

*Eight towns are vying with each other for the honour of being called "Olympic City" in 1972.*

*In this "Bulletin" our readers are given the main particulars contained in the applications submitted to the International Olympic Committee.*

*What struck us, as we studied these applications in detail, was the great enthusiasm of their promoters. For the Games, eight towns, and the National Olympic Committees and governments that are supporting them, have agreed to tremendous efforts and are getting ready to undertake huge projects. The required energy has been mobilized, the funds have been assured, and minds stimulated by what is still but a hope. What better proof could be given of the extraordinary power of the Olympic Movement, the fertility of competition...*

*On April 26th, the die will have been cast: it will be known which towns have been chosen for the organization of the Games of the 20th Olympiad and the 11th Olympic Winter Games.*

*It was intentionally that we used an expression peculiar to games of chance. For both in spirit and in actual fact, each of the towns applying is worthy of its aim, as are the athletes lined up for the start of a final. Victory goes to the best, but also sometimes to the one with the most luck on his side. Just as our admiration goes to all, our gratitude is extended to each of those who have invited the Olympic Movement, with all its colourful ceremonial and thrilling contests, to seek hospitality within their gates.*

*We thank them on behalf of the athletes — both seasoned and budding — who are dreaming of the 1972 medals and already training hard to win them. At their age six years is wonderfully rich in promise. We are grateful to our future guests for the faith they are placing in the wisdom of men — for after all a minute's folly is sufficient to annihilate the world — and their belief in man's desire for peace.*

*Whatever the result of the voting in April, the Olympic Movement will be much indebted to Detroit, Madrid, Montreal and Munich, Banff, Lahti, Salt Lake City and Sapporo. All those who undertake to gather men together, all those who look to the future with an act of faith, all those who place their hopes on brotherhood and peace are entitled to our admiration and our gratitude for they are applying the very principles of the Olympic ideal.*

Editor.

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