

Reporting on the Progress of the IInd Mediterranean Games

July 16th- to 25 th, 1955

(Communication from the Organising Committee.)

Our deeply regretted compatriot, the late Baron de Guëll who passed away a few months ago, assigned us the duty to carry out his fervent wish consisting in organizing the celebration of the IInd. Mediterranean Games in our country. He had put forward a request to this effect at the Assembly in Alexandria, on the occasion of the inauguration of the Ist. Mediterranean Games.

The City of Barcelona, Baron de Guëll's birthplace, which is situated on the « Mare nostrum », the sea so dear to us, has most likely been chosen on account of the prestige and excellent relations Baron de Guëll entertained with the other members of the I. O. C. over such a lone period.

The appointment of General Moscardo to succeed him to the Presidency bears evidence of the desire of the Spanish Committee that this manifestation may not only be valuable for spreading and strengthening the bonds of friendship between countries but that the Games should be a tribute paid to the glory of sport. The greatest homage, according to his wish was to hold the celebration of an exhibition in his own country under the supervision of the I. O. C.

We have been working hard in Barcelona for the past few months and we are confident that all the preparations we are making will

meet with the approval and be worthy of our visitors.

The organizers are now visiting the various countries which are likely to take part in the Games. On the completion of their visits we shall at once get in direct touch with the National Olympic Committees as well as the International Federations.

It is the wish of our country to contribute as much as possible to the splendid work accomplished by the I. O. C. A work which has been most effectively carried out in all the Olympic Games where no barriers of language, race or politics exist, where sport is understood for its own sake, where the spirit of genuine brotherly love makes us forget that we are strangers in a foreign land and where it is possible to find a basis for the cooperation of men who love sport and know that a better world can be achieved only by applying the precept : « Mens sana in corpore sano ».

Spain entertains the hope that the forthcoming Games will give a renewed impetus and force to these Meetings of the Mediterranean countries which started in Alexandria, and which we trust will go on taking place for many years to come thus giving us the assurance that we are living in a world of peace.