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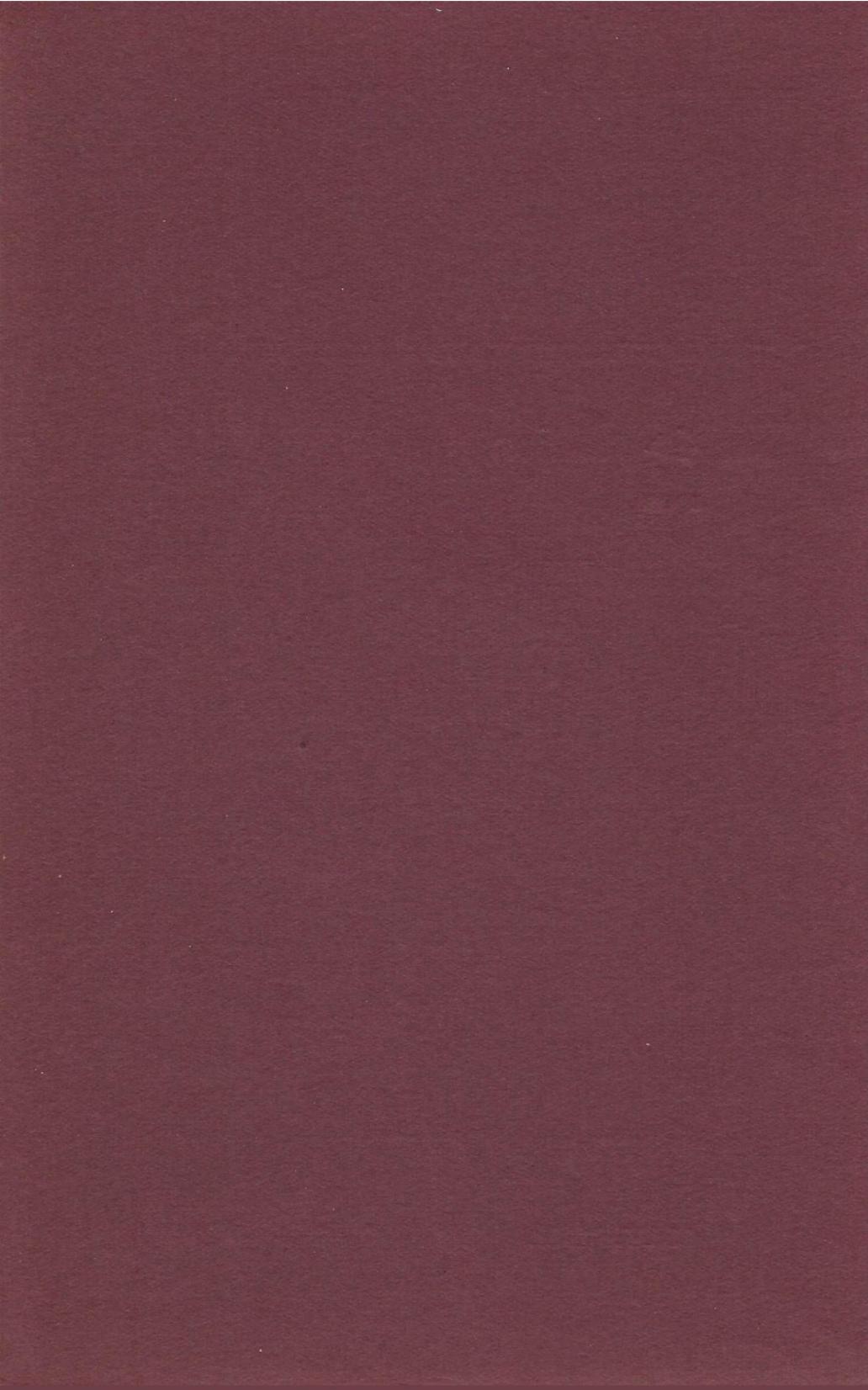
# BELGRAVIAN

The  
OFFICIAL GAZETTE  
of the

## BELGRAVE HARRIERS

MAY, 1926.

PRICE 5s



THE 4th EDITION  
OF  
THE BELGRAVIAN

MAY, 1928.

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CLUB NOTES.

"Observer's" notes of last month have given us a subject for heated discussion. By the way, all our discussions are very heated and the participants always look better for the superfluous energy used up. That authority, Harry Parker, says that we were represented throughout last season in every team race of note in the South, but people who mention the Kinnaird trophy are talking mountains. But let us talk mountains a bit, we shall not be many seasons before we are challenging the foremost clubs. Our progress in the last few years points to a very high standard in the near future.

Some members were not keen on relay racing last season, but perhaps it was because they were not strong enough. The aforementioned authority is going to rake up a pretty hot quartet this season, who will make the dust fly some. Besides the half-milers we advertised for in the last number, we want a sound 50 secs. "quarter" man. Cooper-Clark, our champion, is out of town this season and Dunkley, a top-notch, is kept off the track by illness. But men who were just out of it last season can improve enough, by proper training, to take the places of this pair. If you do not know how to go about your training at Battersea, ask any club official, who will put you on to an experienced trainer.

There were many suggestions for the order of running in the London-Brighton relay. Most sensible seems to be that the next year we should run all our fast men first. After the first two or three relays the leaders have such an advantage that it is almost impossible to pull upon them. The running in the trial suggests that we have no "tail" to let

us down on the last relays. It seems that the race is won in the early stages.

The number of our supporters following was rather disappointing. One club had two char-a-banc loads of followers.

Curwen of Battersea Grammar School and our club, was 2nd in the Public Schools' mile walk at Stamford Bridge, on April 14th. He gained the Fowler-Dixon award for the best style shown. Style, for the young walker, is much more important than speed. The stylist can walk himself into the fastest class, but the speed-merchant without style will soon be pulled out. Jack Carne holds the record of 7 mins. 32 4/5 secs. for this race. He was Schools' champion in 1923.

To see Tommy Heenan, our masseur, racing up the straight in civvies, with Curwen in his training, was a delight as well as an honour for the fortunate witnesses. Tommy was a fast man in the days of Jack Butler, Larner and Sturgess.

Some members have entered events lately in the names of other clubs. We want a happy family, and every man proud of his club. Club colours should always be worn in "opens," and while on the track in training, it is good to see a large proportion of claret and old gold about.

We are told that some of our boys were running at our own meeting in other clubs' colours. Let it be for the last time.

### BRIGHTON RELAY RACE.

The club, having qualified at Mitcham, to participate in this classical event, made thorough preparations to give the selected team as much practical and moral support as it was possible to give. For this purpose a private 'bus was engaged, so that the team could be properly prepared for the race, each competitor receiving attention from the trainer before and after his individual effort. It was also thought that the atmosphere created by familiar surroundings would help to relieve the competitors of the tenseness created by the importance of the event.

The day, April 14th, duly arrived, and all were pleased to find that the previous year's horrible weather was not likely to be repeated. It was not exactly an ideal Spring morning, being rather overcast, with a chilly wind, but there were prospects of the rain keeping off, so we set our minds on the race, and not the weather.

The interior of the 'bus was soon transformed into a dressing-room, achieved by a liberal use of claret and gold paper to screen the windows, and a curtain partition inside.

Our first man, Micky Pyer, was left in readiness at Westminster, and the 'bus started off at 10.45 a.m. for the first change-over at Nightingale Lane. A large crowd was already in waiting there, and were soon cheering the leader, Blewitt, of the Birchfield Harriers, who had succeeded in beating his own record for this stage by 3 seconds. We eagerly awaited our man, and were a little disconcerted to find that he only occupied the 13th position, but subsequently we found that this was not due to any lapse on his part, but to the excellence of the field, which comprised some of the fastest men in the athletic world, as instanced by comparison with the times recorded for this lap last year.

Jones, having taken over from Pyer, we again set off, only to find a larger congregation at Mitcham. The congestion here was appalling, much interference impeding the runners. Jones had picked up two places, which Smith did not look likely to lose, and the latter's arrival at Purley in the 11th position justified our optimism. He had run a remarkably fast stage, and the fact that we had not improved our position gave us ample proof that the opposition this year was much stronger. Mitchell, on the uphill stage to Mersham, ran very evenly and brought the club up a place.

Robertshaw now had the difficult task of negotiating Redhill and the switchback course as far as Horley. This was a lengthy stretch of over 6 miles, and it speaks well for his pluck that despite a "bad time" he gave a creditable display and only surrendered two places. However, we had not yet played our strongest cards, and looked forward to a gradual improvement.

But at Crawley we were doomed to disappointment; Khlopin also experienced trouble and handed over in the 13th position. What could be the matter? We were losing ground, yet none of our runners had appeared to be so much below form as to warrant this. We sought comfort in the fact that perhaps the other clubs had employed their best men prior to this stage. Buckingham, starting off like a lion, seemed likely to retrieve some of these lost places, but he flattered only to deceive, and paying the usual penalty of too fast a commencement, finished a further point back, leaving the

club in the 14th position with only 3 men to make any improvement.

However, Webb set about his task in a workmanlike manner, and after a gruelling 6 miles, he had the satisfaction of cutting down the gap and giving Footer the 13th place with the possibility of securing another point. Bert is very consistent, and we did not hope in vain, for he sent Duffett away 12th with the Poly. man just in front. But the latter, our old friend Muggeridge, had visions of a record, and proceeded to shew his Brighton acquaintances "how it was done," for he succeeded in setting up new figures for this last lap, and by so doing upset our only chance of reaching the finish in a more advanced position.

The united efforts of our ten runners gave us a splendid return of 4 hrs., 55 mins., 41 secs., which on last year's times, would have put us in the 6th position, yet we were no nearer than 12th this year, although it was some satisfaction to make an improvement of over 11½ minutes and 5 places on last year, despite an extra 328 yards on the 3rd stage.

It has been suggested since, that the order of running could have been improved, but this was carefully thrashed out before the race, and with the men at our disposal, I think the time recorded is evidence enough that there was not much wrong in this direction. I had already remarked that the team was capable of beating 4 hrs., 56 mins., if they all ran to form. Compare the actual figures and it will become apparent that we did as well as expected, but found a corresponding improvement in the form of the other competing clubs. The following details are interesting:—

1927.			1928.		
1. Bruce	25.52	25.52	1. Pyer	24.35	24.35
2. Buckingham	26.32	52.24	2. Jones	26.55	52.30
3. Smith	29.35	1.21.59	3. Smith	30.08*	1.21.38
4. Rice	32.23	1.54.22	4. Mitchell	31.29	1.53.7
5. Flatt	35.14	2.29.36	5. Robertshaw	33.19	2.26.26
6. Dodkin	29.44	2.59.20	6. Khlopin	28.36	2.55.2
7. Bayliss	26.51	3.26.11	7. Buckingham	25.48	3.20.50
8. Field	35.22	4.1.33	8. Webb	31.47	3.52.37
9. O'Kell	30.48	4.32.21	9. Footer	29.37	4.22.14
10. Footer	34.56	5.7.17	10. Duffett	33.27	4.55.41

\*Extra 328 yards.

J.W.M.

## R. W. RICKETT'S SHIELD RACE.

There were 13 starters, including E. G. Cooper (holder), and F. Rickards, who has been the winner on three occasions, for our 20 miles road-walking championship, on April 21st.

For more than eight miles, E. G. Cooper, F. Rickards, H. F. King, S. A. Manning, T. W. Green and R. D. McMullen, walked steadily together, a striking contrast from the amazing race between King and Green over the first twelve miles in last year's championship.

This group of six was following on the heels of F. Elson, 4 secs. ahead of them, who stubbornly kept in the lead until he could hardly lift his feet from the ground, and ultimately had to retire at 14 miles.

Eight miles were reached in 70 mins., 6 secs., 5 mins. behind Green's time at that point last year! J. Rathbone, who had been ill lately, retired here, so did J. Carne and J. E. Field.

At fourteen miles, King, who had gone out after Elson, held the lead, 100 yards ahead of Rickards, Green and McMullen, who were together, Cooper followed, yet another 100 yards behind. King's time was still no less than five minutes behind that of the leader at this point last year, but results proved that the field was walking a wiser race than one or two walked on that occasion. Manning (6th) had dropped back from the leaders, but at 14 miles he was three minutes faster than last year when he was 4th at this point. J. McDonald retired here. The lap had been very trying, the walkers being drenched by almost continuous rain.

On the last lap King found that he had made his effort too soon, and he was compelled to retire near the "Green Man." Meanwhile, Cooper, who proved the best tactician last year, put in some strong walking over the last few miles to win by half a minute from McMullen, who gained the handicap prize very easily.

And so George Cooper won the shield for the second year. His time was 33 seconds better than in the last race, and he was the winner of the keenest contest we have had over this distance.

The first and fourth men were separated by only two minutes, and it is to be expected that on another day Harold King will be along with them. The club should know in confidence that our "twenty" men are very determined about

the National. Whatever our fate, the team spirit is very much alive among them.

There was an enthusiastic gathering of both walkers and runners to see the race.

A detailed result is given, and young walkers who will one day walk twenties can learn something from it. It is seen that King walked the fastest lap from 8 to 14 miles, and retired soon after. Possibly the time would have been faster still if McMullen and Rickards had not been quite so fast over this lap. But that leads to controversy, so here is the result:—

		2 mls.	8 mls.	14 mls	20 mls.	Position in Hand.
1.	E. G. Cooper ...	19.35	70.6	119.27	169.57	2
2.	R. D. McMullen ...	19.34	70.6	118.45	170.27	1
3.	F. Rickards ...	19.35	70.6	118.44	170.35	3
4.	T. W. Green ...	19.35	70.6	118.44	171.54	5
5.	S. A. Manning ...	19.35	70.6	121.3	181.10	4
	H. F. King ...	19.35	70.6	118.21		
	B. J. T. Knifton ...	19.40	72.42	124.11		
	F. Elsen ...	19.22	70.2	126.0		
	J. McDonald ...	20.0	75.33	135.30		
	J. B. Carne ...	19.35	68.52			
	J. E. Field ...	18.57	68.3			
	J. Rathbone ...	19.59	75.0			
	J. N. Thomas ...	20.0				

## OUR "OPEN."

On April 28th, the club held its second "open" meeting, and was rewarded by brilliant sunshine and some very fine running. As usual the meeting opened with the heats of the 100 yards, and in the first of these T. J. Purdy was successful, beating the scratch man, J. London, in 10 secs. dead. This good start was not maintained, however, and in distinct contrast to last year's meeting, our members were unable to secure any prizes in the open events. Polytechnic Harriers gained two firsts, two seconds, and two thirds, and this is due, no doubt, to their fitness following an early start in training.

Three of our runners, A. H. Butt, J. A. Jones, and J. E. Flower, qualified for the final of the half-mile in fast heats, and in addition A. Lander and T. J. Purdy ran in the second round of the hundred yards.

All these members should win open handicaps before the end of the season. The Novice Mile race was won rather easily by the only outsider to enter, but it was very pleasing to see the promising running of some of the younger members.

C. W. Boud, whose last prize was gained in a 5 miles C.C. handicap, won the Club 100 Yards, which was very keenly contested.

The Club Mile was won by H. E. Footer (45) who was followed in by W. G. Webb (50), proving that the cross country season had not exhausted all their energy. A newcomer, A. Penney, ran in promising style to secure third position.

The Two Miles Walk was noticeable for the fine walking of Len. Fletcher, who gained third place from scratch. This performance so early in the season, leads us to expect that he will have an even more successful season this year than last.

The final event, the Long Jump, attracted six entries (? a record), and some good jumping was seen. It was very pleasing to find increased interest taken in this event, for if we are to take a place in the front rank of clubs, it is necessary to have men who can make a good show at field events. These events figure in all the big inter-club events (viz. The Kinnaird Trophy), and also play a large part in the inter-county championship.

In conclusion, although we lose money on this meeting, it is very gratifying to find the club's effort appreciated not only in athletic circles, but also by the crowd who enjoy a good afternoon's sport on the rails.

#### Open Events.

100 Yards Handicap.—J. Fell, Poly. H., 9½ yds., 1; J. C. Heap, S.A.C., 2 yds., 2; H. Bowthorpe, H.H.H., 9 yds., 3; 10 0-5.  
300 Yards Handicap.—R. W. Beswick, Ashcombe A.C., 25 yds., 1; A. M. Ellery, Poly. H., 10 yds., 2; T. Nicholson, Poly. H., 21 yds., 3; 30 3-5.

880 Yards Handicap.—E. O'Connor, Poly. H., 56 yds., 1; W. G. Picton, Poly. H., 55 yds., 2; L. R. Squire, Poly. H., 59 yds., 3; 1.54 2-5.

#### Club Events.

100 Yards Handicap.—C. Boud, 12 yds., 1; J. C. Clark, 10 yds., 2; T. H. Needs, 8½ yds., 3; 10 3-10.

One Mile Novices' Scratch Race.—W. G. Ross, Harrodian A.C., 1; T. H. Scrimshaw, Belgrave, 2; J. G. Coleman, Belgrave, 3; 5.1 0-5.

One Mile Handicap.—H. E. Footer, 45 yds., 1; W. Webb, 50 yds., 2; A. Penney, 11½ yds., 3; 4.39 3-5.

Two Miles Walking Handicap.—J. J. Crichton, 390 yds., 1; J. Cade, 300 yds., 2; A. L. Fletcher, scr., 3; 14.31 4-5.

Long Jump.—C. T. Pollard, 20 ft. 8 in., 1; B. W. Fleming, 20 ft. 6½ in., 2; T. Bates, 19 ft. 10 in., 3; E. H. Jarvis, 19 ft. 7 in., 4.

A.A.H.

## SPORTS' JOTTINGS.

By "Observer."

Our Committee are to be congratulated on the fine fixture list which they have placed before the members. In addition to the usual handicaps which cater for all, there are level events, which should prove very useful in discovering what talent there actually is in the club. There is also an additional championship this season, the 3 miles; this will be a very fine race, as I have heard that several of our distance runners are training diligently in view of this event.

I understand that the A.A.A. official handbook of all athletic fixtures is now ready for issue, price 1/-; this is a very useful publication, giving the names of all officials, names and addresses of club secretaries, and a full list of all meetings to be held this season. They can be had on application to the association's offices, 10 John Street, W.C.2.

The matter of open handicaps appears to be causing quite a lot of controversy these days, various suggestions have been made, such as graded scratch races and limited handicaps, also the prize values seem to be coming in for a lot of criticism. One writer, when stressing his point, mentions the field in the mile at Woolwich, namely 176, if one realizes that the total of entry fees for this event comes to about £13, and that the value of the prizes given amounted to £8, it would appear rather a vital point that in the event of prize values being reduced then the entry fees should be dealt with likewise. After all, it is the entries that make or mar a meeting,

and in my opinion the entrants should be fairly dealt with. I should imagine that some runners after a season or so of non-success, and with having to pay 1/6 or 2/- for an entry, have well paid for any pot they may win, however high the prize value.

The "News of the World" are again promoting their mammoth sports' meeting at Stamford Bridge, on Whit Monday. There are several scratch events, also a relay, in which two men have each to run 220 yards and one 1,320 yards; with such men as M. E. O'Dell, L. Smith, G. Maryon, F. Buckingham and J. Harris, the club should do well if entering in this race. Another relay on the programme which should appeal to some of our members is the one in which five men have each to run 1 mile, similar to the way in which the inter-club relay miles used to be run. Here we should certainly have a chance with say the following, A. Clark, E. A. Duffett, W. Rice, A. D. Pyer, and H. Bruce, to mention just a few who could compete. I hope that the members will do their best to support the club at this meeting, if teams are entered; it's a Bank Holiday spent in London, 'tis true, but such a feast of fine running as this rarely occurs.

An amusing feature, which had, however, its alarming side, occurred during the recent London to Brighton relay. With our ninth man on his way to Dale Hill, a car in front of our bus suddenly stopped dead. It had stripped its gears, and with the roadway not wide enough for us to get round the stationary vehicle, and above all our tenth man on the bus, a sickening situation had arisen. The boys, however, rose to the occasion, and bodily pushing the car into a ditch at the side of the road, enabled our bus to proceed and so get our man to the next stage in time.

H. Amey, of Horsham Blue Star, ran a fine relay for his club in the above race, doing 31.37 for the last stage. In view of this performance, he should do well in the Surrey 4 miles, if he enters.

It is my intention during the summer months, to give brief comments on some of the club members. I will endeavour to be as accurate as possible, so hope my readers will excuse any slight error which may arise, my first three are:

A. A. Harley, otherwise known as Ginger, has been a consistent entrant in club events with small measure of success, is only young and should greatly improve, has a long stride but does not make enough use of it, needs to put more energy into his work.

W. A. Rice, a bonny runner at all distances, shines especially in open handicaps, also club ones, which off his mark require some running in order to get a place. Has good finishing powers and is a fighter all the way, also has peculiar breathing, which is rather deceptive, as it gives one the wrong impression. Should do well on the track this summer, and may go near winning one of our championships.

E. A. Duffett, has secured a fair amount of success on the track, and has represented Surrey County at cross country. A comparative newcomer, he won the mile championship last season in the absence of A. Clark. Is a long striding runner with an easy style, so much so that is inclined to take things too easy at times, would do better if putting more devil into his running.

In next month's issue, I will give further biographies, that is if I survive the remarks of the above members, and will endeavour to give as many as space will allow me.

## SURREY COUNTY ROAD-WALKING CHAMPIONSHIP.

In this 10 miles event, held at Mitcham, A. L. Fletcher led all the way to score a very decisive victory. R. D. McMullen put up a very good show to get second in his best style. However, Surrey A.C. held the two next places and packed well. Although J. E. Field walked up to form to get eighth, we lacked a fourth man near enough, and were second in the team event. What is the matter with poor old Jack Carne? Has he turned vegetarian or can his performances be accounted for in another way?

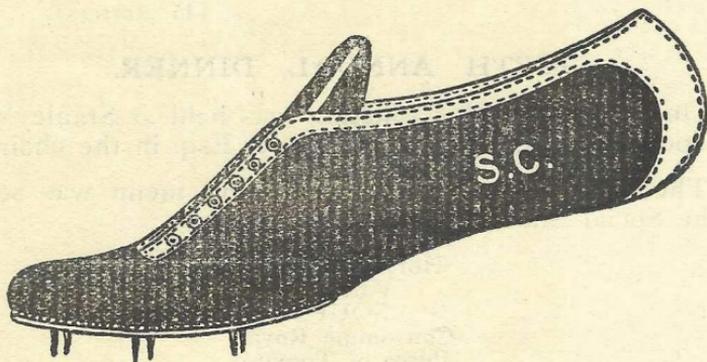
In the Middlesex race, some of those who were not qualified for the Surrey event, showed what Belgrave could do there. F. Elson, six months ago a novice, was "dusting it up" with Devonshire all the way, to beat him in the end by 4 secs. B. J. T. Knifton was in the Poly.'s winning team. Our walkers prefer team walking to individual racing, and unless they can walk in the Surrey Championship, they must either

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become second claim members of other clubs, or their performances are of less importance than men who come in after them. They are in an unfortunate dilemma.

E. L. Reeve and A. F. P. Spendlove, of whom we do not hear much nowadays, both did well in the Essex Championship.

H. F. King, of our club, was second to E. F. N. Presland (Herne Hill H.) in the Kent event.

<b>Surrey.</b>		<b>Middlesex.</b>	
1st A. L. Fletcher	78m. 38s.	1st C. W. Hyde, Enfield A.C.	
2nd R. D. McMullen	82m. 3s.		79m. 33s.
8th J. E. Field	84m. 7s	6th F. Elson	81m. 55s.
17th J. B. Carne	86m. 44s.	9th B. Knifton	83m. 5s.
22nd S. A. Manning	88m. 33s.	16th E. Saunders	85m. 25s.
27th A. H. East	91m. 31s.		(55 starters).
28th A. Martin	95m. 46s.		<b>Essex.</b>
	(44 starters).	1st Batson, K. Div. Police	87m. 26s.
Belgrave H. 2nd.		6th E. L. Reeve	92m. 25s.
		7th F. Rickard	92m. 43s.
		8th A. F. P. Spendlove	92m. 52s.
			(45 starters).

### FIFTH ANNUAL DINNER.

On April 28th, this function was held at Stanley's after our open meeting, with W. H. Hare, Esq. in the chair.

The following tasty and satisfying menu was selected by the Social Sub-Committee.

Hors D'Œuvres.  
Various.  
SOUP.  
Consomme Royal.  
Pureè of Tomato.  
FISH.  
Filets of Soles a la Dieppe.  
REMOVE.  
Roast Turkey.  
Savoury Stuffing.  
Cambridge Sausage. York Ham  
Vegetables.  
SWEETS.  
Compote of Peaches.  
Ice Pudding.  
Petit Fours. Wafers.

During the feast, our knives and forks danced to lilting melodies from the "Poms" orchestra, and ceremony commenced when our Chairman drank wine successively with winter runners and walkers, intending supporters of summer

fixtures, and our Hon. Secretaries and Hon. Treasurer.

After the loyal toast, followed a few short speeches, characterised by pointed wit. Like the vocal items with which they alternated, they were greeted with much enthusiasm, a good deal of which came from a small group of cross-country men.

Our President proposed "The Club."

He gave us a brief, but very interesting, outline of milestones which the club has passed. From 1887, A. S. N. Edwards, a miler of "4.30" reputation, ran a one-man show for twelve or thirteen years. His successor, H. A. Smith, during his single year as Secretary, saw us third in the South of Thames C.C. Championship, and fifth in the Southern C.C. Championship. In those days a boxing section was very prominent, and open competitions were organised at Latchmere Baths. A member, A. Lambert, gained the feather-weight championship, but this was a solitary distinction. On the whole, the club came into very low water through the boxers, and 1913, in which year they were disbanded, marked a turning point in the club's career. Then came the war, and we carried on as best we could until 1919, when a special general meeting was called. There was a small attendance, but those present decided that it was "worth while" to carry-on, and their decision has been thoroughly justified. From 1920, when we were strong in road-walkers but weak in runners, each succeeding year onward showed much improvement, until the time came when the Secretary was no longer able to carry out his duties single-handed, and Section Secretaries were instituted.

Mr. Hare compared the present Belgrave H. to an orchestra in which the runners provided the strings, and the walkers the wind instruments. Mr. Parker and the other Section Secretaries took the rôle of leaders, and jumpers, etc. were likened to the cymbals, drums and gadgets. Wally Bayliss, in his capacity of conductor, was able to produce harmonious sounds from the whole. Sometimes there was too much wind from the walkers, or perhaps, a squeaking of strings, and a clashing of cymbals and beating of drums. Then we wondered what reason there was for the discord, but under the restraining influence of our genial secretary the uproar died away and the melody continued.

W. L. Bayliss, Esq., in responding, commented on our recent progress, and reminded the company of our eleven minutes' improvement over last year's run in the London-Brighton relay.

F. G. Thomson, Esq., ably proposed "The Visitors." He said that in Mr. Jewell, of the A.A.A., who had assisted us at the open meeting in the afternoon, we had a champion of our club interests. He congratulated Mr. Jewell on his appointment as a judge for the Olympic Games, the highest honour accorded any judge of athletics.

Mr. May, said F.G.T., was another visitor on whom we can always count for help in our road ventures, and the opportunity was taken for voicing our thanks.

The representatives of Mitcham A.C., Croydon H., and Epsom H., were reminded in modest terms that we could not only beat them at athletics, but lead them in the White Hart after the contests, and take advantage of the moment to show them that we excelled at the festive board. They writhed under the restraint of good manners, which bade them keep their replies for later.

Circumstances prevented the attendance of "Bill" Pepper and Capt. Palmer, but both were with the club in spirit.

F. H. Priest, Esq., of Mitcham A.C., responded. He would liked to have seen the inter-club shield, held by us for the last two years, displayed on our table. He said its possession was very much coveted, and the holder gained high honour, in the estimation of the sportsmen of the four clubs. The rivalry of this competition had its sequel on the Brighton road. Each Mitcham runner was bent on catching the Belgrave man, and the latter was as eager to keep ahead of his rival, so that between them they extended Birchfield H., who were forced into a fast time. Pleasant reasoning, which was received with very loud laughter. The joke was unexpected and very funny.

Later on, J. Lisney, Esq., of Epsom H., was called on for a speech. He sailed smoothly at first, when he said his boys were likely to carry off the trophy this year, but his voyage ended in disaster when he began to contradict F.G.T.'s

opinion that we are supreme at the festive board. He was cut short by the staccato counting by many throats of more bottles, assembled on the table of the victorious Footer, than some of us had ever seen together before. The Epsom speaker had to retire, defeated by weight of numbers. The round of merriment was instantly brought to an end by a word from the Chairman, which suggests that the stuff out of those bottles wasn't as strong as it's said to be.

A. E. Macher, Esq., proposed "Our Chairman."

When Mr. Macher first saw Mr. Hare in 1920, he remarked that the new walker would be very useful. Mr. Hare had been "useful," and a good reason for our great progress from 1920 onwards was that in that year we met him. In three years, during which Mr. Hare was Club Secretary, the membership was doubled! In a humorous conclusion, our popular Treasurer (evidently with Mr. Hare's partiality in mind) declared that we need not go to the dogs so long as we could back a Hare, with as much confidence as we have in our President.

The toast was drunk with tremendous enthusiasm, and "For he's a jolly good fellow," made the rafters ring.

Mr. Hare said how pleased he was, and how unworthy he considered himself. He thanked us all for the confidence we expressed, and assured us that he would always do his best.

The artistes were very successful. The songs of Miss Doris Gray and Miss Grace Kirkpatrick were heartily applauded, and a jolly Yorkshireman of our company caused amusement when his simple heart was touched and he made love to the fair ones. Our gallants scrounged a few dishevelled-looking bouquets from the tables, to the embarrassment of the ladies, and later presented a floral tribute to Billy Williams, who gave a popular turn. Mr. Alf. Hockey sent the ladies into hysterics, and we are much indebted to Rex Lenfestey for his capital entertainment.

Finally, at midnight we sang "Auld Lang Syne," and the party broke-up.

Len. Smith, who organised the event, is to be congratulated and thanked, on staging the best club dinner we have so far had.

## WOOLWICH MEETING, ON GOOD FRIDAY.

The Cambridge H. annual sports' meeting was a great success, and enjoyed fine weather.

In the 100 yards, we had no heat winner, but we had three of our boys in the final of the 880 yards. J. E. Flower (70 yards) was first in his heat, whilst J. A. Jones (65), and E. A. Duffett (50) were each third in their respective heats. All three were unplaced in the final.

In the 300 yards, A. A. Lander won his heat in second fastest time but was beaten into fourth place in the final. I feel sure he will score a win in the near future.

In the 2 miles walk we were well represented. F. Elson was 4th off 290 yards, with Field and Godfrey 5th and 6th respectively.

We did not shine in the open mile, and one wished that we could have had a team in the relay. It is up to members to let the running Hon. Secretary know what meeting they are going to, and so help him to enter teams, where they are catered for. I was disappointed at there being no win for the club, but more training will bring us some success.

J.E.F.

## WALKERS' NOTES.

We did not quite realize our ambition in the Surrey County Road Walking Championship, as our team finished second, but we are proud of A. L. Fletcher and R. D. McMullen for carrying the club's colours into first and second positions in the individual championship.

On Good Friday, four of our members journeyed to Brighton for a 15 miles team and individual handicap, and McMullen, Green and Rickards returned the three fastest times, while A. Martin, who finished 10th in the handicap, assisted them to win the team handicap; McMullen took 3rd prize in the handicap. The result may have been slightly different had Green and Rickards not been misdirected and so lost some ground. About a dozen of our members who were at Brighton, claim that they won the race for the club by chasing the competitors all over Brighton on buses.

Whit-monday found our friend Manning having his annual constitutional between Norwich and Ipswich (42 miles), but this time he was beaten into second place. Manning holds the record for this course.

The Godstone Race, which had been postponed from Boxing Day, was walked on 14th April, one week before our club 20 mile championship, which probably accounted for the poor Belgrave entry of three. However, they were a good trio and we certainly had hopes of them getting higher up than they did. The club were placed third, with Green 7th, Cooper 10th, and Rickards 15th, in a field of 73.

Only one team is entered for the National this year, and it includes Cooper, McMullen, Rickards, Green, H. F. King, E. Reeve, Manning, and Rathbone. If the performances seen in our championship are repeated, we shall win once again.

Two club handicaps are to be held during May, both of which are over 2 miles. The first is on 16th, and the second a week later. Everyone wishing to walk must give in his name to me, as no one will be permitted to walk who is not down on the programme, and none will be handicapped unless properly entered.

S. L. KING, 3 Artillery Row Bldgs., S.W.1.

### BELGRAVICAE ARRICAE.

In the Medical Dictionary *Belgravicae Arricae* is described as "an infectious disease whose effect is more psychological than physiological. It frequently leads to early death and is becoming rather prevalent in London . . . ."

The first known case was diagnosed in 1887. Since that year the number of sufferers has unfortunately steadily increased, until at the present time their number is about five hundred. Great efforts, of course, have been made to stem the onslaught of the disease, and Kraftssen, the famous bacteriologist, says that the germ could never affect more than a thousand.

As the Medical Dictionary states, the symptoms are mainly psychological. The victim of the germ seems to have a craving for running or walking in all weathers and for unlimited distances, wearing very scanty clothing. Professor McGreggor, in his admirable treatise on "The Ambulatory Bacteria" puts forth the theory that the disease is one of

Nature's reversions, and "goes back to era when the first true man, *homo sapiens*, was continually hunting wild beasts or being hunted by them, to the days when life for man was a fearsome existence of naked and perpetual movement." It has been noticed that the sufferer often runs on and on until he collapses from complete exhaustion. Quite recently, a man—afterwards discovered to be the editor of a famous monthly—was found in such a state near Wimbledon Common. He must have walked at least sixteen miles in pouring rain, and he appeared to be wearing only a bathing costume.

Since the germ seems to exist mainly in London, an obvious cure is to move from the Metropolis. This, however, is not always successful, for there are two cases on record where this treatment has not only failed to cure, but has actually enhanced the complaint. One is the case of an Irishman named O'Kell, who went up to the North of England to regain his health but in spite of this change still suffers acutely; the other is the tragic case of that great giant of journalism, Sir Charles Speechley, who went as far as America in search of relief, but who is now deemed absolutely incurable, and will shortly be returning home to die.

Another remedy—and this has been reasonably successful—is marriage. It seems a terrible price to pay to be rid of *Belgravicæ Arricæ*, and there have been, and are cases where even this drastic measure has failed. A recent case is that of Mr. H. W. Bruce, of London. Sir Charles Speechley also tried this method of treatment.

Mention has been made of an Irish sufferer. It is curious that the Celtic races seem to attract the germ. Looking through the list of sufferers, one sees such names as McMullen and Odell (Irish); Williams, Davis, Davies, Thomas and Powell (Welsh); Fletcher, Mitchell, Crighton, Stewart and McKay (Scotch); and Merlin (Cornish).

Many researches, in addition to those of Kraftssen and McGreggor, have been made. One monograph, which gained the Nobel prize, is that by L. B. House, entitled "A Correlation between the Activity of *Belgravicæ Arricæ* and the Vicinity of Gas, Light or Coke."

L.E.F.

## IMPORTANT FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday evening, May 16th, at 7.0 p.m. sharp, in Battersea Park. Inter-club competition with Croydon H., Epsom H. and Mitcham A.C. Also a two miles walking handicap, and an 880 yards running handicap. Entries close Sunday, 13th May, at noon. 1/- per event is the fee.

Wednesday evening, May 23rd, at 7.0 p.m. sharp, in Battersea Park. Special features are 100 yards veterans' handicap, a 220 yards scratch race, and an open novices 100 yards scratch race. Also club handicaps at 880 yards, 220 yards, 100 yards (under 18), and 1 mile. There is a high jump (level), and a 2 mile walk handicap. Fees must accompany entries, and no one will be allowed to compete whose name does not appear on the programme.

Monday, June 4th, at "News of the World" sports ground, Mitcham. Time, 7.0 p.m. Inter-club relay match with Mitcham A.C., Croydon H. and Epsom H. Selections for inter-club matches are made by the Committee, and the selected members will be notified.

Surrey county 1 mile relay championship, will be run off at the evening meeting of the Fitzroy Lodge A.C., at Battersea Park, on June 6th. Now's your chance, boys! If you cannot win on your own ground, you don't deserve to win anywhere.

Surrey County Championships are to be held at Byfleet, on June 16th. Members interested in other counties should note that generally their championships will be held on June 9th.

Whit-Monday, at Stamford Bridge, the "News of the World" meeting is in aid of the British Olympic Association funds. In the 5 x 1 mile relay, neither Birchfield nor Hallamshire will be represented. Entries are wanted too, for the

2 x 220 yards and 1 x 1,320 yards relay. Advise the running Hon. Secretary at once of your intention to be one of the team.

H. PARKER, 3 Artillery Row Bldgs., S.W.1.

### LATE NEWS.

The date of the Brighton stroll has been changed to 2nd June, and we start from the "Swan and Sugar Loaf," Croydon. Intending strollers should give their names to Jimmy Belchamber, so that arrangements may be made for meals.

The above fixture being unsuitable for members' lady friends and members of the walking section, it is hoped to organise a summer outing for one Sunday in June. More particulars later.

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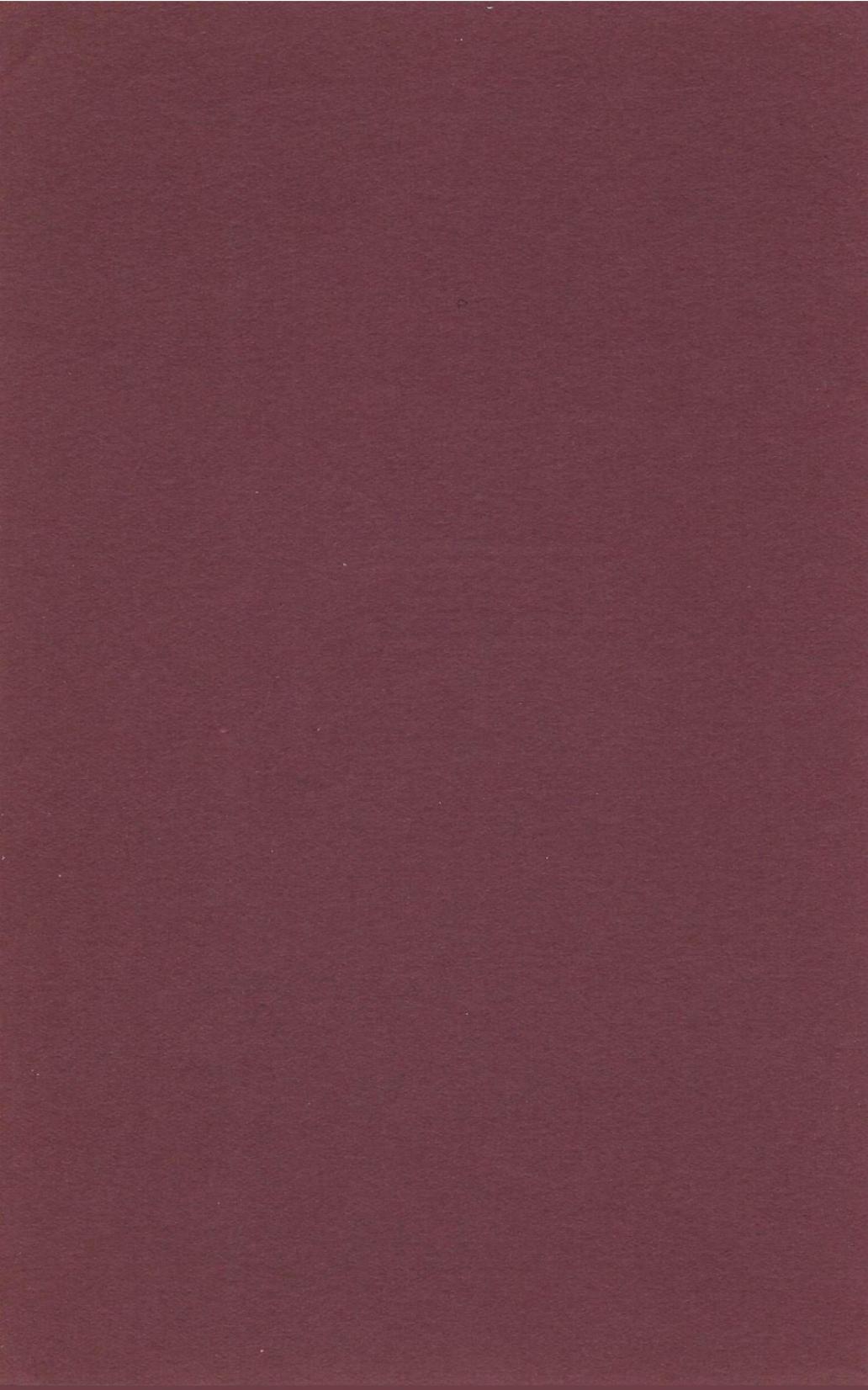
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