

## Reminiscences of an international course

by  
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*Following his participation in the international course for sports administrators, organised last year in Great Britain (see Olympic Review No 132-133, page 617), our friend Václav Hubicka sent us his impressions, excerpts of which follow.*

The international courses for sports administrators are by far the most important elements through which this institution endeavours to increase the level of the directing work and they intensify the cooperation and understanding between the National Olympic Committees and their sports federations...

Some 36 representatives from the National Olympic Committees of all continents came to London for three weeks to follow the programme of lectures concerning all kinds of problems in the Olympic and sports movement.

The composition was rather varied and it enabled an exchange of experience and ideas amongst the Olympic officials who work in the most diverse conditions. Certainly, it must have been very interesting for the representatives from Colombia, Nigeria, Sudan, Iran or Fiji to obtain information about the systems of development of sport and physical education as it is practised in Great Britain, Finland, Italy or Czechoslovakia.

During the discussions we could very often see how different is the position of Olympic sport in various countries of the world. Its organisers, trying to fulfil the noble ideas of Pierre de Coubertin throughout the

world, still have to overcome numerous difficulties.

The first six days were arranged in London. The Lectures concerning the organisation of the Olympic Games, Olympic Solidarity, the legal aspects of directing the Olympic movement, Olympic protocol and the function of the mass media were given by the members of the International Olympic Committee and the British Olympic Association.

The second part of the course took place at the University of Technology in Loughborough. Specialists engaged in the study of the development of the training process, sports medicine, sports preparation and planning, shared their experience and knowledge with the members of the course in a very expert and yet very comprehensible manner.

The final and the longest (nearly two weeks) part of the course was organised in Brighton at the Sussex University. Here the lectures were concentrated on subjects like sports facilities, installations and equipment, the organisation of league competitions, the work of the international sports organisations, etc.

The participants visited several sports stadiums like that of Wembley, the "Sport for All" area in Stevenage, watched the athletics meeting between Great Britain and Finland in the Crystal Palace and the football match between Queens Park Rangers and Nottingham Forest... Most of them practised sport actively: jogging, squash and tennis formed the daily programme...

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Yes, it was interesting, useful, pleasant—simply wonderful. I was lucky enough to be one of those who could witness it. I found new friends. I am sure that my friend Kosti from the Finnish Olympic Committee, just as much as Brian in Fiji, Tony in Guvana, Brendon in Ireland, Mehrtash in Iran, Leila in Jamaica and all the others, will gladly remember their stay in England, their common friends in Great Britain and the excellent organisers from the British Olympic Association.

V. H.