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WEEKLY ATHLETIC NOTES BY

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THE SCOTS ATHLETE

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SCOTLAND'S MARATHON "BIG THREE," Charlie Robertson (Dundee T.),
Jack Paterson (Polytechnic H.), and Harry Howard (Shettleston H.).

SCOTTISH BEST PERFORMANCES
TRACK COMMENT AND RANKING LISTS
GET TO YOUR MARKS NO HARM IN TRYING
HOW THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN
RACE DETAILS

THE EDINBURGH MARATHON



Photos by G. S. Barber.

(Top L.) Close together at 10 miles the leaders include (6) J. W. Winfield (Derby County A.C.); (30) F. O'Kell (Liverpool C.R.A.C.), J. Thomson (Carlisle Borders H.); Jack Paterson; Harry Howard; C. D. Robertson; J. W. Stone (Dorking St. Paul's). (R.) At five miles we see (35) Alex. Kidd (Garscube H.) and J. E. Farrell (Maryhill H.) followed by A. Brown (Motherwell Y.M.) and J. Kelly (Bellahouston H.).

(Bottom L.) J. W. Stone finishes a good runner-up to (R.) Charlie Robertson in possibly his greatest victory.

THE SCOTS ATHLETE

TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN
SCOTTISH AND WORLD ATHLETICS

"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."

EDITED BY - WALTER J. ROSS

EDITORIAL OFFICES—69 ST. VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW, C.2

TEL.-CENTRAL 8443

November, 1951. Volume 6, Nos. 6 & 7. Annual Subscription, 7/- (U.S.A., 1\$).

Comment On The 1951 Track Season "MY" SCOTTISH RANKING.

ONE of our young readers, who prefers—wrongly we think, though we must allow for shyness—to be anonymous, has shown great enthusiasm and considerable interest by compiling "My Scottish Ranking." Everyone who has prepared rankings knows that its preparation is not a simple matter—especially when the finished work is to go before the public and thus we conclude our reader has done a splendid job. Our overseas readers, most of them active athletes or officials to whom we Scots are grateful of their patronage, can have a fair estimate of our leading men (refer also to our "Best Performances"), whilst our home readers have much to ponder over—and argue about. Meanwhile we smilingly sit back waiting for the protests, but if these spread more light they'll be gladly received. Our youthful contributor may be shy, but he's not thin-skinned. He would like to see the lists improved upon—if possible!

As an introductory he has made some brief comments on the past season and here and there we have interjected; not because we claim our view to be the correct one, but as the impression of one whose close association with the sport dates back 18 years, and actively interested much longer, as against the post-war student of our game.

Sprints.—There is little if any improvement in the senior ranks. Jack and McWhirter are the only bright sparks and even they do not reach British standard. But with juniors like Sanderson, Dunbar, Carlisle and McLeod coming along, there is some prospect for the future.

[We can't agree with the first part. Take joint world-record holder McDonald Bailey away, and Jack and McWhirter ARE of British standard. Surely 1st and 2nd placings in the Triangular International and also A.A.A. finalists they come into this category. We believe, too, that McLaughlan on his day, could have made the British 100 yards final line-up (he did not compete).—Editor.]

440 & 880.—Hillary and Hatrick show promise in the longer event and young Cumming looks good.

[Our "440" men seem generally no better or poorer than in recent times or over a period. We do lack a stand-out like Eric Liddell or Ron. Wylde.

Collectively, we see improvement in the "half" but with Tom Begg dropping out (The Doc's too busy!) and Stewart Petty, whom we still claim as our greatest prospect, knocked-out for an appendix operation, we lacked the "top" class. We didn't see the best of Jim Hamilton either, with a proper preparation he can menace Britain's best.

H. A. Cumming doesn't just "look" good. He is good as our home standard goes, though, particularly after his heroic effort but severe drubbing in the British Junior championships, we very much doubt it being a wise policy in having him lined-up with Arthur Wint and Roscoe Brown in the invitation "half" at the Edinburgh Games.—Editor.]

1 Mile.—There is a general upturn here. The youngsters took the show however. Lennie impressed by his comparatively easy win in the championships. I believe Bannon would improve if he did less C.C. racing.

[We fail to note the uptrend generally, though we acknowledge Hendry and Finlayson as exceptional schoolboys. Having seen pre-war Riddell, 4m. 15s. and Bobby Graham 4m. 12s., and Jack Gifford and Jackie Laidlaw clocking round 4m. 20s. regularly, our present milers as a class give little enthusiasm.]

The "Bannon" reference is unnecessary just as it is a reflection of mediocre present day orthodoxy. Mere abstract theory—and then quite off balance. We'll agree Eddie is capable of better miling and will do it when he puts his mind to it. It may be that he'd get relatively better results at six miles—or is that abstract theory too!—Editor.]

3 Miles, 6 Miles, 2 Miles St'chase.—The strength in numbers is very poor in these events. But let us consider that there is only one proper steeplechase race in Scotland per year. There are few 3 mile races.

High Jump.—With six doing six feet and over we realise how great is the improvement. Before the war such an achievement could hardly have been imagined.

Pole Vault.—Another miracle has taken place in this event. Two youngsters have topped 11 ft. 6 ins. and Gregor has reached 13 ft. 6 ins. and all undoubtedly can soar higher.

Long Jump.—The standard here is very poor. Few have beaten 21 feet.

Hop, Step and Jump.—The performances here seems better and the standard could go up.

Weight and Discus.—Drummond and Duguid are well ahead of the others in the respective events and have set an excellent standard. Both appear to have scope for vast improvement. The former went up a good foot, while the latter managed about seven feet better than the previous year. Both have turned in first class performances at the other's speciality.

Javelin.—Mackenzie, Leith, I. Drummond and Gordon have all improved on last year's performances. The former has ballooned up about thirty feet.

Hammer.—Douglas continues to improve but Clark is more steady. Both have kept Scotland up.

120 Yards Hurdles.—Hart did 15.0 in England and this well beats his native record. McAslan showed 15.3, but when one considers that among the seniors

there are only about half a dozen real hurdlers in Scotland how can one expect good results.

[Quite so, but rarely events for hurdlers gives little encouragement. Clubs and promoters can do something here.—Editor.]

440 Yards Hurdles.—Scotland has never known four so good 440 hurdlers as Gracie, Stewart, Hart and Clephan. Their performances point out a real revelation.

The Medley Relays provided great excitement this year and good teams fought for supremacy.

[What amazes us, is that in 1951 we still find this a championship event. True, proportionate team merit it can never measure. Exciting races, sometimes, yes. Thrills often, yes, but it's many moons since we acclaimed the better title "Muddley Relay."—Editor.]

There are few inter-club and F.P. meetings in the West. This could be rectified. In Edinburgh the F.P. Clubs have done great work towards the furthering of athletics.

[Hear! Hear! We keep advocating this. Most clubs—not all, are slow to move; others just won't.—Editor.]

MY RANKING LIST.

100 Yards.—

1. W. Jack, Victoria Park A.A.C.
2. N. D. McWhirter, Achilles.
3. J. McLachlan, Maryhill H.
4. G. McDonald, Victoria Park A.A.C.
5. J. E. A. Robertson, Edin. N. H.
6. W. Henderson, Watsonian A.C.
7. A. S. Dunbar, Stranraer H.
8. J. Sanderson, Edin. Un. A.C.
9. W. H. Clephan, Watsonian A.C.
10. R. Quinn, Victoria Park A.A.C.
11. R. G. Carlisle, Lochwinnoch A.A.C.
12. P. Spalding, Hamilton H.

220 Yards.—

1. W. Jack, Victoria Park A.A.C.
2. N. D. McWhirter, Achilles.
3. O. Hardmeier, Edinburgh S.H.
4. W. Henderson, Watsonian A.C.
5. R. G. Carlisle, Lochwinnoch A.A.C.
6. D. K. Gracie, Glasgow Un. A.C.
7. G. McDonald, Victoria Park A.A.C.
8. J. V. Dishington, Edin. S. H.
9. W. H. Clephan, Watsonian A.C.
10. P. Spalding, Hamilton H.
11. H. W. S. Rankin, Edin. Un. A.C.
12. D. Y. Clark, Garscube H.

440 Yards.—

1. D. K. Gracie, Glasgow Un. A.C.
2. O. Hardmeier, Edinburgh S.H.
3. W. H. Clephan, Watsonian A.C.
4. J. S. Hamilton, Victoria Park A.A.C.
5. J. Crowe, Edinburgh S.H.
6. G. Sorbie, Hamilton H.
7. W. Messer, Edinburgh N.H.
8. R. J. Stark, Edinburgh E.H.
9. R. Mill, Victoria Park A.A.C.
10. D. McDonald, Garscube H.
11. J. D. Clarke, Victoria Park A.A.C.
12. I. F. Cordial, Edinburgh Un. A.C.

880 Yards.—

1. H. Hattrick, Glasgow Un. A.C.
2. H. M. Dove, Maryhill H.
3. G. Sorbie, Hamilton H.
4. J. S. Hamilton, Victoria Park A.A.C.
5. W. Messer, Edinburgh Northern H.
6. C. D. Hillary, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
7. J. Smart, Edinburgh S.H.
8. B. Hendry, Hamilton H.
9. H. A. Cumming, Heriot's A.C.
10. F. W. Sime, Victoria Park A.A.C.
11. R. Speirs, Shettleston H.
12. J. McCrimmon, Vale of Leven A.C.

1 Mile.—

1. W. Lennie, Vale of Leven A.A.C.
2. K. Coutts, Aberdeen Un. A.C.
3. A. Forbes, Victoria Park A.A.C.
4. J. Smart, Edinburgh S.H.
5. J. Stevenson, Greenock W.H.
6. J. Hendry, Elgin Academy.
7. A. T. Ferguson, Highgate H.
8. J. D. Stirling, Victoria Park A.A.C.
9. E. Bannan, Shettleston H.
10. J. Finlayson, Hamilton H.
11. G. L. Walker, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
12. J. Calderwood, Victoria Park A.C.

3 Miles.—

1. A. Forbes, Victoria Park A.A.C.
2. T. Tracey, Springburn H.
3. A. T. Ferguson, Highgate H.
4. I. Binnie, Victoria Park A.A.C.
5. R. A. McDonald, Maryhill H.
6. J. Brydie, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
7. J. Christie, Bellahouston H.
8. J. D. Stirling, Victoria Park A.A.C.
9. K. Coutts, Aberdeen Un. A.C.

High Jump.—

1. A. S. Paterson, Victoria Park A.C.
2. N. G. Gregor, H.H.H.
3. A. G. Ramsay, Glasgow Un. A.C.
4. S. O. Williams, Glasgow Un. A.C.
5. K. S. Cunningham, V.P.A.A.C.
6. J. L. Hunter, Edinburgh Un. A.C.

7. W. Piper, Maryhill H.

8. J. Payne, Victoria Park A.A.C.
9. R. R. Robertson, L.A.A.C.
10. J. L. Hamilton West of S.H.
11. G. Turner, Victoria Park A.A.C.
12. M. K. Lawson, College of Art, Ed.

Long Jump.—

1. S. O. Williams, Glasgow Un. A.C.
2. W. M. Clephan, Watsonian A.C.
3. J. L. Hunter, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
4. W. N. Laing, St. Andrews Un. A.C.
5. W. J. Ferguson, Glasgow Un. A.C.
6. P. McArthur, Edinburgh S.H.
7. D. A. Stewart, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
8. G. L. Mackie, J.T.C.A.C.
9. N. G. Gregor, Herne Hill H.

Hop, Step and Jump.—

1. W. N. Laing, St. Andrews Un. A.C.
2. H. K. Lawson, College of Art, Ed.
3. R. M. Stephen, Shettleston H.
4. R. M. Smith, St. Luke's College.
5. A. S. Lindsay, Atalanta.
6. S. O. Williams, Glasgow Un. A.C.
7. R. R. Epton, Edinburgh H.
8. D. A. Stewart, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
9. J. L. Hunter, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
10. A. Smith, Glasgow Un. A.C.
11. D. Baptie, E.C.P.A.C.
12. W. J. Ferguson, Glasgow Un. A.C.

ATHLETES' DANCE CLUB.

The Editor of "The Scots Athlete" will welcome all interested Athletes to this popular club recently formed. The intention is to make this a fine social centre and a pleasant Saturday evening re-union of Athletes and Friends who like to dance or are keen to learn.

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Pole Vault.—

1. N. G. Gregor, H.H.H.
2. W. Piper, Maryhill H.
3. A. Hanlon, Shettleston H.
4. P. W. Milligan, Victoria Park A.C.
5. D. M. Hastie, H.A.C.
6. A. M. Matthews, Aberdeen Un. A.C.
7. W. McNeish, Glasgow Un. A.C.
8. J. Gibson, J.T.C.A.C.
9. A. M. Drysdale, Dollar Academy.
10. J. Urquhart, J.T.C.A.C.
11. T. Montgomery, Edinburgh H.
12. W. Britie, R.H.S.F.P.A.C.

120 Yards Hurdles.—

1. J. G. M. Hart, R.A.F.
2. J. P. McAslan, T.A.A.C.
3. W. H. Clephan, Watsonian A.C.
4. R. D. Unkles, Glasgow Un. A.C.
5. C. A. R. Dennis, Edinburgh Un. C.
6. N. F. Stewart, St. Andrews Un. C.
7. J. L. Hunter, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
8. H. M. Bruce, R.D.V.C.A.C.
9. G. L. Mackie, J.T.C.A.C.

440 Yards Hurdles.—

1. D. K. Gracie, Glasgow Un. A.C.
2. W. M. Clephan, Watsonian A.C.
3. J. G. M. Hart, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
4. D. A. Stewart, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
5. R. H. Boyd, Glasgow Un. A.C.
6. C. S. Begg, Jordanhill T.C. A.C.

Weight Putt.—

1. J. Drummond, Heriot's.
2. D. Clark, R.U.C.
3. H. I. Duguid, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
4. W. McNeish, Glasgow Un. A.C.
5. K. Maksimczyk, Edinburgh E.H.
6. L. Velecky, Glasgow Un. A.C.
7. J. L. Donnelly, Hamilton H.
8. C. F. Riach, J.T.C.A.C.
9. R. C. Buist, "Q." A.C.
10. I. H. Drummond, Edinburgh H.
11. W. Woods, L.C.A.A.C.
12. T. Montgomery, Edinburgh H.

Discus.—

1. H. I. Duguid, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
2. D. G. Milne, O.U.A.C.
3. J. Drummond, Heriot's.
4. E. C. K. Douglas, Atalanta.
5. D. Clark, R.U.C.
6. L. Velecky, Glasgow Un. A.C.
7. W. McNeish, Glasgow Un. A.C.
8. C. F. Riach, J.T.C.A.C.
9. I. H. Drummond, Edinburgh H.
10. R. C. Buist, "Q." A.C.
11. F. McLachlan, Edinburgh S.H.
12. J. L. Donnelly, Hamilton H.

Javelin.—

1. G. M. Fisher, Achilles.
2. D. W. R. McKenzie, Edin. Un. C.
3. I. H. Drummond, Edinburgh H.
4. I. Gordon, Edinburgh H.
5. D. Leith, Robert Gordon's College.
6. G. Bell, Heriot's A.C.
7. C. F. Riach, J.T.C.A.C.
8. W. Bisland, Bellahouston H.
9. J. Jackson, Edinburgh N.H.

Hammer.—

1. E. C. K. Douglas, Atalanta.
2. D. Clark, R.U.C.
3. A. R. Valentine, R.N.
4. W. McNeish, G.U.A.C.
5. D. W. Boyd, E.C.P.A.C.
6. H. I. Duguid, Edinburgh Un. A.C.
7. J. Gordon, L.C.A.A.C.
8. J. Drummond, Heriot's.
9. I. S. Bain, Fettes College.

EDITOR'S APOLOGIES.

There was no issue for September and October and this we sincerely regret and offer our apologies. The simple explanation is that we were not well during that period. For some time we have been carrying on under an increasing strain and after a particularly heavy summer period there was an unfortunate reaction. It should be remembered that we both edit and publish the magazine (as well as finance it!) and this after hard manual work daily.

This is not a business in the ordinary sense of the word. Our business is only that of one enthusiast trying to encourage others—a mutual arrangement for we are encouraged by the keenness of our athletes and the warmth of our readers. If we can't always operate like a high-powered machine it will be appreciated we have other compensatory faculties. We are already anxious to make up the lee-way caused which accounts for this being a double number. Despite, and in face of much heavier publishing costs, our ambition is to do better than ever and consolidate even more firmly the fellowship of our wonderful world-wide circle of athletic enthusiasts.

GET TO YOUR MARKS !

GET TO YOUR MARKS ! By Ross and Norris McWhirter (Published by Nicholas Kaye, Ltd., 1 Trebeck Street, London), 15/0.

"Facts are chiefs that winna ding" wrote our immortal bard, and with which we must conclude to the question "How did these young Scottish authors and twins get so much out-of-the-way data, so much factual detail, so many choice anecdotes and happy recollections all neatly collected and unfolded in this well-printed but slender volume?"

It is not surprising to note in the preface that it was written with pleasure, for it is obvious work of lively enthusiasts; it is less surprising to hear the reputed Harold Abrahams sincerely stating in the Foreword that "I should have been extremely proud to have written it myself" which gives a pointed note to its value.

As we go through the pages we are constantly reminded of that delightful classic of the late F. A. M. Webster "Great Moments in Athletics." It is built along similar lines, starting at the sprints and carrying through the various distance items and on to the field events. Perhaps not so colourful or dramatic as "Great Moments" but free of Webster's erstwhile romantic but quaint jingoism, it gives equal pleasure. Since the main desire is to trace and record the actual results of these golden achievements on track and field—and road by the greatest of the World, Commonwealth, European and British athletes, it is presented in amazingly pleasant fashion. With praiseworthy objectivity the various events are dealt with singularly and with equality of justice. No side-kicks at walking or women's events. Though most welcomed and worthwhile, in a chapter covering the latter the movement is chided thus "ill-documented and strange decisions, oversights and lapses concerning records, tend to be the rule rather than the exception." The authors then fully patronise the same women's movement by their exhaustive and splendid coverage.

This live chronicle of our sport gives us all we would wish to know on the development of the specific events—and

even more. We are introduced to all the personalities, the known and the unknown. We learn who was first recorded with under 10 secs. for the 'hundred' the first to break 160 ft. with the discus, the select group inside 30 mins. for 10,000 metres and that only 3—all Finns have beaten 250 ft. with the Javelin. Yes it's all there! All the landmarks in the history of our glorious sport.

In the sprint section reference is made to the outstanding study of Donald H. Potts, who is rightly referred to as the "brilliant contributor to "Track and Field News" on the "fastest humans." Discarding the later historic marks of Lloyd La Beach, "D.P.H." ranks as his ten greatest sprinters the following:

1. Jesse Owens.
2. Mel Patton.
3. Hal Davis.
4. Ralph Metcalfe.
5. Barney Ewell.
6. George Simpson.
7. Frank Wykoff.
8. Eddie Tolan.
9. Eulace Peacock.
10. Clyde Jeffrey.

and perhaps to keep the fun going and the arguments up we find the "Big 10" includes 5 negroes and 5 whites.

Our twin authors couldn't resist trying the same for our home sprinters and offer their conclusions. Many Scots will set their tongues wagging on it for two Scots, both of Olympic fame figure on their 100 yds. list. McCorquodale takes pride of place, whilst the memorable Liddell takes 10th. Liddell also figures 7th on their "220 yards" list. We can already hear in our ear of the injustice to the late "pride of Scottish Athletics."

Throughout the book we constantly come across interesting theories or passages that compels reflective thought. This for instance referring to Frank Aaron:

"In Aaron, Britain has perhaps for the first time a track runner with the one essential quality, without which, despite all the physical advantages, no distance runner can in the light of present-day standards be good enough to be regarded as great. That quality is mental rather

than physical—those who have seen Emil Zatopek run will know at once what is meant—it is a quality which dominates the distance, the tedium of reeling off lap after lap, which only allows acceleration but never slackening off; it is the importation of the conquest of mind over matter into athletics."

Sometimes it's a jolt we are given, such as this when discussing the Decathlon:—

"It has been pointed out that the British people set great store by all-round sporting ability and tend to dislike excessive specialization. If this is so, why are the British successes at these all-round contests as we shall see, nonexistent? The answer surely is that to succeed in such contests a great deal of hard work and practice has to be put in and the amount necessary is well in excess of that strange self-imposed British quota of what is regarded as decent."

The writers have a happy sense of humour and not in the least hide-bound by orthodoxy. We are met with hosts of quips. Here we have a bit of fun at the expense of "technique" in, to our mind, one of the best chapters in the book—the "High Jump."

"In 1937 another great negro jumper, Mel. Walker, raised the world's record to 6 feet 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches while on one of the familiar A.A.U. tours in Sweden. Arthur Gold (L.A.C.) who today has no superiors as a high-jump coach, tells a story that, when, before the war, he was competing against Walker, the American told him how much he admired Gold's style but hastened to add 'but I sure like ma height better'!"

And we are blessed appropriately with one of those good and characteristic Holden stories whilst genuine tribute is paid to this amazing athlete as the 1950 European marathon is vividly recalled.

"Torrential rain caused the start of the European Marathon at Brussels to be postponed. Eventually the big field was assembled and was soon disappearing out of the great Heysel Stadium on its 26 miles journey, much of which was over hilly cobbled surfaces. Favourites were Feodisi Vanin, world record holder for 30,000 metres and Gordienko, who, also from the Soviet Union, had been

reputed to have covered the full Marathon distance in under 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ Hours: Gosta Leandersson, the champion of Scandinavia; Gailly of Olympic memory; and Jack Holden, now in his forty-fourth year. All was grimly serene until Holden, who had begun very steadily launched his first attack at the 15 mile mark. Vanin alone hung on to his relentless pace. Seven miles nearer the Stadium on the return route the compact Russian, in his white water-polo skull-cap, was still there. Holden was not used to company at such a late stage and at this juncture made up his mind, as he afterwards related, that it was simply a question of "Either King George or Joe Stalin." That the victory was won for King George is history, but the method of its achievement is less well known.

Seeing an attendant preparing to hand Vanin a feeding bottle, Holden, whose own refreshments had all been lost, made a tactical spurt. The Russian Army Officer, unsettled by this draught of liquid, nearly killed himself in too early an attempt to regain contact with the old warrior, who was now winging his way in the half-light over the last 4 miles.

Back in the hushed stadium, a reinforcement in the cordon of steel-helmeted police heralded the approach of the leader. Suddenly, amid a roar from 30,000 throats, the neat rhythmic figure of Holden appeared on the track. Second came Finland's Veikko Karvonen, a twenty-four-year-old postman, who had been too shy to follow the advice of his managers in trying to stay with the grey-haired maestro from England, who, of all the competitors, would be the one they thought to set the winning pace.

The Prince Regent of Belgium, when congratulating the blanket-clad figure of Holden in the Royal Box, was confronted with the characteristic retort "Glad to meet you, sir, met your father and grandfather before you." It must have been a little hard for the Prince to realize that here was a man who had represented England against his country before he was born."

As an appendix to each chapter there are unique lists of World, Empire and United Kingdom best all-time marks, which renders a great service to those

who value statistics. Of great reference purposes is an index of over 1,300 names—though we find no mention of the late Donald Robertson of distinguished marathon career. In fact, the marathon of which we can have unending epics as an event is possibly given the poorest coverage. This is not a complaint but mere comment; we can judge that the authors were in some way limited and that they have still a store of good things by them, of which they can tell at some later date (we hope!).

The high standard is maintained with the choice of illustrations, many of the photographs being published in this country for the first time. Those include Harbig, Hagg, Andersson, Wooserson, Zatopek, Warmerdam, Hardin, Steers, Owens, Nikkanen, Gordien, Fuchs, Nemeth, Lipp and Blankers-Koen.

To conclude with we give three of the captions. This will give an idea of the wealth of information our authors can present in a few words.

C. A. Warmerdam (U.S.A.) holder of the world's out-door (15 ft. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.) and

indoor (15 ft. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins.) record. Till 1951 no other man had beaten 15 ft. out-doors. He had done this on 31 occasions between 1940 and 1944.

Yrjo Nikkanen (Finland) holder of the world's record for the javelin. In 1938 at Karhula he threw 255 feet 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches to break Jarvinen's tenth and best world record of 253 ft. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins. Seven weeks later he reached 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches for the present record at Kotka—a distance which has remained unapproached.

Alexandra Chudina (U.S.S.R.) perhaps with Blankers-Koen the world's greatest all-round women athlete. Into 1951 she had best marks of 80 metres hurdles (11.3 secs.); high jump (5 ft. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.); long jump (19 ft. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.); Shot putt (44 ft. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.) and javelin (169 ft. 2 ins.).

We may not have given the perfect balance as to the worth of "Get to your marks" but we do feel that from our review enough insight will have been given to the fact that it ought to be in every club library and that to a fellow-athlete—irrespective of sex, it will be an ideal present.

"BRITISH ATHLETES, 1951."

More than 200 British Athletes in striking action photographs—many full page 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.—with biographies of all athletes by Norris McWhirter (Walkers by F. W. Blackmore.)

Printed on good quality art paper, this is a book you must not miss.

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NO HARM IN TRYING

By Arthur F. H. Newton

(Author of "Commonsense Athletics", "Races and Training" etc.)

FROM the way most athletes-in-the-making fight shy of anything in the way of innovation you might well think it would be heresy to suggest they now did so. But perhaps a word or two about successful modern runners will help to sugar the pill. Anyhow, I'll risk it.

Boy! Could he run! You've only got to read his biography, as I've just done, to realise how supreme the "flying Parson," Gil Dodds, really was. But that wasn't the only point that interested me. What I'm always after is to find out the kind and amount of training these super-merchants go in for. You hear of fellows who "train for speed" and the other school who "train for distance," and neither side gives a hoot for the methods of the other. Yet one of them must be the better. It's not for me to say which, even though I did try both: "speed training" was the first venture and distance work my final choice. Of course it's quite on the cards that I was one of the sort that speed training didn't suit, whereas with others it might have been absolutely hunky-dory. In my time, i.e. when I was full of beans (or running) some quarter of a century ago, all runners trained for speed because we didn't know of any other method. When I turned over to distance training I was told I was wrong, and it was only when it began to show fat dividends that others would throw a second think at it. After which quite a few tried it out and stuck to it.

But to get back to Gil Dodds. The book tells me he himself fancied two miles pretty well all through his career, and he trained consistently for that. Yet, although quite among the best men at the distance he was never actually a world-beater. But, given his two-mile training, bring him down to mile racing, and there's your out-and-out champion right away. Time and again he beat all the best America could supply in the way of opponents—he even got within a second or two of the almost fabulous four-minute-mile.



GIL DODDS.

Well, he was only one; so you might look into the methods of other men who have climed right to the very top of the tree, and note what their work has been. Take Gunder Hagg, the finest miler the world has so far produced. Hagg never did any serious time trials, nor did he indulge in excessive speed work during his practice: he trained over considerably greater distances than those he was called upon to race over, and always at slower-than-racing speed. Paavo Nurmi did the same, and he was, in his day, the "best" in the world" at his distances.

It stands to reason that if such methods—training at less than racing speed over a greater distance—have time and again produced enhanced results (you have plenty to prove it, what with Albert Hill, Dr. Aaron, Gordon Pirie and a host of others) any fellow who aims at championships will do well to learn a lesson, even though it contradicts all that he has been (and often still is) brought up to believe. You see neither methods nor anything else can ever progress without

How Are The Mighty Fallen!

A STUDY OF THE UNEXPECTED

By J. E. FARRELL.

ONE of the most interesting and curious features of world sport this year has been the remarkably lean period enjoyed by the favourites.

The favourites have not all fallen of course. Such an upset of the law of averages would be too much to expect. But there have been enough to cause surprise and comment.

This is specifically a magazine devoted to athletics. However let us for a moment be catholic in our tastes; and let us consider from random fields of sport

Continued from previous page.

changing in some way—nothing in life ever does—and it is up to us to find what the advanced way is: those that refuse to consider "new" methods can well be left to stew in their own juice until circumstances compel them to reconsider.

I put it to you, then, and each of you can think it out for yourself: is it better to chance altering your methods to something comparatively new, or will you be sure to arrive at your best by sticking closely to the orthodox style? You shouldn't permit your coach, or anyone else (including me) to influence your decision: don't you know yourself better than anyone else? Then you should be in a position to judge for yourself better than anyone else.

I have often thought that runners are too complacent with regard to the amount and kind of work they put into their training: they're always keen to hear what some coach or recognised athlete has to say on the subject and follow almost thoughtlessly along the prescribed lines. Surely they would do better to rely a great deal more on their own judgment, provided they have given a serious "once-over" to the advice offered? So long as you remain one of a bunch you'll have an awful job to emerge, but the fellow who trains in his own well-thought-out individual style is far more likely to make a real splash, and, after all, that's what you train for.

some surprising falls "enjoyed" by the favourites.

Did the favourite win the Derby? By no means. Artic Prince did not come into this category. In the open golf championship the normally dependable Bobby Locke did not prevail on this occasion against the normally meteoric Faulkner.

In big-time boxing we had two of the biggest upsets in the history of the game. Prior to the return; the upset occasioned by "Sugar" Ray Robinson's defeat by Turpin was startling enough in all conscience. But the defeat of heavy weight champion Ezzard Charles by boxing's Peter Pan—old Jersey Joe Walcott stunned the critics mercilessly.

In swimming let us take the case of Johnny Marshall the Australian "fish" new resident in America. Marshall has been setting up world marks at meets throughout the country in the process hashing the records of previous Jap phenom Furuhashi. Yet along comes a young Hawaiian to leave the fish that walks like a man-struggling in his wake.

Athletics has also been in the fashion. First came Jack Holden's defeat in the marathon by Jack Peters. Alan Paterson lost his A.A.A. high jump to Pavitt. Not even the great Zatopek could cast aside the bogey that has befallen the favourites—himself suffering one of his rare defeats at the hands of his countrymen, Cevona.

To some of these fallen favourites—their failure may be but a temporary upset. To others it may be the final exit from the stage. Champions come and champions go. Records are made to be broken. There seems as yet no finality in these things.

But what we miss in the departure of the champion is not so much his actual performance—his records—it is the way that he does it—his particular brand of colour. So to the departing champions let us say "hail and farewell."

Records can be equalled: they can be broken. But personality—that is irreplaceable!

PERTH-DUNDEE ROAD RACE

CHARLIE ROBERTSON'S THRILLING WIN FROM
HARRY HOWARD.

WITH memories of the previous year's torrential thunderstorm, many anxious eyes were cast at the overcast skies, before the start of the 10th Annual 22 Miles Perth-Dundee Road Race on 25th August. The rain held off, however, as the 21 starters made away from the large crowd beside the South Inch and wheeled off across the bridge.

It was realised that with former Scottish Marathon champions Charlie Robertson of Dundee Thistle and Harry Howard of Shettleston in the field, along with R. W. McMinnis of the famous Sutton team and with recent marathon success, that it would be a fast and close race, but, at first, there was a marked reluctance on the part of these three to take the lead. At the first check-point at Glencarre, 6 miles, they were in a bunch of 12 runners including Miller (Dundee Thistle) Arbuckle (Monkland) Kidd (Garscube) and McGhee of St. Modan's. The time at this stage was 36m. 7s., 1½ minutes slower than in last year's record run by Charlie Robertson.

On being informed of this, the three favourites together with Miller increased the pace and, in the next three miles, opened up an 80 yard lead from Arbuckle and Kidd. By Half Way House, Miller had dropped 20 yards behind and the time had improved, despite the rain which had now began to fall, to only 24 seconds slower than last year.

At Inchture, 14 miles, the three were still together and were now 5 seconds inside the record. The long arduous Snabb's Brae into Longforgan, together with the now heavy rain, took its usual toll, however, and Howard opened up a 20 yard lead from Robertson, who was in turn 20 yards ahead of McMinnis, and was a minute inside the record.

By Invergowrie, on the 18 mile mark, each of these distances had been increased to 50 yards and it appeared that Robertson's sequence of wins was to end.

But now, almost incredibly, Robertson began to pull Howard in and, on the

hill into Ninewells he closed the gap and ran over the railway bridge onto Riverside Drive 5 yards ahead and 1 minute 20 seconds inside the record. Howard immediately closed the gap and they ran stride for stride through streaming rain across Riverside Park, where the spectators at the football matches ran to the roadside to shout encouragement, with Robertson a yard ahead. Under the Tay Bridge past a hundred sheltering spectators Robertson made his final effort and over the last mile increased his lead and half a minute ahead of Howard and 1 minute 43 seconds inside his own record of the previous year ran out a worthy winner of the closest of the Perth Dundee Road Races.

CAMPBELL H. STEELE.

DETAILS:—

1. C. D. Robertson (Thistle H.) 2h. 1m. 41s.
2. H. Howard (Shettleston H.) 2h. 2m. 13s.
3. R. W. McMinnis (Sutton H.) 2h. 3m. 47s.
4. A. Arbuckle (Monkland H.) 2h. 7m. 22s.
5. A. Kidd (Garscube H.) ... 2h. 8m. 41s.
6. J. McGhee (St. Modan's) 2h. 9m. 41s.
7. J. Miller (Thistle H.) ... 2h. 11m. 47s.
8. J. Bell (K'caldy Y.M.) ... 2h. 13m. 49s.
9. G. Porteus (Maryhill H.) ... 2h. 14m. 14s.
10. H. Haughey (S burn H.) ... 2h. 14m. 42s.
11. W. E. Duncan (K'caldy Y.M.) 2h. 18m. 5s.
12. D. McFarlane (Glas. Y.M.) 2h. 19m. 54s.
13. P. Husband (K'caldy Y.M.) 2h. 22m. 17s.
14. H. Clark (Glasgow Y.M.) ... 2h. 22m. 26s.
15. J. Peacock (K'caldy Y.M.) 2h. 26m. 4s.
16. R. Donald (Glasgow Y.M.) 2h. 27m. 36s.
17. J. R. Scott (Glasgow Y.M.) 2h. 36m. 37s.

HANDICAP RESULTS.

1. J. McGhee 2h. 2m. 46s.
2. J. Miller 2h. 3m. 17s.

TEAM RESULTS.

1. Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A. (8, 11, 13). 32 points.
2. Glasgow Y.M.C.A. (12, 14, 16). 42 points.

SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Glasgow Y.M.C.A. A.C. hold their New Year Dance in the Berkeley Suite, St. Andrews Halls, on 2nd January, 1952. Ticket, 6/- (inc. tea). Are you going?

Athlete's Dance Club.—Our thanks goes to those athletes who meet here on Saturday evenings. We trust they enjoy themselves as much as we enjoy their company.

LOOK AHEAD, LADIES!

THE 1951 track season has shown some advance so far as Scottish women's athletics are concerned and the leeway caused by the war has almost been wiped out. Not only have entries shown a marked increase, but the standards of performance show improvement, although there is still a considerable amount of work to be done before our girls can be considered a real challenge in the International field. Individual performers such as Elspeth Hay, Moira Carmichael, Quita Shivas and Pat Devine, while holding their own against class opposition, really require keener competition from their own countrywomen to enable them to improve on their own standards. Incidentally, Quita Shivas is due a pat on the back for her fine efforts in the International Student Contest at Luxembourg.

The cancelling of Milngavie Highland Games was a big disappointment in the West, as this popular meeting always attracts a good entry. However, where Milngavie lost, Shotts gained, with what must have been the largest entry for women's events in postwar years. The S.W.A.A.A. Championships can be a real highlight each season, but, for some unknown reason, never seem to be sufficiently publicised.

Next year will, being Olympic year, bring an increased general interest in the sport, and now is the time for all concerned to get busy in a missionary sense, not only with a view to helping one's own club but to assist in the formation of new clubs. When all is said and done, while Scotland isn't individually represented at the Olympiad, the enthusiasm can be used to build up a Scottish Women's team for the next Empire Games.

There are still districts without much sign of athletic activity in the women's sphere and one glaring example is a town like Paisley, which ought to be able to support several clubs. It is time someone made a move, there and in other directions! The target is a strong Scottish team for the next Empire Games and there is ample time to raise the necessary finances if a start is made now

by promoting functions and schemes. But everyone must play their part. Let's be independent of these males in one respect at least.

D. M.

SCOTTISH Y.M.C.A. ROAD RELAY CHAMPIONSHIP AT KIRKCALDY, SATURDAY 13th OCT., 1951. (Sir JOHN CRAIG TROPHY).

Details:—SENIOR

- 1.—Motherwell Y.M.C.A.—
(W. Watson 10.30, A. H. Brown 10.03, J. McMillan 11.02, D. Nelson 9.55). Total 41m. 30s.
- 2.—Irvine Y.M.C.A.—
(D. Andrew 10.20, T. McNeish 10.25, S. Cuthbert 10.29, H. Kennedy 10.26). Total 41m. 40s.
- 3.—Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A.—
(G. R. Mortimer 10.12, D. Beveridge 10.31, W. Corroon 11.05, P. Husband 10.42). Total 42m. 30s.
- 4.—Glasgow Y.M.C.A.—
(S. H. Mowbray 10.39, J. R. Weatherston 10.58, R. Weatherspoon 10.30, 10.30, D. McFarlane). Total 42m. 36s.

Fastest Times.

- 1.—D. Nelson, M'well Y.M. 9m. 55s.
- 2.—A. H. Brown, M'well Y.M. 10m 03s.
- 3.—G. R. Mortimer, Kirkcaldy 10m. 12s.

YOUTHS

- 1.—Irvine Y.M.C.A.—
(L. Germond 11.22, J. Wilson 11.36, J. Kyle 12.13, K. Alexander 11.10). Total 46m. 21s.
- 2.—Motherwell Y.M.C.A.—
(A. Kirkwood 11.43, D. Hamilton 11.39, J. Turner 12.38, J. Scott 11.20). Total 47m. 20s.
- 3.—Irvine Y.M.C.A. "B"—
(J. Rubie 11.24, B. Hay 11.39, J. Dunlop 12.39, D. Strachan 12.50). Total 48m. 37s.

Fastest Times.

- 1.—J. Wilson, Cowdenbeath 10m. 55s.
- 2.—K. Alexander, Irvine Y.M. 11m. 10s.
- 3.—J. Scott, Motherwell Y.M. 11m. 20s.

CITY OF EDINBURGH MARATHON

CHARLIE ROBERTSON WINS CLOSE RACE WITH A NEW COURSE RECORD.

This race at Edinburgh was one of the most interesting I have seen for some time. There was an unfortunate incident at the onset. The race started before the advertised time and for some unknown reason Charlie Robertson and Harry Howard were left in the Invitation dressing room—although the main dressing room where the other marathon runners were—had been cleared.

After the first lap on the track these two runners joined the race with the knowledge that they would have to run the extra lap when they returned.

When the race was clear of the park, B. Murray (Teviotdale H.) was in the lead followed by J. Kelly (Bellahouston H.), A. Brown (Motherwell Y.M.), and F. O'Kell (Liverpool). Murray remained in the lead until just before 5 miles when Charlie Robertson (Dundee T. H.) took the position and Murray faded out of the picture. 5 miles in 29.57 found Robertson leading with J. W. Stone (R.A.F.), F. O'Kell (Liverpool), J. Thomson (Carlisle), Harry Howard (Shettleston), J. Winfield (Derby), and J. Paterson (Poly.), all in a bunch. It was a perfect day, cool and no wind.

At 10 miles the Scottish champion, Paterson—not looking too happy—was in front in 1 hr. 0 mins. 4 secs. followed close by Harry Howard, Stone, Winfield, J. Thomson, and Charlie Robertson. Winfield, a veteran track and cross-country Internationalist, who was third in this year's British championship, was not going too well. Stone the R.A.F. boy looked exceptionally fit and well, the only one who seemed to be enjoying the race. At 15 miles in 1 hr. 29 mins. 35 secs., Howard was in the lead with Stone and Robertson. Then a gap of 30 yards with Paterson and 25 yards behind came Winfield, who pointed to his ankle and then dropped behind. At this period Stone went into the lead and very soon drew away and it looked as if the race was all over, he looked so fit and well.

At 20 miles in 1 hr. 59 mins. 35 secs., Howard decided to do something and strode out with Robertson following close behind and Paterson some 50 yards away, struggling. After almost sprinting down a long hill at Sighthill, Howard passed Stone, who also passed by Robertson was now looking tired.

At the 24th mile, Robertson made his effort and passed Howard who looked all in and Robertson then made no mistake running strongly to the park he ran the course—including the extra lap—completing in the fastest time of the series in 2 hrs. 38 mins. 15 secs.

J. W. Stone (R.A.F.) who had passed Harry Howard only outside the park was second in 2 hrs. 38 mins. 33 secs., Harry Howard was third in 2 hrs. 40 mins. 50 secs., J. Paterson who was an excellent fourth in 2 hrs. 41 mins. 59 secs. was the liveliest at the finish and almost sprinted the final lap to show how fresh he was. The handicap race was won by J. Bell (Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A.).

G. S. BARBER.

Details:

	h. m. s.
1. C. D. Robertson (Dundee)	2.38.15.
2. J. W. Stone (St. Pauls)	2.38.33.
3. H. Howard (Shett. H.)	2.40.50.
4. J. Paterson (Poly. H.)	2.41.59.
5. A. Kidd (Garscube H.)	2.47.39.
6. J. McGhee (St. Modan's)	2.48.19.
7. J. Bell (Kirkcaldy Y.M.)	2.52.11.
8. J. E. Farrell (M'hill H.)	2.57.16.
9. J. W. Winfield (Derby C.)	2.58.16.
10. A. Brown (M'well Y.M.)	2.59.40.
11. H. Haughie (S'burn H.)	3. 1. 7.
12. L. Hollingsworth (L. P.)	3. 3. 50.
13. R. Jackson (Winton H.)	3. 8. 47.
14. H. Clarke (Glas. Y.M.)	3. 16. 31.
15. P. H. Ward (York H.)	3. 18. 40.
16. A. McLean (G'nock G.H.)	3. 18. 40.
17. R. Donald (Glas. Y.M.)	3. 29. 3.
18. J. R. Scott (Glasgow Y.M.)	3. 34. 32.

DONALD MACNAB ROBERTSON MEMORIAL TROPHY FUND.

Contributions to the Testimonial Fund sponsored by The Scottish Marathon Club to perpetuate the memory of the famous Scottish Olympic athlete will still be gratefully received and acknowledged. Fund closes 31st November. Contributions to Hon. Secy., J. R. Scott, 257 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow.

We have been requested to publish this list of contributions (to 15th October, 1951) as being a public acknowledgment.

Collection at Singer's Sports	\$12 1 0
Edinburgh Northern Harriers	1 1 0
J. K. Ballantyne	1 0 0
Collection at Tillicoultry Sports	18 4 2
J. Gilbert	1 0 0
J. Blake	0 2 6
Collection at Saxone Welfare Sports	8 18 7
Ardeer Recreation Club	2 2 0
Wm. Gardner	0 5 0
Lochwinnoch A.A.C.	1 1 0
Collection at Vale of Leven Sports	12 15 9
Collection at Maryhill H. Danoon Sports	9 16 3
J. Kirkland	1 0 0
Collection at Helensburgh High. Games	19 16 0
Collection at W. Calder A.S.A. Sports	11 15 8
Kilmarnock H. & A.C.	0 10 0
North of Scotland A.A.A.	1 1 0
Collection at Bute Highland Games	20 17 4
J. Bell	0 2 0
Paisley Police Athletic Club	0 10 0
Collection at Carlisle Highland Games	6 6 4
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Stirling and Clackmannan Police A.C.	2 2 0
A. M. Donnet	1 0 0
Burgh of Motherwell & Wishaw Police	1 1 0
C. D. Robertson	0 5 0
Collection at Shotts Highland Games	9 9 0
Greenock Wellpark Harriers	2 4 0
Larbert Youth A.A.C.	1 5 0
Maryhill Harriers	3 0 0
Shawlands Senior Sec. School Club	0 10 0
Monkland Harriers	1 16 0
G. K. Athie	0 10 0
George Heriot's School A.C.	0 10 6
George Pickering	0 5 0
Benwell Harriers A.C.	0 10 0
D. McSwain	0 10 0
Victoria Park A.A.C.	3 8 6
Plebeian Harriers & A.C.	1 0 0
Gateshead Harriers	0 14 0
Veterans' A.C.	1 1 0
Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A. Harriers	0 11 6
Reading A.C.	0 10 6
W. Dempsey	0 5 0
Heaton Harriers	1 4 0
J. Veitch	0 12 0
Dundee Thistle Harriers	1 1 0
Greenock Glenpark Harriers	1 10 6
Macclesfield Harriers	1 6 6
George Dallas	1 0 0
Alick Kerr	0 10 0
W. M.	0 1 0
David Bowman	0 10 0
Angus McPherson	0 10 0
J. McLeod Williamson	3 13 0
R. M. Sime	0 5 0
Edinburgh Eastern Harriers	1 1 0
R. Semple	0 5 0

\$184 2 1

VICTORIA PARK A.A.C. ROAD RELAY RACE

6th October, 1951.

Records were the order of the day. First one was the entry, as 55 teams faced the starter. On the 3rd leg, Tom Tracey broke Fleming's individual course record for the race by 7 seconds, but followed in by Eddie Bannon it was lowered by another 4 seconds to 15 mins. 20 secs. Running the last leg Andrew Forbes equalled Fleming's record and brought his team home grand winners and in record time.

1. VICTORIA PARK A.A.C.—(I. Binnie 15.52 : S. Ellis 16.22 : J. O. Stirling 15.54 : A. Forbes 15.30)—63 mins. 38 secs.
2. SPRINGBURN H.—(T. Lambert 16.26 : R. F. McLean 15.51 : T. Tracey 15.23 : S. McFadden 16.43)—64 mins. 23 secs.
3. SHETTLESTON H.—(J. Turnbull 16.15 : J. McNeill 16.35 : E. Bannon 15.20 : C. Wallace 16.49)—64 mins. 59 secs.
4. VICTORIA PARK A.A.C. "B."—(R. Kane 16.30 : A. D. Breckenridge 16.25 : J. Ellis 16.18 : C. Forbes 16.11)—65 mins. 24 secs.
5. BELLAHOUSTON H.—(H. Fenlon 16.05 : J. Christie 16.21 : H. Kennedy 16.38 : J. Kelly 16.48)—65 mins. 52 secs.
6. PLEBEIAN H.—(T. McQuade 16.32 : A. Smith 16.08 : F. Castles 16.45 : D. Barclay 16.50)—66 mins. 15 secs.
7. GREENOCK GLENPARK H.—(S. Williamson 16.23 : A. McLean 16.20 : I. Osborne 17.06 : W. Armstrong 16.42)—66 mins. 31 secs.
8. GARSCLUBE H.—(D. Coupland 16.28 : J. Duffy 16.19 : F. Russell 17.09 : A. Kidd 16.39)—66 mins. 35 secs.
9. HAMILTON H.—(J. Finlayson 16.36 : H. Gibson 16.44 : J. Hepburn 17.07 : A. Gibson 16.22)—66 mins. 49 secs.
10. CLYDESDALE H.—(G. White 16.25 : F. Clark 16.50 : J. Higginson 17.00 : P. Younger 16.36)—66 mins. 51 secs.
11. MARYHILL H.—(J. Wright 16.34 : R. McDonald 16.25 : J. Gibson 17.12 : R. Brymner 16.51)—67 mins. 02 secs.
12. EDINBURGH UNIV. A.C.—(J. W. Brydie 16.21 : A. C. Ross 17.01 : J. P. McRoberts 17.09 : D. T. Hunt 16.53)—67 mins. 24 secs.
13. EDINBURGH SOUTHERN H.—(W. Brown 17.28 : J. Smart 16.47 : G. Reid 17.03 : W. Hunter 16.18)—67 mins. 36 secs.
14. SHETTLESTON H. "B."—(J. Eadie 16.46 : J. Kirk 17.14 : D. Bridges 17.05 : B. Bickerton 16.38)—67 mins. 43 secs.
15. IRVINE Y.M.C.A. H.—(D. Andrews 16.45 : T. McNeil 17.05 : S. Cuthbert 17.22 : H. Kennedy 16.33)—67 mins. 45 secs.
16. MOTHERWELL Y.M.C.A. H.—(A. Brown 16.16 : W. Watson 17.25 : T. McCall 18.02 : D. Nelson 16.03)—67 mins. 46 secs.
17. ST. MODAN'S A.A.C.—(D. Cieland 16.31 : A. Galbraith 17.25 : J. McGhee 16.43 : J. Lynn 17.23)—68 mins. 02 secs.
18. MONKLAND H.—(R. Mair 16.35 : I. McKechnie 17.01 : A. McPherson 17.02 : A. Arbuckle 17.27)—68 mins. 05 secs.
19. VALE OF LEVEN A.A.C.—(F. Lacey 17.37 : J. Ferguson 17.24 : W. Gallacher 16.44 : R. Steel 16.53)—68 mins. 38 secs.
20. GLASGOW Y.M.C.A. H.—(R. Wotherspoon 17.06 : D. McFarlane 16.40 : J. Weatherstone 17.37 : S. Mowbray 17.17)—68 mins. 40 secs.

BEST SCOTTISH PERFORMANCES

For the first time, we believe, in the history of Scottish track athletics, here is published a list of the season's "Best Performances." For its presentation we have to thank Robert Sinclair, Jr., mainly, and Ian H. Drummond, who provided details of throwing events, for their co-operation.

It should be clearly understood that this list is not absolutely final. We know there may be errors and omissions. The development of the sport in Scotland does not make us statistically-conscious and accuracy becomes well-nigh impossible. This is a step in the right direction. It is now up to every athlete, association secretary, and official to drop us a P.C. at once with detail of performance where a correction arises.

To be all-embracing the list includes efforts outwith Scotland.

100 Yards.—

W. Jack, Victoria Park A.A.C., 10s.
N. D. McWhirter, Achilles, 10s.
J. McLachlan, Maryhill H., 10.1s.
W. Henderson, W.A.C., 10.2s.
J. Sanderson, E.U.A.C., 10.2s.
G. McDonald, Victoria Park A.C., 10.2s.

220 Yards.—

N. D. McWhirter Achilles 21.6s. || w.
W. Jack, Victoria Park A.A.C., 21.8s. w.
M. W. S. Rankin, E.U.A.C., 22.4s.
O. Hardmeier, E.S.H., 22.5s.
R. G. Carlisle, L.A.A.C., 22.6s.
W. Henderson, W.A.C., 22.7s.
D. K. Gracie, G.U.A.C., 22.8s.

440 Yards.—

D. K. Gracie, G.U.A.C., 50.2s.
J. S. Hamilton, V.P.A.A.C., 50.5s.
O. Hardmeier, E.S.H., 50.5s.
J. Crowe, E.S.H., 50.5s.
W. Clephan, W.A.C., 50.7s.
W. Messer, E.N.H., 51.2s.
G. Sorbie, Hamilton H., 51.3s.
D. McDonald, Garscube H., 51.5s.
J. D. Clark, V.P.A.A.C., 51.6s.

880 Yards.—

W. Messer, E.N.H., 1m. 57.5s.
J. S. Hamilton, V.P.A.A.C., 1m. 57.6s.
H. Hattrick, G.U.A.C., 1m. 57.8s.
H. M. Dove, Maryhill H., 1m. 57.9s.
also 800 metres, 1m. 55.4s.

C. D. Hillary, E.U.A.C., 1m. 58.0s.
J. Smart, E.S.H., 1m. 58.0s.

1 Mile.—

K. Coutts, A.U.A.C., 4m. 22.6s.
W. Lennie, C.H., 4m. 22.7s.
J. Stevenson, G.W.H., 4m. 25.0s.
J. Hendry, Elgin A.C., 4m. 25.9s.
J. Smart (E.S.H.), 4m. 26s.
A. Forbes, V.P.A.A.C., 4m. 26.4s.
J. D. Stirling, V.P.A.A.C., 4m. 26.6s.

3 Miles.—

A. Forbes, V.P.A.A.C., 14m. 15s.
T. Tracey, Springburn H., 14m. 45.5s.
I. Binnie, V.P.A.A.C., 15m. 5.6s.
J. Brydie, E.U.A.C., 15m. 15s.

High Jump.—

A. S. Paterson, V.P.A.A.C., 6 ft. 6 ins.
N. G. Gregor, Herne Hill, 6 ft. 3 ins.
K. S. Cunningham, V.P.A.A.C., 6 ft. 2 ins.
A. G. Ramsay, G.U.A.C., 6 ft. 1 in.
J. L. Hunter, E.U.A.C., 6 ft. 1 in.
S. O. Williams, G.U.A.C., 6 ft. 0 ins.
W. Piper, Maryhill H., 5 ft. 10 ins.
R. R. Robertson, L.A.A.C., 5 ft. 10 ins.
J. Payne, V.P.A.A.C., 5 ft. 10 ins.

Long Jump.—

S. O. Williams, G.U.A.C., 24 ft. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
W. M. Clephan, W.A.C., 22 ft. 10 ins.
J. L. Hunter, E.U.A.C., 22 ft. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
W. N. Laing, St. A.U.A.C., 21 ft. 10 ins.
W. J. Ferguson, G.U.A.C., 21 ft. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

Hop, Step and Jump.—

W. N. Laing, St. A.U.A.C., 47 ft. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
H. K. Lawson, C. of A. Ed., 45 ft. 4 ins.
S. O. Williams, G.U.A.C., 44 ft. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
R. M. Stephen, S.H., 44 ft. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
R. M. Smith, St. Luke's Col., 43 ft. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

Pole Vault.—

N. G. Gregor, 13 ft. 6 ins.
A. Hanlon, S.H., 11 ft. 6 ins.
W. Piper, Maryhill H., 11 ft. 6 ins.
P. W. Milligan, V.P.A.A.C., 11 ft. 0 ins.
D. M. Hastic, H.A.C., 10 ft. 6 ins.
A. M. Matthews, E.U.A.C., 10 ft. 6 ins.
W. McNeish, G.U.A.C., 10 ft. 6 ins.

120 Yards Hurdles.—

J. G. M. Hart, R.A.F., 15.0s.
J. P. McAslan, T.A.C., 15.3s.
W. H. Clephan, W.A.C., 15.7s.
R. D. Unkles, G.U.A.C., 15.9s.
C. A. R. Dennis, E.U.A.C., 16.3s.

440 Yards Hurdles.—

D. K. Gracie, G.U.A.C., 55.5s.
W. H. Clephan, W.A.C., 55.6s.
J. G. M. Hart, R.A.F., 56.6s.
D. A. Stewart, E.U.A.C., 56.8s.
R. H. Boyd, G.U.A.C., 59.1s.

Weight.—

J. Drummond, Heriot's, 46 ft. 5 ins.
D. Clark, R.U.C., 44 ft. 1 in.
H. I. Duguid, E.U.A.C., 43 ft. 5 ins.
W. McNeish, G.U.A.C., 41 ft. 5 ins.
K. Maksimczyk, E.F.H., 41 ft. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
J. L. Donnelly, Hamilton H., 40 ft. 6 ins.
L. Velecky, G.U.A.C., 39 ft. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.

Discus.—

M. I. Duguid, E.U.A.C., 155 ft. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
J. Drummond, Heriot's, 141 ft. 10 ins.
D. G. Milne, O.U.A.C., 137 ft. 1 in.

E. C. K. Douglas, Atalanta, 128 ft. 0 ins.
L. Velecky, G.U.A.C., 125 ft. 9 ins.
K. Maksimczyk, 122 ft. 1 in.

Javelin.—

G. M. Fisher, Achilles, 188 ft. 11 ins.
D. W. R. Mackenzie, E.U., 181 ft. 4 ins.
I. Gordon, Edinburgh H., 174 ft. 9 ins.
G. Bell, Heriot's, 172 ft. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
I. H. Drummond, Edin. H., 172 ft. 3 ins.
C. F. Riach, J.T.C.A.C., 168 ft. 9 ins.

Hammer.—

E. C. K. Douglas, Atalanta, 179 ft. 10 ins.
D. Clark, R.U.C., 177 ft. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
A. R. Valentine, R.N., 157 ft. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
W. McNeish, G.U.A.C., 140 ft. 11 ins.
D. W. Boyd, E.C.P.A.C., 140 ft. 2 ins.
H. I. Duguid, E.U.A.C., 133 ft. 6 ins.
J. Drummond, Heriot's, 120 ft. 9 ins.

Renfrewshire A.A.A. Relay

The 10 Miles Cross-Country Relay Championship was held on Saturday, 27th October, from Headquarters, Greenock Wellpark Harriers. 15 teams faced the Starter and at the end of first lap H. Fenion (Bellahouston) handed over a 9 sec. lead from I. Osborne (Glenpark), followed closely by G. King (Wellpark) and T. McQuade (Plebeian). At the end of the second lap, Bellahouston still held lead from Glenpark. Wellpark had dropped back to eighth and Plebeian were now third. There were no change of leading places at end of third lap. On the last leg T. Stevenson (Wellpark) took over in eighth position, 61 secs. behind leaders, and brought his team to fifth place with a brilliant lap of 11 mins. 29 secs. to return the fastest time in the race.

The awards were handed over to the winners by Mr. Wm. Crosbie (Babcock & Wilcox A.A.C.), President of County A.A.A.

Details :

1. **BELLAHOUSTON H.**—(H. Fenion 11.59 : J. Christie 12.00 : F. Cowan 12.06 : H. Kennedy 12.06)—48 mins. 11 secs.
2. **GREENOCK GLENPARK H.**—(I. Osborne 12.08 : J. Armstrong 11.57 : S. Williamson 12.05 : J. Grant 12.19)—48 mins. 29 secs.
3. **PLEBEIAN H.**—(T. McQuade 12.21 : D. Barclay 12.38 : F. Caselli 12.40 : A. Smith 12.02)—49 mins. 21 secs.
4. **BELLAHOUSTON H.**—(B. McLean 12.39 : J. Kelly 12.25 : G. Bell 12.24 : C. Kirk 12.45)—50 mins. 13 secs.

FASTEST TIMES :

1. T. Stevenson (Greenock Wellpark H.) 11.29
2. J. Armstrong (Greenock Glenpark H.) 11.57
3. H. Fenion (Bellahouston H.) 11.59
4. J. Christie (Bellahouston H.) 12.00
5. A. Smith (Plebeian H.) 12.02
6. S. Williamson (Greenock Glenpark) ... 12.05

Joe Binks, 77 years of age and still pioneering THE ATHLETES' ADVISER AND FRIEND.

WITH the famous annual "News of the World" Edinburgh—Glasgow Road Relay being held on 17th November Scottish athletes will renew happy acquaintance with the unique and outstanding athletics personality of the century—Joe Binks, born 14th July, 1874, that is 77 years ago, and "still going strong."

For 48 years he has been sports-writing and organiser with the "News of the World" and in his weekly-column all that time he has been building up interest by encouraging athletes, praising officials, giving favour to progressive schemes on coaching, and presenting athletics with colour to the non-participant. At the same time, he has been the critic with the independent mind, unafraid of controversy, watching out for pit falls, suggesting reform, yet always on the side of the athlete.

Only on 21st October last he had an excellent contribution boldly headed "DON'T DICTATE TO ATHLETES." Referring to the A.A.A. and the "Olympic possibles" and wishing the scheme well, he goes on to say—

"What I do not like is the definite statement, issued to these athletes, that championship cross-country racing is detrimental to Olympic training and impairs speed and stamina. They are asked to quit this type of running in January."

Continuing further he states—

"Such a conflict of opinion will not worry that wonderful young runner, Walter Hesketh, who at the close of the recent Balkans tour observed: 'Let's have the Manchester rain and the cross-country mud. That's the stuff for me.'

How do our coaches answer Frank Aaron's track record-breaking and our two wonders, Hesketh and Gordon Pirie, who wiped out track records made by the great Alf Shrubb after having a far greater dose than usual of racing in the mud last winter?



On this matter I think there should be no dictatorial attitude. Let the athletes enjoy this amateur sport as they wish."

Then after commenting on the heavy racing programme to conclude the English Cross-Country Union fixtures he adds—

"If I were coaching an athlete, with these big races arranged as they are now, I would hesitate before asking him to race so hard in March. Much would depend upon the build of the athlete and his track possibilities, but above all, I would respect his wishes."

An article of sound sense and understanding!

Of course, we expect Joe to be understanding for this small light-built fellow was, in his day, one of our greatest athletes.

He had his first race at 16½ when in an open 880 on Easter Monday in 1891 he won and astonished himself, off 15 yards in 2 mins. 5 secs. But it took 11 years after running at all distances Summer and Winter for him to win the A.A.A. Championship Mile in 1902 in

the British Record time of 4 mins. 16.8 secs. which stood as a Championship Record till 1921.

Running in it, as has been told elsewhere, was a big surprise as he had announced the 880 was his objective and on form he seemed a certainty, but on arrival at Stamford Bridge the great Alf Shrubb joked with him and said it was a good job he was not running in the mile as he (Shrubb) would have given him such a hiding, so Joe surprised everyone by altering his mind and ran and won a terrific pillar to post race. Three-quarters hour later he turned out in the 880 but was brought down and badly gashed in the leg, and taken to hospital for stitches. Joe still thinks he would have won the 880 as well that day.

Versatile too! In 1898 a pal bet him 5/- he could not win a first at all distances from 100 yards to 10 Miles in one year. But Joe succeeded in this, winning 100, 300, 440, 880, mile, 2 and 3 miles and 5 and 10 miles races. Versatility indeed!

In his time he won over 400 prizes and 150 medals and probably has won more handicaps from scratch than any other athlete. Two big trophies he won outright were—The Sir Thomas Lipton 25 Guinea Cup for winning the 880 yards London Business Houses Championship and Mile Handicap from scratch 3 years running and also the Sir Horace Farquhar 75 Guineas Cup for winning the Open 4½ Mile, which he won 3 times in 4 attempts. Famous champions had been previous winners of this trophy.

He has possibly met and known more top athletes in the world, with whom he is always popular, than any other person. He has advised thousands in training problems and has had lots of gratifying results up to Olympic acceptances.

He has attended all Olympics and European Championships: every big International match in which Great Britain has competed, also attended practically all the next major meets in Britain and Europe. With the "News of the World" he has organised sports and road races since the first world war and started the British Games in 1915.

It was in 1924 he looked after the first of the historic 100 mile runs on the Bath

London Road of the running marvel Arthur F. H. Newton.

Newton later stated that "the 'Binks' organisation were all that could be wished for, the man 'knew his stuff' from beginning to end" and warmly pointed out (though in this role, Newton himself as Joe Binks well appreciates has no superior) that "his sole motive all the way through has been to help athletes to do better and always better."

During the last war he was busy giving over 1,500 sports lectures to the Services, as well as schools and youth clubs, in the Far East, Middle East, Orkneys and Hebrides, Northern Ireland, Belgium, Italy, Austria, and Germany. He accepted no fees and the "News of the World" paid all his travel expenses.

Joe will be retiring after next year's Olympics but by that time he hopes to have completed a book giving the World's best races results over 100 years. This will be a mammoth achievement and will prove more than useful.

At the happy reunion that always takes place in the Ca'doro after the Relay when the team winners are honoured and the officials given their due, we should have one royal and rousing cheer in appreciation of long service from that grand fellow and "young" pioneer, Joe Binks.

HAVE YOU READ COMMONSENSE ATHLETICS

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By

ARTHUR F. H. NEWTON

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From "THE SCOTS ATHLETE."

SOUTH-WESTERN DISTRICT 10 MILE RELAY CHAMPIONSHIP.

Held at Dam Park, Ayr, on Saturday, 3rd November, 1951, 18 teams representing 12 clubs entered for the event. Mr. P. Leggat of Ayr A.A.C. and President of the N.C.C.U. set off the runners on the first lap at the end of which A. Torbet (Stranraer H.) had a small lead over G. King (Wellpark) with J. Butcher (West Kilbride) just behind, only 4 secs. separating these three runners.

The second lap showed some surprising changes. A. Smith (Plebeian) had moved up from sixth position to give his club a lead of 30 yards over W. Armstrong (Glenpark). Smith by his running over this lap had returned the fastest time so far.

At end of third lap the leaders had changed again. This time H. Kennedy (Irvine Y.M.C.A.) had taken the lead and sent his last man away with a lead of 60 yards; T. Stevenson (Wellpark) started in 12th position and it was thought he would return the fastest time. He tried hard by making up six places but was 9 secs. slower than Smith. Irvine's last man held grimly on to the lead beating Glenpark by about 40 yards with West Kilbride taking 3rd place.

At the presentation of awards after the race Mr. A. Murdoch, Chairman of the District, welcomed Stranraer Harriers into the circle of cross-country running and hoped that their effort to spread the sport in their corner of Scotland would be well rewarded. Mr. Murdoch then handed over to Irvine Y.M.C.A. Harriers the Struthers Shield along with plaques to the first three teams.

Details :

1. IRVINE Y.M.C.A. H.—(D. Andrews 14.23 : T. McNeish 14.00 : H. Kennedy 13.43 : S. Cuthbert 13.54)—56 mins. 0 secs.
2. GREENOCK GLENPARK H.—(L. Osborne 14.19 : W. Armstrong 13.34 : J. Grant 14.15 : S. Williamson 13.59)—56 mins. 07 secs.
3. WEST KILBRIDE A.S.C.—(J. Butcher 14.11 : R. Roberts 14.02 : D. Lapasey 14.10 : T. Coleman 13.58)—56 mins. 21 secs.
4. PLEBEIAN H.—(F. Cassells 14.30 : A. Smith 13.17 : E. Latham 14.33 : T. McQuade 14.07)—56 mins. 27 secs.
5. KILMARNOCK A.A.C.—(J. Burns 14.41 : G. Wilson 14.18 : G. Martin 14.25 : W. Morton 14.22)—57 mins. 46 secs.
6. GREENOCK WELLPARK H.—(G. King 14.08 : P. McLaughlin 14.31 : R. Beaton 15.57 : T. Stevenson 13.26)—58 mins. 02 secs.
7. PAISLEY H.—(J. Campbell 14.49 : A. Napier 14.22 : A. Duncan 14.30 : W. McNeil 15.05)—58 mins. 46 secs.
8. GREENOCK GLENPARK "B."—(H. Coll 15.03 : A. McLean 14.09 : J. Fraser 15.05 : W. McLean 14.35)—58 mins. 52 secs.
9. AUCHMOUNTAIN H.—(W. Bownes 14.47 : J. Cairns 14.18 : J. McLean 15.04 : S. McIastor 14.43)—58 mins. 52 secs.
10. BEITH H.—(H. Walker 14.50 : W. Prasher 14.56 : G. Lightbody 14.39 : K. Phillips 14.40)—59 mins. 05 secs.
11. PLEBEIAN H. "B."—(D. Barclay 14.33 : L. Howitt 14.34 : A. Robertson 14.44 : W. Cool 15.42)—59 mins. 33 secs.
12. IRVINE Y.M.C.A. "B."—(E. Allen 14.56 : T. Dempster 14.37 : J. Burgess 15.25 : K. Alexander 14.38)—59 mins. 36 secs.
13. AYR A.A.C.—(M. Goodwin 15.37 : F. Gerrish 14.16 : J. Young 14.38 : E. Thursby 15.09)—59 mins. 40 secs.
14. STRANRAER H.—(A. Torbet 14.07 : H. McKay 15.18 : J. McCormack 15.36 : W. Kyle 14.52)—59 mins. 53 secs.
15. KILMARNOCK A.A.C. "B."—(D. Todd 15.17 : R. Smith 15.22 : R. Hunter 14.33 : T. Tod 15.37)—60 mins. 49 secs.
16. BEITH H. "B."—(L. Harris 14.40 : R. Clark 15.43 : A. Hayes 17.00 : H. Maxwell 16.33)—63 mins. 56 secs.
17. WEST KILBRIDE A.S.C. "B."—(J. Reid 15.00 : I. Mackay 15.35 : J. McCallie 16.39 : John Reid 17.32)—64 mins. 46 secs.
18. BABCOCK & WILCOX A.C.—(J. McMenemy 15.04 : J. Harkins 15.01).

FASTEAST TIMES.

1. A. Smith (Plebeian H.)—13 mins. 17 secs.
2. T. Stevenson (Greenock Wellpark H.)—13 mins. 26 secs.
3. W. Armstrong (Greenock Glenpark H.)—13 mins. 34 secs.
4. H. Kennedy (Irvine Y.M.C.A. H.)—13 mins. 43 secs.

EASTERN DISTRICT CROSS-COUNTRY LEAGUE.

The first race of the season was held on the 27th October, 1951, from Edinburgh over 4 miles.

Details :

1. Edinburgh Southern H.—(J. Smart 1, W. Robertson 3, S. Millar 9, W. Hunter 11, W. Grant 17, D. Webster 18)—59 points.
2. Edinburgh Univ. H. & H.—(J. Brydie 2, D. Hunt 4, A. Ross 8, J. McRoberts 10, J. Ellis 15, R. Barr 22)—61 points.
3. Edinburgh Eastern H.—(J. Rollo 5, R. Stark 6, A. Thomson 19, P. Brown 23, J. Hamilton 24, W. Ness 33)—110 points.
4. Falkirk Victoria H.—144 points.
5. Edinburgh Rover Scouts.—154 points.
6. Kirkcaldy Y.M.H.—179 points.
7. H.M.S. Caledonia.—223 points.
8. Edinburgh Northern H.—246 points.

Individuals :

- 1.—J. Smart, 26m. 36s. : 2.—J. Brydie, 26m. 40s. : 3.—W. Robertson, 26m. 51s.

EASTERN DISTRICT 10 MILES RELAY CHAMPIONSHIP.

This race was held on 3rd November from Craigmilla Boys' Club, Edinburgh. The course, though hilly, was very fast, consisting of a stretch of road at the start, then grassland with two burns to cross, and a small stretch of road to finish. The first lap was full of surprises for the fancied clubs. The leaders were bunched together, with R. Stewart (Edinburgh H.) leading, followed by J. Rollo (Edinburgh E.H.) and K. Coutts (Edinburgh Univ. H. & H.).

The second lap leader was Charlie Robertson (Dundee T.H.), who ran such a fine race, that he took his club from fourth place with a 9 secs. deficit to a lead of 14 secs. over Hunter (Edinburgh S.H.) followed by Thomson (Edinburgh E.H.) and Hunt (Edinburgh Univ. H. & H.).

The finish of the third lap was a neck and neck affair, the leader was Ross (Edinburgh Univ. H. & H.) 3 secs. in front of Robertson (Edinburgh S.H.) with Hamilton (Edinburgh E.H.) 3 secs. behind that. The lead changed hands several times in an exciting last leg, but there was still nothing in it when they came to the last stretch of road quarter mile to go. Brydie held on to give the Varsity victory, and R. Stark put in a great finish to displace Smart, and all but catch Brydie.

At the conclusion the Mackenzie Trophy was presented by Miss Ruby Mackenzie, the daughter of the donor.

IAN. ROSS, Hon. Secy.

Details :

1. EDINBURGH UNIV. H. & H.—(K. Coutts 13.54 : D. Hunt 14.02 : A. C. Ross 13.55 : J. Brydie 13.41)—55 mins. 32 secs.
2. EDINBURGH EASTERN H.—(J. Rollo 13.52 : A. Thomson 14.03 : J. Hamilton 14.02 : R. Stark 13.38)—55 mins. 35 secs.
3. EDINBURGH SOUTHERN H.—(S. Millar 14.04 : W. Hunter 13.46 : W. Robertson 14.04 : J. Smart 13.56)—55 mins. 50 secs.
4. EDINBURGH SOUTHERN H. "B."—(D. Webster 14.07 : G. Reid 14.32 : J. Paterson 13.48 : W. Grant 14.20)—56 mins. 47 secs.
5. DUNDEE THISTLE H.—(J. Miller 14.00 : G. Robertson 13.36 : H. Irving 14.27 : S. Cunningham 14.55)—56 mins. 58 secs.
6. EDINBURGH UNIV. H. & H. "B."—(J. Barr 14.20 : J. Robertson 14.29 : D. Ellis 14.05 : J. McRoberts 14.11)—57 mins. 05 secs.

7. EDINBURGH ROVER & SCOUTS A.C.—(R. Pearson 14.23 : W. Linton 14.19 : D. Dunn 14.15 : I. Morrison 14.18)—57 mins. 15 secs.

8. FALKIRK VICTORIA H.—(W. Gardiner 14.27 : S. Robertson 14.06 : G. Jackson 14.07 : D. Nicol 14.44)—57 mins. 24 secs.

9. EDINBURGH H.—(R. Stewart 13.51 : I. Hermiston 14.57 : R. Blance 14.21 : T. Stanton 14.56)—58 mins. 05 secs.

10. EDINBURGH ROVER & SCOUTS A.C.—"B."—(W. Henderson 14.33 : D. Hall 14.44 : N. Donachie 14.26 : J. Crawford 14.28)—58 mins. 11 secs.

11. GALA H.—(T. Connelly 14.32 : T. Wintrup 14.15 : D. Yule 15.06 : W. Thomson 14.25)—58 mins. 18 secs.

12. EDINBURGH SOUTHERN H. "C."—(I. Gourlay 14.44 : J. Pearson 14.50 : W. Saunderson 14.51 : J. Robertson 14.38)—59 mins. 03 secs.

13. H.M.S. CALEDONIA—(Marshall 14.53 : Telfer 15.09 : Smith 15.22 : Brown 14.17)—59 mins. 41 secs.

14. EDINBURGH UNIV. H. & H. "C."—(Barnettson 14.56 : J. Cleary 15.00 : D. Oakley 15.00 : J. Barrett 14.56)—59 mins. 52 secs.

15. DUNDEE HAWKHILL H.—(G. Crichton 15.02 : W. Adamson 15.09 : J. McPherson 15.40 : R. Baird 14.42)—60 mins. 13 secs.

16. EDINBURGH EASTERN H. "B."—(R. Irving 14.52 : T. Sergeant 15.43 : P. Brown 14.34 : A. Y. Thom 15.04)—60 mins. 13 secs.

17. KIRKCALDY Y.M.C.A. H.—(G. Mortimer 14.43 : G. Mitchell 14.46 : A. Thomson 15.19 : R. Hewson 15.34)—60 mins. 22 secs.

18. STRATHTAY H.—(P. Boyle 14.17 : J. Dick 15.31 : J. Davidson 15.50 : J. Smillie 15.05)—60 mins. 43 secs.

19. H.M.S. CALEDONIA "B."—(Ward 15.39 : Anwar 15.19 : Daly 16.00 : Ruler 15.56)—62 mins. 54 secs.

20. FALKIRK VICTORIA H. "B."—(A. Cook 15.28 : J. Dunbar 15.34 : P. Ray 17.40 : R. Sheriff —)

FASTEAST TIMES.

1. C. D. Robertson Dundee T. 13 mins. 36 secs.
2. R. J. Stark (Edin. E.H.), 13 mins. 38 secs.
3. J. W. Brydie (Edin. Univ.), 13 mins. 41 secs.
4. W. G. Hunter (Edin. S.H.), 13 mins. 46 secs.

ROUND THE CLUBHOUSES.

Garscube Harriers 5 miles Road Championship was won by former National Novice champion J. J. Duffy whose time of 26 mins. 36 secs. was 14 secs. inside the record of the runner-up, cross-country champion and internationalist Alex. Kidd. D. Coupland was 3rd.

A presentation was recently made to the popular sprint member Billy McFadden (son of coach Johnny) prior to his returning to U.S.A.

MIDLAND C.C. RELAY CHAMPIONSHIP.

The race of $4 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ miles on 3rd Nov., 1951, was again held at Stepps.

Showing a return to form, Harry Fenion the former Scottish Youth's champion in 14 mins. 52 secs. handed over a surprise lead for Bellahouston at the first change-over, with a 5 seconds advantage over Springburn (J. Stevenson) and 8 seconds ahead of the holders—and favourites—Victoria Park (I. Binnie).

Running sweetly through, Tom Lambert (14.36) took Springburn into the lead, but Christie held Bellahouston in a close 2nd position. Meanwhile Johnny Stirling (V.P.) was not his usual and dropped 6 places to 9th and was passed by his club's 2nd string man R. Kane who kept his team in 5th position. This gave the race a strange complex—the kind of thing we expect in cross-country.

At the end of the 3rd lap Springburn still held the lead through R. F. McLean, but Victoria Park made ground through young Syd Ellis moving from 5th to 2nd returning 14.38 and "Chic" Forbes bringing the "A" team to 5th with 14.32. Bellahouston though still fighting yielded to 3rd and Shettleston, mainly through Clark Wallace had worked from 8th to 4th.

With the last leg in the capable hands of Tom Tracey, with to this stage easily the fastest time 14.01. Springburn were proud and worthy winners with the total time of 58m 27s. There was great excitement for the other leading places. Eddy Bannon (Shettleston) was in rampant form and took his club through to 2nd place, with the individual fastest time of 13 mins. 47 secs. Andy Forbes (V.P.) with 14 mins. 03 secs. passed his "B" team man and held off a late challenge by Bellahouston's H. Kennedy. With three juniors in their team Bellahouston were the surprise packet and a pleasing 4th.

Details :

1. SPRINGBURN H.—(J. Stevenson 14.57 : T. Lambert 14.36 : R. F. McLean 14.53 : T. Tracey 14.01)—58 mins. 27 secs.
2. SHETTLESTON H. (J. McNeil 15.12 : B. Bickerton 15.08 : R. C. Wallace 14.40 : E. Bannon 13.47)—58 mins. 47 secs.
3. VICTORIA PARK A.A.C.—(I. Binnie 15.00 : J. D. Stirling 15.32 : C. D. Forbes 14.32 : A. Forbes 14.03)—59 mins. 07 secs.

Beith Harriers' Annual Open Ballot team race, 4 miles C.C. will be held on New Year's Day from Gateside Road, Beith, at 3 p.m. Entry fee, 1/- Teas after. Individual and team prizes.

BOB MATHIAS.

IN May of 1950 I predicted Bob Mathias would soon break the world's decathlon record. He did, but I also wrote: "Decathlon men had their last chance to beat Mathias last year," which makes me as all-wet as a nearsighted steeple-chaser. Not that I think anyone should beat him. I still think he is the greatest prospect ever (including Owens), but right now he is in jeopardy. Three of his rivals are distinct threats to better his 8042 record. Heino Lipp might do it, Bill Albans should do it, and Bob Richards will do it! Richards himself has said he will score 8200 points in this fall's Pasadena decathlon. Harold Osborn, 1924 Olympic decathlon champion, says Richards will nose out Mathias for the Olympic championship with 8500 points. With opposition like that, Mathias must improve considerably to win. But will he improve? The following facts seem to indicate that his continued improvement is not a certainty: (1) His world record was made on his home field, an advantage he won't have next year. (2) He lost a year of practice in most of his events because of an injury. (3) He does not like to practice with the javelin, which could be his best event. (4) The new decathlon table penalizes him. (5) Worst of all, he plans to play football this fall. All this is somewhat ironical, for it was the amazing Olympic victory of the 17-year-old Mathias which created the present high interest in the decathlon. Mathias, like Frankenstein, has created a threat to himself! Yes, things look bad for the boy wonder, who is still a good eight years away from his peak, but it all boils down to this: If he really wants to win, he'll make the necessary effort. And no man who ever lived has had the all-round potential of Bob Mathias.

CORDNER NELSON
in "Track and Field News."

CLYDESDALE YOUTHS' BALLOT TEAM RACE.

10th November, 1951.

PLACINGS :

1. R. Wotherspoon (Glasgow Y.M.C.A.) 14m. 57s.
2. D. Lapsley (West Kilbride A.S.C.) 15m. 06s.
3. (Equal) J. Ferguson (Vale of Leven) and R. Penman (Bellahouston H.) 15m. 05s.
4. T. McQuade (Plebeian) : 6. H. G. Carson (Garscubie H.) : 7. A. Todd (Vic. P.) : 8. W. A. Steele (Shettleston) : 9. R. Alexander (Irvine Y.M.C.A.) : 10. J. Gordon (Springburn) : 11. J. Connelly (Bellahouston H.) : 12. G. Crawford (Vale of Leven) : 13 : 14 C. Jarvis (Ham. H.)
15. S. McLean (Bellahouston) : 16. R. Harrold (Springburn) : 17. R. Gaw (Springburn) : 18. J. Irvine (Bellahouston) : 19. T. Bowman (Clydesdale) : 20. R. Craig (Ham. H.) : 21. R. Nelson (Bellahouston) : 22. H. McIntyre (Dumbarton) : 23. R. Potts (Shettleston) : 24. R. Barr (Shettleston) : 25. G. Muir (Greenock Glen.) : 26. J. Craven (Maryhill) : 27. W. McNair (Maryhill) : 28. J. Rubin (Irvine Y.M.C.A.) : 29. J. Simpson (Plebeian) : 30. I. Mackay (W. Kilbride) : 31. R. Andrews (Olympic) : 32. A. Morrison (Shet.) : 33. R. Ballantyne (Dumbarton) : 34. A. McGowen (Glasgow Y.M.C.A.) : 35. W. Gallagher (B. & W.) : 36. J. Barrowman (Garscubie) : 37. F. McAtee (Shettleston) : 38. W. Kelso (Dumbarton) : 39. : 40. J. Thom (Glasgow Y.M.C.A.) : 41. D. Boyle (Shettleston) : 42. J. McDonald (Springburn) : 43. R. Haining (Dumbarton) : 44. T. McGowan (Maryhill) : 45. L. Jermond (Irvine Y.M.C.A.) : 46. S. Ross (Maryhill) : 47. P. McDermid (W. Kilbride) : 48. J. Craig (Ham. H.) : 49. : 50. : 51. A. Hamilton (Ham. H.) : 52. G. Crichton (Vale of Leven) : 53. J. McLeod (Ham. H.) : 54. G. Penrill (Maryhill) : 55. A. McKenzie (Vic. P.) : 56. A. Lees (Ham. H.) : 57. R. Williamson (Olympic) : 58. P. Callaghan (Vic. Park) : 59. B. Hay (Irvine Y.M.C.A.)

FIRST TEAM—21 POINTS.

R. Wotherspoon (Glasgow Y.M.C.A. A.C.).
R. Alexander (Irvine Y.M.C.A. Harriers).
J. Connelly (Bellahouston Harriers).

SECOND TEAM—48 POINTS.

R. Jarvis (Hamilton Harriers).
J. Craven (Maryhill Harriers).
W. A. Steele (Shettleston Harriers).

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The winning time of 14 mins. 57 secs. by R. Wotherspoon (Glasgow Y.M.C.A.) speaks for itself. Here are the previous winners and times. It will be noted four of these went on to win the Scottish Youth championship:—

1946. W. Young (V.P.), 15m. 26s.
1947. H. Fenion (L'winnoch) 15m. 22s.
1948. G. Adamson (W.K.) 14m. 57.5s.
1949. R. Steele (V. of L.), 15m. 13s.
1950. J. Finlayson (Ham. H.), 14m. 50s.

Dumbartonshire A.A.A. hold their 3rd Annual Open Road Race from Clydebank to Helensburgh on Tuesday, 1st January, 1952. The race, approximately 16 miles, starts at 1.0 p.m. 3 scratch, 3 handicap and winning team prizes. Trophies also to winner and winning team. Entry forms from T. Wilson, 25 Govan Drive, Alexandria.

"Scotland's international cross-country prospects brighter than ever." Perhaps you'll say it's "the old, old story" but we'll discuss and maintain this in our December issue. Don't miss it.