

GAMES OF THE XVth. OLYMPIAD, MELBOURNE 1956

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE CONFIDENCE VOTE

The International Olympic Committee gave the Organizing Committee a resounding vote of confidence at its recent Paris sessions. Mr. Hugh Weir, O. B. E., an Australian member of the I. O. C., presented Melbourne's progress report to the Paris Congress.

When the President, Mr. Avery Brundage, called for a vote of confidence in Melbourne, the favourable vote was unanimous, except for two or three delegates who abstained from voting.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES
OF THE XVTH OLYMPIAD, MELBOURNE 1956

The Prime Minister of Australia, the Right

**Honourable R. G. Menzies, C. H. , Q. C., M. P.,
has accepted the office of President of the
1956 Olympic Games.**

**Mr. Menzies is President of the Australian
Olympic Federation.**

OLYMPIC SOCCER DRAW

Twenty-eight teams have been entered for the 1956 Olympic soccer competition.

They are : Afghanistan, Bulgaria., The Chinese People's Republic, Nationalist China, Egypt, Great Britain, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Germany West, Germany East, Hungary, India, Iran, Israel, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Philippines, Poland, Roumania, Siam Turkey, U. S. A., U. S. S. R., Vietnam, Yugoslavia.

The Federation of International Football Associations has laid down that only sixteen teams may enter the competition in Melbourne.

Accordingly preliminary matches to decide the final sixteen teams must be played before August 1, 1956.

The following 24 teams have been paired for preliminary matches by drawing lots :

1. Egypt/Ethiopia.
2. U. S. A. /Mexico.
3. Germany East /Hungary.
4. U. S. S. R. /Israel.
5. Yugoslavia/Roumania.
6. Bulgaria /Great Britain.
7. Germany West /Turkey.
8. Cambodia /Vietnam.
9. Philippines /Chinese People's Republic.
10. Iran /Afghanistan.
11. Indonesia /Nationalist China.
12. Korea/Japan.

India, Poland, Siam and Australia have drawn byes in the early rounds and will all have representative teams in Melbourne in the final 16.

NOTE : It was decided by the I. O. C. in Paris that East Germany could not be accepted as a separate entry in the 1956 Olympics, and must combine with West Germany.

Four hundred lightweight aluminium torches have been ordered for the 1956 Olympic Torch Relay. They will carry the Olympic flame 350 kilometres from Olympia in South-west Greece, where it will be lit, to Athens, and from Cairns, 2750 miles down the eastern side of Australia, to Melbourne.

The flame will be flown from Athens to Cairns in special miner's safety lamps. The Olympic torch will be about fifteen inches high, with the words "XVI OLYMPIAD 1956 OLYMPIA TO MELBOURNE" and the five Olympic rings inscribed on it.

Torch bearers for the relay will run a mile each and the time will approximate seven and a half minutes. In Australia 2,750 athletes will be required for the run. Each runner will receive the specially designed Commemoration medal, which is also presented to competitors and officials at the Games.

The flame will enter the Main Stadium, the Melbourne Cricket Ground, at 4.32 p. m. on November 22, as part of the Opening Ceremony. It will burn at the Main Stadium until it is extinguished in the Closing Ceremony on December 8.