

Six months after the Games of the XXIIIrd Olympiad, they are still the subject of great admiration. Evidence of this fact is the impressive amount of mail which we receive from all over the world. Australian schoolchildren write "the glory of winning was a *thing which everyone enjoyed, either because there was someone from home up there, or the spectators appreciated that someone must have done something very special to get there*".

The Olympic spirit is also a subject on which our readers have written. In an article entitled: "*Can the Olympiad be saved ?*", B. R. Sen (IND) suggests that "*The Olympiad should be permanent/y located in its original home, Athens*" and states that "*What we see today is a form of War not Sports, though as a role-playing substitute for real war it has its merits*".

Glen Mathe (USA) says: "*I for one do not think that the Olympic Movement is fading. It is alive and well*". For Mr. Wilf Wedman (CAN), "*the greatness, the importance of the Olympics is not in their individual deeds or accomplishments. It is in their indestructible spirit. And it is this spirit that we as a society must maintain to ensure our future generations can share it and be made better by it*". As far as the actual Games are concerned, our readers have written to us expressing their enthusiasm.

A volunteer at the Games, Theresa Pegg, tells us that the athletes were "*a pleasure to know, respectful at all times and constantly full of fun*". Brook Downie (USA) tells us that "*it was nothing short of a magnificent display of raw human courage, dedication and achievement*", and Waunita Larson expresses the view that "*this is something that all peoples of the world should be taking part in, making*

*new friendships and learning about each other's country*":

The television coverage of the Olympic Games also gave rise to numerous letters, including one from William Miele (USA) who thanks ARC for its professionalism and Steve Wixson (USA) who wonders "*if future contracts could be arranged so that the primary contractor be given priority selection on the popular and significant events and other coverage rights be negotiated for less popular events that are of major importance to small groups of us*".

□ Mr. John T. Powell (CAN), participated in the seminars of the International Olympic Academy in July of 1984. The charms of Olympia inspired him to write this poem of which we publish only a few verses owing to lack of space :

*Great things come quietly to earth  
Sunrise is silent, and life itself  
Comes like a breath indrawn  
As still and quiet, as the dawn.*

*The seasons come and go  
like a moving show  
Across the stage of time and space  
With quiet dignity and, sometimes, grace,*

*. . . So we to Olympia's vale have come  
And in silent rapture we will go,  
Quieter than when Alphaeus river's flow  
Meets the far deeps of the sea.  
Both river, and ourselves,  
Are held through some magic harmony.*