

1863-1963 Coubertin honoured

The French Olympic Committee in the course of two moving but simple ceremonies celebrated last June the centenary of the birth of Baron Pierre de Coubertin, which coincided with the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the French Committee.

First of all, at the Sorbonne, at the entrance to the great amphitheatre beneath the plaque commemorating the meeting of June 23rd 1894, during which Pierre de Coubertin announced his project to revive the Games of Ancient Greece. Mr. Armand Massard, president of the French Olympic Committee, laid a palm and also a symbolic wreath. Among those present were Mademoiselle de Coubertin, daughter of the Renovator of the Games, and many other personalities, among them Mr. François Pietri and Mr. Pierre Ferri, both former Ministers, Mr. Varin, Inspector General for Education, who represented the Rector of the University of Paris,

many members of the French Olympic Committee and the presidents of various sports federations.

The delegation proceeded afterwards to the Coubertin Stadium, where, at the suggestion of the president of the French Olympic Committee, the Municipal Council of Paris had placed a medallion with the effigy of Pierre de Coubertin.

This work, which is for the moment only in the form of a model, has been executed by the sculptor Joachim Jean, and which will eventually be struck in bronze or cut in stone. After a short speech, in the course of which he traced the main events of the immense task accomplished by Pierre de Coubertin, Mr. Armand Massard laid the first stone of a commemorative plaque which will bear the names of great champions no longer living.