

Olympic Notebook

● **Count Jean de Beaumont**, IOC member for France since 1951, is in hospital due to injury in a serious road accident. The « Olympic Review » wishes him a speedy recovery.

● **Lord Luke**, IOC member for Great Britain since 1951, has just been made Knight Commander in the Royal Victorian Order (KCVO) by HM Queen Elizabeth II.

● **Prince Alexandre de Mérode**, IOC member for Belgium since 1964, has acceded, as expected, to the presidency of the new Belgian Rowing Federation.

● **Vice-Admiral Pyrros Lappas**, IOC member for Greece since 1965, representing the President of the IOC, presided the ceremony on 30th January at which the Olympic flame for the XIIth Winter Games was handed to the Deputy Mayor of Innsbruck. This flame was lit from the sun at Olympia by the Greek actress Maria Moscholiu, high priestess for the occasion.

● **Dr. Heinz Schöbel**, IOC member for the GDR since 1966, was unable to attend the final discussions of the 77th IOC Session. Falling ill, he was taken to a hospital in Innsbruck where he stayed throughout the XIIth Winter Games. Happily we can reassure his many friends that Dr. Schöbel's health is improving daily. We send him all our best wishes for a quick and complete recovery.

● **Mr. José Beracasa**, IOC member for Venezuela since 1968, has just been awarded the **Cross of the Order of the Liberator**, the highest national decoration, by his country's government. This decoration rewards him for his enthusiastic activity in favour of sport and good relations between nations. Furthermore, Mr. Beracasa becomes **Honorary Life President of the ODEPA** (Pan-American Sports Organisation), having been its President until 1975.

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We are happy to announce that our friend Dr. Paul Martin, celebrated in sporting and Olympic circles, has just brought out the unpublished correspondence and diary of Jacques Martin 1853-1868, under the title « Le rendez-vous américain » (The American rendezvous), published by Plon and prefaced by the great American author Frank G. Slaughter. Our congratulations on the publication of this irreplaceable record.



All the hostesses of the XIIth Winter Games were highly praised by everyone. We extend our thanks to the Chief Hostess, Miss Sylvia Sommerlath, who, for the last four years, helped Dr. Schwabe on the Reception Committee.

The Olympic Review and all the International Olympic Committee are delighted by the announcement of her engagement to HM Carl XVI Gustaf, King of Sweden, an all-round sportsman who in true Swedish tradition respects physical effort and sport.

From the outset, the Olympic movement could count on firm enthusiasts in the Scandinavian peninsula; Olympism has never flagged in Sweden and the IOC is pleased to count another keen ally.

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An Olympic journalist rewarded

Andres Marcé Varela, holder of the Olympic Diploma of Merit, international sports leader, champion of sports art, eclectic journalist well-known to our readers, has been attributed the Narciso Masferrer Prize, awarded for the year's best sports reporting by the Spanish Minister for Information, Mr. Adolfo Martin Gamero. All our congratulations.