
In the News...

GAMES FOR EUROPE?

The European Economic Community will soon have its own Games. Europe is probably the only part of the world never to have organised Regional Games. According to the report by Mr. Mark Barker, which appeared early in December 1986, the plan will become reality in April 1989. This new series of competitions, which is to take place every two years, will not take place in a single city. That is one of the original features of the idea. The promoters believe that a concentration of all the sports at a single geographic location making possible a meeting of all the athletes, is no longer justifiable in view of the multiplicity of existing international sports encounters. The competitions in twenty-four disciplines would therefore be distributed among the

twelve countries of the Common Market on a basis of two per country. The use of already existing sports facilities and broadcasting infrastructures should make it possible to keep the costs of this event within reasonable limits, namely some six million pounds sterling. Similarly, there will be no sale of television rights. Twelve organisations will share the responsibility for covering the event, each of them undertaking to broadcast at least one hour per day. According to Mr. Adrian Metcalfe of Channel Four, "there will be competition between the countries to find original ways of staging the event. We will be able to screen three or four finals each day and with snappy editing this should prove very popular".