

# communiqués and news in brief

## † H.E. Alfredo Benavides

On 2nd August, as this Bulletin is being sent to the press, we hear of the sudden death of His Excellency Alfredo Benavides, member of the I.O.C. for Peru from 1923 to 1957 and, since then, honorary member. We offer our deepest sympathy to his family and relatives for this loss which the International Olympic Committee also feels very keenly.

## One hundred and twenty-three N.O.C.s

The International Olympic Committee, during its session in Tehran, was pleased to recognize the National Olympic Committee of the Virgin Islands, who, up till now, had taken part under the colours of the United States. The number of N.O.C.s recognized by the I.O.C. remains however unchanged for, since the creation of Tanzania made up of Tanganyika and Zanzibar, the former committee in Dar es-Salam has ceased to operate and the I.O.C. has never received a request for recognition of an Olympic Committee of Tanzania.

One may expect the recognition in the near future of the Olympic Committees of Gabon and British Honduras which have yet to make certain modifications in their statutes so that they harmonize with certain conditions imposed by the Olympic rules and principles. Meanwhile, in the Congo Kinshasa and in Mauritius sports associations are being organized and we should see the formation of two new committees in these countries before the Games of XXth Olympiad.



## In Turkey

The first national exhibition of olympic postage stamps in Turkey took place from 20th to 31st July under the patronage of the Turkish Olympic Committee. On 20th July, 1967 it was exactly sixty

years since Baron de Coubertin, during a visit to Istanbul, gave Mr. Selim Sirri Tarcam the task of founding a Turkish Olympic Committee. To mark the occasion, two stamps were issued bearing the effigy of these two gentlemen but unfortunately they did not reach us in time to be printed here. In addition a special seal (see illustration) was designed and used from the beginning of the year until 30th July. This philatelic event will in future be repeated in Turkey every four years, the year preceding the Olympic Games, to the great joy of philatelists.

## The last athlete of the first Games

Sir George Robertson died in London at the end of January this year. He was apparently the last surviving athlete who took part in the first modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896.

He was a discus thrower and a member of the British team. He will be remembered in the history of the Games for the fact that while the King of Greece was handing him his prize, he recited an ode in Greek which he had written himself.

In remembrance of him we are publishing this unusual photograph of Myron's discobolus.



Mr. Armand Massard, first Vice-President of the International Olympic Committee, has resigned from his office of President of the French Olympic Committee which he has held since 1933. A page has been turned in the history of an Olympic Committee which is so important since it is the one of Pierre de Coubertin's mother country. For thirty-four years, and more especially since sport has received such a tremendous impetus, Mr. Massard has striven to defend the independence of sport and the athlete in the face of the dangers of disguised professionalism, of commercialism and of nationalisation. The Count de Beaumont has been elected President of the French Olympic Committee in succession to Mr. Massard who himself becomes Honorary President.

Mr. Armand Massard, Vice-President of the International Olympic Committee, being unable to reply personally to all the friendly messages which his colleagues have sent him on the occasion of his resignation from the presidency of the French Olympic Committee and of his unanimous election as Honorary President, would like to offer his most sincere thanks to all.

(Photo Maurice Herzog, Lausanne.J





## The Pan-American Games

The Vth Pan-American Games took place in Winnipeg, Canada, from 22nd July to 7 August. The opening ceremony was attended by President Brundage, General Clark, Vice-President of the I.O.C. and President of the Pan-American Sports Organization, by several other members of the I.O.C., and the Presidents of various International Sports Federations.

More than three thousand athletes from the three Americas competed in nineteen different sports : athletics, baseball, basketball, boxing, cycling, equestrian sports, fencing, hockey, football, gymnastics, judo, rowing, shooting, swimming, lawn tennis, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling, yachting. The exhibition sports were canoeing and softball. While canoeing is a traditional olympic sport, the International Softball Federation was recognized by the I.O.C. during its Tehran session as an organization operating under olympic standards (whose sport, however, is not on the olympic programme).

The I.O.C. had granted its patronage to the Vth Pan-American Games as it did for the 1st Pan-American Games in Buenos Aires in 1951, for the IIth Games in Mexico in 1955, the IIIrd Games in Chicago in 1959, and the IVth Games in Sao Paulo in 1963.

## An I.O.C. commission of investigation in South Africa

A commission composed of Lord Killanin (Ireland), member of the I.O.C. Executive Board and President Brundage's personal representative, who will lead it, of Mr. R. S. Alexander (Kenya) and of Sir Ade Ademola (Nigeria), will go to South Africa for about ten days in the middle of September.

The principle of this study trip was approved by the I.O.C. during its session in Rome, in April 1966, and is being under-

taken in reply to an invitation from the South African National Olympic Committee. During their stay in South Africa, the members of this delegation will examine the practical organization of sport in the various communities and on a national scale. A report will be drawn up after the journey and will be presented to the I.O.C. Executive Board and the plenary assembly in Grenoble in February 1968. It must be made clear that the commission will limit itself to reporting on what it sees and will in no way recommend any solutions to the present problems.



## Mr. Giorgio de Stefani

(Italy), member of the I.O.C. Executive Board, has been elected President of the International Lawn Tennis Federation, for a term of two years, during the general assembly which took place in Luxemburg in July. Mr. de Stefani, a brilliant tennis player, was chosen for the Italian Davis Cup team at the age of twenty-two, and he remained as contestant in that event for fourteen years. Out of sixty-six matches he won forty-four thus establishing at that time a world record. He won the European zone matches for the Davis Cup twice and twice he reached the finals of the interzone section.

This is the third time that he has been elected President of the I.L.T.F. at the heart of which he devotes himself wholly to a sport which is practiced by millions of amateurs next to the handful of stars who are as brilliant as they are widely travelled.

## Medals at the Olympic Games

The International Olympic Committee has instructed the Organizing Committees of the Grenoble and Mexico Games to ensure that medals for events other than those included in the olympic programme are not distributed at the same time as the olympic medals.

## Olympic handbook

A handbook giving the lists of the members of the I.O.C., of the National Olympic Committees, of the International Federations and of organizations recognized by the I.O.C., which will replace the list given in the *Bulletin* of the I.O.C., will be published once a year, after each I.O.C. session (twice in the year of the Games). This handbook will appear for the first time after the Grenoble Games and will be obtainable from the general secretariat of the I.O.C. in Lausanne.

## New rules

The new edition of the olympic rules has left the press. This 1967 edition contains, in addition to the amendments approved in Tehran during the 65th I.O.C. session, all the modifications, and they are numerous, which have been made since the publication of the last edition in 1962. The new wording of rule 26 will be noted with interest since its positive form throws a new light on the question of amateur status. Article 38 has been altered considerably, as has the part concerning the International Olympic Committee and its internal organization. As far as general information was concerned, a certain amount of modernization was called for, which has now turned this document into an extremely useful source of information.

This booklet, which exists in both French and English, and which is published with the title of *The Olympic Games (Les Jeux olympiques)*, can be obtained from the secretariat of the I.O.C. at the cost price of 3.— US dollars (air mail postage extra).

## Olympic Days

The Hellenic Olympic Committee, through its Secretary General Vice-Admiral Lappas, who is also a member of the I.O.C., made a proposal at the Tehran session for the adoption of a fixed date at which an Olympic Day would be celebrated throughout the world. The date of 6th April which was originally suggested by Baron de Coubertin seemed to be the most fitting in the eyes of the initiators of this project, because it would commemorate the first day of the first Modern Olympic Games which took place in Athens in 1896. Unfortunately, for a universal calendar, climates and obligations differ too much and it has proved too difficult for all the National Olympic Committees to organize ceremonies on the same day.

## Medical Commission

After the resignation of Sir Arthur Porritt from the office he has held with outstanding merit for several years, the chairmanship of the I.O.C. Medical Commission has been entrusted to Prince Alexandre de Mérode who, to assist him in his work, has enlisted the co-operation of experts as Dr. Hay (Mexico), Dr. Dirix (Belgium), Professor Beckett (Great Britain), Professor Prokop (Austria), Dr. van Dijk (Holland) and a representative of F.I.M.S. as well as two representatives of the medical sections of the Organizing Committees of Mexico and Grenoble. The commission will meet before the International Weeks, which will take place in Mexico next October, in order to organize medical examinations and aid which, on this occasion, will be able to "re-hearse" for the 1968 Games.

## Commission for the National Olympic Committees

The I.O.C. Commission set up to work on contacts with the N.O.C.s is composed of eight members. They are Messrs. Azuma (Japan), Luxton (Australia), Clark (Mexico), Wajid Ali (Pakistan), Vind (Denmark), Ademola (Nigeria), Onesti (Italy) and Kroutil (Czechoslovakia). The commission's first task is to meet, before 1st October, 1967 with the N.O.C. advisory committee which itself is composed of two representatives from the N.O.C.s of Oceania. The members of the N.O.C. Advisory committee, who, by convention, are not members of the I.O.C., were elected after consultation with the N.O.C.s themselves. They are for Europe : Messrs. J. Jahre and E. Wieczorek ; for Africa : Mr. J. C. Ganga and the Dr. H. Corenthin ; for Americas : Messrs. J. Beracasa and A. Arroyo ; for Asia : Messrs. A. de O. Sales and W. Jung ; for Oceania : Mr. E. S. Tanner.

## Bibliography

Sport, by Yehoshoua Alouf (Israel). We note this book as being very useful to Hebrew-speaking people, as it symbolises the dynamic launching of sport in our time. The development of sport has called for a specific vocabulary which did not exist in traditional languages. The author has now accumulated vocabulary entries in English and their equivalent in modern Hebrew for twenty-five different branches of sport. Each subject is preceded by a short historical account of its origin. The second part of the book is a comprehensive, methodical and pictorial guide to gymnastics in the Hebrew language only. We can readily believe that this work has met with great success in Israel in being a useful reference for a multilingual population.