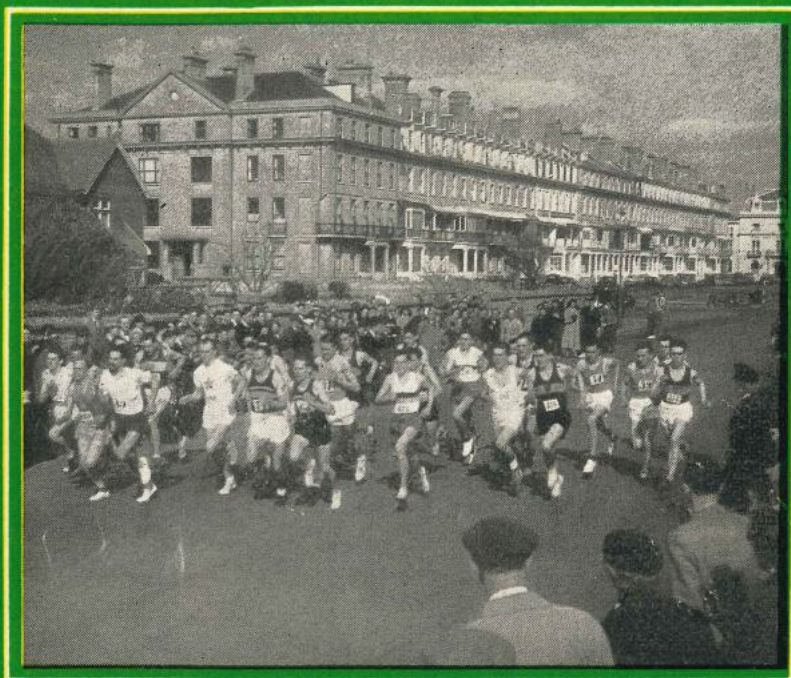


April 23rd, 1955

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Vol. 9. No. 17

Athletics WEEKLY



START OF THE WORTHING RELAY

LONDON - BRIGHTON NATIONAL RELAY

DOES ATHLETICS
HARM OUR GIRLS?

By GEORGE PALLETT

BILL PLUMRIDGE

*answers the
Coaches' Questionnaire*

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF ATHLETICS IN GREAT BRITAIN

Walking

By A. D. McSweeney

ON his form in the Surrey W.C. Open Croydon-Godstone and Back 18½ miles last week, "Bob" Goodall will have a fine chance of regaining the National 20 miles title which he lost to L. Allen, of Sheffield, last year. And Don Thompson, the Middlesex County 20 miles champion, will be challenging hard too. Both these lads are as tough as nails.

Goodall clocked 2h.38m.13s. — the fastest since David Christie-Murray won in 1936—and an extremely fine performance indeed, although nearly two minutes outside "Jock" Galloway's record of 2.36.19, made in 1932, and which was Goodall's target. Thompson was only 120 yards away at the finish and his time of 2.38.38 may very well be the fastest ever put up by the second man to finish in this race. George Coleman, as has been the case before when he has gone over "15," found that slowing his action to suit the extra distance proved very tiring in the end and he had nothing to fight back with when the time came. He was sixth eventually.

John Hubball showed that he was not going to lose the "E. C. Webb" Cup without an effort and he went into the lead very early, but Goodall soon closed up and at five miles was 36 seconds ahead of a group which included Thompson, Hubball and Coleman. Through Caterham this was still the order, and on the long downhill to the turn Thompson picked up a bit on the leader and Hubball and Coleman lost ground. Times at half-distance were: 1, Goodall 78.21; 2, Thompson 78.25; 3, Hubball 79.28; 4, Coleman 79.29; 5, McGreechan 79.41; 6, Thompson, N. 79.53; 7, Macfarlane 80.00.

Up the return climb back to Caterham, Thompson drew level with Goodall, Hubball got away from Coleman and McGreechan and Macfarlane passed the younger Thompson. Over the final six miles stage, Hubball put in all he had in a last big effort for a winning bid and he went past Thompson and got within 100 yards of Goodall. But it was a bit too soon and he had obviously "shot his bolt" here and began to lose ground again. Thompson regained second place and in the end it was he who was having a real crack to cut down Goodall. The only lasting change to the end in the first six then was Coleman from fourth to sixth, Macfarlane and McGreechan beating him. After them came A. L. Mash 7th and V. W. Stone 8th, and their progress from the turn where they were 18th and 17th respectively, was most marked. As a matter of interest here are the fastest return times, outward times in brackets:—

Goodall (78.21) 79.52; Thompson (78.25)

80.13; Mash (85.17) 81.27; Stone (85.03) 81.58; Green (84.49) 83.22; Hubball (79.28) 83.30.

Woodford, fourth at halfway, had a five points winning margin over Belgrave at the finish, with Metropolitan third. This was quite a turn over for team scoring at Godstone was Highgate (4.8,13,25) 50; Belgrave (5,10,19,21) 55; Metropolitan (2,6,15,38) 61; Woodford (1, 18,20,24) 63.

The promoting Club had consolation in taking the team handicap and "Dicky" Green, the Stock Exchange champion, won their Club Championship. The open handicap was won by J. M. Mason, of Enfield A.C. and "Y" Div. Met. Police, whose performance showed very considerable improvement. A record field of 106 started and 97 were timed in.

LONDON v. PARIS TEAM

The London Clubs' team to meet Paris walkers in Paris over a 25km. course (approx. 15½ miles) on May 22nd, is announced:—

G. W. Coleman (Highgate H.) Captain; R. F. Goodall (Woodford Green A.C.); E. W. Hall (Belgrave H.); B. Hawkins (Metropolitan W.C.); A. Macfarlane (Polytechnic H.); D. J. Thompson (Metropolitan W.C.). Team Manager: L. W. Woodcock (Surrey W.C.). The walkers were the first six to finish in the recent Regents Park open 15 miles.

By reason of Thursday, May 26th, now being Polling Day in the forthcoming General Election, the Police Barking to Southend 34 miles Championship, which was to have been held on that day, has been postponed a week and will take place on Thursday, June 2nd, instead.

Surrey W.C. Open Croydon-Godstone and Back 18½ miles—1, R. F. Goodall, Woodford, 2.38.13; 2, D. J. Thompson, Met. W.C., 2.38.38; 3, J. Hubball, St. Albans, 2.42.2; 4, A. Macfarlane, Poly., 2.45.02; 5, H. McGreechan, Belgrave, 2.46.29; 6, G. W. Coleman, Highgate, 2.46.38; 7, A. L. Mash, Woodford, 2.46.41; 8, V. W. Stone, Poly., 2.47.01; 9, M. Long, Cambridge H. 2.47.29; 10, R. Pantling, Vidarians, 2.47.50; 11, R. E. Green, Surrey W.C., 12, R. Newson, Belgrave, 2.48.34.

Teams: 1, Woodford Grn. (1.7,19,20) 47; 2, Belgrave H. (5,12,17,18) 52; 3, Metropolitan W.C. (2,13,16,30) 61; 4, Polytechnic H. 79; 5, Highgate H. 83; 6, Surrey W.C. 85.

Handicap: 1, J. M. Mason, Enfield A.C. (30 m.) 2.28.0; 2, D. Thompson, Met. (9.30) 2.29.8; 3, K. W. Best, Surrey W.C. (26m) 2.29.20.

Team Handicap: 1, Surrey W.C. 10.4.50; 2, Met. W.C. 10.5.47; 3, Woodford Grn. 10.9.50.

Easter Monday Steyning A.C. 15 Miles: 1, J. Ashby 2.15.09; 2, C. C. Ball 2.24.21; 3, K. Malthouse 2.29.06; 4, J. F. L. Henderson 2.33.30.

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EVERY SATURDAY — NINEPENCE

WITH the National Road Relay behind us, thoughts will be turning to the coming track season, and in a matter of weeks we shall be well and truly in the thick of it.

The London to Brighton Relay proved, as was generally anticipated, an easy victory for South London Harriers, and it is difficult to visualise any club getting near them in the next few years. It looks as though we are in for a period of domination by S.L.H. similar to that enjoyed by Birchfield, Belgrave and Sutton in the last 20 years. This applies to cross-country as well as road relays.

It may not be a good thing in one way, but it does mean that the other clubs strive might and main to knock them off their perch, and eventually the time comes when they have to give way to a better team. The longest run was that of Birchfield, who were practically invincible between the Wars, but despite the "stars" possessed by S.L.H. and the promise of so many of their younger runners, I feel sure that they will be challenged before long by one or more of the other clubs.

It was rather sad last Saturday to see Bolton but a shadow of their team of only a year or so ago, and Blackheath have gone back badly. What has happened to all their promising juniors and youths of recent years? I understand, however, that they were unfortunate this year with a whole list of team troubles, one of these things which upset the best of clubs once in a while. Birchfield did not put up anything like the show expected of them, which makes one wonder if their National C.C. performance was a flash in the pan.

It is amazing how the individual records go year after year. Some we consider invincible go by the board after a year or so, which is further proof of the rising standard of distance running. I would rate the best performances last Saturday those of Llewellyn (Walton) and Sando (Aylesford), both of which were remarkable runs considered from any angle.

After my saying that Neil Allen would be unable to write for us in future, along came one of his usual contributions and it appears in this issue. His "News Commentary" will only appear irregularly, however, and on most other weeks we shall have the column by "Roamer," which seems to please those readers who have written to me recently.

To-day the main events are the L.A.C. Schools' Meeting at White City, and the Finchley "20" at Ruislip.

THE EDITOR.

Cover photo by H. W. Neale

The runners start off along the sea front for the first stage of the Worthing Road Relay.

Letters to the Editor

FLYING SAUCER CLUB

Dear Mr. Editor,

During the last two years we have seen the founding of several clubs with an aim to promote a greater interest and, it is hoped, performance in certain field events in which we find ourselves far below world standard.

Dennis Cullum led the way with the "Hammer Circle," Arthur Gold followed with the "Whip and Carrot" Club, and recently a Javelin Club has been formed under the guidance of Dennis Tucker.

I have a great interest in field events, endeavouring to throw the discus to the best of my ability and I feel that it is about time that a club was formed for us discus-throwers, so how about adding the "Flying Saucer Club" to the rapidly increasing list of field event clubs?

I feel sure that there is a high authority on this event who would be willing to start the ball rolling, and that a move in this direction would be heartily greeted by all disc throwing enthusiasts.

Yours faithfully,

Colin W. Snook,
Bognor Regis Athletic Club

ATHLETICS REPORTING

Dear Sir,

Mr. Normandale fails completely to answer M. D. Coleman's criticisms of "athletics reporting" in the popular Press.

The three august gentlemen mentioned, by reason of their close connection with athletics, do write informed articles and, sometimes, reports of meetings. But the fact remains that they are not journalists by profession; their writing is merely a side-line—a profitable side-line admitted—and it was not their features which Mr. Coleman was obviously criticising.

It is the "big names" on Fleet Street who annoy the athlete and athletic "fan" with their lack of real knowledge of the sport and their approach to the subject. But are they really to blame? Their newspapers cater for the masses and their Sports Editors, rightly or wrongly, believe that the "man in the street"

wants some insignificant and unimportant point brought out in a sensational manner to the exclusion of the things which really matter. So they pick journalists who can put this kind of thing over, and the writers turn out what is expected of them.

Unfortunately, because of the dissemination of this kind of thing, the athletically uninformed get totally wrong ideas, particularly of famous athletes and any incident with which they are concerned. Do these journalists really believe all they write? I doubt it very much. One can imagine them churning it out with tongue in cheek and thinking how well it will be lapped up by the average reader. Which brings us back to Mr. Coleman's theme, and how right he was!

Yours sincerely,

S. G. Browning.

"NATIONAL" RESTRICTIONS

Dear Sir,

I fail to see any real obstacle in the points raised by Mr. McDowell in last week's "A.W." Surely a similar system to that employed by the A.A.A. for their track championships could be used? If a runner of any real class missed the qualifying race, he could get in on the standard of his other performances.

The other point I cannot make out at all. Youngsters usually join a certain club either (a) because it is their local club, or (b) because there are well-known athletes attached to it and they like the idea of being in the same club. Whether or not the club runs in the "National" could make little or no difference to one in a thousand.

It is sheer sentimentality which prompts the very ordinary runner or club to wish to run in the English Championship. Mediocre sprinters don't expect to run in the A.A.A. Championships any more than a very ordinary club tennis player expects to enter for Wimbledon. So why on earth should his counterpart in the cross-country world expect to run in our National Championship?

Yours truly,

E. Thompson.

ON BEHALF OF THE RABBITS!

Dear Sir,

During the last few years we have had a veritable surfeit of detailed information about the loves and lives of all the stars of track and field. We now know what they eat and think, follow them yard by yard on all their training-runs, and by the medium of up-to-date news-reportage, even get into the dressing-room after their contests, enjoy the reactions of the triumphant victor or rather more sad aftermath of the good or bad loser.

All this is very nice for those who like that sort of thing, and judging from newspaper sales, there seem to be quite a lot of them, but as an also-ran who never managed to set the track on fire in my own track, road and cross-country activities, I think the time is now overdue for a special plea to be made in defence of "The Man at the Back."

I am personally disturbed by all this publicity for introducing qualifications to the National C.C. championship, as, though I can appreciate the difficulties the organisers have each year over this event, it seems to me to be the thin edge of the wedge to keep out the one class of runner who is responsible for the success of all our main events, that is the bloke at the back!

Nobody seems to appreciate the truism that unless you have another person to run against, you cannot have a contest, except against the clock, and without the personal element, all athletic contests, in my opinion, are pretty tame. If it wasn't for all the chaps without an earthly chance at all, the National would automatically become another star-studded contest, which would cancel out the very essence of its present-day popularity.

This popularity is due, in the main, to one thing, that is the chance to compete against all and sundry, champion and rabbit like, and the further attraction of taking along the wife and sweetheart, father and mother, brother and sister, and sometimes even grandpa, just to watch one poor blighter trying to beat about two thousand other poor blighters!

This attempt to reduce the National to a contest of top-notch speedmen, would, in all probability, be followed by a campaign for faster courses, probably nearer the Metropolis so that it could also be made a better financial success, which would, in the long run, drain

off most of the interest and enthusiasm of those in the Midlands and the North.

However, crystal-gazing is not my favourite occupation, so I would rather base my argument on the strength of the support the average runner gives to the sport in general.

As a word of warning, I would like to point out the dilemma facing some of our professional football clubs, who thought they could do without the support of the little bloke who supported them in the lean times, and are now screaming about the present-day lack of interest.

H. Anderton
(Veterans A.C.)

M. D. COLEMAN REPLIES TO FLT/LT. MOUNTFORT

Dear Sir,

Flt/Lt. Mountfort has been quick to interpret my article "We Must Wake Up" as an attack on the organisers of Service athletics. Such was never my intention and I could hardly have expected a more wide of the mark reply than that published from him last week.

My whole article was intended to point out that the Soviet nations have dispensed with what I now call the retarded viewpoint on sport and physical recreation and by increased facilities and no professionalism are beginning to leave Western Nations behind.

To illustrate this retarded viewpoint on sport and physical recreation, amply cultivated by the Press, I went to the only place one can find a cross section of British youth—the Services. I said: "Anyone who has ever witnessed a Services turn out for 'cross country running' will know what I mean."

I deliberately quoted the phrase to which Flt/Lt. Mountfort took exception. Of course I was not referring to the genuine cross-country sport, but to the mass turn-outs at Training Schools and Recruit Depots and to those bizarre times when the Station Commander of some out of the way camp decides there shall be a "Cross Country Run" for the Officers and men.

If Flt/Lt. Mountfort wants first hand information on the average serviceman's opinion on keeping fit it is at these times that he would best get it. It would be generally pretty short, blunt and to the point. The whole of his letter,

Continued on Page 13

★

BILL PLUMRIDGE

*answers the
Coaches'
Questionnaire*

★



1. **Name (Surname first):**
Plumridge, William Leonard.
2. **Club:**
Thames Valley Harriers.
3. **Occupation:**
Manager.
4. **Coaching Qualifications:**
A.A.A. Honorary Senior Coach, Javelin. Honorary Coach, Throwing.
5. **How long connected with Athletics:**
Joined Thames Valley Harriers 1923.
6. **Active Career—brief details:**
Commenced Cross Country running, then sampled most events, Track and Field, settled down to quarter miling until towards end of active career, when, to fill a gap, I concentrated on Throwing events. Club Champion 440yds. 1930. Combined Field Events 1937.
7. **First started Coaching:**
As Track and Field Captain of Club 1931-38.
8. **Favourite Event(s):**
Equally interested in all events—Road Running, Cross Country, Track and Field but concentrate mainly in coaching Throwing events.
9. **How do you start coaching a novice:**
A most difficult question to answer, although now, with the excellent work being carried out at schools, Club coaches rarely encounter a complete novice. The approach to any athlete one comes in contact with for the first time always differs.

10. What are the basic points on which you concentrate:

Basically any athlete must be strong, speedy and supple and have the right mental approach towards training and competition. A coach must ensure his charge builds up the basic physical requirements and encourage a purposeful attitude of mind.

11. How much importance do you place on Technique:

Technique plays a major part in any field event, but providing fundamentals are observed, it must be remembered there are many allowable minor variations in patterns of movements. A coach must strive to fit the application of the technique of the event to suit the physical attributes of the athlete and advance the application of technique in line with physical development.

12. What other factors do you consider important:

A sound background of physical education is essential if anyone is to attain their potential in any sport and I look forward to the time when there will be many more gymnasiums available for all, from schooldays onward. With progress in gymnastics I feel more attention should be devoted to work on Parallel bars, Horizontal bar and Rings.

13. How much detail do you tell your athletes:

This varies with every athlete.

14. How do you check progress in training:

Results are the yardstick and these, with the knowledge of how they fit into the plan of development, are the progress check.

15. How do you endeavour to get the best results:

By endeavouring to treat all athletes as individuals and encouraging them to work sensibly all the year round.

16. Do you extend your interest and guidance outside athletics:

A coach must have some knowledge of an athlete's interests and his studies, occupation or service life to be able to advise wisely.

17. How often do you see your athletes in training:

This varies considerably and is governed by so many factors that it is impossible to generalise.

18. Athletes coached, with details of successes:

Among the athletes I have coached are—

A. D. G. White—880yds. Finalist A.A.A. 880 1936-1937, Scottish International 1935 and 1938, Gt. Britain International 1936.

M. J. Denley—Javelin. A.A.A. Junior Champ. 1949, 200'0½" best Champ. perf. A.A.A. Champion 1950, 192'0½".

M. Harradine—Javelin. A.A.A. Junior Champ. 1951, 201'1½" Best Champ. perf. Best Senior performance 1954, 195'0".

A. H. Poland—Decathlon. A.A.A. Standard 1951. Long jump Middx. Champion 1953, 21'7"

C. G. Smith—Javelin. A.A.A. Junior Champ. 1953, 201'3½" Best Champ. perf. Best Senior performance 1953 207'0". Middx. Junior and Senior Champ 1954. Shot. Middx. Junior Champ. 50'3" Record. Best Senior performance 1954, 44'0".

D. C. Hackman—Shot. Middx. Youth Champ. 1953, 50'9" Record.

W. J. French—Hop, Step & Jump. Middx. Junior Champ. 1953, 43'5½" Record.

M. Lanning—Javelin. A.A.A. Junior Champ. 1954 182'10".

A. E. Cook—Shot. Middx. Champion 1954, 44'1".

F. G. Crozier—Shot. All England Schools 1st 1954, 46'7". (12lbs.) Record.

H. Bone—Shot. All England Schools 2nd 1954, 50'2" (10lbs.)

SOVIET ATHLETICS

IN preparation for the 1956 Olympic Games the Soviet Union stepped up out-of-season competition over the past winter. This included not only indoor events but also outdoor meetings, even in Moscow with the frost at its deepest. Racing was done on brushed snow with the lane marked off in colour and the athletes racing in long woollen speedskating tights of the type that our professional sprinters wear in training for Powderhall. In March, however, and with the idea of testing the results of stricter winter training, the first spring meeting of 300 of the best USSR athletes was held at Tashkent, Capital of the Uzbek S.S.R., on a latitude approximately the same as the central Mediterranean area.

Early spring had made the ground very soft, spoiling the run-up for the jumps as well as the state of the throwing areas, but there were a number of excellent performances. The track results were good without being startling. It will be observed that five men came on to the finishing line together in the 100 metres final in 11 seconds, the photo-finish camera having to do the job of the judges. In the semi-finals all of the first five in the final had done 10.8 seconds. That gives some idea of the varying nature of the conditions.

Perhaps the best of the track performances was the outstanding 400 metres win by Yuri Lituyev in 48.8 seconds, time which suggests that he will be among the records in hurdling later in the year. Bulanchik was soundly beaten in the 110 metres hurdles by a young Leningrad student Stolarov, whose 14.5 seconds was startlingly fast for the time of the year. Equally interesting was the fact that four men beat 15 seconds.

Even with the track in a bad state, Lavrov, a completely unknown walker from Voronezh, capital of the Russian S.F.S.R., made a new Soviet record in the 20 kilometres walk.

While a number of Soviet high jumpers have got over 6:4 $\frac{1}{4}$ during the past winter they had to fight hard to top two inches less in Tashkent. Both Sitkin and Vysovich got over 6:2 $\frac{3}{4}$, but in the jump-off for third place Shkol'yarov went on to clear 6:3 $\frac{1}{4}$. The vaulting was good in the prevailing conditions and augurs well for a number of 14:0 vaults when the summer season is at its height.

The women's events were noteworthy for a 177:0 javelin throw by Roolaid, 19:0 in the long jump by Lituyeva, and a whole crop of good shot putters even with the stars absent.

MEN

100: 1, Tokarev 11.0; 2, Barteniev 11.0; 3, Sukhorukov 11.0.

200: 1 eq., Tokarev and Barteniev 21.8; 3, Sukhorukov 21.9.

400: 1, Lituyev 48.8; 2, Ivakin 49.8; 3, Senkin 49.9.

800: 1, Alexyuk 1:54.4; 2, Modoi 1:54.5; 3, Alatortsev 1:54.7.

1500: 1, Slutin 3:58.2; 2, Modoi 3:58.4; 3, Gomes 3:58.6.

by

ARMOUR MILNE

3000: 1, Piatykin 8:35.6; 2, Semenov 8:37.4; 3, Popov 8:37.6.

8000: 1, Semyenov 24:41.6; 2, Popov 24:44.8; 3, Utkin 24:51.2.

20,000 walk: 1, Lavrov 1:31:14.6 (USSR rec); 2, Maskinskov 1:34:17.4; 3, Kovalchuk 1:35.23.

110H: 1, Stolarov 14.5; 2, Bulanchik 14.7; 3, Lituyev 14.8.

HJ: 1, Sitkin 6'2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; 2, Vysovich 6'2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "; 3, Shkol'yarov 6'2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " (6'3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " in jump-off for third place).

LJ: 1, Kryushkov 23'4 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; 2, Chen 23'3 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; 3, Stolyarov 23'2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ".

HSJ: 1, Terkel 49'6 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; 2, Verschagin 48'6 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; 3, Rachovsky 48'4 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; 4, Samochvalov 48'0 $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

PV: 1, Petrov 13'9 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; 2, Bulatov 13'9 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; 3 eq., Kiyazev and Basov 13'5 $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

SP: 1, Ovsepiyan 53'2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; 2, Valeyayev 52'11 $\frac{7}{8}$ "; 3, Fedrov, 51'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; 4, Tsiybulenko 50'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

DT: 1, Apparg 154'0 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Conditions extremely bad for throwing.

JT: 1, Kostyn 222'5"; 2, Tsiybulenko 219'9 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; 3, Karagayev 215'6 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; 4, Zuchkov 212'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

WOMEN

100: 1, Ulitkina 12.5; 2, Makoshina 12.6; 3, Shiyanova 12.7.

Continued on page 19

FROM the account I read in the French sports daily *L'equipe* of the recent Cross D'Humanite race, **Emil Zatopek** was lucky to beat the Polish runner, **Jerzy Chromik**. Apparently Chromik mistook the finishing line and was not prepared for Emil's finishing burst. European experts believe Chromik to be the world's greatest prospect in the 3,000 metres steeplechase. He has run 800 metres in 1min. 54.4sec., 1,500 metres in 3min. 49.2s., and 3,000 metres in 8m. 10.8s. and 8m. 8.8s. This year he did 5,000 metres in 14min.14.6sec., compared with 14min.21.6 in 1953 when he was 21. In Berne, Chromik was injured in his heat (he was a comfortable qualifier in 9min.06.4 sec.) and could not compete in the final. Obviously he had been building up to something around 8min.45sec. in Berne by running over other distances in the top class in May and June. Nonetheless he had a best mark of 8min. 56.0sec. for the steeplechase in 1954, after only a few races over the obstacles. He seems the logical successor to that other great Polish athlete, **Janusz Kusocinski**, whose best performances he has beaten in all but the 10,000 metres. Kusocinski, who was killed by Nazi police in the last war, set a great tradition for Chromik to follow, for his time for the 10,000 metres of 30min.11.4sec. at the Los Angeles Olympics is fine running even by today's standards.

I think that Chromik will probably beat 8 min.40sec. this season, but I would still back **John Ivor Disley** to beat him in a race, whatever the pace. I don't think Disley has ever really approached his potential as a steeple-chaser apart from that great run in the Helsinki Olympics (and even then he might have beaten **Kazantsev** if he had not decided that **Gude**, of Germany was the dangerous man in the field). I know that Disley is supposed to have practically retired now that he is taking up his new teaching appointment, but I hope that he manages to fit in at least a couple more international matches, if only to put his mark on the British record for his now officially recognised event. Something under 8min. 50sec. would be a true reflection of his great fighting spirit.

This season I have seen all the outstanding cross-country races and each occasion has

demonstrated further the great heights of popularity which the sport is reaching in our country, and the courage of our athletes in training and racing against the best competition in the world and some of the worst conditions. Looking back, I think I remember most—the all-out effort of **Hugh Foord**, at Brighton, the shadowing of **Gordon Pirie** by **Ken Norris**, the practically untapped potential of **Pat Ranger** (who might so well have won or come second in Spain), the canny running of **Peter Driver**, at Coulsdon, and the disappointment on the face of **Ken Caulder**, when he learned at Cardington that he would only be a reserve at San Sebastian. It was a pleasant ending to a great season that he finally did compete, though tragic that Pirie could not round off all he has done for English cross-country running by winning the one race he prized so much. Apart from Foord I suppose the best balanced season was that of **Frank Sando**, who has such an air of experience about all that he does in athletics that one almost forgets his comparative youth and refers to him as a veteran. For consistency I give it to **Norris**, who never placed lower than third in the four biggest races—International, National, Southern and Inter-Counties.

Chichester Amateur Athletic Club

ATHLETIC SPORTS MEET

(Under A.A.A., W.A.A.A. and N.C.U. Laws)

will be held at

Priory Park : Chichester

Whit-Monday, 30th May, 1955

commencing 1.30 p.m.

Annual Inter-Club Events

OPEN HANDICAP EVENTS

MEN—10 Mile Road Race (3 p.m.). Prize values £7/7/0, £4/4/0, £2/2/0.

Team Challenge Trophy, Medals, R.R.C. Certs.

100yds., 880yds., Prize values £5, £3, £1.

WOMEN—100yds., 220yds., Prize values £5, £3, £1.

Entry Fees—10m. 2/-, Team 5/-, Others 1/-.

Entries close Monday, 9th May, to W. S. Carver, 31 Winden Avenue, Chichester.



KEN NORRIS (T.V.H.), No. 290, and FRANK SANDO (Aylesford P.M.) No. 4, during their tussle on third stage of the Worthing Relay, which resulted in a new record time of 11min. 32sec. by Norris, with Sando also beating Olney's old record, five seconds slower.

H. W. Neale

EASY WIN FOR S.L.H. IN NATIONAL RELAY

AS was generally anticipated, South London Harriers were easy winners of the 1955 London to Brighton National Road Relay, sponsored by the "News of the World." In the end they won by almost four minutes and that with Gordon Pirie not running in his usual devastating form.

Stage 1. Roger Dunkley (Shaftesbury) was soon out in front and after a mile he led from Ken Wood (Sheffield) with Ralph Dunkley (Poly.) not far behind. About half way Ken Wood moved up to the leader and took the lead, going steadily away to hand over with a lead of 50 yards and set a new record of 20.17. Roger Dunkley had hung on well in second place and another 40 yards behind was Ralph, his namesake, after which there was a gap of 23 secs. before the young R.A.F. boy, Darchambaud, came in for S.L.H. Fancied teams in TVH (Vivian 13th), Herne Hill (Kerridge 17th) and Essex Beagles (Murray-Carter 18th) were well back. Leaders:—

1, K. Wood (Sheffield U.H.) 20.17 (record); 2, R. Dunkley (Shaftesbury) 20.26; 3, R. Dunkley (Poly.) 20.33; 4, R. Darchambaud (S.L.H.) 20.56; 5, P. Bagnall (Belgrave) 21.07; 6, P. Everett (Shettleston) 21.18.

Stage 2. Sheffield (Kirby) dropped back to third on this stage behind Hill (Poly) and Wilson, who took S.L.H. into the lead, a lead they held to the end. Cameron, setting up a

new record, brought T.V.H. up seven places to 6th, Jackson took Essex Beagles from 18th to 12th, while Bolton (Williams) dropped eleven places to 19th. Fastest times — J. Cameron (T.V.H.) 24.59 (record), C. Wilson (S.L.H.) 25.08, D. Faulkonbridge (Godiva) 25.23.

Stage 3. Many more changes took place here. Llewellyn (Walton) ran surprisingly fast to break the very good record of Jackie Brown with 28.17 and take his club from 13th to 6th, while T.V.H. went up another four places to 2nd, thanks to a great run by Eddie Ellis, who also broke the old record. Jack Heywood took Herne Hill up from 14th to 9th, but Shaftesbury (French) went back from 5th to 12th, and Tipton (Osborne) from 7th to 15th. S.L.H. (P. Pirie) were 32sec. ahead of the Valley, with Poly, Sheffield and Belgrave not far away. Fastest times—R. Llewellyn (Walton) 28.17 (record), E. G. Ellis (T.V.H.) 28.20, J. Heywood (Herne Hill) 28.30.

Stage 4. Hames brought the Beagles up to within striking distance for the first time and set a new record of 25min. dead. Hayter (Poly) was also inside the old figures and made great inroads into South London's lead. The Valley went back here (Elderfield) to 5th and Walton (Winchester) dropped to 10th. Fastest times—B. E. Hames (Essex B.) 25.00 (record), D. Hayter (Poly) 25.11, A. J. Brent (Blackheath) 25.41.

Stage 5. The two leaders, S.L.H. and Poly, now consolidated their positions with fast runs and there was more than a minute between them and the third team. The Valley (Harper), who were having a fluctuating time, went back still further to 9th, and Shettleston (Campbell) lost a lot of ground. Fastest times—C. Stewart (Poly) 22.11, J. Lyne (S.L.H.) 22.18, S. Acott (Aylesford) 22.33.

Stage 6. Ashforth put S.L.H. over a minute in front, while Grubb ran even faster for Sheffield, who moved up in front of Essex Beagles (Learmouth). Birchfield (Mann) went up to 6th, the nearest they were to get to the front. Blackheath and Bolton were still in the rear and never looked like moving up. Fastest times—B. Grubb (Sheffield) 25.17, R. Ashforth (S.L.H.) 25.18, D. Baulch (Belgrave) 25.43.

Stage 7. This was the stage which brought out most of the "stars" and Gordon Pirie took over for the leaders. It was a steady run for Gordon, however, for though he pulled away from Poly (Richards) and Sheffield (Walker), there were others further down the field who ran much faster. Frank Sando smashed Pirie's record by 33sec., and pulled Aylesford up five places, while Ingles (T.V.H.) and Maynard (Herne Hill) had a great tussle, with Maynard finishing a few yards in front, but Ingles doing slightly faster time. Essex Beagles (West) fell back three places and lost much ground. Fastest times — F. D. Sando (Aylesford) 32.54 (record), A. E. Ingles (T.V.H.) 33.32, M. R. Maynard (Herne Hill) 33.34, I.

Binnie (Vict. Pk.) 33.53; D. A. G. Pirie (S.L.H.) 33.54.

Stage 8. Ken Norris ran a storming leg for T.V.H. and beat Olney's record by 5sec. This brought T.V.H. up to fourth place, close behind Sheffield and Poly, from whom S.L.H. (Driver) had been going still further away. Fastest times — K. L. Norris (T.V.H.) 28.30, P. B. Driver (S.L.H.) 28.47, R. S. Clark (Herne Hill) 29.07.

Stage 9. The race was as good as over, so far as the winners were concerned, for Humphreys ran the fastest time to put S.L.H. well over 3 mins. in front. Belgrave (Gebbett) and T.V.H. (Davidson) lost ground and Herne Hill moved into 4th place, though still three quarters of a minute behind Sheffield, who were trying hard to peg back Poly, though without much success so far. Fastest times—J. R. Humphreys (S.L.H.) 20.14, R. Davies (Godiva) 20.47, A. E. Newson (Herne Hill) 20.55.

Stage 10. It was now a race between Sheffield and Poly for second place, and between Belgrave, T.V.H. and Herne Hill for fourth place. While S.L.H. increased their lead still more through Firth, Charles ran a good leg for Sheffield, which took him in front of Jimmy Wood, of Poly. Burr put up second fastest time to take Belgrave up two places in front of T.V.H. (Virr) and Herne Hill (Cornforth). Fastest times: M. W. Firth (S.L.H.) 20.16, J. Burr (Belgrave) 20.37, H. Charles (Sheffield) 20.44.

Continued on Page 13.

Leaders at 2½ miles on the first stage of the Hornsey Road Relay. L. to R.—J. Atkinson (Hampstead), D. Wheatley (Shaftesbury), R. Lambert (Wigmore), M. Blythe (St. Albans) and F. Seal (Ponders End).

E. D. Lacey



Oxford Win Inter-Varsity Sports 79-47

OXFORD were easy winners of the Inter-Varsity match at the White City, where a 10,000 crowd saw a meeting which had its interesting moments, including the breaking of four records. It was Oxford's 8th consecutive win, and they have now won 37 times to Cambridge's 38, with 6 drawn contests.

The best race of the day was undoubtedly the 3 miles, in which Suddaby, Oxford's second string, "pulled a fast one" on the rest of the field, including his own first string, Tony Weeks-Pearson. Knopf (Cambridge) was leading at 2 miles in 9.30, and then, after a slowish lap, Suddaby suddenly put in one of 67sec. to leave the rest of the field standing. His final time of 14:13.8 was the best ever for an Oxonian in these Sports.

Derek Johnson beat his own record of last year with a fine 1:52.5 in the 880, but it was not the walk-over some might have expected, for D. C. E. Gorrie, his second string, finished strongly to take second place in 1:53.7 from Beesley, of Cambridge, whose 1:54.3 would have won this race easily only a few years ago.

Gwilym Roberts achieved a fine "double" in the sprints and his record in the 220 was a smart performance. In the mile, Boyd did not have it all his own way, though it was his second string, A. D. Gordon, who was making the pace on the last lap until, with 120 yards to go, Boyd sprinted to the front. Boyd ran to beat Gordon rather than Chataway's record of 4:08.4.

Shaw, of Oxford, set a new record of 24.3 in the 220 low hurdles after winning the highs in 15 dead. He was followed home each time by the former Durban schoolboy, A. M. Guthrie, who pressed the winner to an inches finish in the shorter event and would have won if the race had been a yard or two longer.

The long jumping was poor by modern standards, but in the high jump three athletes cleared 6ft., surely the best ever in this series. In the weight, W. M. Robbins hardly lived up to his recent promise, but his first string, Palmer, was an easy winner with a useful 47ft. 1in. W. Kretschmar (Oxford) broke his javelin record by nearly 6ft. with a fine throw of 203ft. 1in.

100: 1, R. G. Roberts (C) 10.1; 2, J. Metcalf (O) 10.2; 3, T. Connolly (O) 10.3; E. Samuel (C) did not finish.

220: 1, R. G. Roberts (C) 21.9 (record); 2, J. Metcalf (O) 22.2; 3, J. Weale (C) 22.6; 4, R. A. Pinnington (O) 23.2.

440: 1, D. J. N. Johnson (O) 49.5; 2, M. Orrell-Jones (C) 50.5; 3, D. C. Brierley (O) 51.6; 4, C. E. Parkinson (C) 53.4.

880: 1, D. J. N. Johnson (O) 1:52.5 (record); 2, D. C. E. Gorrie (O) 1:53.7; 3, J. V. Beesley (C) 1:54.3; 4, C. J. Cameron (C) 1:57.6.

Mile: 1, I. H. Boyd (O) 4:09.0; 2, A. D. Gordon (O) 4:10.6; 3, P. G. Corran (O) 4:16.6; 4, M. J. Rowbottom (C) 4:19.2; 5, R. N. Dailey (C) 4:19.6; 6, B. C. Price (C) 4:31.8.

3 Miles: 1, C. W. Suddaby (O) 14:13.8; 2, A. J. Weeks-Pearson (O) 14:25.2; 3, J. M. McKean (O) 14:29.4; 4, P. D. Palmer (C) 14:33.6; 5, J. H. Knopf (C) 14:45.8; 6, J. U. Shearn (C) 14:47.0.

120 Hurdles: 1, R. D. Shaw (O) 15.0; 2, A. M. Guthrie (C) 15.0; 3, I. W. R. Malcolm (C) 15.1; 4, J. D. Anderson (O) 16.1.

220 Hurdles: 1, R. D. Shaw (O) 24.3 (record); 2, A. M. Guthrie (C) 25.3; 3, D. W. Donaldson (C) 25.7; 4, C. L. Hicks (O) 26.0.

Long Jump: 1, D. R. M. Lillistone (C) 21'5½"; 2, G. Goodwin (O) 20'7¼"; 3, I. M. E. Jeffery (C) 20'0½"; 4, J. O. Sherriff (O) 19'8".

High Jump: 1, G. H. Jeffries (O) 6'1"; 2, P. J. Pybus (C) 6'0"; 3, M. Hutchison (C) 6'0"; 4, D. E. F. Luke (O) 5'9".

Pole Vault: 1, E. H. Freitag (C) 11'6"; 2, K. A. K. North (O) 11'6"; 3, A. Cowey (C) 10'6".

Weight: 1, W. B. L. Palmer (O) 47'1"; 2, W. M. Robbins (O) 42'8"; 3, N. B. Howlett (C) 39'5"; 4, D. J. Mealings (C) 37'6".

Discus: 1, D. S. Henderson (O) 127'8"; 2, T. Grindley (C) 125'3"; 3, W. M. Robbins (O) 118'8"; 4, N. B. Howlett (C) 104'2".

Javelin: 1, W. W. Kretschmar (O) 203'1" (record); 2, P. B. Garland (C) 188'5"; 3, G. Kent (C) 173'0"; 4, C. W. M. Grose (O) 155'9".

Mr. C. Pay, 120 Charter Street, Chatham, Kent, was elected to the post of Secretary-Treasurer of the City of Rochester A.C. at their recent A.G.M.

LETTERS—contd.

therefore, is completely off the mark. 910 runners, the majority keen club members before they came into the Service, take part in the R.A.F. championships. So what? One cannot by any means draw the inference that the British youth of to-day is sports minded. Flt/Lt. Mountfort is not generalising and I was.

But, if we are to specialise, here are two examples of what I experienced in the Service. Neither of these proves the R.A.F. takes pride, or otherwise, in keeping fit.

Some years ago I had the very good fortune to be posted to the R.A.F. camp at Yatesbury, Wiltshire. Fortunate because Yatesbury was fast becoming the athlete's paradise. Dynamic behind this pleasant state of affairs was one Flt/Lt. Davies. Time off for training, re-arrangement of guard duties, late meal chits, "48s" for club fixtures, and other inducements, convinced me the R.A.F. was the place for the athlete. Yatesbury cross-country and track teams were (and still are I see) spoken of with awe in the Service and in the West Country.

An abrupt posting changed all this. I have bitter memories of being bawled off the running track by the Sports Officer of the biggest camp in the Midlands, who informed me that that (pointing to the track) was to be the sacrosanct Station Football Pitch, that Sports Day had been held last week (heralding the close of the season for all concerned) and that "Corporal, if this airman isn't off this field in two minutes, take him down to the Guard-room and put him inside."

The very next day a friend, picked as reserve for the Combined Services for a match in Italy, had to phone the R.A.F. Athletics Officer in Uxbridge before reasonable training would be granted.

No. Flt/Lt. Mountfort, I still think that we

have sunk into lethargy when it comes to physical recreation, despite what club athletes and keen athletic officers are doing in the Services. The athlete is still regarded as a rare specimen, anywhere.

Yours faithfully,

M. D. Coleman

THE LATE MR. H. ROTTENBURG

Mr. Henry Rottenburg, M.A., M.I.E.E., Managing Director of the London Instrument Co., Ltd., of Cambridge, passed away on 25th March. Mr. Rottenburg was a prominent figure at White City meetings as an official for measurement recording, and he had been responsible for many innovations in this field.

LONDON-BRIGHTON RELAY—contd.

Stage 11. J. D. Prince was able to have a steady run home for the winners, who beat their old record easily with 4hr.29min.19sec. and won by nearly 4 minutes. Ward ran a good race to pass the Sheffield man (McArthey) and take second place, while Bishop put up fastest time and brought Belgrave home a comfortable fourth. Fastest times—L. Bishop (Belgrave) 17.36, G. Ward (Poly) 17.38, J. D. Prince (S.L.H.) 18.07. Final positions:—

1. South London H. 4:29.19
2. Polytechnic H. 4:33.15
3. Sheffield U.H. 4:33.29
4. Belgrave H. 4:34.15
5. Thames Valley H. 4:35.25
6. Herne Hill H. 4:36.15
7. Essex Beagles 4:36.56; 8. Birchfield H. 4:37.41; 9. Victoria Pk. A.A.C. 4:38.21; 10. Ilford A.C. 4:41.08; 11. Cov. Godiva H. 4:42.22; 12. Walton A.C. 4:42.58; 13. Manchester A. and C.C. 4:43.14; 14. Shaftesbury H. 4:43.15; 15. Aylesford P.M. 4:43.53; 16. Shettleston H. 4:44.50; 17. Blackheath H. 4:45.26; 18. Tipton H. 4:45.27; 19. Bolton U.H. 4:45.50; 20. Liverpool Pembroke 4:50.54.

HEATHFIELD SPORTS ASSOCIATION ATHLETIC MEETING

(Under A.A.A. Laws)

AT THE STOMPOND LANE SPORTS GROUND,

Walton-on-Thames, Surrey

SATURDAY, 11th JUNE, 1955

OPEN EVENTS—15 Miles Road Race (Teams of 3). Team and Individual awards. 100yds. Veterans' Handicap.

Entry Fees—Road Race 2/6 (No team fee); Veterans' 100yds. 1/6.

Entries Close—May 28th, 1955

To — J. F. Harding, Esq., 37 Holly Avenue, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY ATHLETIC SPORTS MEETING

Saturday, 18th June, 1955

Fleming Park, Eastleigh

(Under A.A.A., W.A.A.A. & N.C.U. Rules)

OPEN EVENTS include Tug-of-War, Sprints, Distance and Ladies' Relay Events.

ENTRIES CLOSE—6th JUNE, 1955

Full details from Supt. J. T. Consfield, Police Station, Eastleigh, Hants.

DOES ATHLETICS HARM OUR GIRLS?

NOTE—*George Pallett sent us this article a little while ago but owing to the number of topical events which have taken place recently, we have been unable to publish it till now—ED.*

IT may not have escaped many readers of "Athletics Weekly" that according to national Press reports some doctors who are members of the Belgian Medical Society of Physical and Sporting Education have solemnly debated the effects of competitive sport on women. They came to the conclusion, according to the same reports, that women should not take part in competitive sport for the following reasons:—

Women are restricted in their training and sporting efforts because of their glandular structure, they are over-vulnerable to emotional factors, and they are extremely liable to organic upsets.

Let us accept all these findings, and dispute the conclusions, for we do not know whether these doctors based their conclusions on practical experience or not. Fanny Blankers-Koen Valerie Winn and professional cyclist Eileen Sheridan poured scorn on the conclusions of these sages, but this is not enough to contradict them.

We are well aware of anatomical differences which affect the performance of women—their comparatively wider hips, greater pelvic mobility, their tendency to a knock-kneed structure of the bones of the leg, and the distribution of their weight which brings their centre of gravity nearer to the ground than is the case with men. We are well aware, too, of certain physiological differences. We know full well that because of these, women have had to face, ever since competitive sport became organised for them, these dire warnings of the possible effect on their health.

In 1926, when the I.A.A.F. debated the question of the inclusion of women in the Olympic Games, representatives of various countries sounded a warning note, and these warnings were further repeated in 1928 at the I.A.A.F. congress in that year. The opposition seemed rather to be based on a prejudice which seized on medical support for their views, but the only practical views were in favour of women competing. Dr. Bergmann of Germany said that experiments over 5 years

in Holland and Germany, with women who were taking part in strenuous sport under proper supervision, had satisfied the authorities of those countries that athletics was beneficial. Dr. Lamb of Canada said that although personally opposed to the inclusion of women in the Games, fifteen years of experience of women taking part in sport in Canada had convinced him that it did them good.

Co-incidentally with the report from Belgium, a medical commission has reported in the U.S.A.* Their findings have been based on the experience of doctors over many years with women athletes, and case histories of athletes extending back as far as 25 years. Evidence was taken from the resident doctors of

By

GEORGE PALLETT

nine large colleges at which girls regularly participated in sport, two doctors from a large metropolitan area whose practice included a large number of women athletes for many years, four experts from the U.S. Medical Association, and the results of studies of the case histories of over 250 women, who had taken part in strenuous sports for periods of 35 years downwards, were available to the Commission.

The evidence covered a wide field. On the subject of competitive sport tending to make women masculine the conclusion was that athletics did not do so, but it was rather that a masculine type was often attracted to sport because their masculinity gave them an advantage in games. The evidence tended to prove that sport made women more conscious of their femininity, of the need for good grooming and for a feminine manner. Coaches pointed out that one of the greatest problems was to maintain a women's team, because of the constant loss of athletes through marriage, and of married women athletes who wanted to start

a family. The medical experts pointed out that ballet and other dancing, generally adjudged feminine pursuits, tended to build unsightly muscle more than did athletics.

One oft quoted argument against women in athletics is that strenuous sport may interfere with their capacity to bear children. Medical evidence was provided that during the Hitler regime in Germany, when women were expected to produce children it was found that participation in sport made healthier mothers and healthier children, and mothers to be were encouraged to take part in sport by the authorities. Records were available of two women who competed for and gained places in Olympic teams while pregnant—in both cases there were no ill effects, and confinements followed a normal course. It should be said that the American authorities do not favour competition of women during pregnancy, and one woman whose condition was discovered at the Games was sent home post haste. The medical men pointed out that it was not athletics that made child birth difficult; the slim hipped type of woman had an advantage in athletic competition, and it so happens that this also makes confinements difficult.

The question of competition at times when a woman is slightly under the weather received attention. The medical evidence was that most women benefit from exercise at this time, but approximately 15% do not — the conclusion was that every woman must find out for herself. A warning was sounded however that a heavy fall on the back during the first two or three days might cause trouble, and that highly strung girls might be adversely affected by competition.

What about the danger of permanent physical injury? At the colleges where, of course, many women unsuited to competitive sport took part in games, etc., it was found that here was a higher incident rate for women, and a higher severity rate. The A.A.U. of America among the more conditioned women who took part in athletic sports, had no record of serious injury—there were the usual pulled muscles, etc. common to male and female athletes alike. One Olympic competitor pointed out a number of scars, explained they had been received on vacation, in the garden and in her home, and said she had always felt safer on the track where she was probably more mentally alerted to danger!

In all the case histories referred to above, there was no single case of injury having affected subsequent health, nor, despite the birth of normal numbers of children to the women concerned, was there a single instance of difficult birth due to former athletic competition—one of the former athletes had as many as six children. All the women concerned were in good health at the time of the investigation. One bright athlete, asked whether child-birth difficulty had been experienced, laconically noted that "Stork beat doctor."

Finally, the effect on school progress was investigated. The statistics showed that the athletically interested girls were all better than average, and a considerable proportion were among the best brains.

The general conclusion of the Commission was that athletic participation and competition benefited women, their future health was in no more jeopardy than in the case of men, but that (not unnaturally!) these findings were subject to close supervision of the activities. It was pointed out that the A.A.U. require medical certificates of fitness to compete.

In brief, it seems that the fears of some medical men, based on their knowledge of women's anatomy and physiology, are not founded on practical experience, and this accords with our more superficial knowledge of the results of participation in athletics by women in this country. So parents can set their minds at rest, and women enjoy their sport without apprehension—so long as they use their common sense—and that goes for us all.

(*A.A.U. Study of the effect of athletic competition on girls and women — published by the A.A.U., 233 Broadway, New York, N.Y.)

CHERTSEY BRITISH LEGION

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY

:: New Grass Track ::

Open Handicaps, Men—100; 220; 880; Mile; Six Mile Road Walk; Six Mile Road Run; Vets. 100; 100 Stone Tug-of-War.

Ladies—100; 220; 4 x 110 Relay; Junior 100.

Entry Fees—1/6 First, 1/- subsequent; Relay 4/-; Tug-of-War 8/-.

Enquiries & Forms—H. Waspe (Hon. Sec.), 10 Stepgates, Chertsey.

Entries by July 18th, to R. Turner, 33 London St., Chertsey.

RESULTS

TERRITORIAL ARMY CHAMPIONSHIP

1, Pte. Lyne 28.49; 2, Cfn. Askew 29.02; 3, Cfn. Iliffe; 4, Pte. Martin; 5, Pte. Burse; 6, Pte. Crawford; 7, Cpl. Evans; 8, Pte. Ayres; 9, Pte. Frazer; 10, Cpl. Sudbury; Pte. Greaves; 12, L/cpl. Hine. Teams: 1, 5th Bn. TL S. Staffs. Regt. 98pts.; 2, 8th Bn. TL Durham Light Infantry 129; 3, 10th Bn. TL Parachute Regt. 139.

Midland Public Schools' Meeting. 100: A. N. Duerr (Shrewsbury) 10.9; **220:** A. Burgess (Denstone) 24.3; **440:** R. Gammack (Abbingdon) 54.4; **880:** J. Thorburn (Wrekin Coll.) 2:11.8; **Mile:** W. Horden (Malvern) 4:48.3; **3M. S'chase:** J. Brown (Wrekin) 4:01.4; **120H:** K. Gregson (Wrekin) 16.8; **200H:** T. Southall (Wolverhampton) 25.4; **HJ:** G. Edwards (Denstone) 5'4"; **LJ:** J. Galkin (Malvern) 19'7"; **HSJ:** S. Southall (W'hampton) 41'9"; **PV:** D. Cooke (Warwick) 8'6"; **Wt:** D. Marnham (Malvern) 42'1"; **D:** J. Pedder (Shrewsbury) 123'4"; **J:** B. Whitaker (Repton) 185'2".

April 2nd

Belgrave H. 5½M. Road Race—1, C. Walker 28.31; 2, P. Bagnall 28.46; 3, A. Bedford 28.50; 4, D. Baulch 29.01; 5, C. Smart 29.04; 6, J.

Burr 29.14. **H'cp:** 1, D. Jones (5.20) 27.05; 2, L. Bishop (1.50) 27.31; 3, P. Bagnall (1.10) 27.36.

Ealing H. 10M. Road Championship: 1, M. L. Barratt 56.27 (rec.); 2, G. Glancy 58.52; 3, D. R. Jessop 61.57; 4, D. W. Whitton 66.37.

Bristol A.C. beat Fry's A.C. 15pts. to 23 in a Youths' match over 3M., at Stapleton. 1, D. Smith (F) 20.40; 2, A. Upsher (B) 21.15; 3, M. Hurcum (B) 21.20; 4, R. Burge (B) 21.30; 5, J. Gingell (F) 21.32; 6, R. Allen (B) 21.50.

OLDBURY YOUTHS' ROAD RELAY

April 8th

1, Tipton H. 57m.24s.; 2, West Bromwich 58m.57s.; 3, Coventry 59m.2s.; 3, Lozells 60m. 6s.; 4, Nuneaton 60m.28s.; 5, Oldbury 1hr.1m. 8s.; 6, Tipton "B" 1hr.2m.50s.; 7, Birchfield 1hr.52m.59s.; 8, Small Heath 1hr.3m.29s.; 9, Harborne 1hr.5m.15s.

Fastest stage time was run by A. Brown (Tipton H.) in 13m.39s.

Walton A.C. 92pts. beat University Coll. A.C. 69 and Jersey A.C. 41. 100: 1, K. Wilms-hurst (W); 2, Gwyther (J) 10.4; **220:** 1, K. Wilmshurst (W); 2, I. Baker (UC) 23.3; **440:** 1, I. Baker (UC); 2, Wood (UC) 53.5; **880:** 1, R. Smith (W); 2, Hollinrake (UC) 1:59.2; **Mile:** 1, A. Yarrow (W); 2, Millwood (UC) 4:39.5; **2M:** 1, K. Honney (W); 2, Taylor (UC) 9:57.2; **LJ:** 1, K. Wilmshurst (W); 2, W. Clarke (W) 24'3"; **HJ:** 1, K. Wilmshurst (W); 2, Pearson (J) 5'6"; **HSJ:** 1, K. Wilmshurst (W); 2, J. Groves (W) 47'10"; **Wt:** 1, P. Jones (UC); 2, D. Colby (W) 45'9½" (shot under weight); **D:** 1, D. Colby (W); 2, Jones (UC) 115'10½"; **J:** 1, J. Hutchinson (UC); 2, Wilkinson (J) 137'1"; **4 x 110 Relay:** 1, Walton; 2, Jersey 48.8.

April 9th

Mitcham A.C. 12M. Championship: 1, J. Fitzgerald 65.49; 2, B. Gardner 66.32; 3, R. Bott 67.34. **H'cp:** J. Fitzgerald (1.30) 64.19.

PAIGNTON 1955 REGATTA GRAND ATHLETIC FESTIVAL

(Under A.A.A. & W.A.A.A. Laws)

In Queen's Park,

On a perfect grass track

Wednesday, August 10th, at 2.15 p.m.

EVENTS (Men):

	3 Prizes to value
100 Yds. Open Handicap ...	£13 13 0
220 Yds. Open Handicap ...	£13 13 0
440 Yds. Open Handicap ...	£13 13 0
600 Yds. Open Scratch ...	£13 13 0
880 Yds. Open Handicap ...	£13 13 0
One Mile Open Handicap ...	£13 13 0
3 Miles Open H'cp (4 prizes) ...	£14 14 0
One Mile Medley Relay ...	£16 16 0
440 Yds. Junior Handicap ...	£8 0 0
100 Yds. 15-17 yrs. Handicap ...	£5 0 0
220 Yds. 15-17 yrs. Handicap ...	£5 0 0
100 Yds. Veterans' Handicap ...	£8 0 0
High Jump (scr.) Men ...	£9 0 0

(prov. 6 ent.)

WOMEN:

60M. Devon and Cornwall Senior Champ.
220 Devon and Cornwall Senior Champ.

3 Prizes to value

100 Yds. Open Handicap ...	£7 7 0
220 Yds. Open Handicap ...	£7 7 0
660 Yds. Relay Race (3 sets) ...	£10 0 0

Entrance fees: 1/6 first, 1/- additional; relays 2/6; D. and C. Champs. 1/-.

Entries Close first post, Monday, Aug. 1st, 1955
Enquiries and entry forms to be obtained from and returned to—C. H. Gilbert, Hon. Athletic Secretary, 24 Elmsleigh Road, Paignton, S. Devon.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

WHIT-MONDAY GALA

(Under A.A.A., W.A.A.A. & N.C.U. Rules)

On Cambridge City F.C. Ground

OPEN EVENTS — TOP PRIZES

MEN—100, 220, 880, mile, 3 miles, 2 mile walk handicaps.

LADIES—100, 220yds. handicap, 4 x 110 relay. Also School races and Open Cycling Events

Entries—(1/6 first, 1/- additional, 4/- relay) close 16th May, to G. E. Smith, 203 Gilbert Road, Cambridge.

Salisbury A.C. 5M. Championship: 1, P. Clark 29.17; 2, C. Kennedy and B. Lillicrap 29.47; 4, D. Mould 30.37; 5, D. Lillicrap 32.05; 6, K. Midlane 33.19. **H'cp:** C. Kennedy (0.50) 28.57. **Junior 3½M.:** 1, J. Benniman 23.04; 2, C. Dobson 23.25; 3, I. Brown 23.44. **H'cp:** C. Dobson (0.50) 22.35.

Chelmsford A.C. Trials. 100: N. Skingley 11.7; 220: J. Capers 24.6; 440: J. Capers 55.3; 880: I. Buchanan 2:06.0; **Mile:** G. Orrin 4:41.0; **2M:** J. Bowen 10:15.0; **Wt:** M. Cocks 31'2"; **D:** Bristow 101'8"; **J:** D. Bristow 127'5"; **Junior: 100:** T. Southey 11.9; **Wt:** D. Fromant 36'5"; **D:** M. Davies 103'0"; **J:** M. Davies 110'0"; **Youths: 880:** A. Loftin 2:20.2; **Wt:** D. Fromant 45'10"; **D:** D. Fromant 143'3"; **J:** D. Fromant.

April 11th

HORNCHURCH 4M. ROAD RACE

1. K. Norris (TVH) 18.08
 2. E. Ellis (TVH) 18.26
 3. S. Cox (Southgate) 18.30
 4. J. Heywood (Herne Hill) 18.32; 5, H. Hicks (Hampstead) 18.36; 6, R. Lambert (Wigmore) 18.39; 7, J. Cameron (RAF) 18.46; 8, R. Dunkley (RAF) 18.46; 9, A. E. Ingles (TVH) 19.00; 10, G. Brown (Highgate) 19.02; 11, J. Douglas (TVH) 19.04; 12, P. Palmer (St. Albans) 19.09; 13, K. Carroll (RAF) 19.20; 14, J. Atkinson (Hampstead) 19.22; 15, M. Palmer (St. Albans) 19.26; 16, J. Bodkin (Highgate) 19.30; 17, L. Durrant (Brentwood) 19.33; 18, G. Harrison (Highgate) 19.34; 19, J. Bowen (Chelmsford) 19.39; 20, P. Vivian (TVH "B") 19.41; 21, B. Parkes (Hampstead) 19.42; 22, M. Schofield (Poly.) 19.45; 23, D. Shott (Southgate) 19.46; 24, G. Orrin (Chelmsford) 19.47; 25, D. Chapman (RAF) 19.47.

Teams: **Pts.**
 1. T.V.H. "A" (1. 2. 7) 10
 2. R.A.F. (5. 6. 8) 21
 3. Highgate (8.13.15) 36
 4, Hampstead 41; 5, Southgate 51; 6, St. Albans 54.

Brotherhoods Works Sports Club

7th ANNUAL

MARATHON RACE

**Brotherhoods Sports Ground
 Lincoln Road, Peterborough**

Whit-Monday : May 30th, 1955

3.15 p.m. start

£100 Individual Trophy. £60 Team Cup.
 1st, 2nd, 3rd Cups; 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th,
 8th Plaques. 1st, 2nd, 3rd Team Medals.
Entrance Fee: 3/- Individual; 9/- per team.
 Hon. Marathon Secretary, **Peter Roy, 288
 Padholme Road, Peterborough.**

WARWICKSHIRE ROAD RELAY

In retaining the Warwickshire A.A.A.'s 21 miles road relay title at Leamington, and at the same time breaking their own record for the race, Birchfield H. stole the honours in an event which attracted 14 teams representing eight clubs.

Birchfield's seven runners covered the distance in 1hr. 42mins. 6secs., 14 seconds faster than the time they set up last year.

Twice in the first three miles the stage record was broken. The old record of 14 mins. was first beaten by Birchfield's Ray Hatton in 13.56 and then two seconds slower, by B. R. Ashforth (Lozells).

Despite being nine seconds behind on the first stage, Small Heath—thanks to a good run by T. Illiffe—were in the lead at the end of the second stage. From then on, however, it was Birchfield all the way although at the end only 1min.6secs. separated the two teams.

1, Birchfield "A" 1.42.6; 2, Small Heath "A" 1.43.12; 3, Godiva "A" 1.43.32; 4, Lozells "A" 1.47.13; 5, Birchfield "B" 1.47.53; 6, Godiva "B" 1.48.17; 7, B.T.H. 1.49.54; 8, Small Heath "B" 1.52.19; 9, Nuneaton 1.52.57; 10, Leamington 1.54.29.

Handicap: 1, Small Heath "A" 1.37.37; 2, Lozells "A" 1.37.38; 3, Birchfield "A" 1.38.16.

WESTERHAM GALA SPORTS

(Under A.A.A. & W.A.A.A. Laws)

WHIT-MONDAY, 30th MAY, 1955

in

King George's Field, London Road,

2.15 p.m.

Men's Open Events

Handicaps 220 yds., 440yds., 880 yds., Mile, 2 Miles Scratch (Team and Individual).

Westerham Gala 10 Mile Road Race

Individual Handicap and Scratch Team Race. Fastest time award.

Women's Open Events

Handicaps 220 yds., 880 yds., 4 x 110 yds. Inter-Club Scratch Relay.

Entry Fees—Individual 1/6, first 1/- subsequent events. Team (4 run, 3 score) and Relay 5/-.

Entries to A. C. BRILL, Bingleaves, Westerham, Kent, by Wednesday, 11th May, 1955.

Ground adjoins Westerham Station. Green Line Routes 705 and 706 L.T. 410, 403 and 485.

HORNSEY ROAD RELAY

Seventeen teams started in the Hornsey Road Relay out of an entry of twenty-two. The carriageway of the park had been remeasured and the distance of each stage found to be 5 miles, 1000yds.

Stage 1 developed into a struggle between D. Wheatley (Shaftesbury) and R. Lambert (Wigmore), and at the changeover the timekeepers could not separate them at 28.45. They were followed by J. Atkinson (Hampstead) 28.56, M. J. Blyth (St. Albans) and F. Seal (Ponders End) 29.10.

Stage 2. A good run by D. Hearne (N.L.H.) 30.03 took his club from 6th to 1st. B. Parkes (Hampstead) 30.55 was half a minute behind and S. Webley, also 30.55, had put St. Albans in third place.

Stage 3. St. Albans now went into the lead with a fine run by J. Thorpe 28.57, and were 38sec. in front at the changeover. Hampstead (Willmott 29.49) were second and N.L.H. third (Pennington 30.36).

Stage 4. D. O'Gorman (St. Albans) steadily increased his advantage over Harry Hicks (Hampstead) and finished with a personal time of 27.37, which beat the previous record by 30sec. and an aggregate time of 1:56.39, which was 54sec. better than St. Albans' old record. Hicks with 28.32 made second fastest time.

1, St. Albans City A.C. (Blyth 29.10, Webley 30.55, Thorpe 28.57, O'Gorman 27.37) 1:56.39 (record).

2, Hampstead H. (Atkinson 28.56, Parkes 30.55, Willmott 29.49, Hicks 28.32) 1:58.12.

3, North London H. (Langwith 29.18, Hearne 30.03, Pennington 30.36, Towler 29.23) 1:59.20.

4, Highgate "A"; 5, Wigmore "A"; 6, Shaftesbury; 7, N.L.H. "B"; 8, Hornsey (St.M.); 9, Hampstead "B"; 10, St. Albans "B".

Fastest times: D. O'Gorman (St. Albans) 27.37 (rec.), H. J. Hicks (Hampstead) 28.32.

BOOKER SURPRISES IN MAIDENHEAD

"TEN"

There were 106 starters in the Maidenhead 10 Miles Road Race and a fast start saw Mike Barratt (Ealing) cutting out the pace, with Gamlin (Westbury), Booker (Reading) and Bathurst (Bristol) a little way behind at 3½ miles. At 7 miles Booker was in the lead, with Gamlin 2nd and John Stone (Dorking) 3rd, Barratt having dropped back to 4th. This order was maintained until the finish, Booker going away to win comfortably and equal Stan Cox's record of 54min. 19sec.

1. D. R. Booker (Reading) 54.19
2. J. E. Gamlin (Westbury) 54.26
3. J. W. Stone (Dorking) 55.21
4. W. Bathurst (Bristol) 55.40; 5, M. L. Barratt (Ealing) 56.47; 6, R. J. Webb (Blackheath) 57.21; 7, R. Butler (Finchley) 57.27; 8, I. B. G. Hawkins (Westbury) 57.41; 9, G. C. Glancy (Ealing) 58.07; 10, E. Whitehead (Finchley) 58.15; 11, G. B. Burningham (Reading) 58.21; 12, R. J. V. Ellis (Maidenhead) 58.27; 13, G. Thornton (Oxford) 58.46; 14, Bowden (Bristol S.) 58.54; 15, D. A. Lane (Ealing) 58.56; 16, E. Ford (Shaftesbury) 59.02; 17, R. Adams (Bristol) 59.10; 18, M. Walsh (Oxford) 59.21; 19, D. Selwood (Wycombe Ph.) 59.23; 20, Chorley (Bristol S.) 59.54; 21, E. Mundy (Finchley) 59.59; 22, R. G. Plummer (Belgrave) 60.05; 23, H. S. Oliver (Reading) 60.06; 24, D. H. Hoppood (Blackheath) 60.11; 25, M. Dunhill (Oxford) 60.14. H'cp.: 1, R. J. Webb (Blackheath).

Teams:

Pts.

1. Ealing (4. 8.14) 26
2. Reading (1.10.22) 33
3. Finchley (6. 9.20) 35
4. Westbury 49; 5, Oxford 53; 6, Wycombe Ph. 78.

WATFORD SPORTS

(Under A.A.A., W.A.A.A. & N.C.U. Rules)

WHIT-MONDAY, MAY 30th, 1955

OPEN EVENTS

Men's Handicaps:

100, 300, 880yds, 3 Miles, 100yds. Veterans, Tug-of-War (6 men, 75 stone), One Mile Scratch, Pole Vault.

Ladies' Handicaps:

100, 220, Relay (4 x 110yds.), 880yds. scratch. Field Events (all handicaps)—High Jump, Long Jump, Shot, Discus, Javelin. Junior Girls (Handicaps): 100yds., Relay (4 x 110yds.).

Entries close May 16th to R. B. Stevens, 126 Kenilworth Drive, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, Herts (Rickmansworth 5539).

KODAK SPORTS

(Under A.A.A., W.A.A.A. & N.C.U. Rules)

WHIT-SATURDAY, MAY 28th, 1955

OPEN EVENTS

Men's Handicaps:

100, 300, 880yds, 2 Miles Junior Relay (220, 110, 110, 220), Pole Vault, Hop, Stee and Jump, Mile Scratch, Tug-of-War (6 men, 75 stone) 10 MILES ROAD RACE (Ind. & Team).

Ladies' Handicaps:

100, 220yds., Relay (4 x 110yds.); 80m. Hurdles; High Jump; Shot; Discus; Javelin. Jun or Girls: 100yds. & Relay (4 x 110yds.) W.A.A.A. National Relay (4 x 110yds.)

Entries close May 14th to R. Stevens, Kodak Works, Harrow, Middlesex.

"SHEFFIELD TELEGRAPH" MARATHON

E. Kirkup (Rotherham) added to his recent successes by running away with the Doncaster to Sheffield Marathon on Easter Monday, when he finished the course in 2hr.35m.36.4sec. against a strong headwind.

McMinnis was the early leader, followed by Smith and Kirkup, but soon after turning into the wind at 6 miles the pace slackened as none of the three wanted to lead, and the next bunch, comprising Salt, Kelly, Wilkinson, Lawton and Pape, had moved up and the earlier leaders tucked in behind them until 14 miles had been covered.

Then Kirkup decided it was time to get going and he went away. Smith and McMinnis tried to follow but found the pace too hot and had to let him go. For a time the other two stayed together but before long Smith managed to open up a gap and went away steadily to finish a comfortable second.

1. E. Kirkup (Rotherham) 2:35.36.4
2. E. L. Smith (Harehills) 2:38.05.4
3. R. W. McMinnis (Sutton) 2:38.52.4
4. R. H. Pape (R. Navy) 2:42.15; 5. A. Lawton (Harehills) 2:42.26; 6. P. A. Wilkinson (Staveley Works) 2:43.15; 7. W. H. Kelly (Reading) 2:43.36; 8. J. Salt (Rochdale) 2:47.35; 9. R. Jackson (Swinton) 2:49.28; 10. J. T. Keily (Derby) 2:50.27; 11. A. H. Mail (Derby) 2:51.15; 12. A. E. Nendick (Hull) 2:52.29; 13. A. E. Cockcroft (Harehills) 2:53.15; 14. T. Houghton (Preston) 2:53.21; 15. M. F. Porter (Manchester) 2:54.53.

H cp: P. A. Wilkinson (Staveley W.) (30.0) 2:13.15.

Northern Championship: As above.

Teams: 1, Leeds Harehills 24pts.; 2, Derby 42; 3, Hull 50.

Results continued next week

ATHLETES' SERVICE

The Athletes' Annual Service will be held on Sunday, 24th April, from 3.30 to 4.30 p.m., in the Fyvie Hall, The Polytechnic, 309 Regent Street, London, W.1. Chairman will be Bernard Studd, the speaker will be Capt. Paul Bennett, V.C., M.C., and an International athlete will read the Lesson. All athletes and friends are cordially invited and tea will be available after the Service.

* * *

At the last take-over at the London-Brighton Relay a track suit top was handed to C. R. Smith, 57 Loftus Road, Shepherds Bush, London W.12, but was not claimed afterwards. If the owner will apply to Mr. Smith he can have the top sent on to him.

See next week's issue for detailed reports of the L.A.C. Schools' Challenge Cup Meeting and the Finchley 20 Miles Road Race.

SOVIET ATHLETICS (contd.)

200: 1, Ulitkina 24.9; 2, Sharova 25.7; 3, Kovaleva 25.8.

400: 1, Solopova 57.3; 2, Sapsarina 57.8; 3, Khomutova 58.3.

800: 1, Barachovich 2:13.1; 2, Konopleva 2:14.8; 3, Sapsarina 2:16.9.

2,000: 1, Solonova 6:57.4; 2, Khasanova 6:59.2; 3, Shilova 7:02.4.

80H: 1, Dolzhenkova 11.5; 2, Yermulenko 11.6; 3, Trofimova 11.6.

HJ: 1, Garis 5'3"; 2, Shmakova 5'1"; 3, Lituyeva 5'1".

LJ: 1, Lituyeva 19'0 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; 2, Martinenko 18'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; 3, Radchenko 18'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

SP: 1, Glazkova 45'11 $\frac{1}{8}$ "; 2, Gorchakova 45'0 $\frac{7}{8}$ "; 3, Yermolenko 43'11 $\frac{1}{8}$ ".

JT: 1, Roolaid 177'4 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; 2, Gorchakova 155'0 $\frac{3}{8}$ "; 3, Glazkova 145'8 $\frac{3}{8}$ ".

SURREY FIRE BRIGADE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Fourth Annual

ATHLETIC MEETING

Carshalton Sports Arena, Wrythe Lane,
Carshalton, Surrey

The Best & Most Up-to-date Track in the South

WHIT-MONDAY, MAY 30th, 1955

at 2.0 p.m.

MEN'S OPEN HANDICAP EVENTS

100 yds.; 220 yds.; 880 yds.; 1 Mile; 3 Miles;
120yds. Hurdles; 3,000 metres Steeplechase

PRIZES (each event) **VALUED** — First £7;
Second £3; Third £2.

ENTRY FEE—1/6 first event; 1/- each additional event.

CLOSING DATE FOR ALL ENTRIES:

14th MAY, 1955

Full details and entry forms may be obtained from and should be returned to:—

Divisional Officer.

Fire Station, Castlefield Road, Reigate, Surrey

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