

WITHIN THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

* Italy

During an interview given to the ANSA Information Agency, Mr. Giulio ONESTI, Member of the International Olympic Committee, President of the Italian National Olympic Committee declared that the reports concerning his candidature to the Presidency of the International Olympic Committee was without foundation.

"My activity in the International domain" he stated, "has the growing development of the National Olympic Committee and the exigencies of the Olympic World as its sole end."

* The recent prizes for literature given by C.O.N.I. have been given to Giuseppe BRUNAMONTI for his work, "Il cielo sulle tribune" (The sky above the tribunes) Three second prizes were awarded to the poetess, Liana CATRI, for "Sport io ti chiama fratello". (Sport, I call thee Brother) to the Olympic Champion Edoardo MANGIAROTTI and Aldo CERCHIARI for "La Vera Scherma" (The Real Fencing) and Aodo GIORDANI for "Il Grande Basket" (The Big Basket)

* During the recent medical Congress Professors ANTONELLI and POLLINI sustained the thesis that sports education has a determinating psychological influence on the growth of the individual:

"Play, movement and agonistics conceived in terms of amusement are elements which have a beneficial influence on the psychophysical development of children. Any declarations on the harmfulness of sport in early childhood are erroneous, unless pathological phenomena are present. The CONI centres admit children from 5 to 14 years of age for education in those sports naturally which are easiest and least dangerous, and in these children no cases of psychopathological syndromes have been noted. Professor ANTONELLI and Professor POLLINI point out the inconsistency of such preconceived criticisms advanced by socialogists who consider agonistic sport a harmful "extra effort". They forget that the structure of school sports and that of the CONI centres is based on severe selection and on scrupolous medical control."

* A national centre for boxing drawn up by the architect Eugenio MONTUORI and carried into effect by the engineer Leo CALINI has just been opened at Fiuggi.

"The venue includes a functional well equipped gymnasium and a group of lodgings for athletes and instructors, a

sitting-room, dining-room and services, and is intended exclusively for the teaching of sport and Olympic preparation. The building stands amidst a pine wood and meadows on an area of 5,800 square metres. It is also complete with two normal sports fields for basketball and volleyball, a broad open space for exercises in the open air, and with two table-tennis tables. The architectural character of the venue is adapted to a semi-mountainous district, giving the impression of a large villa or farmhouse. Inside, there is an open space containing a pool of water with lawns and flowers. The complex which was completed on February 1st, 1967, was handed over on January 30th, 1968.

* Spain

The Spanish Olympic Committee has commissioned the artist Salvadore DALI to paint a picture entitled: "The Cosmic Athlete". This work, measuring 1m 80 x 1m 30, will be shown in Mexico during the cultural weeks being held on the occasion of the next Games.

* Tunisia

The "Olympic National Day" was celebrated throughout the territory of the Tunisian Republic on Sunday, 19th May.

At 9 o'clock in the morning the flag was hoisted in the Avenue Halib Bourguiba. Volley-ball, handball, gymnastics, boxing, Judo, athletics, cycling, weight-lifting, table-tennis, water-polo, football and fencing competitions were organized from Saturday 18th, and continued through the whole of May 19th, allowing all the sporting youth of the country to get together.

* United States

Two 16 mm colour films are now available. One on the Winnipeg Pan.American Games which takes 13½ minutes, and the other showing the Games at Grenoble.

Apply to: Modern Talking Picture Service.
1212 Avenue of the Americas
New York. N.Y. 10036.

USA.

* The United States Olympic Committee has published a booklet containing all the results of the Games at Grenoble, as well as items of information on those competing from the United States at those Games.

* In the last Bulletin of the United States Olympic Committee they pointed out that the first Olympic Games winner of the modern era was James B. CONNOLLY. He won the hop step and jum and succeeded in clearing 44 feet 11 3/4 inches. (13m.71) James B. CONNOLLY wrote several works on the sea before undertaking a political career. He died at Boston on January 20th aged 88.

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* East Germany

Fifteen countries met in East Berlin on June 20th to celebrate the Olympic Day. The Roumanian, SILAI, achieved the best performances of the day by running the 800 m. in 2'02"6/10 (the best world time of the year)

* France

On the occasion of its General Assembly in Paris on the 26th June, the French Olympic Committee presented a Gold Medal to its Honorary President, M. Armand MASSARD.

COMTE JEAN DE BEAUMONT, President of the French Olympic Committee, member of the International Olympic Committee, presented this plaquette, weighing 450 grs, which had been executed and struck at his instigation by the Mint. Designed by M. MERELLE, on its face it represented Fencing Olympic Champion (1920) and the pistol-shooter (London Games, 1908) who was M. MASSARD. The reverse side showed the Olympic Rings.

Replying to the COMTE DE BEAUMONT, M. MASSARD made the following speech:

"I did not know that the circumstances under which I would have to reply would have been by a speech full of gratitude, emotion and also of conjring up sentimental Olympic scenes. in such a grand and moving manifestation.

But, do not doubt that I am fully alive, touched and moved by your unforgettable gesture in honouring you old and ancient President so marvellously. You also know that long speeches have never been one of his achievements, and in addition his doctors have asked him to avoid too much excitement After having received such a generous contribuution, I do not wish to entail you in further material troubles.

Therefore allow me to seal this unforgettable dedication simply, but with all my heart, by a big, by an ardent thank you to everybody."

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We note that during its general assembly the French Olympic Committee has given notice that it has the intention of organizing the European National Committees Foundation at Versailles as from September 6th.

Japan

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The Prince TAKEDA, member of the International Olympic Committee for Japan informs us of the decease on 2nd July of Mr. FUNIO TAKASHIMA, member of the Japanese Olympic Committee and Lawyer.

He was 72, and devoted his life mostly to sport and contributed to the building up of the Federation of the Asian Games, in which he was Honorary Secretary and later became Vice-President. He was a member for the Special Commission for the Protection of Emblems and followed all the activities within International Sport.

Mr. TAKASHIMA, leaves a great gap as his death is a sorrowful loss to sport and to the Japanese Sports Leaders, to whom we express our deepest sympathy.

Portugal

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The Portugese Olympic Committee has notified us that their President, Ing. Francisco Nolere GUEDES, and Secretary-General Anibal VIEIRA, having been ill for a year, are replaced in their offices by the Vice-President, General Alexander GOMES DE LEMOS CORREA LEAL, and a member of the Executive Committee, Mr. Raul RODRIGUES WORM.

United States

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The United States Olympic Committee(USOC) which has for its goal the promotion of the Olympic ideal, has published a booklet of information for the general public, which traces the History of the Olympic Games, explains their organization and the present day rules. Also 2000 copies of a Newsletter which gives the latest athletic news. These two booklets are free. Finally three films "Hold High the Torch" "The World is One" and "Skates and Skies", each giving a resume in thirty minutes of what occurred at the Rome, Tokyo and Grenoble Games. These films are reserved for scholars, educational and athletic groups.

A booklet on the 10th Winter Games at Grenoble has also been published. It contains all the complete rules.

An Olympic Magazine is being prepared.

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