



LOS ANGELES 1er NOVEMBRE 1951

M. J.-Sigfrid Edström vient d'offrir, au nom du C. I. O., un tableau représentant le baron P. de Coubertin, au Los Angeles Coliseum, qui le placera par la suite dans le Musée Helms Hall. Ce tableau, trop grand pour être placé au Musée olympique de Lausanne, avait été donné au C. I. O. par la veuve du rénovateur des Jeux. Il avait subi les effets de la guerre 1939-1945 à Berlin où il se trouvait et était en partie détérioré. M. Paul Helms de Los Angeles ayant accepté de le faire restaurer, le président du C. I. O. le lui a remis au cours d'une cérémonie officielle à l'occasion de son récent voyage aux Etats-Unis. Notre cliché montre le tableau restauré et nouvellement encadré et les personnalités suivantes de gauche à droite: M. Paul-H. Helms, M. J.-J. Garland (membre du C. I. O.), M. J.-Sigfrid Edström (président du C. I. O.), M. MacIntyre Faries (président du Colisée de Los Angeles).

About the painting of Baron de Coubertin

(Talk given by Mr. John Jewett Garland on November 1st. 1951 at Helms Hall in Los Angeles on the occasion of the presentation of the de Coubertin painting by Mr. J. Sigfrid Edström.)

This picture, reputed to be the only oil painting of the man who revived the Olympic Games, was painted in 1914 by the well-known Belgian painter

and sculptor, Jacques de Lalaing (1858-1917).

It originally belonged to Baron de Coubertin himself but was presented to the International Olympic Committee Museum at Lausanne by his widow shortly after his death in 1937. In 1939 the painting was lent to the German Olympic Committee, to be used in an exhibition of sport in Berlin. Shortly afterward, World War II commenced and Dr. Carl Diem, secretary of the German Olympic Committee, took the picture out of its frame and secreted it in the cellar of the Deutsche Bank in Berlin. In this way it was protected from the bombing raids, and at the end of the war Dr. Diem asked the U. S. Army of the Occupation for it, and eventually it was brought back to the Olympic Museum through negotiations with the Swiss Legation in Germany.

The picture, approximately 9 x 10 feet, has been brought to this country through the efforts of President J. Sigfrid Edström of the International Olympic Committee to Los Angeles, where the games of the Xth Olympiad were held in 1932.

Upon its arrival in Los Angeles a month ago still rolled up the painting was found to be badly in need of expert restoration. This work, together with the re-mounting and framing, has been done by Mr. and Mrs. Anthon of New York, now employed at the Los Angeles County Museum in similar work, and thanks to their excellent work it has been finished in time for the presentation today. The picture, in spite of its stormy career, is now in practically as fine condition as the day it was painted.