

IBM AT OLYMPIC HOUSE

Olympic House now has highly modern data-processing equipment generously supplied free-of charge by IBM. Mr Rolf Struby, Chairman of IBM Switzerland, accompanied by a delegation from the company, came in person to the IOC headquarters on 24th March last to present officially to the IOC President Mr Juan Antonio Samaranch this extremely powerful tool, a complete communications system which, as you can imagine, took several months to install.

To the high-capacity mainframe is linked a network of some fifty personal workstations located in the offices at Vidy, the Museum and the Olympic Villa. An electronic mail system has made a large portion of the mail unnecessary. Also managed by the system is a data base containing 13 000 addresses and 200 000 files. Finally, thanks to this system which stores the press agency dispatches, the IOC has a highly sophisticated document bank which will soon be expanded to include an image management system. Apart from the work in Lausanne, however, the IOC's own system is also linked up to IBM's international network, which allows it to maintain constant contact with the Organizing Committees in the host cities.

"HERAKLES AS ARCHER" AT THE MUSEUM

For its last exhibition of the season this May, the Olympic Museum in Lausanne put on display the twelve labours of Herakles (or Hercules, as he was known to the Romans).

The centrepiece of this exhibition, a tribute to the mythical founder of the Olympic Games, was the well known bronze "Héraclès Archer" by the French sculptor Antoine Bourdelle. At the turn of the century, mythology was in vogue in creative circles, and in this atmosphere, which exercised an enormous influence on Pierre de Coubertin, Bourdelle, who worked for some time with Rodin, set out in 1909 to recreate these twelve famous labours imposed on Herakles by a no less legendary King.



Around this sculpture, so often reproduced - it appeared for many years on French children's plates the fifth labour (a gloomy tale of arrows against predatory birds), the austere style of which was to be much imitated, twelve drawings, each illustrating one of the mythical labours, were also on display. The sculptor's daughter, Mrs Duffey-Bourdelle, curator of the Bourdelle Museum in Paris, came in person to present these very vital, powerful and highly coloured works, which were being shown to the public for the first time.

IBM representatives at an official presentation of data-processing equipment which has been installed in Olympic House.

