

Swedish rival and congratulated him. The public noticed it, and the Press commented favourably on it.

There is more in sport than just winning, and Alan's action brought more honour to us as a team, and upon himself.

I know you'll be glad to know this, for you set out to encourage sportsmanliness in your country.

It's been a good year. Next year can be better, and I feel much more encouraged when I know I can count upon the goodwill of the Scottish A.A.A. officials, upon Scotland's club officials and her athletes. That team spirit in International competition which, I think, is so fundamentally necessary to success, we have had in full measure this summer. It was the deciding factor in our defeat of France. I'm looking forward to a great Triangular Meeting next summer, and, following it and perhaps as a result of it, a great international team later in the season.

Keep the good work going.—Yours in some haste,

JACK C. G. CRUMP,

Hon. Team Manager, A.A.A.

Ewell, Surrey, 25/9/46.

APPEAL TO OFFICIALS

Dear Editor,—I trust you will publish this letter as I am writing it, in the hope that officials and sports promoters will not change practices, as in the 8-Lap Steeplechase, at Ibrox, this year.

In my opinion, the competitors in this event were treated very unfairly. Just as the race was about to start the bombshell announcement came: "Runners will not be allowed to put their foot on the bar at the water jump." (Jumping from the bar has been practised at Rangers' Sports for years and, more important, is allowed at the S.A.A.A. and A.A.A. championships).

Participating in the race myself, I was amazed at the announcement, more so, because it was made at the last minute, but I performed as requested, as did some other competitors. I noticed different runners using the bar to jump from and yet there were no disqualifications. The race, as far as rules are concerned, was a farce.

Officials could really help by giving a clear ruling, and then standing by the athletes in seeing that the rules were carried out. The athletes would then know what is expected of them, giving them a chance to acquire technique speedily for a race that demands a tremendous amount of skill, apart from pace.

I hope this letter will smilingly receive consideration in the right quarters.—Yours in sport.

D. G. CAUSON.

Glasgow, W.3., 24/8/46.

The Glasgow Y.M.C.A. A.C. hold a Dance, in the Central Halls, Bath St., on Friday, 18th October. Make it a date. Tickets are 2/6.

Twenty-five years ago saw the inaugural run of the Glasgow Y.M.C.A. A.C. To mark the semi-jubilee, a dinner will be held in the Y.M.C.A. Restaurant, Bothwell Street, on Saturday, October 26.

The directors of the Glasgow Association have presented the club with a silver challenge cup, to be called "The Semi-Jubilee Track Championship Trophy." Presentation to the first winner, S.A.A.A. 100 yards champion, Hugh Broadley, will take place at the dinner. Ticket applications should be made to Jack Redman, 58 Sauchiehall Street, C.2.

* * *

Clydesdale Harriers are sponsoring an open Youths' Ballot Team Race, from Clydebank Baths, on Saturday, 9th November. Entry Fee, 1/-. Particulars from Hon. Secy., J. Morgan, 10 Lady Anne Street, Glasgow, W.4.

* * *

Springburn Harriers, at their recent Annual General Meeting, appointed as Office-bearers:—

President—J. CRAWFORD.

Vice-President—W. WILSON.

Hon. Secy.—D. LIVINGSTONE, 133 Alexandra Parade, Glasgow, E.1.

Hon. Treasurer—WM. McMILLAN.

Captain—H. HAUGHIE.

The Club would welcome a capable Coach—Write to the Hon. Secretary.

THE SCOTS ATHLETE

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

OCTOBER 1946

No. 7.

PRICE 3d.

SOME OF SCOTLAND'S BEST



A Group photo taken at Cowal of some of Scotland's best Track runners. Top (left to right)—W. M. Ritchie (V.P.A.A.C.), James S. Hamilton (V.P.A.A.C.), John McFadden (Garscube's coach), Hugh Broadley (Glasgow Y.M.C.A. H.), Arthur W. Warton (Garscube H.). Bottom (left to right)—Geo. Macdonald (V.P.A.A.C.), Robin S. C. Sharp (Garscube H.), Wm. D. Connacher (V.P.A.A.C. and Glasgow University A.C.).

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OUR POST.—Stimulating Interest—Welcome News from U.S.A.—Alan, Ambassador of Sportsmanship—Appeal to Officials.

RUNNING COMMENTARY

by J. E. FARRELL

Saturday, 7th September, for all practical purposes, saw the finish of the Scottish track season for 1946, and to St. Machan's fell the honour of setting the seal on what has been a season of great interest, great promise, and tremendous enthusiasm. Unfortunately the picturesque Lennoxtown grass track was the victim of atrocious weather conditions, which militated against good performances and fast times.

In these circumstances, some of the performances were excellent, notably Irish champion Dave Guiney's shot putt of 46ft. 5½in.—the best seen in Scotland this year. He completed a fine double in the javelin, with a throw of 146ft. 7ins., of the back mark of 9ft. When we consider that Guiney is also a first-rate high jumper, despite his stocky build, it will be realised that he is an athlete of tremendous versatility. Nigerian student Adedoyin also demonstrated versatility in his performances in the high jump, broad jump, and hop-step and jump, his respective distances being 5ft. 10in., 21ft. 2in., and 41ft. 6½in; better value than the actual figures under the sodden track conditions.

It is pleasing to note the improving performance of David Young (Glasgow Police) in the discus. He won this event with a throw of 137ft. 10ins.; which, I believe, is his best throw in public this year, and certainly tops his effort in winning the S.A.A.A. title this year.

Young will chiefly be remembered for his phenomenal performance in the Scottish Championships, at Hampden, in 1938, when he threw the discus the prodigious distance of 153ft. 5in., to break his own native record by 9ft. 1in. and the all-comers' record of K. Kotkas the Finn, by 7ft. 2½ins. Incidentally, this performance gave him the custody of the Crabbie Cup, for the most meritorious champion of the year, for which Robin Murdoch, the late S. S. Beattie, G. M. Carstairs, and the present writer were all in the running.

Perhaps the most exciting track event at Lennoxtown was the relay, in which the Irish team (E. Lamont, P. Dolan, C. Sheehan and J. Reardon) won; with a Scottish Select team a close second. A poor change-over at

the last sector precluded Victoria Park's chances of being in at the death. Sound performances were given by the Scottish Universities' Champion, W. D. Connacher, in winning the 440 invitation (off 7) in 53.6, from J. Reardon, Irish 220 champion; by the ever-improving J. Stuart, of Shettleston, in winning the mile (off 40yds), in 4.40; and the 8-lap Steeplechase win by J. C. Ross, Shettleston. St. Machan's Harriers won both sprints—R. Thomson, the senior 100, in 10.2 (off 6½yds); and J. Kearney, the youths' 100, in 10.6 (off 5½yds).

Young J. Jordan, Maryhill Harriers, won both heat and final of the Youths' Lap Handicap. In the final (off 29yds) he completed the lap in 34.7 secs.

It is interesting to note that this tall youth of 16 is a son of J. Jordan, senr., ex-Scottish Walk Champion. In conversation with the latter, he told me that, while the youngster is very keen and enthusiastic, he is anxious that he should not unduly tax his resources; a very sensible point of view, indeed, for growing youths.

Dundee for Enthusiasm

On the same day, the Perth to Dundee annual Road Race took place. Unlike Lennoxtown, however, the marathon event was favoured by splendid weather conditions.

This factor, plus the fact that colleague "Dunky" Wright and myself raced through with an extraordinarily fast first five miles, ensured a fast time. A correspondingly strong finish enabled me to break the course record decisively, with "Dunky" himself, putting up his own best figures for the course, and only 21secs. outside the old record.

No praise can be too great for the general arrangements for the race, and for the splendid way in which it was stewarded. From the arrangements for lunch prior to the start, to the provision of individual hot baths at Dundee Baths, everything was done for the comfort of the runners. At given stages on the course, water and sponges were offered, and individual times given to competitors. "Dunky" and myself, running neck-and-neck, were informed that we were well inside last year's

time, and, latterly, that we were inside record; and, for the last stages of the race I was exhorted to keep going as I was inside record. Later, "Dunky" confided to me that the Dundee people had got stewarding arrangements "reduced to a fine art," and, coming from "Dunky," who has run in so many races of this nature, and in so many different countries, this is high praise, indeed. To perfect arrangements, the Dundee people added that enthusiasm which means so much in the world of sport. To Peter Henderson, and his able henchmen, many thanks for a splendid job.

Master of Pace

"Dunky" Wright proved himself great in defeat, and his time in this event was easily his best of the series. As was his wont, he dictated the pace of the race and, to such good effect, that I was glad to let him do so.

Gradually, I captured some of the rhythm of his pace; and, so it went on, mile after mile we raced with exhilarating abandon, until I wondered if he would ever slacken. "Dunky" and I have trained a lot together, and, in the art of pacing, I have gained much from him. In long distances he is ease personified and the poetry of motion. Maryhill Harriers, in losing a great competitor, have gained a great coach.

Holden Demonstrates His Stamina

Also on Saturday, 7th September, Jack Holden, International Cross-Country record holder, who has now entered the marathon field, created a record of a different kind, by winning the South London Harriers' 30 miles road race, at Coulsdon, in the record time of 3hrs. 2min. 9secs., to finish 5min. 47secs. in front of Tom Richards, the holder, who also just beat his own best time of 3hrs. 8min. 27secs.

The distance is certainly an unusual one, but a comparison with the recognised amateur and professional track records at this distance, namely 3hrs. 17min. 36.5secs. by Squires in 1885, and 3hrs. 15min. 9secs. by Mason, in 1881, demonstrate a great margin in favour of Holden, and Richards, too. Holden may be using this exceptionally long distance to demonstrate and try-out his stamina for the marathon distance of 26miles 385yds. as he has demonstrated that he has the speed. If so, he has now proved, without a shadow of a

doubt, that he is strong in both departments—speed and stamina.

Joe Birks assures us, that, with the permission of the A.A.A., the "News of the World" will organise a 30-mile track race at the White City, London, on 26th October.

In this official attempt on this long-standing record, I am confident that both Jack Holden and Tom Richards will get inside the old figures by an appreciable margin.

On 8th September, 90,000 spectators attended the Olympic Stadium, in Berlin, to view the first Inter-Allied Services athletic championships.

A strong U.S.A. team won with 57 points, representing 7 firsts, 6 seconds, and 4 thirds. Great Britain finished fifth, with 12 points (one first, 2 seconds, 1 third). Britain's solitary win was gained by Private William Nankerville, B.A.O.R. middle-distance champion, who broke the European Force's record in the 1,500 metres with 4min. 1 and 5/10ths secs., against the old record of 4 min. 5 and 3/10ths secs. Czechoslovakia had only one entrant, but he won the 5,000 metres event, and gained his country five points.

World Records Broken

Heino, the world-famous Finnish runner, first man to run 12 miles in an hour, and first to beat 50mins. for 10 miles, again put himself in the news. Not content with his recent performances, in which he won the European 10,000 metres championship, and put up a gallant display against Sydney Wooderson and company next day in the 5,000 metres—the Finnish wonder demonstrated his freedom from staleness by breaking two world records in one week—at distances as far apart as 4 and 10 miles. On 8th September, Heino broke the 4-mile record of 19min. 1sec., standing to the credit of his compatriot, Iso-Hollo, more famous as the Olympic steeplechaser, but a runner of rare versatility.

Heino's time of 18min. 52secs., thus smashed this 13-year-old record by 9secs.

Later in the week, Heino smashed his own 10 miles' record, at Helsinki, by covering the distance in the phenomenal time of 49min. 22 and 1/5th secs. When we realise that the great Paavo Nurmi's old world record for this distance (50min. 15secs.) was considered

one of his best, the merit of Heino's latest feat can be assessed at its real value.

That records are not considered everything, is revealed in a statement by the arch record-breaker of the day, namely, Heino himself, in which he confided his opinion that Nurmi was the greatest runner of all time, and the only runner in the world whom he would confidently have taken to beat the inimitable Sydney Wooderson over 5,000 metres. Nurmi, in his day, broke world records from 1 mile to the full marathon distance of 26mil. 385yds., and often broke them as he pleased. What he could have done if extended one will never know. The great populariser of the now-accepted warming-up process, and the instigator of mechanical pacing, by running against the stop watch rather than his own opponent, Nurmi was, perhaps, too scientific to be colourful. But the "phantom Finn," as he was known, has almost become a legend in running circles.

He definitely brought science into athletics, and, moreover, has proved a tremendous inspiration to his Finnish compatriots, as well as to the other Scandinavian athletes.

Still At It

At Chiswick, London, on 12th September, McDonald Bailey, our dual sprint champion, took part in a special 100yds. handicap race, beating A. C. Lewis, of the R.A.F. (off 5yds.), in 9.7 secs. A. C. Lewis is also a member of Dundee Hawkhill Harriers.

At a subsequent meeting at Trinity College Park, Dublin, under the auspices of Clonliffe Harriers, both McDonald Bailey and Wint were among the stars demonstrating that their break-downs, through muscle trouble at the Blackheath meeting on 31st August, was not of a serious nature.

What won the 440 in 49 8/10th secs.—only 4/10ths outside the Irish record. W. Roberts finished 3rd. After failing narrowly to win the 100yds. handicap, McDonald Bailey won the 220yds. in smooth style in 22.6. Archer, European 100 metres champion, finished 4th.

C. T. White was unplaced in the 880 yards. Bunton just failed to catch an Irish runner, Shaw (off 80yds.); while Steve McCooke had a grand win in the 4 miles handicap, in 20min. 15secs.,

against a field which included M. Bingham, of Finchley.

Shades of Arthur Newton

On Saturday, 28th September, Norman Dack, a member of Finchley Harriers, running in, what is expected to be his last race in England before shortly returning to Canada, finished first in the Finchley Harriers 50 miles open road race, decided over five circuits of 10 miles each, at Ruislip.

Coming Events

Amongst the coming events is the annual road relay race round the Kingsway Boulevard (Dundee) approx. 4 x 2½ miles, which is now something of an established fixture, and takes place on Saturday, 19th October. Shettleston Harriers are the present holders, but, without Harry Howard, who has been resting and is not yet fully tuned up, they are not yet the force of last year. Maryhill Harriers and Victoria Park may fight out the issue, and over the fast, flat Kingsway trial their fast track men may find conditions more to their liking. Bellahouston Harriers should not be far away. It is to be hoped that as many clubs as possible will support this venture, as Dundee is, perhaps, the most active town in the East at the present moment in the sport.

It will be good news to members of the Marathon Club, and to road enthusiasts, generally, that the famous Morpeth-to-Newcastle road race is once more back on the calendar.

Apart from the individual placings, there is a team contest in connection with the race, and, in the past, such prominent clubs as Maryhill Harriers, and Plebian Harriers, have sent strong teams down. "Dunky" Wright holds the record winning sequence for the individual title.

Distance runners are looking forward to the incoming season. Cross-country running has amongst its devotees a varied and large band of enthusiasts. The huge fields which turn out Saturday after Saturday, are not exclusively racing adherents, but include many who indulge on a keep-fit basis.

There are few more exhilarating pastimes than to run with a pack on a crisp winter day over field, fen and plough, clearing streams on the way; finally to return perspiring to head.

Continued at foot of next column.

PERTH-DUNDEE MARATHON

J. E. Farrell Makes New Record

A STEWARD'S STORY

By A. MUDIE

Perth-Dundee athletic events are quite a tradition on Tayside.

It all began away back in 1894 when a marathon was staged which was won by the recently deceased James Galloway in 2 hrs. 20 mins.

The next we hear about is a series of walking matches held round about the beginning of the century and still spoken of with relish by an older generation of Dundonians.

A lapse then occurred until 1930-35, when the present Hawkhill Harriers, influenced by Galloway, then serving on their committee, staged a series of walking matches which attracted mammoth fields from 30 to 70 strong. Galloway's two sons, George and Alex., between them won five out of those six events.

The present marathon series was created by that restless, erratic, yet likeable genius of the war years, Jimmy Brannen who, with the co-operation of the amalgamated Dundee Harriers, made such a success of the first two races, 1942 and 1943, that the Perth-Dundee is now the biggest on the Scottish marathon calendar.

For the 7th September, 1946, race—the fifth annual—we had a record entry of 27, and although five of them failed to start the twenty-two who did and the eighteen who finished still constituted record figures. In addition, we were blessed with ideal weather conditions—phenomenal in a ghastly summer and autumn—a mild clear day with just the faintest suspicion of a following breeze.

As we assemble at the starting point in Shore Road there is quite a crowd to see us off. We are somewhat behind

time and unfortunately our departure is now hampered by the departure of a fleet of buses from a nearby stance. So formalities are waived and the runners crowd to one side of the road. A hurried command from the starter, "Bang" and off they go, their multi-hued garb a flash of colour easy to follow as they swing right to cross the Tay by Victoria Bridge and right again on to the main Dundee highway and the first stage of their 22 miles trek. A few minutes later the official cars and truck follow on.

A little way out from Perth where Kinnoull Hill towers up on the left we begin to catch the field which even now is beginning to string out.

As we draw level with the leaders there is an excited buzz of speculation at the sight of the favourite Dunky Wright of Maryhill—winner on the last two occasions—out in front with club-mate J. E. Farrell hard on his heels. Here are the two principals in what no one doubts will be an intriguing athletic drama. Dunky, making his farewell appearance in competitive athletics after an innings of over twenty years, is exceptionally keen to do well to-day. A third successive win will give him the "Express Trophy" for keeps as a handsome memento of his retiral while a successful assault on the course record would lend a more lasting flavour to such a victory. But the wily veteran knows he has a Herculean task confronting him to-day in coping with that great battler Farrell whose prowess as a Scottish cross-country international and track 3, 6 and 10 miles title-holder, makes for dangerous potentialities.

So Dunky wastes no time in putting his best foot forward and to such good effect that at the first check, Glencarse, six miles out, his time of 34 mins. 32 secs. is 21 secs. inside the 1942 record schedule of Donald M'Nab Robertson. Farrell is just a second behind with Kennedy of Kilbarchan third, 35-49, T. Symington of Hamilton the same; Eric Paton of Clydesdale, 37-32; Peter Taylor of Thistle, 37-44; and John McCallum of Hamilton, 37-47.

Running Commentary—Continued.

quarters with the prospect of a shower and brisk rub-down.

For those who like the additional zest of competition, there will be the usual list of established fixtures, culminating in the blue riband of cross-country running, the International, due in Paris, on 29th March, next year. Scotland will be all-out to atone for last year's debacle at Ayr.

Halfway up the pack and bunched together are Andy Burnside and Park of Maryhill and Willie Connor of Shettleston and Alex. Gold of Garscube. Burnside, an experienced campaigner, has finished well up in the biggest English races, been in three Perths, finishing fifth last year just in front of clubmate Park. Connor was second last year and carried on all winter as a member of Shettleston's all-conquering cross-country and road relay teams, while Gold, a newcomer to the locals, has apparently been improving in all the Western road races of this season. These four know their pace and will move up later on.

Next comes Gillies of Shettleston, Walker of Stirling and Devon of Motherwell with Joe Bickerstaff of Dundee Hawkhill close behind. For the past three years Joe has been the only local 'entrant' and thus had an easy passage for the "Owens Trophy" for the first Angus man home. Looks rather like he is going to lose it to-day. With Gallagher of Hamilton past and Joe Welsh of Maryhill and Alex. Cullen of Hamilton jogging in side by side the timekeepers' car pulls out and if we are to head off the leaders at the next check we shall also have to be off soon. Wait! here is 62-year-old Jim M'Namara of Maryhill, and a bit behind Charlie Wood of Shettleston, ambling sedately along, chaffing us cheerily as he comes up.

So we file into the truck and off we go, bowling through the fair and fruitful lands of the Carse of Gowrie and, as we catch up with the runners again, we give each his fair share of encouragement. First retrial is Gillespie at Glendolig about 8 miles out.

Amazing what a good-going pair of legs can do. Here we are approaching the shady avenue of trees just before the Halfway House and quite a number are still in front. We have just passed Connor and Co. still together. Ah! here is Paton lying fifth. Must have dropped a place to Murray. Stuffy little runner Murray; was a member of Thistle's winning Edinburgh to Glasgow relay team pre-war. May go places to-day. Symington still fourth and Kennedy still third. No! we haven't caught the leaders but we learn from the timekeepers they are going great guns and are half a minute inside the record. Getting near Farrell's known limits. From now on is the test. At approximately 12 miles, Symington who

has run well up till now packs up. On the other side of Inchture, 13 miles, we again miss the leaders, Kennedy can be seen vanishing up the road. Paton is attracting notice by his determined running in holding of Connor and Co., while Murray is feeling the effects of his early punishing pace and has dropped back to ninth. By now the heat and burden of the day is weighing heavily and officials are busy with water-buckets and sponges. Gold, still in the company of Connor, Burnside and Park for fifth place is grateful for the second or third time, for a douche of cold water over his feet. At Longforgan, 15 miles, Dunky is still out in front digging in might and main with Farrell trailing him relentlessly. The time is 1 hr 27 mins, 38 secs., still that half-a-minute inside the record.

What price a new record to-day, we ask, while at the same time realising that Dunky is engaged in the same kind of Homeric struggle as in his 1944 clash with Welshman, Tom Richards.

Now we have to leave the rest of the field to the cyclist stewards and push on ahead. Meantime contact has been kept with the finish and we learn that a big crowd has already gathered and youngsters of the local clubs are about to entertain with some short distance racing. Speeding down the broad dual motorway to Invergowrie the first outlines of Dundee become visible beyond the village spires. Here we spot Kennedy with his yellow singlet and vigorous swinging action, and as we overtake him we give him all we've got for he has really been running "a storm." But where are the leaders? In front of that mass of cyclists I'll bet. Yes! We came up with them at last just as they enter Invergowrie, which is just over three miles from home. Both bracing themselves for the final effort.

The village behind, they commence the long, steady incline up to Dundee's western extremity and the climax comes swiftly. Here, ironically enough, on the same stretch of road where two years ago Dunky delivered the coup de grace to Richards, Farrell decides to strike. In a few tense moments he is up alongside Dunky who strives vainly to stay off the challenge but Farrell goes striding purposefully away reaching Ninewells's tram terminus 16 seconds ahead. To the right now and down to where the road runs through the flat expanse of Riverside Park. In the

welter of cycles and cars following on, it is difficult to judge the distance between the two opponents. Reckon about 200 yards by now. Approaching the playing fields, the spectators at the football, well aware of what is on and seeing the cavalcade, momentarily desert the games and cluster in on each side. They return questioning stares at the news of Farrell's lead. They have been expecting Dunky and are taken back at the failure of their dapper little favourite. Moments later, they are lost in admiration at the bronze-barrel-chested physique of Farrell, who is pacing along strongly, elated at the thought of the record well within his grasp.

On under the massive span of the Tay Bridge, to the mile-long finishing stretch of Riverside Drive, with the gradual curve of the grimy railyards on the left and on the right the broad waters of the Firth of Tay, backed by the pleasant green slopes of Flfe.

In sight of the finish, and the crowd of 2,000 strong crane their necks for a glimpse. What a finish! And it is "Jolly well run, sir!" as Farrell breaks the tape in the new record time of 2 hrs. 4 mins. 43 secs., an improvement of 1 min. 8 secs on the old.

An analysis of his performance shows he has averaged 5½ mins to the mile which if continued over the standard marathon distance would mean 2 hrs. 30 mins., which in turn would put him in the top flight of Britain's best. A really smashing debut.

The cheers are breaking out again as Dunky comes in to ring down the curtain on a long and remarkable career. Scottish cross-country and track titles along with A.A.A. and British Empire marathons are among the many purple patches and scores of other meritorious performances, which he can hardly remember himself. Nor must we forget the grand work done on the administrative side of Scottish athletics, notably in connection with the wartime emergency body the S.C.C.A. and also the Scottish Marathon Club. Even to-day's defeat has enhanced his prestige—for wasn't it his spade work which laid the foundation of the new record and the emergence of Farrell as a potential British and Olympic hope. Incidentally, it seems that Farrell too was pondering on retrial but after this startling success he should be easily persuaded to remain in the arena for some time yet.

Final results:—

	h.	m.	s.
1—J. E. Farrell (Maryhill H.)	2	4	43
2—D. McL. Wright (Mary. H.)	2	6	12
3—W. Kennedy (Kilb. A.A.C.)	2	11	11
4—W. Connor (Shettles. H.)	2	13	57
5—A. C. Burnside (Mary. H.)	2	14	37
6—A. Gold (Garscube H.)	2	19	28
7—E. Paton (Clydesdale H.)	2	22	6
8—J. Park (Maryhill H.)	2	26	28
9—A. Gillies (Shettleston H.)	2	27	33
10—J. McCallum (Hamil. H.)	2	29	49
11—J. F. Walker (St. Modan's F.P.'s, Stirling)	2	30	15
12—J. Bickerstaff (D. H'hill H.)	2	33	20
13—J. Welsh (Maryhill H.)	2	41	43
14—R. Devon (Mothwell Y.M.)	2	49	23
15—A. Cullen (Hamilton H.)	2	49	50
16—P. Taylor (Dundee Th. H.)	2	52	36
17—J. M'Namara (Scot. M. C.)	2	56	37
18—C. Wood (Shettleston H.)	3	4	57

In the handicap, fourteen of the finishers were covered by eighteen minutes. The winner was John McCallum of Hamilton who ran a nice steady race throughout. His allowance was 40 minutes, making his nett time, 1 hr. 49 mins. 49 secs.

Great to see such enthusiasm rewarded as that displayed by Alex. Cullen and Jim M'Namara. At an age when most men are content to put their feet on the mantelpiece and read about strenuous stuff, these old-stagers, aged 63 and 62 respectively, canter through a whole season's marathon work with a briskness in their step so amazing for men of their years. Cullen was second in handicap, with 60 mins.—nett time, 1 hr. 49 mins. 50 secs. M'Namara third also 60 mins.—nett time, 1 hr. 56 mins. 37 secs.

Joe Bickerstaff survived the challenge for local honours. Murray collapsed on Riverside Park while Taylor fell back in the latter stages. Joe's story is of the "patience and perseverance overcome all difficulties" type. Joining Hawks in 1937 as a very weakly lad in his 'teens he ran last in all club races up to 1939 but was showing some improvement in the wartime Eastern League races. But it was when he took up marathon that he carved a special niche for himself in the affections of his clubmates by his sheer enthusiasm and qualities as a stickler. This is his fourth win of the Owen's Trophy and it goes to him for keeps.

Well, thanks boys for a really splendid and enjoyable race. Now we must refer to that select little tea-room in

that salubrious quarter of the city called the Overgate and here we have to listen to a lot of nice things said about our organisation, and conduct of the race. But within ourselves we know the chief ingredient of success is the support of all those ardent enthusiasts who come from so far afield. Indeed we would like to give them all prizes but of course that wouldn't do either. So we ply them with hospitality to the best of our ability and present handsomely designed certificates to all who finish the course. Finally, they take leave of us, not so much as

rival clubmen but as friends and fellow-sportsmen. We on our part are conscious of having done something worthwhile for Scottish athletics and we are proud to belong to "This Happy Breed of Men"—the Harriers.

A. M. Donnet, now Vice-President of the N.C.C.U. sent some interesting data about the race.

We extract the following comparisons for reference, readers can make their own analysis.

	GLENCURSE (6 miles)	HALFWAY HO. (10 miles)	LONGFORGAN (15½ miles)	NINEWELLS (19¼ miles)	FINISH (22 miles)
1942	h. m. s.	h. m. s.	h. m. s.	h. m. s.	h. m. s.
D. M. Robertson ...	0 34 53	0 55 30	1 28 7	1 50 25	2 5 51
1944					
D. McL. Wright ...	0 39 5	1 0 32	1 34 33	1 55 56	2 11 7
T. Richards ...	0 39 5	1 0 32	1 34 33	1 56 0	2 12 17
G. Porteous ...	0 40 19	1 2 2	1 35 15	1 58 4	2 14 25
1946					
J. E. Farrell ...	0 34 32	0 54 53	1 27 39	1 49 39	2 4 43
D. McL. Wright ...	0 34 32	0 54 52	1 27 38	1 49 51	2 6 12
W. Kennedy ...	0 35 49	0 57 6	1 31 2	—	2 11 11

A CHALLENGE

There has been a steady increase of interest shown in "The Scots Athlete." So much so, that we feel justified in planning further development.

Our team of writers merit a wider public than they have at present. Judging by the praise of our contributors, which comes from different parts of the country, an excellent standard has been maintained; and still, there must be many people interested in our sport who have not yet seen this magazine.

Next month the paper will be much more attractive, with a coloured front page and an increase in the number of pages.

We cannot, honestly, say that readers will be glad to hear that, with the fore-mentioned improvements, the price is to be raised to 6d—we regret it ourselves—but "Facts are chieftains" and we can only apologise by saying it is essential to the maintenance of our paper, and to the gaining of a greater public interest in our fascinating sport.

The annual subscription will be raised to 6/6 (paper sent post free). Present subscribers will receive copies till their subscriptions would have normally expired.

We will write a personal note to each club secretary within a few days giving more details of the proposed changes.

Readers who are anxious to see "The Scots Athlete" established, should ask their local newsagent to have it on stock.

Circumstances have forced an issue, and we gladly take up the challenge. There can be no looking back. Events will not allow us even to stand stationary. We can only go forward prepared to make new conquests.

* * *

West Kilbride Amateur Sports Club has recently been formed and has a good number of enthusiastic and active members. The Hon. Secretary, James Reid, Third Port, Holding, West Kilbride, would like inter-club runs arranged.

LENNOXTOWN'S "GLAURIOUS" DAY

Scottish athletes are indebted to St. Machan's A.A.C., and their sports convener, Rev. Father O'Connell, for their enterprise in bringing over an outstanding Irish team of athletes to compete at the Sports organised by them on Saturday, 7th September, 1946. Exactly one

month previous, Mr. Struth, Rangers F.C., had brought outstanding runners from different parts of the country, to compete at Ibrox. This meeting was heralded in the National Press. Mr. Struth deserved praise; he went to great lengths to bring the best athletes in the country to compete in Glasgow, and has done so with great success for many years.

SPORTSMANSHIP!

The following letter was received by J. E. Farrell, a few days after he had broken Donald M. Robertson's Perth-Dundee record. It was sent by Donald Robertson, and we asked J. E. Farrell to allow us to print it, because of the real friendly and sporting expressions of the former British Champion.

Dear John,—Please accept my congratulations for your very fine effort on Saturday, when you smashed the Perth to Dundee record. For a "veteran" you are running exceptionally well, and I have no doubt you can maintain that form for a good few years to come.

Your record has given me something to think of; but, may I say, that I am rather pleased it was you, a club-mate, who broke my record. "Dunky" ran exceptionally well, and, we must hand it to him—he is a marvel for his age. Sorry I was unable to turn out myself; I had a slight mishap after the Salisbury race and have not run since.

Well, John, I am pleased to say it won't be long now till I am a civvy—I get demobbed exactly two weeks to-day, that is, the 24th September. I intend to have a few weeks' rest and then get down to training again, and I am looking forward to "South Brae" and all that it means.

The coming cross-country season should be more like old times again, with yourself, Willie Nelson, Gordon Porteous and Peters all running as well as ever: what's to stop us from winning the National once again?

It seems "Dunky" has definitely retired and won't be running with us this season, but, no doubt, his influence will help the club in many ways without actually running.

Needless to say, I am looking forward to my release from the Army and will be seeing you as a civvy, in two or three weeks' time.—Your sincerely,

DONALD.

Droitwich, Wores., 10/9/46.

Strangely enough, the enterprise of St. Machan's A.A.C., which was, at least, equal to that of Rangers F.C. on this occasion, was allowed to pass without any great Press publicity. We are not making complaints; the shortage of space is a headache to the Editors of each different newspaper, but, we would like the St. Machan's promoters to know that, despite the lack of good publicity, Scottish athletes acknowledge the true value of their efforts.

The meeting, however, had a good report in the local "Kirkintilloch Herald," on 11th September, 1946. Enthusiasts will appreciate part reproduction here, as a token of Scottish gratitude.

The heading was the same as above. "When is Nancy Riach due to appear?" queried a competitor at Lennoxton's Highland Games on Saturday, shortly before the programme opened.

This reference to Scotland's swim star was most appropriate, for the day was more suited for an aquatic display than at athletic meeting.

Viewed from the heights of the playing field pavilion balcony, the sports arena had the appearance of a giant paddling pond, its surface being dotted all over with pools—some of them ankle deep, with more moisture coming down every minute.

Our sympathies, at this stage, were with the St. Machan's A.A.C. Committee, and, particularly, with the convener, Father O'Connell, Lennoxton's young priest and sportsman, who had worked with might and main to build up a bill of champions, the like of which has seldom before been seen out with the confines of London, Ibrox, or Cowal.

The meeting had a decidedly international flavour, for competing were the pick of Scotland's athletes, a strong team of challengers from Elre, stalwart sons of Poland, and a really big per-

sonality in Prince A. F. Adedoyin, a member of a Nigerian Royal family, and an athlete of international repute.

Such a gathering, on a reasonably fair day, would have attracted many thousands of sports lovers from all parts of the West of Scotland to Lennoxton, but, as it was, the attendance could scarcely have reached the 1,000 mark when it was announced that the programme would be proceeded with—this, fully 40 minutes after the scheduled hour.

The competitors triumphed over the climatic conditions to the extent of returning some remarkable performances. Owing to the greasy condition of the field skids were frequent, particularly at the corners, and one skid cost Victoria Park the youths' relay to Shettleston. St. Ninian's finished in 3rd place.

Most versatile of the colourful Irish "inaders" was Dave Guiney, 16-stone of good nature, who got a distance of 46ft. 5½in. with the 16lb. ball—the best throw of the Scottish season. He also threw the javelin 146ft. 7in., and found time to interest himself in the discus throwing, etc. Prince Adedoyin, who flew over from Belfast on Friday, found conditions all against record-breaking high jumps, and had to be content with a modest—for the Prince—5ft. 10ins. He tried out a new straddle technique. The Prince, however, excelled in the broad jump, attaining 21ft. 2ins., and in the hop, step and leap, 41ft 6½ins.

A high-light of the afternoon was the invitation medley race over one mile, featuring Elre A.A.U., Scottish A.A.A. and Victoria Park, Scotland's crack club. It was a magnificent, thrill-packed race. Ireland just got home in front of Scotland, and Victoria Park, who had given two runners to Scotland, were a good third. The teams were: Elre—Con Sheehan, Paul Dolan, James Reardon and Eric Lamont. Scotland—Hugh Broadley, Glasgow Y.M.; W. N. Ritchie, Victoria Park; Robin Sharp, Garscube; and W. Whigham, Victoria Park. Victoria Park was represented by George McDonald, W. D. Connacher, Ian Panton, and J. S. Hamilton. The time was 3min. 40.9secs.

Reardon, from scratch, put up a fight to finish a close second to Connacher (off 7yds.), in the 440 yards' invitation. In doing so he beat Panton, of Scotland—no mean feat.

The article went on to give the full results and comments, and concluded thus:—

Great praise is due the S.A.A.A. officials, the announcer and officials who, like the competitors, carried on their work under very trying conditions.

The invitation competitors, S.A.A.A. officials, and other guests, later found a very acceptable steak pie tea waiting them in the St. Machan's Hall, the members of the Women's Guild again turning up trumps.

In a short speech-making session, Secretray George Dallas described the conditions as the worst possible, and congratulated Father O'Connell on his efforts. Each year they wondered what champions he had in mind to appear at Lennoxton. (Applause).

Father O'Connell said that his main object was to get the boys of the parish interested in sport, and, if he had succeeded in this, he considered himself rewarded in full.

Other speakers included Con Sheehan who spoke for the Irish team, and indicated their intention of competing again next year if invited.

Prince Adedoyin, who was very cordially received, thanked Father O'Connell, and all concerned, for the many kindnesses shown, and had a special word of praise for the ladies.

Thus ended what was, for Lennoxton, truly a red-letter day, despite the worst that that major saboteur, the weather clerk, was capable of accomplishing.

RACE FIXTURES

Oct.	19—Kinsway Road Relay (Open) ... Dundee
	20—Clydesdale Novice Championship ... Clydebank
	26—Vale of Leven Novice Championship ... Alexandria
Nov.	2—Glasgow Univ. H.H. v. Edinburgh University ... Garscadden
	2—Motherwell Y.M. Novice Championship ... Y.M.I.
	9—Youths' Ballot Team (open) ... Clydebank
	9—Garscube H. Novice Championship ... Westerton
	9—West of Scotland H. Novice Championship ... Stannane
	10—Motherwell Y.M. (3 miles) ... Y.M.I.
	23—National Novice ... Y.M.I.
	30—Glasgow Univ. H.H. Club Handicap ... Garscadden
Dec.	7—Eastern District Relay (4 x 2½) ... Dundee
	7—Midland District Relay (4 x 2½) ... Westerton
	7—South-Western District Relay (4 x 2½) ... Johnstone

Our Post

ALAN—AMBASSADOR OF SPORTSMANSHIP

My Dear Ross,—Thank you very much for a charming letter and for the copies of the "Scots Athlete." May I say that Farrell is entirely right in criticising the A.A.A. Marathon arrangements, and no one ought to resent such criticism. I think his "Running Commentary" is extraordinarily well done. It is wonderfully to the point and covers a tremendous amount of ground in a short space. He certainly has a gift for this kind of thing. Please never hesitate to criticise if, in doing so, you think the interests of the sport are best served; and, as officials, we must expect and accept criticism in the right way. All that should be done before criticism is made, is to see that the criticism is based on exact facts or reasonable knowledge. I have gained the impression that Farrell does this, and I do sincerely congratulate him upon some good stuff.

What a remarkable article George Andrews has written! I was in Oslo and his summing-up of the race, taken from Harold's broadcast, is really first class and wonderfully accurate. I'm glad to have read it.

Thinking of the European Games, I would like to say this: Your country can derive very great satisfaction from the performances of Scotland's two athletes in Oslo. D. Clark's effort in the hammer was highly meritorious. He approached the job with the right spirit and caused the local Swedish papers to comment on the fact that a British athlete had gained 3rd place in a Field Event. And he turned the tables on Houtzager, the Dutchman, who beat him in the A.A.A. Championships. What a truly great performance too, Alan Paterson achieved. For, perhaps, the first time in his life, he was in the arena without a soul to keep him company. No team manager or club-mate to advise or assist in his run up or take-off. It was, of course, a long-drawn-out competition. At 6ft. 5½in., Paterson had fewer failures and was actually leading. Both failed twice at 6ft. 6in. Paterson failed third time, and then Bolinder scraped over. Just one jump between Paterson and the European Championship. That's how near it was.

And immediately Bolinder cleared the winning height, Paterson spontaneously darted across to his successful

STIMULATING INTEREST

Dear Mr. Ross,—Enclosed are four June copies in response to your appeal. They may help some of the lads who have not seen a copy.

The "Scots Athlete" has created a thirst for knowledge in the running world unknown in my 17 years' with the "shire." I hope you will keep it up.—Yours sincerely,

J. PETER,

Hon Secretary.

Aberdeen Harriers Club.

[The four copies were appreciated. One went to British North Borneo, two to India, and one to Germany.—Ed.]

WELCOME NEWS FROM U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ross,—I appreciated your letter and the copies of the "Scots Athlete" that I received to-day. I know that with the Olympic Games being set for London, things will pick up very rapidly in regard to competition.

I am enclosing some of the results of the collegiate events and the performance of our track and field men up to date will give you a good indication of just how things are going here. Incidentally, two of the best boys, McKenley of Illinois, who is one of the greatest runners I have ever seen; and LaBeach, of Wisconsin, will undoubtedly compete for Great Britain, as they are native Jamaican boys.

Thanking you for writing to me, and warning you that the United States is going to bend every effort to bring another great team over.—I am, yours sincerely,

K. L. WILSON,

Vice-President,

United States Olympic Association.
Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., 15/7/46.

[Space difficulty prohibits the publishing of results sent and our analysis. These will appear next month. Suffice to say at present, that, at the National Collegiate Meet, on 21st and 22nd June, H. McKenley won the 220 yds. in 21.3 sec; and the 440 yds. in 47.5 sec. L. LaBeach was runner-up in the 220 yds., and the 100 yds. which was won in 9.6 sec. The high jump was won by K. Weisner, with 6ft. 8½ins.—Ed.]