

## The President of the IOC with the AIPS journalists

We are very pleased to mention here that the 33rd Congress of the International Sports Writers Association (AIPS), meeting in Dublin (Ireland) from 7th to 10th April 1975, was a great success. The Irish Association had invited the Congress to be held in this city after its Canadian colleagues had announced that they were unable to follow up their invitation. It was therefore a difficult task for the Organising Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Dave Guiney, assisted by Mr. Seamus Martin, to complete all the preparations in time, but they were accomplished to everyone's satisfaction.

The President of the IOC, Lord Killanin, appointed honorary member, patronised the meetings. Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch, Vice-President of the IOC, the Press Commission of which he presides, and the Director of the IOC accompanied him.

In his message to the delegates, Lord Killanin recalled: *"I have attended several previous Congresses as a guest of the AIPS and I hope that this Congress is as successful as those at which I have been present. As President of the International Olympic Committee, speaking therefore internationally and as a neutral, I should like to wish the AIPS Congress success in its deliberations. Although all the countries in*

*which there are National Olympic Committees—now 132—are not represented in the AIPS, there is no doubt, from my own personal experience as a former President of a National Olympic Committee, a tremendous advantage in having a national sports writers organisation as far as the Olympic Games are concerned. The allocation of seats and the correct accreditation of professional journalists to my mind can only be done by a professional body working with each National Olympic Committee. It is not the concern of the AIPS in regard to the facilities for the international agencies or for the international television bodies as a whole.*

*"Previously, as Chairman of the Press Commission of the International Olympic Committee, a position which is now held by Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch who is here with us, and now as President of the International Olympic Committee, I have always worked very closely with the former President, Mr. Felix Levitan, and now with Mr. Frank Taylor. I hope this good relationship continues through the years with mutual benefit to all concerned."*

Let us point out that following three new affiliations, the AIPS now comprises 72 members.