

## IN THE 1960 OLYMPIC FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT A SELECTION OF 16 WILL BE MADE OUT OF 50 ENTRIES

It is the F.I.F.A. (Federation Internationale de Football Association) which is responsible for the organization of the pre-olympic Football Tournament for which 50 entries have reached F.I.F.A.'S headquarters in Zurich. It is known that, where team - sport is concerned, only 16 countries can be represented at the Games. For this reason F.I.F.A. is organizing - outside the scope of the tournament itself - a selective tournament in order to decide which of the chosen 16 will take part in the actual Olympic Football Tournament in 1960. At a Congress held in Paris, last March, the commission representing F.I.F.A. decided that the countries registered under 20 groups would be divided into Continents: Asia (5), America (5), Africa (3), and Europe (7). Italy forming part of the organizing country has forthwith been placed in the final Olympic round. 15 teams remain yet to be found.

The 7 champions of European groups will qualify, while those first placed in other continents will have to face an extra round. The delays fixed are: January 1st 1960 for the Asian, American and African groups and May 1st 1960 for the European groups. On principle, the encounters must be played in 'at home and abroad matches', but the opponents can agree between themselves to play for qualification in only one match.

Players who have taken part in the 1958 World Championship in Sweden are not eligible for the Olympic Tournament.

### *Schedule of groups in selective contests*

1. Korea and Japan.
2. Australia and Indonesia.
3. Siam and China (Formose).
4. Afghanistan and India.
5. Turkey, Lebanon and Irak.
6. Mexico and United States.
7. East Indies and West Indies.
8. Brazil and Columbia.
9. Argentine and Chile.
10. Uruguay and Peru.
11. Nigeria and Ghana.
12. Ethiopa and Uganda.
13. Egypt, Malta and Tunisia.
14. Iceland, Denmark and Norway.
15. Finland, Poland and Germany.
16. U.S.S.R., Rumania and Bulgaria.
17. Yugoslavia, Greece and Israel.
18. Great Britain, Ireland and Holland.
19. France, Switzerland and Luxemburg.
20. Austria, Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

ITALY : qualities as organizing country.

Up to now, these selective encounters are outside the scope of the Olympic Games, as they are entirely under the control of F.I.F.A.

For the final round, comprising 16 teams which will figure in the Olympic Programme, and for which all technical matters are also under F.I.F.A.'S control, the latter has provided that the organizing system will be the same as the one which was in force at the World Championships. The 16 qualified teams will be split into four groups where everyone will play against everyone; only the winner of each group will participate in the semi-finals where the Cup system (elimination) will be applied.