Montreal games, grandiose and at the same time simple and moving spectacle which culminated with the arrival of the flame in the stadium, the flame that we wale the Olympic flame. I don't think it was the Olympic flame as such which touched spectators, but the vision of the flame which, just like a piece of beautiful music, added to the magic of the moment. The two closing ceremonies which I attended were even more moving because all athletes were gathered in the stadium and there was a kind of communion between them and the spectators. They were gathered all together, without any consideration for country, nation or race and the end of the Games gave a touch of sadness to the event.

There have also been difficult moments. In 1972, the affair of the Israelis, in 1976 the Taiwan issue and the question of African countries.

In Munich, the Olympic village was struck dumb by what happened to our friends the Israeli athletes and all deplored the fact that politics were interfering with the Games in such a cruel fashion. I for my part think, however, that competitors did not react strongly enough. I believe that something should have been done, that someone should have intervened on behalf of the athletes. This probably wouldn't have changed anything, but I regret that it was not done. Why wasn't it done? Possibly because during the Games each competitor is very much concerned with his own problems and doesn't notice much what is happening around him.

Regarding the problem of the withdrawal of African countries from the Montreal Games, I was sad to see, in the Olympic village, groups of athletes in city clothes, with their suitcases near them, ready to go back to their countries. They too were sad of course and while understanding the reasons for their departure I once more deplored the interference of politics in sports.

I think that the more the gigantism of the Games will increase, the more important the interference of politics will become.

Now, I would like to say a few words about the measures taken for the security of athletes in Munich (especially during the second week) and in Montreal. These measures were of course understandable. But having to go from the Olympic village to the airport in a bus, with two armed guards in the bus and escorted by soldiers on motorcycles, in cars and an helicopter flying over your head is really not very pleasant. Fortunately those responsible for our safety were being very friendly and nice.

I have said nothing so far about my rowing competitions. As the rowing pool was located at a distance of about 10 km from the Olympic stadium and village we were more or less isolated from the other activities. This is why these competitions are very much like world championships: just as many spectators, the same emotion, the same level. I would like to add that I reached the 13th place in the eight in 1972 and the 9th in the four oars with coxswain in 1976.

Between Munich and Montreal I cannot say what Games I preferred. Of course the second games are never as exciting as the first, but my results were better in Montreal than in Munich and, emotionally, being French I felt more at home among our Canadian in Montreal.

When I returned home after the Munich and Montreal Games. I felt a little lost. On both occasions. I had spent 15 wonderful days, I had attended a magnificent spectacle, signed numerous autographs — which is very exciting — I had discovered a beautiful country, had received a warm welcome, many gifts, had lived among people from all over the world. Everything was arranged to make the life of athletes easier. This is probably why I found it difficult afterwards to come back to earth.

Now, I say to myself that I was lucky to be able to take part in the Games. We know that many athletes, although they gave the necessary qualifications cannot take part, either because of an injury, or because they are prevented by eligibility rules, I think of athletes who are the second best in their country, behind someone who has reached the level of an Olympic champion. I also believe that all competitors are not on an equal footing from the point of view of the facilities provided in each country. However, I will not insist on the problem of amateurism and professionalism which are not solved with rule 26 which can easily be circumvented.

I also say to myself that four long years of training for two little weeks in the Games is too much. This is partly the reason I stopped practising top competition sport this year. What with sport and my work which didn't want to sacrifice I only had time for sleep.

Now, I would like to present a few thoughts on the way in which

I see the future of the Games. One has to fight against gigantism and this is very difficult for competition leads to gigantism which in turn leads to interference from politics. I am against Regional Games which would not reduce gigantism. I would, however, be in favour of entrusting, from 1984 onwards, the organization of the Games to the same city every four years. This city could be a Greek city provided that organization expenses would not have to be met entirely by the country concerned. On the other hand, it would seem advisable for younger participants not to be selected at such a young age so as not to force young children below the age of 10 to submit to daily training sessions that may have untoward psychological effects.

And what about Olympism in all this? I believe that competition and fraternity, two of the principles of the Olympic philosophy, are incompatible with the reality of our times. Two competing athletes may frequently fraternize but what happens is that these two concepts of competition and fraternity become opposed as soon as the mass media intervene. For me Olympism reflects an international sporting spirit and I don't have the feeling that the Games which I attended were more Olympic than the world rowing championships in which I could compete. I would also add that world rowing champions are more Olympic, that competition is just as hard and that fraternity is greater because we are a smaller group and don't have to face all the problems extraneous to sport which result from gigantism. The feeling of participation, therefore, is stronger in the world games than in the Olympics. But, as I have already said, it is fully justified that this International Academy where we are now gathered be called olympic, for a truly international warm atmosphere reigns here. I would also like to repeat that it would be a good thing to increase the number of such gatherings.

Finally, you have probably noticed that I am not a fanatic of Olympism that I don't see Olympism everywhere. This does not mean, however, that I do not appreciate, at its right value, the work of Pierre de Coubertin. He has done a lot for sport, trying to associate an idea to it, but society is changing and this idea is moving away from sport and the games. So, while maintaining the games which are an extraordinary event, we should try to find other forms which could bring sport closer to this idea.

EXPERIENCES FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES

IBRAHIM RIAHI (TUN)

Coach of the Tunisian Handball Team at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich

It is a great pleasure for me to be speaking before you at the 17th Session of the International Olympic Academy, to which I sincerely express my deepest gratitude for the opportunity it has offered me for participating in this seminar, during which the history of Ancient Olympia and the Olympic Games, the high ideals of Olympism, Pierre de Coubertin's contribution to the renewal of the Games of Antiquity and the problems of Olympism in the future have been discussed.

I would like to speak very briefly of my experience during my participation in the Olympic Games in Munich as coach of the Tunisian Handball Team (unfortunately not as an athlete). Mr. Troger has already spoken on general organisation and I could not better his remarks.

I would first like to tell you how I came to take part in the Olympic Games.

I was still playing, as captain of the Tunisian team, when it was decided to introduce handball into the Olympic Games. I began to dream of the biggest adventure that remained for me, having already had the opportunity to participate in three world championships, two university ones in Madrid and in Prague and a civilian one in Sweden.

In Africa there is always the same problem: one team represents the continent. Five pools are made up for the first elimination heats and then two first teams of each pool play in the elimination finale. Tunisia qualified and I was sure of my participation in the Munich Games. A car accident, however, kept me away from training for a while. I saw my chances disappear. But a second chance was offerred to me: the Rumanian coach who was in charge of our team was recalled by his country and I was his replacement. The Olympic Games are for athletes, not for coaches or managers or journalists.

I no longer felt this burning desire to participate but all the same I was taking on the responsibility of the team as a completely different burden.

The arrival at the Olympic Village: The whole city of Munich if

not the whole world was living the Games' festivities. One could say that the whole world was taking part in the Games. The Village was surrounded by thousands of spectators who watched for the entry and exit of the athletes, so that they could ask for an autograph. I was as excited as the players. What a difference between world championships, the old Games, and the Games of 1972! Everything seemed imposing, everything different from what I had ever seen before. The shapes conceived for the sports installations surrounding the Village were completely new for me. It is difficult to explain what one feels in the middle of the Olympic Village, which resembles an International City where athletes of all nationalities meet, proud to show their national costumes. The centre of attraction was the basketball players, who were more than 2,20 ms tall. Everything was on a large scale at Munich. I was wondering why there is no limit on height for eventual participation in the Olympic Games, so that competition is not only between two or three teams and the others but with the principle that «the essential is to participate». The athletes are lodged according to their delegations and in different buildings, which makes contact difficult and the exchange of ideas impossible.

THE OPENING PARADE :

No one can describe the greatness of soul one feels in taking part. The only problem is the fatigue resulting from the four hours' wait in the sun. If it were not the ardent desire and the sense of pride that one feels in parading at the opening of the Games and if it were not so wonderful there would be no officials at the opening parades (I would have taken part in any way).

THE COMPETITIONS :

On the return to the Village life changed. The faces of the athletes themselves changed, each for himself and God for all, only the competition counted. I especially remember the boxers. who, in the middle of the Village, were practising their uppercuts and doing their breathing exercises while windowshopping; the marathon walkers who went around the Village; the cyclists who threaded their way through the pedestrians; or else those athletes carrying their gear and going to training.

My team started playing two days after the opening. Even though we played well and were often applauded we did not win any matches. One of my players was classed second highest in shooting goals in the handball tournament. The tournament itself did not strike as strange

since we knew most of the other players. What fascinated me was athletics, where records are shattered from one day to the next and the gymnastics, where the beautifully executed movements added incomparable beauty to the well-built hall. I did not want to leave the gymnasium at all and I was wondering if next time we could not do better in gymnastics. The atmosphere in the Athletics stadium was tremendous. I was asking myself if collective sports could not be eliminated from the Games. Then came the end of the 10.000 metres race, in which a Tunisian, GAMMOUDI, was taking part. I have never been more frightened. I was shouting very loudly, as if GAMMOUDI could hear me through the 80.000 spectators present in the stadium. I was shouting and wondering why all these people were not encouraging GAMMOUDI, and only GAMMOUDI. GAMMOUDI finally came in second. A silver medal for my country. I felt as if it were I myself ascending the podium. I could repeat what I said earlier about performance, and I would add that by the spectacular improvement of the performances achieved and the demands they make we are tending towards the creation of machines. This conception of the extreme demands of performance constantly increased would develop the spirit of political and financial interests, whence the negative influence on human relations in the Games and the slow withdrawal of the spirit of Olympism.

It is only at the end of the events that we notice a relaxation on the part of the athletes. Those who had been silent became amusing and those whom we thought full of themselves · became simple.

The girls, after their contests, make themselves pretty and attractive and are easier to approach. It is only at the end of the Games that we find, to a certain degree, the spirit that we have been looking for. Perhaps we should divide the Games into two periods:

a) The Olympic Games of competition.
b) The Olympic Games of acquaintanceship and international bro therhood.

Otherwise the categories should be limited so that the ideal of the Games can be respected.

RECREATION :

The organisers have thought of everything: no participant could gainsay it; cinemas, recreational games, dance halls etc...

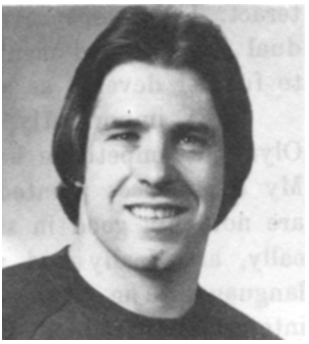
What the athletes were unable to see were the art exhibitions and the galas organised in honour of the Games.

In conclusion, I think that the Games of Munich were a total success from the point of view of technical organisation, but as the young athlete I was then, I unfortunately did not have the chance to see the Olympic spirit that I have discovered in this Academy.

Thank you for your attention.

Participants are enjoying a refreshment in Kaiafa Beach.

EXPERIENCES FROM **MY** PARTICIPATION IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES



By EDDIE COYLE (U.S.A.)

I participated in two Olympics and each time I was honored with a gold medal in weight lifting. However, these Olympic Games were not held in Munich or Montreal but in Heidelberg, Germany, in July, 1972 and in Toronto Canada, in August 1976. These were the Para - plegic Olympics or the Olympics for the physically disabled[1].

The para-plegic Olympics are founded on de Coubertin's Philosophy which incorporates the concept of participation and opportunity for all. The opportunity to compete in Olympic competition is now provided for all people; However, only a select few make it. This is due to the fact that not all people have desire or drive to improve or excel within themselves. It takes a great deal of physical training on a regular frequent basis.

The training must involve maximum and intense effort, an effort that challenges one's individual capacities physiologically and psychologically.

In my case I have trained two to six hours a day, seven days a week, twelve months a year, for thirteen years. It was very difficult to go through high school and college maintaining a certain Academic average while working and training. In my case again I had to make the Olympics my number one priority.

This meant that I had to make the most of my time training, working and going to school, which meant little time for other pursuits in life.

I was proud to compete for myself and my country in the Olympic Games. The Olympics provided the opportunity to meet and talk with people from all over the world. Sharing experiences with other athletes gave me a chance to see how other people in the world think and in-

1. Para-plegic Olympic competitors compete in a wheel chair due to the fact that they are paralyzed from the neck or waist down and thus confined to a wheel chair.

teract. The competitive adventure of the Olympics taxed my individual physical and mental abilities to the maximum, thus helping me to further develop as a total person.

Most importantly, the Olympic experiences I derived via the Olympic competition have inspired me to strive for excellence in life. My experiences pointed out that many of the Olympic competitors are not only good in several sports simultaneously but are academically, artistically and musically inclined, creative and speak several languages. The Olympic Games enhanced my confidence, discipline interest and desire in life. I now realize that one can do anything in life if he believes in what he is doing where there is a will, there is a way.

Nothing is impossible. The Olympics was a goal in life for me. It gave me a chance to develop my physical mental, spiritual and social talents. It provided me with a tremendous cultural education via travel.

By exhibiting courage, discipline intelligence and sincere effort in the Olympic Games this has opened many doors in life for me.

Many professional people and educators noticed these talents and offered me opportunities to further my education, etc.

The Olympic experience demands that an individual express himself to his best. This is the challenge of the Olympics and through the Olympic experiences it has made me a better person.

DISCUSSION ON GIVEN TOPICS

In the wider programme of every Session group discussions on topics previously selected by the Ephoria with the understanding and consent of the I.O.A. Participants are divided in language groups they appoint a discussion leader and a secretary and submit the text of their conclusions to the Session. A drafting committee is then set up consisting of representatives of every language group that prepares the general conclusions and the Session's proposals of the given topics. The general conclusions of the Session are published in the special Report issued by the I.O.C.'s Ephoria on every Session and are submitted to the I.O.C.

This year many hours were devoted to discussions and participants formed five language groups : English, French, Greek, German and Arab. The topics selected for discussion were the following :

1. Modern Olympism
   In the chair : Mrs M. Berlioux.
2. Problems of modern Olympism
   In the chair : Mr Walther Tröger.
3. Technical issues related to modern Olympic Games
   In the chair : Mr Walther Tröger.

We will now present the general conclusions of the long and very interesting discussions as they were prepared by the Special Committee that worked under the Chairmanship of Mr Alain Coupât (France).

DISCUSSION IN LANGUAGE GROUPS - FINAL REPORT

Drafting Committee :

Chairman : Alain Coupât, France

1st Subject: «Technical problems of organisation of Modern Olympic Games».

In the chair: **Mr** Walther Tröger (GER.)
Seer. Gen. of the German O.C.

1. The use of the Olympic buildings and facilities during and after the Olympic Games.

   Because of the gigantism of the Olympic Games in connection with the economic crisis, we propose the following :

   a. build modest, simple and functional facilities.
   b. undertake limited construction and make use of existing fa cilities
   c. study beforehead the post-Olympic Games use of facilities.

   Additional alternatives that should be considered are :

   a. decentralization of the Olympic Games (but still under the control of one city)
   b. restriction, or possible elimination of some sports that require expensive facilities and special construction
   c. use of former Olympic Games sites and facilities for future Olympic Games, on a rotation basis.

   N o t e : d. The idea of a permanent site in Greece for future Olympic Games was rejected.

2. The problem of human errors in judging of certain sports, and the use of technical aids.

   a. stress the preparation of competent judges
   b. investigate the potential use of electronic devices to aid in judging (videotape, computers, etc.).
      It was generally accepted that encouragement should be given to those who are working toward producing perfect timing and electronic systems to aid the judging of these events (gymnastics, diving, etc.).

3. Which should be the criteria for the drafting of the programme and the technical organization of the Games (i.e. the competitors, the spectators, the mass media etc.).

The most critical point is to consider the athlete first.

a. We should not allow the mass media, particularly TV, to control the athlete and the timing of the athletes performances.
b. The most popular events should be scheduled so that they do not overlap or conflict with one another.

2nd Subject : «Modern Olympism».

In the chair: Mrs. Monique Berlioux (FRA)
Director of the I.O.C.

1. How do you conceive Olympism today?
   a. Ideology : The ideology of Olympism today must be modified to meet the needs of contemporary society. It is conceivable that Olympism can exist without the Olympic Games, but we recommend the continuation of the Olympic Games. We believe that the following philosophy exists today : internationalism, friendship, world peace, spiritual qualities, equality of mankind, social and cultural exchanges and intellectual exchanges together with the quadrennial gathering of world youth.
   b. Organization : The role of the I.O.C. and the N.O.C. in each country should be increased; they should assume more respons ibility for the promotion of Olympism. Each N.O.C. should also promote a national Olympic Academy in its respective country in other enhance Olympism today and for the future.
   c. Evolution :
      (1) The Olympic Games should include more youth of the world.
      (2) Impose age limits for participation in the Olympic Games.
      (3) Appropriate more money for mass participation in sports within each country.
      (4) Change and/or adapt rules of competition to the needs of today.
      (5) Disseminate information more effectively through a greater number of publications and journals, and through the news media within each country and between countries.

2. One of the greater problems Olympism has to face is the formation and choice of functionaries with adequate knowledge (leaders, offi cials, judges and umpires, teachers, staff etc.). How do you envisage their preparation?
   a. International seminars, workshops, clinics and courses should be sponsored by the I.O.C. and through the I.O.A. The I.O.A. would be an excellent means for preparing leaders, judges etc.

b. The N.O.C. of each country, in cooperation with its national educational authorities should organize and promote national workshops, clinics etc.
c. Olympic Solidarity funds should be increased in order to aid underprivileged nations.

3rd Subject: «Problems of modern Olympism»

In the Chair: Mr Walther Tröger (GER)
Secr. Gen. of the German O.C.

1. Which are the differences between professionalists and the athletes complying with eligibility rules of the I.O.C.

A professional athlete can be defined as one who performs out of external motivation, such as financial rewards. The professional athlete is also subordinated to his manager or employer with little or no input as to his future and is continually pressured to perform with the ultimate showmanship possible in order to please his employers and the spectators through winning performances. In contrast, the amateur athlete performs to achieve the best performance of which he is capable and thus derives his motivation from internal sources.

Rule 26, which defines eligibility has brought about a revolution in eligibility requirements for participation in the Olympic Games. This rule realistically recognizes the role of sport in one contemporary society and carries with it the following implications :

1) The rule still demands respect for Olympic principles and ideals.
2) Rule 26 takes into account the various economic irregularities which are present throughout the world.
3) The rule recognizes that contemporary training programme de mands many long hours and financial sacrifice in order to com pete Successfully in sport at the international level.
4) The rule suggests that the term amateurism is archaic and inappropriate in the contemporary athletic world.
5) With establishment of Rule 26 the I.O.C. must also accept the responsibility of enforcement of this rule. In the past the I.O.C. has not been able to effectively interpret and implement their eligibility rules to the satisfaction of all nations. This implementation must occur through a controlled effort of fe derations and National Olympic Committees as supervised by the I.O.C. In effect what has been done then, is to change the amateur rule to comply with today's standards.

2. Responsibilities of Olympic authorities towards the Olympic competitors (moral, social, techical aspects):
   a. International level.
   b. National level.
   c. Club level

The sport clubs must accept the main responsibilities of the hierarchy of Olympic authorities as they are the organizations which form the basis of the Olympic Movement. Such responsibilities include : social security of athletes; providing training facilities and qualified coaches; responsibility for not only stressing technical aspects of skill development but also development of sound moral and social attitudes; and regulation of training as to avoid overemphasis on sport for young athletes. The club should work in conjunction with the schools and other educational agencies in order to promote Olympism.

The National Olympic Committees should serve to co-ordinate sporting activities and competitions for the clubs. The N.O.C. is also responsible for the training of qualified coaches, establishment of national training facilities, medical treatment, research and survey of sporting activities and competitions and subside of the athletes. The N.O.C. should co-ordinate the training of judges and officials, and rule changes and development with national and international sports federations. The N.O.C. should also direct clubs to emphasize Olympism in their training programs.

The international federations should be responsible for the formulation and implementation of rules of sporting activities as well as controling the technical aspects of their respective sports, including preparation and certification of officials and judges.

The International Olympic Committee is the supreme authority of the Olympic organizations and should primarily be concerned with implementing the ideology of Olympism. The prime concern of the I.O.C. should be the welfare of the athlete (i.e. avoiding exploitation of athletes, medical counsel, etc.).

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