

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Professor Carl Diem's principal work WELTGESCHICHTE DES SPORTS UND DER LEIBES-ERZIEHUNG (*The World History of Sport and Physical Education*. German edition, 1240 pages. Marks 78,—.) is much more than just a book on sports. It is a work of cultural history, reaching from the ritual origins of

sports in primeval times to our present days. From the ritual dances and games of the various eras and peoples, we are led to the development of athletic forms in Asia and the occidental sports movements which culminate in the revival of the Olympic Games through Baron de Coubertin.

Carl Diem knows how to divorce the enduring from the incidental, he emphasizes again and again the cultural functions of sports, confronts their values with their dangers and attempts to find in the profound meaning of playing a law common to all sporting activities which will be of lasting benefit to humanity.

A large part of the 500 pictures in black and white, and of the 16 colour plates have been published for the first time in this book. Every page offers new surprises. Meandering through all eras and zones of our world we can watch games originate, develop, change and spread — sometimes through 'subterranean' channels.

The author has given his book the following sendoff: 'The intellectual basis of sports, their ethical and character-building values are much more important than record and supreme achievements. The sports will be true to their mission only if they remain aware of their intellectual and historical fundaments and their moral tasks. It is to be hoped that the huge panorama of athletics of all nations and periods will be a stimulation and a source of joy to coming generations, and will at the same time teach and inspire them.'

