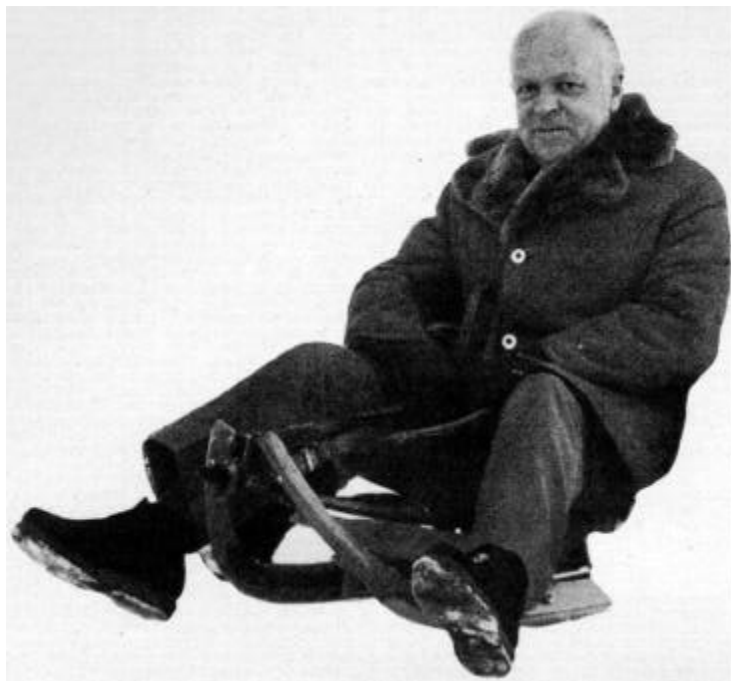


Obituary



● **Suat Erler**, member of the IOC in Turkey since 1955 deceased on second February 1984. His death took place while preparing himself to join the 87th Session and XIVth Winter Olympic Games.

Suat Erler was a devoted friend to Olympic sport and to all sport in general because he took an interest in all new sports, both the popular and not so popular. He was well-suited as a member of the Programme Commission. I met him for the last time in Budapest last October during the XXIInd World Gymnastics championships.

Former swimming and high-board diving champion of Turkey, he perfectly understood both the psychology of the athlete and the importance of youngsters to take up sport. He founded and presided over several swimming clubs and actively served as Vice-President and Member of the Organising Committee for the VIth Mediterranean Games at Izmir in 1971.

His merits have been recognised and honoured in his country as well as abroad.

The Olympic family has just lost a sincere and courteous friend.



● **Johnny Weissmuller** (USA), 79 years old. former Olympic swimming champion who played the role of Tarzan in the movies, died recently in Acapulco (MEX), where he had been, in retirement for many years.

With his ninety-two kilogrammes of pure muscle, nerves of steel and amazing fitness, Johnny had the body of an outstanding champion. It was at the age of eighteen, on the 9th September 1922 that he became the most famous swimmer in the world. On that particular day, by swimming 58"6, he managed to break a barrier which was more psychological than factual, that of the minute for 100 m freestyle. In 1924, he won three gold medals at the Games of the VIIIth Olympiad in Paris in the 100 and 400 m freestyle and the 4 x 200 m relay. In Amsterdam in 1928 he obtained two more in the 100 m freestyle and the 4 x 200 m relay.

United States champion on fifty-two occasions, holder of sixty-seven world individual and relay records, if there had been as many relay events in the Olympic Games of the time as there are today, he would be without doubt the most be-dalled swimmer in Olympic history.

At the age of twenty-six, faced with having to convert his talents to other uses, he accepted the cinema role of Tarzan because the movie involved numerous swimming scenes. In just a few years, Johnny Weissmuller's "apeman image" virtually blotted out that of the greatest swimming champion the world had ever known. And yet, he was always ready to say that he would willingly have given up all of his Tarzan roles for the joy of one single Olympic victory, and that for nothing on earth would he have exchanged a gold medal for an Oscar.

Obituary

● **Ernst Kyburz** (SUI), aged 83. One of the best Swiss wrestlers of all time, he In a gold medal in the middle weight tegory during the Games of the IXth Olympiad in Amsterdam in 1928.

● **Earl McCready** (CAN), aged 75, wrestling champion. He took part in the times of the IXth Olympiad in Amsterm in 1928, and won a gold medal in the first Commonwealth Games held in Hamilton in 1930 ; he was also several times world champion.

● **Deighton Ward** (BAR), Governor general of Barbados and Patron of its National Olympic Committee, he was for years President of the Barbados Football Association.