

*A correspondent of the Tribune Libre (this rubric does not engage the responsibility of the Editorial staff of the Bulletin) sent us the following article:*

## **Olympism and Art**

'At the close of the Olympics in Rome, I wonder how many athletes availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting the magnificent Art Exhibition of ancient sports organized with their usual efficiency by the Organizing Games Committee? Perhaps scarcely more than 5% of the athletes visited

this Exhibition. I therefore wonder for what purpose was held this outstanding exhibition, if the young people *it was meant for* did not avail themselves of the opportunity of visiting it. What is the good of organizing Art Exhibition in connection with the Games (I refer again to the fact that

the Art Exhibition in Rome was unique) if the young people it is intended for are not interested? I daresay it just happened because the responsible people (leaders of the foreign contingents) were not seemingly interested in art themselves!). Evidently the fact to record a gain of six tenth of a second in the 100 m. between 1900 and 1960 means... Art for some people!

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Editorial note: *If there is a certain amount of truth in the assertions put forward by this occasional correspondent, let us remind our readers of what de Coubertin wrote in June 1904 in the Figaro: 'The hour has come to steal a march on time and to revive the former beauty of the*

*Olympiad. At the time of the apogee of Olympia and at a later period, Nero as conqueror of Greece aspired, when on the banks of the Alpheos, to win the greatly praised and much envied laurels in the fields of Literature and Fine Arts which harmoniously allied to sport gave the Ancient Olympics their grandeur and made their fame. We must follow their example in the future.'*

*We would be glad to know if the Organizing Committee of Rome happens to possess statistics which would give the approximative number of athletes who visited the Art Exhibition at the Games of 1960 in Rome?*

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