

Communiqués and news in brief

Candidatures for olympic awards for 1965

As is customary each year, the International Olympic Committee, meeting for its 63rd session in Madrid in October 1965, will confer various olympic awards on persons and organizations whose activity in favour of the Olympic Movement has been made known to it.

These prizes are five in number:

The *Olympic Cup* instituted by the Baron de Coubertin in 1906. It is awarded to an institution or association with a general reputation for merit and integrity which has been active and efficient in the service of amateur sport and has contributed substantially to the development of the Olympic Movement. The cup remains at Campagne Mon-Repos, the recipient being given a bronze plaque and a diploma.

The *Olympic Diploma of Merit*, created at the Congress in Brussels in 1905, is awarded to an individual with qualifications similar to those described in the previous paragraph (Olympic Cup).

This diploma may be awarded to honorary members of the International Olympic Committee.

The *Fearnley Cup*, founded in 1950 by Sir Thomas Fearnley, former member of the International Olympic Committee, is given to an amateur sport club or a local amateur sport association because of meritorious achievement in the service of the Olympic Movement. The cup remains at Campagne Mon-Repos ; the recipient is given a miniature and a diploma.

The *Mohammed Taher Trophy*, founded in 1950 by Mohammed Taher, member of the International Olympic Committee, is awarded to an amateur athlete, who may or may not have competed in the Olympic Games but whose general merit or career justifies the award of a special distinction. The trophy remains at Campagne Mon-Repos ; the recipient is given a plaque and a diploma.

None of these awards may be bestowed on a National or International Federation, on a National Olympic Committee or on the officers of these organizations in their capacity as such nor on a member of the International Olympic Committee (except that the Olympic Diploma of Merit may be awarded to honorary members).

The *Count Bonacossa Trophy*. The Count Bonacossa Trophy offered in 1954 by C.O.N.I., the National Olympic Committee of Italy, in honour of Count Alberto Bonacossa, member of the International Olympic Committee for many years, is awarded to the National Olympic Committee which during the preceding year has done outstanding work in furthering the Olympic Movement. The trophy remains at Mon-Repos ; the recipient receives a miniature and a diploma.

Candidature for the various awards for 1965, accompanied by a statement of justification, must be sent *in triplicate* to the International Olympic

Committee general secretariat, Mon-Repos, Lausanne, Switzerland, before 31st July 1965, for onward transmission to Mr. François Pietri, International Olympic Committee member for France and president of the committee responsible for reporting to the session.

Olympic ceremony in Tokyo

Our Bulletin No. 89 related the exceptional fact of the bestowal at the same time of three olympic awards on official bodies and persons who had worked for the organization of Olympic Games. On the 10th February last, in the Kishi Memorial Haal in Tokyo, in the presence of numerous sporting and civic personages, Dr. Shingoro Takaishi, International Olympic Committee member for Japan, representing on this occasion president Avery Brundage, presented to Governor Ryotaro Azuma the Olympic Cup, awarded to the City of Tokyo, to Mr. Kenzo Tange, architectural engineer, the Olympic Diploma of Merit, and to Mr. Tsuneyoshi Takeda, president of the Japanese Olympic Committee, the Bonacossa Trophy awarded to this committee. Our heartiest congratulations. (See photo on page 44.)

Mr. Victor Boin : a great sportsman retires

We have learnt with much regret of Mr. Victor Boin's decision to retire from his chairmanship of the Belgian Olympic Committee, a position he held for the last ten years. Last year, H. R. H. Prince Albert of Liege, then International Olympic Committee member for Belgium, presented Mr. Boin with the Olympic Diploma of Merit, awarded for 1963. This distinction rewarded more than fifty years of service within the Olympic Movement. Distinguished man of letters and eminent sports journalist, Victor Boin took part as an athlete in four Olympic Games (this would have been *five* if the 1916 Games had taken place). In London in 1908, he won a silver medal with the Belgian water polo team ; in Stockholm in 1912, he entered for both fencing (4th finalist — epee) and water polo (bronze medal) ; in Antwerp in 1920, when member of the Belgian sword team which ended second, he had the honour to take the first Olympic Oath (see photo on page 37) ; finally, in Paris in 1924, with the Belgian epee team, he was awarded a bronze medal. Subsequent Olympic Games saw him first as sporting journalist then member, vice-president and finally president of the Belgian Olympic Committee. Innumerable are Victor Boin's writings on sport, as are the cultural, humanitarian or sporting societies and official bodies over whose destinies he has presided, and the distinctions which have rewarded his merits.

In the name of the president and members of the International Olympic Committee we thank him for his tireless devotion and faithfulness to

the Olympic Movement. Our best wishes go with him in his retirement, and our hope that future olympic meetings will not be deprived of his smiling presence and wise counsel.

The Helms World Trophy selections for 1964

On January 19th, the Helms Hall Board in Los Angeles announced the Helms World Trophy selections for 1964. Those chosen for honours all competed in noteworthy manner in the 1964 Olympic Games at Tokyo. They are for Africa, Mohamed Gamoudi (Tunisia), 10 000 m. run, 2nd in 28' 24" 8 ; for Asia, Yukio Endo (Japan), all-around gymnastics champion ; for Australasia, Betty Cuthbert (Australia), women's 400 m. run, champion in 52" (olympic record) ; for Europe, Gaston Roelants (Belgium), steeplechase champion in 8' 30" 8 (olympic record) ; for North America, Alfred Oerter (U.S.A.), discus throw champion 61 m. (olympic record) and for South America, Wendell Mottley (Trinidad), 400 m. run, 2nd in 45" 2.

Each of them will become recipients of silver-plaque awards and will have his or her name engraved upon the huge Helms World Trophy which is lodged in Helms Hall, international sports shrine in Los Angeles.

It should be noted that once chosen for honours, an athlete no longer qualifies for future selection, as was the case of Abebe Bikila, Dawn Fraser, Peter Snell and others.

An "olympic stone" at St. Moritz

At the beginning of December 1964, an "olympic stone" was uncovered at St. Moritz (Switzerland), in the presence of a Swiss Olympic delegation, composed of Messrs. Marcel Henninger, president, Raymond Gafner, vice-president, Francis Messerli, founder member, Fritz Erb, member, and Jean Weymann, general secretary, several 1928 and 1948 medal winners, and local authorities. This stone, weighing 55 tons, carries the names, engraved on metal panels, of the olympic winners of the IInd and Vth Olympic Winter Games, held in St. Moritz in 1928 and 1948. (See photo on page 44.)

Our visitors

During the winter, H. E. Mohammed Taher, member of the International Olympic Committee, assistant to president Brundage, frequently came to Mon-Repos to discuss olympic matters with the general secretary. We also had the honour and pleasure of a visit from Major Albert Mayer, International Olympic Committee member for Switzerland, and Mr. Hadj Mohammed Benjelloun, member for Morocco.

As a prelude to April meetings of international Federations delegates with the International Olympic Committee Executive Board, representatives of these came to Mon-Repos. In this way, Mr. Eric Jonas received Mr. Demaux, treasurer of the International Hockey Federation on the

14th January, and then, in March, Mr. René Chesal, general secretary of the International Cycling Union, and Mr. Kurt Hasler, president of the International Shooting Union.

Mr. Felix Léviton, president of the International Sporting Press Association, and his general secretary, Mr. Herbauts, passing through Lausanne, profited by the occasion to review problems and needs of the press at Olympic Games.

Finally, on 22nd March, coming from Munich, where a meeting of the Executive Board of the International Sports Medical Federation had taken place, Professors Joseph Wolffe and Toshiro Azuma, respectively president and member of the International Committee of Olympic Medical Archives, explained to the International Olympic Committee general secretary, to Dr. Pierre Krieg, president of the Swiss Sports Medical Association, and to the Bulletin editor, the development of the first stage of scientific research work undertaken by their committee. In our next Bulletin we shall return to the capital importance of this work which will enable sport and sportsmen once more, but in a completely new field, to serve mankind.

Errata

Mr. Erik von Frenckell, Committee member for Finland, has pointed out in his typically humorous way that his name was not in the list of members present at the International Olympic Committee 62nd session in Tokyo, published in our last Bulletin No. 89, and enquired after the "unknown member" who made up the total to 61 members present, when, including himself, there were only sixty. Error there was of course, for which we apologize. There were, in fact, 60 members present, and the two members for Finland, Mr. Rangell and Mr. von Frenckell, not just one, attended the session in Tokyo.

"Olympiad" and "Olympic Games"

The French vocabulary Office communicates : "*Olympiad* means 'period of four years between two Olympic Games'. Nothing however prevents the use of this word to designate the 'Olympic Games' themselves, since in ancient Greek *Olympias* had this double meaning : 'celebration of the Games' and 'period of four years'. Approval of *Olympiad* in the sense of 'celebration of Olympic Games' does not mean that the pressure of an incorrect habit is winning the day, official confirmation is not being given to error. One rather refuses to consider as an error that which was never one, the ostracism of *Olympiad* in the sense of 'celebration of Olympic Games' not being at all justified. With regard to a Greek word, one could not be more purist than were the Greeks." What do our members think... and International Olympic Committee members ?

It should be pointed out, however, that the International Olympic Committee has always insisted on the distinction between Olympiad in

the sense of "period of four years" and Olympic Games, owing to three Olympiads not having been celebrated by Games. Thus we are in the second year of the eighteenth Olympiad, which was celebrated by the fifteenth Olympic Games. An Olympiad is counted even when Olympic Games have not been held. (For example : the Games of the 6th Olympiad in 1916 could not be organized owing to the first World War.) Editor.

Bibliography

Official Report Olympic Games 1964. Published by the British Olympic Association. An extremely complete report, with numerous articles, commentaries and photographs, in which are to be found all the results of the Tokyo Games, from heats to finals. The work has a preface by the Marquess of Exeter, president of the Olympic Committee of Great Britain and vice-president of the International Olympic Committee.

Werte, Ziele, Wirklichkeit der Modernen Olympischen Spiele, by Dr. Hans Lenk, published by Verlag Karl Hofmann, Schorndorf bei Stuttgart. What is *the olympic ideal* ? Interpretations given throughout the world are as varied as numerous. After thorough research, the study of books and documents published owing to this famous *ideal*, drawing on his personal experience, the author proposes a synthesis of the *values, aims* and

realities of the modern Olympic Games and concludes that the very ambiguity of the ideal contributes to its popularity amongst men of different races and cultures and that the olympic structure owes its stability to the fact that the programme originally laid down has been almost completely realised.

Greek Athletes and Athletics, by H. A. Harris, published by Hutchinson & Co., Ltd., London W.I. There are three groups of people who will be interested in this book. There are those who know a great deal about ancient Greece but nothing about its athletics. There are those who know a great deal about modern athletics but nothing about ancient Greece. Finally there are an increasing number of tourists who visit Greece and feel a natural curiosity about what went on at Olympia or Delphi. Mr. Harris, who is professor of classics, most vividly brings to life the world of Greek athletics by judicious quotation from a wide range of sources — literature, professional historical accounts and memoirs, and casual inscriptions found by the archaeologist. He turns a curious and fascinating light on the affinities between the Greek attitude to sport and that of the modern world. In his foreword, the Marquess of Exeter recommends this book as the most comprehensive history that has been written in English of the ancient Olympic Games.

The first olympic oath was taken by Victor Boin at the 1920 Games at Antwerp (Belgium). To-day Mr. Boin is retiring from the Olympic Movement which he has served for over fifty years. (See page 61.)



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The Swiss Olympic Committee inaugurated at St. Moritz (Switzerland) an olympic stone commemorating the 1928 and 1948 Olympic Winter Games held there. (See page 62.)

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Presentation of olympic awards in Tokyo. From left to right : Messrs. Tsuneyoshi Takeda, president of the Japanese Olympic Committee, Kenzo Tange and Ryotaro Azuma, governor of Tokyo. Speaking is Dr. Shingoro Takaishi, member of the I.O.C. (See page 61).



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