

BIBLIOGRAPHY

THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY. The Report of the second Session of that Academy, which has taken place from July 9th to 21st., 1962, at Olympia, has been published. 183 pages, illustrated, texts in French and in English, it contains all the conferences which have been held. Copies of that edition may be obtained from Athens through the Greek Press Office, Kirchenfeldstrasse 63 in Bern (Switzerland).

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THE REPORT ON THE ROME GAMES 1960. That important work published in two books just appeared. The Italian edition was published at the end of 1962 and the English one in a very short delay, if not done so already.

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A TRAVES DE LOS AROS OLIMPICOS. The Spanish edition of Otto Mayer's first book

has just been published. It can be obtained at the Spanish Olympic Committee.

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Communication received from the German Sports Federation

THE OLYMPIC GAMES - VALUES - AIMS - REALITY
ESTABLISHMENT AND REALIZATION OF THE
VALUES OF MODERN OLYMPIC MOVEMENT
(SHORT SUMMARY OF A SOCIOLOGICAL INQUIRY
OF DOCUMENTS AND EXPERIENCE)
by Dr. Hans Lenk

Beside an only statistical-descriptive inquiry about the Olympic Games of 1952, until now there was no paper in the social sciences, which dealt with the important social item *Olympic Movement* and Olympic Games. Passionate public discussions about the Games were almost only concerned with untested pro-and-contra-valuations being inconsistent with one another.

The work *Wertsetzung und Wertverwirklichung der neuzeitlichen olympischen Bewegung (Establishment and Realization of the Values of Modern Olympic Movement)* shows, by means of the Official Rules, documents and reports of the International Olympic Committee and of de Coubertin's books, which aims the Olympic Movement strives for, which ideas of values guide the Movement. Historical literature and valuating voice of adherents and opponents, statistical data, experience of the author himself and (to a less degree) talks and interviews by written inquiry delivered the measure of comparison, how far the Olympic Movement and the Games fulfilled the established aims and ideas — and what facts are obstacles against the realization. Recognized first steps and trials for overcoming these obstacles are put together.

At the same time the author accomplishes a sociological functional analysis of the Olympic Movement and the Games. It reveals, what elements favour the olympic interdependent system of social effects and which disturb. Also contributions to the so-called 'peoples-connecting' task of sport, to the union of the different sports, and to the effect of the Olympic Movement within the whole of the Sports Movement are analyzed the same way. Besides: How does the olympic participation favour or hinder the sportsman's personal development?

Sometimes (as to the value 'Independency of the Movement from commercial, political and other strange influences'¹) it was necessary to analyze the olympic organization. As a means for realizing values the olympic organization has its advantages and disadvantages at the same time.

Some of the more than 30 aims and ideas of the Olympic Movement are — strictly

understood — incompatible with one another in the following sense: It is not possible simultaneously to realize the corresponding values completely. Inevitably conflicts of value-realizing and preferring occur; e.g. the one between the pretension to the mission of the Movement to spread (requiring participation as manifold as possible) and the solemnity of the Games (threatening to be lost in the steadily growing of the number of participants and events).

Judging the whole system of values, however, according to the number and the weight of the realized values for the Games, shows: the most important aims are realized in a greater measure — at least partially. The positive ('functional') contribution to the union and guidance of the Sports Movement, to the transcendence of cultural barriers, to the personal development of the single athlete prevail numerically. An order of precedence of values, however, depends on personal valuation and delivers no scientific criterion of judgment.

The olympic values are compatible with many other systems of values. This fact and the multiplicity of partial meanings and interpretations of the 'Olympic Ideal', until now not sharply defined, are amongst other reasons responsible for the world-wide social gathering effect of the Movement.

The olympic values are ordered in groups according to their contents (for instance: values of personal improvement, values of social interaction and belongingness-together, etc.). Further, the appendix reveals mathematical structure-analytical relations amongst the values, according to their position in the whole system. The olympic values in essential form a (partially) 'ordered set', which the mathematician calls a 'lattice'. Therefore, in spite of the value-conflicts, they show a relative closeness of structure. of which there is a lack in many other systems of values.

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¹ In 1962, the Carl-Diem Medal, one of the most important prizes donated to scientific investigations concerning the subject sports, was awarded to the work *Wertsetzung und Wertverwirklichung der neuzeitlichen olympischen Bewegung — eine soziologische Erfahrungs- und Dokumentenanalyse (Establishment and Realization of the Values of Modern Olympic Movement — a Sociological Inquiry of Documents and Experience)* (352+XXXV pages, Kiel/Germany 1961/1962, typewritten in German language) by the German Sports Federation. Dr. Hans Lenk, the author, is Olympic Champion himself. He won the gold medal in the Olympic Games of Rome, 1960, rowing in the winning eight from Kiel and Ratzeburg.