

EDITORIAL

Here is an example which is worth following. The President of the Federal Republic of Germany has just made an appeal to the youth of his country. He has instructed the Minister of Youth and Family Affairs to organize the *Olympic Journey for young Germans in 1964*. What does this mean? As was the case in 1952 (Helsinki) and in 1960 (Rome) the youth of Western Germany will attend the Olympic competitions taking place in the Far East, and will meet young people from other countries on this occasion. This stay in Tokyo will be an exceptional and unforgettable event. Nevertheless, the competition for the journey to Tokyo does not merely aim at participation in the Olympic Games. The younger generation of Germany will also have the opportunity of getting to know Japan itself, the people of this far-away country and its young men and women. The young people of these two countries have always been in close contact with each other. This analogy has allowed them also to understand and respect each other. This *Olympic Journey of 1964* should allow them to create fresh bonds of friendship since there will be exchanges between their two delegations. It will teach them to know their neighbours and to appreciate them. Is it not possible that these young people of today will become the core of athletes for future Games?

Those taking part in this journey will be chosen by the means of an extremely efficient method of selection. An athletic contest will take place as a first 'test' in the Spring of 1964. Every young German will be invited to join in. But it will not only be a question of succeeding in a physical test; they will have to show equal prowess morally and intellectually. Was it not Ancient Greece who established this ideal in their Games for us to emulate today? These cultural tests will lead up to the final competitions at the Berlin Stadium where will be reunited the 660 young people who have distinguished themselves during the elimination competitions, which, in their turn, will have been carried out in three stages. From this final gathering, 125 young men and girls will be chosen to take part, absolutely free of charge, in the *Olympic Journey of 1964*. As in 1952 and 1960, the young people's participation will be followed by a cultural journey to the Far East and more particularly to Japan. As we have said, this is an example to be followed.

P.S. A similar journey was organized in 1960 by the Panathlon Club of Lausanne and offered to the 17 most deserving young men of this city. A similar offer will be made at the Winter Games at Innsbruck.