

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Greek Olympic Committee has made the gift of seven plaster bas-reliefs to the Olympic Museum in Lausanne for the Greek room which the International Olympic Committee plans to install. We sincerely thank the Greek Olympic Committee. If this project is to be realized, we are in need of some more material which would be received with appreciation.

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The Swedish athlete Dan Waern, whose earnings were not at all related to his amateur status, was suspended in September by the International Amateur Athletic Federation. But, said Mr. Carlus, president of the Swedish Athletic Federation, Waern is not the only one of this kind!

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The Police of Zurich (Switzerland) visiting the dressing-rooms of the cyclists taking part at the last World Championships in August, discovered a sizeable quantity of drugs, considered as 'doping', the sale of which is under strict medical control in Switzerland. At these championships a Swiss competitor was taken to hospital, having received some of these unhealthy products. The Swiss Cyclist Federation has intervened and has taken severe measures composing the following penalties. The cyclist Friz Gallati has had his licence withdrawn until the end of 1962; he had also to pay a fine of 500 Swiss Fr. The three trainers of the competitor, Weber, Brunner and Muller (all of Zurich) who were in possession of medicaments only obtainable with a medical certificate, have their licences withdrawn until the end of December 1966. That of the trainer Werren has been permanently withdrawn. The Federation continues its inquiries. Very strict measures will be taken in the future before the issuing of trainers licences. They will only be issued to people offering every guarantee, both morally and professionally.

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Last August, for political reasons which are not for us to pass judgement on, the

East German Government closed the frontier between this region and West Berlin. A concrete wall was built. Because of these reasons, all contact between sportsmen of the West and East seemed intolerable to them, the Union of Sport Federations of Federal Germany, as well as the German Olympic Committee of this region, decided to sever all connections with the Sporting Organizations of Democratic (Eastern) Germany. This decision, it was said, did not in any way affect the intention of the Western Olympic Committee to take part in the Olympic Games with a united German team. We will not add any comment to this announcement (in which sport appears as a new branch of politics) which is a strictly internal German affair.

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The British athlete Gordon Pirie, recordman of the 3000 m. race, aged thirty, has passed professional in September.

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For the first time in the History of sport, a woman has been elected president of an International Federation of Olympic Sport. It is the Federation of Archery whose president is the British Mrs. Inger Frith. Congratulations.

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In September last, the International Football Federation has decided to suspend the South African Football Association owing to the fact that it still practises the politic of racial discrimination.

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Last September, hundred and fifty athletes and instructors coming from 14 African countries have staged a period of instruction at the French National Institut of Sport in Paris where Mr. Maurice Herzog, High Commissioner of Youth and Sport has paid them a visit.