

The International Olympic Aid Commission *and Pierre de Coubertin*

The International Olympic Aid Commission, under the direction of its President, Count de Beaumont, is actively preparing its programme for the development of Olympic sport in the newly independent countries. The ideal providing the driving force to this commission of the International Olympic Committee has been understood by about twenty National Olympic Committees who generously supported the initial work of the international Olympic Aid Committee by a donation.

The International Olympic Aid Committee found further encouragement in a text of the archives of the International Olympic Committee, signed in 1924 by Pierre de Coubertin, which we reproduce below :

The time has come for sport to advance to the conquest of Africa, that vast continent which it has as yet hardly touched and to bring to its people the enjoyment of ordered and disciplined muscular effort, with all the benefits which flow from it.

With this object in view the International Olympic Committee has adopted two resolutions :

1° It has instituted the GAMES OF AFRICA (to be in the main reserved for natives) which will be celebrated for the first time at Alexandria in Egypt, in 1927, and thereafter every two years in some town of the African coast ;

2° It has resolved to institute a MEDAL for the propaganda of sport in Africa. A large number of these medals will be distributed annually to native associations of sport as

a recognition of their work and as a stimulus to effort. It has been thought well that this medal should be a gift presented to the youth of Africa by the Olympic representatives of the world assembled in Paris for the Games of the VIIIth Olympiad.

We appeal therefore to the athletes and all who take part in the Games to contribute their mite, however small it may be, to this work of drawing together the whole world into one brotherhood of sport and sympathy.

July 8th has been specially set apart for this subscription which the President of the French Republic has kindly consented to head.

Each separate nation should organize its own subscription list and kindly send the amount subscribed to MR. A.-C. BOLANACHI, commissioner general for the Games of Africa or pay it into his account at the Banque Imperiale Ottomane, 7, rue Meyerbeer, Paris, compte 'Sports d'Afrique'.

With my best thanks for your help.

Very cordially yours.

PIERRE DE COUBERTIN.

PRESIDENT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

The International Olympic Aid Commission acts thus according to the spirit of the founder of the modern Olympic Games, by applying thirty years later a project of Pierre de Coubertin.

This enterprise can leave no sport's enthusiast indifferent.