

ARMAND MASSARD

* Armand MASSARD belonged to that category of men of the world with the universal spirit, which one would have easily rejected in the last century, but who know, up to the limit of their capabilities, how to preserve the youthfulness of the heart and soul.

In 1968, he gave up the first Vice-Presidency of the I.O.C., which he had held since 1952, having already renounced the Presidency of the *Comité Olympique Français*, after more than thirty years' service, in favour of the Comte de BEAUMONT, current Vice-President of the I.O.C.



Armand MASSARD was eclectic himself, and proved his talents in the most diversified fields: Sport, literature and politics.

Vice-President of the Municipal Council of Paris, his beloved city where he was born on December 1st 1884, he wielded the pen (as a respected writer of several newspapers, among which the famous Figaro) as well as he did the sword for which he won gold (1920) silver and bronze medals. He was also an Olympic medallist with the sabre and captain of the French bobsleigh team.

He had taken the pseudonym of "*Spleen-le-Jeune*" (Spleen the Young) to write scenarios of reviews, of which Max LINDER was the most renowned in the Golden Years.

At the end of a very beautiful and courageous war (1914 - 1918), he obtained the "*Croix de Guerre*" and the Military Cross, thus enriching his collection of numerous foreign decorations, headed by the "*Croix de Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur*" (Commander's Cross of the Legion of Honour).

Armand MASSARD was a shrewd, well-informed adviser of the I.O.C., great defender of the French language which he could use with perfection. He was also a faithful friend. He has recently finished his memoirs "*Faits et méfaits divers*" ("Various deeds and misdeeds"), after having published his memories as Dean of the Municipal Council of Paris. His works, rich in humour and anecdotes, allow us to keep his remembrance and that of his colleagues, whom he sometimes offended, but could love like a gentleman.

