

The organising Committee for the XIVth Olympiad in London 1948 communicates :

1. The Games of the XIVth. Olympiad will take place at Wembley. The Opening Ceremony will be on Thursday, July 29th. and the Closing Ceremony on Saturday, August 14 th. It is hoped, if possible to arrange an Olympic Torch relay from Mount Olympus, in Greece. This is being examined.

2. The President of the Games is the Right Honourable Viscount Portal D.S.O., M.V.O.

The Chairman of the Organising Committee is the Lord Burghley, K.C.M.G. The other members of the Organising Committee are : Lord Aberdare, Sir Noel Curtis-Bennett, K.C.V.O., Alderman H.E. Fern, O.B.E., J.P., Mr. E.J. Holt, Colonel Evan Hunter O.B.E., Mr. J. Emrys Lloyd O.B.E., Mr. C.B. Cowley, Mr. R.B. Studert, Mr. A.E. Porritt, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., Mr. S.F. Rous C.B.E., Mr. Jack Beresford.

An Executive Committee has been set up from among the members, and for the detailed organisation there are eight sub-committees, consisting of : Technical, Housing, Transport, Finance, Medical Service, Reception, Press-Publicity and Arts.

3. The majority of the « Games » will be staged at Wembley. The Wembley Stadium was constructed in 1922 and was the centre of the British Empire Exhibition in 1924. It is situated on the North Side of London approximately 7 miles from the centre. Its normal capacity is 100,000 spectators. For the Olympic Games it is expected that approximately 80,000 people will be able to see the events, seated at one time.

The Wembley Swimming Pool, known as the Empire Pool, was constructed in 1934. It is entirely built of ferro-concrete and glass, ensuring an uninterrupted view from all parts and an open air effect. The arena, with a seating capacity of 10,000, has staged swimming, ice-hockey, boxing, tennis and many other sports.

An outdoor pool is under construction and in this the Diving and Water Polo events will take place.

In the Wembley grounds there are other buildings suitable for certain events. It is the intention of the Organising Committee to stage as many events as possible at Wembley so as to preserve the Olympic atmosphere.

4. The programme in the Main Stadium is likely to comprise the following events :

Track and Field events, Gymnastics, the finals of the Football and Hockey, and the Prix des Nations.

Swimming and Boxing will be held in the Empire Pool.

Fencing, Wrestling and Weight-Lifting are planned to be held in buildings on the Wembley grounds or adjacent thereto.

The preliminary rounds of the Football and Hockey will take place on various grounds in the London Area.

Rowing and Canoeing will take place on the river Thames on the famous Henley Regatta Course, and there will be adequate provision for spectators. Yachting will be at Torquay in Devonshire on the South West Coast of England. Shooting at Richmond and Bisley, and Cycling at Herne Hill in London.

There will also be staged Basket Ball, Riding and the Modern Pentathlon. These will be held in the vicinity of London.

5. Housing for competitors will be as near as possible to the Wembley Stadium. All arrangements are in the hands of His Majesty's Government who are at present engaged in drawing up plans for accommodating competitors.

6. It is proposed to hold a mammoth Service of Dedication in the Main Stadium on the first Sunday of the Games, i.e. August 1st. The idea of this is to stress the ethical and moral side of the Games as opposed to the physical.
