

**DESIGN — QUANTITY**

- 1) 20 lepta — 4,000,000 pieces
Representation of gold medal awarded to victors.
- 2) 3 drachmae — 3,000,000 pieces
Pole-jump and contestants of the ancient pentathlon from a 5th century B.C. Panathenaic amphora.
- 3) 5 drachmae — 4,500,000 pieces
Relay-race and representation of Archaic runners from an amphora of about 525 B.C.
- 4) 8 drachmae — 500,000 pieces
Discus-throwing, with corresponding representation of contest, also from a Panathenaic amphora of about 480 B.C.

**GREEK POST OFFICE
PHILATELIC SERVICE
ATHENS**

OTHER PARTICULARS

DESIGN: 20 lepta stamp by engraver G. Velissarides; others by painter P. Gravalos.

SIZE: 26 × 36,5 mm, in sheets of 50 pieces.

METHOD OF PRINTING: Multi-coloured Offset.

PRINTED: by "Aspioti-Elka" Graphic Arts Co., Ltd., Athens.

DATE OF RELEASE: The stamps will be released on 5th May 1969 and will be on sale until 5th May, 1970, unless the stock is depleted earlier.

RATE OF EXCHANGE: \$1 = 29.85 drachmae.

FIRST DAY COVERS: Illustrated FDC's will be made available by the Philatelic Service. Each FDC will bear the four stamps which will be affixed with a special commemorative seal.

Price of the FDC's will be 16.20 drachmae each, i.e. face value of the stamps.



**SET OF COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS
IX EUROPEAN
ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS 1969**



IX EUROPEAN ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS 1969

(Site : Karaiskaki Stadium, Neon Phaleron, Athens; date :
16th-21st September 1969).

Only a few months lie ahead before September, when the IX European Athletic Championships for Men and Women (1969), organised by S. E. G. A. S. (Hellenic Amateur Athletic Association), will be held in Athens, "the City of Eternal Light and Civilization."

As is in fact well known, these championships constitute the greatest athletic event, after the Olympic Games, in the field of classical athleticism. The fact that they will take place in Athens has aroused the greatest interest in European athletic circles ; all the more so when it is borne in mind that, apart from the intrinsic attraction of the contests themselves, the championships will be held at a time of the year when Greece attracts a large number of tourists.

Every effort has and is being made on the part of the Greek authorities to ensure the complete success of the European Championships. Timely preparations are under way and the area of the Karaiskaki Stadium has become a hub of activity, special attention being paid to equipping it with completely modern methods in regard to the conduct of the contests (from a technical point-of-view),

to the announcement of results and the general enlightenment of the public on the course of the events. All this has been rendered possible by the exceptional interest shown by the National Government.

The Ministry of Communications, which is showing the greatest possible interest, both in the organisation of the games and in supporting the efforts made by S.E.G.A.S. and Greek athletic circles, has, in cooperation with the Greek Post Office, approved the issue of a series of stamps commemorating the games, which will constitute the greatest athletic event held in this country during the last sixty years.

Moreover the traditions of the Greek athletic world and its natural sense of hospitality will ensure that the greatest enthusiasm is aroused by this unique athletic occasion, in which the youth of Europe, the best athletes of thirty different states, will contest the crown of victory and wild olive branch in friendly competition. Feelings of genuine emotion will be aroused among all those members of the Greek public who are devoted to the cause of athletics.

A warm welcome is extended to the visiting athletes.

DEMETRIUS N. XEROUCHAKIS

2nd Vice-President of the Committee for the Olympic Games,
Secretary-General of S.E.G.A.S.