

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

More than one year has passed since I last reported to members in the *Journal* and I am pleased to say that during that period ISOH has continued to make satisfactory progress.

Membership continues to grow and, more importantly, our membership base is expanding over a wider geographical area. Of course, we would particularly welcome members from countries who have a history of Olympism, I wrote in my last Message that “if historians exist in these countries we will find them-or they will find us”. Happily this prediction is now coming true.

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the meeting of the ISOH Executive Committee which, through the generosity of the IOC, was held in Lausanne in early August. This was the first time that such a meeting has been held and all who were involved rated it an unqualified success.

With the exception of Conrado Durántez (Spain), who had a long-standing previous engagement, all members of the Executive Committee were in attendance and the discussions were both fruitful and lengthy. The agenda was wide ranging and such matters as the status of the 1906 Games to the problem of ISOH members who are regularly late in the payment of their subscriptions were discussed. Elsewhere in this issue the Secretary-General gives a more detailed account of the proceedings.

I hope you approve of the new printing style used in this issue of the *Journal* and during our negotiations with the printer we have agreed terms which will enable us, to improve the quality of illustrations in future issues. As it happens, there was no space for illustrations in this particular issue. We are indebted to Tony Bijkerk and Steve Harris for the continuing improvement in the quality of the Journal!

Speaking of the *Journal*, Wray Vamplew has resigned as Associate Editor and I thank him for his past contribution to ISOH. I am delighted to welcome Harry Gordon (Australia) as Wray’s replacement and as the former Editor of the Melbourne Sun Harry is certainly not short of journalistic experience.

Finally, in this annual review I would like to thank Tony Bijkerk whose sterling work as Secretary-General has made my task as President so much easier. Also my thanks to our treasurer, David Wallechinsky, whose work load will be further increased next year as it was agreed at the recent meeting in Lausanne that in 1999 ISOH will accept subscriptions in the Euro currency.

Ian Buchanan,
President of the ISOH