

NEW DONATIONS FOR THE MUSEUM

As was particularly apparent last year, the Museum is constantly on the lookout for even the smallest object bearing the hallmark of Olympism. During the period of the Games the harvest is particularly plentiful, almost over-abundant one might say in view of the chronic lack of space from which the Museum suffers. After the euphoria of an Olympic year, it is a pleas-



Studying the photographs of the Otto Mayer collection, from l. to r. : Mrs. Françoise Zweifel, Mr. Raymond Gafer, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Mayer, Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch, Mr. Jean-François Pahud and Mrs. Samaranch.

ure to examine souvenirs which are somewhat less profuse, but whose intimate nature gives an unrivalled insight into the day-by-day history of the IOC. Such is the collection of Otto Mayer, which his son Mr. Roger Mayer presented to the IOC President on 20th March.

This collection comprises various correspondence, photographs, Session badges, paintings, pins and cups belonging to the man who was Chancellor of the IOC from 1946 to 1964. These items are all the more valuable because of their rarity. Today the documentary value (particularly of the photographs) is beyond compare as a record and witness of the history of the Committee during the post-war period. At that time, the secretariat had neither the structure nor the size that it has assumed today, and private correspondence is often our only means of understanding how ideas originated, how certain decisions were reached, and directions taken which still influence the life of the Movement today. The items in this collection will be of great interest to researchers at the Olympic

Studies Centre and will give us greater understanding of our predecessors, as President Samaranch said when he thanked Mr. Mayer for this important contribution which will enrich the Museum.

■ The Japanese firm ASICS has made a donation of one million US dollars towards construction costs of the new Olympic Museum. Mr. Kihachiro Onitsuka, President of the firm which manufactures sports goods and clothes, made this donation to the IOC President on the occasion of the World Figure Skating Championships held in Paris during March.



Messrs. Kihachiro and Samaranch show the cheque donated by the firm 'ASICS'.