

Oct. 29th, 1955

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Vol. 9. No. 44

# Athletics

## WEEKLY



DANA ZATOPKOVA

*H. W. Neale*

# Bukta

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# Walking

By A. D. McSweeney

EXPERIENCE and judgment stood out a mile at the Highgate open 7 miles. Never contesting the lead, never pushing it, and walking in almost a nonchalant manner, George Coleman literally sat back and let the others have it until a mile to go. He halved a 60 yards deficit on Poole (Worcester) and Hawkins and Hutchison (Met.) down East Heath Road, and then went in front with 800 yards to go to win in 53m.31s., the second fastest time of the series. The gusty wind held off and first eight beat 55 minutes—better than five winning times since the race has been at Parliament Hill.

171 started the stiff ascent of West Hill—more of a problem each year with heavier traffic. L. K. Evans led and went over the top 20 yards to the good of R. Hutchison, followed by A. H. Poole, Coleman and a bunch containing B. Hawkins. Evans continued to open out and he set a cracking pace along the arterial road through Hampstead Garden Suburb to pull right away from the field. He had in mind Coleman's record for the course made last year and this proved his undoing for he was ruled out at three miles. General opinion seemed to be that Evans, with his fine powerful action, was unwise to set such a devastating pace in rubber soled plimsolls. Few fast men can get away with them without some suspicion of bounce.

This left Hutchison in the lead, 40 yards ahead of Poole and Hawkins—who had passed Coleman, and put the Met. in the lead over Highgate in the team race. Both were packing well and monopolising the forward placings—Poole being an individual. From the three miles point the course is undulating and Hutchison stuck grimly in front for the next two miles although losing a few yards. Both Poole and Hawkins looked to have the position well in hand at the "Bull and Bush," 5 miles, but Coleman had lost a bit of ground. At "Jack Straw's Castle," half a mile further on, Poole and Hawkins were on Hutchison's heels. Hereabouts Coleman summed up his chances, enhanced by his knowledge of the course, and he girded up his loins and went after them, with the result you know, to win a fine race.

His three main rivals did good times also, particularly Hutchison, who everyone expected to blow up, but he battled well even after

being caught and was in the straight with them at the finish. Hutchison's unexpected form turned the scales in favour of the Met., who had been beaten by Highgate over the three races held in the past month, and they triumphed convincingly by 20 points. The promoting Club won the Team Handicap. Strange that the Met's origin and first years were in the Highgate area.

## Our Trio for Milan 100 Kilometres

By request of the promoting body the name of Vic Stone has been added to the team travelling to Italy this week-end. Stone was second in this International race last year and our selections this year were Don Thompson and H. D. Neilson, first two home in the London-Brighton. The race takes place on Tuesday next and our trio, with "Timber" Woodcock as mentor, should put up a good show. We may get all three home in the first seven places. This will be the first trip abroad for Neilson.

The R.W.A. have been asked to supervise the timing of Swedish Nationals in this country wishing to take part in the "Stora Riksmarchen." Although a simple test for Race Walkers this thing has caught on in a big way in Sweden and over a quarter million of the population have passed the test and are wearing the Special Badge provided. Members of the Royal family and Cabinet are included in the participants which comprise men, women and children of almost any age. These are the standards:—

**Men:** 10 kilometres (6m.376y.) within 90 minutes.

**Women (and men over 55):** 5 kilometres (3m. 188y.) within 50 minutes.

**Boys and Girls,** up to 16 years of age; 2½ kilometres within 30 minutes.

The tests will be conducted around Regents Park on Saturday, November 5th, starting 10.30 a.m.

**Highgate H. 26th Annual Open 7 Miles.** 1, G. W. Coleman (Highgate H.) 53m.31s.; 2, A. H. Poole (Worcester H.) 53.36; 3, B. Hawkins (Met. W.C.) 53.42; 4, R. Hutchison (Met. W.C.) 53.54; 5, D. J. Thompson (Met. W.C.) 54.35; 6, G. L. Meadows (Highgate H.) 54.38; 7, R. A. West (Cambridge H.) 54.50; 8, K. Dulieu (Highgate H.) 54.51; 9, R. Davies (Woodford Grn.) 55.00; 10, R. F. Goodall (Woodford

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EVERY SATURDAY — NINEPENCE

**J**OE LANCASTER, until last week-end a comparatively unknown Manchester runner, certainly hit the headlines with a bang when he not only won the 2 hours' race put on by Walton A.C. and the Road Runners' Club, but also put his name on the record books and beat Gordon Pirie into the bargain.

Joe was immediately hailed as our "hope" for the next Olympic Marathon. One well-known sports writer told me he could not see why this should be, as there is a vast difference between running round and round a track and running on the road, up hills and down dales. This is certainly true, but in my view any man who can, nearing the end of a two hours' run at this pace, suddenly put in a mile of 5.17 and draw away from Gordon Pirie, is entitled to consideration for marathon honours.

Lancaster is not quite the unknown athlete some have suggested. He has been steadily working his way up the ladder this year, both as regards standard and distance. His best performance was probably in the Macclesfield 10 Miles Road Race, when he beat Eric Smith, Billy McMinnis and Arthur Keily. His performance last week-end suggests that what he can do over 10 miles on the road, he can do over 20 miles or even the full marathon distance, but only time will show.

### Debunking

I was pleased to see Doug. Wilson debunking—in the "Daily Mail"—the idea that we get beaten by athletes from other countries because they are state-sponsored. Nothing irritates me more than to see this excuse trotted out by sports writers in the National Press whenever we fail to win. Except in a few isolated cases it just isn't true and is merely an excuse for being beaten either by better athletes or by those who have put more into it despite having no more time than our own. Most of the overseas athletes have a job to do and if some of them are in the Services, so are many of ours too. Let us hope we hear no more of this nonsense.

What we *do* need are more and better facilities, and, as Les Truelove, the A.A.A. Team Manager, says on another page, a bit more put into it by *some* of our athletes. Many of these successful overseas athletes work a darned sight harder than some of ours—and remember, those of you who may get a bit hot under the collar, I said *some*. Nothing takes the place of hard work, but it is easy to trot out excuses to cover up the lack of it.

We need not merely more tracks, but far more and better facilities for the jumping and throwing events. When we get them there will be no excuse for failing to use them. But don't forget the very poor response Bill Northam had after going to a lot of trouble last year to provide indoor field event facilities in the London area.

THE EDITOR.

# A REVIEW OF THE SCOTTISH SEASON

THE 1955 season has been a very interesting one and was productive of many fine performances. It is, however, a matter for regret that several meetings dropped out of the fixture list. There are also too many vacant dates around the Glasgow Fair period, a time when there used to be meetings at Rothesay, Largs and Millport. Even Glasgow does not have many open meetings nowadays.

Pride of place this season should, I think, be shared by Dr. E. C. K. Douglas (Field Events Club), the S.A.A.A. and A.A.A. Hammer Champion, and W. Piper (Glasgow Police A.C.), the A.A.A. High Jump Champion. Ewen Douglas created a new Scottish Nat. and A.C. Record with a grand throw of 192'6". He represented Gt. Britain versus Germany, Hungary, France, U.S.S.R. and Czechoslovakia. Bill Piper won the A.A.A. High Jump at 6'3", the British Police Title at 6'5½", and then at Cowal he cleared 6'6". He represented Gt. Britain in this event in the same National matches as Ewen Douglas. Bill also won the S.A.A.A. P.V. 11'6" and the British Police P.V. 11'6".

Among the other Scots to shine was Bill Henderson (Watsonians and Benwell A.C.) who won the S.A.A.A. 220y. and was third in the A.A.A. 220y. in a photo-finish. He ran for Gt. Britain v. Germany, Hungary and France and was reserve v. U.S.S.R. and Czechoslovakia. Also Anglo-Scot D. C. E. Gorrie, who won the S.A.A.A. 880y. in 1m.54.8 and shortly afterwards created a new Native Record with 1m.52.7. Joe McGhee (Shettleston H.) retained his Marathon title with a best-ever time of 2h.25m.4s. In addition, he won all three Road Races (12m, 16m, 20m) promoted by the Scottish Marathon Club. In the Javelin, D. W. Mackenzie (Edin. Univ.), although losing his title to C. F. Riach, put the Native Record up to 204'11" later in the season.

There were many excellent performances by visiting athletes starting at the Glasgow Police Meeting, where R. Dunkley (Shaftesbury H.) won the 3m. in 13m.50.3s., a new A.C. Record. Ian Binnie (Vic. Pk.) was 2nd in 13m.54.8s., a new Native Record. The Atalanta A.C. v. Christie Club Match, at Westerlands, saw Mark Pharaoh create a ground record in the Discus with a fine throw of 160'0½".

The Rangers F.C. Sports provided the highlight of the season with an 880y. race, where the first three athletes finished inside 1.50. This was a terrific race with Tom Courtney, U.S.A., 1.49.2, an A.C. Record, just beating Brian Hewson, A.A.A., 1.49.3, with D. Johnson, A.A.A., 1.49.7, 3rd, and A. Boysen, Norway, 4th in 1.50.3. The 1m. was a tactical race with that grand runner, G. Nielsen (Denmark) winning in 4.8.9, a new Scot. A.C. Record. Dick Blair, U.S.A., won both sprints in excellent style, the 120y. 11.4 and 220y. 21.8. The 2m. rounded off a grand meeting with G. D. Ibbot-

By

WILLIAM DIVERTY

son, A.A.A., and B. T. Barrett, A.A.A., running neck and neck over the last lap, with Ibbotson just getting home first in 8.56.2.

At the Edinburgh Highland Games, E. Kirkup, Rotherham, had a grand win in the Marathon, 2h.31m.4s. Ken Wood, A.A.A., took the 1m. in 4.8.8, an A.C. Record, with P. Driver, A.A.A., first in the 2m. in 8.57.7. In the Women's Events, Thelma Hopkins won the H.J. at 5'6", a Scottish A.C. Record. This record was equalled in both sprints, 100y. in 11.1 by H. Armitage, W.A.A.A., and 220y. in 25.1 by M. Francis, W.A.A.A.

Among the Juniors, the outstanding performers were V. Reilly, Vic. Pk., who won the S.A.A.A. 100y. 10.6 and 220y. 23.7, A. Hannah, Athenian A.C., S.A.A.A. 200y. Hdls. 24.2 and A.A.A. 200y.H. 23.7, and E. McKeating, Geo. Heriots, who won the Schools' A.A.A. 100y. 10.1, and the A.A.A. Jun. 100y. in 10s. Best Field Events winner was P. Hall, Fettes Coll., P.V. 11'3¼".

Looking forward to 1956, I would say Scotland's Athletic prospects are really bright. The Olympic Games are due next year, and three Scots must stand a chance of inclusion, namely, E. C. K. Douglas (H), W. Piper (H.J.) and J. C. McGhee (Marathon).

## SOME GREAT SCHOOLBOY PERFORMANCES

AUSTRALIA has a new sprint "hope," in Bruce Rowan, age 16, of St. Patrick's College, Sydney. Competing in the Metropolitan Catholic Colleges' championships on Sydney Cricket Ground, Rowan smashed the open 100 yd. record by 0.4sec. in registering 9.7sec. His time is a tenth faster than Olympic finalist John Treloar clocked at the same age.

Two boys starred in the N.S.W. Great Public Schools' meeting on the same ground two days later. They were Peter Hatcher (St. Josephs), winner of the 880yd.-mile "double," and Malcolm Swinburne (Shore), who took all three sprints.

Hatcher went close to the Australian junior



JACK HEYWOOD (Herne Hill) has just passed D. J. P. RICHARDS (Poly.) during his record run in the London to Brighton Relay for Southern Clubs.

E. D. Lacey

880yd. record in returning a brilliant 1:56.3. He led from start to finish, smashing the previous meet record by 3.2sec. Later he took the mile easily in 4:32.6.

Swinburne won the 100yd. in 10sec., the 220 yds. in 22sec., and 440yds. in 50.3sec., for one of the greatest schoolboy "trebles" in Australian athletic history.

Other good performers in the G.P.S. meeting were George Smith (Shore), 120yd. hurdles (3'3") 14.9sec., and John Lenhan (Riverview), who put the 12lb. shot 50ft. 3½in.

Herb Elliott, 17-year-old Perth boy, won six events in the Aquinas College Sports recently. They were: 100yd. 10.8sec., 220yd. 23.4 sec., 440yd. 51sec., 880yd. 1min. 59.4sec., mile 4min. 22sec., and broad jump 19ft. 7½in.

Elliott, at 16 in the summer of 1954-55, set an Australian junior (under 19) 880yd. record of 1min. 55.7sec., and ran the mile in 4min. 20.6sec.; both possibly the fastest times ever registered by one so young anywhere in the world. Percy Cerutti, the Australian coach, said during a lecture tour of Perth, that Elliott would in two years run the half-mile under 1:50, and the mile close to 4min.

Senior athletes had their first competition in Sydney, on October 3rd, when John Plummer won the mile in 4min. 18sec., Dave Power the 3 miles in 14min. 14.6sec. (personal record), and Ross Parker the 440yd. in 49.8sec., and 120yd. hurdles in 15.7sec. Plummer last summer ran the mile in 4:8.6.

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### THE SPORTS CENTRE

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★

# DON THOMPSON

(METROPOLITAN W.C.)

*answers the  
Questionnaire*



★

<b>Name (Surname first):</b>	Thompson, Donald James
<b>Birthplace and date:</b>	Hillingdon, Middlesex, 20th January, 1933
<b>Height:</b>	5ft. 5ins.
<b>Weight:</b>	8st. 9lbs.
<b>Occupation:</b>	Insurance Clerk
<b>Club:</b>	Metropolitan Walking Club
<b>When did you first commence athletics?</b>	At school 14 years old
<b>What were your first events?</b>	880yds. and javelin
<b>What are your favourite events now?</b>	20m. and 50 kilometres Road Walks
<b>What are your best marks at these events?</b>	20m. 2:48.18; 50 kilometres 4:34.39
<b>Give brief details of your athletic career, championships won, dates and performances:</b>	1954: 3rd, R.W.A. Southern Garnet 10m. 79.46; 1st, Middlesex 20M. road walk 2:48.58 (rec.); 2nd London to Brighton walk 8:23.15.

- 1955:** 1st Middx. 20m. road walk 2:50.50; represented London v. Paris 25 kilo. walk; walked in Prague-Podebrady 50 kilos. on B.A.A.B. selection; 2nd National 50 kilos. 4:34.59; 1st, London-Brighton road walk 8:06.24; British track records at 25m. 3:34.09.8; 4hrs. 27m. 1411yds.
- Which performance gave you most personal satisfaction and why?** Winning the Middlesex 20m. 1954 road walk in record time as it was my first Championship success and the first time I had gone up to that distance, the furthest previous to that being 10 miles.
- How many days a week do you train in (a) Summer and (b) Winter?** (a) 5 or 6 (b) 5 or 6
- At what time of the day do you normally do your training?** Mondays to Fridays, after 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Saturday 2.30 p.m. Sunday from 10 a.m.
- How long do you spend on each training session?** As I seldom train on the track, I consequently do not waste time, as is frequently the case, by talking and messing about. I usually do 20 mins. to 3 hrs. stripped training and 1½ hrs. to 8hrs. strolling.
- Give a brief outline of your training in the Summer season, with a typical week's work:** (With the 50 kilos. or London to Brighton race in view)  
 Monday: 2¼m. if tired or 5m. to 8m. if feeling fresh (all at about 7½ m.p.h.).  
 Tuesday: 10m. stroll (just under 6 m.p.h.)  
 Wednesday: 5m. at 7½ m.p.h.  
 Thursday: 8M. at 7½ m.p.h. (rest if race on Saturday, but not always).  
 Friday: Rest.  
 Saturday: 10m.-20m.  
 Sunday: 35-50m. stroll (5¼ m.p.h. minimum 5½ m.p.h. for shorter distance). My training programme is still undergoing changes and perhaps next summer and this winter I will try some occasional interval training to increase my speed so as to go at a faster rate for a longer distance.
- Give a brief outline of your training in the Winter season, with a typical week's work:** (For winter race up to 10m.)  
 Monday: 5m. stripped 7½ m.p.h.  
 Tuesday: 5m.  
 Wednesday: 9m. stroll 6 m.p.h.  
 Thursday: 2½ or 5m. stripped (rest if race on Saturday)  
 Friday: Rest.  
 Saturday: 7 or 10m. stripped or race.  
 Sunday: 15-25m. stroll (5½ m.p.h.).
- How often do you compete in the competitive season(s)?** Winter, twice in three weeks. Summer, once a fortnight.
- Describe briefly the warming-up you do before competition and time taken:** I warm-up about ¾ hr. before competition, consisting of 100yd. bursts, touching toes and general loosening up. Some steady walking is also done. I keep to no set order and concentrate on being completely loosened up.
- How many days rest do you prefer before competition?** Two days.
- Name the coaches who have coached you:** E. E. Brewster and H. H. Whitlock, and have received helpful advice from many others.

**Have you any suggestions for improvements in competition or athletics generally?**

I am not in agreement with the I.A.A.F. rules for feeding in long distance races (i.e. 50 kilos road) because hot conditions may mean that the limited intake of fluids is not enough to counteract excessive loss of liquid and all the resulting consequences; but until these rules are modified to suit the interests of the competitors and not the officials, I think that the R.W.A. 50 kilos road walk should be subject to the same conditions.

**What advice would you offer to the young athlete or novice?**

If you feel that you can afford the time, train as often as possible, though at the commencement train about three times a week and step it up in 2 or 3 years to about 5 or 6 times a week. After that it's just a question of seeing how far you have succeeded (never be satisfied) and forming plans for future improvements, i.e., covering a longer distance in each training session, the aim being to combine speed with stamina to an increasing degree. Another thing which seems so often overlooked is to remember that a race is a race and not a fast training spin. Go out to win and give your utmost, if you don't think you are capable of a flat out effort, don't race, as you may forget in time the meaning of the word, as seems the case with many others.

## ADDITIONS TO FIXTURE LIST

### November

- 5 Q.P.H. Liddiard Trophy, Eastcote
- 12 Enfield 7m. Walk and R.A.F. v. London U., Enfield.
- 19 N. of Thames S and J. Race, Parl. Hill
- 19 R.A.F. v. Midlands (Walk), Birmingham
- 26 London County Champs., Parl. Hill

### January, 1956

- 1 Morpeth to Newcastle 14M. Road Race
- 7 Bingley Open C.C. H'c'ps.
- 25 R.A.F. 7M. Walk Champ., Henlow

### February

- 4 V. of Aylesbury Youths' Relay, Aylesbury
- 4 N. of Thames S. and J. Champs., Welwyn
- 8 R.A.F. v. Middx. v. C. Service, Chessington
- 14 Shaftesbury H. Boys 2M. Inter-Club race
- 25 Warwickshire 10M. Walking Champ.

### March

- 17 Southampton-Bournemouth Relay
- 31 Watford Road Relay, Watford

### April

- 7 Metropolitan W.C. Open 15m. Walk and R.A.F. "15," Regents Park
- 7 Harborne Outer-Circle Relay
- 9 Maidenhead 10m. Road Race
- 14 Warwickshire Relay
- 20/21 L.A.C. Schools Meeting, White City
- 21 Uxbridge Road Relay
- 21 Middx. 20M. Champ., Ruislip

### May

- 26 Surrey Women's Champs., Croydon

### June

- 30 Wolverhampton Youth Sports
- 30 Bristol Aero Sports

### July

- 7 B.S.A. Sports

M. H. James, of Kingston Vale, writes to point out—quite correctly—that Dana Zatopkova's 151'1" at Manchester was not a British All-Comers' record. In the London-Moscow match last year V. Roolaid threw 167'10".

\* \* \*

### NEW RECORDS FOR IHAROS

Sandor Iharos, of Hungary, added two new world records to his 1955 collection when winning a 5,000m. race in Vienna last Sunday in 13:40.6. His time at 3 miles was 13:14.2. The track was heavy after overnight rain. Tabori (Hungary) was second in 13:53.2.

\* \* \*

Queen's Park Harriers are holding a Junior Putting the Weight Competition, at Paddington, on Sunday, 13th November, at 10.30 a.m. Anyone interested in competing should contact D. J. Mannion, 149, Sumatra Road, N.W.6.

## SMALL HEATH WIN BRISTOL-WESTON RELAY

**S**MALL HEATH HARRIERS started the other Midland clubs in the "there and back" Relay of 42 miles between Bristol and Weston-super-Mare, starting as they did with new records on stages 1 and 2 by J. Lake and T. Iliffe (wind assisted) and reaching Weston Swimming Pool in a new best time for half-way of 1hr.43m.2s.

They stayed in front on the homeward journey until caught by Birchfield just as the final changeover was in sight. However, Simpson went away on the final stage to bring Small Heath home in first place in the new record time of 3hr.29min.41sec. to slice 13sec. from Godiva's 1954 figures. Godiva themselves took six stages to reach third place this time, but once there they held their place to the end.

The presence of Derek Ibbotson in the colours of the R.A.F., Yatesbury, guaranteed a new record on stage 4 and his 28.29 knocked 1½min. off Ray Hatton's record. Hatton himself, together with Heatley (Godiva), Hawkins (Westbury) and Osborne (Small Heath) also beat the existing record.

The A.A.A. Junior 880 yards champion, R. A. Beaumont, credited the R.A.F. team with another stage record on the third leg when he was 52sec. inside the old figures.

It was pleasing to see Bill Gray (Small Heath) back to something like his pre-illness form against the wind on stage 5, but Frank Wyatt (Bristol A.C.) beat him by two seconds for best stage time and J. Gamlin (Westbury) was only three seconds slower.

The promoting club, Westbury, knocked a minute off their previous best time but even this gave them only 5th place. Fastest stage times:—

### Stage 1

J. Lake (Small Heath) 24.11 (rec.); G. Norman (Bristol S.) 24.55; W. Butcher (Birchfield) 24.55; R. Franklyn (Newport) 25.06.

### Stage 2

T. Iliffe (S. Heath) 26.14 (rec.); E. Hudman (Oxford C.) 26.24; A. D. Mann (Birchfield) 26.41; D. Budden (Reading) 26.51.

### Stage 3

R. A. Beaumont (RAF Yatesbury) 21.54 (rec.); B. Harbach (Tipton) 22.27; B. E. Bacon (Reading) 22.41; E. Nicholls (Birchfield) 22.48.

### Stage 4

G. D. Ibbotson (RAF Yates) 28.29 (rec.); R. Hatton (Birchfield) 29.04; B. Heatley (Godiva) 29.05; I. Hawkins (Westbury) 29.23.

### Stage 5

F. Wyatt (Bristol) 29.40; C. M. Gray (S. Heath) 29.42; J. Gamlin (Westbury) 29.45; K. Rickhuss (Tipton) 29.51.

### Stage 6

R. Reid (Birchfield "B") 23.04; R. Davies (Godiva) 23.37; H. Mousley (Birchfield) 23.40; J. Ivory (Westbury) 23.42.

### Stage 7

T. C. Wood (Newport) 27.21; J. Williams (Birchfield) 27.23; P. R. Sale (Reading) 27.33; W. McGrory (S. Heath) 27.55.

### Stage 8

T. Pumphrey (Godiva) 24.46; C. Simpson (S. Heath) 24.59; J. McDonald (Westbury) 25.33; E. R. Williams (R.A.F., Yates.) 25.46.

### Final Result:

1, Small Heath H. (Lake, Iliffe, Durk, Osborne, Gray, Blore, McGrory, Simpson) 3hrs. 29m. 41s.

2, Birchfield H. "A" (Butcher, Mann, Nicholls, Hatton, Browning, Mousley, Williams, Eldridge) 3hrs. 30m. 53s..

3, Godiva H. (Lloyd, Rees, Church, Heatley, Davies, Walker, Allen, Pumphrey) 3hrs. 31m. 52s.

4, R.A.F. Yatesbury 3:34.02; 5, Westbury 3:34.42; 6, Reading 3:35.25; 7, Tipton 3:35.44; 8, Newport 3:36.46; 9, Bristol 3:38.14; 10, Bristol South 3:38.29; 11, Oxford City 3:41.36; 12, Halesowen 3:48.55; 13, Small Heath "B" 3:51.54; 14, Tipton "B" 3:52.27; 15, R.A.F. St. Athan 3:53.54; 16, Reading "B" 3:56.25; 17, Bristol Univ. 3:59.17; 18, Bath Civil Service 4:03.07. Swindon, Birchfield "B" and Godiva "B" went off course on the last stage.

## BRADFORD & DIST. MONSTER MEET

October 15th

The Bradford and Dist. C.C.A. held their Monster Meet at Bramley, on October 15th, when the home club, Bramley and Dist. H., received the prize for the club with the largest attendance. There was a good attendance, three packs were formed and the race over the last mile resulted as follows:—**Fast Pack:** 1, M. Hainsworth (Airedale); 2, M. Parrish (Airedale); 3, M. Ebbage (Bingley); **Youths' Pack:** 1, K. Redfern (Longwood); 2, T. Holloway (Bramley); 3, M. Kaye (Longwood); **Boys' Pack:** 1, D. Wright (Longwood); 2, B. Geldard (Bramley); 3, A. Mangham (Bingley).

## MID-LANCS. LEAGUE, at Blackpool

1, E. A. Hogarth (Lancaster) 32.20; 2, B. Farley (Blackpool) 32.26; 3, M. C. Slinger (Primrose) 32.36; 4, F. Holland (Blackpool) 32.43; 5, H. M. Moneagle (Lunesdale) 32.57; 6, T. Houghton (Preston) 33.05. **Teams:** 1, Blackpool and Fylde 68pts.; 2, Lancaster 70; 3, Primrose 76; 4, Preston 135.

## On My Travels

By "ROAMER"

THE visit to this country of Zatopek and Co. for the meetings in London and Manchester was a fitting *finale* to the track season.

Only a few years ago the Czechs were anything but a top ranking country in European athletics but, thanks largely to the great inspiration of **Emil Zatopek**, they are, with Hungary, now challenging Sweden, Germany and Britain as the second country in Europe, the U.S.S.R. being the first, of course. Let us hope these visits to and from the East European countries are to be an annual affair.

Some weeks ago I mentioned that the Leyton-Southend Relay would clash with the London-Brighton National Relay. This news came from Mr. Perkins, the organiser of the former event, and I took it for granted that he had some knowledge of an alteration to the London-Brighton date. Now I hear the latter is being held on the date originally selected, April 14th, so there is no question of a clash.

Talking of future dates and road races re-

minds me that the course for Roundhay Gala "10," which will be held at Leeds, on August Bank Holiday 1956, has been measured and found to be 260 yards short of the 10 miles. R.R.C. standard has been set at 55mins for first class, and 63mins. for second class, with due allowances made for the short course and hilly nature of same.

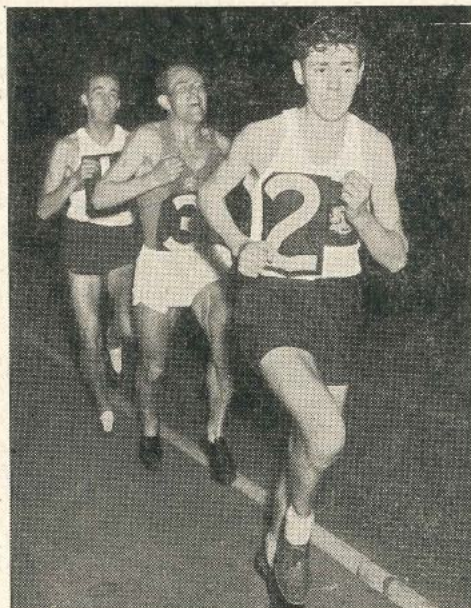
The organiser of this race is **Eric Smith**, the well-known marathon man from Leeds Harehills. Eric had a good day last Sunday week when he finished 6th in the Kosice marathon in a top class field.

**Brian Thomas**, the Army and Inter-Services 440 yards hurdles champion, is now stationed at Aldershot and with excellent facilities right on his doorstep, so to speak, we should see some further improvement from this strong hurdler, who finished third in the Inter-Countries race this year.

In a few weeks time we shall be having the first of the season's cross-country events, the South of Thames Junior Team Race. This



Early in the race, Zatopek leading and trying to shake off his opponents.



Later in the race, Norris in front and making it faster.

LON

PR

10,

Me

Phot  
H. W.

year it is being held at Blackdown, not far from Bagshot, and there is likely to be the usual large field with somewhere in the region of 50 teams taking part. I hear that Portsmouth are confident of success, having all but two of their London-Brighton Relay team eligible.

Scotland are going to miss their cross-country champion, **Donald Henson**, who left for India last Sunday. A determined and fast improving runner, Henson was making his mark in Scottish athletics and would have been a great asset to them in the years to come.

Once again Melbourne is in the news, this time over the refusal of the organisers to provide a training track nearby the Olympic Games stadium. But I shall be surprised if this necessity is not laid down long before the first athletes arrive.

Incidentally, those who may think the Australians will have a distinct advantage in the 1956 Games may not realise just how inconvenient the selected date is for the home athletes, who have to open their track season in mid-winter. It is just like us starting off our track season in January to enable the Games

to be held in May. Some of the Aussies take a dim view of what they consider poor organisation, pointing out that in previous Games they have had to compete several months after their own season had ended. It's difficult to please everyone.

It is good to see the name of **Terry Keegan** cropping up again in road races—running not walking—and I have no doubt we shall be seeing him over the country again this winter. Terry, one of our most promising young runners a few years ago, surprised most people when he turned suddenly to walking and left the cross-country scene for a while. Finishing in 13th position, he helped Walton to win the team event in their own 10 miles open race a fortnight ago.

Two years ago, the Director of the Rochester, New York, Police Athletic League, **Capt. Henry H. Jensen**, paid a reciprocal visit to this country at the invitation of **Alderman A. A. J. Anderson**, Director of the firm publishing "Athletics Weekly," who had been entertained in New York in his capacity as Mayor of Rochester, when he made a world tour of all the towns named Rochester in 1952.



Now Pirie has taken over and Zatopek starts to fall back.



The finish and it is Gordon Pirie over the line.

During Capt. Jensen's visit he met Sid "Ticker" Fry, the Captain of the City of Rochester A.C. and member of the local "Good Companions" Club. He promised on his return to send some trophies for presentation, and these arrived a short time ago.

These trophies are both attractive and unusual, and it has been decided to associate those presented to the City of Rochester A.C. with their 5 Miles Open Road Race, which this year is being held on November 19th. As there are already perpetual awards for the individual and team winners of this race, the larger of these new trophies will be held for one year by the winner of this year's event and thereafter by the athlete who improves on the best time put up since the presentation of the trophy (1954). As athletes like **Ken Norris** and **Frank Sando** are regular competitors in this event, it is felt that Norris's record of 25.07, put up last year, will be improved on before long, and it will then be a matter of breaking the all-time record for the race. The smaller trophy will be awarded as a perpetual trophy to the first Rochester man home.

**John "Bomber" Bromley**, who was mentioned a short time ago in this column, has been breaking fresh ground in Malaya. Two big events were held out there recently, one a 24 mile "marathon" from Kuala Lumpur to Klang Road, and a 17.2 mile walking race from Singapore to Johore Bahru. Bromley was unable to get time off for the former, so he decided to have a go at the walk. It was his first effort at walking and 20,000 spectators turned out to watch the 141 competitors take part in what was described as the most popular athletic event in the Colony since the liberation. To cut a long story short, "Bomber" was first home in 2hrs. 54mins. 39secs. It was hot going and the local newspaper says "Perspiration was dripping steadily from his balding head when Bromley appeared near the finishing line." Well done, "Bomber!"

**Dr. Frank Aaron's** old school, Roundhay School, Leeds, is a typical example of what inspiration and tradition can do. Since Frank Aaron departed from the athletic scene, they have turned out **A. S. Jackson**, winner of the

*Continued at bottom of next page*

## At All Events . . .

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# ATTACK ON TWO HOURS RECORD

*Great running by Manchester's Joe Lancaster*

**D**ESPITE strong winds and icy-cold rain the many spectators who turned up at the Walton Stadium on Saturday, 22nd October, were treated to a magnificent display of distance running by eight specially selected athletes who had been invited to compete in an attack on two long standing track records, namely the 20 miles best British performance of 1.51.54, by George Crossland, at Stamford Bridge in 1894, and the English Native Record for two hours running made by Harry Green, at Stamford Bridge in 1913. In 1933 Ernie Harper covered 20 miles 1604 yards in two hours at Hampden Park, but this is not officially recognised as an English Native record, having been accomplished in Scotland. The set-up of record performances and what distance should, or should not, be recognised is somewhat confusing to the average follower of athletics who cannot understand why it is not possible to have a world's or British best performance at 20 miles and 2 hours officially recognised as an authentic record.

In the promotion of these attacks on records Walton A.C. and the Road Runners' Club are to be heartily congratulated for the facilities and the organisation which make it possible for present-day long distance runners to gain the highest honours and so reap the rewards of progress consistent with athletics generally. There is no doubt that these records would

5,000m. in the University Games at San Sebastian, and 4th in this year's national junior cross-country championship, and **D. Shaw**, 9th in this year's national youths' cross-country championship. Twice in the last three years Roundhay have won the Northern Schools' C.C. Championship and I feel sure they won't be far away this season. A good many people ask "What has happened to Frank Aaron?" The answer, so I'm told, is simple enough. His work won't allow the time necessary for athletic training. Distance running in particular makes great demands on an athlete's time, and many careers just won't permit that amount of spare time, or anything like it. It is a case of which comes first and in the end there can be only one answer.

not have stood so long had there been opportunities to attack them and it is noteworthy that, since the formation of the R.R.C., under the excellent and experienced guidance of Ernest Neville, practically all the out-of-date long distance records have been "modernised."

By

**SAM FERRIS**

The combination of officials at Walton was welded into noticeable team-work of the highest order and the smoothness and efficiency with which relevant details were rapidly forthcoming from those energetic voluntary workers was such that it inspired enthusiasm throughout the arena. Within seconds of the leaders passing the mile posts the well chosen announcer gave lap times and any other details of importance which brought murmurs of appreciation from the stand.

When the competitors set about their task at 11.4 a.m., there was much speculation as to what tactics Gordon Pirie would employ in his first effort at this distance and there is no doubt that his presence brought tremendous additional interest to the event. The first mile looked a leisurely effort with Gordon leading in 5.31—the slowest of the race—but all competitors were together and, settling down to single file order, passed two miles in 11.00, three in 16.22, four in 21.47 and five miles in 27.11. The order then was Hames (Essex Beagles), Cox (Southgate H.), Pirie (S.L.H.), Lancaster (Manchester A.C.), Heywood (Herne Hill H.), all together, followed by Sutcliffe (Ipswich H.) 150yds., Bott (Mitcham A.C.) 200 yards, and Addington (Walton A.C.) 400 yards. Stan Cox then took over the leadership and, with Pirie, drew away from Hames, Heywood and Lancaster to settle down to an average pace of 5.25 per mile, but by 7½ miles the latter three had closed the gap and Bernie Hames relieved the monotony—as on many occasions later in the race—by taking over the lead for a lap. Stan Cox then took the five leaders past the 10 miles mark in 54.19; the other three competitors had since been lapped.

*Continued on page 18*

# THE KOSICE MARATHON

By PHIL GALE

## *Good performance by Eric Smith*

**T**HE twenty-fifth race of this series was held on Sunday, October 17th, and was supported by entries from Austria, East Germany, Finland, Great Britain, Hungary, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland, which, with those from the host country, Czecho-Slovakia, made a total of 83 starters, of whom 73 were timed at the finish.

Although Jack Holden had previously competed in this race it was the first occasion in which Great Britain had competed as a team and its representatives, Eric Smith, Billy McMinnis and Eddie Kirkup, were not disgraced in finishing in third place to Sweden and Czecho-Slovakia. The course was, judged by

English standards, a fairly easy one, and consisted of an out and home course practically flat with a cobbled surface for the first (and last) 5 kms., and the rest a good macadam road. After the cobbled surface of Kosice was finished, the race was through open country of great monotony, and on this occasion a fresh wind was behind the runners on the outward journey and directly in their faces on the return.

It seemed to become fairly gusty in the latter half, but the weather throughout was favourable to the competitors, being rather overcast and cool. The race started at Kosice Stadium at 12 noon, but before this the whole of the field were paraded and presented to the crowd, followed by the Czech anthem and speeches of welcome. The runners were then lined up for the start, and opposite them were 84 schoolchildren who presented each athlete with a small bunch of carnations, and after this pleasant little ceremony was completed the pistol was fired accompanied by the release of hundreds of pigeons.

Two laps of the track were completed before going on to the course and through the cobbled streets of Kosice, which seemed to be lined by the entire population of the town.

At the 5 km. mark, Mayer and Hartnung, of East Germany, led in 16m. 34s., followed at 16m. 40s., by Dobronyi (Hungary), Sourek, Bednar (Czech), Nyberg, Nilsson, Jansson (Sweden), Kotila, Oksanen, Viskari (Finland) and Kirkup, Smith, McMinnis (Gt. Britain).

The race continued to be fast and at 10km. Mayer, now running alone, led in 33m. 32s., with the main bunch following in 33m. 45s. Billy Mac. had decided that the pace was too fast for him and followed in 34mins. dead. In the next stage Eric Smith let the leaders go, and at 15km. the leading bunch consisting of the 3 Finns, 3 Swedes, Sourek and Kirkup, were timed at 50m. 10s. Smith was 51m. and McMinnis 51.56.

The halfway turn was made at the village of Sena, with the runners rounding the post in the following order—Jansson, Nyberg, Sourek, Oksanen, Kirkup, Kotila, Viskari, Pechanek (all at 70m. 10s.), Hartnung, Mayer, Smith (72 m. 10s.) and McMinnis (73m. 15s.). The



JERZY CHROMIK (Poland) competing at the White City in the London-Prague Meeting as an additional competitor in the steeplechase.

H. W. Neale

speed of the first half can be judged by the fact that in last year's race, which produced a course record, the turn was reached in 74m. 40s. There was little change in position up to the 25km. mark which was passed by Nyberg, Sourek, Oksanen and Kotila in 1h. 23m. 47s., with Kirkup and 3 others 3secs. later. Smith's time was 1:25.50 with McMinnis just over a minute slower.

In the next stretch Eddie Kirkup's legs began to stiffen up and his pace slowed. The leaders, Oksanen, Kotila, Sourek and Nyberg, had now got well clear and passed the 30km. mark in 1hr. 41m. 50secs. Smith had now overtaken Kirkup and recorded the 1:43.50 as against Eddie's 1.44.5. Unfortunately I have no times for McMinnis.

### GREAT FINISH

The leaders now piled on the pace, passing the 35km. mark in 2:00.10, with Eric Smith moving up well in 2.3.30. The two Finns led the bunch of four right up to the Stadium approach, when Sourek faltered and dropped behind. Amidst tremendous excitement they raced two laps of the track practically together and it was only in the last 100 yards that Nyberg established mastery over the Finns. His time of 2hrs. 25mins. 40secs. beat last year's record time by Puolakka, of Finland, by 1min. 41secs. and Puolakka's time was also beaten by the next three finishers.

The winner is no stranger to England and many will remember his defeat by Doug. Wilson some years ago in a great tactical race at the White City, and at 30 years of age this is his first marathon season.

Eric Smith, our first man home in sixth position in 2hrs. 29mins. 12secs., ran a great second half entirely on his own against the wind and picked up 5 places. Billy Mac., not entirely recovered from a recent bout of 'flu, did well to record 2.32.2, especially as he had to run alone from about 8 kms.

Eddie Kirkup's last 10kms. was a very plucky effort; several times he was forced to a walk and his natural disappointment at finishing in 18th position must be tempered by the knowledge that by keeping in the race his team secured a place.

A description of the race would be incomplete without paying tribute to the near perfect organisation of Mr. Bukovsky and his country-



JIRI SKOBLA (Czechoslovakia)

H. W. Neale

men of Kosice, and to the tremendous hospitality and welcome given to the British team.

1.	E. Nyberg (Sweden) .....	2:25.40
2.	P. E. Kotila (Finland) .....	2:25.43
3.	E. I. Oksanen (Finland) .....	2:25.47
4.	J. Sourek (Czech) .....	2:26.05
5.	T. H. Nilsson (Sweden) .....	2:29.08
6.	E. L. Smith (Gt. Britain) .....	2:29.12
7.	J. Dobronyi (Hungary) .....	2:29.20
8.	A. Gruber (Austria) .....	2:31.45
9.	S. Mayer (E. Germ.) .....	2:31.46
10.	K. Hartnung (E. Germ.) .....	2:31.47
11.	G. N. Jansson (Sweden) .....	2:31.58
12.	R. W. McMinnis (Gt. Brit.) .....	2:32.02
13.	W. Bednar (Czech.) .....	2:32.32
14.	M. Estergomi (Hung.) .....	2:33.11
15.	J. Michalek (Czech.) .....	2:34.25
16.	J. Poupe (Czech) .....	2:37.03
17.	A. Wagner (Aust.) .....	2:37.21
18.	E. Kirkup (Gt. Brit.) .....	2:37.34
19.	W. Troeger (E. Germ.) .....	2:37.53
20.	B. Gugala (Poland) .....	2:39.03

*Continued on back page*

# Letters to the Editor

## A.A.A. TEAM MANAGER ON FIELD EVENTS STANDARD

Dear Sir,

I think that we all appreciate and understand the various criticisms and suggestions voiced by both active athletes and other interested parties upon the application and facilities for Field Events. There are certain reasons, not perhaps generally known, which prevent some desirable actions from being taken to improve some aspects.

In the first place, when criticising events held at the White City, it must be clearly borne in mind that this Stadium does not belong to the A.A.A. or the British Board, and is rented only for the particular day or days concerned. The Stadium houses other sporting events besides athletics, and consideration for these is in the minds of the owners. It is not possible to have the ground laid out purely for athletics, but it is fair to say that the White City authorities do all they can to meet our requirements, and athletic promotions would not have been so regularly seen in London (I refer to top-class events) had not the people responsible for the White City been so well disposed towards our Sport, and so helpful in general. That certain alterations are desirable is quite true, and so far as is possible they are sure to be dealt with.

There is also the fact that with the improvement in the Throwing events in particular, the White City becomes steadily more difficult and dangerous for staging these events while it is necessary to permit warming-up for the general body of competitors on the track and centre of the ground. If a warming-up site was at hand it would help the staging of field events tremendously, but one has only to look around the Stadium to see the answer. I have always felt that it is a remarkable thing that many more people have not been seriously injured at White City promotions, and this danger has always to be most carefully considered. This applies particularly to Floodlight meetings.

Otherwise, I can say that the A.A.A. and the British Board does do all that is practicable to offer the field events men as much good competition as possible. If team matches and parties to various places are studied, it will be

seen to what an extent this is done. There are occasions where facilities do not permit certain events to be included, and there is always the question of what the opposing side has in mind to be taken into consideration.

I am rather doubtful if I am the most suitable person to make these remarks, but I do feel that it should be clearly stated there is no question that field events are regarded as any less important than track events.

It may be that we are nationally more inclined to prominence in middle distance and longer distance running than anything else, but from my own experience I would say that when certain sections of our field events work at their particular event as hard as have so many of our runners, we shall see that great improvement which we all desire.

Yours sincerely

**Leslie R. Truelove.**  
Hon. Team Manager, A.A.A.

Dear Sir,

Further to your correspondence on standard of field events in Great Britain, I should like to observe that our juniors are chasing too few junior records and training too much with junior implements, often to the very day of "coming of age."

Continental juniors, after the initial technique training, use senior implements.

Yours faithfully,

**B. Baranowski,**  
R.A.F.

## THANKS

Dear Sir,

I would like to thank you and Bernie Hames for the paragraph re my track suit "bottoms" (lost at the B.W.S.A. 10m.) and also the anonymous person who apparently took them in error, and returned same on discovering the owner. Thanks all round.

Yours sincerely,

**Andy Ferguson**

*Continued on back page*

## ESSEX BEAGLES TURN TABLES ON T.V.H.

ESSEX BEAGLES gained their revenge for their London-Brighton defeat by beating Thames Valley in the Chelmsford "Sidney Taylor" Road Relay last Saturday. They took the lead on the first stage through Terry Learmouth and maintained it throughout.

Ingles, of T.V.H., who last year set up a new lap record of 14.39, ran the third leg for his club, starting off in 9th place and handing over in second position, having run the  $3\frac{1}{4}$  miles (approx.) lap in 14.59.

From this point on, the Beagles and Thames Valley held the two leading positions. On the fifth stage George Knight took the Beagles right away for a lead of 2min. 21sec., at the final changeover. Though Ken Norris broke the record with a lap of 14.37, he reduced the Beagles' lead by only 38sec., and E. R. Douglas came home a comfortable winner in 91min. 39sec.

Woodford Green ran steadily throughout and though they dropped back on stages 2 and 3, they worked their way back to take third place from Ilford, who started badly but were brought into the picture on stage 3 by Alan Perkins, who put up fourth fastest time with 15.13. Ilford were unfortunate in having to find last minute replacements for two of their first team men, whose car broke down on their way to the race, thus weakening both their "A" and "B" teams. Their "A" team lost third place by only 13sec., and the "B" team failed

to take the first "B" team medals by only 7sec.—a costly breakdown!

Jack Bowen put in a good leg for the promoting club when taking them from 11th to 4th on stage 2, but they were unable to hold this position and dropped back to 15th.

1, Essex Beagles "A" (T. Learmouth 15.19, E. Baverstock 15.18, R. Campbell 15.34, B. Coates 15.27, G. Knight 14.46, E. Douglas 15.15) 91min.39sec.

2, Thames Valley H "A" (B. Saunders 15.40, H. Dennis 16.28, A. Ingles 14.59, J. Cameron 15.20, E. Elderfield 16.18, K. L. Norris 14.37) 93min.22sec.

3, Woodford Green "A" (R. Garrett 15.31, J. White 16.18, E. Barker 16.00, A. Lewis 15.30, C. Lowson 16.00, D. Chapman 15.46) 95min. 05sec.

4, Ilford "A" 95.18; 5, Hampstead H. 95.56; 6, Cambridge H. "A" 96.13; 7, V.P.H. "A" 96.23; 8, N. London H. 98.28; 9, Ipswich "A" 98.50; 10, Southend "A" 99.01; 11, V.P.H. "B" 99.25; 12, Ilford "B" 99.32; 13, Woodford "B" 99.46; 14, T.V.H. "B" 100.00; 15, Chelmsford "A" 101.25. 29 teams finished.

### Fastest laps:

K. L. Norris (TVH) 14.37; G. Knight (Essex B.) 14.46; A. Ingles (TVH) 14.59; A. Perkins (Ilford) 15.13; E. R. Douglas (Essex B.) 15.15; H. Hicks (Hampstead) 15.15; E. Baverstock (Essex B.) 15.18; T. Learmouth (Essex B.) 15.19; A. Patterson (VPH) 15.20.

## DEVONPORT WIN PLYMOUTH-PAIGNTON RELAY

THE promoters of the Plymouth-Paignton Road Relay, the Paignton A.A.C., suffered still more disappointments when, after all the work which had been put in, the already small entry was further depleted at the last minute and only five teams took part.

Fortunately, the race for the first three places was quite close and Devonport ran out worthy winners from Paignton, with Bristol third.

On the first stage Paignton (C. Wilson) 23.45 took a useful lead over Devonport (Aplin 24.16) and Bristol (Upster 24.31). On the second leg M. Tarrant, of Paignton, who has proved himself the outstanding distance runner in the West this year, was expected to go still further away, but instead, he lost ground to K. Parsons, of Devonport, there being only 21 sec. in it at the takeover, with Bristol 36sec. further behind but having drawn right away from the R.N.E. College and R.N.A.C. (West). Fastest times on this stage were Parsons 28.47 and Tarrant 28.59.

Stage 3 saw J. Batten, of Devonport, taking the lead and putting up fastest time of 25.17.

Letori, of Paignton, was only two seconds behind and Bristol (Rowles) had now dropped back and were  $1\frac{1}{2}$ mins. behind Paignton.

On stage 4 G. Roberts (Devonport) and L. Cheeseman (Paignton) had a great tussle before Roberts eventually got away to lead at the takeover by 8sec. Behind them Frank Wyatt ran a great race for fastest time but could not make up the leeway. Fastest times: Wyatt (Bristol) 26.23, Roberts (Devonport) 26.59, Cheeseman (Paignton) 27.05.

J. Gilbert consolidated Devonport's lead on the fifth stage, putting up fastest time of 19.33 and increasing his club's lead to 49sec. over Paignton. Bristol were a further 40sec. away in third place.

Over the last stage into Paignton, local runner Percy Holmes had the fastest time of 30.09 but could not catch Parris, of Devonport, who came home in first place in 2hr.35m.34s.

1, Devonport A.C. 2:35.34; 2, Paignton A.A.C. 2:36.02; 3, Bristol A.C. 2:37.10; 4, R.N.E. College 2:52.15; 5, R.N.A.C. (West) 2:53.02.

## ATTACK ON TWO HOURS' RECORD (ctd.)

Immediately after 10 miles Gordon Pirie moved up to increase the pace to a 5.21 mile, followed by a mile in 5.13—the fastest of the day—which took him up to 12 miles in 1.4.53. The fast pace had split up the pack and Joe Lancaster was running second 25 yards behind Pirie, with Jack Heywood and Stan Cox another 25 yards down, and Bernie Hames trailing 15 yards further back. Gordon covered the next mile in 5.17 and was now 35 yards up on Lancaster, who had been joined by Heywood with Cox another 30 yards away. Half-a-mile later Heywood and Lancaster had moved up to Gordon Pirie and the three passed 14 miles in 1.15.34; then with unaltered formation came up to 15 miles in 1.20.57. Average per mile was now around 5.23 as the three leaders passed 16 miles in 1.26.20 and 17 in 1.31.54.

Surprise came at 17¼ miles when Joe Lancaster drew away from Pirie and Heywood with a lap in 76secs. and two more in 78, which gave him a 5.17 mile to pass 18 in 1.37.11, almost 40 yards ahead of Pirie. The stylish and strongly built Manchester boy was full of running and never looked like being overhauled when lapping at around 78secs. to reach 19 miles in 1.42.26. Pirie and Heywood were together some 23secs. in rear, and so it went on for another mile, when Joe passed the 20th mile in 1.47.53 to lower the previous track best by 4mins. 1sec. and receive well earned applause from the spectators. Pirie and Heywood moved across the 20 line together in 1.48.16, with Stan Cox regaining much lost ground and also recording amazing time with 1.48.39.

From 20 miles onwards Gordon Pirie began to show us the spirit which has made him a great champion by making desperate efforts to close the gap between he and Lancaster, but the popular Northerner was well aware of the task in hand and stuck to his 1.22 lapping, which gave Gordon no chance to get on terms in the closing stages.

By this superb performance Joe Lancaster has forced himself into the list of Olympic possibles, and in that we congratulate one who, although very much a "Northerner" with his pithy news topic which we admire in "Athletic Review," will always be welcomed in the South where we have seen too little of him since making his debut in the Mitcham 15 in January

last. At 29 years of age Joe has lots of time to achieve his ambition.

The strength of our distance running standards is again emphasised by the fact that six of the competitors beat the existing English Native Record and four bettered the world's best for two hours running of 21 miles 698 yards made by J. Ribas (Argentine) in 1935.

- 1, J. Lancaster (Manchester A.C.) 22 miles, 418yds., 1ft., 7in.
- 2, D. A. G. Pirie (S. London H.) 22m., 278 yds., 1ft., 10in.
- 3, J. Heywood (Herne Hill H.) 22m., 174yds., 0ft., 7in.
- 4, S. E. W. Cox (Southgate H.) 22m., 107 yds., 2ft., 3in.
- 5, B. E. Hames (Essex Bgls.) 21m., 48yds., 0ft., 9in.
- 6, R. Bott (Mitcham A.C.) 20m., 1756yds., 2ft., 2in.
- 7, J. Addington (Walton A.C.) 20m., 1207 yds., 1ft., 3in.

In the Maidenhead Road Relay, on Sept. 24th, F. Salvat (Finchley) had fastest time and set a new record of 20.56 on the first stage.

### CITY OF ROCHESTER A.C.

#### 32nd Annual

#### FIVE MILES OPEN ROAD TEAM RACE & INDIVIDUAL HANDICAP

(Under A.A.A. Laws)

#### From Rochester Swimming Pool

(By kind permission of Rochester Corporation)

#### THE ESPLANADE, ROCHESTER

5 mins. from Strood & Rochester Stations on  
**SATURDAY, 19th NOVEMBER, 1955**  
at 3 p.m.

**TEAM RACE** (12 enter, 6 run, 4 score), 1st team, SIMMONDS CUP and four prizes. (Holders—Thames Valley H.; 2nd and 3rd teams—four prizes.

ENTRANCE FEE 5/- per team.

#### INDIVIDUAL RACE

1st man home holds Willis Cup for one year.

1st, 2nd and 3rd Scratch prizes.

1st, 2nd and 3rd Handicap prizes.

Medal for first unplaced man from Surrey, Sussex, Middlesex, Essex, and 1st Veteran over 40 years.

Entries on A.A.A. Handicap forms—1/6. No Individual to take more than two prizes.

Closing date for entries, 1st post 7th November, 1955, to S. Fry, "Hillrise," 12 Banks Road, Frindsbury, nr. Rochester, Kent.

## OTHER RESULTS

### October 8th

**Wignore H. 4M. H'cp:** 1, P. Cox (3.05) 40.40; 2, W. Tyler (4.05) 41.01; 3, C. McRae (1.45) 41.15. Fastest time: 1, C. McRae 43.00.

**Peterboro' A.C. beat Bedford and C.A.C.** 27 pts. to 61 over 5m. 1, R. Hemmings (P) 27.24; 2, A. Coxall (P); 3, Dunfry (B); 4, Wiseman (P); 5, J. Russell (P); 6, Ridding (P). In a Youths' match, **Peterboro' beat Bedford** 11pts. to 29 over 2½m. 1eq., Howitt (P), Barfield (P), Thurlborn (P) 15:12; 4, Bailey (B).

**St. John's College, York beat Hull University** 32pts. to 48 over 3¼m. road. 1, Renifold (St. J.) 20:15.8; 2, Gyte (H) 20:28.8; 3, Rodwell (St. J.) 20:36.0; 4, Macnamara (St. J.); 5, Greensmith (H); 6, Hunter (St. J.).

**Chelmsford A.C. and Brentwood A.C. Road Trial:** 1, J. F. Bowen (C) 16.01.0; 2, K. W. Rogers (C); 3, N. Parsons (B); 4, P. Manning (B); 5, G. H. Harris (C); 6, D. J. Cole (C); **Youths:** 1, W. Cornell (C) 15.46; 2, D. Saville (C) 16.49; 3, G. Owen (B).

**Leicester H. beat Loughborough College** 62 pts. to 75 in a "Mob" match over 6¼m. at Loughborough. 1, T. Edwards (Leics.) 38.00 (Course rec.); 2, J. Wright (Lough.) 38.22; 3, J. Chamberlain (Leics.) 38.41; 4, B. Ashvell (Leics.) 38.44; 5, M. Whittaker (Lough.) 39.22; 6, L. Pratt (Leics.) 39.37.

**Welwyn A.C. beat Watford H.** 16pts. to 43 over 5½m. at Welwyn. 1, E. J. Kean (Wel.) 31.53; 2, D. Verlander (Wel.) 33.27; 3, R. F. Taylor (Wel.) 34.05; 4, A. C. Brunning (Wel.) 34.10; 5, P. Kennedy (Wat.) 35.34; 6, J. Leach (Wel.) 35.45.

### October 11th

**Oxford University Trials** over 5½m. 1, P. D. Evans 31.52; 2, K. Yorke 32.02; 3, D. Barber

### WALKING—contd.

Grn.) 55.06; 11, N. Thompson (Met. W.C.) 55.25; 12, B. E. Shepherd (Walton A.C.) 56.06.

**Handicap:** 1, K. Dulieu (Highgate H.) 47:51; 2, R. Bygrave (Highgate H.) 48:12; 3, N. Thompson (Met. W.C.) and F. B. Shaw (Queens Park H.) 50:15.

**Teams: Scratch**—1, Met. W.C. 19; 2, Highgate H. 39; 3, Woodford Grn. 53. **Teams: Handicap**—1, Highgate H. 198m.4s.; 2, Met. W.C. 204.33; 3, Leicester W.C. 206.23.

**Vets. A.C. Handicap:** 1, J. Prior; 2, J. Hayward; 3, W. Newman.

and R. Ll. Morgan 32.25; 5, J. Abrahams 32.37; N. Myers 32.55.

**Victoria Park H. 1½m. Youths' H'cp:** 1, S. A. Dowling (1.12) 6.48; 2, D. Hudson (0.56) 6.50; 3, B. Flowers (0.50) 6.50. **Fastest time:** R. Irons 6.50 (Course rec.). **2½m. H'cp:** 1, H. G. Cummings (1.05) 12.12; 2, A. Howlett (1.20) 12.16; 3, A. E. Pattison (scr.) 12.18. **Fastest time:** A. E. Pattison 12.18 (course rec.).

### October 12th

**R.A.F. Oakington** 31pts. beat **R.A.F. Wattisham** 62 and **R.A.F. Felixstowe** 71 over 3¼m. at Wattisham. 1, P/O Barnard (O) 16.39; 2, LAC Buxton (O) 16.52; 3, Shrimpton (W) 17.05; 4, Cpl. Cook (O) 17.12; 5, P/O Wright (O) 17.15; 6, AC Adcock (O) 17.17.

**St. Paul's College, Cheltenham** beat **Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester** 28pts. to 57 over 5¼m., at Cirencester. 1, E. Spencer (RAC) 35.37; 2eq., W. G. Reave (St. P.) and J. A. Isaacs (St. P.) 36.50; 4, S. Robertson (St. P.) 37.10; 5, D. B. Evans (St. P.) 37.24; 6eq., P. H. Handcock and G. J. Jones (St. P.) 37.29.

**R.A.F. Colerne** beat **R.A.F., Innsworth** 39 pts. to 43. 1, Gazzard (I) 30.22; 2, Packar (C) 32.35; 3, Cuthbert (I) 32.37; 4, Lawley (I); 5, Budd (C); 6, Print (C).

**R.A.F. Upwood** beat **R.A.F. Wyton** 32pts. to 46 over 6¼m. 1, V. Barbar (U) 36.04; 2, Evans (W) 36.05; 3, B. Musgrove (U) 36.16; 4, T. Stacey (U) 36.52; 5, Osborn (U).

### October 15th

**Peterboro' A.C. beat Boston A.C.** 23pts. to 38 over 5M. 1, R. Hemmings (P) 26.30. In a Junior match, **Peterboro' beat Wellingboro'** 23pts. to 59 over 2½m. 1eq., Thurlborn (P), Haylock (P) and Howitt (P) 13.41.

**R.N.A.C. (South)** 41pts. to **Gosport Borough A.C.** 67 and **Southampton A.C.** 68 over 4¼m. 1, A. Newell (G) 26.47 (course rec.); 2, B. Hudman (RN) 26.52; 3, D. Wright (G) 26.55; 4, D. Bulpitt (S) 27.02; 5, G. Payton (RN) 28.02; 6, A. Dewsnape (RN) 28.10.

**"Albert Shaw" Trophy 2 Miles Race**, Charlton Park. A large number of athletes who have reason to be grateful to Albert Shaw, former active member of Belgrave Harriers, for his coaching, took part in this race, which was won by Jack Brown, of Belgrave, in 9min. 24sec. 1, J. W. Brown (Belgrave) 9.24; 2, L. F. Fletcher (Blackheath) 9.37; 3, K. Harland (Cambridge H.) 9.41; 4, D. W. F. Collins (S.L.H.) 9.46; 5, C. Roffey (Belgrave) 9.53; 6, C. Davidson (Belgrave) 10.10.

**NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM  
LEAGUE, at Blagdon**

**Senior 6m.:**

1, T. Laybourne (Jarrow) 33.37; 2, R. Morland (Elswick) 33.58; 3, R. Nelson (Sunderland) 34.05; 4, J. Mudie (Benwell) 34.19; 5, K. Fiddler (Gateshead) 34.45; 6, S. Robson (Gateshead) 35.28. **Teams:** 1, Gosforth 92pts.; 2, Gateshead 106; 3, Heaton 181. **Youths 3m:** 1, N. Wharton (Heaton) 16.32; 2, T. Willis (Morpeth) 16.43; 3, P. C. Todd (Jarrow) 16.50; 4, J. Carruthers (Jarrow) 17.28; 5, J. D. Thompson (Gateshead) 17.29; 6, J. R. Gibson (Gosforth) 17.33. **Teams:** 1, Gosforth 34pts.; 2, Heaton 37; 3, Gateshead 51. **Boys 2M:** 1, J. Hillen (Saltwell) 11.22; 2, C. Perry (Elswick) 11.24; 3, J. Boggan (Benwell) 11.25; 4, J. Antwiss (N. Shields) 11.26; 5, D. Herron (Saltwell) 11.33; 6, W. Churchill (Saltwell) 11.34; **Teams:** 1, Saltwell 12pts.; 2, Benwell 24; 3, Gateshead 49.

**ROAD RUNNERS' CLUB**

An Old English Steak and Kidney Pudding Supper will be held at Ye Olde Prince's Head P.H., Storey's Gate, Westminster, on Thursday, 8th December, at 6.30 for 7.0 p.m., under the Chairmanship of Jim Peters, President of the Association. Tickets at 6/6 each are obtainable from Rex Cross, 76 Westmoreland Road, Bromley, Kent. Tickets are limited, first come first served.

The R.R.C. is deeply appreciative of the services so gladly and competently rendered by the timekeepers and recorders at the Walton Athletic Club's 2 Hours Track Race, which enabled the R.R.C. to compile perfect records of the event.

No further news has been forthcoming from the Counties' Athletic Union in response to our request for an Inter-County 20 Miles Road Race. It is hoped that all individual Counties supporting the original idea will press at the next Union meeting for the inclusion of such a race in 1956.

Next year's London to Brighton Race will be held on 22nd September.

**New County Secretaries—**

**Northamptonshire:** J. L. Heeley, "Ambala," 19 Booth Rise, Moulton, Northants.

**Surrey:** W. T. Dooris, 24 Holyoake Avenue, Horsell, Woking.

Up to date the R.R.C. has elected 516 members and the number grows daily. E.N.

**LETTERS (contd.)**

**THE LONDON HALF-MILERS**

Dear Sir,

Whilst in no way agreeing with Mr. Hastings' opinion that Lloyd and Gorrie are "ridiculously incompetent runners," I would like to point out the inaccuracy of your statement that only Hewson, Johnson, Henderson and Douglas, of Australia, are the only home athletes to have beaten the times of Lloyd and Gorrie this season.

Of the two London half-milers in the match on Oct. 12th, Lloyd was the slower with a best performance of 1:52.6, against Gorrie's 1:52.0, and there are in fact, apart from the four names mentioned above, five other athletes who have beaten, and two who have equalled Lloyd's best time this season, and I give below a list of those runners who have done so—

1:52.0 M. A. Farrell; 1:52.2 R. T. G. Day; 1:52.3 J. V. Beesley; 1:52.4 R. J. McKay; 1:52.5 D. C. Law; 1:52.6 P. B. Driver; 1:52.6 M. A. Rawson.

Mr. Hastings is, of course, quite correct when he says that neither of our half-milers had any previous experience of international four-a-field racing, but it is surely in an Inter-City match of the London v. Prague type and not in a full international that our athletes should be given the chance of experiencing this particular type of competition.

Yours faithfully,

**Ian Buchanan**

I was well aware of these times and what I should have said was that "only Henderson and Douglas—apart from Hewson and Johnson, of course—have faster times than Gorrie and even in the case of Lloyd, the margin is very small."—Ed.

**KOSICE MARATHON (contd.)**

<b>Teams:</b>	<b>Agg. Time</b>
1. Sweden .....	7h.26m.46s.
2. Czechs .....	7h.35m.40s.
3. Gt. Britain .....	7h.39m.08s.
4. E. Germany .....	7h.41m.26s.
5. Hungary .....	7h.43m.42s.
6. Austria .....	7h.50m.35s.