

† Baron de Guëll has passed away

The sad news reached us on August the second when we received the information of Baron de Guëll's death ; he was member of the I.O.C. for Spain since 1922 and thus Vice-Doyen of the Committee. We were aware that Baron de Guëll had been seriously ill for several weeks. He underwent a painful operation on the eyes which prevented him to join his colleagues at the Session of Athens, last May. On the occasion of a visit we paid him last June, we were far from thinking that the issue of this illness would prove fatal when we joined with him in the hope for a successful recovery which would allow him to resume his place amongst those who loved him and appreciated his shrewdness of mind, his generous heart and the integrity of his nature.

Alas our hopes for his recovery were not realized.

Baron de Guëll served the Olympic cause with devotion and took an active part in the Meetings of the Committee, which he attended assiduously. On these occasions, his interventions were characterized by a sound common-sense which carried much weight with his colleagues who listened to him with appreciation. Held in high esteem

and affection by his colleagues, he did not fail to show them a reciprocated feeling of disinterested friendship.

Passionately fond of sports, his advices were greatly appreciated in his own country where he had only friends.

On the occasion of the Ist Mediterranean Games at Alexandria in 1951, he proposed the City of Barcelona as a candidate for the organization of these second Games which are to be held in 1955. Thanks to his strong personality, the members present in Egypt, gave their unanimous suffrage in favour of the Games being granted to the Catalan City. On his friends' request, he did not hesitate to assume the duties of President of the Organizing Committee, a post which he did not relinquish despite his conditions of health growing worse.

The death of Baron de Guëll deprives the International Olympic Committee of one of its most faithful and devoted member.

We respectfully beg his mourning family and more particularly Baronne de Guëll and his daughter and son-in law Mrs. & Mr. Pedro Ibara Mac Mahon, Member of the I.O.C. since 1952, to accept the expression of our heartfelt sympathy in their grievous loss.