

IN THE  
NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

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Belgium

During the General Assembly of the Belgian Olympic Committee, held under the presidency of Mr. Raoul Mollet, and in the presence of Prince Alexandre de Mérode, IOC member, Mr. Victor Boin was elected emeritus president of the BOC. Mr. Victor Boin, who is a brilliant fencer, is known to have had the honour of being the very first athlete to pronounce the olympic oath at Antwerp, in 1920. Victor Boin then became president, and, subsequently, honorary president of the Belgian Olympic Committee. He has been in the service of sports for sixty years, and this recent promotion by his olympic committee has been highly merited.

Also, the Belgian Minister of National Education and Culture has recently awarded Mr. Boin with the gold medal for physical education, sports and open-air life. We are happy to present our congratulations.

Spain

The III. European Games of Indoor-Athletics were held at the Sports Palace in Madrid from 8th to 10th March. With the participation of the best athletes from 20 different countries, they were a great success.

Mr. J.W. Westerhoff, Secretary General of the IOC, had followed the invitation of Mr. Juan Samaranch, IOC member and President of the Spanish Olympic Committee, and attended the Games in Madrid.

Hong Kong

From 17th February to 3rd March, the XI. Sports Festival was held in Hong Kong under the auspices of Mr. O. de Sales, President of the Amateur Sports Federation and of the Hong Kong Olympic Committee. Besides the competitions and sports demonstrations, an exhibition of sports books at the public library, photographs, maps and drawings of the various parks and sports tracks, gave the many visitors an occasion to familiarize with the ideal and the aims of amateur sport.

Hong Kong inhabitants today enjoy great facilities for practising different sports. As a matter of fact, within the last 10 years adequate equipment has been created by the town

Council for parks and gardens which enables thousands of youngsters and sportsmen to train daily on tracks of their choice. Victoria Park alone attracts 25,000 people per day. Further constructions are planned.

### Israël

Eight swimmers, of which four girls, have received altitude instruction at St. Moritz, coached by Joseph Teleki, and are due to return there in June. Their colleagues in athletics and shooting will also be training at St. Moritz.

The Israeli Olympic Committee has decided to pay trip expenses to Mexico for a team of youngsters aged between 14 and 17, who will participate in the youth rally at the Mexico Games.

Athletics, swimming, shooting, weight-lifting, football and basketball will be represented in Mexico.

Training and participation expenses for the team are estimated at 27, 000 Dollars.

### Portugal

At the end of the Grenoble Games, Mr. Avery Brundage, President of the IOC, proceeded to Lisbon where he presented Mr. Francisco Nobre Guedes, President of the Portuguese Olympic Committee, with the "Olympic Diploma of Merit".

### Rumania

The craftsmen's cooperative societies are represented by 105,000 sports associations. Their main activities are volleyball, handball, basketball, table tennis and boxing. Over a third of associations members have participated in championships in 1967.

Ion Popa, a student of architecture at Bucarest University, has covered 8 Central and West-European countries on bicycle by 150 km stretches. He considers this a good training for his trip to Mexico which he hopes to reach by the same means of locomotion in order to assist at the Olympic Games.

### Italy

The I.N.O.C. informs us that following a cultural agreement reached through the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on 8th and 10th January last, two Maltese students will be

admitted to the College for Physical Education in Rome, for the complete three-year course. Moreover, a Maltese gymnasium will be completely installed at the cost of the INOC.

On March 21, a gymnasium for weight-lifting was opened in Catana. On April 18, the National Boxing Centre will be inaugurated in Fiuggi. These achievements are part of a wide programme for sports constructions which has been elaborated by the INOC.

#### Norway

During a stay in Scandinavia where he met the representatives of the National Olympic Committee and officials from Sports Federations, Mr. J.W. Westerhoff, Secretary General of the IOC, assisted, in Oslo, at the Holmenkillen ski competitions which assemble, each year, thousands of participants of all ages.

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