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## Recognized Organizations

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*Part of the audience during the speech given by the President, Mr. Paolo Cappabianca. At right is Mr. Giorgio de Stefani, IOC member in Italy.*

# THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF PANATHLON INTERNATIONAL

**P**anathlon International celebrated the 25th anniversary of its constitution on 13th October last, in Paris. In fact, until 14th May, 1960, Panathlon, which developed from an idea of Col. Mario Viale, Professor Domenico Chiesa and other sportsmen of Venice, was only the Italian Panathlon. Through its expansion to Switzerland, Spain and Austria, the transformation to Panathlon International was approved on 14th May, 1960 during a historical assembly in the Salle de Foscolo of the University of Pavia.

The 25th anniversary of this historic event was celebrated most officially in the austere Grande Salle at the University of Pavia in the presence of the highest civil and sports authorities. The IOC was represented by Mr. Giorgio de Stefani, personally delegated by the President Juan Antonio Samaranch, who sent a telegram of greeting and congratulations. The Central Council and the Governors of Panathlon International attended without exception.

More than 250 members of Panathlon, from all over the world, came to Pavia, highlighting this elegant ceremony which Panathlon International organised with the lively and efficient support of

the Governor for the 2nd District, Mr. Lino Rona, and of the Pavia Club, namely its President Mr. Federico Martinotti, Vice-Presidents Messrs. Giovanni Grassani and Aldo Pollini, Secretary General Mr. Alfredo Orlandi and members Messrs. Spilenni and Sorrentini.

The ceremony was simple and incisive, despite its formality and even the emotion of the moment, and also reunited in Pavia many members of Panathlon who took part in the constitutional assembly twenty-five years ago ; old friends, who on that occasion wrote a highly significant page in the history of Panathlon, met once again encountering many new members and bearing witness to the development and expansion that our movement has achieved throughout the world since it became international. This fact was particularly stressed in the official speech made by the President of Panathlon International, Mr. Paolo Cappabianca.

During the ceremony, awards, were made to fifteen members of Panathlon.

A special plaque was presented to the representative of the IOC, Mr. Giorgio de Stefani.