

CROSS-COUNTRY

NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP

DEFEATING a field numbering well over 200 runners, George Craig, Shettleston Harriers, scored a convincing triumph in the National Novice cross-country championship of Scotland, held over a five miles course at Hamilton Park Racecourse on Saturday. No winner of this race has yet become a Scottish champion, but this lad's power and strength, and the judgment which he revealed, entitle his admirers to anticipate that he will achieve that distinction. As a son of A. Craig, the former famous distance champion, and a brother of Archie, the present Junior champion, the winner brought further honour to an outstanding family.

Craig beat J. Reid, Ruth, by 200 yards, and C. B. Rose, leading the Glasgow University team, finished a good third.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

		M.	S.
1	G. Craig, Shettleston H.	28	49
2	J. Reid, Ruth H.	29	28
3	C. B. Rose, Glasgow University H. and H.	29	31
4	R. Mugrew, Garcubie H.	29	37
5	W. Connor, South Glasgow A.A.C.	29	41
6	J. Marshall, Paisley Y.M.C.A.	29	50
7	T. Pearson, Edinburgh Southern H.	29	55
8	D. Cousin, Bellahouston H.	30	36
9	J. Muir, Glasgow University H. and H.	30	44
10	J. Gibbons, South Glasgow A.A.C.	30	5

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

1. South Glasgow A.A.C. (W. Connor 9, J. Gibbons 9, W. McGuire 10, M. Lyons 62), 86 points.

2 (equal), Glasgow University H.H. (C. B. Rose 3, J. Reid 8, T. W. Carson 34, J. McGinn 63), and Garcubie Harriers (R. Mugrew 4, J. McDougall 12, A. Simpson 40, T. McGinley 52), 108 points.

4. Doon Harriers (W. McNaught 25, D. Wightman 26, H. Urquhart 27, T. Fraser 41), 119 points.

5. Edinburgh University H. and H. (O. L. Wren 13, I. M. Stokoe 19, H. H. Thomson 39, A. C. Nicoll 55), 126 points.

6. Shettleston Harriers (G. Craig 1, J. Collins 11, J. Ferguson 50, T. Loring 63), 127 points.

7. Hamilton H., 147 points; 8. Carnoustie A.A.C. 153 points; 9. Victoria Park A.A.C., 163 points; 10. Maryhill H., 172 points; 11. Bellahouston H., 183 points; 12. Kilmarnock Harriers, 195 points; 13. Edinburgh Southern Harriers, 210 points; 14. Auchincruive Harriers, 228 points; 15. Springburn Harriers, 235 points; 16. Ayr A.C., 246 points; 17. Clydesdale H., 284 points; 18. Monkland H., 301; 19. Kilmarnock A.A.C., 322 points; 20. Larkhall Y.M.C.A., 371 points.

Northern Harriers' Jubilee

Edinburgh Northern Harriers this year celebrate their Jubilee, but like their semi-jubilee dinner in the last war, the function arranged for this occasion had to be cancelled. It was in the early part of 1889 that two members of the Edinburgh Harriers, Mr P. Addison, and the late Mr A. Robertson, felt there was room for another club in the city. Thus the club was formed, the original members being employed in a well-known printing firm in the north side of the town. The inaugural club run took place from Stockbridge on the first Saturday in October 1889. The early meetings of the club were held in the Crown Restaurant, Leith Street, but in season 1893-94 rooms were secured in Clyde Street. After seven years the club transferred its premises to more commodious rooms in Leith Street, but in 1915 they were compelled to move again, and not wanting to go far from the district where the club originated, secured premises in Cockburn Street. Four years ago they moved to their present headquarters in Leith Street Terrace. The club did not take long to make its presence felt in cross-country circles, for in 1892 they won the Scottish Junior Championship, and retained the title the following year. Then followed a lean spell, but in 1908 the club won its first Eastern District Championship, and since then has won the title on five other occasions, the last being in 1931.

Successful Season

The 1925 season was a particularly successful one, for they first won the Eastern Relay title, and followed up by being the first winners of the Edinburgh and District League. In the former event they completed the "hat trick" in 1927, winning the McKenzie Trophy outright, but they returned it for competition, and won it again from 1930 to 1935. After being second in 1936 they resumed their winning way in 1937, and again last year. As regards the League the Northern have only failed twice to come out on top—in 1930 and 1938. The club's greatest triumph, however, was achieved in 1935, when they won for the first time the National Cross-Country Championship at Hamilton. The club can also claim six internationalists, T. Glancy (1924), M. Stewart (1927), H. McIntosh (1932 and 1933), W. Hinde (1933, 1934, 1935, and 1937), J. P. Laidlaw (1934), and J. Suttie Smith (1934 and 1935). W. B. Ross was the first member of the club to be chosen to represent his country in 1921, but owing to injury had to call off. Other notable cross-country honours which have come the way of the club have been through the medium of W. Menzies, who was killed in the last war (winner of the Eastern District individual title in 1912), J. Bathgate, winner of the Scottish junior title, and W. Hinde, winner of the novice title in 1933, while the club also won the Berwick and District team race in 1927.

Scottish Title-Holders

The Northern have also been fairly successful in track events, having had four champions and one internationalist. Their first title-holder was one of the founders, Mr P. Addison, who won the ten miles' championship in 1892, while W. B. Ross emulated that feat in 1910, and in the same year won the one mile championship. J. P. Laidlaw was the last to hold a Scottish title, winning the three miles at Hampden in 1935, while he has also represented his country in athletics. In 1934 and 1935 the club won the Perth to Kirkcaldy road relay race, while in the latter year they finished first in the Edinburgh to Glasgow event. The Northern have been successful on 17 occasions over the Southern in the long-standing inter-club contests, while the former have won the five-club contest five times, including the tie with the Edinburgh Harriers in 1925. When the club held their summer sports meetings they won the McEwan Cup for relay racing on four occasions, while in 1911 they won the Northern Challenge Shield, and in 1927 the Robertson Shield at Grangehall. The Northern Challenge Shield now goes to the winner of the Northern-Southern contest. In 1932 and 1933 the St. Mungo Shield was won by the Northern at the Brew Lodge Gathering at Galashiels, while in 1935 the club won the team race at Berwick.

On the official side of the sport the Northern has had the honour of providing two S.A.A.A. presidents, the late Mr R. A. Hay in 1919-20, and Mr G. M. Grant in 1929-31, while the latter was also president of the N.C.C.U. in 1928-29. During the last war 24 members of the Northern sacrificed their lives.

W. M. G.