

The recent Olympic Journey of President AVERY BRUNDAGE

Last April, the President of the I.O.C. decided to undertake a voyage to Australia in order to come in direct contact with the Organizing Committee of the Games of the XVIth Olympiad and more especially to see for himself the course taken by the organizing in general. A report on this subject has been submitted at the recent Paris Session. From this report, one fact stands out : the great enthusiasm prevailing at present in Australia, and in the Far East in favour of the Olympic Movement. Mr. Brundage noticed this after visiting further places and going to Hong-Kong, Manila, Tokio and Seoul. We wish to give a brief account of the President's visit through these various cities. At Canberra, on the initiative of the Ambassador of the United States. H. E. Peaslee, a dinner was given in order to give Mr. Brundage the opportunity of meeting the Prime Minister of Australia Mr. Menzies as well as the Governor General and Marshal Sir William Joseph Slim of Australia and General Sir Dalles-Brooks. In the Philippines, the Hon. Jorge. B. Vargas, member of the I.O.C. for that country, organized several functions in his honour when President Brundage had the opportunity to meet the President of that country Ramon Magsayay. In Tokio, Mr. Brundage received the keys of the city and was given the freedom of the city

after having been received in private audience by His Majesty, the Emperor. After several receptions, the President pursued his olympic voyage to Corea where he arose the greatest enthusiasm in Seoul, the whole population welcomed and acclaimed him and the streets were decorated in his honour, there too, he received the keys of the city.

The President's voyage has been of great value to the Olympic Movement and he was highly gratified to observe how enthusiastically the people of the Far East supported the Olympic cause. Shortly after his return to Chicago, Mr. Brundage planned his new journey to Europe, more specially Paris where he has been convening various olympic Meetings.

The I.O.C. and all those closely connected with it wish to express their feelings of gratitude to President Brundage for his affection for our cause as well as for the devotion he shows towards Olympism by giving up his time to carry out these numerous and very useful voyages, which he does so frequently and (is it necessary to mention it) entirely at his own expense. After the Paris' Session Mr. Brundage went to Lausanne, seat of the I.O.C. where he has been received by the Authorities of the City. After that, he paid an Olympic visit in Germany (Dusseldorf) and in London.