

# APRÈS LA SESSION DE STOCKHOLM

Juin 1947.

A l'occasion de la session de Stockholm, les membres du C. I. O. firent déposer une couronne sur la tombe de M<sup>me</sup> Edström, à Västerås. Ce fut M. Wahlsten du Västmanlands Idrottsförbund qui conduisit la délégation et qui prononça quelques mots au nom du C. I. O. M. J. S. Edström nous prie de remercier les membres du C. I. O. de leur délicate pensée.

*Mrs. Edström was one of the most "Olympic ladies" in the world. She had taken part in the Olympic Games in Stockholm 1912, Antwerp 1920, Paris 1924, Amsterdam 1928, Los Angeles 1932 and Berlin 1936. Besides, she had attended the yearly meetings of the International Olympic Committee in Paris (Reims) 1914, Rome 1923, Lisbon 1926, Monaco 1927, Lausanne 1929, Berlin 1930, Vienna 1933, Athens 1934, Oslo 1935, Warsaw 1937, Cairo 1938 and London 1939.*

*Mrs. Edström also wrote down some of her impressions of the Olympic Games. This text will appear in our next bulletin.*

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Faute de place dans notre dernier bulletin nous faisons paraître aujourd'hui quelques discours prononcés lors de la dernière session du C. I. O. à Stockholm.

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Discours prononcé par Son Altesse Royale le Prince Héritier Gustav-Adolf de Suède à l'occasion de l'ouverture solennelle de la session de Stockholm, le 18 juin 1947.

*My first and pleasant task today is to welcome all the members of the I. O. C. to our country. We are indeed very happy that again you should have chosen Sweden and our capital as your meeting place. For this is not the first time Stockholm has the pleasure of a visit from you. I must recall to your minds that day almost exactly 35 years ago when I had the pleasure of addressing a similar gathering in this same town of Stockholm.*

*Of course we have all become 35 years older since then, and I am, official that indeed very few of those are with us today, who then were the honoured guests of Sweden and represented their various countries, interests in connection*

*with the modern Olympic Games. But a still greater change has taken place in the aspect of the whole World since those far away days of peace. Two devastating wars and all the consequences thereof have managed to produce a greater revolution both in material conditions and in the minds of men than perhaps ever before in so short a time. So when the history of these years comes to be written, it will most probably be characterized as a period of unprecedented upheaval, fraught with heavy unrest and turbulence.*

*One thing, however, which most certainly has survived the vicissitudes of the times and which in some miraculous way only seems to gather momentum whatever happens, is the keen interest taken in physical training and in competitions of a physical character.*

*In our time opinion is hardly divided any longer as to the importance of physical culture. Here again the difference between now and the year 1912, when you last met in Stockholm, is very obvious. The necessity for tending to the needs of the body has since then been universally recognized as a thing of primary public importance. Vast sums are annually allocated for play-fields and sports-grounds and that like, both by state and by the communities. I hope it will be possible for you to get some idea of what has been done in this respect in the capital of Sweden.*

*And now I want to extend to you, Gentlemen of the I. O. C., my sincere good wishes and express the hope that your Stockholm meeting may be fruitful of good results. There is no doubt that your organization is a most important and a most powerful one. In fact, as far as I can see, the I. O. C. retains a red key position within its realm. It therefore has a place of vast responsibility. Millions of people listen to what you have to say, and millions of people consequently either benefit from your decisions or feel disappointed with them. Some of your decisions may lead to grave issue. I know that even at this very meeting you will be dealing with problems of great delicacy and of a controversial nature.*

*May I be permitted, as one who for 30 years was closely connected with voluntary physical training, games and sports in this country, to express the conviction, that you will approach all these intricate problems in a spirit of true sportsmanship and with an unbiassed mind.*

*Lastly I should like to give vent to a fervent hope, that the activities of the I. O. C. should through contacts it is able to establish and encourage, contribute in a modest way towards better understanding and good will amongst men.*

*With every good wish for a successful meeting of the I. O. C., I have the honour to declare its session in Stockholm open,*

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**Speech of M. Carl Albert Andersson, President of the Town Council of Stockholm, pronounced at the dinner given by the town of Stockholm in the City Hall.**

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*Tonight, it is my great pleasure to welcome to the Stockholm Town Hall the leaders of International Sports. Our Town Hall was built after the Olympic Games in 1912, and this is accordingly the first occasion on which the City has had the honour of welcoming Olympic guests here.*

*My welcome is in the first place addressed to the members of the International Olympic Committee and to the representatives of the International Sports Federations. A special municipal greeting is directed to the several city representatives who have come here*

*in noble emulation to compete for the favour of the International Olympic Committee with a view to securing for their respective cities the honour and glory of arranging the next Olympic Games.*

*This time Stockholm is not entering the lists. Our sister city of Helsingfors is one of the candidates for arranging the 1952 Olympic Games, and we Swedes would rather not stand in her way. As yet, no uninitiated people know what you, gentlemen of the International Olympic Committee, will decide. May I, however, and I beg the gentlemen from America to excuse me, presume to express a hope that war-devastated Europe will not be compelled to bear the heavy financial burden consequent on a decision to hold the games in another Continent.*

*I am, however, deeply conscious of the importance, indeed the glory, to any city appointed to arrange these noble contests for the young generations, to be the place where — after the terrible struggles of the war — the youth of the world will meet to measure its strength, both individually and nationally, in peaceful sports.*

*The Olympic Games in Stockholm in 1912 left deep traces in our athletic circles. The newly constructed Stadium had provided the capital with a centre for various sports. Owing to the rapid growth of the city and the greatly increasing popularity of sports, however, the Stadium soon proved too small. The Olympic Games in 1912 had moreover — to some extent because of the Swedish successes in the Games — given a strong forward impulse to the idea of*

**A Västerås.** — Le 4 juillet, M. Folke Wahlsten, président de la « United Sport Association of Wästmanland », dépose, au nom des membres du C. I. O. et des représentants des fédérations internationales réunis à Stockholm, une couronne sur la tombe de M<sup>me</sup> Ruth Randall Edström, épouse du président du C. I. O. Assistent à, cette cérémonie, M. Albert Lundkvist, président du Conseil municipal de la ville de Västerås, ainsi que d'autres personnalités de cette cité.

