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R. C. Calderwood (Vic. Park) leading from A. S. Jackson and A. H. Brown (Motherwell Y.M.) in the Scottish 3 miles Championship at New Meadowbank.
Photo by John Barrowman.

JOHN EMMET FARRELL'S
RUNNING COMMENTARY.

PERCY W. CERUTTY on PIRIE'S WORLD RECORD.
SCOTTISH SENIOR, JUNIOR & SCHOOLS.
CHAMPIONSHIP REPORTS AND DETAILS.
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THE SCOTS ATHLETE

TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN
SCOTTISH AND WORLD ATHLETICS
"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."

EDITED BY - WALTER J. ROSS

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JOHN EMMET
FARRELL'S



AT present winter prevails in Australia and Melbourne venue of the Olympics in NOVEMBER.

Perhaps resident athletic enthusiasts feel a little wintry too and their sunny optimism less bright with the news that Gordon Pirie has duplicated the feat of their great hope Dave Stephens by breaking a world record.

A Very Gay Gordon Indeed!

Pirie, controversial, erratic, brilliant is right back to form. It is to be hoped that he can hold on to this world record breaking form. A personal best of 3.43.7 in the 1,500 metres. A 7.55.6 3,000 metres to equal Iharos world record and a shattering 5,000 metres in 13.36.8 to beat Kuts and take 4 seconds off Iharos world figures. makes good reading for British enthusiasts.

And A Lesson.

Even his 29.17.2 10,000 metres to equal his own best although some 23 secs. outside Zatopek's current figures was a grand effort under adverse conditions though somewhat disappointing to Pirie himself.

In his keenness to smash Zatopek's record—galloping Gordon started much too fast. At half-distance he was 7.2 secs. inside but at the finish some 23 secs. outside record. The discrepancy between the first 5,000 metres (14.20.4) and the second (14.56.8) of 30 secs. was much too great. But the experience should be beneficial.

Problem for Selectors.

Britain's Olympic chances appear to be highest at 1,500 metres, 5,000 metres and 10,000 metres and they are so rich in contenders that the problem is whom to omit. For the 1,500 metres outstanding contenders are Pirie, Ibbotson, Hewson, Wood and Boyd. Chataway, Ibbotson and Pirie for 5,000 metres and for 10,000 metres again Pirie, Norris Sando and Foord.

It is wrong to consider that Chataway is not training consistently. Although not of the Pirie school he is hard at work but still a believer in peak conditioning is mindful of the fact that the Games are

still some distance away. The A.A.A. championships are not the final test but only a pointer although an important one towards selection.

I say the American Method is Correct.

In contradistinction the American method of holding a specific final trial appears ruthless. True they have abundant talent at most events and can afford to omit champions and even record holders who fail at this last hurdle. Yet this year a 5 months gap between trial and Olympics appears too wide. Nevertheless I believe in the American method on principle (though whether they themselves are moved by principle or convenience I cannot say). For after all the Olympics events themselves are on specific days and at specific times. In that they resemble cup-ties rather than a league series. It is the athlete who either by accident or design is able to reach his peak at the appropriate time who has the best chance. Too bad should illness, accident or loss of form intervene in a single, final, trial. But is not that possibility present also at the specific Olympics. Illness and accident may come unawares but the Games are not only a test of actual ability but a test of temperament and a rising to the occasion.

Very Strong American Team.

The team from U.S.A. is an amazingly strong one up to 800 metres in the flat and in the field events but average in the distance events where Russia is very strong.

High Jump Everest.

The best performances were undoubtedly the breaking of the high jump barrier of 7 feet by 19 year-old Charles Dumas who cleared 7 ft. $\frac{1}{2}$ in. to add 1 inch to Walt Davis's previous world figures, Lou Jones's 45.2 secs. 400 metres (2/10 secs. inside our world figures) and an amazing 400 metres hurdles race in which Glenn Davis 49.5 Eddie Southern 49.7 and Josh Culbreath were all inside Lituev's figures.

The Shot Putt and 100 metres world records were equalled and an all star 800 metres in which a new American record was set finished Courtney 1.46.4, Sowell 1.46.9 and Spurrier 1.47.6.

The Scottish Scene.

Ian Binnie's retirement from athletics, temporary or permanent as yet unknown has been the recent Scottish talking point. An erratic, controversial figure Binnie could be brilliant. Nevertheless repeated errors in judgement and a preference to race against the watch rather than against the man lessened his competitive ability. Nevertheless with his Zatopek-like zeal in training and his uninhibited contempt for existing Scottish standards he materially assisted in establishing the new athletic deal north of the border. With little interest in cross-country but brilliant on track and devastating over the road there is a whisper that he may make a come-back in road races. His club will miss him as anchor man in the big relays and Scottish running will be poorer without his great ability. Let's hope this is not Binnie's athletic epitaph.

Scottish Personalities.

Three of the greatest personalities in Scottish athletics at the moment are Graham Everett, mile champion—Jackson 3 mile champion and Jim Paterson our half-mile champion. Perhaps it is their achievements outside the championships that emphasised their intrinsic and potential class. Graham Everett's 3rd place in the Police meeting's International mile in 4m. 7.5s. for a new native record is perhaps of highest merit but Jackson's 5,000 win in Finland in 14m. 13.6s. and a subsequent 13m. 55.3s.—3 miles only .2 of a second outside Binnie's native record is worthy of a Scottish Oscar as is Paterson's 1m. 52.9s. half-mile after the championships also only .2 outside D. C. Gorrie's record figures.

Much improved Andy Brown also deserves commendation for his grand 6 miles in the championships and his versatility. Dunbar and Henderson also revealed that they were worthy champions by retaining their titles in fluent fashion. It will be recalled that in last year's A.A.A. championships Henderson caused something of a sensation by being placed 3rd in the furlong in a photo finish. Rufus-locked Bobby Quinn also showed that he is a

fighting champion by holding on to his lead despite the near presence of Paterson and McDonald whilst Bain's win in the hammer throw was a case of pupil beating master.

McGhee comes through Gruelling Test.

Joe McGhee won the Scottish marathon title for the 3rd successive year in itself a record sequence and at the same time revealed a successful come-back after doubts occasioned by injury and delay. His 2 hrs. 33 mins. 36 secs. I consider most meritorious in the warm sultry conditions. Some criticism was directed against his extraordinary fast start in the heat and his very fast pace to the 20 miles mark (as fast as last year's record run) possibly provided Joe with more trouble over the last few weary miles than did his opponents. He probably was anxious and lacking in confidence at the start due to the break in his training. Geo. King troubled with leg injury was never happy and had to retire at half-distance while Harry Fenion shadowed the winner for some time and ran well to the 20 miles stage but blistered feet, weather conditions, lack of experience and let's not forget—the pace set by McGhee told their tale and Harry retired at 23 miles. Nevertheless for a first attempt he showed tremendous promise. Alex. Kidd ran a good sound race to finish 2nd. He can better this performance yet, his 2 hrs. 46 mins. was worth minutes better in more normal conditions.

Bellahouston Harriers on the Upsurge.

Bellahouston Harriers are beginning to close the gap with such as Edinburgh Varsity, Shettleston and Victoria Park. One of their up and coming stars is young Gordon Nelson the new steeple-chase champion who has followed in the footsteps of previous champions from the same club Bob Climie and Tommy Lamb. Joe Connolly is also a fine versatile runner and they have 3 of the finest half-milers in the country in Stoddart, Fraser, Cowan. I doubt if any club in Scotland could beat them in a 4 x 880 yards race. They are fortunate in having several very enthusiastic club officials at their disposal.

Promising Young Scots.

Scotland has a grand array of youths and junior many of whom could make future national or even International champions if they retained their interest in the sport. Lads like Bobby Hall, youths sprint champion, hefty weight putter Robin Sharp, hurdlers like stylist Ian Alexander, R. H. Weir and R. D. McLeod (senior champion hurdler tho' still a junior) and Malcolm Gillies who makes mile running look the easiest thing in the world.

Zatopek for Marathon ONLY?

There have been reports that Emil Zatopek will confine his attention to the marathon only at Melbourne. Nevertheless up till recently the maestro has been competing even over 5,000 metres and running well too though without his former edge at this distance. It would be interesting to know whether the Czech still maintains his extensive type of track training which served him so well in his triple success of 1952 or how much if any time he is devoting to actual road training? A recent hernia has interrupted his training and reports are somewhat pessimistic regarding his Olympic chances.

Isle of Man Record for Tom Richards.

Wonderful veteran Tom Richards scored another brilliant win in the 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ road race round the Isle of Man with a record run of 3 hrs. 57 mins. 5 secs., 3 mins. inside last year's time. Local favourite W. H. Kelly could get no nearer than some 21 mins. behind. The Welsh veteran continues to amaze by his enthusiasm and fitness.

Fastest Ever—yet Also Ran.

The Poly. course is reputed to be a fast one. Even thus it seems strange to find Geoff Iden and Bill McMinnis (last year's British champion) putting up respectively times of 2.25.51 and 2.26.11 yet finishing only 9th and 10th.

Athletics and the Public.

Has the fetish for records and record attempts killed the goose that lays the golden eggs? The stars and their fast times have helped to sustain public interest yet paradoxically to sustain that interest

the athlete has to keep on outdoing himself, an impossible proposition. Take the recent police athletic gala for example. A galaxy of stars, almost perfect weather, yet the crowd though good was not adequate for the occasion. We had more over some of the keenest and most brilliant racing ever seen at an open meeting yet the reaction evoked was rather one of polite applause rather than wild enthusiasm. I say it was a great meeting and slickly run too. The half-mile, the mile and in particular the 3 miles had me almost bending backward with enthusiasm.

Points of Departure.

Nevertheless I feel the time is ripe to introduce novel features into athletic meetings. For example there could be two commentators one to announce results which is in itself a full-time job and the other a knowledgeable enthusiast whose job it would be to sustain attention between events by comment on parts of interest about competitors or their event, or even comparisons on points of technique.

This would be particularly helpful in the field events where the competition is not so ostensibly visual and these events should not take place with other events in progress. This might mean stream-lining a programme but I think in this case the end would justify the means.

Yet when all is said and done athletics is perhaps reflecting the age in which we live. An age of hysteria in which like the press we are fed daily with sensations which finally become almost ordinary by repetition. Too much focus on records, too much expectation of fast times with the race itself secondary. Like a chap I know who could hardly run for a tram saying of a 4 min. 2 sec. mile "pretty slow." Was Shakespeare not correct when he uttered these simple but immortal words "Sweets grown common lose their own delight."?

A.A.A. Championships.

High-Light Selectors' Problems.

The results of the A.A.A. championships must keep the selectors still in a quandary regarding best selection for Melbourne especially in their 3 best events 1,500

5,000 and 10,000 metres. The mile was a purely tactical race—slow over the first 3 laps with a devastating sub 55 secs last lap by Ken Wood who jumped the field and just held off Brian Hewson with Boyd 3rd. Johnson in a slow-run race which should have suited him tired badly.

Ibbotson—Chataway Duel.

After a magnificent race Ibbotson cleverly held off the finishing burst of a Chataway in good shape but not just at concert pitch due to lack of racing in fast time.

Pirie—Odd Man Out or In?

The 6 miles was also a brilliant affair with Ken Norris holding off a sensational finish by Frank Sando. Respective times of 28.13.6 and 28.14.2 both beat Pirie's British record of 28.19.4 Ibbotson—Chataway look a good team for the 5,000 metres as do Norris and Sando for the 10,000 metres but what about the brilliant Pirie unable to run due to a leg injury and able to double in both events?

Scots Did Well.

The Scots comported themselves well against such classy opponents. Douglas 3rd place in the hammer with a grand 182 ft. 8 ins revealed his flair for the big occasion. Superb too were Paterson's 4th in the half and Everett's 4th in the mile while Andy Brown though only 10th in the 6 miles did a personal best of 29.12 in a record race.

The remarkable Paterson deserves further praise. In his heat he led from the gun to be passed only in the last 20 yds.—recording 1m. 51.9s! At the first bend in the final he was badly bumped—right to the outside. Did he panic? Not on your life! He joined the tail right to the last '220' then worked right through to 4th. A magnificent feat by this young slight hero of Scottish track—or should we say, on account of his amazing light-hearted versatility—of track, road and country!

STOP PRESS

Running in an 800 metres race at Rangers Sports on 4th August, J. V. Paterson went on to 880 yards in new native record time of 1m. 51.9s.

SCOTTISH SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Reviewed by JAMES L. LOGAN

THE S.A.A.A. 64th Annual Championship meeting held at New Meadowbank, Edinburgh, on 22nd and 23rd June, was expected to be one of the most memorable of the long Series.

In the mile, we awaited a titanic battle; for although we still tingled from Graham Everett's 4 mins. 7.5 secs. native record there were two other sub-4 mins. 10 secs. men in the field. In the hammer and high jump we had two A.A.A. champions who might be expected to make a special effort in an Olympic year. And, of course, we wondered if that astonishing little runner Jim Paterson could take the difficult double of 440 and 880 yards.

In the event, however, the dramatic moments sprang from defeats and we had to look beyond the measure of watch and tape to find the significance of several performances.

Neither Euan Douglas nor Willie Piper were on terms with their true selves and the honours went to young athletes who showed themselves capable of pressing home the challenge when their formidable rivals faltered.

In the hammer, former Fettes boy and A.A.A. Junior champion Ian Bain coached originally by Douglas confirmed his early promise and recent form by throwing 175 feet 8 ins. The "heavies" tend to mature late and if Bain retains his enthusiasm he should progress to international class.

A. M. Law, appropriately named young Paisley policeman, has been quietly inching his way up among the handicap men for several years and now finds himself Scottish champion when some of his more spectacular contemporaries have just as quietly departed from the scene.

In the short sprint, A. S. Dunbar retained his title as expected, holding off clubmate Ron Whitelock, while Bill Henderson again showed his outstanding flair for the furlong.

When he lined up for the quarter-mile final, Jim Paterson already had two fast

"quarters" and two fast "halves" in his legs (although in these days of high recovery rates, perhaps we shouldn't count his Friday efforts!). Title-holder Quinn frustrated the "double" bid by a superbly judged effort, especially commendable as he had to run "blind" throughout the race.

Paterson, however, emphasised what we already knew, that he is one of the most remarkable athletes in Scottish track history. Small and slim, with a low, quick-striding style, he suggests the type of athlete who must bow to nature and confine himself to long-distance events. Yet on New Meadowbank's present poor surface, he pattered round the two laps in 1 min. 54.8 secs, a tremendous performance, which shook off unmistakably F. G. Cowan's spirited challenge and left powerful long-striding, ex-champion Bob Stoddart who came through to second place well in the rear. Incidentally, Bellahouston had reason, to be proud with three finalists here. D. L. Fraser who was third appears to be a real 'find.'

In the much-publicised mile, the less fancied men must have been surprised to find themselves still in the company of the giants at an advanced stage in the race. With a very fast "half" to his credit earlier this season, J. R. Cameron might have been expected to make a very strong final challenge but Everett commanded affairs immediately the break was made at the second-last bend and, indeed, it was W. H. Watson who came on in determined fashion to take second place. Happy days, when we can sniff at the time of 4 mins. 16.1 secs.!

The three miles was also cat-and-mouse, with the issue clearly between Adrian Jackson and Andrew Brown. Jackson also began his effort at the second-last bend and almost met disaster when he collided with a lapped man who politely, but belatedly, moved out to let the leaders

pass inside. Jackson was undisturbed by the incident and raced home in a very fast finish.

During the race two other runners seemed to be running well who with Jackson and Brown were well ahead of the field most of the way. Alec Small of Plebeian who perhaps unexpectedly had failed to qualify for the mile final on the previous evening and Bob Calderwood (Victoria Park) who actually did the pace-making for the first two miles. However, Small who was noted to stumble several times seemed to be very disconcerted with the track and dropped out as likewise did Calderwood who appeared to have "blown himself out" through his own pace-making efforts.

* Those who have observed Andrew Brown's progress have great hopes that a Scottish title is but a herald of greater honours to come. 29 mins. 47.6 secs. for 6 miles will not reach any ears outside Scotland these days, but Andy is climbing steadily.

In the hurdles, double title-holder Clive Dennis paid the penalty for adding the quarter-mile flat to his championship repertoire. It should not be forgotten, however, that the 440 yards hurdles final was his first effort on Saturday and in this he lost his title squarely to A. Hannah, former junior champion. Hannah's time of 55.3 secs. should be coupled with his age of nineteen years to bring the performance into Olympic focus. Four years of progress should find him emulating the David Gracie of 1952.

Dennis, after qualifying for the 120 yards hurdles final, ran a semi-final and final in the 440 flat. Understandably, he asked to be excused from the final of the 120 yards hurdles and thus his second title slipped away. In this event, the only really tight finish of the meeting saw the youthful R. D. McLeod win an inches victory over J. T. Johnston, with Hannah third. Here was another former school-boy star shooting up to senior championship heights.

The Steeplechase field sorted itself out early, with Gordon Nelson and Clark Wallace worthily upholding their respective club traditions in this event.

G. H. Cain, despite the handicap of a bandaged arm, retained his long jump title while Tom Logan completed a great day for the "polis" by keeping the shot-putt title in custody.

The remaining honours all changed hands. Willie Piper did not defend his pole-vault bay, which went to T. Lunde, a spectacular stylist both in this event and in the javelin. Bqb Stephen gave way to T. McNab in the hop, step and jump, while double title-holder C. F. Riach lost both crowns: the javelin, to D. W. R. McKenzie and the discuss to R. C. Buist.

The most unfortunate athletes of the day were those runners who were just outside "standard"; the state of the track undoubtedly prevented several from gaining an honour which their efforts deserved.

Details—

100 Yards.

1. A. S. Dunbar (V.P.) (holder) 10.1s.
2. R. W. Whitelock (V.P.) ... 10.3s.
3. J. G. Edgar (Glas. Pol. A.A.) 10.4s.
4. J. G. R. Robertson (G.U.A.C.) 10.4s.
5. G. H. Cain (Edinburgh N.) 10.4s.
6. P. M. Connelly (Jordanhill) ... 10.4s.

23 entrants forward.

220 Yards.

1. W. Henderson (holder) ... 22.6s.
2. A. S. Dunbar ... 22.8s.
3. J. G. R. Robertson ... 23.1s.
4. K. A. Robertson (Ed. Un.) ... 23.2s.
5. J. Sutherland (Edin. Un.) ... 23.3s.
6. R. Quinn (V.P.A.A.C.) ... —

Standard time: 22.8 secs.

16 entrants forward.

440 Yards.

1. R. Quinn (holder) ... 49.8s.
2. J. V. Paterson (Edin. Univ.) 50.3s.
3. D. Macdonald (Garscube H.) 50.5s.
4. R. Thomson (London A. C.) 52.2s.
5. W. S. Linton (Clydesdale H.) 52.2s.
6. C. A. R. Dennis (Edin. Un.) 53.1s.

Standard time: 51.8secs.

20 entrants forward.

880 Yards.

1. J. V. Paterson (holder) 1m. 54.8s.
2. R. Stoddart (Bella. H.) ... 1m. 57.3s.
3. D. L. Fraser (Bella. H.) 1m. 58.1s.
4. E. Reilly (Cambuslang H) 1m. 58.2s.
5. J. K. Hislop (Braidburn) 1m. 58.5s.
6. F. Cowan (Bella. H.) ... 1m. 59.8s.
7. N. Donachie (Braidburn) —

Standard time: 1min. 59 secs.

17 entrants forward.

One Mile.

1. G. E. Everett (holder) ... 4m. 16.1s.
2. W. H. Watson (Ed. Un.) 4m. 18.3s.
3. J. R. Cameron (T.V.H.) 4m. 21s.
4. P. J. Robinson (Achilles) 4m. 21.8s.
5. A. D. Breckenridge (V.P.) 4m. 23.6s.
6. P. G. MacLean (Belgrave) 4m. 24.0s.

Other finalists:—

R. M. McAllister (Ed. South H.).

A. W. Orr (Shettleston H.).

A. J. Wood (Aberdeen Univ.).

Standard time: 4 mins. 25 secs.

23 entrants forward.

Three Miles.

1. A. S. Jackson (Edin. Un.) 14m. 33.6s.
2. A. H. Brown (Moth Y.M) 14m. 40.6s.
3. E. Bannon (Shett. H.) ... 14m. 52.2s.
4. G. A. Dunn (Garscube H) 14m. 52.3s.
5. W. A. Robertson (Ed. S.) 14m. 54.0s.
6. G. R. Govan (Shett. H.) 15m. 16.5s.

Standard time: 14 mins. 50 secs.

17 entrants forward.

Six Miles.

1. A. H. Brown ... 29m. 47.6s.
2. P. Moy (Vale of Leven) 31m. 10.2s.
3. S. Horn (Garscube H.) 31m. 31.6s.
4. A. C. Gibson (Ham. H.) 31m. 39.0s.
5. H. Gibson (Ham. H.) ... 31m. 42.0s.
6. G. Dickson (Garscube H) 31m. 45.9s.
7. J. McNeill (Shett. H) also within stand.

Standard time: 32 mins.

12 entrants forward.

3,000 Metres Steeplechase.

1. F. G. Nelson (Bella. H.) 9m. 45.5s.
2. R. C. Wallace (Shett. H.) 9m. 52.3s.
3. J. Smart (Ed. South H.) 10m. 3.3s.
4. J. McNeill ... 10m. 9.6s.
5. J. Linn (Garscube H.) ... 10m. 16.8s.
6. C. Fraser (Ed. East H.) 10m. 21.2s.

Standard time: 10 mins. 20 secs.

18 entrants forward.

120 Yards Hurdles.

1. R. D. McLeod (Aberdeen Un) 15.7s.
2. J. T. Johnston (R.A.F.) ... 15.7s.
3. A. Hannah (Edin. Univ) ... 16.3s.
4. W. Beresford (Glasgow Un.) 16.9s.
5. W. G. Montgomery (C'buslang) 17.4s.

Other finalist C.A.R. Dennis (Ed. Un.) (holder).

Standard time: 16.5s.

10 entrants forward.

440 Yards Hurdles.

1. A. Hannah ... 55.2s.
2. C. A. R. Dennis (holder) ... 55.7s.
3. D. K. Gracie (Larkhall Y.M.) 56.4s.
4. A. F. Gray (Old Latym A.C.) 56.8s.
5. W. Beresford ... 56.8s.
6. W. A. F. McAdam (St. And. U.) 58.6s.

Standard time: 59 secs.

15 entrants forward.

High Jump.

1. A. M. Law (Paisley Police) 6 ft. 2 ins.
2. W. Piper (Glasgow Police A.A.) (holder) ... 5 ft. 10 ins.
3. C. Fairbrother (V.P.A.A.C.) 5 ft. 9 ins.
4. G. Turner (V.P.A.A.C.) 5 ft. 9 ins.
5. W. A. Little (Glas. Un.) 5 ft. 9 ins.
6. J. Payne (V.P.A.A.C.) 5 ft. 7 ins.

Standard: 5 ft. 9 ins.

9 entrants forward.

Long Jump.

1. G. H. Cain (Edin. N. H.) (holder) 22 ft. 2 ins.
2. R. M. Stephen (Glas. Un.) 21 ft. 6½ ins.
3. I. C. MacFarlane (V.P.A.A.C.) 20 ft. 2½ ins.
5. T. Lunde (Edin. Un.) 20 ft. 1 in.
6. T. McNab (Shett. H.) 20 ft. 0 ins.

Standard: 21 ft.

14 entrants forward.

Hop, Step and Jump.

1. T. McNab (J.T.C.A.C.) 45 ft. 7½ ins.
2. H. M. Murray (Edin. Un.) 45 ft. 4 ins.
3. R. M. Stephen (holder) 44 ft. 8 ins.
4. J. Y. Lawrie (Edin. H.) 42 ft. 8 ins.
5. N. Beggs (Shotts M.W.A.C.) 41 ft. 2 ins.
6. I. M. Tasker (Inverness) 40 ft. 11½ ins.

Standard: 43 ft.

9 entrants forward.

Pole Vault.

1. T. Lunde ... 11 ft. 6 in.
2. P. W. Milligan (V.P.) ... 11 ft. 0 in.
3. M. J. Brown (J.T.C.A.C.) ... 11 ft. 0 in.
4. W. Bisland (Bella. H.) ... 10 ft. 6 in.
5. D. D. Campbell Ed. Un.) ... 10 ft. 6 in.
6. H. G. Black (Aber. Un.) ... 10 ft. 0 in.

Standard: 11 feet.

8 entrants forward.

Discus.

1. R. C. Buist ('Q' C.) ... 137 ft. 7 ins.
2. J. Drummond (Heriot A.C.) ... 133 ft. 6½ ins.
3. P. A. Bramley (R.A.F.) ... 126 ft. 4½ ins.
4. C. F. Riach (J.T.C.A.C.) (holder) ... 125 ft. 11½ ins.
5. J. L. Donnelly ('Q' C.) ... 121 ft. 4 ins.
6. F. McLachlan (Edin. South H.) ... 117 ft. 3½ ins.

Standard: 120 feet.

11 entrants forward.

Javelin.

1. D. W. R. McKenzie (Edin. Univ.) ... 193 ft. 2 ins.
2. C. F. Riach (holder) ... 183 ft. 7 ins.
3. T. Lunde ... 165 ft. 0 ins.
4. I. A. Gordon (Edin. H.) ... 162 ft. 11½ in.
5. R. A. Findlay (Edin. Univ.) ... 161 ft. 8½ ins.
6. T. Ferguson (H.M.S. 'Caledonia') ... 151 ft. 3 ins.

Standard: 170 feet.

6 entrants forward.

Shot Putt.

1. T. A. Logan (R. & B. Const.) (holder) ... 44 ft. 2½ ins.
2. J. Drummond ... 43 ft. 8 ins.
3. C. F. Riach ... 39 ft. 3½ ins.
4. R. C. Buist ... 38 ft. 9½ ins.
5. P. A. Bramley ... 37 ft. 11 ins.

Standard: 40 feet.

7 entrants forward.

Hammer.

1. I. C. Bain (Achilles) ... 175 ft. 8½ ins.
2. E. C. K. Douglas (F.E.C.) (Holder) ... 173 ft. 9 ins.
3. D. Brands (R.A.F.) ... 151 ft. 10½ ins.

4. J. S. Malcolm (Edin. City Police) ... 150 ft. 0 ins.
 5. J. W. Simmons (Field Events Club) ... 146 ft. 10½ ins.
 6. R. Dow (Edin. Univ.) ... 138 ft. 6½ ins.
- Standard: 140 feet.
7 entrants forward.

Marathon.

(Falkirk—Edinburgh)

1. J. McGhee (Shettleston H.) (holder) ... 2 hrs. 33m. 36s.
 2. A. Kidd (Garscube) ... 2h. 46m. 58s.
 3. W. McFarlane (Shettleston H.) ... 3h. 0m. 18s.
 4. D. N. Anderson (Greenock Well. H.) ... 3m. 0m. 42s.
 5. M. W. Innes (Braidburn A.C.) ... 3h. 2m. 48s.
 6. J. Foster (Edin Southern H.) ... 3h. 7m. 4s.
 7. I. C. Grainger (Edin. Southern H.)
 8. P. Taylor (Dundee Thistle H.)
- Standard: 2 hrs. 55 mins.
14 entrants forward.

**Junior Relay Championship.
440 yds. (4 x 110 yds.)**

1. George Heriot's School—P. R. McDonald, I. M. Alexander, H. S. Jamieson, R. L. Hay. 45.8 secs.
2. Braidburn A.C.—G. Irving, J. R. MacDonald, M. Herbich, T. G. McLaughlin. 46.2 secs.
3. Shettleston Harriers—46.3 secs.
6 teams forward.

**Three-Quarter Mile.
(440, 220, 220, 440)**

1. George Heriot's School—P. R. McDonald, I. M. Alexander, H. S. Jamieson, R. L. Hay. 2m. 32.8s.
2. Victoria Park A.A.C.—J. C. Thomson, S. Gunion, C. Sweeney, I. Smith. 2m. 33.3s.
3. Larbert Youth A.A.C.—2m. 35.5s.

Tug-of-War (Catch Weights)

Hoover Sports Club (holders) beat Edin. L. & C. Dept. Welfare Club by 2 pulls to none.

**BRITAIN'S 4th
SUB—4 MINUTE
MILER**

Derek Ibbotson, after a stirring finish with Chris. Chataway won the recent A.A.A. 3 miles championship.

Do you recall this thrilling finish to the 2 miles race at Ranger's Sports last year? Ibbotson won in 8 mins. 56.2 secs. from that other game athlete, Brian Barret.

Ibbotson won the 3 miles in the Great Britain vs. Czechoslovakia match at the White City, London, on August 4th, and on August 6th at the same track he had a wonderful win in the 'Emsley Carr' mile, returning 3m. 59.4s.

Photo by H. W. Neale.

**The New Meadowbank Track.**

One would think from reading the reports of the Scottish senior championships, that some papers had sent their reporters to report the state of the track, surrounds etc., rather than to recognise sterling performances even when the times were not sensational. Present day journalism demands "angles" "quotes" "controversy" and there is no doubting that this is what the public is being taught to like. Accordingly one should not be surprised to find in many papers that reports on the track dwarfed those of the competition. One had to search papers closely to find any credit for the levelling of the track to bring it to international standard. Also one had to have a magnifying glass to spot any attachment of the blame for the loose track on the drought. Perhaps it would be a surprise to many to learn that no other track in Scotland receives as much attention as does New

Meadowbank, from brush and roller.

Some reporters were obviously uninformed about athletics. One suggested it was time the S.A.A. had their own track!! One wonders if he also threw out this suggestion to the S.F.A.? Cost of a grade one track, and not a mere training track as is laid down in several grounds in Scotland, is in the region of £5,000. And this excludes provision of the actual ground! Fortunate it is that there are enlightened local authorities who are anxious to provide the right conditions for encouragement of track and field—even though nature and other practical considerations at times upsets their good intentions.

When New Meadowbank gets enough water to help the ingredients bind when brushed and rolled, we can take it that it will be one of the fastest in the United Kingdom.

Observations on Pirie's World Records

by PERCY W. CERUTTY, Australia.

The gratifying news of Pirie's world record runs in Scandinavia will cause a certain amount of speculation with interested athletes—and others. And I fully expect the usual rush to find out to what schedule he worked under. Once it was what such athletes ate: and even once, who was their 'rubber' and what magic liniment they used.

The plain truth, as I see it, is that there is no magic formula to be found other than in the personality of the athlete. I have long said that those destined for great things soon shew this by their attitudes (approach).

When a man finds that he has faith in himself: or some-one is found who encourages one to have such faith: and if that athlete sets about achieving his ends, even if they be world records, according to the law as I understand it, he must achieve his ends.

That he may not achieve when he thinks he would like to: or should: or by the means he thinks best (we often have to change the means: sometimes the ends)—nevertheless as I believe, sooner or later, by some means or other he will achieve his goals.

Gordon Pirie showed just these qualities and faith for many years. That he has run a true world record (his six was an "official" one but not a true one—) does not surprise me: it was to be expected.

The same can be said of Stephens in Australia, and Landy. All these fellows develop a world record "consciousness" first. Nothing happens by chance: fortuitously, even though it may appear so even to the athlete himself.

For I long set it down that when a man gets bitten deep into his consciousness the possibility of these things, and then sets out to achieve them, sooner or later the "emotion" set in force must be equated—in some way or another. To me it is a law.

When an athlete does set out, slowly but surely the means to achieve his ends opens up. Help of all sorts comes along. He will suffer set-backs: accidents—all these things "teach" him. From them he learns invaluable lessons. Teachers appear when he best can use them. We just cannot be kept back from our "personal" destiny.

Another interesting fact deserves comment. The track was very wet. This is generally recognised as a handicap. It is not. Unless the track is very soft such as an extreme example, beach sand, then a not too soft track is "kinder" to the leg muscles than a hard so-called fast track. Above 880 it is not so good to have a very hard track as both Landy and Stephens have found out.

We are still animals: some of us are very sensitive to the terrain under us. Our musculature "feels" it. We go better when the conditions are best for us: not when non-runners, perhaps, think they are not. I am satisfied the track was "good" No one jumps up into world records these days on bad tracks. No, Sir!

DENIAL.

On behalf of the Scottish Amateur Athletic Association (Eastern District) I should be glad if you would print this categorical denial of the report published in several newspapers that application for a permit to hold the Scottish v. English Universities contest on Saturday 7th July was refused because of the Junior Championships being held on this date. In fact no application for this date for this contest was received.

W. CARMICHAEL,
Hon. Secretary,
S.A.A.A., E.D.

SCOTTISH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

A cold wind sweeping over its unsheltered expanse made Westerlands a bleak setting for the Scottish Schools 51st Championships on Saturday, 16th June. The wintry conditions, however, did not deter the young athletes (over 650 entrants!) from the record number of 112 schools: the general standard was high, with several notable individual performances.

The wind was a spoil-sport as far as records were concerned. In the mile, for instance, M. Gillies (Hyndland Secondary) clocked 4 mins. 28.3 secs. to come within 2.1 secs. of J. L. Hendry's outstanding record. The lonely back straight at Westerlands is discouraging enough at the best of times but on this particular day the runners had to face the additional handicap of a strong, cold wind. Gillies showed courage and judgement, and although he missed the record he had the greater honour of winning the Eric Liddell Memorial Trophy for the most meritorious performance of the day.

There was a gasp of incredulity when R. Hall (Dunfermline High) was returned at 10 secs. dead in the semi-final of the 15—17 years 100 yards. Even allowing for wind assistance, this time appeared suspect but in the final the strongly built sixteen year old vindicated the watch-holders by breaking the tape in 10.1 secs! The standard of sprinting in this age-group can be gauged by the fact that this boy lost his furlong title later in the programme to A. Watt (Hamilton Academy) in 23.2 secs.

In the 17—19 group, A. G. Watson (Whitehill Secondary) revived memories of a famous "old boy" of the school, Jimmy Crawford, by taking the sprint double in 10.2 secs. This youth's confident manner suggests a potential even greater than the times indicate.

The hurdlers, too, had the benefit of the wind and consequently the best championship performances of R. Weir (Falkirk Technical) and I. M. Alexander (George

Heriot's) in the senior events will not go into the record book. Weir, in the 120 yards, clocked 15.3 secs. and Alexander, in the 200 yards, 23.6 secs. The respective records are 15.9 and 24.7 secs.

The all-round standard in the field events indicate that soccer, rugby and cricket do not monopolise the games periods in some schools. Boroughmuir Secondary gained a shot putt double through T. Gifford and R. Ross, both boys beating 44 feet in their respective age-groups. Fettes College retained the hammer record through J. J. Stott, who threw the 12 lb. missile 134 feet 8½ inches while P. S. Thomson (Dollar Academy) came near record figures with a splendid sling of 154 feet 0½ inches in the 15-17 discus event.

The steady rise in general achievement, the enthusiasm and the number of schools now competing in these championships encourages a feeling of optimism in anyone who looks to the future of Scottish athletics. Nevertheless, when I scan my notebooks of the past ten years, this optimism is curbed when I find how few of these boys have stayed the course to find the fulfilment of their early promise.

All sports, of course, are affected by our post-war pattern of life but the wastage of talent is more noticeable in athletics than anywhere else. We must try to rectify this if we are to take a worthy place among the sporting nations.

James L. Logan.

1 Mile Medley Relay Championship held at Ibrox (Glasgow Police Sports) on 9th June.

1. **Edinburgh Univ. A.C.**—J. V. Paterson, J. Sutherland, K. A. Robertson, C. A. R. Dennis. 3m. 30.5s. (Best Championship Performance).

2. **Victoria Park A.A.C.**—J. McIsaac, A. S. Dunbar, I. Smith, R. Quinn. 3m. 33.2s.

3. **Bellahouston Harriers.** 3m. 35.3s.

RISING STARS



ALEC. HANNAH (Edinburgh University)

A "Rising Star" indeed, and one likely to shine very brightly in the athletics firmament, during the years to come, is Alec Hannah, the new Scottish 440 yds. Hurdles Champion—a title which he has won convincingly at the age of 19.

Some indication of Alec's great potential, may be gained, when one realizes, that at the age of 16, in his first serious race he was timed over 880 yards in 2 mins. 3.7 secs! Later in the same season, running at Helensvale he clocked 1 min. 58.6 secs. for the "half" and ran the "quarter" in 51.7 secs.

The following year in the Scottish Schools Championships, Alec finished 2nd in the 200 yards Hurdles in 24.8 secs. and won the 440 yards flat in 53.2 secs., reversing his placings of the previous year. Last season at 18 years of age, he was beaten by inches in 200 yards Hurdles at the "Schools," in the record time of 23.4 secs. having run against doctors orders. He made amends however by taking the Scottish Junior Championship in high wind and driving rain in a record 24.2 secs.—for which he collected the Glegg Memorial Trophy for the best performance.

The next step for Alec was the British Junior Championships at Reading. He journeyed there feeling more confident, having broken 23 secs. several times for the 200 yards Hurdles during training. Alec collected this Junior title easily, being only .1 secs. outside Harry Kane's record.

This season Alec is attending Edinburgh University and has been competing in the 120 yards High Hurdles and the 440 yards Hurdles, clocking 15 secs. (wind assisted) for the former, the fastest time by a Scot this year. His fastest over the longer stretch is 54.3 at Manchester, where he



was beaten by inches in the British Universities Championship.

An interesting fact about Alec's training, is that since he was 16, he has been taking things easily, training lightly, and keeping up his interest in sport by playing football with Armadale (incidentally refusing several offers to turn Senior, after playing in the Scottish Junior Cup). Last season, because of his football training, he had a winter's preparation for the first time, and is feeling the benefit now, in stamina increase.

Alec trains as his University work allows, which he says does not amount to more than twice or three times per week. He has, however, had a lot of competition in "Varsity" matches. Now that his exams are over, Alec hopes to devote more time to intensive hurdles training.

SCOTTISH JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

By JAMES L. LOGAN

The S.A.A.A. were fortunate with the weather for the Junior, Youths and Senior Relay Championships on Saturday, 7th July, at New Meadowbank, Edinburgh. And the youngsters celebrated the "return" of summer after a week of bleak weather by giving a splendid series of performances, with several outstanding individual feats.

The New Meadowbank track again provoked adverse comment from some competitors, one of whom was heard to remark wryly that he was going to train on Ayr sands for next season's championships! Nevertheless, two records were broken and one—probably the best in the book—equalled on the much maligned surface.

This record-equalling feat of J. McIsaac (Victoria Park) in the 880 yards junior event was the by-product of a grand tactical triumph. Those who witnessed the epic race in which W. M. O. Rennie (Glasgow University and Bellahouston) established the record of 1 min. 59.3 secs. will remember that the 1936 champion was forced to produce this great winning effort by the persistent challenge of J. A. M. Robertson (Glasgow University and Victoria Park).

Similarly, twenty years later, McIsaac had to summon up a superlative effort to head off his challenger, J. Thomson

Continued from previous page

Regarding competition, Alec is a strong believer in a mental build-up, and says, "to run really well I have to worry and ponder over my forthcoming race."

Although considered by some to be too young for such a strenuous event, Alec is concentrating on the 400 yards Hurdles, which he thinks is his best event, and certainly if his rate of improvement continues, he will soon be troubling Britain's best. What price Alec Hannah for the 1956 Olympics?

Joe Gordon.

(Motherwell Y.M.C.A.), who clocked 1 min. 59.4 secs., probably the best non-winning performance of the meeting. This is the very best kind of record: the product of a contest where the race victory is the main object.

The 120 yards hurdles was a thrilling race which also produced a record. As senior S.A.A.A. Champion, R. D. McLeod (Aberdeen University) was expected to have the edge on Schools Champion R. H. Weir (Falkirk Technical). The splendidly built McLeod, however, was slow to the first obstacle and although he gradually cut into Weir's lead he was still a few inches short at the tape. Edwards, Montgomery, Hannah, McLeod and Weir—surely from this succession of young hurdlers Scotland can find a man fit to take his place in international company?

In the Shot Putt R. R. Sharp (Victoria Park) won with a substantial improvement of 1 foot 9 inches on record, in a controlled style that suggests he will, in a year or so, reproduce his effort of 46 feet 6 inches with the senior 16 lb. ball. This is one event where we cannot complain about lack of facilities or potential native talent. Any corner of a field will do for practice; and the statistics tell us that we produce our fair quota of hefty, athletic boys.

In the discus, W. D. Bonnar (Dollar Academy) added 2 feet 4 inches to record by throwing the junior missile (3 lbs. 5 ozs.) 136 feet 11 inches.

In the junior High Jump, A. R. Houston (Victoria Park) won with 5 feet 9 inches, just an inch higher than the youth winner A. S. Cairns (Springburn). The title, however, was Houston's objective for the day and a few days later he cleared 6 ft. 1½ ins. in an inter-club contest.

In the "440," R. L. Hay, the Schools Champion, was beaten by I. M. Smith (Victoria Park) in the excellent time of 51.4 seconds.

In the mile, M. I. Gillies (Victoria Park), who had got inside 4½ minutes in the Schools Championships in difficult conditions, was challenged right to the tape by D. McNish (George Watson's). The "favourites" certainly did not have an easy passage at this meeting!

The best sprinter of the day was R. E. Hall (Dunfermline High) who is still in the youth category. This strongly built sixteen-year-old has already eight Schools and Youth championship awards on his mantelpiece. In the "100" heats, when the wind was hindering the sprinters, he clocked 10.5 secs., while the junior heats were being won in 10.9 and 11 seconds. In the final, when the wind had died down, he returned 10.4 against the 10.6 of junior winner A. G. Watson (Shettleston and Whitehill).

Hall is the boy who astonished us in the Schools Championships with wind-assisted times of 10 and 10.1 seconds.

The only "double" of the meeting was recorded by C. G. Stalker (Dollar Academy) in long jump and hop, step and jump, although several boys were placed in two events. On the whole, this is a healthy sign of the general standard.

In the Senior Relays, Victoria Park showed their sprinting strength in depth by placing two teams first and third in the 4 x 110 yards. In the 4 x 440 yards Edinburgh University, with hurdlers Dennis and Hannah in the team, won in the record time of 3 mins. 26.8 secs., an average of 51.7 seconds per man.

Junior Results:—

100 Yards.

1. A. G. Watson, Whitehill; 2. J. D. Middlemiss, Edinburgh Harriers; 3. J. H. R. Durham, Fettes School. 10.6 secs.

220 Yards.

1. G. A. Irvine, Braidburn; 2. J. H. R. Durham, Fettes; 3. A. G. Watson, Whitehill; 24.0 secs.

440 Yards.

1. I. M. Smith, Victoria Park; 2. R. L. Hay, George Heriot's; 3. J. R. A. Cargill-Thomson, Glasgow High. 51.4 secs.

880 Yards.

1. J. McIsaac, Victoria Park; 2. J. Thomson, Motherwell Y.M.C.A.; 3. R. G. Clark, Clydesdale Harriers. 1 min. 59.3 secs. (equals record).

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High Jump.

1. A. R. Houston, Victoria Park; 2. J. G. Shand, Aberdeen A.A.C.; 3. I. L. Thomas, Motherwell, Y.M. 5 ft. 9 ins.

Long Jump.

1. C. G. Stalker, Dollar Academy; 2. W. Talbot, Motherwell Y.M.; 3. E. W. Fraser, Aberdeen A.A.C. 21 ft. 3 ins.

Pole Vault.

1. E. L. Campbell, George Heriot's; 2. W. D. Bonnar, Dollar Academy; 3. A. Ramsay, George Heriot's. 9 ft. 6 ins.

Shot Putt.

1. R. R. Sharp, Victoria Park; 2. J. Wilson, Queen's School, Dunblane; 3. J. D. McDonald, George Watson's. 46 ft. 6 ins. (record).

Discus.

1. W. D. Bonnar, Dollar Academy; 2. J. D. McDonald, George Watson's; 3. R. R. Sharp, Victoria Park. 136 ft. 11 ins. (record).

Hop, Step and Jump.

1. C. G. Stalker, Dollar Academy; 2. E. W. Fraser, Aberdeen, A.A.C.; 3. W. Talbot, Motherwell Y.M. 42 ft. 10½ ins.

Javelin.

1. M. S. Pearce, H.M.S. Caledonia; 2. R. P. Mathers, Glasgow University; 3. A. Ramsay, Heriot's A.C. 153 ft. 8½ ins.

Hammer.

1. J. J. Scott, Fettes; 2. R. C. Kirkwood, Fettes; 3. W. R. Cunningham, Athenians A.C. 135 ft. 4½ ins.

Mile.

1. M. I. Gillies, Victoria Park; 2. D. McNish, George Watson's; 3. S. Taylor, Aberdeen A.A.C. 4 mins. 32.7 secs.

120 Yards Hurdles.

1. R. H. Weir, Falkirk Tech.; 2. R. D. McLeod, Aberdeen University; 3. M. E. Weir, Edinburgh University. 15.7 secs. (record).

200 Yards Hurdles.

1. M. I. Alexander, George Heriot's; 2. R. H. Weir, Falkirk Tech.; 3. M. E. Weir, Edinburgh University. 24.7 secs.

YOUTHS.

100 Yards.

1. R. E. Hall, Dunfermline High; 2. M. W. Hinde, Johnstone High; 3. A. Black, Tillicoultry Hillfoot. 10.4 secs.

880 Yards.

1. D. Hamilton, Braidburn; 2. G. G. Pearson, Tillicoultry Hillfoot; 3. P. M. Flaherty, St. Modans. 2 mins. 6.9 secs.

High Jump.

1. D. S. Cairns, Springburn; 2. P. S. McKenzie, Fettes; 3. D. R. Harvey, Kirkcaldy. 5 ft. 8 ins.

Shot Putt.

1. T. Gifford, Boroughmuir School; 2. K. L. Orr, Royal High School; 3. I. Johnstone, Motherwell Y.M. 44 ft. 2½ ins.

Senior Relay Championships—4 x 110 yds.

1. Victoria Park (A. S. Dunbar, R. Quinn, H. Quinn, R. Whitelock); 2. Glasgow University; 3. Victoria Park "A" team. 43.8 secs.

4 x 440 yards—1. Edinburgh University (K. A. Robertson, C. A. R. Dennis, A. Hannah, J. W. Paterson); 2. Glasgow University; 3. Victoria Park. 3 mins. 26.8 secs. (record).

We Have Received.

The Olympic Games Book by Harold Abrahams. (Published by James Barrie Publishers, Ltd., 3 & 4 Clements Inn, Strand, London, W.C.2. Price 6/-).

Contains a complete record of all Olympic Track & Field Events with full placings since the Games were first held in 1896. It should be keenly sought by all who like statistics (who in athletics doesn't?) for following a racy review of the development & highlights of the series there are tables of (1) First Places by Countries, (2) First Places in all events, (3) Best Performances, and (4) Progress of Olympic records. A very useful index is included. The foreword is by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh and it is produced in aid of The National Playing Fields Association.

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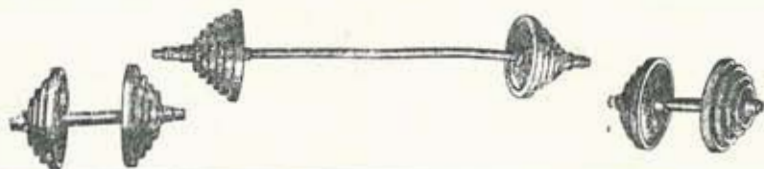
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THE OLYMPIC GOAL

Championship is mostly a state of mind: Work DOES do things: Labourers dig tremendous holes and ditches. But it takes intelligent work to build a skyscraper—to reach the stars. Mind over matter? Sure mind CAN, and does, modify matter. And muscles are matter. As we think—steadily and sincerely, so we surely become.

Even though it is a painful progress mostly dragging ourselves along on bleeding elbows. It is given to few to leap gracefully, like a deer, to fame. As a matter of fact it just doesn't happen—in athletics. It only SEEMS to happen. Striving to happen. Striving to attain. Risking all on a chance to attain. How many are willing?

Make no mistake: to run at the Olympic Games IS worth all the sacrifices. Perhaps not just our running—it may be the meeting—and the living with heroes that is the big thing. And being a hero—a

Zatopek: no money can buy it; no sovereign bestow it; no country legislate it. It is mostly all Zatopek's doing. He is the hero. And what a sensible, modest man. No frills, no airs, no affectations, yet quite business-like. Nothing maudlin or sentimental, yet kindly and helpful—and, yes, forgiving. There are lots similar—at the Olympic Games. They are not Germans, or Russians, or Aussies, or British, just all ATHLETES, drawn together in sport, friends and honest competitors. Race and nationality tends to be quite forgotten, or so I found. So if you have half a whisker of a chance to be in it, be in it, fellows, at least before you die. I was 58 years of age before I made it. Then only as a coach. What price you—with all you can know, your gifts, and helpers. You have them if you run, about or above the average. That's all most of my boys could do—in the beginning

P. W. Cerutti.

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