

Decease of Professor GRUSS

Professor Joseph G.A. GRUSS, Honorary Member of the IOC for Czechoslovakia died in Prague on May the 21st.

The burial will take place in the Czechoslovakian Capitol on Saturday, May the 25th.

Professor of gyneology and obstetrics at the University of Prague, he was appointed a member of the IOC in 1946.

Professor GRUSS had led a student and professional life together with a sports life. He was a member of the famous formation of the Schools - from his earliest life, and practised successively - fencing, tennis, athletics, ski-ing boxing, and ice-hockey.

Eclectic sportsman, one saw him as his country's team captain of lawn-tennis at the London Games in 1908, member of the Czechoslovakian Fencing team at the Interallied Games of Paris in 1919, Captain of the same team at Anvers Games in 1920.

It was not very long before he took an active part in the administration of Sport with the Federations of athletics, tennis, fencing and football. Initial member of the Association of Tennis ice-hockey and bobsleigh, he was elected vice-President of the Union of Sport Federations of Czechoslovakia when this union was created.

In 1928 he became and remained the President of the Czech Olympic Committee until 1952. As such, he took part in the Olympic Congress of Berlin in 1930. He was also delegate for his country for all games which took place between 1924 and 1952.

Professor GRUSS ceased to be an active member in 1965 and was replaced by Mr KROUTIL. He then became Honorary Member for his efforts made towards the development of sport and was awarded the title "Worker bene meritus" by the Government of his country.

In 1966 he received the Olympic Diploma of Merit.

The decease of Professor GRUSS causes a big gap in the world of international sport. To his family, to his friends and to the Czechoslovakian Olympic Committee, we wish to express our deepest sympathy.