

ROUND THE CLUBHOUSES

Aberdeenshire Harriers Club will welcome visitors to train with them. Hon. Secretary, J. Peter, 29 Wallfield Crescent, Aberdeen.

Auchmountain Harriers are holding a sports meeting at Cappielow, Greenock, on Monday, 24th June, at 6.45 p.m. Programme includes 17 miles road race and an invitation relay. Entries close 17th June, with A. K. McDonald, 1 Auchinleck Terrace, Port Glasgow.

Clydesdale Harriers train at Mount Blow Park, Monday and Wednesday evenings.

Dundee Thistle Harriers have a great tradition. In pre-war days were one of the most powerful clubs in Scotland. Intend to regain former strength. Contact Hon. Secy., C. Dunnet, 45 Commercial Street, Dundee.

Edinburgh Harriers have now resumed training. Being coached in light field events by Harry Scott, one of the most able all-rounders in the East.

Garscube Harriers now training at Scotstoun Showgrounds. Coaches John McFadden and Sam Small were very well known athletes in their day.

Glasgow Y.M.C.A. have members returned from the services, including the Hon. Secy., Jack A. Redman, 15 Donald Road, Glasgow, W.2. The club is building up steadily.

Lanarkshire A.A.A. held youths' 100 yards at Monkland Sports on 1st June. Winner, J. Alkman (Shettleston), 2nd D. Roger (Hamilton), 10.6 secs.

Larkhall Y.M.C.A. have compiled their track championship races for the "John Steel" trophy. Starting from June 11th, events are 100 yards, 220 yards, 440 yards, 880 yards, 1 mile, 2 miles, 3 miles.

Plebeian Harriers are making promising restart. Some likely youths have joined, which is pleasing to Hon. Secy., P. J. Connelly, 32 Pentaver Dr., S. W. 1.

Maryhill Harriers are pleased to know that their novice champion J. Clark is now demobbed and is training regularly.

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To Stimulate Interest, to Develop Enthusiasm
and to Encourage Sportsmanship in Scotland
Edited by **WALTER J. ROSS**

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A FAMOUS RELAY TEAM!



BELLAHOUSTON HARRIERS' QUARTETTE—J. Gifford, J. Bone, N. M. Smith, and G. Young, which made a new Scottish record when winning the Scottish Championship in 1938. Their record was broken by another Bellahouston team which again included J. Gifford and N. M. Smith, in 1938, with a time of 3 min. 32.9 secs., which is still the mile medley relay record. A full story of Bellahouston Harriers, 1892-1946, is told inside.

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A. M. JAMIESON

S.A.A.A. Three Miles Walk Champion



On Saturday, 27th April, at Helenvale Park, Glasgow, A. M. Jamieson (Dundee Hawthill) won the S.A.A.A. Three-Miles walk for the fifth successive time. This remarkable feat of consistency causes us to study his career and at the same time trace into the prominent part played by his club in race walking.

The S.A.A.A. three-miles walk has been a monopoly of Dundee since 1928 when G. T. Galloway scored the first of his three successive wins to give Hawthill Harriers their first Scottish championship title.

Out of the subsequent thirteen contests Hawks have provided the winner on eleven occasions, the winners on the other two occasions, 1933-34, being G. T. Galloway and his brother A. D., who by this time were residing in the London area and competing under the colours of the Surrey Walking Club.

One unpleasant feature of race walking is the dubiety which often arises as to whether a competitor is actually walking or running. Not so with the present title-holder Sandy Jamieson. Jamieson has a clean cut elastic stride which is beyond reproach and he is a worthy champion whose ability would stand the test of bigger and better-class fields. Interest in race walking in Scotland may be at a very low ebb but Sandy has maintained winning returns at their highest-ever level. True this year's figures 24.7 were slow but conditions were all against fast time while he had also to contend with the state of the track which was badly cut up after the forage of the runners in the 10 miles.

A good club man, Sandy has rendered yeoman service to Hawthill Harriers whom he joined in 1928. First successes were as a runner, club cross-country and track novice championships, then every year up to the middle "30's" was included in one or other of the Hawthill teams for district and national championships. He has represented his club in championship events more frequently than any of his fellow members.

After tryouts in the once popular Hawthill promotions, the Perth to Dundee walk in which he figured prominently, Jamieson took a fancy to walking, discovered short distances were his strong point and entered for the S.A.A.A. three miles for the first time in 1936. On that day he faced formidable opposition in former club-mates the Brothers Galloway. G. T. Galloway had meantime acquired considerable stature in English walking circles having in 1934 at White City, London, set up four world walking records for 19, 20 and 21 miles and for 3 hour's walking. He had also set up the best championship performance in the Scottish 3 miles by doing 21.43 in 1933. Jamieson, however, was equal to the occasion and after a great tussle won in 21 mins. 46.4 secs., showing that he can really go places when pushed. His other victories have been easy—22 min. 23.4 secs. in 1937, 22 min. 13.8 secs. in 1938 and 22 min. 12.8 secs. in 1939. Nowhere in the history of this championship can you find a

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Western District League

Well, here is your League boys!

And here is our suggestion as to how it might be conducted.

To begin with we intended to include all open handicap events, junior and senior; field events; road races (scratch and handicap placings); invitation and open relay races and team races (one team to count as one entry); all open championship events.

Points to be awarded 3, 2 and 1; entries taken as per printed programme for purpose of working out average.

However, we want your opinion on this idea and consequently for this month have omitted results of Spring championships, relay races and through lack of having complete entry list, Bellabouston road race. The latter event will be included in next month's League but perhaps you desire a separate league for relay and team races and championship events.

This is your paper and if our little idea of a League arouses your interest, tell us if you want everything in one table or in two separate lots.

At present Victoria Park A. A. C. have a clear lead in points. Percentages are given to maintain interest of the smaller clubs. Glasgow Police and West of Scotland are at the top here, both with averages of 1.25.

The league is to and inclusive of 1st June, 1946.

WESTERN DISTRICT POINTS LEAGUE

CLUB	Placings	Pts.	Ent.	Aver.
	1 2 3			
Victoria Park	5 4 2	25	114	.219
Garscube	1 3 4	13	67	.194
St. Machan's	1 2 2	9	13	.682
Uddingston Welfare	2 1	8	14	.571
Renfrew Y.M.C.A.	2	7	16	.437
Motherwell Y.M.C.A.	2	6	25	.250
Glasgow Police	1 1	5	4	1.25
West of Scotland	1 1	5	4	1.25
Monkland	1 1	5	34	.147
Glasgow Y.M.C.A.	2	4	24	.166
Maryhill	1	3	16	.187
Well's Rec. A.A.C.	1	2	12	.166
Greenock Welpark	1	2	15	.133
Hamilton	1	2	26	.066
Bellabouston	1	2	71	.022
Shettleston	1	1	9	.111
Both	1	1	18	.055
Larkhall	1	1	26	
St. Ignatius			20	
Clydesdale			12	
Dumbarton			12	
Vale of Leven			9	
Springburn			8	
Airdrie			8	
Auchmountain			8	
Stonehouse			7	
Castlehill			7	
Cumbernauld			7	
Plebeian			2	
Hillington			2	
South Glasgow			1	
Carntyne			1	

St. Ignatius Meeting

The young Wishaw Club, St. Ignatius A.A.C., were first in the field with their Open Meet on 18th May, and although unfortunately the terracing presented a bare appearance, competitors in plenty were forward and keen sport ensued.

The balance of honours, went to clubs outside of Glasgow, but young Michael Roberts, Victoria Park A.A.C. and A. S. Warren, Glasgow Police and Victoria Park A.A.C., took highest marks for individual performances. Returning 2 mins. 6.1 secs. from 28 yards in the junior 880 yards, Roberts showed faster running than the winner of the senior event, while Warren's "even time" in the sprint final was a creditable performance off 3 yards.

Stewarton—Pollokshaws

Road Race Result

1. J. M. Lindsay (B.H.) 1 hr. 38 min. 50 secs.; 2. W. Connor (Shet. H.) 1 hr. 43 mins. 38 secs.; 3. J. Park (Mary. H.) 1 hr. 44 mins. 27 secs.

As two of the above (Lindsay and Park) qualified for handicap prizes and as the race rule is one scratch or handicap prize per man the following three received the further awards:

E. Farrell (Gars. H.) nett time 1 hr. 33 mins. 38 secs.; R. Sime (Edin. Sou. H.) nett time 1 hr. 34 mins. 32 secs.; G. Nelson ((Mary. H.) nett time 1 hr. 38 mins. 31 secs.

Team race in conjunction was won by J. Park (Mary. H.) 3; R. Sime (Edin. South H.) 4; and A. Gillies (Shet. H.) 9: Total 16 points.

A. M. JAMIESON—Contd.

(Continued from page 2)

winner with such a rare show of consistency. His 1936 figures are a personal best for that distance and a Hawthill club record.

Over the period covering 44 annual contests the Scottish three-miles walk has seen only three men break 22 mins. First to do it was J. E. Creegan of Hawthill who clocked 21 min. 53 secs. when winning in 1932. Then as has already been stated G. T. Galloway and Sandy Jamieson.

BELLAHOUSTON HARRIERS 1892-1946

For this short history, Bellahouston Harriers, particularly, and the sport in general, are indebted to Mr. W. R. McNeill who has been a member of Bellahouston Harriers since 1922. He is a very active person in the sport and has held the position of President, Secretary and Treasurer in his club. We hope that this contribution may give him inspiration to delve further into athletic history.—Enyon.

For some years now I have been gathering together interesting data concerning my club with a view to publishing a short history which was to have coincided with our Jubilee functions.

However, Jubilee celebrations had to be laid aside in 1942 for reasons which we all know and this history was shelved for the time being; but now, hostilities have ceased, we of the old "Bella" have started the ball again with a view to the postponed festivities and as a start decided on the Sports Meeting on June 11th, at Trox Park. The club was formed in 1892 in and around Govan, having as their earlier headquarters, Govan Baths, the nucleus of the club then being postmen to whom it must have been just a quick step from walking to running. The actual founder J. R. McDiarmid is still keenly interested in the club and athletics and can always be seen officiating at Rangers' Sports.

The first championship of the club (cross-country) was won by G. Burnett and for some years this seemed to be the only race held, but in 1900 a series of races was started, the basis of which programme is still maintained to-day.

This year the championship was won by a famous runner J. McGough. He had numerous successes from 1900 to 1904 in 880, one mile, and four miles, and in 1903 won all three titles. His fastest mile was possibly in 1905 when he won in 4 min. 24.2 secs., and on the same day was second in the 880 to a clubmate W. D. Anderson who won in record time then of 1 min. 58.8 secs.

In the 880 title of 1907 the first three were all Bellahouston men. Records of 1904 show the first appearance of "Bob" Taylor who has long served the Club in many ways and is now Vice-President of the S.A.A., an honour worthy due.

In 1904 R. Quinn won the 3 miles walk and continued to do so for seven successive years and in 1910 made a Scottish record for one mile of 6 min. 45.6 secs., and an all-comers record for 1½ miles walk of 10 min. 21.2 secs.

T. Kirkwood, another member, won the Putting the weight title in 1905 and his 45 ft. 2 inches constituted a Scottish native record.

About 1908 appears a runner, Willie Law, who became known as "Halswell's Mascot" as he ran so often second to that great performer and was in this position when Halswell established "all-comers" records at 300 and 440 yards.

Around 1910 we read of Archie Craig for the first time, a runner who as we all know, was cross-country champion of Scotland on numerous occasions.

As an official "Baldy" became president of the S.A.A.A. in 1937-38. During 1912 I note for the first of many times the name of D. Corbet a sound sprinter of his day but one who is remembered more by his great benefactions to the club throughout the years and is in fact the only honorary life member we have, a signal honour.

Also in 1912-13 the club won the National for the first time and A. Craig was first individual. In 1914 the writing was "on the wall" as we won the "Western District" by 96 pts. from the second team (in record); J. Lindsay of B.H. being individual winner while a team member who actually did not count finished twentieth.

The same year saw a repeat National success when the counting six were all in the first twelve, surely a remarkable record. A. Craig being second and J. Lindsay sixth and Junior Champion.

At this stage let me pause to remark on a singular point which has struck me. In this year, right at the top, the First World War came along and plucked away the cream of our teams and it was 25 years later in 1939 on the brink of the second holocaust before we won the National again.

I fervently hope it does not signify another quarter century wait before again attaining the top.

It was not until 1918 that full scale activities were resumed and in this

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year the club instituted a race for youths under 18 which was won by G. Mason.

This race started a new era and from this forerunner sprang what is now the Youths Cross Country Championship.

Bellahouston can about this time claim to be the parents of two clubs as in 1919 a few members known to all in the sport, namely:—James and W. Neilson, J. McGrath, Tom McQuarrie and James Law left the club and formed the Pelebeian Harriers while later McQuarrie, McGrath and Law formed the Shawfield Harriers.

Around 1920 appears the name of Hugh Cameron our present Trainer who had much to do with the successful years of the late thirties, while in 1921 "Malley" Campbell turns up. "Malley" became the "Obstacle King" winning the "Rangers" and "Queens" seven and six times successively but in the club he will be remembered as the sponsor of his younger brother "Jackie" who was afterwards ten times club champion, cross-country Midland champion and an Internationalist who led the club back to National honours.

In 1924 I might mention that A. Craig finished second in the International although it was twelve years after his first club championship success.

Also this year we find G. C. Kerr winning the High Jump title which he again won in 1925 with a jump of 5 ft. 11 inches.

In 1929 the club won a championship again and although only what might be termed a minor title (the Renfrewshire Relay) it must be recorded as it was at this date we entered the Renfrewshire Association on our headquarters moving to the new Pollokshaws Baths and the inspiration of this first success for fifteen years brought about the victories later in the same season. Our team won the Renfrewshire Championship and fourth in the "Midland" while Jackie Campbell won the individual Midland title.

In 1932 I note the name of George Hunter winning our Novice title. George was one of the young "school" who later under the nursing (Sunday and week-day) of W. B. McCall, John Todd and myself became a strong member of our pre-war champion team and from whom we expected great things

afterwards, but alas, this boy lost his life in the war and his memory only remains with us.

Season 1933-34 saw the club win the Midland title for the first time, G. Hunter being seventh and that grand "veteran" now, W. B. McCall being eighth, while in the National we stepped up to third place.

Around 1934-35 the names appear in records of Tommy Lamb, Jack Gifford and Tommy Gibson, all International men of the future.

Jack Gifford was a three mile title-holder but is best known for his fine performances in the relays as his half miles paved the way to our many successes here, including the present relay record.

Road racing was a factor in the seasons programme now and in 1935-36 our team won both the Perth to Kirkcaldy and the Edinburgh to Glasgow races.

We now reach the immediate post-war years and in the two seasons 1937-8, 1938-9, the club won every honour attainable in team and relay championships and road races, truly a remarkable record of performances.

Track events may not seem to have much prominence in this article but as I am only now collecting this data I trust I am excused any omissions.

As in cross-country the year 1930 saw the turning point in our track performances as I note here that W. S. Law won the Renfrewshire 220 title while R. Thomson won the same county mile title and our mile team the county title also.

W. S. Law continued to put up many fine performances for the club and is still a Renfrewshire record holder.

A ladies section was formed in 1930 which I can say without fear became the finest during the short period open competition was provided for Eve.

Some of these ladies are still with us yet, as wives and friends and can be called upon at all times for all social functions.

In the Renfrewshire 880 title in season 1932, W. Cunningham ran third and later laid the success of our relay team by giving the team an unassailable lead in the 880 sector. Willie Cunningham had many fine performances to his credit on the track over the years and still comes along to coach. The track season of 1935 saw a real come-back to honours for our members as in this year's championships J. McL.

Bone was 2nd in the Youths 100; W. M. O. Rennie won the Youths 880 in record time while among seniors Charlie France was 2nd in the 440; J. Gifford second in the mile and J. Campbell third in the steeplechase.

In 1936 our team recorded the first win in the S.A.A.A. relay title and the men who ran were J. Gifford, G. Young, J. Bone, and N. M. Smith.

Our team continued to win this title until the war intervened and twice broke records in the event and are of course present holders.

During the war years activities were of necessity down to a minimum with seventy-nine members on service and at one time with a handful of officials and only four senior runners to pick a team from. This team finished third in a Victoria Park road relay but now that peace has come again we look to the future with a revived spirit and a blend of old and new blood.

In this chronicle I have omitted two names which I have purposely left to the last; first, J. Oliver Hepburn who has been for long years an official of the club and for as many years Mid-

land District Secretary of the N.C.C.U. and by whose efforts during the early war days when the official bodies' activities were shelved the sport was kept alive until others took over when pressure of business made Oliver retire for a little.

The second name I have to mention is the one and only Johnny Todd, club secretary for a long time now, and who really carried the club through the war years with such zeal and energy that I may say with all due respect to the secretaries who have gone before and I was one myself, that Johnny is the "greatest ever."

His whole life is just Bellahouston Harriers and he is always "on the job" Sunday to Saturday.

In conclusion, if I have left anyone out who should be in this record of activity, I crave their indulgence as most of this is just taken from memory as I go along, year by year.

Finally, I must thank the Editor for requesting this article and I trust that while it may seem an eulogy of Bellahouston Harriers, the readers will find it of interest and perhaps impart a new spirit in their own club work.

WILL CINDERELLA GET A FLYER —OR SIT ON HER MARK?

By A. D. McDONALD

(Any articles other than our own, do not necessarily represent our opinion. We believe in full and free discussion. This article is put before you to create thought.—Editor)

"Wanted.—A Prince Charming to rescue the Cinderella of Scottish Sport—fit on her Running Spikes and guide her to the rightful and merited position of prominence in the nation's outdoor pastimes."

Opportunity knocks but once, and in the first flush of a post-war sports boom Scottish athletics must be prepared to grasp at any stick which will carry the game forward on the wave of success. The ordinary bob-an-entry handicap man, and more especially in view of the 1948 Olympic Games to be held in London, our championship contenders have the right to expect that every avenue will be explored in the search of the encouragement necessary

to aid in the furtherance of the sport.

But where are the people who will get set on their marks determined to break the tape and register success for athletics?

Reports read that the majority of our clubs are emerging from their enforced semi-idleness of the past six years; that a new high has been revealed in the spirit of the active members and we can bank on the enthusiastic body of officials controlling the clubs to pull their weight in the right direction.

Governing Body Need "Shock Troops"

Comparisons are odious, so they say. But, I cannot help contrasting the enterprise shown by the filial amateur bodies. Boxing and swimming and the paucity of effort engendered by "the powers that be" of Scottish Athletics.

Have the S.A.A.A. given us any inkling of any "new bridge heads" to

be established in the current track season?

The Scottish Marathon Championship is a welcome if long overdue innovation. But that apart, officially sponsored fixtures bear an annoying similarity to the luke-warm efforts of pre-1939 days.

A stop watch held in the proper hands does not lie, and the track times returned by our boys last season, behoves well for the future—IF!

Some of their efforts were rewarded in their being invited to represent Britain at home and on the Continent. But only competition with the "very best" will ensure of their making the maximum progress.

Come away, then officials! Cast aside any parochial outlook and contact the North, South, East and West—bring the cream of the athletic world to Scotland and the status of our home athletes will rise in world reckoning. You give the lead—the rest will follow!

And who are the rest?

Big Time "Small Town" Meetings.

The war-time holiday at home movement introduced meets in various communities around the countryside. Such promotions are deserving of our support and the organisers, if approached and offered the unstinting assistance of the S.A.A.A., would, I believe, incline to "in for a penny in for a pound" in their endeavour to bring to the home tracks the proper training tackle for Scotland's hopes.

Why Not Enlist "Big Business"?

Then the meetings could be arranged by the various athletic clubs. Few, if any, of these clubs have deep financial resources and the most successful Gatherings are not carried through where the organisers are obliged to adopt a "keep your fingers crossed" attitude.

Okay! I say, go out and canvass the support of the country's largest commercial undertakings, national newspapers, and so on. If the advance publicity read, "Organised by Such-and-Such A.A.C.—Sponsored by the makers of Joe Joe's Jube-Jubes" or "The Daily Clarion"—I shouldn't worry—would the public—would you?

All round satisfaction would result.

The spectators would be ensured of an afternoon of first-class sport—the business moguls would have their returns in the publicity accruing and—there would be the home talent battling it out with the worthiest exponents of the game—and that on their "ain midden-held."

We Know Where The Goal Is

So, let's go forward—each and every one of us. We have a target in view—we know wherein lies the goal—get that ball at our feet and start kicking.

To run is natural—just as natural as laughing or crying or eating. Some are gifted in being able to run faster or further than others. If from the latter spring a few who are prepared to nurture and develop this talent, whether it be merely for the sake of physical well-being or in a desire to shine in competition, thus raising the prestige of club, district and country in the field of amateur sport, I say, by all means go the limit in their encouragement.

Even in this current season we can "go to it" and race all out to gain for our Sport the boost of a life-time.

JAMES FLEMING

The Motherwell Y.M.C.A. star travelled 400 miles by an army truck to compete at Cairo on Saturday, 13th May. Despite three days rough travelling he was only narrowly beaten by a Turk in the 1,500 metres. The winner's time was 4 mins. 8 secs., but since the Turk collapsed at the tape Fleming feels he would have reversed the decision if the race had been over the full mile.

He has since won the Royal Scots Battalion 4½ miles cross-country race from a field of fifty. The previous record for the course was 25 mins. Jim's time was 23 mins. and he finished 2 mins. 7 secs. before the second man home. Some running!

* * *

Alec Dow, the Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A. internationalist, is home from Palestine. With his bronze complexion he is very fit looking. He is in training and is keen to participate in road races in the near future.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

by J. E. FARRELL.

The Editor has asked me to sum up the prospects for the Scottish Championships, to be held at Hampden Park, June 21st-22nd.

This is a far-from-easy task, as form in many of the events is far from well defined, and moreover the fact that some of our aspirants have not yet decided which particular event to concentrate on further complicates the issue. For example, one prominent runner confided to me that he was toying with the idea of running in one of the three following events, namely, 1 mile, 3 miles or 6 miles, but at the present moment he is still undecided.

This, then is the background of the first post-war Scottish Athletic Championships. An Olympic standard is not expected in the various events, but certain specific events may provide a surprisingly high level of performance.

One interesting fact is that with the possible exception of J. C. Ross (Shettleston) in the Steeplechase and G. E. Mitchell (Glasgow Police) in the heavy events, no title holder of 1939 will be forward for the 1946 Championships. Truly, "the years that the locusts hath eaten."

Before attempting to deal with this year's Championships I feel that no topical athletic notes would be complete without a reference to Alan Paterson's high jump of 6 ft. 5 in. at Coventry, on Saturday, May 25th, thus equalling the British record set up by the famous all-rounder, Howard Baker, 25 years ago. Not yet 18 years of age, Paterson being a probable representative of Britain in the Olympic Games of 1948, he now looms as a possible 1, 2, 3 Olympic finalist.

Well endowed by nature, this boy prodigy of 6ft. 6in. should make substantial progress as he gains in strength and experience. Enthusiasm must be tempered with caution however, as across the "Herring Pond" there are numerous high-jumpers to whom even the prodigious jump of 6ft. 5in. is merely warming up process. The coloured boys are particularly "hot" in this event, and 7ft., like the 4-minute mile, is spoken of as just around the corner. The late "Corny" Johnson took the Olympic high jump at Berlin in 6ft. 8in.

Let me now deal with the various championships seriatim.

In 1939 that splendid athlete, S. S. Beattie (Victoria Park) got off to a flying start to just pip the renowned Robin Murdoch in 10.3 secs in the 100 yards. Sam's untimely end in a flying accident was a loss to Scottish athletics and a personal loss to all who knew him.

For the 1946 championship sprints there are likely to be men of the class of Broadley (Glasgow Y.M.C.A.), Connacher (Glasgow University and Victoria Park), McDonald (Victoria Park), Warren (Glasgow Police and Victoria Park) and Law (Shettleston). Unfortunately Alan Watt (Shettleston) and J. J. Donnelly (Garscube) are unlikely to be present, being in the services.

I fancy the strong-going Broadley for the double, though Connacher, despite concentrating on studies, may be a threat in the furlong which I consider his best distance at the moment. Both men are of the right type, robust and strong finishers. In 1939 McKenzie, an Edinburgh policeman won in 22.5 secs.

In the last 440 yards championship, Wilkie of Herriot's beat Rennie of Glasgow University in 50.1 secs.

On this occasion despite the up and coming form of Boyd of Glasgow University I cannot see beyond Victoria Park's Panton, who despite his youth has experience of International competition. Connacher who is not likely to turn out in this event I rate next best to Panton at this distance.

Dick Littlejohn who won the 1939 half-mile running in the colours of Edinburgh Harriers from R. Bisland (Dumbarton A.C.) by four yards in 1 min. 59 secs., is reported to have retired from competition. The sprinting type of half-miler Littlejohn preferred a medium-paced run throughout to enable him to come through with his devastating finish.

Among those likely to run prominently in this year's half-mile championship are G. Smillie (Glasgow University and Victoria Park), J. Hamilton (Victoria Park), F. Jewell (Garscube), H. Scoles (Maryhill Har.), C. T. Campbell and R. Kinloch both of Strathguthrie Harriers, and J. S. Taylor (Aberdeen University) Jack Corfield of Tipton and Fred Sinclair of Greenock

Wellpark who are expected to prefer the mile would also be troublesome if they decided to start in the shorter distance. For a short leet I would reduce this promising field to Smillie and Jewell with a slight preference for the former.

An entirely new field is expected to turn out in the mile championship. In 1939 Bobby Graham of Maryhill Harriers beat clubmate A. Peters by 20 yards in 4 mins. 22.6 secs., with J. Muir of Glasgow University third. The last mentioned will be remembered as one of our most promising milers at that time and holds the University mile record of 4 mins. 35 secs., he recently resumed running but showed that he is still short of a gallop.

This year the issue will probably be between G. Lamont (Victoria Park), A. Forbes (Victoria Park) and J. Corfield (Tipton and Maryhill) who I believe has residential qualifications to compete. A. Sinclair of Greenock Welfare, William Somerville of Motherwell Y.M. and A. W. Warton (Garscube). If Jimmy Fleming of Motherwell Y.M.C.A. had been available he would have been my first choice but in his absence I take the vigorous-styled Corfield to win narrowly with Sinclair and Forbes well up.

The three-mile event is to me the puzzle event of the series. There is no competitor like Carstairs of Edinburgh University to dominate the field as he did just prior to the war. He won the 1939 championship in easy fashion in the excellent time of 14 mins. 41.2 secs., a mere 8 secs outside of T. Blakely's Scottish record of 14 mins. 33 secs., which still stands, though Carstairs has beaten this time but not officially on Scottish territory. Carstairs was a relentless pacer and although not the sprinting type could run a useful half-mile and mile. A curious feature was his preference for scratch events as he rarely if ever ran in handicap events. In this respect he was very similar to Jack Holden of Tipton.

For this year's three miles event I bracket together A. Peters and J. Hoskins both of Maryhill, though both are not at the present moment at the top of their form. A lot depends on how much they can find in the next week or two.

Just prior to the war Peters ran second to Graham in the mile, showing around 4 mins. 26 secs., and also showed excellent form over two miles, while Hoskins is erratic but in the

mood shows form which makes him appear to be a potential British champion.

If Bobby Reid (Birchfield and Doon) decided to come north I would nominate him for the three or six miles but so far he has given no indication of doing so but declared he was training quietly for the Midland Counties three mile championship on June 15th, when he expects to meet Jack Holden again.

Fred Sinclair of Wellpark and A. Forbes of Victoria Park are expected to go for the mile but candidly I think that both would take some beating in the three miles.

For the six miles I expect the winner to be found from the following, assuming they start, namely:—J. C. Flockhart (Shettleston), J. E. Farrell (Maryhill H.), A. McLean (Bellahouston), G. Anderson (Bellahouston) and Alan McGregor (Bellahouston). Over the shorter distance the consistent A. McLean (Bellahouston) may surprise the field including the 10-mile holder. As a point of interest and for future comparison, the result of the 1939 race was:—1. Wm. Sutherland (Shettleston); 2. J. E. Farrell (Maryhill); 3. A. McLean (then of Glenpark); won by 2 yards in 31 mins. 33.3 secs.

Next we come to the Steeplechase, where we may have a triangular duel between J. C. Ross (Shettleston) near-veteran and holder meantime in the services, G. Porteous (Maryhill H.) runner-up in 1939 and Shettleston's strongly built newcomer from Torryburn, Charlie McLellan. The superb jumping and experience of Ross and Porteous may offset the pace and strength of McLellan on the flat. On this occasion I take Porteous to win from McLellan, though I will not be surprised at anything the latter does. He has undoubtedly a great future in distance running.

In the running events there remains the one-mile relay and the 120 yards hurdles race. Bellahouston's brilliant relay team is now split up and one cannot look beyond Victoria Park for this event.

In fairness to runners competing in individual events this event should be farmed out.

The hurdles event should go to the Edinburgh student Hart, who recently won the inter-varsity title in good time.

In the high-jump Alan Paterson is far too classy for his field and the main interest here devolves round the

former's individual technique and performance. I have nothing to go on in the broad jump and hop-step-and-jump, but I expect these titles to be won by Roy Smith of Dundee Hawkhill.

In the heavy events we have no Schneidermann to dominate proceedings and these may be won by the police athletes although D. Smith of Aberdeen may be a danger in the putt and discuss.

Although an attempt has been made to select winners in the various championships I should be just as pleased if one of the lesser fancied candidates upset the odds as I in common with most others have the usual sympathy with the under-dogs. At any rate we will witness a feast of good, exciting sport. We are at least certain of honest endeavour.

PLEA FOR UNITED EFFORT

Letter from A.A.A. Hon. Team Manager.
My Dear Ross,

It was most kind of you to send me the copies of *The Scots Athlete*, and I have read them with very great interest, and should like to have copies regularly.

Nothing but great good can come from the inauguration of such a journal, and I hope our Scottish athletes will support it and gain much value from it.

Your objects are very excellent, and most certainly you will stimulate interest and develop enthusiasm, and I don't doubt you will encourage sportsmanship in Scotland. I hope too, you will manage to teach the cult of amateur athletics north of the Border, for there is so much we all have still to learn in this fine sport of ours.

Maintain and even increase the National spirit of your athletes, but do more than this—engender in them the feeling that we all form part of Great Britain and that in the international sphere we must work together, run together and plan together.

Scottish athletics have many advantages and also disadvantages compared with its English counterpart.

You have the material and your own national characteristics are well-suited to athletics, but you do not get the scratch competition which the English

boys obtain. I feel sure that good class scratch competition will do much more to develop athletics in Scotland than handicap running, and the idea of athletic leagues is a grand one.

Like us, you suffer from lack of facilities, but constant pressure for these will bring some results.

And like us you must encourage field events. I hope you will persuade promoters and clubs to hold the less popular events regularly. Entries may be few to start with and the standard may be poor at the outset, but regular competition, exchange of ideas on coaching, etc., and encouragement will bring results.

Please tell any Scottish athlete who migrates South, or is stationed in England in the Forces, that he will be given equal encouragement as his English colleagues. Your athletes can feel absolutely confident that their claims for inclusion in International teams will not be overlooked. I am delighted to say that the Scottish selector on the Selection Committee is none other than Mr. James Gilbert, whom we regard with great affection down here and for whom we have a high esteem. May your efforts be most successful and please let me know if I can help at any time.

Yours sincerely,

SURREY.

JACK CRUMP.

This is a most useful letter and should be studied. We agree with the points raised and would urge every sports promoter and every club to encourage Field Events. We will do our best on the matter. In fact, an article by Mr. T. M. Anderson on "The Benefits of Coaching" was written for this issue. It was not printed because it was felt that after reading Mr. Crump's letter, readers would want to study training and technique and an introductory article was not necessary. An article on training and technique by Mr. Anderson will appear in the July issue.—EDITOR.

In a triangular contest at Morgan Academy grounds on Saturday, 18th May, Dundee Hawkhill took 34 pts. to Morgan's 26 and Dundee Thistle's 6. The most notable feat of the meeting was Roy Smith's long jump of 22 ft. 3 ins., a new ground record.

AMERICAN UNITY

Intense nationalism is retrogressive. It is a barrier to progress and harmony in the world. Modern science has made the world but a parish. Notwithstanding this, one can admire the traditional culture of different countries, each has its own particular beauty.

Keeping abreast with the times *The Scots Athlete* will not confine its columns to Scottish sport alone. We will travel the roads of any country where there is athletic news of interest. Great Britain has a distinct bond with America, the bonds of a common heritage and a common language. Hence we hope to report from time to time, what is happening in the sports arena in America.

At St. Louis, on January 11th, 1946, the United States' two leading amateur sports bodies, the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Amateur Athletic Union, joined in an official partnership to cover all fields, including the Olympic games.

Hoping to boost amateur athletics back into the limelight usurped by pro sports in recent years, the NCAA and the AAU will work in close co-operation to develop their own tournaments and championships, as well as going all out to boost the Olympic games.

President Avery Brundage of the U.S. Olympic committee explained that the committee which selects the U.S. Olympic teams will remain the same under the new alliance, composed of six AAU representatives and the same number of NCAA representatives.

Formal Pact

Dr. Wilbur C. Smith, re-elected NCAA president at the meeting, announced that for the first time in history a pact had been formally signed by the two groups.

Under the alliance, the AAU and NCAA will officially recognise each other's tournaments and their member athletes will be free to compete in the various meets, subject to the rules of the sponsoring association.

In other development at the meeting, the NCAA completed all of its official business by voting to:

1.—Establish central offices in Chicago and appropriate \$10,000 to employ an assistant to the president and secretary.

2.—Re-elect K. L. (Tug) Wilson, Big Ten athletic commissioner, secretary-treasurer of the NCAA.

3.—Turn over \$32,871 to the 1948 Olympics. The sum had been collected for the 1940 Olympic games, which were cancelled by war.

This all goes to prove that the United States are looking ahead, with a distinct eye on the 1948 Olympics.

SPORTS DIARY

June

- 15—Scottish Schoolboys' Championships (inter-scholastic) ... Westerlands.
- Royal Ulster Constabulary ... Belfast.
- Dairy Thistle Supporters Club.
- 22—Scottish A.A.A. Championships... Hampden.
- 25—Atlanta v. S.A.A.A. West, Dist... Glasgow.
- 29—Shotts A.A.C.
- Kilbarchan ex-Home Guards.
- Youths' Panel Service (inter-county contests) ... Troon.

July

- 6—Edinburgh City Police A.C. (open) ... Meadowbank.
- Vale of Leven.
- 13—Glasgow Police ... Hampden.
- A.A.A. Junior Championship... Birmingham.
- 15—Maryhill Harriers Sports ... Dunoon.
- 19-20—A.A.A. Championships ... London.
- 20—Dumbarton Town Council.
- Larkhall Committee ... Gasworks Park.
- 27—Motherwell Y.M.C.A.
- Edinburgh Corporation, Holidays at Home.
- British Police Championship ... Taunton.

August

- 3—Rangers F.C. ... Ibrox.
- 5—B.H. International Meeting ... White City.
- 10—Cumbernauld A.A.C.
- Carlisle Sports.
- 17—Milngavie Games.
- 23-25—European Championships ... Oslo.
- 24—St. Machan's A.A.C. ... Lennoxtown.
- 30-31—Cowal Gathering.

ENTHUSIASM

Just as promised we have increased our effort. From eight to twelve pages and every inch of space devoted to the interest of our sport. The price is kept at 3d., we believe in value for your money and furthermore we want it so that every one, even the youngest schoolboy can have a copy of his own.

Will you on your part show the same enthusiasm? Will YOU increase your efforts? Circulate the paper amongst your friends and help create interest and activity. The sport can enjoy a nation-wide fillip if we all pull our weight. There are signs of great prospects for Scottish athletes. We can do well if we have united and concentrated action.

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.—EMERSON.