

OLYMPIC REVIEW

We are changing our title. But in doing so we are going back to our source. The first link Pierre de COUBERTIN forged between all those who shared his enthusiasm, the periodical that enabled him to express his views and make them known to the world, was called the "Olympic Review".

A serious name, certainly quite ambitious for our publication, limited as it is in size; this does not however prevent us from doing everything we can to accomplish our work of information and reflection.

A mere change of cover? In a way, but there is more to it than that.

A homage to the founder, the reviver of the Olympic Games. In approving this change, those at the head of the I.O.C. have shown their determination to remain true to the ideal which, alone, justifies the revival of the four-yearly sports festivals, first celebrated almost 3,000 years ago on the banks of the river Alpheus. For the use of the word "Olympic", for those who truly serve the cause of Olympism, has the value of a personal commitment.

Let us add that we shall take advantage of this new name to make a number of improvements in our periodical, which aims to become more and more a forum for the exchange of ideas, as well as continuing its original function of reporting facts.

It is a form of dialogue we are proposing to you. We open our columns to your suggestions, your experiences, and your comments. From your struggles and successes will be drawn lessons that will enable the Olympic Movement to remain the figure-head of the sports world.

At the beginning of a year which promises to be eventful and full of consequences for the future, we invite you to join us in an "Olympic Review" of 1970.

The meetings of the Executive Board will start in Lausanne on February 21st for the purpose of preparing the 69th Session of the I.O.C. to be held in Amsterdam during the second week of May. They will be preceded by meetings of the Finance Commission and Joint Commissions of the I.O.C. which will complete the reports they are to submit to the plenary session; these reports will be of great importance, dictating the path to be followed by Olympism in the years to come, with regard to questions such as the eligibility of athletes, discrimination, and the Olympic Programme. The Commission for Press and Public Relations will bring the discussions in Munich to a close on February 24th.

While the tourists are flocking to Amsterdam to admire the legendary fields of tulips, those responsible for international sport, at the highest level, will be meeting again in the land of Spinoza and the diamond trade. To start with, the Executive Board, according to the annual rite, will receive the International Federations, which have come to discuss their problems. Next on the agenda is the presentation of the towns wishing to be considered as candidates for the organization of the Games of the XXIst Olympiad, with an account of their respective merits, their reasons for applying and the way in which each city plans in 1976 to celebrate the Games, whether winter or summer.

Immediately afterwards members of the I.O.C. will vote on the matter, and the representatives of two towns will go off happy at their success and eager to get started on the mountain of work before them. Some of the main or decisive points on the programme for the following days are: the election of two new vice-presidents and two members of the Executive Board, the hearing of the reports of the Organizing Committees of Sapporo and Munich, the study of the programme of the Games of the XXth Olympiad and the questions dealt with by the different Commissions, all of which will have previously been reviewed in Lausanne in February.

Later we give the list of towns applying for the organization of the Games of the XXIst Olympiad, the programme of the meetings during the months to come and, in a later number, the list of questions due for discussion in Amsterdam.

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