

## THE OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS' PAGE

To realize the full extent of the enthusiasm inspiring Livio TRAPE (Italy), Olympic cycling champion in the road team time-trial at the Rome Olympics in 1960, and silver medal winner in the individual race at the same Games, we need only read the following:



When my dream of taking part in the Olympic Games finally came true, I was so overjoyed that I felt I was still dreaming. I was 23 and the 17th Games were being held in my home town that year. On that occasion, I was able to realize for the first time the full extent of my love of sport: until then I had not known just how great it was. It was then too that I understood why I love sport above everything else. I understood the real significance of sport and the Olympic Games: we were so many young men and women of all countries, separated by language barriers, different customs, living standards and even the colour of our skin. Up till then we had been strangers. In the Olympic Village however all barriers fell away and

we immediately became friends, brothers sharing the same love of sport, the enthusiasm of taking part and giving of our best.

The memory of those days, of that atmosphere of solidarity and fellowship to which we all consciously contributed, remain engraved in my heart as a constant source of joy, just like the memory of my victory and the magic moment when I received my medal.

Further evidence of this has reached us: From Samuel N. GERSON (United States). As a member of the American Team he carried off the silver medal for featherweight, freestyle, wrestling at the Olympic Games at Antwerp in 1920. For Samuel N. GERSON, Olympism is more than a victory as his present activities prove. Here is what he says:



To participate in the Olympic Games was the greatest ambition in my life. I never believed to be able to make it, but I did it in 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games. Of all the accomplishments of my life, whether to achieve success in business or obtain some great academic achievements, none equaled the ability to make the team. All through my life, if I told anyone that I was an Olympian - they listened - and that was the height of accomplishment.