



Sapporo

Mr. Yosaku HARADA, who was for many years Mayor of the City of Sapporo, has recently retired from public life for health reasons.

His successor is Mr. Takeshi ITAGAKI, who was elected on 25th April last, and he will welcome the participants at the next Winter Games in the name of his City.

Below, we publish a biography of Sapporo's new Mayor, Mr. Takeshi ITAGAKI -

Mr. Takeshi ITAGAKI was born in Wassamu-cho, Kamigawa-gun, on the island of Hokkaido, in Japan on February 13th, 1916.

After having attended the elementary and junior High School in Sapporo and the Daiichi Senior High School in Tokyo, he graduated from the course of political science of the Faculty of Law of Tokyo Imperial University.



Mr. Yosaku HARADA

In 1941, he entered the employ of the Kobe Plant of Mitsubishi Electric Co. Ltd., from which he resigned in 1946 to assume the post of Administrative Assistant to the Mayor of the City of Sapporo and held the position of Chief of the Administrative Section, Director of the



Mr. Takeshi ITAGAKI

Economic Department of the same City Office.

In May 1956, he was appointed second Deputy Mayor and in June 1959 first Deputy Mayor of the City of Sapporo. In May 1960, 1964 and 1968, his term of office as first Deputy Mayor was renewed.

Mr. ITAGAKI has also held the position of Director General of the Employee Mutual Aid Association of Hokkaido and that of Commissioner of the Sapporo Olympic Organising Committee.

In October 1962, he received an award "for distinguished services to the Sapporo City administration".

On the occasion of his election as first Civic Officer of the City of Sapporo, Mr. ITAGAKI wishes to address this message to the Members of the I.O.C. -

"I have the honour to present to you my humble compliments on the occasion of assuming the Mayorship of the City of Sapporo, succeeding former Lord Mayor Yosaku HARADA. He leaves his office for reasons of health. It is, however, not only his desire, but mine and that of the entire populace of Sapporo, not to leave office at least until the XIth Olympic Winter Games have been held next February. He was the very person who had brought the Olympic Games to this city. He avows to me that he will watch the Games with the satisfaction and conviction that he himself has devoted since 1964 to the staging of the Games in Sapporo.

"Mr. President, distinguished Members of the International Olympic Committee, I hereby assure you that I shall exert my best efforts, under your guidance and direction and with the close collaboration of the one million inhabitants of Sapporo, to making the Games a success.

"I am sure that President Kogoro UEMURA of the Sapporo Olympic Organising Committee, Prince Tsuneyoshi TAKEDA, Mr. Shoki KIYOKAWA, as well as Secretary General, Mr. Tomoo SATO and his staff, will not spare their efforts and energies in helping me carry out my task.

"With humbleness I am sending my picture and a short personal history for your reference, with sincere hopes of making your acquaintance in Sapporo in February 1972."

