



In memory of H. S. H. the Prince of Monaco

We had known for a long time that he was ill. But he was too discreet where he himself was concerned ever to have let one of us hear him complain.

Shortly before the opening of the Olympic Games, a letter — his last — told me simply that bad health deprived him of the pleasure of joining his friends and colleagues of the I.O.C. in Tokyo.

And some weeks later he departed this life as he had lived it — in the manner of a nobleman of high birth, with the fine distinction that was his constant prerogative.

And yet, what deep impressions he will leave on our memories. The Prince, who loved the arts and letters, also loved sport, as he loved anything that contributed to the harmony and elegance of society and of men.

We welcomed him among us on the International Olympic Committee fourteen years ago. He succeeded his son, H. S. H. Prince Rainier, to membership.

From the first he was able to win the esteem and full sympathy of his colleagues by his gracious and courteous manners.

None was ever less inclined to impose himself. I am reminded today of the only

day when I succeeded in making him abandon his customary reserve. He had formed a plan to institute a prize for the composition of an Olympic Anthem to take the place of the different anthems played at the Games as chosen by the nations organizing them.

I had been asked to explain this plan to our colleagues. I answered that no one was better qualified to defend his plan than the author himself.

Taken unawares, he complied with a good grace and with complete success — not without a reproachful glance towards me.

But afterwards, taking me by the arm, he said with his indefinable smile, half sad, half mocking : « My dear friend, you had me that time, but you will not have me twice... »

Alas, it is true, we « shall not have him any more ».

We beg our former colleague, his predecessor on the international Olympic Committee, Prince Rainier of Monaco, kindly to accept in tribute the profound condolences of the members of the International Olympic Committee for this cruel loss.

Armand Massard.