

1861-1961

Commemorating the Centenary of Spiros Samaras,

AUTHOR OF 'PEAN': THE OLYMPIC HYMN

During their lapse of existence, the Olympic Games have been attributed various hymns. In 1936, everybody was convinced that the hymn composed by Strauss was to last for ever. But this was not to be so. London (1948), and Helsinki (1952) had their own hymns respectively. Thanks to the generosity of his Highness Prince Pierre de Monaco, the International Olympic Committee organized an open competition the result of which provided the Games of 1956 with a new hymn. It was short-lived as it lasted only for one Olympiad. At the 54th Session held in Tokyo, in 1958, it was decided to go back to the hymn composed by Spiros Samaras on the occasion of the first Olympic

Games celebrated in Athens, in 1896. This hymn was chosen again by the International Olympic Committee when it was performed successfully at Rome during the Games of 1960. It has been chosen again for the forthcoming Games to be held in Tokyo, in 1964.

Spiros Samaras'centenary would have passed unnoticed if Mr. G. Papastefanou, Curator of the sport philatelic museum in Olympia, had not recalled the fact, by issuing a postal obliteration given to a folder which contained the music of this hymn. We reproduce this in this Bulletin with the original text in Greek, this has been translated into French by K. Palamas (*see our French text p. 37*).



ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΟΣ ΥΜΝΟΣ (1896)

ΠΟΙΗΜΑ Κ. ΠΑΛΑΜΑ

ΜΟΥΣΙΚΗ
Σ. ΣΑΜΑΡΑ

Χρόνος Έμβατρίου Τραγουδι

'Αρ - χαϊ-ον πνεύ'ά-θά-να-τον, ά-γνέ πα - τέ-ρα του ώ-
 ραί - ου, του με-γά - λου και τά - λη - θι - νου, Κα - τέ-βα φα-νε-
 ρώ - σου χι'ά-σπασε έ - δώ πέρα στή δό-ξα τῆς δι - κῆς σου
 γῆς και τού - ρα - νου. Στο δρό-μο και στο πά - λε - μα
 και στο λι -θά-ρι, σῶν εὐ-γε-νῶν ά - γώ-νων λάμ-ψε τήν δο-
 μή και μέ τό ά - μά-ραν-το στε-φά-νω-σε κλω - νί-ρι και
 σι-δε-ρέ-νιο πλά-σε και ά - ξιο τό κορ - μί και σι-δε-ρέ-νιο πλά-σε
 χι'ά-ξιο τό κορ-μί. Κάμ-ποι βου-νά και θά-λασσα φέγ-γα - νε μα-
 ζύ - σου σῶν έ-νας λευ-κο - πόρ-ταρρα μέ-γας να - ός και
 τρέ-χεσόν να - όν έ-δω προ-σω-νη - τῆς σου και τρέ - χει
 στον ναόν έ-δω προ-σχυ - νη - τῆς σου άρ-χαϊ-ον πνεύμ'ί-
 θά-νατον κά-θε λα-ός κά-θε λα-ός άρ-χαϊ-ον πνεύμ'ά-
 θά-να - τον κά-θε λα - ός.