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The 4th Edition

1935

THE

# BELGRAVIAN

The

OFFICIAL GAZETTE

of the

## BELGRAVE HARRIERS

JUNE—JULY

PRICE 4<sup>s</sup>



THE 4th EDITION

(1935)

# THE BELGRAVIAN

JUNE—JULY.

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Published by the Committee of the Belgrave Harriers.

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## ANOTHER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP !

Congratulations to the team which made the long journey to Bradford and successfully defended our title of National Champions in the 50 kilometres Walk, held on Whit Monday. We thus retain the "Horlick Cup" for another year.

Tommy Green broke his own record for the Bradford Walk, but finished second to H. H. Whitlock, who caught Tommy in the last two miles. Fred Bentley (6) and Fred Rickards (7) completed our team, and our trio deserve our very heartiest congratulation. The two last-named had anything but an easy journey over the second half of the course; cramp and the severity of the course (the last nine miles of which is reputed to be stiff hill-climbing!) affecting our men, as it did most of the competitors. However, determination got them there, and the final team scoring gave us a one point advantage over Birmingham W.C.

Our fourth man, Bob Martin, gained a first-class standard medal. Well done, all!

\* \* \* \* \*

*Most members have recently received a letter from Mr. T. Cotton, explaining a scheme which can give considerable help to our Building Fund. If the idea is to be carried out, with consequent advantage to us all, it is necessary that the Acting Hon. Secretary be notified immediately of the help you are prepared to give. Much detail work has to be done, and it is essential that the measure of support forthcoming be known well in advance. Please, therefore, make it your duty to write to T. Cotton, 25, Duntshill Road, S.W.18, at once. Many thanks.*

A Flannel Dance will be held at the Express Dance Hall, Clapham Junction, on Saturday, September 14th, following upon our final track meeting of the season at Battersea Park. Tickets will be available shortly, from our Social Hon. Secretary, and it is hoped that our Social programme will receive a good send-off and thus provide our Social sub-committee with the encouragement to make our 1935-36 season the best yet.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our headquarters at St. John's Hall, Ridgeway, Wimbledon, will re-open on Saturday, September 21st. With the mercury high in the thermometer, and our Summer holidays before us, it seems rather strange to be writing of the Winter season—but inevitably Wimbledon days approach. Much as we regret the passing of Summer, many of us look forward to the "country" and the "road," and to all that the Winter season holds in training, racing and cheerful camaraderie. Successful as last season was on the racing side, we can still add a little here and there, whilst not forgetting the very real business of holding what we have. The training part, whatever your rating, whether you profess to be speedy or not, can hold healthy enjoyment for everyone. Our attendance at Wimbledon should not be far short of 200 a week. (We'll find room somewhere! Here, Ben, put Footer on top of the cupboard! Thanks!). The more the merrier. As for the spirit, read K. B. O'Kell (of Ford's S.C. and Belgrave H.) in our last issue.

Well, see you there!

\* \* \* \* \*

During September, you will receive the customary advice of the Annual General Meeting, which will be held towards the end of the month on a date not yet fixed. Every member should make an effort to be present to hear the account of their stewardship given by the Officials, and to see that those responsible for the management of *your* Club during the coming season, are those best fitted to do so. It is your duty to your Club, and to the Executive of 1935-1936; for they need your fullest support and confidence if we are to continue to progress.

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And now to end these notes with a constantly recurring subject—unpaid subscriptions. The Hon. Treasurer's heart is heavy and his pocket light (the one in which he keeps the Club money!), and all because a few have yet to fulfil their obligations. To enable the books to be closed for the auditors' inspection, please act at once should you be one of the few who like to enjoy the Club's privileges on a year's credit.

This also applies to those who owe for "Belgravians." In fact, all who are indebted to the Club are asked to settle up right away;

and if you like to send along next year's subscription as well—do so! The Hon. Treasurer has plenty of receipt books on hand, and nothing pleases him more than to write in your name and the amount, and then sign on the dotted line. Address on page 1.

## THE ANNUAL INTER-CLUB WALKS.

Our usual programme of inter-club scratch walks was held on June 3rd, and we were accorded splendid support by the Metropolitan clubs, no fewer than ten teams participating. A high standard of walking was seen, generally, and the success of this annual no-entry fee, no-award contest once again confirmed our opinion that this is one of the most eagerly-awaited track events of the season among walkers.

Proceedings commenced with the five miles race and Redman (Met.) took the lead followed by Len Fletcher. Later Hake (S.W.C.) came through, and in the latter stages of the race a great duel was fought out between Redman and Hake, the first named prevailing by a few yards. Fletcher finished in third position in 38min. 41sec., which indicates that he is regaining some of his form of a year or so back; and our other representative, Charlie Churcher, finished in fifth place. Totaling the points for this event, we found that Surrey Walking Club and ourselves had both scored 34 points, the next highest being the Valentine's S.C. with 29 points.

### RESULT.

1, F. Redman (Met. W.C.), 37 min. 42 sec.; 2, H. A. Hake (S.W.C.); 37 min. 44 sec.; 3, A. L. Fletcher (Bel.), 38 min. 41 sec.; 4, F. C. Ryder (Val.), 39 min. 18 sec.; 5, C. E. Churcher (Bel.) 39 min. 48 sec.; 6, L. Woodcock (S.W.C.), 40 min. 1 sec. Fourteen finished.

Ashcombe A.C., nil; Belgrave H., 34 pts.; Essex Beagles, 13 pts.; London Vidarians W.C., 11 pts.; Metropolitan W.C., 27 pts.; Poly. H., 24 pts.; Surrey A.C., 9 pts.; Surrey W.C., 34 pts.; Valentines S.C., 29 pts.; Woodford Green A.C., 8 pts.

Next came the Three Miles race, and here we saw A. A. Cooper, in action. Harry Churcher was not far behind at the end however; and our other man, Bill Treacher, paying special attention to style, took sixth position. The combined walking of our men gave us a two points advantage over Surrey Walking Club, an advantage we also held in the competition at this point, for we had scored equal points on the first race. Not for the first time, the contest looked like being a neck and neck affair between our Surrey friends and ourselves, although Woodford Green scored heavily in this race.

#### RESULT.

1, A. A. Cooper (W.G.), 22 min. 2 sec.; 2, H. G. Churcher (Bel.), 22 min. 12 sec.; 3, N. L. Burt (S.W.C.), 22 min. 4½ sec.; 4, A. H. Foster (W.G.), 22 min. 52 sec.; 5, H. H. Whitlock (Met.), 22 min. 59 sec.; 6, W. A. Treacher (Bel.), 23 min. 2 sec. Fourteen finished.

Ashcombe A.C., nil; Belgrave H., 34 pts.; Essex Beagles, 9 pts.; London Vidarians W.C., 11 pts.; Metropolitan W.C., 16 pts.; Polytechnic H., 13 pts.; Surrey A.C., 15 pts.; Surrey W.C., 32 pts.; Valentine's S.C., 22 pts.; Woodford Green A.C., 37 pts.

In the next event, the 2 Miles, we were represented by Speechley and Harley, whilst Surrey W.C. had Fisher and Burgess, the Kent champion. From the start Stone (Poly.) led, followed by the Surrey pair, and our two. It seemed that our two points lead was to be taken from us in this event, and we should be all-square on the competition total, leaving the One Mile race to be the deciding event. This was not to be, however, for Charlie Speechley suffered disqualification and we were points down: Surrey W.C. scored 37 points to our 17, and our chance was gone!

#### RESULT.

1, V. W. Stone (Poly.), 14 min. 46 sec.; 2, W. L. Burgess (S.W.C.), 15 min. 23 sec.; 3, M. J. Fisher (S.W.C.), 15 min. 25 sec.; 4, A. A. Harley (Bel.), 15 min. 38 sec.; 5, H. Watts (Met.), 15 min. 43 sec.; 6, A. H. Rayner (S.A.C.), 16 min. 3 sec.

Ashcombe A.C., 10 pts.; Belgrave H., 17 pts.; Essex Beagles, 20 pts.; London Vidarians W.C., nil; Metropolitan W.C., 25 pts.; Poly H., 34 pts.; Surrey A.C., 23 pts.; Surrey W.C., 37 pts.; Valentines S.C., 23 pts.; Woodford Green A.C., nil.

Fourth and last came the One Mile race. Here we had Don Brown, fresh from his win in the Surrey County Championship, and Percy Wright, opposed by Hancock and Amer, of S.W.C. Our chance had gone, but our rivalry still continued, and there was still second place in the competition to be consolidated. Brown gained a comfortable win from Hancock, and in a great struggle for superiority over the last hundred yards, Wright, of ours, and Amer, of theirs, both had to "come-out," leaving the leading six as follows:—

#### RESULT.

1, D. E. Brown (Bel.), 6 min. 57 sec.; 2, L. Hancock (S.W.C.), 7 min. 15 sec.; S. H. Reynolds (W.G.), 7 min 23 sec.; 4, A. De'ath, 7 min. 46 sec.; 5, R. J. Crump (L.V.), 7 min. 46 sec.; 6, C. Webster (E.B.), 7 min. 46 sec. Thirteen finished.

Ashcombe A.C., nil; Belgrave H., 20 pts.; Essex Beagles, 25 pts.; London Vidarians W.C., 16 pts.; Metropolitan W.C., 23 pts.; Poly H., 25 pts.; Surrey A.C., 9 pts.; Surrey W.C., 19 pts.; Valentine's S.C., 8 pts.; Woodford Green A.C., 32 pts.

FINAL PLACINGS.

1. Surrey W.C. ....122 pts.	6. Woodford Grn. A.C.....77 pts.
2. Belgrave H. ....105 pts.	7. Essex Beagles .....67 pts.
3. Polytechnic H. ....96 pts.	8. Surrey A.C. ....56 pts.
3. Metropolitan W.C. ....96 pts.	9. London Vidarians W.C. 38 pts.
5. Valentines S.C. ....82 pts.	10. Ashcombe A.C. ....10 pts.

As a last word—our thanks to the walkers who provided the competition, and those who helped to carry it through satisfactorily and contributed to the undoubted success of the meeting.

In addition to the Walking events, we held three Club handicaps as follows:—

The 100 yards saw our International half-miler, T. H. Scrimshaw competing, and off the 7 yds. mark he scored a good win, with R. G. Michael yet another half-miler, second off  $8\frac{1}{2}$  yds. F. J. Skelley, our promising Junior sprinter, secured third place, but the result on the whole does not reflect very highly on the majority of our so-called sprint men.

In the One Mile handicap, one of our cross-country Juniors came to the fore, K. N. Wood winning in very fast time off a liberal mark. G. R. Chantler also showed improvement on previous form in finishing second, with A. A. Bird filling third place. Bird's form on the track is full of promise and he is already recognised as one of our regular team men for the Inter-Club contests.

The Long Jump handicap was won by F. J. Skelley and his actual jump of 18 feet should encourage him to persevere, as good long-jumpers are few and far between. As Skelley is only 16 years of age, the future looks full of promise so long as he gives plenty of time to those little details which make all the difference in this branch of sport. Max Henchoz gained second place, with A. A. Deacon third.

## THIS AND THAT !

Take notice that we shall have a double-deck coach accompanying the London—Brighton Walk, on Saturday, September 7th. The race has been brought forward a week from the previously advertised date at the request of the Brighton authorities. The race will start as usual at 7 a.m., and our coach will leave Westminster at 7-30 a.m. and proceed by easy stages to Brighton, the return journey being timed for 6 p.m.

We shall be strongly represented and expect to win the "Knott" Memorial Shield for the fourth successive year. Tommy Green will be renewing his acquaintance with this race, and Fred Bentley is another we expect to get near eight hours for the journey.

Seats on the coach may be booked right away (5/- each) and application should be made to the Walking Hon. Secretary. Last year the number of supporters was very disappointing. Let this year make up for it!

\* \* \* \* \*

Offers to act as cyclist attendants to our men during the race would be gratefully accepted by Mr. A. A. Harley. Efficient and conscientious attendants can mean so much to the men they help, and we hope the usual volunteers will come forward and assist our walkers on this occasion.

\* \* \* \* \*

We had the usual invitation to compete in the "Kinnaird Trophy" Competition at the White City, and, as usual, our men acquitted themselves well, although scoring but few points. Tom Scrimshaw ran brilliantly to finish second in the 880 yards race; and Syd Ring finished fifth in the 3 miles event. These two men placed us ninth of the twelve competing clubs. Achilles won with 52 points, and the clubs we succeeded in leading at the finish of the competition were Birchfield H. (1), Highgate H. (4) and Mitcham A.C. (1).

As we have pointed out repeatedly in these columns, this form of competition places a very high premium on outstanding individuals, and shows but little reward to the Club with a large number of "good average" strength members. No doubt, however, the day will come when we shall make a serious challenge to hold the trophy. Certainly, next year, with our added Field Event strength and improved form on the track, we should exceed seven points, which is our best score to date.

\* \* \* \* \*

At the same meeting Jim Ginty essayed his first attempt at the Two Miles Steeplechase (Southern Championship), and ran so well that he forced the A.A.A. and Southern Counties champion to run much faster than he did in last years A.A.A. championship. Scarsbrook and Ginty fought it out in the last hundred yards and our man had to admit defeat by a narrow margin. Well run, Jim!

\* \* \* \* \*

There was one unpleasant and entirely unnecessary happening in the Kinnaird Trophy Competition. We refer to the action of some of the officials in not allowing J. Parker to run for us in the 3 miles event. Parker had been entered by our Asst. Hon. Secretary (who is probably the most conscientious man in England in regard to entries) according to the terms of the entry form, which were that all members were first-claim members of the club they were representing. As Parker had been

a member of our Club for more than three months he was obviously eligible to compete for us in an individual event.

However, at the instigation of some of the other competitors, in some strange fashion *team* race rules were said to apply to an *individual* event. And, in still stranger fashion, the Judges said it was so! One is amazed at such "reasoning," and is tempted to ask if, when Team Race rules were first introduced, anyone had suggested that they could be so construed, would he not have been covered with ridicule?

The absence of justice and clear thinking which robbed our man of his race is so enraging that it would be as well to pass on to something else.

\* \* \* \* \*

And so we come to what ordinary laymen like you and me, who are not supposed to be able to interpret rules, might think to be a parallel, but which in "higher" circles passes unnoticed. At the "Kinnaird" Meeting D. Finlay, the English 120 yards hurdles champion, represented, quite rightly, Surrey Athletic Club. A WEEK later, at the British Games, in a programme of inter-club events, he competed for Milocarians A.C. in the short hurdles event. Later in the programme, he competed as a member of the Milocarian relay team—a team event, if ever there was one. These are the facts. Think them over!

\* \* \* \* \*

Our contention is that the man in question would have been eligible to represent his new club in the hurdles (individual event) after three months' membership, but not in the relay (team event) until he had served twelve months' membership with his new club.

\* \* \* \* \*

We are aware that we leave ourselves open to the cry "Two blacks don't make a white," but we contend that we have yet to make a black mark!

This business has its humorous side, for since the above events, Finlay has been entered as a member of a Surrey Athletic Club relay team!

\* \* \* \* \*

Many of our members of ten years or so standing will remember B. C. Button, who in 1926 and 1927 showed great promise as a runner. He went to Australia with his parents, has had his share of racing successes, and now writes to say he is Hon. Secretary of the St. George District A.A.C. of New South Wales. He asks for news of former friends, and sends us the Annual Report of his club, which makes interesting reading. Their track standard seems to be quite a high one; but in the field

events section there are some very fine performances. B. Dickinson has done 24 ft. 0 5-8 ins., Broad Jump, and 49 ft. 11 7-8 ins. Hop Step and Jump. Their best Shot Putt is 43 ft. 4in., Javelin Throw, 168ft. 5 ins.; Discus, 129 ft. 10½ ins. Certainly, very good performances.

It is good to know that one of our old comrades still enjoys good health, and is helping to carry on the sport in another part of the Empire.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is indeed pleasing to see the introduction of so many boys to the Club recently. Among them are many who have distinguished themselves in school athletics; and we hope that in the course of a few years they will attain similar success in senior events.

\* \* \* \* \*

At the British Games the "star" event was the Three Miles team race between Birchfield H. and ourselves; eight aside running, with six scoring. The race will be long remembered by those who had the pleasure to witness it. At one mile Birchfield led; at two miles we were leading handsomely, but in the last lap our Midland friends managed to pack in together and inflict a four points defeat upon us. Actually, the greatest excitement prevailed at the finish of the race, and he would have been a bold man who attempted to give the team winners without adding up the scoring positions. A four points deficit was our lot, but so close was the race that the gain of ten yards or so by one of our men on the last lap would probably have reversed the result. We congratulate Birchfield upon scoring one over us; and both teams were delighted with the match—and, may it be said, are eager for the next.

Jim Ginty, of ours, led the field home in 14 min. 43 sec., and Ring and Rice did well to finish third and fourth. Final scores were Birchfield H. (2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9), 37 pts.; Belgrave H. (1, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12), 41 pts. Our scoring men were Ginty, Ring, Rice, Taylor, Allum, Parker; with Carter and D. Patience as the non-scoring men.

\* \* \* \* \*

At the time of writing our two and three mile teams have competed in seven open team races and won five of them. Wins have been our reward at Luton, Chelmsford, St. Albans, Wealdstone and Ponders End. The least said about Ravensbourne the better! We were particularly pleased with our win at Ponders End, for our "B" team finished third—and Birchfield were second. Carter ran a fine race here, losing by inches to R. R. Sutherland, of Birchfield.

Our success in these races is very gratifying, especially as we have had to do without the assistance of A. Penny, H. E. Footer and R. W. Jordan.

\* \* \* \* \*

Recent individual winners of Open events include C. E. Churcher, F. R. Webb, A. R. Shaw, A. A. Bird, H. W. Shields, H. E. Footer, J. E. Flower (hush!), to whom our heartiest congratulations go. We were also winners of a scratch relay at Woking.

\* \* \* \* \*

We had several representatives in the A.A.A. Championships, and D. E. Brown (2nd, 2 miles Walk), J. Ginty (2nd, 2 miles Steeplechase), T. H. Scrimshaw (4th, 880 yards), H. G. Churcher (5th, 2 miles Walk) and A. R. Shaw (Standard, Steeplechase) were our principal performers, and merit our sincere congratulations. Don Brown had to give place to Cooper in the Walk, but his time of 13 min. 53.8 sec. is amazingly fast. Tommy Scrimshaw ran splendidly (he was unofficially timed at 1 min. 55.4 secs.) and yet this only gained fourth place. Most years this time would carry a championship with it, but Tommy has always been unlucky in his running. We were all glad to see a good club-man in A. R. Shaw qualify for his Club Honours Badge; and Harry Churcher repeated a previous year's performance in gaining a Standard Medal. Of Jim Ginty we shall have something to say presently, but meanwhile,—well done, all!

\* \* \* \* \*

It would be interesting to have a special trophy in connection with the A.A.A. Championships, to be held for a year by the club whose representatives scored most points, reckoning on a basis of six points for a winner, down to one point for the sixth man in a final, and a point for every man (not included in the foregoing) who beat standard for his event. Such a trophy would provide added interest to spectator and competitor alike, pay some tribute to clubs, who are, when all is said and done, the backbone and the life-blood of Athletics, and provide that little extra element of interest and keenness for the public.

If such a scheme were instituted, it is interesting to note that on this year's results we should have been placed fourth—a very satisfying position to occupy. Scores would have been (E. & O.E., of course): Achilles 31, Polytechnic H. 26, L.A.C. 22, Belgrave 16, Melocarians 15, Woodford Green A.C. 12, Salford A.C. 12, Army A.A. 11.

The sport at the A.A.A. Championship was tremendously keen, and everyone must have enjoyed Friday's and Saturday's programmes.

But why, oh why, are we not allowed to know who has won Standard medals? We have complained about this before. There must be thousands of athletes in the crowd who appreciate what A.A.A. standard means. In a Club such as ours, the Honours Badge depends upon it, and yet competitor and spectator can get no information during the meeting. We suggest that out of courtesy to the competitors, and to that section of the spectators who are athletes enjoying a "busman's holiday," these details should be given immediately following the event.

\* \* \* \* \*

All present on the Saturday were impressed by the performance of Ginty in the 2 miles Steeplechase, and his spirited running against George Bailey, of Salford, who eventually triumphed in very good time. Here, we thought, England has two of the finest steeplechasers she has ever been able to call upon. Reference to the records showed us that in the eighteen years that the times have been taken in this event, Jim's time (10 min. 29.8 sec.) had only been beaten twice, one occasion being when Iso-Hollo, the Finnish world's record holder, had taken the title in 1933. Here, we thought, England has two men who will do well against France on July 27th, and against the rest of the world at Berlin in the 1936 Olympiad.

But in some unaccountable way, despite the fact that the first two Englishmen were religiously chosen in all the other events for the match v. France, the second string in the Steeplechase was announced as "A. N. Other." We submit that the Selection Committee have allowed feelings other than strict impartiality, and attention to their own Championships, to influence them. It is pitiable that England should not have the services of one of the gamest triers and proved performers that have ever drawn on spikes. We are not unmindful of last year's selection of the team to visit Australia, when the claims of A. V. Reeve, of the Poly., were ignored. We trust that those in a position to do so will make enquiries into the matter, to ensure that such flagrant injustice shall not again be meted out to athletes who fully earn their selection; and consistently by their sportsmanship and whole-hearted endeavour, prove their worthiness to represent their country.

We have sympathy for the man, game runner though he be, selected to take the place rightfully belonging to our man; for he is well aware that he is not the second-best steeplechaser in

England, and, indeed, to the best of our knowledge, he has never yet competed in a Steeplechase event.

Jim Ginty, sportsman that he is, refuses to discuss the matter; and we can only hope that the future will bring his International colours over both country and track, to compensate in some degree for present disappointments.

STOP PRESS.—Subsequent events have shown that the Selection Committee robbed England of a probable three points, and at worst a certain one point, by their non-selection of Ginty. These points *might* have made all difference in such a closely-fought match.

\* \* \* \* \*

Nearly sixty members and friends took part in the Club Outing on Sunday, July 21st. Our double-deck coach left Victoria at 10-15 a.m. and took us to Frensham Ponds, where the party swam, played cricket and rounders, and generally enjoyed themselves. It was good to see Arthur Penny lapping round the bases at full speed. A move was made to Elstead for tea, where the company tried, unsuccessfully, to demolish completely the home-made rolls, butter, jam, lashings of cream, and cake provided.

After tea, we adjourned to Footer's idea of an open space (we suspect it was inside, for the pull-up was within a short distance of a hostelry!) and indulged in further games. Then, homewards.

Everyone voted the day's outing a most successful one, and many enquired if another could not be arranged in a few weeks' time. The weather favoured us, and we were delighted to see some of our more recent members taking part in everything, and thoroughly enjoying themselves.

## WITH THE JUNIORS.

On Monday, June 3rd, a Junior Inter-Club contest was held at Mitcham between the local club, Croydon H. and ourselves. We were successful in winning very convincingly the three events decided, and we congratulate ourselves upon having such splendid young runners in our ranks. We are sure that we shall be well represented in Senior events a few years hence, judging by the talent on show at this Inter-Club event, and in other races. It is not our policy to give our juniors too much racing, for we know the evils which such over-indulgence can inflict upon promising careers, but it is certainly very pleasing to see the Belgrave Harriers of to-morrow performing so creditably when called upon to represent the Club in junior fixtures.

#### RESULTS.

**3 x 100 Yards Relay.**—1, Belgrave H. (Botwright, Jones, Saunders); 2, Mitcham A.C.; 3, Croydon H.

**3 x 200 Yards Relay.**—1, Belgrave H. (as above); 2, Mitcham A.C.; 3, Croydon H.

**880 Yards Team Race.**—1, Belgrave H. (Clements 2, Quackenbos 3; Cottrel, 5), 10 pts.; 2, Mitcham A.C. 11 pts.

S. C. Botwright greatly distinguished himself by winning the Middlesex Junior 220 yards Championship; and he will undoubtedly show himself to be a first-class sprinter in a year or so; possibly developing into a champion quarter-miler.

H. M. Quackenbos also merits our congratulations upon his third place in the A.A.A. Junior  $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile Steeplechase Championship. He will surely become one of our future stalwarts.

Four of our young milers, Clements, Chantler, Stimpson and Wood competed in an under 20 mile team race at the Enfield A.C. Open Meeting, and although our scoring men finished 4, 5, 6, we were placed second. However, this form guarantees good future performances.

Steady training, co-operative effort, willingness to learn and apply the principles expounded by the senior runners, and moderated racing during the early years, should develop within the Club a set of performers capable of bringing further lustre to the Club's name in the future.

## SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE EVENTS.

### Division 1.

On May 25th, at the White City, was held the 4 x 220 yds. and we fielded a useful team in Kealey, Stroud, Mewes and Michael.

Kealey elected to start for us, and drawing number 1 station, he was twice bumped very badly and so we lost any advantage which we might have had. Mewes and Michael both tried their best to reduce the gap between the leaders, and Stroud went off over the last leg just in front of the Poly and S.L.H. He could not hold Yates, of S.L.H., but just managed to beat Carmen, of the Poly, by inches for fifth position. Blackheath beat Herne Hill for first place, with Mitcham A.C. third.

The 1 Mile Team race was held at Herne Hill on June 29th, and we repeated our last year's success in this race and all our men ran extremely well. Tom Scrimshaw, in finishing fourth in the actual race, which was won by the now A.A.A. champion, S. C. Wooderson, fully justified those who think he may do even better over longer distances than he has done over the half. Our other three men, Bill Rice, Arthur Allum and Albert Shaw, fin-

ished 7, 8, 9, and so we scored 28 pts. to Blackheath H. 38, Mitcham A.C. 51, Poly H. 52, Herne Hill H. 59, and South London H. 72.

Thus, with two events still to be decided, Blackheath are leading, with Herne Hill one point behind. We are one point behind them. So that with two points to make up, and the 1 Mile Medley Relay and the 4 x 880 yds. to take place, we can be fairly optimistic regarding our chances of retaining our title of champions. The big danger—and on their present form it is a very big one—are the present leaders, Blackheath Harriers. With S. C. Wooderson to lead them and men like Poole, Whittingham, Wiard, Parkes and Page, they present a very formidable opposition, and if our boys can pull it off, then they will have well deserved our congratulations.

### “DORIS” SHIELD INTER-CLUB CONTEST.

This was held at Battersea Park Track on June 26th, and after an enjoyable evening's sport we managed to win back the Shield once again. The holders, Thames Valley Harriers, put up a stern fight, however, and we were only successful by the narrow margin of 2 points.

In the 100 Yards match, Tavender, of T.V.H., just pipped Brodie in 10  $\frac{2}{5}$  secs., and with Stroud filling third place we managed to share points in this event. Points were scored on the basis of 6 to 1 in 100 to 440, and in the Team and Relay race they were 6—4—2.

Tommy Scrimshaw turned out for us in the 440 Yards match event, and ran home an easy winner in 52  $\frac{2}{5}$  secs. T.V.H. men were second and third, with Michael fourth, and so once again points were even between the two clubs. By the way, Ashcombe A.C. were also competing but they had the last two men in both these races.

In the 2 Miles Team race, Ashcombe did us a good turn by beating T.V.H. for second place in the team race. L. J. Cohen was the individual winner, with R. W. Jordan, who was making one of his rare appearances for us (he is now at Chichester, but happened to be on holiday, for which we were duly thankful), and he ran a fine race to finish second, with Tom Carter third. With Jack Flower fourth, we thus had an easy win, with, as mentioned above, Ashcombe finishing second and Thames Valley H. third. We now had a 4 points lead and, barring accidents, the Shield looked as good as won.

For the final event, the 1 Mile Medley Relay, A. D. G. White, of T.V.H., gave his team a winning lead over the half-mile stage, and so we finished second with Ashcombe behind us. T.V.H. thus knocked two points off our lead, and the final scores were :

Belgrave H. 28 pts., Thames Valley H. 26 pts., Ashcombe A.C. 12 pts.

There were the usual handicaps open to each club, and in the 100 Yards we had all six finalists, and M. Holt scored his first win in club events; with S. C. Botwright, another of our promising Junior sprinters, second; and R. G. Michael third.

The One Mile Handicap was won in rather easy fashion by G. V. Godfrey, of T.V.H., off the 155 mark, with C. E. Cheyney, now of Ashcombe, second and W. J. Ashford, of our own club, third.

Our club also held a Shot Putt handicap with our new member from Germany, F. Grassau, on the scratch mark, but he failed to get placed, the winner being E. M. Waldron, with that consistent field event performer, S. Jones, second, and Eagle third.

The 2 Miles Walk handicap resulted in a popular win for Jack Field, with J. Banfield, of Ashcombe, second and W. Snell, of our club, third.

## · INTER-CLUB RELAY MEETING AT CROYDON.

This was held on July 2nd on Croydon's ground, which is quite close to the Croydon Aerodrome, and the track has a nasty gradient which has to be "climbed" five times in the course of a mile race.

However, the 4 x 100 opened the proceedings and, as usual, we filled our usual third position with Croydon beating Mitcham for first place.

In the 4 x 880 yds. we fielded a useful team, and with Frank Webb giving us the lead over the second stage, and Alec Ball keeping it, Tommy Scrimshaw just "sauntered" round for the last leg. In fact he almost went too slow and gave the rest of us a few hearts attacks when Ayton, of Mitcham, got to his shoulder at the last bend. Tommy, however, with a quick glance round, immediately sprinted away from him, and we realised Tom had been gently pulling our legs.

The 4 x 300 yds. was a repetition of last year's race, in that it caused tremendous excitement, and although Croydon had a winning lead over the last leg, Tom Scrimshaw chased the Mitcham boy all the way and although he caught him, on the narrow track he could not quite get by, and they finished with Tom and his opponent "locked" together as they flashed past the post. The verdict of the Judges was: Croydon, Mitcham, Belgrave and Epsom, and so once again we just failed by the proverbial inch.

In the 1 Mile Team race our men, ably led by our Captain, Bill Rice, kept together in fine style at the head of the field, and

although on the last lap Frost, of Croydon, went into the lead with 300 yards and go, Harry Shields raced away and finished in easy winner in time which was very good considering the state of the track. Our men scored 1, 2, 4, 6, and in spite of our Captain trying to "wangle" things, Mitcham beat Croydon by 2 points for second place.

When we totalled the scores, we found that the home club, Mitcham and ourselves each scored 12 points on the evening, and so Mitcham and Belgrave still lead with 25 points each, with Croydon 21, and Epsom 9.

### INTER-CLUB "SHIELD" CONTEST AT MITCHAM.

At the "News of the World" ground, on July 17th, was held the third of these contests, and we knew that Mitcham would make every endeavour to secure a lead over ourselves, especially as they were on their own "midden."

Unfortunately, and I say that advisedly, we were without the sprinters we had been relying upon, and so our team for the 4 x 100 was Mewes, Bennet, Michael and Cankin. The latter had turned up on the off-chance and had very wisely brought his "togs" along and so we pressed him into service. He did very well on his first appearance in these events, and our team actually surprised their own supporters by beating Mitcham for second place with Croydon winning the event.

We had hoped to run Scrimshaw in the 4 x 880, but although he turned up, it was to inform us that he was under treatment by the dentist and would not be able to compete. We therefore ran Harry Shields, together with A. A. Bird, Frank Webb and Fred White. These all ran extremely well and we finished easy winners with Mitcham second and Croydon narrowly beating Epsom for third place.

In the 4 x 300 we were forced to field the same team as for the shorter sprint, and our boys failed to rise to the occasion as they had done in the previous event. Mitcham beat Croydon after a fine race, with ourselves beating Epsom for third place after the positions had constantly been changing.

The position was now that Mitcham were level with us on the evening; and also, of course, on the gross score, and so it was up to our milers, as it has so often been before.

The One Mile Team race proved a most exciting race, and the Mitcham boys rose to the occasion in fine style, and although Bill Rice almost ran his heart out in an attempt to force a win, it was not to be, and with Mitcham scoring 1, 5, 6, 7 to our 2, 3, 8, 12, we were one point down on the total points scored to date.

The final meeting will be held at Epsom on July 31st, and remembering our past difficulties in fielding representative sides at this venue, the question of our retaining the Shield is very much open to doubt. Our only hope appears to be that if we can at last get some of our best sprinters to make the journey, we might secure a few much-needed points in the two sprint events and so lessen the strain of our middle-distance men, who are always faced with the fact that they have "got" to win the other two races for us in order to have a chance.

Total points to date are : Mitcham A.C., 38 pts.; Belgrave H., 37 pts.; Croydon H., 31 pts.; and Epsom H., 14 pts.

## WINDING UP THE TRACK SEASON.

August 3rd, Club Championship Day at Battersea Park Track, and by now all entries should have been handed in. On present form it looks as if some of the titles may change hands, notably the 440, in which the holder, A. Kench, is a doubtful starter; and if Tom Scrimshaw turns out for the 880, he should regain his title once again. The One Mile should, as usual, provide a most exciting race, and at the moment it would be a brave man who would prophesy the winner.

On August 10th we have a match with the Metropolitan Police and, I believe, the Surrey A.C. and Polytechnic H. at Imber Court. This is a most attractive ground and some good running should be seen among the competing clubs. I hope that our members will support their Track Captain in his endeavour to field our best possible strength.

The 1 Mile Medley Relay in the S.A.A.L. will be held at the White City on August 17th, in conjunction with the Fire Brigade sports, and in regard to the "open" events at this meeting I should like our members to do their best to support these, as a feature of this meeting is the "pot" which is given to the first unplaced member of the club which has the most members competing in the Mile and Walk.

On August 19th we are reviving our old evening meeting in August in which the 1,320 yards race used to feature. This time, however, we are holding a 100 yards, 880 yards and 2 miles Running Handicaps, 2 Miles Walk, and there are also two S.A.A.L. Field Events. Seeing that during the Summer we have gained many new members, I hope these will take this opportunity of competing in club races. These races do give you very useful experience and, moreover, give you a better chance of becoming acquainted with your fellow-members. The 2 Miles Run should attract the runners who have an eyes on our 3 Miles Championship, and also those who think that the halves and miles are a little too fast for them. Over the longer dis-

tance they will have more time to settle down, and so here again, I hope to see many new faces appearing. Entries should be sent to either Mr. Bayliss or myself at least a week before the date of the meeting. The fee is 1/- for each event.

Our final track meeting will be held on Saturday, September 14th, at Battersea Park, at 3 p.m. We have a return match v. the Metropolitan Police and Polytechnic Harriers; and, in addition, we are staging the final event in the S.A.A.L. Div. 1. This is the 4 x 880 yds. and we are hopeful of repeating our last year's success in this race.

Also at this meeting will be held the Club 3 Miles Track Championship for the "Griffin" Cup (Holder, A. Allum). Standard medals are awarded to all those who beat 16 mins. and 16 mins. 30 secs. Our cross-country International and Empire Games 6 Miles Champion, A. W. Penny, contemplates making a return to the "fray" once again in this event, having now recovered from his fractured foot, which has kept him out of the game for so long a period.

The following Handicaps will be held: 220 Yds., 880 Yds. and 2 Miles Walk, and as this will be the last chance for club members to secure a "pot," I hope they will enter in large numbers and do their best to "trip" the Handicapper up. Entries sent in a week in advance will be appreciated, so please do not leave it until the last minute to enter.

All Entries and Enquiries to either:—

E. A. DUFFETT, *Asst. Hon. Sec.*,  
or to our *Gen Hon. Sec.*, 10 Barrow Road, Waddon, Surrey.

## FIELD EVENTS.

With the Summer season nearing its close, we can express pleasure that our men have shown up so well in Field Events. The last few months have been notable for the number of really first-class field-events men that have pointed up, including J. Dodd, F. Grassau, F. Waters and H. Heider.

Dodd recently put up two remarkable performances in the Northern A.A.A. Championships, when he finished second in both High Jump and Pole Vault Championships, with leaps of 6 ft. and 11 ft. 9 ins. respectively. In the latter event he surpassed the previous record, but had to be content with second place. In addition to the above performances he has jumped 5ft. 10½in. for us in a S.A.A.L. event, and we may be sure that in a year or so he will be an A.A.A. Champion and International. We trust that Dodd's studies will be followed by a London appointment, and that we may have his services for many years to come.

F. Grassau has beaten 40 ft. with the Shot and should be the winner in our coming matches v. Metropolitan Police and Polytechnic H.

H. Heider promises to succeed Pfenninger in versatility, for he has cleared 5 ft. 9 ins. High Jump and beaten 21 ft. Long Jump and is also useful with Shot, Discus or Javelin.

Vassall and Stannard have collected maximum S.A.A.L. points for us in the Pole Vault with jumps of 10 ft 6ins. and 10 ft. respectively. We seem to have a very good school of pole-jumpers!

F. Waters and H. Jones represented us in the Kinnaird Trophy hurdles, but were drawn in heats with Finlay and Pilbrow respectively, and so were unable to qualify for the final. At this meeting Sutton (35 ft. 8 ins.) and S. Jones (34 ft. 11½ ins.) represented us in the Shot Putt.

In the Surrey County Championship George Powell had his usual win with the Javelin (165 ft. 3½ ins.), with another of ours, E. H. Finneron, second (155 ft. 10½ in.). George followed this up a fortnight later by getting second place in the Southern Championships. Standard medal winners in the County Championships included: Shot, Sutton and Jones; Discus, Jones and Henchoz.

Melchoir has now recovered from a damaged ankle and has thrown the Javelin a few inches short of 150 ft. recently.

With such talent as we have outlined above, plus the services of field events men such as Robertson, Waldron and Holder, and the continued influx of new devotees of field events, we should not find it difficult to hold the lead we have established in the Southern Amateur Athletic League (Division 1). We are at the head, followed by South London H. and Polytechnic H. The other clubs comprising this division of the league are Mitcham A.C., Blackheath H., Herne Hill H., Croydon H., St. George's Services S.C., Southgate H., Southgate and Wood Green A.A.

Subject to confirmation, the following are the positions in the "Harry Wright" Shield, which carries with it the Club Gold Medal.

J. Dodd (High Jump) ... ..	5ft. 10½in.	...	91.97%
F. Grassau (Shot Putt)... ..	38ft. 0¼in.	...	88.38%
K. Robertson (High Jump) ... ..	5ft. 1in.	...	84.72%
S. Jones (Shot Putt) ... ..	38ft. 8¼in	...	83.20%
W. Sutton (Shot Putt) ... ..	34ft. 9¼in.	...	80.83%
G. H. Powell (Javelin) ... ..	155ft. 6½in.	...	80.57%

Performances required to equal the 91.97 % of Dodd are: Shot, 42 ft. 1¼ ins.; Discus, 134 ft. 1½ ins.; Javelin, 188 ft. 11½ ins.; Pole Vault, 11 ft. 6 ins.; Long Jump, 22ft. 9 ins.

Anyone desiring information about our Field Event activities is asked to get in touch with W. Sutton, the Sectional Captain.

## WITH THE WALKERS.

Details of the Brighton Walk, for intending competitors, may be had from the Walking Hon. Secretary; and attention is once again drawn to the fact that we shall have a coach on the road on September 7th, and that early application for seats (5/-) should be made.

Also offers of assistance from prospective cyclist attendants would be gladly received.

\* \* \* \* \*

We have two County Walking Champions in our ranks. Don Brown won the Surrey race, and Joe King the Sussex, both putting up fastest times.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Winter season fast approaches and we should be glad to see a few new faces, in addition to all the old ones, at Wimbledon this year. So if you know of anyone likely to be interested in our sport, bring them along.

\* \* \* \* \*

The result of the Club handicap held by courtesy of Ashcombe A.C., in connection with their meeting on July 26th, resulted as follows:—

1, A. H. East (650); 2, W. A. Treacher (100); 3, J. E. Rutland (325).  
Time, 13 min. 58 sec.

It is 1922 since Bert East won his last Club first, so this win is not out of turn.

\* \* \* \* \*

Two Club handicaps remain down for decision and entries should be sent to the Walking Hon. Secretary a week beforehand. It is not fair to the Hon. Handicappers, or the other competitors, to turn up on the evening and expect to walk if formal notice, either verbal or in writing, has not been given.

## BUILDING FUND NEWS.

Shall we at this time next year be searching for a suitable headquarters of our own at Wimbledon? Shall we be a good deal nearer doing so than at present? Alternatively, shall we simply be going on at quarter-speed, hoping that in seven or eight years' time we might try to purchase a place within two miles or so of the Common?

The answer to these questions is in the hands of each individual member, particularly those who have so far contributed pessimism only. We Committee members always consider that the will and achievement belong to the individual member in

as great a degree as to us, and that if we do not receive every bit of support of which you are capable, we might as well turn the "Building Fund Committee" into a dart club, or each purchase a pair of rabbits.

Recently every member was notified of a supporters' club scheme which the Committee is trying to launch and which in a short space of time would put us in a strong position. Can we do it? Well, what do you, the individual member, think? We have nearly six hundred members on our books and we require to sell about one thousand membership cards to be very successful. Nobody need be out of pocket by the arrangements. Five members between them already have asked for five hundred membership cards. Can we succeed? If we cannot, I am very sorry indeed for the club spirit we so often get proud about.

All we need, lads, is a small effort from everyone who feels proud of the Club's great achievements this year; from all those who cheered when the boys were winning the "Brighton Relay"; and we can do more than most of you dream.

There are a few more interesting items of news concerning the fund. No records are being broken with "Building Bricks" so far, and if you are loth to part with these charming ornaments, I promise to replace them immediately in order to leave no blank space on the mantelpiece or behind the wringer, as the case may be. Pin boards are doing fine, thanks; and if you want to be really popular with your friends and family, just let me know right away.

During the Winter months, Mr. E. Gordon is running a Dance specially for the Fund; and we intend holding another "Smoker." Dates and details of these events will be published as soon as fixed.

For your information, the Building Fund Sub-Committee consists of E. Gordon, H. Parker, A. W. Penny, F. H. Elson, T. H. Scrimshaw, C. E. Poulter, and the writer; and, of course, the usual Club officers *ex-officio*.

Do try and get your friends and family, as well as yourselves, interested and keen on our Building. They, as well as you, will be able to spend many pleasant hours with us when our object is attained.

In conclusion, many thanks to all those who are ever ready to help in every direction. It is good to know we have such stout chaps as fellow-members and pals.

Any Building Fund enquiries should be addressed to:—

T. COTTON, 25, Duntshill Road, S.W.18.



