

Visit of the IOC's Offices by the Lausanne Town Council on
May 9th, 1968.

Upon the invitation of Mr. J.W. WESTERHOFF, Secretary General, the Lausanne Town Council visited on May 9th, 1968 the offices and new facilities of the IOC at the Château de Vidy.

Led by its syndic, M. Georges André CHEVALLAZ, The Town Council (M. Robert DEPPEN, Chief of Police. M. Alfred BUSSEY, Chief of Finance, M. Edouard DUTOIT, Chief of Public Works, M. George JACOTTET, Chief of Schools, and M. Marc-Henri MARATTEL, Chief of Industrial Services.) was received by Mr. Albert Mayer, Mr. J.W. WESTERHOFF, and Mr. REINDERHOFF.

Mr. Albert Mayer, IOC member welcomed the Lausanne delegation and, in the name of the IOC very warmly thanked the Town Council for having so kindly put the splendid and comfortable offices of Chateau de Vidy at the disposal of the IOC.

Mr. Mayer, then recalled that the IOC's administrative headquarters have been in Lausanne for 53 years and that therefore close ties exist between the township and the IOC.

Since 1915, main events have been organized in Lausanne in cooperation with the official authorities.

- 1913. 15th Session of the IOC in Lausanne.
- 1915. Pierre de COUBERTIN sets up the administrative headquarters of the IOC in Lausanne.
- 1919. 19th Session of the IOC in Lausanne.
- 1921. International congress on sports techniques.
- 1922. The IOC's offices are installed at Mon Repos, which was graciously put at the disposal of the IOC by the City of Lausanne.
- 1928. Creation of the Bureau for sports pedagogy in Lausanne.
- 1929. 27th Session of the IOC and 35th anniversary of its foundation.
- 1934. Celebration of the 40th anniversary and revival of the Olympic Games.
- 1944. Celebration of the Olympic Jubilee (50 years) in the presence of representatives from 30 countries.
- 1945. First post-war meeting of the IOC's Executive Board.

- 1946) 39th Session of the IOC, presentation of the Olympic Cup to the town of Lausanne for having made the 1944 Jubilee a success.
- 1952. At Mon Repos, Mr. EDSRTOM, President, transmits his office to the New President, Mr. Avery BRUNDAGE.
- 1954. Lausanne Session of the Executive Board, presentation of the Olympic Stadium constructed by the township.
- 1960. Commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the revival of the Olympic! Games, celebrated with many festivities.
- 1962. Meeting of the Executive Board. Reception given by the township.
- 1963. Meeting of the Executive Board of the IOC on the International Federations.
- 1965. Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the IOC's administrative headquarters in Lausanne etc.,

I shall not mention the other meetings and receptions given by the city which has always shown great attachment to the IOC.

Mr. Albert MAYER, reads to the assembly a few lines from de COUBERTIN'S Olympic Memoires.

"Writing my 'Universal history' he says, presented me with the occasion of very sincerely expressing my admiration for Switzerland.

Here, I wished to recall how, wanting to conquer Switzerland, I started out with Lausanne, and why, trying to conquer Lausanne, I resorted to the strategem of a Scientific congress. Lausanne, which presented every sports possibility, was the right place to harbour within its walls the administrative centre of Olympism. The City was the most advantageous site conceivable".

However, one had first to get inside!

Speaking of the congress opened in the morning of May 8th 1913 Baron de COUBERTIN wrote: "The Township of Lausanne and Mr. MAILLEFER, its syndic, had inaugurated a series of festivities on May 7th. That evening on the famous terrace of the Abbaye de l'Arc from which one has an entire view of Lake Lemén, were held festivities such as could not be organized elsewhere. Later, there was also a Venetian festivity at Ouchy and a dinner

party given by the state council of the Vaud canton. At the Kursaal, a specially created revue was presented.

I should like to remind you that on April 10th, 1915, in the conference room of the Lausanne Town Hall, the signatures were exchanged which established the world administrative centre and the archives of the revived Olympic Movement in Lausanne. The syndic, Mr. MAILLEFER and the members of the town council received this deposit in the name of the city.

In spring, 1919, the permanent administrative centre of the Olympic Movement consecrated its credentials before the official authorities.

In the same year, a Session of the IOC was held in Lausanne, on this occasion 14 French Military Planes arrived from Nancy on invitation from the Lausanne flying school. In a letter the President of the French Council, the Minister of War, stated that by delegation these planes with the authorization of the Swiss government, he wished to express the high esteem he felt for the Olympic Movement at its Lausanne seat.

On 16th April, 1927 at Olympia. on the occasion of a pilgrimage Lausanne was once more associated to the message pronounced by the Swiss Ambassador in Athens.

One might say that no other city in the world has played such an outstanding role in the history of Olympic life.

For more than half a century, the Lausanne authorities have continuously given proof of their fidelity to the IOC and to the idea of the Olympic Movement. Unfailingly, Lausanne has contributed to its glorification by all its means as no other city has done to this day.