





THE 3rd EDITION  
(1934)  
OF  
**THE BELGRAVIAN.**  
JUNE.

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(to whom literary contributions should be forwarded).

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**BELGRAVE WIN !**



ARTHUR ALLUM

BREAKING THE TAPE AT BRIGHTON.

Heartiest congratulations to our team!

*(Reproduced by kind permission of "The Sporting Life").*

The above photograph may also be regarded symbolically as the fulfilment of one of the Club's ambitions—years of striving rewarded at last. In breaking the tape on April 14th, 1934, Arthur not only put the finishing touch to our first win, but also registered justification for those who worked optimistically in years past.

\* \* \* \* \*

Attention is drawn to our Hon. Treasurer's change of address, which is now :—

33, Woodstone Avenue,  
Stoneleigh, Surrey.

Outstanding subscriptions, requests for vests and ties, and contributions to the Belgrave Building Fund, are always welcomed by our Treasurer, and the welcome will be no less warm now that Mr. Hare has moved out of the London postal area. Please note this change on your fixture cards.

\* \* \* \* \*

We welcome the following in recent months to the Club : S. H. Neal, W. A. Treacher, R. A. Bird, M. J. Davey, S. C. Ridge, J. A. Orchard, G. Hillman, E. G. Monk, H. H. Baumann, P. G. Wright, A. V. Bartlett, D. D. McKay, C. A. Melchior, C. F. Thorpe, J. H. Moss, C. T. Hall, G. H. Furkins, D. E. Wilmer.

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Treacher has already achieved much success in the walking world, and Melchior has made his mark with the Javelin. We are sure that all those named above will prove a credit to the Club, and we trust their association with us will continue for many years to come.

### FROM OUR PRESIDENT.

With the winning of the London to Brighton Relay Race, the Club reached the highest pinnacle of its existence so far, and concluded the runners' most successful Winter Season. As there is a full account of this race elsewhere in the magazine, I will not trespass on anyone's preserves, except to say that our thanks are due to the team which has brought our name to such prominence.

When I joined the Belgrave in 1921, and in the company of about twenty members trained on Price's Athletic Ground, the winning of a prize in an "open" was a matter of wonder, so that I little dreamt that in 1934 I should be the President of the Club that has succeeded in attaining premier honours in the County and Southern Counties Cross-Country Championship, and the Brighton Relay, in addition to being placed in both the National Cross-Country Championship and National R.W.A.

Championship. These great achievements by both sections of the Club have placed them undoubtedly at the top of their respective branches of the sport.

The congratulations of the Club are due to all the members of the various teams who have brought us so much in the limelight during the past few months and, incidentally, given to the Club such a numbers of wonderful trophies to safeguard. It is a great pity that we have not yet acquired our own headquarters wherein we could display this collection to advantage.

In the Sept. Oct. edition of the "Belgravian" I stated that our men were capable of gaining awards in the chief events and I am glad that it proved no idle boast. Few clubs could shew such keenness in training as our men have shewn and the rewards have been no more than they deserved.

I have heard it whispered that the Club has now reached its peak and that it will never again be in possession of so many trophies; but no ardent supporters will believe that, and we are all waiting for next year to have both the "National" trophies added to the rest. It cannot be imagined that any who have taken a part in the winning of our honours this year, will allow any to depart without a gigantic struggle. Besides, it is now so difficult to be included in our teams that any slackness will assuredly lose one's place, which will be readily filled by those who are keen.

In any case, our cross-country runners can be safely left in the hands of their captain, H. E. Footer, who has performed sterling work for our teams, and whom, we trust, will continue to do so for many more years.

The Summer Season has now started and the prospects of meeting with the same success as during the Winter are very bright.

Our strength hitherto has been in the number of sound performances shown by our members and also in team work, as the results in the Southern Amateur League have proved, and it is hoped that we shall repeat our 1932 success and find ourselves once again at the top of the League. A good start has already been made by winning the first race of the series, namely, the 3 miles team race. Also our easy victory over the London A.C. proves that our men are already in good fettle.

But there is one competition in which, so far, we have failed to give our opponents any cause for alarm and that is in the events for the "Kinnaird Trophy." This contest calls for individual efforts of the highest description, and although our members have gained points for us, we have never yet stood the slightest chance of winning this trophy.

We can, of course, rely on T. Scrimshaw, J. Tosh and J. Clemens to put the Belgrave amongst the point scorers, but they

alone are not sufficient to give us a victory over the Achilles and Polytechnic Clubs.

Once again, I maintain that we have men capable of increasing their speed to the extent of being placed in these events. We have a surer foundation amongst our track runners, at the present time, than we had in cross-country runners a few years ago, yet the latter have forged ahead to the front rank, so what one section can do, it is possible for the others to accomplish.

It is not the luck of all runners to be a Scrimshaw, but strict training and plenty of enthusiasm will often work wonders; and gain the same position for us in Track athletics that has already been attained by our walkers and cross country men. Our sprinters might well emulate the example of M. E. Odell who, a few years ago, kept at hard training and paid great attention to details of style and concentration on getting away from the mark, so that he improved about 5 or 6 yards in 100 in one season, and having once attained his speed, never lost it.

We have an abundance of really good juniors who, with care, should help the Club to maintain and even excel its present standard.

Our Field Events Section is still going strong and bringing forth results worthy of the hard work its pioneer, G. Powell, has put into it.

In conclusion, now that Belgrave has reached the front rank of Athletic Clubs in this country, it is the duty of every member to ensure that its position is never assailed, and we are looking forward to this season with every confidence.

J. R. MCKAY, *President.*

## THE CROSS-COUNTRY INTERNATIONAL.

By W. C. STOCKTON.

*(Of the N.C.C.C.A., and English Selection Committee).*

I have been asked to write the story of the International for your magazine, and while the request is accepted as a compliment, it is hoped that, if my remarks do not entirely agree with other reports of the race, it will be understood that I try to see the race from the inside, always maintaining that we who are particularly interested prefer to understand in our own lingo just what happened.

If I can make the race live for you, then I shall feel that I shall have carried out my "instructions" decently.

During Saturday morning we had the customary walk round the course: a most necessary arrangement for an International race, if the course is not well known.

The start was to take place from a spot opposite the open stands, some 400 yards below the finishing post, the course then following left hand inside round the bend of the actual race-

course and almost to the bottom of the back straight, where it turned out "right incline" and commenced quite a nice rise over two grazing fields.

A short, flat piece of more or less gorse and heather type brought us to the top of an open "valley," to gain the bottom of which it was necessary to descend through a coppice, a very steep soil footpath—root-ridden—followed by a rail fence in front of a small brook with high landing bank.

From this point the grass fields steadily rose at about 1 in 60 for some 350 yards, where the track turned sharply left hand and descended the hillock in the reverse direction; again crossed the brook already negotiated—another awkward bit with a rather high rail fence on the landing side.

Came a sharp rise of grass land for about 100 yards, then an equally sharp descent for about 150 yards, bringing us to a double gateway, followed by a rail fence leading to the only plough in the course. This was about 180 yards long, steadily rising to a roadway flanked on both sides by a rail fence, and passing immediately behind the start of the six-furlong sprint track of the racecourse proper.

Crossing the roadway and an awkward bit of grassland, a sharp turn right-hand through a small gateway brought us on to the racecourse itself, and promptly it was noticed that the following six furlongs up to the finishing post was dead against the wind; steady, but a very effective brake.

We decided this lot would suit us as well as the others!

The full course was three laps of that, not a seriously difficult course, but interesting, with the "country" somewhat dampish.

The early morning had proved not too promising, although the chill wind did not keep the boys—and some others—from being on the golf links adjoining the Hotel, and the beach also, which was on the other side of the links, before breakfast.

Indeed, the Belgrave "twins" were thoroughly enjoying themselves quite early in the morning!

Towards noon the sun began to make his presence felt and, steadily taking control of the situation, so improved the position that by the time we landed, already dressed, at the Racecourse at 2-45 p.m., it was positively "June-like."

And at the actual start of the race the blazing sunshine was positively unbearable. At any rate, it seemed so to me, who had "six furlongs" to do in quick style, in order to be at my pre-arranged spot to "tell" the boys.

The streaming perspiration on every runner as they came round first time gave ample indication of the true conditions.

The actual race itself did not prove greatly exciting to me. Probably I was too seriously intent upon victory, and after quite

an ordinary start, the field went down the back straight and out into the country with the "expected" leaders in the van. For, sure enough, there was Flockart, Rerolle and Roumaiza (the French Arab) going like the wind.

Away into the valley and up the far side, without any further change, to turn and come down towards the plough and my spot.

The white jerseys were "well down" really, only two in the front bunch; but I was not perturbed at that.

Having expected a "blinder" of a first lap, it was only to be accepted that the real race would be seen in the second round, and so they came to the racecourse again for the first time. Flockart was some 15 yards ahead of the two Frenchmen, and Honorez, the Belgian, who had come alongside. Jack Holden was tucked inside some 15 yards further behind, with Alec Burns not far away. Of ours, Arthur Penny came next, with Tom Evenson and Bert Footer all together at the head of the main bunch, and ours close enough to be "alright."

I immediately sensed Sam Dodd was stone cold, and felt sure he would not be where he ought to be at the finish.

Billy Eaton told me as he passed, "Can't breathe"; perhaps caused by the extremely hot atmosphere, or maybe tight jersey; the latter a point upon which we shall have to "do something," as this is the second year of complaint.

The rest of the field passed me strung out, excepting Weatherill and Jones, who had gone by at the tail of the centre bunch, and looked safe enough. In fact I felt pretty certain, despite the fact that the French and Scots were well around, we should be in at the death.

In that first run up the "six furlongs" our forecast that we should do well there proved absolutely correct, as our boys steadily gained ground and, passing the stands first time, had actually pulled themselves into a leading position. Jolly good work in 600 yards. Holden, Burns and Penny were then at the front, and quite comfortable, ready to do some racing.

This race again proves that however fast the first lap may be, the real team work does not start until the second time round, as strong runners then begin to make their presence felt, despite the speed shown by men who cannot be sure of going right through with it.

The beginning of the second lap saw Holden take the lead quite clearly, and he left the racecourse and climbed the rise into the country in a comfortable position.

I quickly returned to the other end of my ground and saw Holden going right away into the valley and steadily gain ground up the hill—going to which he is partial—and then come down again to the plough, with some 120 yards lead. Burns was doing well second; Leheurteur third and Penny fourth here; whilst

Rerolle, Flockart, Gallivan (Wales), Roumaiza, Honorez, Evenson and Footer, bunched together, were having a great battle.

With Jones and Weatherill now close up we looked good, and I was quite satisfied at 5 miles that we could not be beaten, bar accident.

The others seemed to have done their worst already, whereas our boys were just coming along at the right time.

Away across the plough they streamed and by the time the stands were passed again ready for the last lap Holden, Burns and Penny had the front of the field entirely within their grasp, whilst Footer, Evenson, Weatherill and Jones were right there. Seven men all close up. What more could one wish?

I frankly could not help smiling at the "confidence" of the crowd round me—who had sensed I had some interest in England's team—when they still thought Scotland would win. I shook my head in as gentle a way as possible in reply, and said, "I don't think so. I don't see how we can be beaten. Our boys will be nearer next time."

That seemed unbelievable to them. And they obviously wondered. But when they saw Holden coming across the top of the fields for the last time, striding as freely and as fast as any man I have ever seen, with a number of white jerseys predominant in the following figures, the Scots' spirits sagged badly.

As Holden came to me, I called "250 yards lead, Jack, and we're winning easily." He grinned, but carried on as hard as ever, to win his second International gloriously.

The others we "wanted" were there right enough, and I waited to see Eaton and Dodd come along, both "hopeless" on the day. Sammy said laughingly that "if he could continue to do as well, he thought he'd just about finish last," but for them and us it was a pity that two "certainties" for our first four should find themselves absolutely without running when they would wish to do best of all. Such is the luck of the game.

Arthur Penny tried hard to lick Burns up the straight for second place, but Alec's speed and huge stride did the trick.

Weatherill hung on just enough to beat Norman Jones, the Liverpool Pembroke boy, who was exceptionally well placed in the next position.

So, had we "lost" even another man, we should still have won very easily.

Truly, England is extremely strong in Cross Country just now.

Take note that we had six men, not counting Holden, in 1 min. 6 secs., and that our only other two runners, Eaton and Dodd, who to us were "miles out," were but 16 and 32 seconds behind the 6th man for France.

You will therefore see that our form should have given us

eight men within 1 min. 6 secs., and the winner a minute ahead of them all!

And Scotland had felt SURE to win!

W.C.S.

### SOME "AYRSHIRE" JOTTINGS.

England's party, some 40 strong, with officials and supporters, was about the best ever for an International away from home. Extremely happy—before and after.

\* \* \* \* \*

The team was splendidly well together; a good basis being the nine who were at Newport last year.

\* \* \* \* \*

Jokes galore, with the "Belgrave twins" ever in the van.

\* \* \* \* \*

Who christened them "Laurel and Hardy?"

\* \* \* \* \*

And did they play the part well? "You're telling me!"

\* \* \* \* \*

The boys were considerably sympathetic towards Robinson, the Birchfield boy, who could not join the team, as he was suffering from a quinsy.

\* \* \* \* \*

Alec Burns and Jack Holden proved great favourites with the boys.

\* \* \* \* \*

And Alec's speech at the banquet, as the captain elected by the team, was surely great. Deeply thoughtful, sensible of the humble way we Englishmen take our honours, yet sufficiently provoking to give a great fillip to the standing of our glorious game.

\* \* \* \* \*

His reference to the motto over the gateway to the Athletes' Village at Los Angeles "went" extremely well.

\* \* \* \* \*

"It's not what you get from the game; but what you put into it."

\* \* \* \* \*

And the Banquet was also a great "feed."

\* \* \* \* \*

Ask Arthur! Whilst Bert had us "doubled up" with laughter—too much so—as he kept the waiter (wrong; waitresses) going at top speed, whilst we were laughing at his antics.

\* \* \* \* \*

The English table was the high light of the "Auld Toon Hall" and the Belgrave lads were the spot lights.

They received the doubtful compliment of "being Northern-ers"—they do so well both on the field and off it.

\* \* \* \* \*

The only real blinder they could not quite swallow was the Sunday afternoon trip by coach down the Ayrshire coast to a spot called "Electric Brae."

\* \* \* \* \*

We stopped for "explanation" by our Scots guide, who informed us that we were going down hill. And so it seemed to us.

\* \* \* \* \*

But he stated that the engine would have to PULL us down, whilst anyone coming UP the hill—say cyclists—could free wheel.

\* \* \* \* \*

Athur looked at Bert! And Bert looked at Arthur!

\* \* \* \* \*

Then the coach started—DOWNHILL—and sure enough the engine was "pulling." Fortune provided us with a complete picture when two boys came cycling towards us round the corner, some 250 yards ahead, both of them free-wheeling!

Arthur looked at Bert! And Bert looked at Arthur! VERY HARD!!!

\* \* \* \* \*

A compliment to the Belgrave Club to finish.

\* \* \* \* \*

Two good lads—who uphold the honour of the Club and England—whether on the track or elsewhere.

\* \* \* \* \*

Two great favourites with everyone!

\* \* \* \* \*

Be proud of them! THEY are proud to belong to you!

\* \* \* \* \*

A PARIS, 1935!!

\* \* \* \* \*

*S. L. King comes to town to see us win*

## THE BRIGHTON RELAY.

How the Brighton Relay captures the imagination! As soon as the Cross Country season starts, members can be heard discussing their chances of getting into the Brighton Relay team; and as April approaches, accompanied as it has been in recent years by successes over the plough, runners, officials, supporters and also rivals, weigh up the chances of Belgrave reaching Brighton first.

This year our cross-country performances had surpassed everything that Belgrave teams had done in the past, for had we not experienced our first Southern win and missed being runners-up in the National by one point, and had not two of our runners occupied 3rd and 4th positions in the International race? So no

one could say we were unduly optimistic when we fancied the "Bels" to beat "all-comers" on this historic road, which has been the scene of so many athletic struggles.

It was a great disappointment to hear that neither Salford H., last year's winners, nor Hallamshire H., the record holders, were to run, for we felt that if we won, victory would not be so sweet in the absence of these two notable teams. However, Birchfield were in the field, to say nothing of all the leading Southern Clubs and also the Welsh and Army champions, and if we could shew them all a clean pair of heels then no one could suggest that we had won from a second-class field.

The morning of April 14th found two modern double-deck buses loaded to capacity with supporters and runners, in addition to which were several private cars, all following the fortunes of the Claret and Gold. In fact, it is safe to say that our runners have never before had such a following. Quite a contrast to the first few years of the race; for an issue of the "Belgravian," when describing the 1928 race, bemoans the fact that "the number of supporters following was rather disappointing."

Thousands of spectators, most of whom were Scots down for the International football match, watched the twenty-one team-men line up at Westminster, and in the absence of the holders, Birchfield were given the baton.

BILL RICE, who has been shewing us some very fine running this year, was chosen to represent the club over the first stretch, and after running second most of the way, he was forced into third place a few yards from the finish. Woodford Green led at this point, with Herne Hill H. two seconds in front of us. This augured well, for we had never been in the first three at this stage before.

C. T. CARTER now made his effort and before he reached Mitcham had passed the Herne Hill man and got within a few yards of the Woodford runner, but meanwhile C. K. Allen, of Highgate H., had put in some splendid running and carried his club into the lead, half a minute ahead of us, so we were still third. Poly. H. at this stage were lying 8th, and Birchfield had come up from 16th to 10th, but were only 1 min. 24 secs. away.

The next stage was allocated to HARRY SHIELDS, and it was not long before he overtook the leaders and so became the first Belgrave man to carry the baton. When he came into sight at Purley he was still in the lead; but Hadland, of Poly., had run remarkably well and was gaining on Harry, and in the last few yards he spurred and handed over to his clubmate one second ahead of our man. As the Poly. man passed he made an unsuccessful grab at the baton, but Harry clung tightly to it,

and so Poly. went on without it. Owing to the excellent running of these two, they were now nearly a minute ahead of Herne Hill, who were lying third.

The Poly's lead was short-lived, for JACK FLOWER had soon caught up O'Connor and they ran together for some miles, but Jack made an effort at the end and finished up 3 seconds ahead, after making fastest time for this stage. Birchfield had now come up into third place, but they were now 2 minutes 2 seconds behind us. From now onwards the positions of the first three clubs never changed, although an exciting race for fourth place was not decided until the ninth relay.

Although Birchfield were actually dropping away from us as far as time was concerned, the fact that they had worked up into third place seemed to disturb some of our supporters, but confidence was restored when it was seen that ART PENNY was now to run.

When he handed over at Horley, which is approximately half-way to Brighton, it was found that he had increased our lead to such an extent that 1 minute 1 second now separated the Poly. and our man, with Birchfield 2 mins. 53 secs. away.

This was the only stage over which a club record was beaten, and then it was by the narrow margin of one second, but in spite of Arthur's magnificent run, his time was beaten by Lap-ham, of Wycombe, who thus brought his club into fifth place.

Our time to this point was 2 hrs. 23 mins. 4 secs. and it was realized that it was extremely improbable that we should make very fast time for the whole journey, for our own previous best to this stage was 2 hrs. 20 mins. in 1932, when conditions were very favourable, whereas this year there was a fresh headwind, together with showery weather.

SYD WARBOYS, who had done very little over the country but had trained carefully for this race, now did his bit, and after conferring with Bill Rice, who professed to know the exact mileage to all the "pubs" on this stretch, proceeded to lengthen the distance between the three leading clubs, so that our lead was now 2 mins. 3 secs. from Poly. and 3 mins. 8 secs. from Birchfield.

The next two stages were run by newcomers to the Brighton Relay, A. R. SHAW and A. E. TAYLOR, but in view of their sterling performances during the winter we did not fear the loss of our leading position. Poly, however, gained nearly a minute on Shaw, of which Taylor regained a few seconds, but Birchfield gained on both our men, and largely through a great effort by Sutherland, they reached Hickstead only 1 min. 49 secs. after us.

Seeing these two teams so near, we hastily computed our chances of being caught; but seeing that we still had two of our

best men to run, it looked as if we could at least maintain our lead; but as a matter of fact, when BERT FOOTER handed over to Allum, he had put us 1 min. 57 secs. ahead of Poly, with Birchfield almost four minutes away. In spite of this brilliant piece of running, his time was beaten by Weatherill, of S.L.H., who got within a second of stage record, and in doing so took his club into fourth place, which they retained to the end.

ARTHUR ALLUM ran the final stage, and so to him fell the honour of being the first Belgrave to hand the Lord Mayor's message to the Mayor of Brighton. He returned fastest time for the stage, and thus Belgrave finished in 4 hrs. 49 mins. 55 secs., with a lead of 2 mins. 6 secs. over Poly, with the famous "Stagbearers" 4 mins. 9 secs. behind us.

What a thrill we experienced as Arthur broke the tape, for we had been waiting and hoping for years to see the Belgrave lead a class field home in this supreme test of team running.

No one in the team can be singled out, for all gave of their best, and their performance is best summed up by the "Life," which says: "They (Belgrave) ran a well-judged race, and deserved to win, being the best trained and steadiest team of the twenty-one who ran."

At the presentation which followed, the "News of the World" Trophy was received by our President, "Jock" McKay, who replied on behalf of the Club in a few well-chosen words.

Much could be written of the excited dashes to and from the buses at each relay station, and of the melodious (?) singing of the Belgrave Anthem, to say nothing of the autograph-hunting, community singing, etc., of the return journey, but I will leave this to more facile pens than mine!

*(Facile pen or not, I could write a lot under the heading of "etc."! Of how the elastic was broken; of Paddy "on the floor"; and—yes—how Harry got the cramp! Truly one cannot judge character until one has observed the behaviour on the return from "The Brighton Relay!"—Hon. Editor).*

#### RESULT

Relay	Dist.	Runner	Time m. s.	Com- parative Club			Total Time h. m. s.
				Time	Placing	Placing	
1.	4m. 176y. ...	W. A. Rice ...	22 25 ...	3rd ...	3rd ...	22 25	
2.	5m. 176y. ...	C. T. Carter ...	27 38 ...	2nd ...	3rd ...	50 03	
3.	5m. 856y. ...	H. W. Shields ...	30 31 ...	2nd ...	2nd ...	1 20 34	
4.	5m. 1232y. ...	J. E. Flower ...	30 33 ...	1st ...	1st ...	1 51 7	
5.	6m. 352y. ...	A. W. Penny ...	31 57 ...	2nd ...	1st ...	2 23 4	
6.	5m. 176y. ...	S. Warboys ...	27 51 ...	4th ...	1st ...	2 50 55	
7.	4m. 704y. ...	A. R. Shaw ...	25 15 ...	4th ...	1st ...	3 16 10	
8.	6m. 218y. ...	A. E. Taylor ...	32 10 ...	4th ...	1st ...	3 48 20	
9.	5m. 486y. ...	H. E. Footer ...	28 24 ...	2nd ...	1st ...	4 16 44	
10.	6m. 904y. ...	A. Allum ...	33 11 ...	1st ...	1st ...	4 49 55	

*Penny's time is a new Club Record and beats 31-58 by S. Warboys in 1932.*

*The comparative placings are not strictly correct but are probably right, as they are computed from the figures given in the "Life" for first ten clubs at each stage.*

FINAL TEAM PLACINGS.

	h. m. s.		h. m. s.
1. Belgrave Harriers	4 49 55	13. Woodford Grn. A.C.	5 4 10
2. Poytechnic H. ....	4 52 1	14. Royal Navy & R.M.	
3. Birchfield H. ....	4 54 4	(Portsmouth)	5 5 8
4. South London H. ...	4 56 34	15. Queen's Park H. ...	5 6 11
5. 2nd Buffs .....	4 58 44	16. Horsham Blue	
6. Aldershot Com. H. ...	4 59 33	Star A.C.	5 9 28
7. Surrey A.C. ....	5 0 25	17. Ilford A.C. ....	5 11 36
8. Herne Hill H. ....	5 0 47	18. Cwmbran H. ....	5 13 0
9. Wycombe Phoenix H.	5 1 30	19. Reading A.C. ....	5 13 45
10. Highgate H. ....	5 1 59	20. Coventry Godiva H.	5 14 58
11. Mitcham A.C. ....	5 2 27	21. Brighton and	
12. Slough A.C. ....	5 2 59	County H.	5 16 17

TEN YEARS OF BRIGHTON RELAYS—  
1924-1934.

This being our first win in the Brighton Relay, the time seems ripe to record a brief summary of the series of races and our own performances therein.

The first relay organised by the "News of the World" was in 1924, but it was not until 1926 that the Belgrave competed, and on that occasion and in the two following years we had first to qualify in a preliminary relay held at Mitcham.

Our best time was in 1932, when Salford made the existing record of 4 hr. 39 min. 52 sec., and we ran into third place in 4 hr. 44 min. 0 sec., only 4 min. 8 sec. behind them. Only three teams have ever beaten our time of that year and they are the three famous clubs: Salford, Birchfield and Hallamshire. Our worst performance was in 1927, when we took 5 hr. 7 min. 17 sec. and were 17th, reaching Brighton 26 minutes behind the winners.

Altogether we have run nine times and Bert Footer has had the distinction of representing the club on each occasion; and seven times he has run over the same stage that he covered this year. Allum, Penny and Jack Flower have each run six times; while Warboys, A. E. Smith and Duffett have five relays each to their credit; 26 others have been in the team a less number of times.

In 1924 sixteen clubs, all Southern, competed and the winning time was 4 hr. 50 min. 0 1-5 sec. and only two clubs beat 5 hours.

The next year Birchfield entered for the first time, and won, on a bad day, in 4 hr. 50 min. 52 2-5 sec. from 17 teams, only the first four arriving inside 5 hours.

Notable additions to the entries in 1926 were Hallamshire and Belgrave, but we were not conspicuous at any time, for although we were 7th at Merstham, by the time we reached the sea we were 14th. Herne Hill's last man collapsed near the tape when lying 5th and so they failed to complete the course. On the ninth relay Bert Footer returned second fastest time, 28 min. 58 sec., which stood as club record for four years.

Our next attempt was disappointing, for we were never nearer than 9th and dropped to 17th at the finish and our time is the slowest ever returned by a Belgrave team. The one bright spot was the fine running of A. E. Smith, who showed third fastest time between Mitcham and Purley. This stage has since been lengthened by over 300 yards, so his time cannot be accurately compared with later performances over the stretch.

As a prelude to the 1928 race, we won the trial race by over 2 minutes, making a record for the course; but in the Brighton Relay, although we knocked  $11\frac{1}{2}$  minutes off the previous year's time, we were no nearer than 12th, never being higher up than 10th and never lower than 14th throughout. This was the first time we beat 5 hours, and no less than fourteen other clubs were also inside.

Judging by the "Belgravians" of this period there was quite a lot of discussion as to the order of running, some advocating putting on the fastest men first and hoping that the "tail" would be able to hang on to whatever position we then held.

In 1929 came the first of a series of improvements, for although we were 11 seconds slower than in the previous year, yet we were 7th at the finish, and what was more promising, we were in the first four until the ninth stage. Our improved position was due to the introduction, for the first time, of Allum, Penny and the brothers Flower. T. J. Flower distinguished himself by running what was possibly the best race of his career and returning second fastest time, taking the club into second place at Mitcham. Our team were awarded the medals for the most improved team, having gone up five positions on last year. The time was 4 hr. 55 min. 52 sec.

Still more advancement was shewn the following year, for we finished 4th in 4 hr. 53 min. 10 sec., less than six minutes behind the leaders. A notable addition to the team was Syd Warboys, who signalled his debut by returning second fastest time on the fifth stage, only 5 seconds slower than the club record made by Penny this year. Allum also did some brilliant running, for he was the fastest man on his stretch. Incidentally, Poly. were the team to follow us past the finishing post, and our lead was exactly the same as in 1934, i.e., 2 min. 6 sec.

At our next attempt, 1931, we filled fifth place, and were 16 seconds slower, but I think it was actually a better performance,

inasmuch as we were over a minute nearer the winners, and also there was a slight detour at Purley, on account of road repairs. Arthur Allum had trouble with his ankle and after he had covered  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles and picked up four places it gave way, but he struggled on and had to concede two of his gained positions, and on handing over to his clubmate at Merstham he had to be carried to the bus. Among the new men in the team was Tom Carter, who was in his first Belgrave year, and was already making his presence felt in team racing. No less than eleven clubs beat five hours and there was a close race for the leading places, only 43 seconds covering the first three teams.

A week before the 1932 event the sporting papers announced that the Belgrave team had deteriorated and would not be in the first bunch. The day arrived and the "Belgravian" for that year states that the weather was far from perfect; but in view of the fast times returned by all, the conditions must have suited the runners. The field was the "hottest" ever, for all the leading teams in the National Cross Country Championship, without exception, were competing.

The even running of our men was remarkable, for we were 4th or 5th from Westminster until the 9th stage, when Bert Footer took the club into 3rd place, which we retained to the end. Every runner broke the existing club record for his stage, and only three of the ten have been bettered since, and one of those by only one second. It is interesting to note that six of the team on this occasion were in the 1934 winning team. Our time was 4 hr. 44 min. 0 sec., which we have not yet surpassed, while the winning club created a record for the course which still stands, and 19 out of 20 clubs that started beat 5 hours, the last team being less than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  minutes outside. How could the weather have been unfavourable?

Last year we again filled 3rd place, after a bad start. However, we had run into 3rd place by the time we reached Horley, the half-way mark, and from there we "stayed put." Both Footer and Allum made fastest times on their respective stages and both created new club records. Footer failed by only 4 seconds to beat the course record set up in the previous race by Campbell, of Salford. We completed the course in 4 hr. 50 min. 42 sec. and were 5 min. 12 sec. behind the winners.

We now come to this year's victory, and although our time was slower than that of any of the winning teams since 1925, I think this can be accounted for by the head-winds the runners experienced, and this suggestion is supported by the fact that only five teams beat 5 hours. Our lead of 2 min. 6 sec. was the greatest winning margin since 1927, and not since 1928 have so few finished within ten minutes of the winners.

In this event and all others, future years depend entirely upon

our present members, and those who follow. In ten years we have made tremendous strides. As the foregoing shows, ten years have sufficed to bring us from the shadows into the dazzling sunshine of achievement and publicity. It should be the aim of every member to strive to maintain, and even improve upon, the position we have now gained. As athlete, official, or merely as a "good Clubman," we know *you* will do your bit, and when another ten years have rolled away we shall be able to look back upon another ten years of achievement and consolidation.

S. L. KING.

## THE TWENTY MILES WALKING CHAMPIONSHIP.

The very fine field of eighteen walkers started on April 21st in the race for the "R. W. Ricketts" Shield; and of these, sixteen completed the distance. This must be considered most satisfactory and it is doubtful if we have ever had more finish the course. Usually, it must be admitted, our Championship has been of little value for team selection purposes, many retiring during the race with minor ailments which they have had no desire to aggravate, in view of the imminence of the National Championship. This 1934 race, however, was very different. Joe King, who had been placed third in the Sussex 20 Miles Championship, in fast time, the previous week, was an absentee, as were also two of our younger walkers, L. Jones and W. H. Snell, who had shown up well in last year's race. Another unable to start was G. H. Boddington, who had injured a foot during the preceding week.

A moderate-paced start was made with Green, Rickards and Bentley in the lead, closely followed by Martin, Tookey, Bidgood and Harley. Before two miles had been covered, Martin had joined the leaders and in this order they proceeded along Parkside towards "The Green Man" Roehampton. Arriving back at the head of Lauriston Road (approximately 8 miles), Green, Rickards and Bentley led, with Martin about 30 yards in the rear. Next came Harley and Bidgood together, closely followed by Field and Tookey and there could have been little over two minutes over these eight men at this point. The Elsons looked comfortable, Holman seemed full of energy and the others were quite happy.

The race now began to develop, and Tommy Green and Fred Rickards began to race as probably only these two men know how, and reviving memories of last year's Lewis's 25 miles Walk at Birmingham, when Tommy succeeded in getting a six yards advantage over Fred in the last few yards. Faster and faster they seemed to go, and Fred Bentley, without a challenger

for third place, was content to let the leaders go, and conserve his energies.

In the closing stages, Tommy managed to get his head in front and eventually won by about 60 yards from Fred Rickards. Both men had been responsible for very fine performances and both eclipsed previous best times over this course. Fred Bentley anbled in third, six minutes behind the second man, and he, too, accomplished an excellent performance in finishing so well inside three hours. Fred is one of the youngest of our distance walkers and he may well claim individual Championship honours in a year or so.

Fourth came Jack Bidgood, not quite so fast as last year, but still showing he is one of the best distance men in the South. Fifth position was filled by Bert Field, his usual consistent self, which makes him such a reliable team man. Harley, who finished sixth, fell away slightly over the last three miles, but was nearly six minutes faster than last year; R. Martin essayed his first attempt in the Club 20 Miles Championship, and made the tactical mistake of hanging on to leaders for several miles. This effort resulted in him falling away later in the race, but the experience so gained may well prove invaluable, and next time out we shall probably find we have yet another first-class twenty-miler, as befits one who has done so well in his first "Brighton" and first "Junior."

Frank Elson came next, taking things rather easily at first, owing to a recent attack of the 'flu, but coming through fast later, to pass Brother Reg., who made a creditable first effort at the distance. A minute later Holman finished, which gave him a well-deserved second place in the Sealed Handicap.

Altogether 16 finished of the 18 starters. As was to be expected by their fast times, Rickards and Green took handicap awards, the other prize, as mentioned above, going to W. Holman.

#### RESULT.

Pos.	Name	Act.		Ser.	H'cap		
		Time	Allee.		Time	Pos.	
1.	T. W. Green	2 48 59	...	...	2 48 59	...	3
2.	F. Rickards	2 49 28	...	2 30	2 46 58	...	1
3.	F. E. Bentley	2 55 27	...	6 0	2 49 27	...	4
4.	J. C. Bidgood	3 0 55	...	6 0	2 54 55	...	7
5.	A. H. Field	3 1 22	...	11 0	2 50 32	...	6
6.	A. A. Harley	3 3 51	...	14 0	2 49 51	...	5
7.	R. Martin	3 4 27	...	6 45	2 57 42	...	8
8.	F. H. Elson	3 9 9	...	8 30	3 0 39	...	13
9.	R. F. Elson	3 9 45	...	11 0	2 58 45	...	11
10.	W. Holman	3 10 50	...	22 0	2 48 50	...	2
11.	E. Saunders	3 19 31	...	11 30	3 8 1	...	16
12.	C. H. Speechley	3 20 50	...	19 0	3 1 50	...	14
13.	W. G. Dodkin	3 22 1	...	24 0	2 58 1	...	9
14.	J. Rathbone	3 25 20	...	17 0	3 8 20	...	10
15.	D. Willis	3 26 20	...	27 0	2 59 20	...	12
16.	L. G. Allen	3 27 0	...	22 0	3 5 0	...	15

Also started : F. W. Chandler, A. O. Tookey.

## THE "NATIONAL" AT SHEFFIELD.

This year's Senior 20 Miles Championship held over Derbyshire hills (only 5 yards of the course was in Sheffield) under a blazing sun, must be written down as a 'glorious failure' from our point of view, and must surely rank with some of our winning efforts in the past. Two points only separated us from the winners, Surrey Walking Club, at the conclusion of the race; and it was only natural that we should speculate on what would have happened if Tommy Green and Joe King had been able to make the journey. Unfortunately for us, both men, although well trained and full of enthusiasm for this race, suffered severe disappointment when business reasons prevented their coming at the eleventh hour (or should I write 23rd?). Reserves also found it impossible to make such a long journey at short notice and so only seven Belgravians travelled northwards to walk in the Senior Championship. Thus the "Nijmegen" Shield awarded for the first complete team of eight to finish, and won by us last year at the Crystal Palace, was already lost before the race started.

Our boys had confidence in themselves to make a good show, and it was evident soon after the start of the race that Belgrave would be somewhere handy at the finish. FRED RICKARDS was always with the leaders, and overcoming a slight feeling of weakness at 16 miles, completed the course in second position, and stronger than anyone. With another two miles to go he would have had the individual title! It was pleasing to see Fred among the placings this year, however, for he has not experienced the best of luck in past years, fourth place having been his on several occasions. Our next man home was FRED BENTLEY who, although experiencing stomach trouble, walked a splendid race to do his best yet. Our third man, R. MARTIN, did excellently in his first National Championship and showed all the attributes of a first-class distance walker. BERT FIELD completed our team a place behind Martin, and once again illustrated his extreme dependability.

Our four scored 42 points, but Surrey Walking Club, the holders, had managed to retain their title by scoring 40 points. To them go our congratulations upon successfully defending their title, and the assurance that next year we shall again be making a strong challenge; this time, I've no doubt, a successful one.

It is interesting to compare the aggregate times of our four and the S.W.C. four. Our aggregate time is 12 hr. 1 min. 45 sec., that of Surrey 12 hr. 5 min. 34 sec.—that is, showing an advantage of nearly four minutes in our favour! It is a matter of satisfaction to both S.W.C. and ourselves, however, that we were both able to show the provincial teams the way home, as the final result table shows. Both Leicester W.C. and Sheffield U.H.

were very prominent in the early stages, but gradually the even pace of the Southerners prevailed.

Our fifth man to finish was JACK BIDGOOD, not quite so fit as last year, but still showing up well. Sixth of ours came ALF HARLEY with a few places' improvement on last year's race; and seventh our Road Captain, FRANK ELSON, in 41st position.

Thus, we had seven men in 38 scoring positions—an excellent performance. With one of our enforced absentees there, the "Nijmegen" Shield would have been ours again! Surrey Walking Club also took this award, their eighth man finishing in 55th position.

Rickards, as first Belgrave Harrier to finish, becomes holder of the "S. Bayliss" Cup.

And so we end as we started, by describing our part in this race as a "glorious failure." We have no hard luck story to tell. If the dice was loaded against us this time, well, it may be with us another year. Certain it is that we have winning potentialities; ability at our disposal which *must* form a winning team before long. Next year, we shall be trying again, and with capable reserves and a little support (it can mean so much) we may well see Belgrave National Champions again.

#### RESULT.

	h. m. s.		h. m. s.
1. T. Lloyd Johnson (Leicester W.C.)	2 49 58	18. A. H. Field.....	3 4 38
2. F. Rickards .....	2 51 58	27. J. C. Bidgood .....	3 8 30
8. F. E. Bentley .....	3 0 46	34. A. A. Harley .....	3 12 18
17. R. Martin .....	3 4 28	41. F. H. Elson .....	3 13 57

#### TEAM SCORES.

1. Surrey W.C. (4, 8, 13, 15) 40 pts.	5. Birmingham W.C. .... 78 pts.
2. Belgrave H. (2, 7, 16, 17) 42 pts.	6. Lancashire W.C. ....127 pts.
3. Leicester W.C. (1, 9, 22, 24) 56 pts.	7. Derbyshire S.C.....152 pts.
4. Sheffield Utd. H. .... 75 pts.	8. Enfield A.C. ....180 pts.
	9. Woodford Grn. A.C....199 pts.
	10. Yorkshire W.C.....204 pts.

## MATCH v. LONDON ATHLETIC CLUB. 5th MAY, 1934.

Belgrave H. ... 50 pts.      L.A.C. ... 38 pts.

The first race on the programme was the 100 Yards match and here the L.A.C. representative, F. G. Moulton, won a close race from F. Stroud and E. L. Kealey. Time quite good.

The 440 Yards match was an amble for the first 220 and then Pack and Michael ran away from their opponents.

A fine race was seen in the 880 Yards match and Sergeant, of the L.A.C., led all the way with Alf Kench just pipping him on the post. Time was slow but there was a strong wind.

Long Jump match was an even affair with the L.A.C. securing the major points.

Stroud displayed good form in winning the 220 Yards match and was much too speedy for his opponents.

In the 1 Mile match Harry Shields battled along to win in good style, with Shaw second. Time was not too good, but the season is yet young and Harry should knock many seconds off this.

Our representatives, Powell and Melchior, were definitely superior to the L.A.C. men in the Javelin, and George showed good form for one who is as yet not warmed up.

The 2 Miles match was another good race and although Jack Flower had the lead at the dressing room, Burch, of the L.A.C., came by him with a well-timed burst and won fairly easily. Was glad to see Warboys out again although not showing his old-time fireworks.

There seems to be no stopping the Junior element when it comes to Club Handicaps, perhaps the Handicapper has a soft spot for them, but Mewes displayed fine form in winning the 100 Yards Final off  $6\frac{1}{2}$  in 10 seconds dead. Kealey also proved himself a flyer by being placed third off  $1\frac{1}{2}$  yards.

Our old friend, George Powell, bobbed up in the Long Jump Handicap and by putting in his best jump for years deservedly gained first place.

Tommy Scrimshaw turned out off the scratch mark in the 880 Yards and although getting well with his field saw them go away from him when it came to the straight. In a ding-dong finish Cecil Penny just beat G. R. Chantler with Orton, a newcomer, third. The time was well within Scrimshaw's compass and proved our crack is far from wound up, but we hope to see him displaying winning form by the time July comes round.

Kealey also ran very well in the 220 Yards Handicap and from a back mark he did excellently to run into second place. Gilbert, the winner, reaped due reward for his persistency, while another junior in D. Martin kept up their average by being third.

Have we discovered a find? C. E. Brockwell ran away from the field in the 1 Mile, thus winning this race for the second year in succession but from a considerably reduced mark. Alf. Taylor showed a glimpse of his successful country form in getting second, while one of the Patience brothers ran well to secure third place.

The other event on the programme was the chief race of the meeting, this being the S.A.A.L. 3 Miles Team Race. We made a good start in the league by securing first place, thus repeating last year's success, and our team all ran well with Arthur Allum showing form which looks as though he is in for a good season on the track. A word of praise for the winner, Furze, the old

Watford Harrier, and now a member of the Polytechnic H., who ran in excellent style and won easily from a very classy field.

\* \* \* \* \*

RESULT.

MATCH EVENTS.

**100 Yards.**—1, Moulton, F. G., L.A.C.; 2, Stroud, F., Bel.; 3, Kealey, E. L., Bel.; 4, Heath, W. B., L.A.C. Time 10 3-10 sec.

**220 Yards.**—1, Stroud, F., Bel.; 2, Gosse, C. N., L.A.C.; 3, Halford, P. J., L.A.C.; 4, Bone, B. L., Bel. 23 3-10 sec.

**440 Yards.**—1, Pack, E. H., Bel.; 2, Michael, R. G., Bel.; 3, Comyns, W. F., L.A.C.; 4, Halford, P. J., L.A.C. Time 55 1-10 sec.

**880 Yards.**—1, Kench, A., Bel., 2, Sergeant, J., L.A.C.; 3, White, F. H. Bel.; 4, Kinaman, C. H. G., L.A.C. Time 2 min. 6 1-5 sec.

**1 Mile.**—1, Shields, H. W., Bel.; 2, Shaw, A., Bel.; 3, Bain, J. F., L.A.C.; 4, Sergeant, J., L.A.C. Time 4 min. 42 sec

**2 Miles.**—1, Burch, D. A., L.A.C.; 2, Flower, J. E., Bel.; 3, Elgie, D. F., L.A.C.; 4, Warboys, S. A., Bel. Time 10 min. 12 4-5 sec.

**Javelin.**—1, Powell G. H., Bel., 163ft. 0½in.; 2, Melchior, C., Bel., 143ft. 3¼ins.; 3, Ellis, A. R. P., L.A.C., 135ft. 0½in.; 4, Comyns, W. F., L.A.C., 105ft. 1½in.

**Long Jump.**—1, Higgins, E. J. C., L.A.C., 20ft. 7½ins.; 2, Fleming, B. W., Bel., 20ft. 4in.; 3, Higham, D. C., L.A.C., 19ft. 11½in.; 4, Pack, E. H., Bel., 19ft. 7½in.

Belgrave H. ... .. 50 pts. L.A.C. ... .. 38 pts.

S.A.A.L. THREE MILES.

1—Belgrave H. (5, 6, 8, 13) ... ..	32 pts.
2—Polytechnic H. (1, 4, 12, 20) ... ..	37 pts.
2—Herne Hill H. (2, 9, 11, 15) ... ..	37 pts.
4—S.L.H. (3, 10, 14, 16) ... ..	43 pts.
5—Highgate H. (7, 17, 18, 19)... ..	61 pts.
6—Blackheath H. (21, 22, 23, 24) ... ..	90 pts.

Belgrave H. Team—A. Penny 5, A. Allum 6, H. E. Footer 8,  
C. T. Carter 13.

1, Furze, A. F. B., (Poly H.); 2, Jones, H. W. (H.H.H.); 3rd Caie, J. M. B. (S.L.H.) Time 14 min. 56 1-5 sec.

CLUB HANDICAPS.

**100 Yards.**—1, Mewes, A. (6½); 2, Pritchard, F. W. (8½); 3, Kealey, E. L. (1½). Time 10 sec.

**220 Yards.**—1, Gilbert, J. W. (24); 2, Kealey, E. L. (5); 3, Martin, D. (25). Time 22 3-5 sec.

**880 Yards.**—1, Penny, C. H. E. (75); 2, Chantler, G. R. (75); 3, Orton, A. H. (75). Time 2 min. 0 2-5 sec.

**1 Mile.**—1, Brockwell, C. E. (135); 2, Taylor, A. E. (110); 3, Patience, A. (120). Time 4 min. 26 sec.

**2 Miles Walk.**—1, Boddington, G. H. (510 yds.); 2, Rutland, J. E. (525 yds.); 3, Churcher, C. E. (180 yds.). Time 14 min. 26 sec.

**1 Mile Unattached Novices.**—1, Williams, E. H. M.; 2, Eulah, E.; 3, Rendell, F. Time 5 min. 0 1-5 sec.

\* \* \* \* \*

In addition to our fixture v. L.A.C. described above, we have also participated in other inter-club events, the full details of which, owing to pressure of space, must appear in our next issue. Suffice it to say we gained an easy win over Ashcombe

A.C., Ealing H. and Slough A.C. at Drayton Park on May 12th; and dropped only one point out of sixteen in the first of the inter-club contests v. Croydon H., Epsom H. and Mitcham A.C. at Battersea Park on May 16th. This is an excellent start and if we can follow up our advantage in the remaining competitions we should regain the Shield at present held by Mitcham A.C.

Up to the moment of writing we have surpassed ourselves in Southern Amateur Athletic League events and have only sacrificed one point in three events, which is something to be extremely proud of, and an advantage to be zealously maintained in the three remaining events.

The 3 miles race gave us a win and six points, as described in the description of our match v. L.A.C. elsewhere.

The 4 x 440 yards event, held at the L.A.C. meeting on May 19th, found us in second place; F. H. White, R. G. Michael, E. H. Pack and A. Kench giving of their best.

The Mile team race held at the Civil Service Meeting on May 26th provided us with another win, one point separating us from Poly. H. Our victory was notable for our good packing, and by reason of Scrimshaw's creditable debut as a miler. Our boys were placed: Allum 6, Scrimshaw 9, Rice 10, Shields 11—36 points.

At the conclusion of three events we have scored 17 out of a possible 18 points and have a  $4\frac{1}{2}$  points lead over the next club, Polytechnic Harriers. Not bad in a league comprising the best of the South!

\* \* \* \* \*

In the Field Events section of the League we are not quite as prominent, positions being as follows: (1) South London H., 59 pts.; (2) Polytechnic H., 44 pts.; (3) Croydon H.,  $40\frac{1}{2}$  pts.; (4) Belgrave H.,  $37\frac{1}{2}$  pts.; (5) Blackheath H., 37 pts.; (5x) St. George's S.S.C., 37 pts.; (7x) Mitcham A.C., 36 pts.; (7x) Ponders End A.C., 36 pts.; (9) Herne Hill H., 22 pts.; (10) Southgate H., 5 pts.; (11) Southgate and Wood Green A.C., Nil.

\* \* \* \* \*

Leaders in the "Harry Wright" Shield Competition for Club-athletes are B. Fleming (Long Jump), 87.58%; G. H. Powell (Javelin) 84.45%; E. H. Pack (Long Jump) 84.04%.

To equal Fleming's percentage Field Events men must reach the following standards: Shot (37ft.  $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.), Javelin (169ft.  $0\frac{1}{2}$ in.), High Jump (5ft.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.), Discus (119ft.  $11\frac{3}{4}$ in.).

\* \* \* \* \*

J. W. Clemens is showing some good form in the Long Jump pit and recently won the University of London title with a fine leap. He is consistently jumping over 21ft. 6in. and we hope he will add a foot or more to this before the end of the season.

Two of our members, H. Vassall and G. H. Powell, jointly hold the Surrey County Pole Vault Championship.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bill Sutton, the Field Events Captain, is most anxious that Belgrave should hold a high place in Field Events, as we do in Running and Walking. We have several fine performers already, but further recruits are very welcome, so if you know of anyone with a flair for throwing and jumping, or fancy your own chances, just get in touch with Sutton.

\* \* \* \* \*

Congratulations to J. W. Clemens (Long Jump) and T. H. Scrimshaw (880 yards) upon their recent selection to represent the A.A.A. v. Oxford University.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our distance teams were busy on Whit-Monday. A two miles team at Luton were narrowly beaten by Birchfield H., Allum running exceptionally well to take second place in the scratch race.

At Gravesend another two-mile team consisting of Shields (1), Taylor (3), Shaw (4) won easily; whilst at Southall, R. W. Jordan led our boys home to another easy win in a Mile Team event, for which they gained handsome medals.

Several other individual successes were reported, and our congratulations go to all who figured in the "placed" lists.

## FORTHCOMING FIXTURES ON THE TRACK.

So far this season our lads have done extremely well and I hope that the enthusiasm displayed will continue, particularly so as regards our away Inter-Club fixtures.

The first of these will be the "Doris Shield" competition, in which our opponents are Thames Valley Harriers and Ashcombe A.C. This meeting will be held at Richmond on Thursday, June 21st, and in addition to the scratch events, there will be Handicaps open to all members of the three competing clubs at 100 Yards, 1 Mile Run, and 2 Miles Walk. The prizes given at these meetings are always well worth winning and if you wish to enter you should let our Hon. Sec. or Track Captain have your name at once. LATE ENTRIES CANNOT BE ACCEPTED, as a joint Handicapping Board has to meet to arrange the marks well beforehand.

On June 27th, at Battersea Park, we are holding a full Club programme, chief among the events being the Club 3 Miles Track Championship for the "Griffin Cup" (Holder, A. W. Penny). Standard Medals are given for 16 mins. 1st class, and 16 mins. 30 secs. 2nd class. Here is a chance for anyone who

prefers distance running to secure a Club medal. Handicaps to suit all are also provided and you can take your choice of the following: 100 Yards (under 16), 100 Yards, 440 Yards, 880 Yards, Long Jump, Shot Putt and 2 Miles Walk. In addition, we are holding a 1 Mile Scratch Walk, open to all Unattached Novices (entry free). If any of your friends would like to try themselves out, here is their opportunity. Ordinary shoes or plimsolls can be worn; that is if they do not possess a pair of walking shoes, and awards are given to the first three men home. Also at this meeting will be held the S.A.A.L. Discus and Shot Putt and any members who would like to represent the Club in these events should get into touch with our capable Field Events Captain, Bill Sutton. While on the question of Field Events, I hope our members will avail themselves of the opportunity of learning a little of the technique required, by taking advantage of the presence of Mr. Frank Thomson, our well-known A.A.A. official, who is always willing to take in hand anyone who is anxious to become a little more proficient in the art of field events.

We have the second of the Inter-Club Relay contests at Croydon on July 3rd. The competing clubs are Croydon H., Mitcham A.C., Epsom H. and ourselves, and the usual relays will be contested on Croydon's ground at Pampisford Road, South Croydon. In the past we have generally had difficulty in fielding a complete team in the Sprint events and now that we have made an auspicious start it would be a great pity to throw away points through the failure of our members to put in an appearance. If you know you will be free on this evening, then let Bill Rice know as soon as possible. If selected, and then unable to turn up, for goodness' sake drop him a line to that effect and so give him a chance of fielding a reserve. It is always difficult to get reserves to travel, but if they know they will get a run, then of course it is a different matter. I don't think it is so much a question of lack of team spirit, but more a case of human nature asserting itself. At any rate, I hope the members will rally round our Track Captain for these events. It is a thankless job trying to get teams out, but if supported in the right way, then, at least, win or lose, you do feel as if your efforts were well worth while.

On July 7th, at the White City, we have the A.A.A. Junior Championships, open to all who are under 19 years of age. Last year our Relay team was very unlucky, after winning their heat in record time, but we hope to field an equally strong team this year, and any of our members who are eligible for these events, which are held at all distances, should get in touch with our worthy Junior Captain, Dick Savage. He will be only too pleased to assist them. He is always to be found at Battersea

Park Track and, naturally, in a Club of our size, it is impossible for him to know all our members; therefore you will be doing yourselves and him a good turn by making your presence known to him.

This also applies to any new members who are as yet not in touch with many of our members at the Track. Please ask for any of our Officials. The Track Captain, Bill Rice, is always present and he will be only too glad to give you any advice re events to enter, or put you in touch with a suitable fellow with whom to train.

All entries and enquiries to—

W. L. BAYLISS, 71, Ravensbury Road, S.W.18.

### WITH THE WALKERS.

The Track season is now well upon us and there is little doubt that we shall enjoy a good season, under the captaincy of A. A. Harley, and vice-captaincy of D. E. Brown. We are looking to Don to prove himself one of the fastest men on track, and to carry on in the promising way he showed last year.

Our all-round strength remains very high; our numbers satisfactory and increasing, by the addition of several promising young novices. Of course, we are always glad to welcome new faces, and special attention is drawn to the One Mile Novice Walk (for unattached novices) to be held at our meeting on June 27th. No entry fee is payable, and we look to our members to bring this event to the notice of their friends.

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An account of the "National" appears elsewhere in this issue, but it would not be out of place here to mention again the very fine form shown by one of the best of sportsmen, Fred Rickards. Fred had the honour of leading the Southern team home in the ten aside inter-district race between the South, Midlands, and North, held in conjunction with the Senior Championship, and Fred's popularity among walkers was demonstrated when he was called upon to accept the "T. E. Hammond" Cup on behalf of the South, from the hands of the Lord Mayor of Sheffield.

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Those of our members who are also members of the Metropolitan Police Walking Club (and they are many) have been very prominent in Police fixtures lately. Rickards, Bentley, Martin and Bidgood have been the high-lights, but Rathbone, Willis, Boddington, Jarvis, Allen and White have also played their part. Rickards won the 10 miles Police Championship, with Bentley third, and both men have also been right up the front in other Police fixtures.

Of course, the big event of the year in Police walking is the race from Barking to Southend, 34 miles. This year Bentley walked a well-judged race to beat Rickards and so prevented the last-named from recording his sixth win. Martin was fourth and Bidgood fifth, thus "Belgrave" had four in five. Others of ours to beat six hours were Rathbone and Allen.

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Two days after this strenuous effort Rickards participated in the Three Hours' Record Attempt at the White City, but of course could not expect to show normal form. Actually, he finished sixth, and covered 20 miles 1122 yards—highly creditable.

Congratulations to F. J. Redman and G. T. Galloway upon creating new records in connection with this event.

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Here follows an extract from the St. John's Newfoundland, *Evening Telegram*, which is humorous in its inaccuracies. Eight hours to Brighton won't be nearly so difficult when the course shrinks to 33 miles!

#### "GREAT WALKER LEAVES TRAIL.

"Tommy Green, Winner of 30 Mile Event at Los Angeles Olympics Says Farewell to Road.

"London, April 12, (C.P.)—Tommy Green, the greatest competitive distance walker of his day and the athletic idol of his home town, Belgrave, has said farewell to the road. The 41-year-old Olympic Champion is taking up a business appointment which will leave him no time for training.

"Smiling Tommy never competed in a road race until he was 33 and then he proceeded to win more races and break more records than any other athlete in the world. He climaxed his career by winning the 50,000 metres walk at the Los Angeles Angeles Olympic Games in 1932. In that race, over nearly 30 miles, most of the international field did not finish, because of the intense heat.

"Green won the famous 33-mile London-to-Brighton race four times and scored five successive successes in the Manchester-to-Blackpool event. He never quite managed to win the Royal Walking Association's national 20-mile race, but he trounced all its winners over other routes.

"Canada never saw the Belgrave Harrier in competition, but Green worked out in Toronto on his way to the Los Angeles Olympics. His chief rival at that time was thought to be Hank Cieman, Toronto star, but the heat forced Cieman to withdraw during the Olympic race."

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By now, most walkers know of the newly-formed R.W.A. League, which is promoting scratch races at four, six and eight

miles on the road, in an endeavour to cater for those walkers who do not turn out on the track. The constituent clubs are Ashcombe A.C., Belgrave H., Metropolitan W.C., Polytechnic H., Valentine's S.C., Southgate and Wood Green A.A., L.C.C. Trams S. & A.C., Woodford Green A.C., and the idea is that twelve per club should walk with four aside to score. The scoring number has been kept small, to assist the smaller clubs, and the system of "eliminating" men from scoring positions after a team has closed in has also been adopted, out of consideration for those clubs who lack numbers.

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This gave rise to rather an anomolous state of affairs in the first event of the season, held at Battersea Park on May 16th, when the Metropolitan W.C. won by a point from us, although we had eight men in twelve! So the "Met" gained a win; and we "took the honours." Redman (Met.) 29.59, H. Whitlock (Met.) 30.22, and Stone (Poly.) 30.30 headed the field. Our man finished: H. Churcher (4), Speechley (5), C. Churcher (6), F. Elson (8), R. Elson (9), Harley (10), Martin (11), Bidgood (12), J. Field (18), Jackman (21). Team placings were: Met. W.C., 22 pts.; Belgrave 23 pts.; Polytechnic H., 33 pts.

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The second fixture was a six miles race, held in Regents Park on May 30th, and gave us an easy win, with 14 pts. to Poly. H. 30 pts., Met. W.C. 36 pts., L.C.C.T. S. & A.A. 56 pts. We placed five men in seven in this order: 1, C. E. Churcher; 2, F. H. Elson; 5, A. A. Harley; 6, R. F. Elson; 7, E. Saunders.

\* \* \* \* \*

We now hold the leadership of the League. Future fixtures are:—

- Sat., June 9th—8 miles—Southgate.
- Sat., July 7th—6 miles—Regent's Park.
- Sat., July 21st—8 miles—Highgate.

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The R.W.A. National 50 kilos. (31½ miles) Championship will be held on June 23rd from "The Blue Anchor," Croydon. We hope to be strongly represented and to succeed in winning the "Horlick" Cup for the Team Championship, for the first time. The Championship is being promoted in conjunction with the Surrey Walking Club's "Guildford Cup" race (Holder, F. Rickards) and will carry a handicap team race, although, of course, the Championship is the primary concern of the competitors.

The following two mile handicaps are coming along :—

Wed., June 6th—Battersea Park.

Thur., June 21st—Richmond.

Wed., June 27th—Battersea Park.

Other events for those concerned with Championships are the County races on June 16th, the Southern Championships at Guildford on June 30th and the A.A.A. Championships on July 13th and 14th.

**SPECIAL NOTE.**—As the handicap on June 21st is a joint affair, all entries must be made definitely a week in advance, to allow a joint-handicap board to arrange the handicap allowances.

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Our Annual Inter-club Walks are to be held on July 18th, when we expect to have our usual sporting evening and see the cream of Southern walkers engaged.

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A reminder about our Novice Walk on June 27th. Send the names, and enquiries, to—

A. A. HARLEY, 39 Roxburgh Avenue, Isleworth, Mx.

## CLUB OUTING—SUNDAY, JULY 15th.

It is proposed to hold a Club Outing, probably into Sussex, on the above date. If sufficient support is forthcoming, it is our intention to hire a bus similar to those engaged for the Brighton Relay, and to make a charge of 5/- per head, inclusive of tea.

To ensure the success of this project, immediate application, with cash, is essential and should be addressed to :—

W. A. RICE,  
36 Ascalon Street, S.W.8.

A hundred miles ride, a good tea, plenty of fresh air and splendid views, congenial company and a day well-spent—all for 5/- per head! It sounds good to me!

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Assistant Hon. Editors :

F. R. WEBB,  
50 Longford Avenue,  
Southall, Mx.

H. W. SHIELDS,  
64 War Seal Mansions,  
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(to whom monetary contributions should be sent).

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