

members of the Maccabi movement in 40 nations are given the opportunity to represent their countries at the Maccabiah in Israel for an excellent combination of sports, social and cultural activities.

The opening ceremony of the Xth Maccabiah Games took place on 12th July in the Ramat Gan National Stadium, filled to capacity with some 55,000 spectators. The comprised the spectacular parade of the 3000 participants, followed by a colourful display of sky-diving.

The 2800 athletes from 35 countries took part in the following 23 sports: track and field, badminton, basketball, boxing, cricket, fencing, football and mini-football, golf, gymnastics, handball, judo, karate, lawn bowls, rowing, shooting (and clay pigeon), squash (and for veterans), swimming and diving, table tennis, tennis (and for veterans), volleyball, water polo, weightlifting and wrestling (plus very popular and well attended tournaments in bridge and chess).

I would like to mention here the high standard, of the swimming (almost all previous Maccabiah records were broken), basketball, diving, wrestling and judo competitions.

Approval was obtained from all the International Federations whose sports were included on the programme and observers were appointed. These, together with international referees for most sports and the following sports officials were the guests of the Organising Committee: Mr. Charles Palmer, President of the International Federation and Secretary General of the General Assembly of International Federations; Mr. Javier Ostos, President of the Fédération Internationale de Natation Amateur (swimming); Mr. Adriaan Paulen, President of the International Amateur Athletic Federation; Mr. Frederick Holder, Treasurer of the International Amateur Athletic Federation; Mr. Helmut Käser, Secretary General of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association; Mr. Willi Weyer, President of the German Sports Confederation.

During the Xth Maccabiah Games, the 2nd International Seminar on Physical Education and Sport in Jewish History and Culture was held with the participation of many excellent scientists. There was also a conference on sports medicine and cardiology and an exhibition of children's paintings on the theme "From the Maccabees to the Maccabiah".

Chaim Wein
Chairman of the Organising Committee

Israel

● *Xth Maccabiah Games* *12th-21st July 1977*

The idea of the Maccabiah Games, born in 1911 with the aim of bringing together active sportsmen and athletes once every four years, from all the Maccabi movement branches spread over the five continents, materialised in 1932 with the participation of 300 athletes from 16 countries. The 300,000