

Greek Athletes in Urgent Need Of Equipment, Says Runner

By **GEORGE MARKER**

Stylianos Kyriakides, Greece's emissary of mercy, walked into our office . . . his gait unsure, his olive skin drawn, and his voice quivering with uncertainty:

"My country is trying to get money and equipment for her athletes to send to the Olympic games. We have no committees to raise money . . . so they say to me: You are the committee. Tell our friends in America the torch still burns for Greece."

This message from Greece, mother of the Olympics, nervously slipped from the lips of Kyriakides, patriot and athlete, conqueror in the 26-mile B.A.A. marathon race in April of 1946, who plodded over the finish line with the flag of Greece sewed to his shirt. At present, he explains, the Greek runners compete without shirts, or shoes, while other athletes sit idle until equipment arrives. The sport's program is but a skeleton.

Officially authorized by the Greek committee for Olympic games to appeal for contributions, Stylianos has visited clubs, schools

and colleges in New York, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and Baltimore. Even though he has met with some success in his appeal to Greek societies and friends, the \$50,000 goal set by the committee is dimmed by a haze of such sympathy and little material aid.

He urges the people of Washington to help Greece enter the 1948 Olympics in London by sending their checks to two banks in care of the Greek Olympic committee. The banks are the Bank of Athens and Trust Co., 203 West Thirty-third St., N.Y.C., and the Hellenic Bank and Trust Co., 139 Williams St., N.Y.C., N.Y. Equipment may be sent to the Greek Consul General, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, N.Y.C., N.Y. All names of contributors will be forwarded with funds to the Greek Olympic Committee who will acknowledge.