

Destined to propagate the Olympic Ideal

## ***THE OLYMPIC ACADEMY***

**Created by the International Olympic Committee, held its third Session at Olympus in July last**

Among the pines and fallen columns of ancient Olympus, the International Olympic Academy held its third session. Its provisional buildings, backing on to this radiant hillside, dominate the confluent of the Alpheus and the Cladeus, those two rivers where athletes bathed two thousand years ago. Not far from there, on the coast of the Gulf of Arcady and the Ionian Sea, Athens is 300 kilometres away.

It is there, at the very heart of the Olympic tradition, that the International Olympic Committee decided, in 1949, to create a cultural centre destined to propagate the Olympic ideal. More than six years elapsed before this project became a reality, for, after two attempts in 1961 and 1962, it was only this year that the organization started to function.

What is the aim of this academy? It is to maintain and develop the Olympic spirit and ideal by the study and application of the principles of sporting competitions, and the consolidation of the *Olympic concept*, and also to contribute towards reviving the Olympic spirit of ancient Greece by going deeply into the study of Olympics.

Created by the decision of the International Olympic Committee, it is to Greece that this organization has entrusted the direction of the academy. Placed under the auspices of the Greek Olympic Committee, it is administered by a directing council of three people, elected from among its members. They have the task of organizing the courses, the choice of the lecturers, and of the whole administration. The programmes of the academy are of a purely intellectual

order, and do not include any sporting competitions. The vast sports grounds are, however, planned for the training and relaxation of the students. The lectures and courses, as laid down in the rules, should be in accordance with the Olympic spirit and with the contribution of sport and games towards the education of the young, the philosophy of games, the influence of sport on the development of moral virtues, and the history of the Olympic Games. Specialists are invited to give courses on scientific questions in relation to athletics, psychology, medicine and biophysics.

The men invited to teach at Olympia are chosen from many illustrious names in their different fields. Last year, Paul Vialar gave two lectures on Baron de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Games, and Professor Carl Diem devoted three lectures to the Olympic idea. Mr. Otto Szimiecek also spoke of the adherence to Olympic ideals.

In the spirit of its founders, this academy on the banks of the Alpheus, ought to become a world centre for the Olympic spirit. The buildings in the course of construction will, in a few years, be able to house 500 students and professors. The courses, which took place in the space of four weeks, will be spread over several months. Every year people will be gathered together in this way, — people who, in all countries of the world, see in sport something more than just the satisfaction of defeating an adversary, namely a moral ideal, a search for the balanced development of the human body, intelligence and spirit.

# Board of Trustees of the International Olympic Academy

*Chairman:* Mr. Jean Ketseas, 2nd Vice-President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee Member of the International Olympic Committee for Greece.

*Members:* General I. R. Theodosios Pathanassiadis, 1st Vice-President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee; Vice-Admiral Pirros Lappas, Honorary Secretary of the Hellenic Olympic Committee.

*Curator:* Mr. Otto Szymiczek, Technical Advisor of the Hellenic Olympic Committee.

*Assistants:* Mr. Xenis Messinezis, Ion Io'annides.

## GLIMPSE OF THAT 3rd SESSION

It took place in that charming site of Olympia. 83 students (amongst them 21 girls) were sent there by their National Olympic Committees. They represented 23 Nations.

Several messages were received on the opening day. They were sent by H. R.H. The Prince Constantine of Greece, by Vice-Admiral Pyrrhos Lappas, Hon. Sec. of the Greek Olympic Committee and by Mr. Avery Brundage, President of the International Olympic Committee, who expressed himself as follow:

GREETINGS TO THE OLYMPIC ACADEMY FOR ITS THIRD SESSION. MAY THE SERENITY AND SACRED STONES OF OLYMPIA REMIND YOU OF THE HIGH MORAL PRINCIPLES AND THE LOFTY IDEALS WHICH WERE EXEMPLIFIED THROUGH ALL THE LANDS OF THE GREEKS FOR ALMOST TWELVE CENTURIES BY THE ANCIENT GAMES AND WHICH TODAY HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO 100 COUNTRIES IN LESS THAN ONE BY THE REVIVED GAMES. BEST WISHES FOR A STIMULATING SOJOURN.'

AVERY BRUNDAGE.

## Lecturers at the 3rd session

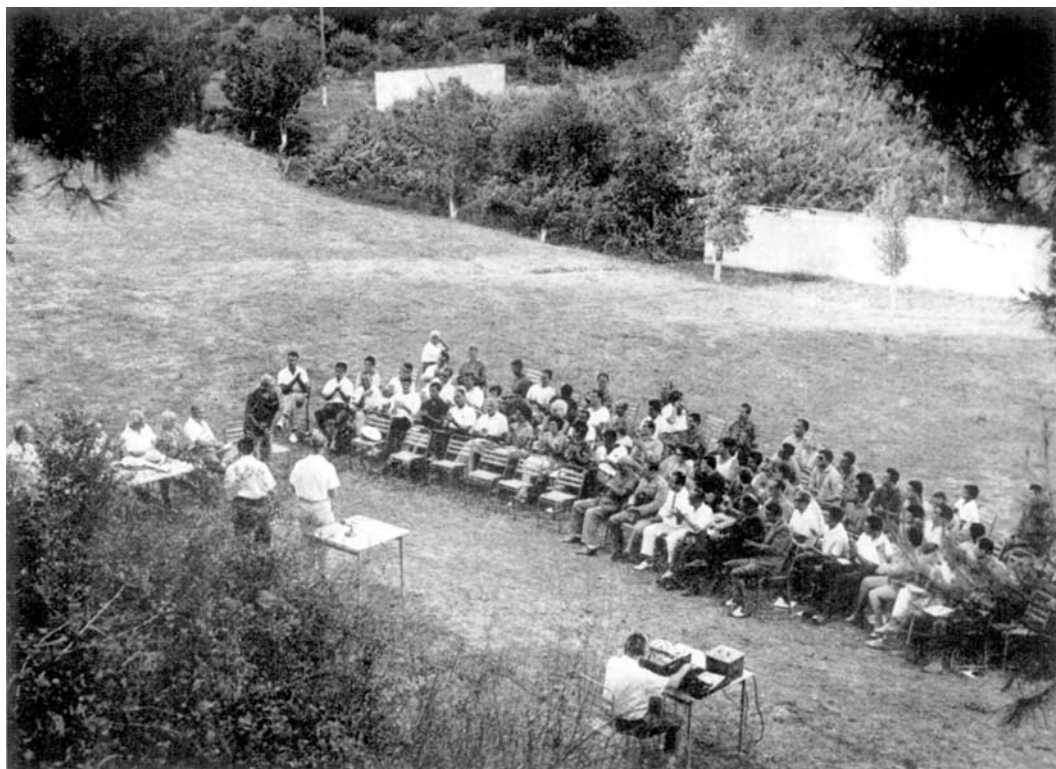
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|--|---------------|---|
| 1. BRONEER Oscar, Professor Emeritus University of Chicago.  | U.S.A.        | (I) <i>What Isthmia has taught us about Greek Athletics.</i><br>(II) <i>Religious aspects of the Isthmian Games.</i>                            |
| 2. FRIED Edgar, Gen. Secretary of the Austrian Olympic Committee.  | AUSTRIA       | <i>The activities of the Olympic functionaries.</i>   |
| 3. KORBS Dr. W., Director of the Köln Sporthochschule.   | GERMANY       | <i>Gymnastic texts from the earlier Ptolemys.</i>   |
| 4. MCINTOSH, C. Peter, Senior Inspector of Physical Education for the London County Council.   | GREAT BRITAIN | (I) <i>Fitness or Prowess.</i><br>(II) <i>Sports in Schools today.</i>  |
| 5. MISANGYI, Dr. Otto, National Olympic Coach.   | SWITZERLAND   | <i>Sport and the Student.</i>   |
| 6. PALAEOLOGOS Cleanthis, Hon. Director of the National Academy for Physical Education.  | GREECE        | <i>Famous Athletes of Ancient Greece.</i>   |
| 7. RECLA, Dr. Josef, Prof. of the Institute for Physical Education, University of Graz.  | AUSTRIA       | (I) <i>Contribution of Science to the development of Physical Culture.</i><br>(II) <i>Questions and problems of Physical Culture Philology.</i> |
| 8. SZYMIECEK Otto, Technical Advisor of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, Curator of the Olympic Academy.  | GREECE        | <i>Materialism is the enemy of the Olympic Ideology.</i>  |
| 9. VIALAR Paul, President of the Sports Writers of France.   | FRANCE        | (I) <i>The spirit of Sport.</i><br>(II) <i>On behalf of a Sports Doctrine.</i>  |
| 10. ZAULI Dr. Bruno, Hon. Secretary of the Italian Olympic Committee; President of the European Committee of the International Athletism Amateur Federation. | ITALY         | <i>The Law of Sport,</i>  |

Furthermore a written lecture was given to all participants from M. Avery Brundage, President of the International Olympic Committee, on the subject: 'The Olympic Philosophy'. (See our pictures in the present Bulletin.)



*The participants of 23 nations.*

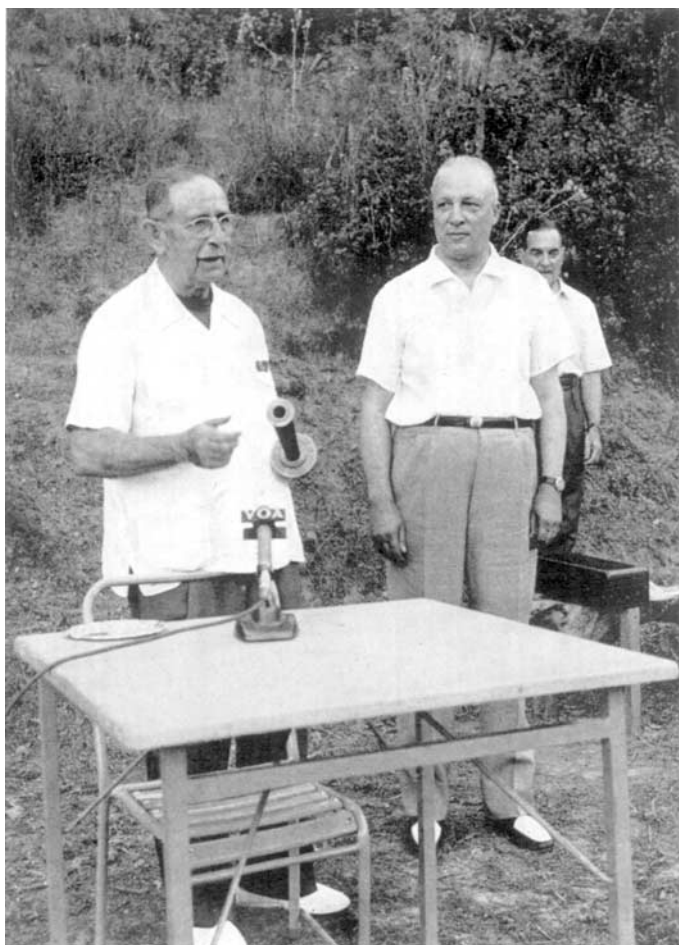
# The 3rd Session of the Academy took place in July 1963, in Olympia



*Conferences took place in the open air.*



*A group of participants.*



*Mr. Jean Th. Ketseas, President of the Olympic Academy, introduces Dr. Bruno Zauli (Italy), on the right, giving his conference.*