

## THE OLYMPIC FAMILY

### † Mme Armand Massard

Madame Massard, wife of the Vice-President of the International Olympic Committee, died in Paris on the 28th of May 1956. American by birth, Madame Massard in her married life, took a deep interest in Olympic matters. She never failed to accompany her husband at every Session and belonged to the group of "Olympic ladies". In Paris, last year, Madame Massard along with her lady collaborators threw herself wholeheartedly into the task of entertaining the wives of the Delegates and in making their visit as pleasant as possible; in this she fully

succeeded. At her last appearance, when she attended the Winter Olympic Games at Cortina, nobody could foreshadow so sudden a departure as she seemed so happy and in such a contented spirit. She was, however, already suffering from an illness which greatly affected her health and which was undermining her strength, but, in spite of which, Madame Massard kept for ever smiling and radiating happiness wherever she went.

We wish to convey to Mr. Armand Massard the expression of our deepest sympathy in his great sorrow. Everyone within the Olympic Family who had the privilege to know her will recall the memory of Madame Massard with deep feeling.

### † G. T. Kirby, Leader in Sports

A great American olympic man died in February 1956 in Bedford Hills, N. Y. (U. S. A.). Gustavus T. Kirby was 82 years old. He attended all the Olympic Games ever since 1900 and was also present at those of 1952 in Helsinki. Mr. Kirby was known internationally through his long affiliation with amateur athletics and he was one of the last of what amateur sportsmen called their "elder statesmen". He had been a member of the American Olympic Committee since 1895 of which he was past president and

### LETTER OF THANKS

Armand MASSARD, deeply touched by the numerous and much appreciated tokens of sympathy he received in his sad bereavement, and because he finds it impossible to acknowledge and thank everyone personally, requested the Chancellery of the International Olympic Committee to express to everyone, on his behalf, his heartfelt sympathy.

president emeritus. He was a familiar figure at all track meets and horse shows and was an important personality at the council tables of the Olympic and Pan-American Athletic Union and the Inter Collegiate Association of Amateur Athletes of America.

Mr. Kirby devoted so much time and energy to amateur sports and public recreation that it often was wondered how he ever had enough hours left to become successful in his profession and in business. The fact was that he still found time to compete himself.

After his college days he continued as a contestant in tennis, golf, track, football, bicycle, squash rackets, riding and yacht-racing events. Later he served as president of the A. A. U. — He was active in many other sports organizations of the U. S. A. in which he gave the best of his knowledge, always with great success.

We are passing over his long and intelligent civil career, but wish to add that he was also an author of several books, as *Franklin the Athlete*, *The Metric System as applied to Sports*, *Amateurism*, *International Good Will through Sports Competition*, etc.

He took part at the Olympic Congresses Lausanne 1921, Prague 1925 and Berlin 1930. His great knowledge in Olympic matters has often influenced the International Olympic Committee's policy.

#### † Sir Frank Beaurepaire

Sir Frank Beaurepaire who died suddenly at his barber's shop on May 28th was 64 years of age. He received the appointment of Lord Mayor of Melbourne during the Olympic year. He was a member of the Australian Delegation which presented the candidature of the city of Melbourne at the Session of April the 28th 1949 in Rome, when Melbourne applied for the Games of the XVIth Olympiad in 1956. Eventually, after the fourth round of balloting, Buenos-Aires was out-voted by Melbourne by 20 votes to 21.

Seeing that it was the first time that the International Olympic Committee attributed the Games to a city of the Southern hemisphere, this was considered as a great triumph for Sir Frank Beaurepaire who had, previously, achieved distinction in the swimming world. He represented Australia at the London Games in 1908, in Antwerp (1920), and in Paris (1924). In London, he won a silver medal for the 400 m. free style. As well as this, he won each time a bronze medal in the 1500 m. free style in the London Games, Antwerp and Paris Games. Outside Olympic Games victories, Sir Frank Beaurepaire distinguished himself even more in swimming competitions, thus, in 1910, he broke five world records in distances ranging from 200 m. to one mile, and three further records in 1920 and 1921. He won 200 various championships both in Australia and Great Britain. He was gazed during the

first World War while fighting on the French front, he was then repatriated in 1917. When his treatment came to an end, his doctors advised him to take up swimming again, which evidently brought him back to health seeing that he went on breaking many other records. The deceased, from the outset, launched the movement to hold the Games in Melbourne. He greatly encouraged the development of sport in his native land, specially with regard to the modernization of the swimming bassins.

He had already held the office of Lord Mayor of Melbourne from 1940 to 1942 and it was during this period that he was knighted.

Sir Frank Beaurepaire, industrialist, was not only an outstanding personality in his country but was also one of the leading personality in Australian sport, as well as in the world of swimming, during the period ranging from 1908 to 1924. In his capacity as Lord Mayor of his city, he was getting ready to welcome the youth of the world who are going to foregather in Melbourne at the end of the present year. Alas, destiny intended otherwise.

We recall with reverence this great figure of a sportsman, and we wish to express our deepest sympathy to his family.

#### † General Jose Moseardo Ituarte

The Hero of Alcazar was President of the Spanish Olympic Committee. We very much regret to announce his death in April last at the age of 76. During his last years he was devoted to the Olympic cause in Spain. His death has been a great sorrow to the Spanish sportsmen. We wish to express our sympathy to the Spanish Olympic Committee.

#### † Donna Fox

In April last one of the great pioneers in international bobsleigh died in New York. Donna Fox represented since many years the United States Bobsleigh Federation in the Executive Board of the International Federation of which he was second vice-president. He still acted as member of the Jury at the VIIth Winter Olympics in Cortina d'Ampezzo.

#### † René Odier

The recent death of René Odier deprives the "International Yacht Racing Union" of a highly esteemed and distinguished personality who was known in the International Yachting world for his outstanding qualities of efficiency as well as for his tact in handling people. As member of the "Sailing Club of Geneva," Mr. Odier conducted the welfare of the Swiss Yachting Union. He represented the I. Y. R. U. within the International Olympic Committee.



† GUSTAVUS T. KIRBY (U.S.A.)  
(see our necrology in this edition)