

Pierre de Coubertin

A Far-Sighted Historian



Coubertin himself drew up several extensive historical and political studies and made use of his sound knowledge of history in order to categorize recent events of the day adequately. According to Coubertin, the expansion of historical knowledge is very important. He is of the opinion that the neglected values of culture and history ought to be taught in early years in order to increase the progress of society.

As a matter of fact not knowing and not wanting to know led to several catastrophes and also wars. Coubertin considers history as the guardian of international peace.

"I have been preaching sport and history to you for now more than a quarter of a century; you have listened to the call of physical fitness, source of physical and moral strength combined (...). But you have not listened to the call of historical culture. Do not think I am discouraged. I will continue to proclaim this until my last breath."



In 1926-27 Coubertin published a World History in four volumes.



These following titles show his variety and far-sightedness of his studies:

"Where to Europe?", already in 1923 (!); "The history of the XIXth Century"; "On South-American History"; "Charlemagne and his Empire"; "The Vikings"; "History of the United States"; "What should we think of Socialism?"; "The Social Reform"; "The Education of Peace"; "Financial Questions"; "Resurrection of the Peoples"; "A French View of the German Empire"; "Spain and her Daughters"; "Australian Interlude"; "Unknown Poland"; "The Conditions of Scandinavian Progress"; "Ethiopia Today"; "The Russian Dead End", "Arab Art" and many more.