

Kyriakides Seeking U. S. Help for Greek Olympics

By Web Morse

*Sports Editor of
The Christian Science Monitor*

A drive to enable Greece to have a team in the 1948 Olympic Games in London is underway. Since the little nation, the traditional sponsors of the Olympic Games back in 1896, is up to its economical ears trying to exist on the bare necessities, funds for an Olympic team must come from an outside source.

It means much to Greece to be represented in these historical Games. Stylianos Kyriakides, who won the Boston A. A. Marathon a year ago and finished 10th this year, has been commissioned by his country to bring its plight to attention of Americans of Grecian descent and their friends.

Send Money to N. Y.

The little Marathoner told the Boston press in the Greek Consulate yesterday that he has visited New York, Detroit and Chicago with success. Greek societies and friends can send money to either of two banks in New York in care of the Greek Olympic Committee. The banks are: The Hellenic Bank & Trust Co., 139 Williams St., and the Bank of Athens Trust Co., 203 West 33rd Street. All names of contributors will be forwarded with funds to the Greek Olympic Committee who will acknowledge.

It is hoped to raise some \$50,000 or more. There will be Greek championships held and the winning athletes in the many events will be sent to the Games in London.

Kyriakides also hopes to prevail upon clubs, schools and colleges in the United States to donate equipment, old or new, for any of the many events in the Games. "Our athletes run and compete without shoes. We are destitute for any and all equipment, both wearing apparel and utensils," he said.

Encouraging Responses

He revealed his mission in the office of Constantine A. Triantafyllakos, Greek Consul in Boston and said that all New England donations of athletic equipment could be sent to the Greek Cathedral Church at Ruggles and Parker Streets, Boston. Encouraging responses already have been made and he will address a gathering at the Church next Wednesday at which James B. Connolly and Ellery Clarke, American winners in the 1896 Olympic Games at Athens, are

expected to assist. A framed list of famous Greek autographs gathered by Harvey Cohn of the 1906 American Olympic team in Greece will be auctioned off at that time with the proceeds to go toward the Olympic fund.

If there are to be Olympic Games Greece should have athletes competing and if funds and equipment are necessary Kyriakides will get them. The little fellow has had the determination and sincerity to twice reach the United States to run in the B. A. A. Marathon and he has the same desire to see his country in the Olympics. He has received his TWA plane reservation back to Greece for June 17 and will "Marathon" the United States in behalf of his new and worthy mission.

Athletic directors and coaches of the 20 colleges to compete in the New Englands at Durham, New Hampshire this week end will be appealed to for any equipment, second hand or otherwise.