

Japanese decorations

On 11th February, a few days before the closing of the XIth Winter Games, a solemn ceremony took place in Sapporo, attended by members of the International Olympic Committee.

The Japanese Government, represented by Mr. Soburo TAKAMI, Minister of Education, conferred on President BRUNDAGE the highest Japanese decoration, reserved for foreign heads of state: the First Class Order of the Rising Sun. The three Vice-Presidents were also honoured by being awarded the Second Class Order of the Sacred Treasure.

Comte de BEAUMONT declared "the decoration you award me with today, is a testimony of the friendship which unites our countries". In his turn, Jonkheer Herman van KARNEBEEK expressed his thanks "the Olympic Spirit is prevailing everywhere we go in Sapporo and the sportsmen of the world should be very grateful that they had the privilege of coming here".

As Lord KILLANIN, who received his decoration on his way through Tokyo on 8th February, stressed: this distinction honoured, in the person of the President and the three Vice-Presidents, the entire Olympic Movement.

In the following pages, we are publishing the addresses given by Mr. Soburo TAKAMI and President BRUNDAGE