

Scottish Junior & Youths' Championships

July 2nd

100 : 1, V. P. Reilly (Vic. Pk.); 2, J. D. Middlemiss (Edin.); 3, G. Irving (Braiburn) 10.6. 220 : 1, V. P. Reilly (Vic. Pk.); 2, W. McDonald (Perth); 3, W. S. Gunnion (Vic. Pk.) 23.4. 440 : 1, R. H. Hughes (H.M.S. Caledonian); 2, A. L. Munro (Heriots); 3, M. J. McLoughlin (Edin. S.) 54.6. 880 : 1, R. A. Paterson (Strathallan Sch.); 2, W. H. Lorimer (G. Watson's C.); 3, J. Thomson (Motherwell) 1:59.9. Mile : 1, G. R. Govan (Shettleston); 2, D. M. McNish (G. Watson's C.); 3, J. L. Ewing (Vic. Pk.) 4:38.4. 120H : 1, W. G. Montgomery (Cambuslang); 2, A. Gallacher (Plebeian); 3, A. R. Davis (Unatt.) 15.8 (eq. rec.). 200H : 1, A. Hannah (Athenian); 2, W. G. Montgomery (Cambuslang); 3, A. R. Davis (Unatt.) 24.2. LJ : 1, R. W. Watt (Vic. Pk.) 20 ft. 11 in.; 2, W. Talbot (Motherwell) 20 ft. 8 in.; 3, R. S. Shearer (Ed. Un.) 19 ft. 10 in. HJ : 1, A. J. Smith (D.H.H.) 5 ft. 8 in.; 2, I. L. Thomas

(Motherwell) 5 ft. 7 in.; 3, J. B. Shand (Aberdeen) 5 ft. 6 in. HSJ : 1, J. McCleave (Kirkcudbright) 42 ft. 10 in.; 2, W. Talbot (Motherwell) 42 ft. 0½ in.; 3, J. C. Thomson (Hawkhill) 41 ft. 1½ in. Wt : 1, R. R. Sharp (Vic. Pk.) 43ft. 4½ in.; 2, T. Johnston (Hawkhill) 43 ft. 2½ in.; 3, H. F. Munro (Galspie Sch.) 43 ft. 0 in. D : 1, W. J. Ferguson (Gordonian) 127 ft. 5 in.; 2, J. D. McDonald (G. Watson's C.) 126 ft. 7 in.; 3, J. B. Lacey (R.H.S.) 119 ft. 1½ in. J : 1, G. Thomson (G. Watson's C.) 176 ft. 11½ in.; 2, T. Ferguson (H.M.S. Caledonian) 154 ft. 5½ in.; 3, A. Ramsey (C. Heriots Sch.) 154 ft. 5½ in.

Youths :

100 : 1, R. E. Hall (Dunfermline); 2, C. K. Cowan (G. Heriots); 3, A. G. Watson (Shettleston) 10.6. 880 : 1, G. McDonald (G. Heriots); 2, J. Kerr (Beith); 3, V. Hugo (Vic. Pk.) 2:05.3 (rec.). LJ : 1, J. J. Morris 19 ft. 9 in.; 2, A. J. Arnatt (Beith) 19 ft. 6 in.; 3, A. D. McAdam (R.H.S.) 18 ft. 10½ in.

Continued from previous page

Putt.

T. A. Logan (V.P.A.A.C.)—44 ft. 7½ ins.—Westerlands—14/6/55.

J. L. Donnelly (H.H.)—41 ft. 5 ins.—Bonnybridge—21/5/55.

J. Drummond (H.A.C.)—41 ft. 3 ins.—Craiglochart—21/7/55.

W. McNeish (V.P.A.A.C.)—41 ft. 1 in.—White City—21/5/55.

R. C. Buist "Q" A.C.)—40 ft. 8½ ins.—Craiglochart—19/5/55.

Discus.

E. C. K. Douglas (F.E.C.)—138 ft. 7 ins.—Craiglochart—12/5/55.

R. C. Buist ("Q" A.C.)—133 ft. 2½ ins.—Craiglochart—19/5/55.

W. H. J. Leckie (Atalanta)—129 ft 11 ins—Chiswick—14/5/55.

J. Drummond (H.A.C.)—128 ft. 10 ins.—Craiglochart—21/7/55.

J. L. Donnelly (H.H.)—128 ft. 9 ins.—Craiglochart—5/5/55.

C. F. Riach (J.T.C.A.C.)—127 ft. 11½ ins.—Meadowbank—25/6/55.

Javelin.

D. W. R. Mackenzie (E.U.A.C.)—204 ft. 11 ins.—Craiglochart—28/5/55.

AUGUST, 1955.

Vol. 10, Nos. 1 & 2.

THE SCOTS ATHLETE

PRICE
6D



A. J. Herman (Edinburgh Southern Harriers) winning the Scottish Women's 440 yds. championship in the new native record time of 58.3 secs.

JOHN EMMET FARRELL'S
RUNNING COMMENTARY.

SCOTTISH BEST PERFORMANCES

SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP DETAILS

WOMEN'S JUNIOR SENIOR

ERRATUM. It is regretted that our last issue June 1955 was numbered wrongly. It should have stated Vol. 9. Nos. 11 & 12 (not 10 & 11).

SCOTTISH BEST PERFORMANCES, 1955

Compiled by ROBERT SINCLAIR Jnr.

(Marks include to 16th July, 1955).

100 Yards.

J. G. R. Robertson (G.U.A.C.)—(W)—
Westerlands—4/6/55.
E. McKeating (G.H.S.A.C.)—10.0s.—
(W) Goldenacre—18/6/55.
A. S. Dunbar (G.U.A.C.)—10.1s.—
Ibrox—4/6/55.
W. Henderson (W.A.C.)—10.1s.—Craig-
lochart—18/6/55.
K. A. Robertson (E.U.A.C.) 10.1s. (W)
Meadowbank—7/6/55.

220 Yards.

W. Henderson (W.A.C.)—21.7 White
City—15/7/55.
J. G. R. Robertson (G.U.A.C.) 22.2s.—
Westerlands—15/7/55.
D. McDonald (G.H.)—22.4s. Ibrox—
4/6/55.
D. P. Marshall (G.U.A.C.)—22.7 West-
lands—1/6/55.
K. A. Robertson (E.U.A.C.)—22.7s.—
Meadowbank—9/6/55.

Notable

R. Quinn (V.P.A.A.C.)—22.4 (1)—
18/6/55.

440 Yards.

J. V. Paterson (E.U.A.C.)—49.1s.—
Craiglochart—18/6/55.
R. Quinn (V.P.A.A.C.)—49.6s.—Mea-
dowbank—25/6/55.
D. E. C. Gorrie (O.U.A.C.)—50.1s.—
Oxford—12/5/55.
D. McDonald (G.H.)—50.6s.—White
City—21/5/55.

880 Yards.

D. E. C. Gorrie (O.U.A.C.)—1m. 52.0s.
White City—16/7/55.
I. M. Stuart (G.U.A.C.)—1m. 54.4s.—
Manchester—21/5/55.
G. Everett (S.H.)—1m. 55.0s.—Barrach-
nie—31/5/55.
J. R. Cameron (T.H.V.) 1m. 55.4s.—
Uxbridge—25/6/55.
M. Donachie (B.A.C.)—1m. 57.2s.—
Meadowbank—25/6/55.
J. B. Hume (C.H.)—1m. 57.2s.—Mea-
dowbank—25/6/55.
J. V. Paterson (E.U.A.C.)—1m. 57.6s.—
Craiglochart—18/6/55.

1 Mile

J. R. Cameron (T.H.V.)—4m. 11.0s.—
White City—15/7/55.
J. Everett (S.H.)—4m. 13.2s.—Meadow-
bank—25/6/55.
A. Wood (A.U.A.C.)—4m. 15.9s.—
Westerlands—11/6/55.
A. S. Jackson (E.U.A.C.)—4m. 17.4s.—
Meadowbank—25/6/55.
W. H. Watson (E.U.A.C.)—4m. 18.1s.—
Meadowbank—9/6/55.
J. Finlayson (G.U.A.C.)—4 m. 20.4s.
Meadowbank—25/6/55.

3 Miles.

I. Binnie (V.P.A.A.C.)—13m. 54.8s.—
Ibrox—4/6/55.
A. H. Brown (M. Y.M.C.A. H.)—14m.
12.6s.—4/6/55.
A. S. Jackson (E.U.A.C.)—14m. 13.0s.—
Manchester—21/5/55.
J. Russell (V.P.A.A.C.)—14m. 32.7s.—
Ibrox—4/6/55.
J. Finlayson (G.U.A.C.)—14m. 35.1s.—
Westerlands—11/6/55.

120 Yards Hurdles.

C. A. R. Dennis (E.U.A.C.)—15.3s.—
Newcastle—2/7/55.
A. R. Britee (R.H.S.F.P.A.C.)—16.1s.—
Meadowbank—9/6/55.
R. McLeod (A.U.A.C.)—16.4s.—Aber-
deen—28/5/55.

440 Yards Hurdles.

C. A. R. Dennis (E.U.A.C.)—55.3s.—
White City—16/7/55.
K. Morton (J.T.C.A.C.)—58.1s.—Mea-
dowbank—25/6/55.
I. Steedman (A.A.C.)—58.6s.—Meadow-
bank—25/6/55.
J. M. B. Carr (E.U.A.C.)—58.8s.—
Craiglochart—7/5/55.

High Jump.

W. Piper (G.P.A.C.)—6 ft. 3 ins.—
White City—16/7/55.
J. Little (G.U.A.C.)—6 ft. 1 in.—West-
lands—11/6/55.
R. Voekel (E.U.A.C.)—5 ft. 11½ ins.—
Craiglochart—25/6/55.
A. M. Law (L.A.A.C.)—5 ft. 11 ins.—
Meadowbank—25/6/55.

Continued on page 15

THE SCOTS ATHLETE

TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN
SCOTTISH AND WORLD ATHLETICS

"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."

EDITED BY - WALTER J. ROSS

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TEL-CENTRAL 8443

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JOHN EMMET
FARRELL'S



THE track season is so short and
so full of varying interest that the
tendency is to keep looking forward
and to ignore the immediate past, yet
the status of the Scottish Championships
is sufficiently high to merit some
mention of the salient points.

McGhee's Wonder Marathon.

One hesitates to use the term fantastic
to athletic feats nowadays because stan-
dards improve so rapidly that superlatives
cease to have much meaning but there
can be little doubt that Joe McGhee's
record-breaking 2 hrs. 25 mins. 50 secs.
marathon was easily the feat of the
championships and puts him into world
class in this specialised event and if I
may say so, puts an extra glitter on his
British Empire medal. Conditions were
excellent but the course is by no means
an easy one and this enhances the per-
formance of George King (G.Wellpark)
whose time of 2 hrs. 34 mins. 30 secs.
beat the previous best ever in Scotland
and that of Shetleston's Hugo Fox with

a 2 hrs. 37 mins. 35 secs.

A. Brown Surprise.

Ian Binnie retained his 3 and 6
miles titles creditably though not
up to the best Binnie standard but
Motherwell's Andy Brown by his 2nd
place in both events revealed himself
one of the most improved runners in the
country. In the six miles in particular he
gave Binnie some anxious moments till
the latter's extra class prevailed and his
time of 30 mins. 3 secs. was excellent.

Ever-improving miler Graham Everett
was just too classy for that magnificent
trier Adrian Jackson as was Donald
Gorrie for Ian Stuart in the half-mile.
C. Dennis had an elegant double in high
and low hurdles whilst as I half expected
Dunbar and Henderson shared the sprint
honours.

Exciting Quarter.

The most exciting race of the champi-
onships was the quarter mile in which
favourite Jack Paterson and rufus-locked
Bob Quinn hero of many relay races for

Victoria Park strove desperately to the tape, the latter winning by the breadth of a tram ticket in a good 49.6 secs. Paterson was slight pre-race favourite but Quinn was not dismayed by pre-race tipsters.

Fraser Riach's Come-back.

The performances in the field events were moderate though versatile athlete Fraser Riach caused some surprise by beating Javelin record-holder D. W. MacKenzie and going on to win a double by capturing the discus. MacKenzie's recent form has been brilliant but erratic. A few weeks before the championships he set a new record of 204 ft. 11 ins. and subsequent to the championships he beat Riach with a much better throw than the championship one. But what counts is producing the figures at the right time; and, on the day Fraser was the better man.

Clydesdale's Sensational Victory.

The Junior championships at Westerlands reached a high standard despite wind conditions and were most encouraging for Scottish athletics but space precludes mention of all the fine individual performances. At the same meeting Clydesdale created something of a sensation by winning the 4 x 440 yds. Senior relay from the more fancied Shettleston and Victoria Park in 3 mins. 28 secs.—only .6 outside the record. The men who brought this honour to the grand old club are R. Clark, W. Linton G. Rodger and J. Hume.

Stothard's 20-year record goes!

Shortly after winning the S.A.A.A. half-mile title anglo-scot Donald Gorrie set up a new Scottish native record for that distance with a magnificent run of 1 min. 52.7 secs. which subject to ratification will erase J. C. Stothard's figures of 20 years standing of 1 min. 53.6 secs. Stothard, himself an ex-Edinburgh varsity don to my mind was one of the most classical looking half-milers ever to appear on the track and never revealed his real potentiality.

What is Tom Richard's secret?

After his grand run in the Isle of Man 37½ miles Tom Richards turned to the comparative sprint of the Poly. marathon and finished 12th in the moderate time of 2 hrs. 41 mins. but later won the Welsh

marathon championship in the excellent but by no means superlative time (in these days) of 2 hrs. 35 mins. What is the secret of the excellent form of veteran Richards? As a veteran enthusiast who seems to be losing form rapidly I pose this question with much interest and some feeling.

Once again does Distance Blunt Speed. There have been several indications of late to suggest that distance training does not blunt but in fact tends to enhance speed. The experience offered by veteran Blackheath runner J. Braughton to my mind sensational underlines the above. On the 18th June he ran in the Polytechnic Marathon and finished a most meritorious 6th. Next week he competed in the Southern "3" and was 7th in the magnificent time of 13 mins. 51 secs. twenty seconds faster than he had ever done before. In some respects this episode is the most sensational and revealing achievement of the season. It certainly demonstrates in practice a revolution in the philosophy of sport and training methods.

Zatopek and Kuts Loss of Form.

One of the chief athletic talking points has been the loss of form of two of the world's most famous athletes Vladimir Kuts and Emil Zatopek. Kuts' form has been most disappointing, but the general feeling is that it is but a passing phase. But it is felt that the veteran Czech's is beginning to feel the weight of years. In the words of Armour Milne writing from Prague "Zatopek continues to disappoint his supporters, and the general view is that the great Olympian is rapidly descending from the heights."

Nevertheless Zatopek is still willing to meet all-comers but now prefers the 10,000 metres-marathon combination.

Yet challengers at these distances may now look forward to combat with the triple Olympic champion of 1952 with less trepidation. But they should not entirely discount him for the grimacing Czech is a great competitor.

Paced Record Attempts.

At last there has been something of an out-cry against the recent series of planned paced record attempts. This is wholly artificial and I agree entirely with "Roamer" writing in our contemporary

"Athletics Weekly" that the whole thing is contrary to the true spirit of athletics. Recently for example there was an allegation by a runner attempting a record that one of the pace-makers had failed to carry out the duties allocated to him. A record should be allowed only in a bona-fide competition and Jack Crump's warning that "Any deliberate pace-making race would jeopardise a record being accepted" is timely indeed.

What Now Gordon!

Gordon Pirie for sensations! His collapse in the A.A.A. 6 miles with one lap to go in the heat-wave conditions was dramatic but our first duty is to congratulate the man who successfully combatted the elements and the field opposed to him, tenacious and resolute Ken Norris.

Then and only then is an analysis of the reason for Pirie's collapse in order. It is easy to be wise after the event but in my heart of hearts I did not feel comfortable about his programme which involved so much heavy training and such constant racing. Pirie's emphasis on fast racing under distance must have taken some of the cream off his condition, and though he had a mixed bag of grand successes and minor disappointments in which he revealed astonishing recuperative powers it is the last straw which broke the camel's back.

Certainly the moderns have proved that the body is much more durable than was believed but one has the feeling that where the racing programme is heavy the training though conscientious should be somewhat lighter in scope and vice-versa. Joe Binks expresses himself in no uncertain terms. To quote Joe "he (Pirie) is not the all-conquering runner of 2 years ago. His strength is being sapped, not increased. I still question whether after all this self-imposed punishment, any of these modern athletes can survive for long.

Some of Pirie's runs were brilliant notably his world best at 1½ miles of 6 mins. 26 secs and his 3 miles in 13:29 only 3 secs. outside the world record but to my mind championships come first and record a bad second. What counts is to be fit at the crucial moment and to that extent although a high plateau of form

is to be recommended there is something to be said for peak training for specific events.

Disley's Record Steeplechase.

The mile and the 3 miles were both 2 man races. In the mile Hewson and Wood came from behind to contest the last lap with the former's irresistible surge too much to match. The 3 miles was similar in pattern. Chataway trailed Ibbotson and his faster finish gave him a clear margin.

The closest and most exiting race was the 880 yards where Derek Johnson the favourite and Bob Henderson of Elswick fought out a photo finish, the former catching the judges eye in 1 min. 51.4 secs. The 440 yards was also a classy affair with 6 ft. 5 ins., P. Fryer setting up a new English Native record of 47.7 secs. with his space-devouring strides.

But the event of most intrinsic merit was surely the 3,000 metres steeplechase where mountain-climbing John I. Disley won in 8 mins. 56.6 secs. beating C. Brasher into 2nd place and creating a new English Native, British National and British all-comers record.

Great Scots.

The visiting Scots, sponsored and non-sponsored put up a magnificent display in the A.A.A. championships. Briefly they captured 3 titles, gained a 3rd place, had 2 fourths, a fifth and a six; and for a meeting that is open not only to Britain but to the world this is something really to write home about. Dr. Ewan Douglas our most fancied competitor realised expectations by winning with a throw of 185 ft. 5 ins. well within his capabilities but policeman Bill Piper excelled himself to win the high jump with 6 ft. 3 ins. from Nigerian student O. Okuobi who equalled this height but had more failures. Victoria Park's junior relay team (4 x 110 yards) composed of Reilly, Struthers, Burns and Beaton got off to a devastating start and passing the baton in immaculate fashion romped home in the championship record time of 48.3 secs.

Bill Henderson's Consolation Prize.

27 year-old Bill Henderson now running better than ever after a back-ground of winter training nearly shocked the pundits by a devastating finish in the 220 yards which some thought he had won but the

judges placed him 3rd in this photo-finish. A wonderful performance which the selectors recognised by awarding him a place in the match against Germany. Brilliant too, were the 4th places won by Don Gorrie in the 880 yards and Andy Brown in the 6 miles. Gorrie's time unofficially assessed at 1 min. 52 secs. compares favourably with the winning time of 1 min. 51.4 secs. as does Brown's grand 29 mins. 35.2 secs. with Norris 29.6 in the battle of the heat-wave.

Even the 5th place in the hammer gained by Alec Valentine and the 6th by stylish Clive Dennis in the 440 yards hurdles are worthy of honourable mention. Yes the Scottish contingent can be proud of its showing.

Marathon Double for McMinnis.

Interest in the A.A.A. marathon at Reading was lessened by the withdrawal of Joe McGhee through leg strain. It would have been a grand opportunity to test himself against the cream of Britain. But now that the race developed into another Vancouver with the thermometer registering 80 perhaps Joe was lucky. Bill McMinnis 40-year-old and very fit R.A.F. regular completed the double, having won the Poly. Marathon in June in a fast 2 hrs. 26 mins. narrowly from Geoff Iden. This time he survived the torrid heat to win in the slowish time of 2 hrs. 39 mins. 35 secs. (similar to McGhee at Vancouver) with Geoff Iden 2nd 2 hrs. 50 mins. 6 secs. and J. Mekler (S. Africa) 3rd in 2 hrs. 50 mins. 49 secs.

Fantastic Drama.

Those are the bare result but tell nothing of the race against not only a tortuous 26 miles course but a tortuous cruel sun. It tells nothing of a race where 53 started but only 16 finished; in which new distance star Eddie Kirkup was taken out at 10 miles by his coach and Stan Cox retired under his own steam at 18 miles; Where 5 runners were taken to hospital including runner-up Geoff Iden who was leading 2 miles to go but then overcome by the cruel conditions was impelled to walk to the tape.

At the Junior championships at Reading Scots Eddie McKeating and Alec Hannah both from the East won the 100 in 10 secs. dead and 200 yards hurdles in 23.4 secs. The same day A.A.A.

champion Bill Piper captured the British Police title with an even better leap of 6 ft. 5½ ins. his best ever, whilst up at Aberdeen Jim Paterson of Edinburgh Varsity clocked 1 min. 53.6 secs. for a half-mile ground record and Bobby Quinn with a grand 49.5 equalled the ground record for the 440 yards. All these performances were personal bests.

Chataway's World Record.

This has indeed been a record-breaking athletic season. It would require a catalogue to preserve all the magnificent times put up, but the performances of Chris Chataway and Derek Johnson deserve special mention. Aided and abetted by the sensational improved Derek Ibbotson, Chataway reduced Kut's world record 3 miles by 3.2 secs. to 13 mins. 23.2 secs. while in the half, versatile wonder runner Brian Hewson himself clocking 1 min. 49.9 secs. forced Johnson to the time of 1:49.7 to beat Sydney Wooderson's British record (and former world record).

A New Threat.

With the uncertainty at the moment of Pirie's form Chataway emerges as Britain's best hope for an Olympic title. With Zatopek fading, and Kuts in the doldrums present form would make Iharos of Hungary and Chataway co-favourites for the 5,000 metres title. Both are almost equally good around the mile distance. Iharos recently broke Landy's world 1,500 metres record of 3:41.6 by clocking 3:40.8. However Chromik (Poland) and Tabori among others are runners just as wonderful so there can be no complacency all round.

Cowal Games always an Attraction.

The Cowal Games are ever a fascinating and attractive magnet with their colour, music, pageantry and mixed grill of athletics. Despite its rather saturated programme it has become a gala day, an event in the calendar. Perhaps that is why other Highland Games, notably the Glasgow Highland Games have failed to sustain public interest despite the finance expended on them. A notable exception are the Edinburgh Highland Games but their success entails a super effort from secy. Willie Carmichael and the Highland aspect is largely bolstered by prominent continental and British stars.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

NEW MEADOWBANK, 11th JUNE, 1955.

The Association is to be congratulated on introducing the two additional age groups at this year's championship meeting, thus giving the younger girls an incentive and also experience of scratch competitions.

The overall entry was fairly good and must have been encouraging to the Association, but the entry might have been higher if it had been given more publicity, especially the new grades. However a most enjoyable afternoon's sport was presented, with the Mens' Senior sprint relay championship added for good measure, and the weather clerk was reasonably kind, the 3 to 4 miles an hour breeze was against the sprinters and the rain kept off till the meeting was nearly over.

Undoubtedly the high light of the meeting was Mrs. Anna Herman's new quarter record of 58.3 sec. Having seen Anna training I was not surprised, and forsaking the sprints in favour of the longer distance certainly paid dividends. It is a barrier, the 60 sec. 440 yds., well and truly passed as far as the Scottish girls are concerned.

Because of withdrawals, heats were dispensed with and the race was run as a final. Unfortunately Wilma Bowden was unable to run due to an injury, had she been able to compete, who knows, Anna might have had to show an even better time. As it was, it was pretty well, Anna and Jean Webster the holder from the start, with the other Anna, Riley (nee McKee) a possible danger. The pace was a cracker from the start, and up to 200 yards there was little between Anna and Jean, but from that stage onwards, Jean appeared to begin to tie up a bit, and Anna's superior fitness began to assert itself and by the time the last bend was reached it was pretty certain that Jean was not going to stay, but Anna finished very strongly without losing form. I felt that Jean was not as fit for quarter running as she might have been, but I am open to correction on that point. It was

a grand race and duly appreciated by the crowd. The other Anna finished third quite a bit behind but as game as ever.

Next must come Pat Devine's triple win, 100 yards, 220 yards and long jump, with best ever figures in the last event. It was a very creditable performance but she did not show the verve and form of last year, and although the track was not in its' best condition, her times were much below her best. It was expected that because of the better facilities etc. in London she would better her best performances, however that was not to be, and as I have said, 11.6 sec. and 26.4 sec. are well below her best. At the time of writing, there seems to be a little doubt about her 17 ft. 11 in. long jump being ratified.

Her team mate Elspeth Hay seems doomed to be the champion runner-up, occupying 2nd place in both sprints for the second year running. She was also third in the shot putt. A. Robertson did not produce the best form she is capable of, and finished third in the 100 yards, and because of a pulled muscle in the 100 did not go in the 220 yards. Her team mate Pat Bellamy made no mistake in the high jump, winning by 2½ inches but well below her best at 4ft. 10½ inches. M. Bain also of Aberdeen losing second place to Pat Hamilton, Maryhill Harriers on failures. She also figured prominently in the hurdles, just being pipped by C. Anderson of Glasgow University. The holder Jean Deas (nee Thomson), although untrained, sportingly turned out to lose her title on the track, but made amends by bettering her discus record by 4½ inches. Moira Martin, Athenians, probably the best hurdler technically, who still lacks the speed to win, finished third.

In the longer distances Aileen Drummond, Maryhill, although not as fit as she would have wished, proved her superiority by winning the half and the mile convincingly although in moderate times. Mrs. McLeod of Dundee ran well for her second place in the half mile and

got inside standard time as did M. Ferguson of Springburn who was third. The battle between Aileen and Jean Webster in the half mile which could have been expected did not materialise, as the half followed the 440 yards and Jean withdrew, a pity, because I've always felt that a race between these two would produce a new record. M. Glen, Southern, a sister of the noted professional miler put up a very plucky show in the mile and will be a force to be reckoned with in the future.

J. Pringle's winning putt of 30 ft. 2½ inches did not come up to expectations, as recently she has been doing 34 ft. G. Shaw, Edinburgh Harriers, was second and as already stated, E. Hay third, but G. Shaw made no mistake in the Javelin, her winning effort being only 1 ft. 7½ inches behind the record. Second and third were R. Martin and M. Montgomery both Athenians but their distances were quite a bit short of the winners.

Two Athenians were also second and third in the discus, G. Halliday and S. Plenderleath.

In the new grades Intermediate and Junior, some fine performances were put up and these augur well for the future, but I think that even then we didn't see all the best girls taking part, probably because they did not know of the championships.

However, the stars here were undoubtedly D. Tyndal, Tayside, in the intermediate, with her 11.6 sec. hundred and 26.9 sec. 220 Yards, her 11.6 sec. equalling the best time in the senior 100 yards, P. Devine's heat time, and diminutive M. Symon's (Maryhill) treble, 75 yards 150 yards, and long jump.

Taken over all the performances were fairly good and certainly the competition was keen. Others worth noting were, in the Intermediate grade, M. Hall, Maryhill, D. Wight, Athenians, M. Black, Springburn and C. McLean, Athenians, and in the Junior, D. Flannigan, Edinburgh Southern, H. Glasgow, Grangemouth and M. Cormack, Grangemouth. The relays were keenly contested, Maryhill just beating Athenians in the Intermediate, and, taking their second team title in the Junior, beat Hamilton by a clear margin.

The mens' relay proved a triumph for Victoria Park who had entered three teams, and they occupied the first three places, unprecedented in Scottish Athletics. Bellahouston were the other finalists but offered no serious challenge to the Scotstoun boys.

Over all it was a very successful meeting, fairly well supported by the public and definitely a step in the right direction. Provided it is well enough publicised next year should show a marked improvement especially in the Intermediate and Junior grades.

T. MONTGOMERY,
(Chief Coach to the S.W.A.A.)

SENIOR.

100 Yards.

1. P. Devine, Spartan Ladies ; 2. E. Hay, Spartan Ladies ; 3. A. Robertson, Aberdeen A.C. 11.8 sec.

Standard 11.8 sec. 1 and 2 M. Getty, (M.H.)

220 Yards.

1. P. Devine ; 2. E. Hay ; 3. D. Stewart, Bellahouston H. 26.4 sec.

Standard (26.80 sec.) 1 & 2.

440 Yards.

1. J. Herman, Edinburgh Southern ; 2. J. Webster, Edinburgh Southern ; 3. A. Riley, Ardeer Rec. 58.3 sec. (Record).

Standard (65 sec.) 1, 2 and 3.

880 Yards.

1. A. Drummond, Maryhill H. ; 2. E. McLeod, Unattached ; 3. M. Ferguson, Springburn. 2 min 30.8 sec.

Standard (2 min. 2.36 sec.) 1, 2 and 3.

1 Mile.

1. A. Drummond, Maryhill H. ; 2. M. Glen, Edinburgh Southern ; 3. M. Steel, Maryhill H. 5 min. 42.3 sec.

80 Metres Hurdles.

1. C. Anderson, Glasgow University ; 2. M. Bain, Aberdeen H. S. ; 3. M. Martin, Athenian. 12.6 sec.

Standard (12.90 sec.) 1 and 2.

High Jump.

1. P. Bellamy, Aberdeen A. C. (4 ft. 10½ ins.) 2. P. Hamilton, Maryhill H. (4 ft. 8 ins.) 3. M. Bain Aberdeen H. S. (4 ft. 8 ins.)

Standard 4 ft. 9 ins.

Long Jump.

1. P. Devine, Spartan Ladies ; (17 ft. 11 ins.) 2. L. Barr, Glasgow University (16 ft. 1 in.) 3. M. McLeod, Jordahill (15 ft. 6 in.)

Standard 16 ft. 6ins.

Shot.

1. J. Pringle Aberdeen University (30 ft. 2½ ins.) 2. G. Shaw, Edinburgh H. 28 ft. 8½ ins.) 3. E. Hay, Spartan Ladies (27 ft. 10½ ins.)

Standard 28 ft. 0 ins.

Discus.

1. J. Deas, Edinburgh Southern (110 ft. 7½ ins.) 2. G. Halliday, Athenian (88 ft. 10½ ins.) 3. S. Plenderleath, Athenian (63 ft. 0 in.)

Standard 95 ft. 0 ins.

Javelin.

1. G. Shaw, Edinburgh Harriers (104 ft. 2 ins.) 2. R. Martin, Athenian (84 ft. 5½ ins.) 3. M. Montgomery, Athenian 58 ft. 6 ins.)

Standard 90 ft 0 ins.

INTERMEDIATE (15-17 Years.)

100 Yards.

1. D. Tyndal, Tayside ; 2. M. Hall, Maryhill H. ; 3. D. Wight, Athenian. 11.9 sec.

220 Yards.

1. D. Tyndal, Tayside ; 2. M. Hall, Maryhill H. ; 3. D. Wight, Athenian. 26.9 sec.

High Jump.

1. M. Black, Springburn (4 ft 5½ ins.) 2. E. Gray, J.G.H.S. (4 ft. 3½ ins.) and A. King, Edinburgh Southern (4 ft 3½ ins.)

Long Jump.

1. M. Black, Springburn 15 ft. 8½ ins.) 2. C. McLean, Athenian 14 ft. 0in.) 3. H. Caldwell, Hamilton (13 ft. 1½ ins.)

80 Yards Hurdles.

1. M. Montgomery, Athenian. (No time taken).

Discus.

1. D. Steward, Edinburgh Harriers. (74 ft. 9 ins.)

Javelin.

1. M. Montgomery, Athenian. (58 ft. 10 ins.)

4 x 110 Yards Relay.

1. Maryhill ; 2. Athenian ; 3. Edinburgh Southern. 54.5 sec.

JUNIOR (11-15 Years).

75 Yards.

1. M. Symon, Maryhill ; 2. D. Flannigan, Edinburgh Southern ; 3. H. Glasgow, Grangemouth. 9.1 sec.

150 Yards.

1. M. Symon, Maryhill ; 2. H. Glasgow, Grangemouth ; 3. D. Flannigan, Edinburgh Southern. 18.3 sec.

High Jump.

1. M. Cormack, Grangemouth (4 ft. 5½ ins.) 2. I. Robertson, Ainslie Park School (4 ft. 4½ ins.) 3. S. Nesbit, Hamilton. (4 ft. 3½ ins.)

Long Jump.

1. M. Symon, Maryhill (14 ft 9½ ins.) 2. M. Cormack, Grangemouth (14 ft. 5½ ins.) 3. D. Flannigan, Edinburgh Harriers (13 ft. 8 ins.)

4 x 110 Yards Relay.

1. Maryhill Harriers ; 2. Hamilton A.A.C. 54.4 sec.

MEN'S SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

4 x 110 Yards Relay.

1. Victoria Park A.A.C. ; 2. Victoria Park A.A.C. "C" ; 3. Victoria Park A.A.C. "B". 44 secs.

S.A.A.A.

MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIP

FALKIRK—EDINBURGH

25th JUNE, 1955.

1. J. McGhee (Shett. H.) 2 25 50
2. G. C. King (G'nock W) 2 34 30
3. H. Fox (Shuttleston H.) 2 37 35
4. W. McFarlane (Shett.) 2 43 27
5. J. Robertson (Ed. Sth.) 2 46 58
6. J. E. Farrell (Maryhill) 2 48 44
7. J. Hart (Springburn H.) 2 51 13
8. R. A. Sinclair (F'kirk V) 2 51 32
9. T. Phelan (Springburn) 2 51 54
10. D. M. Bowman (C'dale) 2 52 22
11. A. Reid (Springburn H.) 2 53 43
12. H. Haughie (Springburn) 2 56 28
13. D. N. Anderson (G'nock) 2 57 46
14. E. Campbell (Ft. Wm. St. Mary's A.C.) 2 57 53
15. J. Foster (Edin. Sth H.) 2 58 16
16. T. B. Rewcastle (Pleb.) 3 00 01
17. P. McCulloch (S'burn) 3 13 07
18. M. W. Innes (Raithburn) 3 13 12

SCOTTISH SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

NEW MEADOWBANK 25th and 26th JUNE.

Reviewed by JAMES CHRISTIE.

Once again the championships (this was the 63rd annual) are over, and once again they have been memorable for many reasons.

What performances could be highlighted for 1955? I think the 440 yds., the half-mile, mile and marathon were the events we shall remember as outstanding.

Performances were good but spoiled by wind. As usual this was the same "stiff, prevailing" wind against the sprinters. The track badly cut-up early on and this was most troublesome for the middle distance and distance runners.

100 Yards. There were six heats and all went much as expected with the exception of the last when one A. Breaker of Edinburgh Southern ran very well to qualify easily with the holder Bill Henderson for the next round. In the final Alan Dunbar made no mistake. Off like a shot, he built up a nice lead by 70 yards and although as usual he "tied up" and threw his head back no one could close the gap. Second was the "surprise packet" Breaker and third Henderson.

Other "semi" qualifiers were Cain and Quinn; Connolly (Jordanhill) and Robertson; Dunbar and Wilson (V.P.); J. Robertson and Richards (Braiburn); and Breingan (V.P.) and Brittee (Royal High School).

220 Yards. The principal talking point on this event was the small number of entries. It was such that no semi-finals were required. The three heats and final were held on Friday evening. The qualifiers were also much as expected with a new face in the final—Ian Hamilton (V.P.). The final was run at 8.25 p.m. and most of us were curious as to how Bob Quinn would perform as we knew he had elected to run in the 440 Yards Prelims. at 9 p.m. and also the 100 Yards Prelims. the following day. Starter Fred Evans gave his usual steady commands. Dunbar left the blocks like a rocket and for a time we thought the man who just runs 220 Yards races because it is assumed most sprinters do both looked

as if he might just do it. Graham and Ken Robertson, I think, slept slightly at the start. As the field entered the straight and had the wind to contend with Dunbar began to fade and W. Henderson, the holder, came storming through closely followed by Bob Quinn to win in the good time for the conditions of 22.7 secs.

440 Yards. Three heats were held on Friday evening. Many enthusiasts considered J. V. Paterson a certainty and even more so after the way in which he covered the distance smoothly in 50.2 seconds in his heat. However, it was to be no easy title for Paterson, but the toughest, closest and most exciting event of the Championships. At the gun it was Quinn off for a very fast 300 yards closely followed by Paterson. D. MacDonald who had been runner-up in the three previous years was sluggish on the outside while Sanderson, Steele and Taylor were completely left at this stage. Round the bend Quinn's very fast pace early on showed itself and he began slowing. It was then Paterson began to move away and he entered the straight in the lead. Fifty yards to go it looked Paterson, but slowly and perceptibly Quinn closed the gap and at the tape although both dipped, Quinn's burly chest got there.

880 Yards. Heats on Friday. Again qualifiers went to form. Last year's runner-up Bill Linton through lack of training possibly, failed to qualify. Stewart Petty, a previous winner of this title, qualified only as fastest loser. Main interest in the final centred round the Oxford man D. C. E. Gorrie and speculations as to whether he could beat J. C. Stothard's record of 1min. 53.6 secs. were rife. At the gun Petty shot away and for the first lap led at a cracking pace. Gorrie then took over and piling on the pressure strode away gamely followed by Stuart (G.U.A.C.). Gorrie was a sound winner, Stuart second and Donachie beat Hume in the run in for third place. Holder Bob Stoddart was never in the race. The winner's time 1 min. 54.2 secs.

was just over half a second outside the Scottish Record, but nevertheless a grand performance under the prevailing conditions.

One Mile. The Heats (Fri.) were won in 4 mins. 37 secs., 4 mins. 24.6 secs., and 4 mins. 29.3 secs. respectively with all the fancied men getting through. The final which promised so much never really materialised as a great contest, but as an individual triumph for Graham Everett it was perfect.

Donald Henson who turned out in spite of an injury received the previous night was unfortunate to fall near the start. Former Junior Champion W. H. Watson took the lead for the first lap and thereafter holder A. S. Jackson forced the pace. He tried hard to shake off the field but Everett who kept handy throughout made his effort 300 yards from home strode strongly to the tape and won in the good time of 4 mins. 13.2 secs. Jackson was a gallant second and Wood moved strongly up in the finish passing a fading Alex. Breckenridge the Native Record Holder.

Three Miles. This was the last event on the programme but it passed without suggestion of final drama. The loose, and bumpy track and strong wind gave no inspiration. Holder, Ian Binnie, Andy Brown (Motherwell Y.M.) and Jim Russell (V.P.) were 1, 2 and 3 respectively, without real challenge from one another.

Six Miles. Friday. Though it was windy it was mild and a new record was looked for from Binnie for records were the feature of each of his three previous 6 miles championship wins. He started fast enough and with Brown gamely tucked at his heels they passed the first mile in 4 mins. 32 secs. Faster than some of the 1 mile flat qualifiers! During the 2nd mile the V.P. man shook off Brown and reached the 2 mile mark in 9:17.4. Thereafter the pace slackened and records were out. Times at 3, 4 and 5 miles were 14:9.4., 19:21.8., 24:29.5 and Ian won in 29 mins. 40.4 secs. However in recording 30 mins. 3 secs. Brown was a grand runner-up and gave promise as another Scottish distance running star.

Frank Scally, son of Shettleston coach Allan Scally, a famous distance runner

in his day ran steady throughout for 3rd position.

3,000 Metres Steeplechase. This event (formerly 2 miles distance) was retained worthily by Jim Hamilton (Edinburgh Eastern) in the good time of 9 mins 38.2 secs. A. S. Reid (Jordanhill T.C.) made a nice debut in this type of race to be runner-up. Whilst 3rd man Clark Wallace who was second last year seemed to jeopardise his chances with being a 1 mile finalist.

120 yds and 440 yds. Hurdles. were a fine double for Clive Dennis though he was favourite for both. In the "highs" he beat that most consistent all-rounder A. R. Brittee to regain the title he held in 1953. In the heats of the "lows" K. M. Morton (Jordanhill) also making a sound championship debut was fastest up but Dennis was too classy for the field in the final.

High Jump. The main talking point was the failure of the strong form favourite, last year's runner-up, Bill Piper (Glasgow Police) to qualify. Evidently the take-off was unsatisfactory and the stands were shifted for the Saturday finals. South African Bill Little the holder, as last year won the title at 5 ft. 11 ins. with fewer failures. This time the "hard luck" man was A. M. Law.

Long Jump. Don Cain (Edinburgh Northern) has to be congratulated on retaining his title but he was 4½ ins. down on last year with 21 ft. 2 ins. Certainly this is an event where we would like to see a distinct improvement in standard.

Hop, Step and Jump. R. M. Stephen regained the title from old rival Tom McNab. To win Bob added 10½ ins. to his qualifying mark whilst McNab failed to improve on his 45 ft. 1 in. early figure.

Pole Vault. Bill Piper showed better form here (he did not qualify for the H.S.J. either!) winning at 11 ft. 9 ins. just 3 inches better than that game athlete Peter Milligan who had unfortunately injured his thigh just a week previous.

Discus and Javelin. These are coupled together since it was a surprise double taken by Fraser Riach. Record holder David McKenzie was certainly not in his 200 ft. form with the javelin. Riach

took advantage wresting the title back from McKenzie who had over-thrown him in 1954.

Shot. Tom Logan though not at his best was clearly superior to retain his title. That keen competitor, J. L. Donnelly stepped up from 4th position in 1954 to take second place.

Hammer. Since we expect so much of our hammer thrower, E. C. K. Douglas's winning throw of 166 ft. 0½ in. was a disappointment. This was his 3rd consecutive Scottish win.

Details—

100 Yards.

1. A. S. Dunbar (V.P.A.A.C.) 10.3s.
2. A. Breaker (Edinburgh S.) 10.4s.
3. W. Henderson (W'sonian's) (holder) 10.4s.
4. J. G. R. Robertson (V.P. A.A.C.) 10.4s.
5. G. H. Cain (Edinburgh N.) 10.5s.
6. R. Quinn (V.P.A.A.C.) 11.5s.

26 entrants forward.

220 Yards.

1. W. Henderson (holder) ... 22.7s.
2. R Quinn 22.9s.
3. A. S. Dunbar 23.0s.
4. J. G. R. Robertson 23.0s.
5. K. A. Robertson (Ed. Un.) 23.2s.
6. I. V. Hamilton (V.P.A.A.C.) 23.3s

Standard time : 22.8 sec.

440 Yards.

Previous holder J. E. A. Robertson

1. R. Quinn 49.6s.
2. J. V. Paterson (Edin. Univ.) 49.6s.
3. D. Macdonald (Garcube H.) 50.7s
4. A. M. Sanderson (G.U. A.C.) 50.9s.

Other finalists :—

R. A. Steel (Vale of Leven)
J. Taylor (Shettleston)
Standard time : 51.8 sec.
15 entrants forward.

880 Yards.

1. D. C. E. Gorrie (Achilles) 1m. 54.2s.
2. I. M. Stuart (G.U.A.C.) 1m. 56.7s
3. N. Donnachie (Braiburn) 1m. 57.2s.
5. E. Reilly (Cambuslang) 2m. 1.5s.
6. J. S. Petty (B'houston) 2m. 11.2s.

Other finalist :—

R. B. Stoddart (B'houston H.) (holder)
Standard time : 1min, 59sec.
18 entrants forward.

One Mile.

1. G. E. Everett (Shett.) 4m. 13.2s.
2. A. S. Jackson (Edin. Univ.) (holder) 4m. 17.4s.
3. A. J. Wood (Aberdeen Un.) 4m. 20.4s.
4. J. Finlayson (G.U.A.C.) 4m. 20.4s.
5. A. D. N. Breckenridge (V.P.A.A.C.) 4m 20.4s.
6. W. H. Watson (Ed Un.) 4m. 23.9s.

Other finalists :—

R. C. Wallace (Shettleston)
T. Lambert (Springburn)
D. F. B. Henson (V.P.A.A.C.)
Standard time : 4mins. 25sec.
27 entrants forward.

Three Miles.

1. I. Binnie (V.P.A.A.C.) (holder) 14m. 18.9s.
2. A. H. Brown (Motherwell Y.M.) 14m. 31.1s.
3. J. Russell (V.P.A.A.C.) 14m. 42.9s.
4. R. C. Calderwood (V.P.A.A.C.) 14m. 51.1s.
5. J. Finlayson (G.U.A.C.) 14m. 56.2s.
6. C. E. Kennedy (Bellahouston) Standard time : 14mins. 50 sec.

21 entrants forward

Six Miles.

1. I. Binnie (holder) ... 29m. 40.4s.
2. A. H. Brown 30m. 03s.
3. F. Scally (Shettleston) 31m. 30.4s.
4. C. J. Fraser (Edin. Eastern) 31m. 39s.
5. W. F. Lindsay (Gala) 32m. 9.02s.
6. J. Ballantyne (Springburn) 32m. 11.4s.

Standard time : 32 mins.

10 entrants forward.

3,000 Metres Steplechase

1. J. R. Hamilton (Edinburgh East) (holder) 9m. 38.2s.
2. A. S. Reid ('hill Training Coll.) 9m. 46.7s.
3. R. C. Wallace (She'ton) 9m. 56.5s
4. J. C. Harris (Beith H.) 9m. 57.5s

5. C. M. Meldrum (J'hill Trng Coll.) 9m. 59.9s.
6. H. S. Miller (Edin. S.) 10m. 24.1s

Standard time : 10 mins. 20 sec.
8 entrants forward.

120 Yards Hurdles.

1. C. A. R. Dennis (Edin. Univ.) (holder) 16s.
2. A. R. Britee (R.H.S.F.P.) 16.3s.
3. E. A. Osborne (G.U.A.C.) 16.9s.
4. W. Beresford (Airdrie H.) 17.6s.

Standard time : 16.5s.
7 entrants forward

440 Yards Hurdles.

(Holder—D. K. Gracie).

1. C. A. R. Dennis 56.9s.
2. K. M. Morton (J'hill T.C.A.C.) 58.1s.
3. I. Steedman (Athenian A.C.) 58.6s
4. I. S. Halliday (V.P.A.A.C.) 59.8s.

Standard time : 59secs.
8 entrants forward.

High Jump.

1. W. Little (G.U.A.C.) (holder) 5 ft. 11 ins.
2. A. M. Law (Paisley Police) 5 ft. 11 ins.
3. K. S. Cunningham (V.P.A.A.C.) 5 ft. 10 ins.

4. A. J. Galbraith (Edin. S.) 5 ft. 8 ins.
5. J. Watt (J.T.C.A.C.) 5 ft. 7 ins.

Final Qualifying Height : 5 ft. 9 ins.
Standard : 5 ft. 9 ins.

Long Jump.

1. G. H. Cain (holder) 21 ft. 2 ins.
2. R. M. Stephen (G.U.A.C.) 20 ft. 11½ ins.
3. R. T. Akpata (G.U.A.C.) 19 ft. 11 ins.

Standard : 21 feet.

Hop, step and Jump.

1. R. M. Stephen ... 45 ft. 9 ins.
2. T. M. McNab (Shettleston) (holder) 45 ft. 1in.
3. G. S. Mackie (J.T.C.A.C.) 43 ft. 8 ins.

Standard 43 feet.

Pole Vault.

1. W. Piper (G.P.A.A.) (holder) 11 ft. 9 ins.
2. P. Milligan (V.P.A.A.C.) 11 ft. 6in.
3. W. Britee (R.H.S.F.P.) ... 10 ft.

Standard : 10 ft. 6 ins.

Discus.

(Previous Holder—K. Macsimczyk).

1. C. F. Riach (J.T.C.A.C.) 127 ft 11 1/4 in.

2. D. G. Milne (Oxford Univ.)

124 ft. 7 ins.

3. J. Donnelly ("Q" A.C.)

121 ft.

Standard : 120 feet

9 entrants forward.

Javelin.

1. C. F. Riach (J.T.C.A.C.)

189 ft. 9 ins.

2. D. W. R. MacKenzie (Edin Univ.)

(holder) 187 ft. 4 1/2 ins.

3. R. A. Findlay (Edin. Univ.)

166 ft. 7 1/2 ins.

6 entrants forward.

Standard : 170 feet.

Shot Putt.

1. T. A. Logan (V.P.A.A.C.) (holder)

44 ft. 2 ins.

2. J. Donnelly ... 40 ft 8 1/2 ins.

3. C. F. Riach (J.T.C.A.C.) 39 ft 9 1/2 in.

4. W. T. Reid (J.T.C.A.C.) 37 ft. 5 1/2 ins.

5. R. A. Findlay (Edin Univ.)

36 ft. 5 ins.

6. I. H. Drummond (Edin H.)

35 ft. 5 1/2 ins.

Standard : 40 feet.

8 entrants forward.

Hammer.

1. E. C. K Douglas (F.E.C.) (holder)

166 ft. 0 1/2 ins.

2. J. W. Simmons (Edin. North)

150 ft. 4 1/2 ins.

3. I. S. Bain (S'forths) 146 ft. 10 1/2 in.

4. J. S. Malcolm (Edin. Police)

139 ft. 10 1/2 ins.

5. R. Dow (Edin. Univ.) 120 ft. 10 in.

Standard : 140 feet.

7 entrants forward.

Tug-of-War (Catch Weights).

Hoover, Ltd. beat Glasgow Police by 2 pulls to 1.

Junior Relay Championship.

(4x 110 Yards.)

1. Victoria Park A.A.C.—(holders)—D. Struthers, W. Burns, R. Beaton, V. Reilly. 45.1 secs.
2. Braiburn A.C.—D. Thorburn, J. B. Lacey, R. G. Browne, G. Irvine 45.6 secs.
3. Springburn Harriers—47.9 secs.

440, 220, 220, 440 Yards.

1. Victoria Park A.A.C.—(holders)—R. Beaton, D. Struthers, W. Burns, V. Reilly. 2 mins. 34.1 sec.

2. George Watson's Boys College.

2 mins 37.7 secs.

3. Carenha Harriers 2 mins 42.0 sec.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE HIGHLAND GAMES

A Traditional Scottish Gathering in an English Setting
and Scotland beats England.

By D. N. J. CULLUM.

ON Saturday, 11th June, 1955, in the lovely natural arena of Rothamsted Park, the 7th annual Hertfordshire Highland Games took place before a gathering of some 5,000 people. For once the weather was kind in contrast to previous years, and this popular Scottish meeting was greatly enjoyed both by the participants and the spectators.

Piping and Dancing competitions started early in the morning and continued enthusiastically throughout the day, and pipers were to be found in odd corners of the surrounding fields industrially "tuning up their bagpipes" before taking their turn in front of the Judges. The resulting contrasts in sound were strange in the ears of the Sassenachs who came along to watch the Scots indulging in their national pastimes.

Every year since these Games were instituted a small group of Scottish "heavy men" has come down to display their skill and strength, but there have always been a few intrepid Englishmen who have dared to take them on at their own games. They have from time to time met with success, as for instance in 1954 when John Savidge donned a kilt and won nearly every event—except Tossing the Caber! English athletes have, moreover, always held the advantage in the wire Hammer event.

This year, by arrangement with the A.A.A. and the Scottish A.A.A. a team contest was held between 6 athletes from each country, with the object of increasing their interest and that of the spectators. The Scottish team this year included such stalwarts as Tom Logan, the Scottish Native Record Holder for the Shot; Bill McNeish, International Hammer-thrower; and Alec Valentine, International at both Athletics and Rugby Football, whose home is so close to the border and who has been stationed for so long in England that he is not really sure which nationality to claim. Nevertheless the Scots claimed him and provided a very formidable team

The responsibility for providing the English opposition was delegated to the Hammer Circle, and owing to a clash of fixtures it was not possible to get the strongest team, but 6 real enthusiasts accepted the invitation and turned up to do battle. These included two old hands at Highland events in Peter Allday and Don Anthony.

The first event, the 16-lb. Shot, was won by Tom Logan with a heave of 44 ft. 11 ins., a distance which pleased him for his first competition of the season. John Butterfield of Cambridge Harriers was 2nd for the English team with 41 ft. 0 ins. and the Scots gained a lead of 12 points to 9.

In the 16-lb. Shafted Hammer which followed the Scots were in their element and got the first three places. Alec Valentine won with an excellent throw of 106 ft. 11 ins. with 2nd and 3rd also over 100 ft., and the English team had to be content with Peter Allday's 92 ft. 4 ins. As a result, Scotland increased her lead to 27 points to 15.

In the 16-lb. Wire Hammer it was confidently expected that England would gain her revenge, but as it turned out this was not to be. The grass surface was slippery and the man in form, Don Anthony, had three no-throws. Alec Valentine threw extremely well and broke Don Anthony's previous ground record twice in three throws, winning with 177 ft. 10 ins. Peter Allday was 2nd with a below form 155 ft. 4 ins.—despite a warming up throw of over 180 ft.—and Bill McNeish got 3rd place for Scotland with 154 ft. 5 ins. After three events the points score was Scotland 38—England 25.

In the 28-lb. Hammer the form went the other way and this time Englishmen got the first 3 places. Peter Allday won with a splendid throw of 73 ft. 6 ins., beating Charles Reidy's 1952 record by over 2 ft., and Don Anthony retrieved his Wire Hammer lapse with 70 ft. 6 ins. Butterfield got 3rd place with his first

ever attempt at this really heavy event, and junior A.A.A. Hammer Champion, Michael Ellis, who was throwing as a reserve not to count, produced an excellent heave of 68 ft. 7 ins. This event brought England back into the match again and with one event to go Scotland had 44 points to England's 40.

There was now a slight pause for an event not in the team contest, Tossing the Caber. One or two of the English competitors attempted this, but it was at once evident that skill was needed as well as strength, and their efforts were not crowned with success. The winner was J. Baker of Lanarkshire Constabulary, with McNeish second and Valentine third.

The fifth and final match event which followed was the 56-lb. Weight over the Bar for height, the contest being decided on High Jump principles. The massive Scots athletes came into their own and got the first 3 places, Tom Logan winning with a height of 12 ft., which equalled his own ground record. Tossing $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt of iron into the air is not everybody's idea of fun, but this event also calls for skill and co-ordination and there is no doubt the English athletes would do better if they had the opportunity to practice.

The final result of the match, therefore, gave victory to the Scottish team with 59 points to England's 46, a very popular and well-deserved win. The English athletes were however by no means dismayed, and promised reinforcements and revenge next year. The activities were not yet over however, and after a pause for refreshment while spectators watched the magnificent Sheep Dog Demonstration, the gladiators returned to the arena for two final events which were not scored in the match. The 31-lb. Highland Stone put standing from the shoulder was won by Tom Logan with 28 ft. 10 ins., some 2 ft. less than John Savidge's ground record, and then there was great jubilation amongst the English supporters when Sam Johnston of the Royal Navy tossed the Sheaf over a bar set at 18 ft., to beat three Scottish rivals, all of whom had cleared 17 ft. This extremely spectacular event was very popular with the crowd, although strictly speaking it could not be called "athletic."

The crowd stayed to the end to watch these contests of skill and strength and afterwards the weary protagonists went off together to enjoy a Dinner given for them by the Organising Committee, well satisfied with their day's efforts. There is no doubt that these Scottish Gatherings have an atmosphere about them which is quite different to the normal athletic meeting in England. Their colour and variety are enjoyed by spectators and competitors alike, who treat them as a "day out" and star names are not the primary attraction. From the point of view of the athlete the fact that everyone competes in every event adds to his enjoyment and relieves the tension normally associated with big meetings in track and field. The Hertfordshire Highland Games Society has raised over £1,200 for charity in the last 6 years and has given a great deal of pleasure in the process.

Continued from page 2.

Long Jump.

T. McNab (S.H.)—22 ft. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.—Newcastle—2/7/55.
E. McKeating (G.H.A.C.)—21 ft. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.—Goldenacre—2/7/55.
W. Piper (G.P.A.C.)—21 ft. 9 ins.—Westerlands—14/6/55.

Hop Step and Jump.

T. McNab (S.H.)—46 ft. 8 ins.—Goldenacre—7/5/55.
H. M. Murray (E.U.A.C.)—46 ft. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.—Westerlands—4/6/55.
R. M. Stephen (G.U.A.C.)—45 ft. 10 in.—Newcastle—2/7/55.
W. Piper (G.P.A.C.)—44 ft. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.—Westerlands—14/6/55.

Pole Vault.

N. G. A. Gregor (H.H.H.)—12 ft. 6 in.—Ibrox—4/6/55.
W. Piper (G.P.A.C.)—11 ft. 9 ins.—Meadowbank—25/6/55.
P. W. Milligan (V.P.A.A.C.)—11 ft. 6 ins.—Meadowbank—25/6/55.
P. B. Hall (Fettes)—11 ft 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins.—Goldenacre—18/6/55.
D. D. Campbell (E.U.A.C.)—10 ft. 9 ins.—Meadowbank—9/6/55.
W. Britee (R.H.F.S.P.A.C.)—10 ft. 6 in.—Meadowbank—25/6/55.
H. Black (A.U.A.C.)—10 ft. 6 ins.—Westerlands—4/6/55.