

“OLYMPHILEX ‘85”

The young *Fédération Internationale de Philatélie Olympique (FIPO)*, born on the 7th December 1982, will not have waited long to stage its first world exhibition, which will go under the name “*Olympilex ‘85*”.

This event will take place from the 18th to the 24th March in the *Palais de Beaulieu* in *Lausanne* and will include 175 collections from all over the world. More than 1200 exhibition sheets will be presented by the greatest specialists on the themes of the Olympics and sport : all the Olympiads, all the sports recognised by the IOC, will be represented. Of particular interest are a number of prestigious collections on the 1896 Games and a part of the extraordinarily rich collection of stamps in blocks of four belonging to *H.E. Juan Antonio Samaranch*, IOC President.

Once again, sports philately will demonstrate the well-known fact that it is the most popular theme for collections throughout the five continents ; twelve young collectors under 21 years of age will prove by their presence that there will be no shortage of collectors in the future. Seventeen postal administrations will bear witness by their participation to the interest of states and collectors in Olympism and sports. The collections exhibited by the international Sports Federations, the National Olympic Committees and the national sports federations will reveal the great attraction of philately, as an expression of art and culture, for the sports Movement.

The foreseeable success of “*Olympilex ‘85*” will owe much to the Municipality of *Lausanne* and to the Swiss Philatelic Societies, who have not been sparing



with their efforts in organising this event. The Swiss Federal Post Office too will be giving a valuable boost to the exhibition in the form of a slogan in the three national languages and a special cancellation to be used for the duration of the event.

The IOC for its part has been mechanically franking its mail since the beginning of the year with a mark announcing the exhibition.



Finally, to commemorate “*OLYMPHILEX ‘85*”, several countries have already announced their intention of issuing either a stamp - *Spain, Andorra, Mozambique, Somalia, Zaire* - or a set of postal stationery - *San Marino* - or of introducing a special cancel - *Italy*.

To sum up, every effort has been made to persuade you to come and visit our exhibition, whether you are a sportsman or a philatelist. The time has now come for us to bid you all welcome.

Michel Pecquet

Member of the Committee of the FIPO and of the organising committee for “*OLYMPHILEX ‘85*”



The medal stamped on the occasion of the first international philatelic exposition organised by FIPO.