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The 7th Edition

1930

THE

BELGRAVIAN

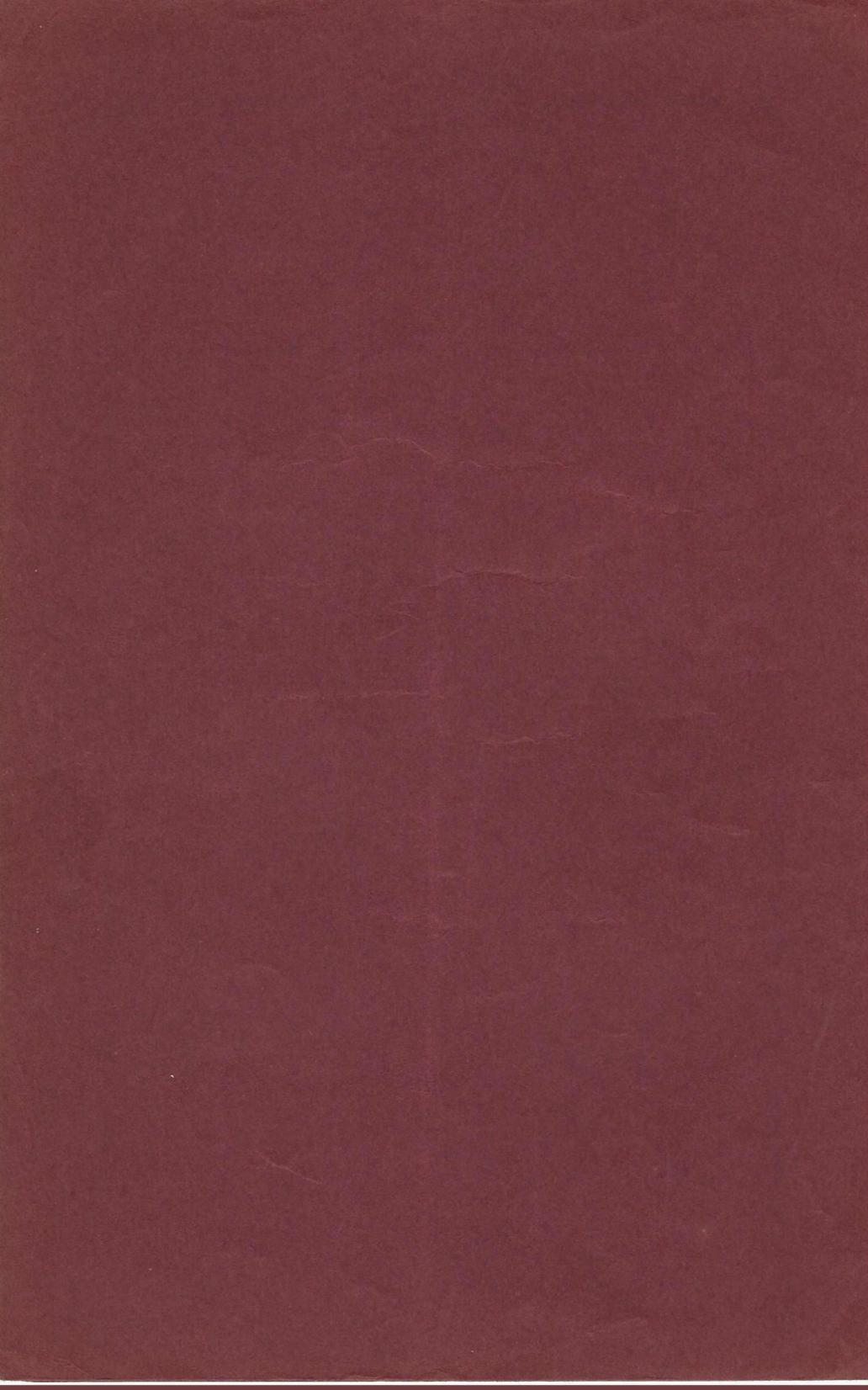
The
OFFICIAL GAZETTE
of the

BELGRAVE HARRIERS

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1930

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THE 7th EDITION
(1930)
OF
THE BELGRAVIAN
AUGUST—SEPTEMBER.

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WELL WALKED, TOMMY!

Every Belgravian (and every athlete, for that matter) will join us in congratulating Tommy Green upon his wonderful record-breaking effort in the London—Brighton Walk. This momentous feat, accomplished in wretched weather conditions, will live for ever in the history of the Club and of Road-walking. If Tommy never donned another shoe (and we hope to have his help for many, many years to come) we could, on past performances alone, and, disregarding the future, which is even brighter, justly claim him as the greatest walker ever seen. We are certain that a better sportsman could not be found anywhere and we are proud to number such a loyal Clubman among our members—one of many, let it be added.

The statistics of the record walk—amazing to anyone who studies them carefully—must wait until our next issue, and we must content ourselves here by finishing as we began, with pride and sincerity, as from one Belgrave to another. Well walked, Tommy!

* * * * *

Congratulations to Tommy Green upon his recent wonderful wins, which are commented upon elsewhere, and to Jim Tosh and Tom Scrimshaw upon finishing first and second, with inches between them, in the Inter-Counties 880 yards race.

* * * * *

Congratulations to two of our prominent walkers, F. H. Elson and J. C. Bidgood, upon their recent marriages. We wish them long life and happiness.

* * * * *

The following new members were elected at the August meeting of the Committee: J. J. Goodman, F. E. Varney, A. H. Beaumont, F. Cattermole, G. J. Webster, C. P. Aberdeen, D. D. D. Barker, R. G. Michael, T. W. G. Smith, A. H. Green, H. G. Stratford, A. Maynard, A. A. Solly, T. N. Wilcock, A. Avins; and W. J. Titt, H. G. A. Latter, C. T. Carter, J. W. B. Woodley and J. E. McCarthy were added to the Club's rolls at the Sep-

tember meeting. We extend a cordial greeting to them all and wish them every success in our colours.

* * * * *

Will all those in arrears with "Gazette" subscriptions please remit at once in order that the books may be cleared? The Hon. Treasurer would be glad to receive any subscriptions still outstanding. Note his change of address, as above.

* * * * *

The Annual General Meeting will take place at St. Phillip's Hall, Buckingham Palace Road (within a few minutes' walk of Victoria Station) on Thursday, September 25th, and it is hoped that all who can possibly attend will do so. The Club officials are then elected for the ensuing year and it is a duty every member owes to himself and his Club to see that an efficient executive is elected.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR ATHLETIC LEAGUE.

First Division.

Below appears in tabulated form a summary of the results in this season's competition. It will be seen that we finished third, the same position as last year. This placing is very creditable and next season we should do better than ever.

	4 x 220		4 x 440		3 mile		1 mile		4 x 880		1 mile Relay		Total Points		Pos.		
Belgrave H. ...	2	...	1	...	5	...	4	...	6	...	1	...	19	...	3		
Herne Hill H. ...	3	...	3	...	—	...	2	...	4	...	2	...	14	...	}	5	
Highgate H. ...	1	...	2	...	—	...	3	...	3	...	5	...	14	...			
Polytechnic H. ...	6	...	4	...	4	...	4	...	6	...	5	...	6	...	31	...	1
South London H. ...	4	...	6	...	6	...	5	...	—	...	4	...	25	...	2		
Surrey A.C. ...	5	...	5	...	—	...	—	...	2	...	3	...	15	...	4		
Time	1.31	2.5	3.29		15.5	1.5	4.29	3.5	8.12	1.5	3.39	3.5					

INTER-CLUB RELAYS.

The final contest of the series of Inter-Club races was held on the Mitcham Track and we retained our hold on the Shield.

Final points are:—

Belgrave H. ...	50 pts.
Croydon H. ...	47 pts.
Mitcham A.C. ...	45 pts.
Epsom H. ...	16 pts.

The evening's programme commenced with the 4 x 100 yards and in this we were placed third. The other clubs were no match for our boys in the 4 x 880 yards, which we won very easily. Then came the 4 x 300 yards. Despite a very fine first leg by Jack Williams we were forced to take second place; but no mistake was made in the mile team race, in which we placed our four men in the first five, with Bill Rice the actual winner. This brought the evening's scores to: Belgrave 13, Croydon 12, Mitcham 11, Epsom 3; and the score for the whole series as above.

RESULTS.

4 x 100 Yards—1, Croydon H.; 2, Mitcham A.C.; 3, Belgrave H. (M. E. Odell, T. J. Purdy, J. S. Williams, J. R. McKay); 4, Epsom H.

4 x 880 Yards—1. Belgrave H. (T. H. Scrimshaw, T. J. Flower, F. R. Webb, J. E. Tosh); 2. Mitcham A.C.; 3. Croydon H.; 4. Epsom H.
4 x 300 Yards—1. Croydon H.; 2. Belgrave H. (J. S. Williams, H. Titherley, J. E. Tosh, M. E. Odell); 3. Mitcham A.C.; 4. Epsom H.
1 Mile Team—1. Belgrave H. (W. A. Rice 1, W. G. Webb 3, A. Allum 4, J. E. Flower 5); 2. Mitcham A.C.; 3. Croydon H.

THE JUNIOR INTER-CLUB RELAY CONTEST.

On July 9th our Juniors (under 19) were engaged in a contest with the juniors of Croydon H. and Mitcham A.C., and they successfully maintained the Club prestige by scoring 8 points to the 4½ each of the other two Clubs. We were successful in the 3 x 100 yards and in the 880 yards team race, when good packing gave us the advantage.

Three Club handicaps were also decided. Jarvis ran very well to capture the 300 yards off a short mark, and the mile went to a newcomer of great promise, R. W. Martin. J. C. Bidgood, one of last year's Brighton team, won the walk in the usual fast time. A. L. Fletcher, from scratch, finished fourth in 14 min. 16 3-5 sec.—an excellent performance.

RESULTS.

JUNIOR (UNDER 19) INTER-CLUB EVENTS.

3 x 100 Yards—1. Belgrave H. (W. H. C. Hughes, S. T. Hunt, D. C. L. Gratte); 2. Croydon H.; Mitcham A.C. disqualified. 33 1-5sec.

3 x 200 Yards—1. Mitcham A.C.; 2. Belgrave H.; 3. Croydon H. 66sec.

880 Yards Team Race (3 to score)—1. Belgrave H. (F. H. White, A. A. Clubb, J. G. Coleman), 12pts.; 2. Mitcham A.C. and Croydon H., both 18 pts. 2min. 9 2-5sec.

CLUB HANDICAPS.

300 Yards Handicap—Heat Winners: F. W. Port, 17, 32 1-5; M. E. Odell, 8, 31 3-5; E. H. Jarvis, 10, 31 4-5; M. A. Gray, 23, 30 4-5; H. S. Armes, 28, 31 3-5; G. Basford, 18, 31 1-5. Final 1, Jarvis; 2. Gray; 3. Armes. 30 1-5sec.

2 miles Walk—1. J. C. Bidgood, 405; 2. J. H. Graygoss, 285; 3. S. T. Ring, 450. 14min. 8 1-5sec.

1 Mile—1. R. W. Martin, 160; 2. T. Cotton, 145; 3. W. H. Eastman, 135. 4min. 25 2-5 sec.

THE CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING,

August 2nd, 1930.

A fight between the fastest starter in the Club and the fastest finisher started the proceedings. I refer to the 100 yards championship in which only six runners competed. E. H. Jarvis, as expected, got away very quickly, but M. E. Odell was close and his finishing burst gave him the title once again. It must give him satisfaction to know that he again equalled the championship record, for as crack sprinters go he is a sort of veteran, though not in age.

Jarvis turned the tables on Odell in their second struggle later in the afternoon in the final of the first race for the "Elsie" cup, awarded for the newly instituted 220 yards championship. This was the most exciting race of the afternoon, for Odell was only beaten by inches. Jarvis ran a risk in his heat of not qualifying for the final by taking things easily down the straight behind

J. S. Williams; in that Barrett, seeing what Jarvis was doing, made a fine burst which Jarvis only just held off.

The half-mile championship did not turn out to be the desperate race prophesied, but nevertheless it was a remarkably good race. At the quarter F. R. Webb was leading, very closely followed by Scrimshaw, Tosh and Ford. Soon after, however, Tosh strode into the lead and Scrimshaw went after him, both of them quickly leaving the rest of the field. At the dressing-room the two county champions were still together, but down the straight Tosh ran right away to win his first Club championship and to set up a new record for the event. F. G. Ford, after his glut of fast-starting open handicaps, found no difficulty in keeping up with the leaders in the first quarter and using good judgment, refrained from taking the lead, thus enabling himself to have sufficient left to finish third, only five yards behind the former holder. This is rightly considered to be Ford's best performance; F. R. Webb disappointed his friends, as they had expected he might push Tosh and Scrimshaw, but he atoned later on in the afternoon in the mile.

G. R. Dunckley was not able to turn out and defend his title in the quarter, so interest in this race was not so great as in the other events, there being no one in the field to make a race of it with Tosh, who won easily. The race, however, did reveal a fast newcomer in R. G. Michael, who finished second. He is very quick off the mark and has a style very suited to the distance. The rest of the field appeared to be rather below form, although one must congratulate J. G. Barrett on being placed in this race.

A field of eighteen turned out for the two miles' walk, and although A. L. Fletcher was not severely pushed, he finished in good time; in fact only five seconds slower than his championship record of 1927. It was a great pleasure to see F. W. Thorn walking, for it was the first time that many of us have seen this well-known athlete. Thorn finished second to Fletcher and H. F. King was third. Four men gained standard medals and of these mention must be made of R. G. Hillier who, by finishing sixth in a field containing so many first-class walkers, showed great improvement. One regrets that the greatest distance walker in the world—perhaps of all time—could not compete, for in spite of his weekly distance races there are not many walkers who can beat him on short track races. I don't think I am exaggerating when I say that this particular walking event was probably the finest track championship of its kind ever promoted by any club.

Another good race was the mile championship. This year there seems to have sprung up a new method of running miles; that is by running two comparatively slow quarters—of equal times—for the first half, followed by two fast ones, and our championship was run in this fashion. At the quarter Rice

had what the journalists call a nominal lead from T. J. Flower, F. R. Webb and Allum, who were just in front of W. G. Webb. At the half there was little change except that W. G. Webb had moved up to Rice. In the third quarter W. G. Webb went to the front with Rice quite close up to him. With three hundred yards to go F. R. Webb put on a burst and "jumped" the leaders, gaining a good lead. But he had made his effort too soon, for the two Bills passed him at the dressing-room and started their great finish down the home straight. Both men were running very fast and both looked very white. Rice closed his eyes and blinded ahead to beat W. G. Webb by a foot. Frank Webb finished third and one cannot help thinking that he might have gained the championship if he had made that surprising burst a little later, for all through this race he seemed to be running very easily. Incidentally, Rice in gaining his first championship broke the club record for the race.

The under-fifteen 100 yards championship went to G. H. Pamment, who put up the best time that has been performed since that event was started in 1926. The other junior championship was the 220 yards. In this S. Garland had no difficulty in defending his title and he did it in much faster time than last year; although it looks as if A. J. Ford's record made in the record-breaking year of 1927 is likely to stand for many years. Speaking of records, this year is really as good as that famous one just mentioned; for it is interesting and satisfactory to note that three records were broken, one equalled and, of course, the senior furlong time is a record.

In addition to the above championships there were three handicaps. The first was the 75 yards handicap, which in common with most of our sprints this year, was won by a junior. In the final one was struck by the extreme youth of the finalists, the winner, C. Clasby, being the youngest of them all.

The half handicap at this meeting is always an interesting event, and it might be called the "Rollins Benefit Handicap," for H. L. Rollins won this race in 1927 and 1928, and no doubt would have won it last year but for ill-health. However, he regained his "title" this year, being pushed home by Coleman and T. C. Jones. I am hoping that one day the Editor will give me sufficient space to record Coleman's track performances. Race after race people have said that he has been pulled too much, yet race after race he gets up.

T. C. Jones just managed to hold off the scratch man in winning the last race of the afternoon, the hurdles handicap. A. E. Saward, the scratch man, made rather a bad start in the final and must have hurdled extremely well to give Jones—a very fine hurdler—three yards and nearly catch him. The field-events captain was third—he seems to be placed in this race every year.

At no other meeting has it been noticed that so many Juniors were present and competing. It does seem that we are building

up for the future in encouraging Juniors as we do, and while athletic clubs have their ups and downs, one can be optimistic that, even if we have reached a peak on the curve, we shall stay on that peak for many years with these younger runners gradually taking the place of the old hands retiring or becoming veterans.

RESULTS.

L.E.F.

100 Yards Championship—1, M. E. Odell; 2, E. H. Jarvis; 3, T. Wilcock. 10 1-5sec.

220 Yards Championship—1, E. H. Jarvis; 2, M. E. Odell; 3, T. Wilcock. 23sec.

440 Yards Championship—1, J. E. Tosh; 2, R. G. Michael; 3, J. G. Barrett. 53 2-5sec. No standards awarded.

880 Yards Championship—1, J. E. Tosh; 2, T. H. Scrimshaw; 3, F. G. Ford. 2min. 0 7-10sec. No standards awarded.

1 Mile Championship—1, W. A. Rice; 2, W. G. Webb; 3, F. R. Webb. 4min. 35 4-5sec. T. J. Flower and A. Allum, standards.

2 Miles Walk Championship—1, A. L. Fletcher; 2, F. W. Thorn; 3, H. F. King. 14min. 36 3-5sec. C. H. Speechley, P. N. Khlopin, R. G. Hillier and L. Storey gained second class standards.

100 Yards Championship (under 15)—1, G. H. Pamment; 2, W. A. Fox; 3, A. Mewes. 11 2-5sec.

220 Yards Championship (under 18)—1, S. Garland; 2, L. G. Bennett; 3, L. C. Clapham. 25sec.

75 Yards Handicap—1, C. Clasby (16); 2, L. S. Swinfen (9); 3, S. T. Hunt (6½). 7 2-5sec.

880 Yards Handicap—1, H. L. Rollins (68); 2, J. G. Coleman (69); 3, T. C. Jones (70). 1min. 58 3-5sec.

120 Yards Hurdles Handicap—1, T. C. Jones (owe 4); 2, A. E. Saward (owe 7); 3, G. H. Powell (owe 6). 16 1-5sec.

THE FINAL EVENING MEETING.

On August 11th was held the final Club meeting of the season at Battersea Park Track. Entries were up to standard, the number in the 100 yards Handicap necessitating a second round. G. H. Pamment, who won our Boys' Championship, was an easy winner of this event and his long mark caused many comments. Another Junior, in L. Fleming, was second, while third place was gained by that persevering runner, W. Snell. In the 440 yards Handicap some good running was seen in the heats, with G. A. Tutin impressing one most. He duly ran home a comfortable winner in the final, with the scratch man, Jim Tosh, a gallant second. R. Barsby once again showed his great promise by being third, while our Championship find, R. G. Michael, was close up fourth and should develop into another Cooper Clark.

The 1320 yards Handicap was taken by N. R. Dewberry, who ran finely from a back mark and displayed form which makes his Open running difficult to understand. Our Ashcombe member, J. Marsh, well deserved his second place, while that promising first season runner, R. W. Martin, once again showed up well until the straight was reached and then faded away, finally finishing fourth.

The 2 mile Handicap Walk was won in good style by L. Storey, with A. A. Harley and S. T. Ring filling the second and third places.

RESULTS.

100 Yards—1. G. H. Pamment, 18; 2. L. Fleming, 15; 3. W. Snell, 12. 9 4-5sec.

440 Yards—1. G. A. Tutin, 35; 2. J. E. Tosh, Scr.; 3. R. Barsby, 18. 50 3-5sec.

1320 Yards—1. N. R. Dewberry, 65; 2. J. Marsh, 140; 3. R. W. Martin, 95. 3min. 14 2-5sec.

2 Miles Walk—1. L. Storey, 295; 2. A. A. Harley, 390; 3. S. T. Ring, 420. 14min. 12sec.

THE ALL-NIGHT STROLL TO BRIGHTON 19th—20th July, 1930.

Among the dozens of new Belgravians who joined this year there must have been, under some *nom-de-plume*, our friend the Clerk of the Weather. This being so, for once in a while he held his hand and for our annual trek to Brighton we had a perfect night.

A party of 17, some being members of other Clubs, collected outside the "Swan and Sugar Loaf," Croydon, and started off at 9-45 p.m., a slight delay being made for J. F. King, who came up from Brighton by train in order to walk back again. What better advertisement can we have for what is rapidly becoming one of the most popular of Belgrave's summer fixtures? Among the party were several new members and, of course, the usual attempt was made to get the walk over as soon as possible. Therefore, when we got to "Loader's," at Redhill, we found several lusty Belgravians already at "work" having supper, but those who got there last were used to giving "starts," and so 1 o'clock found us all together again, and ready for the second lap to Pease Pottage.

On the way there our party split up somewhat, going in small groups and earnestly conversing on that inexhaustible topic—"the mysteries of handicapping and judging." Swinging along at a good rate under myriads of stars, Pease Pottage was reached at 3-15 a.m., where we had breakfast, also vaseline and liniment were introduced to some members, much to their relief. Dawn found us well on the way to Bolney, some footsore, but all smiling, and with dawn came the first motorist in the person of our President and Mrs. Gordon, who must have beaten the lark by a good two hours. All stragglers were collected and a camp was made by the roadside, where two Primus stoves were soon at work. Sitting on a motor cover and drinking copious cups of tea, Life, I thought was not all sore feet and most of the others must have agreed with me. Anyway, at about 7 o'clock we cheerfully started for the last lap and avoiding the main road with its usual stream of traffic, we went by a beautiful by-road which, although half-a-mile or so longer, was far more peaceful. And so, rather regretfully, we arrived at Brighton, where a hot brine bath made us as fresh as ever.

And now let the months roll by, so that soon we shall know the

charm of the road again, long for some, but all too short for those who see it in all its beauty and quietude.

P.N.K.

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But why wait so long? A Club like Belgrave, with its large number of walking enthusiasts, should form a proper Strolling Section, with a Secretary. This would add an extra attraction, and, moreover, would enhance the staying powers of our budding 20 milers, who, no doubt, are longing to try their mettle with the Birmingham and Derby Walking Clubs.

PAUL KHLOPIN.

UP THE BELS!

'It's 'Tommy this' and 'Tommy that'
And 'Tommy, how's your soul?'

grumbled the soldier in the barrack-room ballad. And in the "Belgravian," where month after month it has been our pleasure to congratulate T. W. Green, whose astonishing prowess, sunny, genial character and plainly evident sportsmanship have so endeared him to all that he is thought and spoken of as "Tommy" by all the walking world, whose achievements have been so noteworthy and whose successes so numerous, the reiteration of "It's 'Tommy this' and 'Tommy that'" has naturally been unavoidable. But there are none in the Belgrave ranks who would impertinently question concerning the state of his soul (which is his own affair), or even in respect of his soles or heart; wherein a little curiosity on our part is permissible. These latter we are quite content to take "as we find them."

Some years ago there was a popular comic song, the refrain of which lives steadily on although the remainder has been forgotten. Who has not heard the words: "My heart's good, but my feet won't let me?" The expression is anything but classical, we know, but there was undoubtedly something very human in that simple line that endowed it with an almost universal appeal. It has been quoted by all sorts and conditions of men: in our own Club, for instance, by plucky, would-be-cheery, broken and whacked Belgraves, of whom it was undoubtedly true; by fat, untrained, panting, generous Belgraves vainly straining themselves to the utmost in order to assist a Club-mate in his training or racing; by some few idle, easily satisfied or faint-hearted Belgraves—Belgraves who were chary of self-inflicted punishment, but who were pleased to think it true concerning themselves; also by lively, jolly, companionable Belgraves, the cheeriest of good fellows, who, when out strolling, would remember this old tag of song occasionally as a public-house sign hove into view suggesting that they question themselves as to their ability to go any farther without another drink. Of these latter some, we fear, were hearty liars. (Oh! likeable and excusable ones, certainly, but hearty, wilful, thirsty, eager liars, nevertheless). But they were all very human Belgraves. Tommy Green, how-

ever, surely stands out as the only one of us who has never needed such a justification or excuse. His heart is good for any human task; and if there is a limit to what his feet will allow, it is certain that they have not spoken or put their foot down yet.

Accordingly, Tommy goes on racing almost weekly throughout the whole year, at distances varying from two to sixty miles; putting up a best performance on record over several courses each year; producing now the stamina of world-beater at long distance, and at an interval of about two days, the speed almost of a sprint champion, in a fashion that has hitherto been unknown in the athletic world.

There have been some great walkers whose chief asset was their stamina, but who were able to attain great speed also by avoiding long-distance races for some months and training assiduously for speed alone. Jack Butler and Harold Ross were notable instances, but Tommy has been dipping his hand into the bag like a conjuror and bringing out whatever is required, speed or stamina, at will for almost four years, without any respite.

In this issue we have not only to congratulate him, but also to thank him especially for winning the National Championship at 50 Kilometres on Saturday, July 12th, 1930, at South Croydon. This is the first open Championship win recorded by a Belgrave throughout the Club's long history. By virtue of his walking in this race he became the first holder of the "Neville" Cup, and also retained his hold on the "Guildford" Cup for the first competitor to finish who is resident in Great Britain. Tommy beat the Italian champion by almost a mile.

RESULT.

						h.	m.	s.
1.	T. W. Green, Belgrave Harriers	...	...	...	...	4	35	36 4-5
2.	J. Pretti, Italy...	...	...	...	...	4	43	25 3-5
3.	J. H. Ludlow, Derby W.C.	...	...	...	...	4	48	31
19.	A. G. White, Belgrave Harriers	...	...	...	...	5	26	37

Although this year's race was the first that carried with it championship honours, a race over this distance has been held in conjunction with the "Guildford" Cup for two years past. The best time recorded on the cup was 4 hrs. 47 min. 21 sec., accomplished by Tommy last year over another course. The new figures are almost 12 minutes faster. Fifty Kilometres are equivalent to 31 miles 121 yards. The world's record for 31 miles on the track stands at 4 hrs. 39 min. 43sec. and was accomplished by Jack Butler at Putney on June 13th, 1905. Tommy's time is at least $4\frac{3}{4}$ minutes (approximately 1000 yards) superior to this long-standing record. It is 10 minutes better than the world's professional record set up by the famous Billy Howes on a grass track at Islington in 1878. Moreover, all the competitors and officials in the race were agreed that the course was exceptionally hilly and severe. Whether his performance is actually the fastest 50 Kilometres ever walked is not quite certain, however. A close calculation reveals that Tommy Payne

passed the 50 Kilometres mark in about 4 hrs. 34 min. 40 sec. in his abortive attempt on the Brighton record in April, 1920, when he walked so brilliantly for about 37 miles but failed to finish the journey. However, the first 31 miles of the Brighton road is certainly very much easier than the course for this year's Championship; and, moreover, Payne's time was accomplished between 7 a.m. and about 11-30 a.m. on an April morning, whilst Tommy Green's was done from 2-30 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Summer-time, so actually from 1-30 p.m. to 6 p.m.) on a puly afternoon, when the temperature was very much higher.

But an even greater achievement of Tommy's has also to be recorded in this issue. On August 9th, 1930, he won the Nottingham to Birmingham walk of 55 miles in the record time of 8 hrs. 41 min. 2 3-5 sec. In doing so he beat last year's winner, J. H. Ludlow, by about 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ miles, and displaced the record of W. F. Baker (the Brighton and back record-holder, winner of four Brighton races and unquestionably one of the greatest walkers of all time), beating it by no less than 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ minues. He walked faster than when winning the Brighton race last year, as fast for the 55 miles as Ross walked the 52 to Brighton when making that record and actually 8 min. 9 3-5 sec. faster than E. C. Horton did when settling up world's record at 55 miles at Stamford Bridge track in May, 1914.

What can be said further concerning such a performance? The figures are surely a proof that Tommy is peerless.

His winning the Hastings to Brighton walk of about 40 miles on Monday, August 4th, was likewise a wonderful performance. The Club had only two representatives in this race, which was a great pity, as the team race in connection with it was decided by the aggregate times of the first three men of each Club to finish.

RESULT.				h. m. s.
1.	T. W. Green, Belgrave Harriers	...	...	6 0 35
2.	J. F. King, Belgrave Harriers	...	...	6 37 21

We congratulate Joe also, and promise both of them adequate support on all future occasions. From the time it will be seen that Tommy's winning margin was approximately 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

We have also to record that representing Hampshire in the inter-counties championship at three miles on August 23rd, Tommy finished 4th to such sterling sprint walkers as A. A. Cooper, the winner; A. H. G. Pope, ex-A.A.A. 2 miles champion, and C. W. Hyde, the present A.A.A. 2 and 7 miles champion.

Well, with Tommy creating such a stir, and an individual open championship won in the Claret and Gold vest, the prestige of the Club is mounting and will surely continue to do so. Whenever a Belgrave has lit a fresh torch to shed lustre on our name and fame, others have quickly risen to repeat his performance; and thus deeds that were outstanding when accomplished have soon become habitual. For in a flourishing organisation such as ours, success is gloriously contagious. This has so consistently been

our experience of late that it will only be in keeping with a well-established Belgrave tradition if, in a few years, some other of our members become open champions.

So, come on Jim Tosh, Tommy Scrimshaw, Len Fletcher, George Dunckley, Fred Rickards, etc. ! Tommy wants some club-mates as companions on the top shelf. So draw up your programmes for the next two or three years. Fred Rickards has so splendid a record over the Barking to Southend route, about $33\frac{3}{4}$ miles, that the 50 kilometres championship should appeal strongly to him. When setting up his record to Southend in 1926, he performed so well that a repetition of that form would beat all but Tommy and the Italian in this year's race. And he has several years in which to improve at this distance. As a team championship is also settled in conjunction with the 50 kilometres race, the Club will assuredly pay great attention to this great event in coming years. Just for the present, however, our thoughts are all centred upon Tommy and his team in the coming London to Brighton race on September 13th. We wish him the best of luck and the record for the course.

J.B.B.

* * * * *

As all our readers are aware, Tommy has since shattered the twenty-one years old record between London and Brighton, despite vile conditions during the closing stages of the race. We hope to comment further on this wonderful achievement in our next issue.

RECENT SUCCESSES.

Once again there are a number of successes to record and our congratulations are extended to those whose names have appeared in the lists of prizewinners.

July 3rd.

M Division—L. Storey, 1st, 2 miles Walk.

T Division—J. E. Field, 1st, 2 miles Walk.

July 5th—

At the A.A.A. Championships Tommy Green was placed third in the Seven Miles Championship in 54 min. 16 2-5 sec., thus once again showing his amazing versatility and wonderful ability to change from long distance to comparatively short walks, still giving of his best.

July 12th—

T. W. Green justified our confidence in him by winning the Road Walking Association's 50 kilometres (31 miles 121 yards) Championship by nearly eight minutes from Pretti, the Italian. A more detailed appreciation of Tommy's fine walking appears elsewhere in this issue.

July 19th—

At the Printing and Allied Trades Sports held at Herne Hill our team was successful for the third year in succession in winning the "Jockey Cup." Our thanks on this occa-

sion are due to Arthur Allum (4), Bill Webb (5), Bill Rice (7), —16 points. Polytechnic H. and Slough A.C. tied for second place, with 30 points each.

We were also winners of the Southern Amateur Athletic League 4 x 880 yards relay, held at this meeting. Our team consisted of H. Titherley, T. J. Flower, F. R. Webb and J. E. Tosh, running in that order. Frank Webb ran a very clever third stage, to gain the lead for us and so gave Jim Tosh a comparatively easy run.

In the Closed events, Teddy Gordon, our worthy President, was successful in showing his heels to the other competitors in the 80 yards Veterans' race; and J. G. Coleman won the Mile race.

At Ponder's End on the same day our team (A. Penny 6, J. E. Flower 7, S. H. Warboys 10, and E. A. Duffett 18) were second in the 3 miles team race.

July 26th—London Fire Brigade Meeting:—

R. Hillier, 3rd, Walk.

L. Storey, Special Prize, Walk.

F. G. Ford, Special Prize, 1 mile.

August 4th—

T. W. Green won the Hastings to Brighton Walk, finishing 3½ miles ahead of the second man, Joe King, also of our Club.

B. W. Fleming lost the Suffolk Long Jump Championship, although he jumped 22ft. 4ins., which gave him second place. He was also third in the 100 yards handicap.

Other successes on Bank Holiday were:—

F. R. Webb, 2nd, 880 yards, Clacton.

F. G. Ford, 2nd, 880 yards, Hastings.

A. F. J. Powter, 2nd, 100 yards, Oxted and District.

A. Robertshaw, 2nd, 1 mile, Oxted and District.

E. A. Duffett, 2nd, 880 yards, Oxted and District.

A. E. Miller, 2nd, 3 miles, Oxted and District.

E. A. Duffett, 3rd, 3 miles, Oxted and District.

B. W. Hayman, 1st, Long Jump, Oxted and District.

F. E. Eborall, 1st, 2 miles walk, Oxted and District.

Hayman, Miller Duffett and Powter, 2nd, 1 mile relay, Oxted and District.

H. E. Footer, 1st, sack race, Oxted and District.

Bert must be the Sack Race King and by reason of his many successes at this event should be made to give a start to all other competitors! If the National were run in sacks we should have the potential champion!

T. Wilcock, 1st, 100 yards, Chiswick.

A. A. Harley, 2nd, Walk, Chiswick.

W. East, 3rd, Veteran's 100 yards, Chiswick.

August 9th—

At the City Police Meeting C. W. Redgrave won the 2 miles walk in fine style, and M. E. Odell was third in the short limit invitation 100 yards.

On the same day Tommy Green was again away on a record-breaking trip. (Breaking seems a very weak word—Demolition is better).

This time the record for the Nottingham to Birmingham Walk was reduced by over eleven minutes; and the second man finished 25 minutes behind Tommy! To quote the "Sporting Life": "The Belgrave man was over two miles in front at 48 miles and, never faltering, finished remarkably fresh in record time."

August 13th—

Croydon Traders. Our only success was that of R. E. Duffett (our Running Hon. Sec.'s son)—second in the Baby Show!

August 16th—

Molesey—J. S. Williams, 1st, 300 yards.

F. G. Ford, 3rd, 1 mile.

At Horsham we lost our hold on the trophy for the 4 x 440 yards Relay to the Polytechnic H., our team finishing third. A. Allum was second in the Two Miles race and N. Dewberry second in the 880 yards.

August 23rd—

Inter-Counties Championships.

Here we had the honour of supplying the first two men home in the 880 yards race in Tosh (Hants.) and Scrimshaw (Middlesex) with inches between the two of them.

Green (Hants.) finished fourth in the three miles walk and so again showed his versatility and ability.

August 30th—

E. H. Jarvis was second in the scratch 200 yards race at Camberley.

September 13th—

At Hampton, A. Allum finished second in the Open Mile, and F. Thorn was third in the Walk.

WINTER AT ST. JOHN'S HALL.

With the advent of September, that glorious month which marks the close of the track season, many of you will wisely be enjoying a well-deserved rest from the heat and dust of the tracks. You may be lounging in a comfortable deck-chair by the sunny seaside, or plying your books diligently, acquiring knowledge, or reading the mid-day "Wallace." In any case, your thoughts will occasionally dwell on the past season and its triumphs and disasters, each memory awakening a keen sense of joy or pang of remorse, as the case may be.

But as the month closes and the wind springs up in the east and the birds depart and the trees are bared of their leaves, and the next track event is six months ahead, these thoughts will be replaced by those of winter—those seemingly cold and endless months that lie before you. You will then gird up your loins and muffle your necks with scarves, and for lack of something better to do you will wish that you could hibernate until the

Spring. And yet, in this state of momentary miserableness, your stout hearts may urge you to nobler thoughts. You may reflect upon some day in your childhood when you got up early in the morning and the spirit of adventure was within you and the blood ran faster in your veins, and you took deep breaths, and you ran and laughed and sang for the sheer joy of being alive in a world so full of beauty. What would you give for the return of that glorious feeling?

That such a possibility is not beyond your dreams will be testified by the ever-increasing many who, in eager anticipation, await the opening of St. John's Hall, Wimbledon and the beginning of the Cross-country Season.

St. John's Hall, the centre of the Club's winter activities, is indeed its home. There only can you enter into the real spirit of the Club; the hurry and bustle of the track is forgotten and in the more leisurely activity of the cross-country season you are able to observe and feel that your officials and Club-mates are, after all, really human, and you marvel how the stern voice of the Steward and the strained face of your fellow competitor at the last meeting at Battersea melts into softness at Wimbledon.

Of all branches of athletics, cross-country running is one of the most enjoyable and health-giving, a sport for which one takes hold of an affection which is not easy to forsake. Not only is it less monotonous than the track, but it affords opportunity for collective training and fostering the team spirit. It is a sport for both young and old; no one need feel out of it, or be afraid to venture for fear of being stranded in the rear, as racing is rarely indulged in and packs are formed to suit all runners. To see a pack of 30 to 40 setting out from St. John's on a Saturday afternoon is always a stimulating sight and I wager there is not a dull face among them all.

Let's follow them down the road and on to the Common, across the Golf Links, up hill and down dale, through the wood and across the stream and into Richmond Park and autumn glory. Many and varied are the runs undertaken o'er country, the beauty of which the eyes never tire, and once you have fallen into an easy and steady gait it requires no conscious thought to keep it up, so that your mind is free to think of lighter things and you are glad to join in the fun and friendly banter of the crowd.

Ere darkness falls you have made your return and have indulged in the joy of a hot sponge down, or if you so desire a gentle rub (Tom Heaton will always oblige). How clean and strong you feel! How agreeably slack your limbs! And whether you hurry your tea and cake with a view to catching a train, or stay with the crowd and join in the fun of a dance or social so admirably run, to say the least, you will agree Belgravians are great at home, and cross-country running, after all, has a charm that is peculiarly its own.

FOR THE NEW MEMBER.

St. John's Hall is situated in Denmark Road, Ridgway, Wimbledon Hill and is conveniently reached from Wimbledon Station, or by buses 51 or 93 from Putney. Half-rate tickets for use from Clapham Junction (6d.) and Vauxhall Station (8d.) may be obtained from the Club officials.

Those who have not yet experienced the feeling of exhilaration which follows a run or walk in the neighbourhood of Wimbledon Common and Richmond Park, have a pleasure in store and they are cordially invited to come along and share with their Club-mates the delights and pleasures of Winter athletics. Never again will you stamp your feet at a football match in an endeavour to keep warm, or idle away time in fitful dozes by the fireside! So come along! All are welcome.

Mid-week training from "The Rising Sun," Ebury Bridge Road, will commence the first week in October. The quarters are open on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7 p.m., and are within a few minutes' walk of Victoria Station. Several bus services, travelling along Buckingham Palace Road, pass within fifty yards of the "The Rising Sun."

SOCIAL.

After the 3 miles run and 5 miles walk on October 4th, a tea and social evening will be held in St. John's Hall, at a charge of 1/3 per head. These functions proved very successful last year and should be even more successful this season. Offers from amateur entertainers in the Club ranks willing to assist should be addressed to
W. A. RICE, 36 Ascalon Street, S.W.8.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

We are now about to commence another Winter season and I trust we shall see more members than ever at Wimbledon on Saturdays. There is nothing like a jog over the country to keep one fit and I urge all track members to take this opportunity of obtaining some stamina. We have a very attractive fixture list and have broken new ground by securing runs with the Southern Champions, South London Harriers and also Ealing Harriers. We shall also meet old friends in Herne Hill Harriers and the R.A.F., Kenley, together with the usual Inter-Club races between Ashcombe A.C., Thames Valley Harriers and ourselves, and the Inter-Club social runs with Croydon H., Mitcham A.C. and Epsom H.

We open with a Training run on September 27th, start about 3 p.m., and several packs will go out.

On October 4th, we have our usual 3 miles Handicap Road race round Wimbledon Common. Here is a chance for everybody to compete and I am sure the Handicapper will treat the newcomers very generously.

October 11th is also fixed for Training spins and by then all prospective South of Thames team men should be in training.

On the 18th we have a run with Ealing Harriers at Wimbledon; there will also be training packs for those who want to go for a steady run.

The 25th sees the first of the Inter-Club races between Ashcombe A.C., Thames Valley H., and ourselves. This will be held from the T.V.H., Headquarters at Hounslow and I hope all members will make the trip, as the all-to-score rule operates in these races.

Cheap rail tickets can be obtained from Mr. W. J. Fish or at the Club room. Clapham Junction to Wimbledon, 6d. return; Vauxhall to Wimbledon, 8d. return.

Our training quarters at the "Rising Sun," Ebury Bridge Road, which is near Victoria Station, will be opened the first week in October, training nights Tuesdays and Thursdays, and runs start about 7-30 p.m.

All enquiries to E. A. DUFFETT, *Hon. Running Sec.*,
1, Raymead Avenue, Thornton Heath.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Sir,

As a participant in several open-track walks this season, I am amazed at the demonstrations of unfair walking which are prevalent, particularly at the more obscure meetings, and when there are any pretensions to judging, the large number of disqualifications of walkers who would otherwise be placed. After the events, the attitude of these defaulters is hardly creditable; in fact, they are studies for the expert psychologist; no matter how much they have merited disqualification they consider themselves unlucky. Why don't these individuals realise how their careless walking injures the sport? But in order to deter the thoughtless ones, as far as our Club is concerned, I would suggest that we institute an additional penalty for disqualification. Not that I wish to accuse our fellows of being particularly unfair, for they certainly compare very favourably with the walkers of other Clubs, although the unfortunate tendency does exist, and it should be checked. When a competitor suffers disqualification in any Club race to which there is a handicap, his handicap mark should be reduced according to a set scale; for example, he should lose twenty yards from his two miles mark, half-a-minute from that for seven miles, and on so.

Remembering that we are a leading Club in the walking world, we should be continually striving to make the sport attractive to those who are athletically inclined, and so it is time that a strong movement was commenced for better and fairer walking. The results of our domestic progress would eventually influence those outside to the benefit of all concerned.

N.B.—Make a note of October 4th. After the running and walking handicaps a tea and social evening will be held at St. John's Hall, Wimbledon. So don't forget to come.

