

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.

WITHIN THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

Bulgaria

The journalists have now chosen the best sportsman for last year. Boyan RADAR, Olympic Wrestling Champion at Tokio has been placed before Maria GHIGOVA, World Champion for Modern Gymnastics (hoop event)

RADAR has been awarded the Order of the "Red Flag of Labour" by the Bulgarian Government, and the Order of the "Peoples Republic of Bulgaria" second class.

Canada

Mr James WORRALL, IOC member, President of the Canadian Organizing Committee in which he has been active for the last 21 years, has resigned, judging it incompatible to hold a plurality of offices as President of the NOC and member of the IOC.

Mr. Howard RADFORD, has been elected President in his place.

Czechoslovakia

The Mayor of Prague, M. Ludovik CERNY having proposed his town for the staging of the Olympic Games for 1980 intends to start preparatory work this year.

In 1968 the Czechoslovakian NOC celebrates its fifteenth anniversary of the Czech Republic. In this connection it recalls that Czechoslovakian Independence in the Olympic Games was recognised even before World War One (Bohemia)

Dr. Maroslav TYRS one of the pioneers of Physical Training, published the first account of ancient Olympic Competitions under the title of "Hod Olympijiski" (Olympic Fête in 1867)

At Slatinary, a hundred kms. east of Prague, Professor BILIK has established a Museum devoted to the history of the horse. 2100 exhibits have been collected in the property that has been owned by the great horse-breeders, the Princes of AUERSPERG, for 150 years.

Japan

Kokighi TSUBURAYO, Marathon Bronze Medallist at Tokio, having broken his tendon Achilles in an accident and thereby seeing all his chances of Winning the Olympic title in Mexico fading, has preferred to end his days by committing Hara-Kiri.

At the same time as this sad news reached us we received this comforting information published by the Observer. Dr-Rolf LJUNGQUIST (Sweden) medical specialist for sports, has started surgical treatment for mending the Achilles tendon. In 90 per. cent. of his cases the athletes who have undergone the operation can walk normally a month after the treatment and continue hard training by the end of two months.

Korea

Doctor Kwan SHIK MIN has been elected President of the Korean Olympic Committee in place of Mr. Kay YOUNG CHANG, member of the IOC. For several years Dr. MIN has presided over the Korean Sports Association which controls all the amateur sports organizations of Korea.

Mr. CHANG has become Honorary President of this Committee. Its Vice-President is Mr. Walter JHUNG, Secretary-Genral and second Vice-President is Mr. Joon KYU PARK.

Rumania

Islande BASAS double High Jump Olympic Champion, has married her trainer, one time high jump record-holder for Rumania.

Spain

900 student athletes competed in the National University Games at Murcie which were inaugurated for the sixteenth time.

The Town Council of Seville has organized a Literary Competition on Sporting Games for young people with money prizes. The stories must have a real or imaginary base on sport or sports and have an educational value.

Switzerland

The Decathlonian Werner DUTTWEILER who left for Mexico in March, has returned to Switzerland after his NOC had forbidden him to remain in the Mexican capital until the Olympic Games as he was liable to disqualification. In fact this long stay in the competition area was against the rules and regulations concerning altitude probations.

U.S.S.R.

Physical Training and Gymnastics are organized regularly for little children in the nurseries and kindergartens. Some series of excercises and massage under medical control have been started, a few even applying to babies.

WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATIONS

BASKET BALL

- 1968 - May 25th to June 3 - Olympic Qualification Tournament, Sofia, Bulgaria.
- 1968 - June 10th to 15th - XVIth European Clinic for Referees and Coaches, Magglingen, Switzerland.
- 1968 - June 14th to 16th - Games of the European Cup Selection, Belgrade, Yugoslavia.
- 1968 - June 18th to 22nd - XIIIth Session of the Standing Conference for Europe and the Mediterranean Basin, Ischia, Italy.

CASTING

The Swiss Casting Federation will organize the 12th World Casting Championships in Lenzerheide in the canton of Graudünden from 26th August to 1st September.

FENCING

Seventy-five representatives of forty-two nations met in Paris for the congress of the International Fencing Federation under the Chairmanship of Mr. Pierre FERRI.

The number of nations affiliated to the International Fencing Federation amounts at the present moment to seventy-four. Among the decisions taken we will retain the idea of the creation of an Executive Board of nine members each belonging to a different country who will, similarly to the Chairman, be re-eligible to each annual congress.

Principle events for the month of May

- 4th - 5th May. European Sabre Cup
Hungaria Cup
Individual and team tournament
(Budapest)
- Molié Epée Cup team tournament
(Genoa)
- 18th - 19th May Martel Challenge
individual épée tournament (Poitiers)

FOOTBALL

Preolympic Tournament

The teams from Brazil, Columbia, Parguary and Uruguay have qualified for their area which will be played in Columbia.

The winners and runners-up in this tournament will take plart in the Olympic Competition.

GYMNASTICS

Besides the Intercontinental course for male judges which is to be held in Rome from 17th - 23rd June, an intercontinental course for international judges will also take place in Rome from 19th - 23rd June.

Among the proposals made during the International Gymnastics Federation's Congress, we should like to publish the request made by East Germany for the new set of rules and regulations for the Olympic Games and the World Championships. Poland and Yugoslavia also requested that modern gymnastics be inserted into the programme of the Olympic Games. France proposes to define a special rules and regulations of amateurism for the gymnastics.

International Gymnastics Federations events

2nd - 6th July 1969 in Basle, Switzerland, Vth Gymnaestrade which will gather male and female gymnasts of the whole world.

1969. 48th Congress of the International Gymnastics Federations.

1971. European Championships for men (East Germany or Austria)

European Championships for women (Great Britain)

HANDBALL

Twenty-one European teams distributed in seven groups of three teams will play elimination heats (home and away) from November 1968 onwards, for the VIIth World Indoor Field Handball Championships which will be hald in 1970.

The final Tournament of the IVth World Indoor Field Handball Championship for women will take place from 19th - 21st November in Moscow. The preliminary rounds will be

played from 15th - 17th November in Leningrad (two groups) and in Kiev (one group). The three groups which qualified are the following:

- A. Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, U.S.S.R.
- B. Hungary, Rumania, East Germany.
- C. Germany, Denmark, Japan.

Twelve hundred handball players from 30 countries will participate in the VIIIth Maccabee Games to be held from 21st - 30th July in Tel-Aviv.

SKI

The International Calendar Conference 1968 will take place in Innsbruck, Austria, on 16th June. The FIS council will meet immediately before on 14th and 15th June. Rules and regulations for ski flying competitions (twice a year) have been elaborated by the FIS.

SWIMMING

The Bureau of the F.I.N.A. decided that the F.I.N.A. gala would be held on 27th October 1968 at the Olympic Swimming Pool in Mexico, on the evening of the closing ceremony of the Games.

The Bureau of the F.I.N.A. will submit to the Congress the following amendment of rule 49 (Amateur status) of its constitution :-

"Physical Education teachers who are occupied in the teaching of sport, are not eligible to compete as amateurs, However, teachers who are engaged in educational authority in teaching ordinary scholastic subjects may teach elementary swimming to pupils at colleges, or school; without additional remuneration."

World Championships taking place every second the year before and the year after the Olympic Games are contemplated. Brazil and the city of Geneva, Switzerland, have already sent in their applications for the staging of these Games.

WEIGHTLIFTING

The European Championships will be held in Leningrad, U.S.S.R. from 18th - 26th June. The delegates of the participating federations will meet at a congress on 19th June, Mr. Gaston BARAHONA, President of the Mexican Weightlifting Federations, will report on the state of the work for the Mexico Games.

YACHTING

The International Yacht Racing Union contemplates the creation of a new International intermediary series (470) However, there are very few chances that a sixth event for offshore racing be included in the 1972 Olympic Games in Kiel.

The amended International rules and regulations which are to come into force in 1969 will include a new article stating that it is forbidden to let advertisements show on the hull or sails of a racing ship or on any part of the clothes worn by the crew. The trade marks and names of the builders of sailing boats will be allowed provided that they do not exceed the size tolerated by the rules and regulations.