

## Innsbruck 1976



*The Lord Killanin, President, has just announced the IOC decision to Mr Alois Lugger, mayor of Innsbruck.*

The XIIth Winter Games have been attributed to the city of Innsbruck, replacing the city of Denver which withdrew after the referendum held at the time of the United States elections.

These will be the second Games to be organised in the capital of the Tyrolean Alps since the IXth Winter Games were held there in 1964 to everybody's satisfaction.

### **The city**

With a population today of 120,000, Innsbruck received its city charter in 1232. It is a privileged junction since all the

important passes lead to Innsbruck. The city has profited from its special situation because if you pass through Innsbruck your stay there too, and the hotel capacity is excellent.

Several monuments, magnificent churches, a large number of attractive restaurants or public houses are at the tourist's disposition, whether he follows the path of Goethe, Heine, Montaigne or Mark Twain. And the wonderful mountain scenery is there for nature lovers.

### **Sport**

The Olympic events will for the most part



be held at the sites used for the 1964 Games, which have all been approved by the respective International Federations.

For alpine skiing, the men's downhill will take place on the Patscherkofel (altitude at the starting point: 1,950 m) and the ladies' downhill on the Hoald, near Lizum (starting point: 2,310 m), which will also be the site for the ladies' giant slalom. The men's giant slalom, and the men's and ladies' special slalom will be held on the slopes of the Birgitzköpfl.

As in 1964, all the nordic skiing and biathlon events will take place at Seefeld which is 20 km from Innsbruck (altitude between 1,100 and 1,380 m).

The ski jump competitions will use the installations at Berginsel (giant jump) and Seefeld (combined and special).

The artistic skating competitions will take place at the Innsbruck Olympic Ice stadium which can hold 10,000 spectators.

The ice hockey tournament will use the same stadium in addition to the "Festival Hall" artificial ice rink which can accommodate 5,000 spectators.

Speed skating will be held on a speed ring situated to the south of the Olympic ice stadium. The bobsleigh and luge events will take place on the Olympic tracks at Igls, which will be adapted for the occasion, since the city of Kufstein's offer to organise the luge events was rejected.

No construction for sports installations is therefore necessary, thus lightening the budget of these Games which intend to return to the original idea of simplicity.

## **Organisation and finance**

The Organising Committee of the Innsbruck Games will have its headquarters in a new sports centre under construction near the ice stadium.

Journalists will be accommodated in a press centre situated in the new teaching academy near the University of Innsbruck.

The Senate of the city of Innsbruck has granted a sum of 76 million schillings, equivalent to 11,400,000 Swiss francs for the adaptation of the installations.

Part of the organisation expenses is to be set off by the sale of special stamps and a silver medal worth 100 schillings (15 Swiss francs). The Austrian Government has undertaken to cover a possible deficit to the extent of 60 million schillings (9 million Swiss francs).

Let us therefore wish the Mayor of Innsbruck, Dr Alois Lugger, Vice-President of the 1964 Organising Committee, and all those who will strive for the success of the Winter Games good luck. They have the difficult privilege of following the Sapporo Games which, as everyone will remember, were excellently organised.

