

## **The work carried out by the German Archeological Institute in Athens under the auspices of the 'Carl Diem Foundation'**

In our last edition we gave an account of the progress of the excavations carried out in the ancient stadium of Olympia.

At the request of Mr. Willy Daume, President of the German Sports Federation and Member of the International Olympic Committee, Professor Dr. Carl Diem visited Athens and Olympia from October 27th to November 3rd last, in order to see for himself the progress of the work being carried out there.

We do not propose to go into the technical details of the report kindly sent to us by Dr. Carl Diem, from which we observe that the work is proceeding satisfactorily.

This happy enterprise (the first excavations had already been undertaken by the Germans in 1872) will reach its full realization in 1960 or 1961.

It is felt in Greece that a Session of the International Olympic Committee might be arranged to take place in Athens in 1961 (or a meeting in 1960 immediately following the Games of Rome), and that an 'inaugural' manifestation could be held in the presence of the members of the International Olympic Committee, the delegates of the International Federations, and other Olympic delegations. The Hellenic Athletics Federation

has already invited a delegation of German and American athletes to take part in these celebrations, but only as spectators, for according to Dr. Carl Diem it would not be appropriate to organize a kind of imitation of the pageant of the ancient Games in the stadium.

Mr. Jean Ketseas (Greece) would like to take the opportunity for the official foundation of the Olympic Academy, a project already planned some years ago. As for Mr. Paleologos, Director of the National Gymnastics Academy, he welcomed with enthusiasm and pleasure the idea of staging a display which would culminate in a performance of Greek dances executed by 200 participants in the ancient stadium of Olympia, covering an area of 200 x 30 metres.

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This is an important organization consecrated to the future glorious achievement of excavating the ancient stadium of Olympia, and all credit for this work must go to the 'Carl Diem Foundation', to which we wish once again to extend our thanks for all the work that it has set afoot. At the present time 100 workers are engaged in the excavations at the ancient stadium of Olympia.