

## Opening Ceremony of the 62nd session of the I.O.C.

October 6, 1964

*The Japanese Olympic Committee chose for this ceremony a setting worthy of the programme it had prepared for its guests. The Nissei Theatre, whose mosaic walls with concave surfaces and ceiling decorated with pearl oysters evoked the grotto of some sea-god, had been built one year earlier to accommodate only good entertainment and to foster international cultural exchanges. Thus by the time the meetings started arts and sport, faithful to the olympic tradition, were already mixed in Japan. Honoured by the presence of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan and the members of their family, the International Olympic Committee, and a large audience including notably the representatives of the National Olympic Committees, the International Federations, as well as the Japanese Olympic Committee and the Organizing Committee*

*in corpore, had the privilege of hearing two symbolic works in the oriental musical tradition : « Etenraku », an orchestral arrangement of Court music by Mr. Hide-maro Konoe, and an impromptu for traditional flute and drum by Mr. Matsuhiko Ito. Messages of welcome and gratitude were exchanged and the ceremony was gracefully brought to a close thanks to Mr. Daigoro Yasukawa, president of the Organizing Committee of the Tokyo Games, who entrusted his daughter-in-law, Madame Kazuko Yasukawa, one of the best pianists in the Empire of Japan, with the task of uniting Eastern and Western art in her interpretation, together with the Japanese Radio Symphony Orchestra, of « Mozarts' Coronation Concerto ». The Olympic Movement was once again the pretext for an universal event.*