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The 1st Edition

1930

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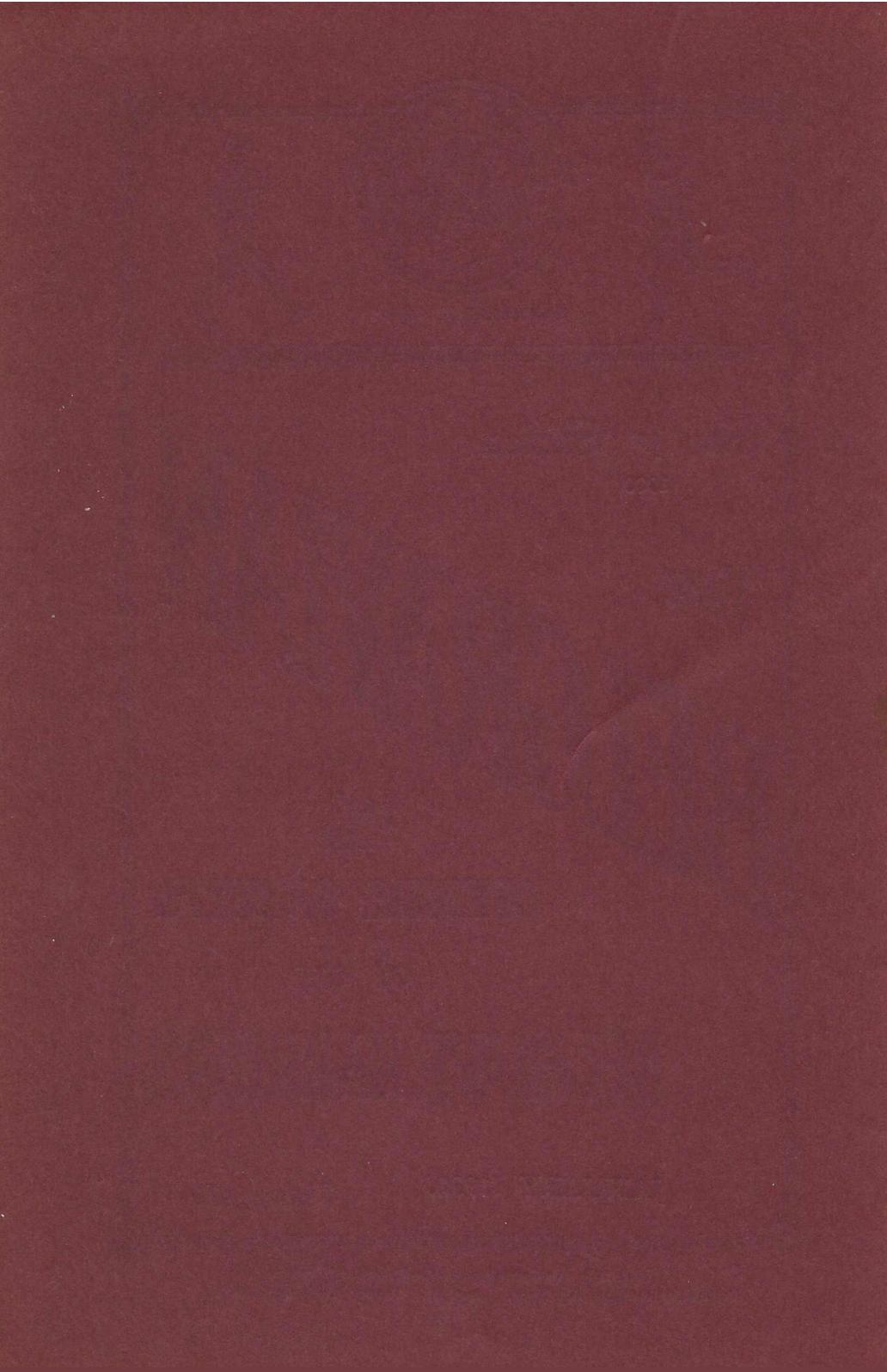
BELGRAVIAN

The
OFFICIAL GAZETTE
of the

BELGRAVE HARRIERS

JANUARY 1930.

Price 4s



THE 1st EDITION
(1930)
OF
THE BELGRAVIAN
JANUARY.

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Hon. Treasurer : H. PARKER, 4 Albert Bridge Road, S.W.11.

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Congratulations are due this month to our Surrey Youths' Race team, to A. L. Fletcher, H. E. Footer and, of course, T. W. Green, who merits our congratulations as regularly as our Gazette appears. On this occasion it is a wonderful effort in the "God-stone" Walk on Boxing Day. Although he started 11½ minutes after the rest of the competitors (owing to a train which was an hour and a half late), he managed to catch all but four competitors and beat the existing course record by 40 secs. Whether this time will be accepted as a new record for the distance, owing to the late start, is doubtful, but nothing can detract from the merit of the performance.

Len Fletcher, walking for the Army and Navy Co-operative Stores, accomplished a fine performance by winning the London Business Houses championship. L. G. Sandy, the Police champion, whom we all know to be a good walker, was well beaten.

Bert Footer, after many years of trying, has won the Club 7 miles Cross-country championship. His win is a reward for perseverance and one which holds a moral for all of us. All his club-mates are unanimous in saying "Well run, Bert."

Our junior team of runners, Messrs Garland, Jacobs, Clubb and Thorne, by dead-heating in the Surrey Youths' Race with Mitcham A.C., showed that our younger members may be relied upon to uphold Belgrave prestige, and in time will prove worthy successors of the present seniors

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W. Plant, J. W. Haggard, B. Langley, L. C. Price, H. J. Greenwood and W. Mellish were elected to the Club at the last Committee meeting and are cordially welcomed.

* * * * *

We have to congratulate A. W. Godfrey and E. A. Saward upon their recent marriages and wish them many years of happiness.

The official Club tie has now made its appearance and may be obtained from the Hon. Editor. The tie has been specially woven to the Committee's specification and is moderately priced at three shillings (or 3/3 by post). All loyal Belgravians are expected to wear the Club Colours at the Open Cross Country and Road Walking Championships which will soon be taking place. Please note that the *official* Club tie can only be had from the Hon. Editor, whose address appears on page 1.

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The Committee have decided not to hold an Open Meeting in April this year. When we first promoted this meeting it was because athletes were not catered for so early in the track season. Now, however, other promoters have come forward and, as our meetings are always bound to result in a heavy financial loss, owing to the fact that there is no "gate," we have decided to discontinue it. In its place it is hoped to arrange an attractive programme of match events, supplemented by some Club handicaps.

It is probable that the Club Dinner will be held on Saturday, April 26th, following upon this meeting, so all our members should make a note of this date.

* * * * *

In response to the requests of many members, an extra handicap meeting has been arranged during the Summer. This will take place in July—usually a blank month as far as Club fixtures are concerned.

SURREY COUNTY YOUTHS' CROSS-COUNTRY RACE.

On December 14th, our Juniors competed in the above race on Putney Heath (the race being re-run on this date owing to the runners losing the trail on the preceding Saturday). It was a fine afternoon and excellent for country running.

We had a full team of eight running and from the start our boys got into the leading positions. Things were looking very hopeful after about half a mile of the outward journey. On the return of the runners they were headed by Gittings, of South London H. with Garland in fifth position, an improvement on his running in the same race last year. In the team race Garland was placed fourth, Jacobs fifth, Clubb sixth, and Thorne seventh, aggregating 22 points, and thus tying with Mitcham A.C. for first place. Our boys packed very well and Thorne put in a great finish to beat the last two Mitcham scoring men in the straight; thus gaining us two points and pride of place with Mitcham. Well run Bels!

T.C.J.

RESULT

1. P. C Gittings .	S L H	11	A A G Thorne	Belgrave H.
5. S. Garland ...	Belgrave H	19.	F. H C. White	"
9 W H G Jacobs	"	20.	C W Law	"
10 A A Clubb	"	26	P A Pelcot	"

TEAM POSITIONS AND SCORES.

Belgrave H—4, 5, 6, 7,	22 pts.
Mitcham A C—2, 3, 8, 9	.	..	22 pts.
Fitzroy Lodge A C—1, 11, 12, 17	..	.	41 pts.
Surrey A C—16, 22, 23, 24	..	.	81 pts.

THE FIVE MILE NOVICE WALK.

The much-discussed Novice Walk, after much advertising and splendid response from certain of our Club officials who presented the prizes was, from a numerical point of view, a failure. Consolation was found, however, in the splendid racing that followed. G. Tucker, the winner, walked a brainy race against L. J. Wells, of Surrey W.C, who gave a plucky display of determination in trying to hang on to Tucker when the latter made his final effort. Meanwhile, a splendid race for third was taking place between Harley and Larman, who were fighting it out stride by stride over the last stages. Within sight of the tape Larman came under the ban of the judges, allowing Harley to take third place. Larman learnt a lesson from his disqualification as was proved the following week when he gained a prize in the sealed handicap held in conjunction with the seven miles Junior Championship.

RESULT

		O.H.	m s.
1. G Tucker, Belgrave Harriers	..		46 28
2 J L Wells, Surrey WC	.		46 34
3 A A Harley, Belgrave H			46 45
4. G B Whitlock, Metropolitan WC	.		47 57
5. W. H. Plant, Metrogas A.S.A			51 58
6. E. A. Jeffries, Belgrave H	.		52 5
7. A. F Stoyell, Surrey A C			52 6
8. L. H. King (unattached), Earlsfield	.		53 58

THE SEVEN MILES JUNIOR WALK CHAMPIONSHIP.

Twenty juniors faced the starter and this must be considered a very good field when one remembers that many of our members are not allowed to compete in this race, by reason of their having reached "Senior" status under R.W.A. rules. The number competing and the good racing seen gives visions of a double win in the Junior and Senior championships this year.

Elson started off at a very fast pace, followed by Field and

Saunders, with Khlopin close behind. Towards the end of the first lap Field was in the lead, but he suffered disqualification, and this again gave Elson the lead, closely followed by Saunders. Saunders at one time looked likely to prove the winner, but Elson managed to gain a few yards lead up the last hill and retain it to the end. Thus Frank Elson, the holder, by his narrow win again won the "Horwood Cup," but surely Saunders will add his name to the trophy in the course of time unless, or course, he loses his Junior status later in the season, which appears very probable. Khlopin's improvement continues, a remark which applies to many of those who followed him. Harley and Larman again had a close race, the latter winning on this occasion by a yard, and showing that the words of advice given by one of the judges the week before when he was pulled out had proved beneficial.

The sealed handicap turned out to be a very close affair as the appended results show. Saunders deservedly took first prize and Larman is to be congratulated upon winning his first prize. A second behind him came R. G. Hillier.

O.H.

	RESULT			H'cap Time	H'cap Pos.
	Actual Time	Allee. Scr			
1. F. H. Elson . . .	58 42	.		58 42	12
2. E. Saunders . . .	58 45	.	1 50	56 55	1
3. P. Khlopin	60 25	..	2 45	57 40	5
4. W. G. Dodkin ..	60 27	.	2 45	57 42	6
5. C. H. Speechley	60 29	.	2 35	57 54	8
6. S. L. King	62 5	.	3 50	58 15	11
7. R. G. Hillier ...	62 28	...	5 20	57 8	3
8. R. F. Elson	62 53	..	4 50	58 3	10
9. S. A. Manning	63 42	.	4 50	58 52	13
10. G. Tucker . . .	64 22	..	6 30	57 52	7
11. E. Stringer	64 53	..	4 50	60 48	15
12. H. E. Larman . .	64 57	..	7 50	57 7	2
13. A. A. Harley . .	64 58	..	7 40	57 18	4
14. H. J. Fletcher ..	65 22	..	6 5	59 17	14
15. S. T. Ring . . .	65 30	...	7 30	58 0	9
16. J. C. Bidgood ...	67 5	...	4 5	63 0	16

THE THIRD INTER-CLUB RACE

The final Inter-Club race between Ashcombe A.C., Thames Valley H. and ourselves was held from The Angel, Roehampton, on December 14th.

The race started from the Flagstaff, on Wimbledon Common, towards the Kingsmere, which had to be circled twice before going out down the track to Beverley Brook.

A wild scramble ensued at the commencement with Cohen, of Ashcombe, cutting out the pace. Jack Flower and Arthur Allum

were close behind him while F. R. Webb and Dewberry were also near the leaders. Nearing the brook Footer moved up with Nuti and Bicknell of Thames Valley just in front of them.

After crossing the bridge the long drag up the "Toast-rack" commenced and it was here that Flower and Allum overtook Cohen. Warboys also gained some positions here while Duffett and F. R. Webb running together gradually decreased Bicknell's lead on them

On the stretch home across the common our leading two got well away from Cohen, whom Footer also passed, although he was unable to catch the leaders, much to his regret, judging by his remarks after the race. Mitchell and Warboys ran well, the latter being troubled by a badly-cut knee sustained in a fall during the race, and F. R. Webb also displayed fine form and on this running will be a decided acquisition to our senior teams. Sid Chorley was another to do well. Canard and Dewberry both had off days, the latter's old fault of dashing off at the start again led to his own undoing and until he curbs his impetuosity and runs more evenly he will find it difficult to last out a race.

We had (for us) a poor muster, only 21, and as it was decided that 19 aside should score we were a little apprehensive as to our finishing a full scoring team. However, that old stalwart George Still and veteran George Tyrer both did their bit, and we came out on top, winners by a fair margin of points

RESULT

		m	s			m	s.
1	A Allum	B	28 41	18	T J Flower	B	30 58
1	J E Flower	B	28 41	19	N R Dewberry	B	31 3
3	H E Footer	B	28 53	20	A E Canard	B	31 3
4	L J. Cohen	A	29 30	25	W L Bayliss	B	31 32
5	S Warboys	B	29 40	29	A E Miller	B	31 55
6	A J. Nuti	T	29 49	35	H L Rollins	B	32 18
7	W. Mitchell	B	29 53	37	D A Sloper	B	32 25
8	L J Phipps	T	29 56	38	A J. Flower	B	32 26
9	E A Duffett	B	30 12	42	T Cotton	B	33 16
10	F. R. Webb	B	30 19	49	J Morgan	B	34 6
11.	P. V. Bicknell ...	T	30 26	59	A. Mackie .	B	35 43
12.	S. R. Chorley .	B	30 27	61	G Still .	B	36 10
16	A E. Smith	B	30 51	66	G Tyrer	B	44 0

TEAM POSITIONS AND SCORES

Bclgrave H	—1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20, 25, 29, 35, 37, 38, 42, 49	377 pts.
T V H	—6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 21, 21, 23, 26, 27, 28, 34, 36, 46, 50, 52, 55, 56, 57	578 pts.
Ashcombe A C	—4, 17, 22, 24, 30, 31, 32, 33, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, 47, 48, 51, 53, 54	698 pts.

THE H. T. BLACKSTAFFE SHIELD RACE.

The Club 7 Miles Cross-country Championship is the oldest championship event of which any tangible record is available.

Until 1909, however, there existed no trophy for the event, and then Mr. H. T. Blackstaffe, the Olympic Sculling Champion of 1908, and President of our Club in 1909, presented the Shield that bears his name. This was competed for on January 22nd, 1910, for the first time, from "The Spencer Arms," Lower Richmond Road, Barnes Common, then the Club headquarters, and won by C. F. Blow.

The 18th race for the Shield (3 years lapsed owing to the late war) was held at Wimbledon on December 21st. The course modified a little from last year's and the weather was in accordance with usual Championship day weather—damp, dark and dismal.

A fair field of 28, considerably less than should be expected, started; the most notable absentee being A. Penny, who was nursing an injured knee.

The course, after a half-lap of the starting field, lay across the Golf Course to Gravelly Hill, down to Beverley Brook, along and up the Horse-ride to the Flagstaff, thence via the Windmill to the Village. Out again over the same lap and then home to the starting point.

The start was comparatively a slow one, with the result that the field was fairly well bunched for the first two miles. At this point a leader could scarcely be defined and a fairly small distance covered the majority of the runners, with the three veterans, G. Still (who incidentally won a Club 7 in 1908, but not being first-claim at the time, did not qualify for the Championship Medal), H. Goodfellow and G. Tyrer bringing up the rear in that order.

Thence the field gradually spread out, with J. E. Flower, Footer and Allum taking up the lead. At 4½ miles, these three were still together and then after a fair interval came Mitchell, then the brothers Webb, Warboys and Duffett. T. J. Flower, who had been making the running for "A. J.," had made up a little ground, but at no time had a hard race.

With two miles to go the leaders were still together and thus they went from view up the long rise towards the Flagstaff. Footer piled on the pace up the sharp hill and opened up a gap, but "J. E." hung on grimly and when on level ground closed up again with the leader.

Allum had been dropped, but was in striking distance and it was still anyone's race. Bert however, in determination itself. He had obviously "a bee in his bonnet," and nothing was left to chance or a "social" finish, and, making another effort, resisted

all efforts to hold him and gradually drew away to record his first victory in the "7." He has, however, two 10's to his credit. No one will say other than that his win was well merited and deservedly popular, for none have been more staunch than he in his efforts for the Club in open Cross-Country Championships, and this win is but a reward for his rather unfortunate experiences in previous years, for on three consecutive occasions he has been second. In 1925 and 1926 he ran second to K. B. O'Kell, and in 1927 to A. Clark, and yet in each of these three years he was first home for the Club in both the South of the Thames and Southern Counties Championships.

Jack Flower ran exceedingly well in what was probably his first serious attempt at the distance and Arthur Allum, third, probably ran well enough to have won the race seven years out of ten. The keenness of the struggle between the first three may be judged from the fact that they drew well ahead of the rest of the field and filled 3 of the first 4 placings in the handicap in which Footer achieved the rare success of the "double"

W. Mitchell, our 10 mile champion, finished 4th, but he probably was not yet in top form, which may be said of our Captain, W. G. Webb, and the running Hon. Sec., E. A. Duffett, the previous year's winner.

F R Webb ran in good form and finished well up 5th in both championship and handicap. Of the others, a few were below their best, but of the longer markers, T Cotton stepped up in the placings and gained 3rd prize in the handicap

The full details of the finish are appended, and there remains only to be stated that our President, Mr. E. Gordon, presented the trophy and prizes and that Bert made a short and pithy speech in response to the general request

		RESULT				
		Actual		H'cap	H'cap	
		Time	Allee	Time	Pos.	
1	H E Footer	40 6	10	39 56	1	
2	J E Flower	40 14	10	40 4	2	
3	A Allum	40 32	5	40 27	4	
4.	W S Mitchell	42 15	Sci	42 15	..	13
5	F R Webb	42 23	1 45	40 38		5
6	W G. Webb	42 23	1 45	40 38		11
7	S H. Warboys	42 31	10	42 21		14
8	E A. Duffett	42 43	Sci	42 23		16
9	S R Chorley	43 23	2 0	41 23		7
10	C W. Tame	43 30	1 0	42 30		15
11	A E Smith	43 39	1 40	41 59		9
12	A Canard	43 44	1 30	42 14		12
13	F Tame	44 20	2 20	42 0		10
14	N R Dewberry	45 16	2 30	42 46		18
15	T. J Flower	45 17	.. 20	44 57		22
16	A E Miller	45 36	. 4 40	40 56		6
17	S Drake	45 37	. 3 40	41 57		8
18	T Cotton	45 52	.. 5 30	40 22	..	3

19	W. L. Bayliss	.	46 0	1 50	44 10	21
20	H. L. Rollins		47 20	3 30	43 50	19
21.	L. C. Price	..	47 24	1 55	45 29	24
22	S. Shepheard	...	48 13	5 30	42 43	17
23.	A. J. Flower	.	49 13	4 30	45 13	23
24	A. T. Webb		49 46	5 40	44 6	20
25	L. E. Fletcher...		50 59	5 25	45 34	25
26	G. Still	..	53 45	5 50	47 55	27
27.	H. Goodtellow	.	54 59	8 0	46 59	26
	*	*	*	*	*	

A summary of the results of the Seven Miles Championships from the year 1920 until last year appears below :—

	1st		2nd		3rd
1920	C C Arnold	..	A L Porter		J F Offen
1921	J F Gray	...	C. C Arnold	..	A L Porter
1922	J F Gray	.	J G. Flatt		A. D. Pyer
1923	J G Flatt		A D Pyer		H. E. Footer
1924	A D Pyer		A E Smith		J G Flatt
1925	K B O'Kell	.	H E. Footer		F L Buckingham
1926	K B O'Kell		H E Footer		A. D Pyer
1927	A Clark	.	H E Footer		K. B. O'Kell
1928*	A. Clark		E. A Duffett	.	W A Rice
1928*	E A Duffett		A Allum		W. G Webb

*The second race in 1928 was due to running the Championship early in the new season. The first race took place on January 7th, and the second on December 22nd, in the following cross-country season.

Times have not been given as they do not convey any comparison, owing to alterations in the course.

THE BOXING DAY MEETING.

Our usual Boxing Day meeting took place this year in fine weather which attracted many hundreds out-of-doors and resulted in us having a very large crowd on the rails.

Firstly, the heats of the sprint were decided. The fastest time was accomplished by Jim Tosh, who beat Tommy Hampson, the International half-miler and Oxford Blue, in 12 secs.

Tosh repeated his time later in the final, beating J. E. Mackie, our field events vice-captain, by a narrow margin with a comparatively new member, J. G. Barrett, inches behind. Barrett is powerfully built and should meet with further success. It was pleasing to see an old friend, George Maryon, get into the final from the five yards mark, and it is hoped that he will have a successful Summer season.

A fair number participated in the Walk, which was won by C. R. Redgrave with 620 yds. start. The veteran Vigor held the lead until he retired with two and a half laps to go, leaving A. A. Harley the leader. This he held until about two hundred yards to go, when Redgrave challenged. These two walked together

down the straight, and Redgrave won by a yard. R. F. Elson was third.

This race was won last year by Redgrave with 760 yds. start, the time being 22 mins. 31 secs. This year he won from the 620 yds. mark in 21 mins. 56 secs.—a vast improvement in the course of a year.

The last race of our meeting was the two miles run. The Hon. Handicapper, L. F. Fletcher, led for some time, but the back markers were steadily gaining. Eventually Arthur Allum took the lead and won in 10 mins. 10 3-5 secs. Jack Flower was second off 5 yds., beating his brother Albert down the straight.

So concluded a very successful meeting, the number of entrants and quality of the racing being well up to standard and a credit to the Club.

120 Yards Handicap—Heat 1, S. Garland, 13, 12 1-5 secs., Heat 2, A. J. Powter, 8, 12 3-5 secs., Heat 3, J. E. Tosh, 8, 12 secs., Heat 4, J. G. Barrett, 7, 12½ secs., Heat 5, G. R. Maryon, 5, 12½ secs., Heat 6, J. E. Mackie, 11, 12 1-5 secs. Final 1, J. E. Tosh; 2, J. E. Mackie, 3, J. G. Barrett. Ins., 2 yd., 12 secs.

Three Miles Walk Handicap—1, C. R. Redgrave, 620, 2, A. A. Harley, 735, 3, R. F. Elson, 540. Time 21 mins 56 secs.

Two Miles Handicap—1, A. Allum, 40, 2, J. E. Flower, 5, 3, A. J. Flower, 270. Time 10 mins 10 3-5 secs.

BELGRAVE HARRIERS v. METROPOLITAN POLICE.

This fixture was originally intended to take place at Imber Court, but owing to floods and other difficulties the venue was changed to "The Crooked Billet," Walthamstow. Unfortunately there appeared to be a misunderstanding among our men, for only three of our members—T. W. Green, H. J. Fletcher and A. A. Harley—and two supporters turned up. This was most disappointing both to the Police and ourselves, and in order to make a sporting match of it we "borrowed" two of our own members, J. Rathbone and J. C. Bidgood (who had turned up to assist the Police), and three others.

At the end of the first lap Green was leading with Holland. Then came Rathbone, and Bidgood, Harley and Fletcher walked together, filling 8th, 9th and 10th positions. At the end of the second lap Tommy had a five yards lead from Holland, the other positions being unchanged. Bidgood then retired, and the first dozen positions remained the same until the end. Green drew away from Holland over the last lap, beating him by 39 secs.

Throughout the race a gale raged and heavy rain fell. The course, which contained no hills, was reputed to be 7¾ miles long.

After the race our walkers were entertained to a meat tea by the Police, and it is regrettable that there were not more present to accept the hospitality so warmly bestowed.

RESULT

			m	s			m	s.
1	T W Green	B	60	35	10	P-C Morgan	P*	68 51
2	P-C Holland	P	61	14	11	P-C Lovatt	P	69 20
3	J Rathbone	B	63	35	12	P-C Adams	P*	70 20
4	P-C Allenn	P	63	41	13	P-C Bunn	P	— —
5	P-C Toogood	P	63	54	14	P-C Bull	P	— —
6	P-C Clark	P	65	58	15	P-C Fennick	P	73 41
7	P-C Denny	P	66	10	16	P-C Sprunt	P	73 42
8	A A Harley	B	66	47	17	P-C Rayner	P	75 0
9	H J Fletcher	B	67	56	18	P-C Fox	P	75 0

*Members of the M P A A walking for Belgrave

TEAM POSITIONS AND SCORES

M.P.A.A —2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11	35 pts.
Belgrave H—1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 12	43 pts.

WALKING JOTTINGS.

In the Club "Junior" race held over the same course as was used in our "Open 7," Elson, the holder, was seriously challenged by E. Saunders, and only won by the narrow margin of 3 secs. Saunders well deserves any success that comes his way, for he puts in some hard training, and it is he who was chiefly responsible for turning the third man, Paul Khlopin, into the fine walker he is. Although Elson had been troubled with his foot he improved by 22 secs. on his performance in our Open, while Saunders was half a minute better than on that occasion.

Quite a number of our walkers competed in the 3 mile track race on Boxing Day and C. W. Redgrave, who won the previous year's race, was again the winner, but this time in a tight finish with A. A. Harley. Redgrave has improved a lot during the past 12 months and should do better still in a year or two. Harley, too, has not yet shewn us his best, and having the advantage of long legs, should soon overshadow those of us that have but "legendary" records. Another of our young members, R. F. Elson, was third and he will, no doubt equal his brother's performances in the not too distant future. Len Fletcher was, of course, on scratch, but although he put in some fast walking he failed to get into the placings.

T. W. Green, P. Khlopin and G. Tucker were our only representatives at Croydon for the Surrey Walking Club's "Godstone" walk, and Tommy was unfortunate enough to arrive late and so he started 11 mins. 32 secs. after the rest of the field and yet managed to get fifth in the scratch race. His time, 2 hrs. 47 mins. 58 secs. was, of course, taken from the start of the field, but after allowing the 11½ mins. he was found to have covered the distance in 2 hrs. 36 mins. 26 secs., which is 40 secs. better than the record set up by H. L. V. Ross in 1910. Khlopin finished 7th, and Tucker 24th, the team being placed third

When Enfield A.C. beat the Police in a walking match a few weeks back, one of the sporting papers said that this was only the second defeat suffered by the Police in four or five years, the other beating being by the Belgraves two or three years. As a matter of fact, this statement is not correct, we having beaten them in 1927 and 1928 in the only two matches we have had with them previous to this winter. This being so, it was hoped that we would administer still another defeat on December 28th, Unfortunately, as mentioned elsewhere, only a few of our walkers turned up owing to a misunderstanding, and we suffered defeat, although Tommy Green was first home.

It was extremely regrettable that this match, which is one of the most sporting of our fixtures, was so poorly supported, and we must make amends by turning out at full strength for the return match at Wimbledon on February 22nd.

It seems very strange that a club with a large walking section such as we have should have been so sparsely represented in this race and in the "Godstone" If this continues we shall have to look to our laurels.

On Saturday, January 4th, several of our club-mates competed in the London Business Houses walk (7 miles), and Len Fletcher won both the Championship and the sealed handicap. Well walked, Len! E. Saunders was 6th and H. F. King, who won this race in 1927, was 7th. Our other members were J. B. Carne 15th, A. H. Field 18th, and R. E. Wills 31st.

On the same day T. W. Green was making still another course record, this time in a Southern Railway race from Shoreham to Brighton. His time for this $7\frac{1}{4}$ miles was 53 mins. 45 secs., which is more than 2 mins. better than the previous best for the course. Another Belgrave, J. F. King, was 3rd.

Coming events include the Cambridge Harriers Open 7 miles handicap at Eltham on January 18th, a race in which we have always secured a good share of the spoils.

Our Club 10 mile championship is to be held on February 1st with the usual sealed handicap in conjunction, and by then all of our "Juniors" who hope to raise their status on March 1st, should be capable of shaking up most of the seniors. So, we should see a very good race.

SPORTS JOTTINGS

By "Observer."

The serious side of the cross-country season has now commenced and our boys are hard at it every week in preparation for the coming championships.

The South of the Thames race on February 8th is one which

we have high hopes of winning, so repeating our performance of last year. As the winning team is barred each year, to do this is a rare feat.

We have a good team to represent us, the fifth and sixth men being the doubtful places, but as we have several of equal ability, it is hoped that they will try to pull out a bit extra and so bring the team up to winning strength.

Our greatest rivals appear to be Herne Hill Harriers and South London Harriers, so now, boys, don't forget we want to see Belgrave FIRST.

The Southern Counties Championship on February 22nd is to be held at Brighton. This will be rather a stiff course, I should think, but one of which some of our boys have had experience, as the South of the Thames race was held there in 1924.

There are no barring clauses in this race, hence the Club will field their full strength and with our lads fit they should certainly give the other clubs the shock of their lives.

So often in this race, however, have we expected to do well and yet have finished well down the list. Several excuses have been put forward to account for this staleness, which as regards last season was probably correct, lack of training over the distance, which is also partially true of our boys, and so on.

In both the South of the Thames Championship and the Southern Counties Championship, there are trophies awarded to the first club to finish their twelve men

We are holders of the "Sir Jeremiah Colman" Cup given in connection with the former race, and this year we want to make a double of it by securing the "Odling-Smee" Cup awarded for Surrey clubs in the Southern Counties race.

Thus not only are the supposed scoring team interested in these races, but every man of the twelve can do his bit towards helping the Club to gain honours; and we shall not be satisfied until we have gained the blue riband of the cross-country world, namely the National Championship.

It is to be hoped that members of our Field Events Section will soon commence training in earnest.

The coming season is likely to see a great advance in the number of field events provided, and we hope our members will appreciate this and shew a corresponding advance in their performances.

As our readers are doubtless aware, the Club is not holding their Open Track meeting this year, the date being filled by an attractive fixture with the London Athletic Club.

This will be much on the same lines as last season, which included two field events, namely, Javelin and Long Jump.

There will also be Club handicaps, one of which will presumably be for the field event members.

Then, again, it has been mentioned that a Field Event Section of the Southern Amateur Athletic League will probably be formed

and if this matures we shall wish to see our club participating.

In fact, the coming year appears to be the one the field event men have been waiting for and it is hoped that we shall see more numerous entries in connection with the "Harry Wright" Shield Competition.

My next three Club members are :—

J. D. Andrews, a prominent performer for the Club a few seasons back and scored in our winning Surrey County teams. Always ran consistently well over the country and now that he has commenced training again we hope he will find some of his old-time running form, and so show some of our newer members that the "old brigade" are not finished yet. I only hope that Micky Pyer and Harry Bruce will follow Jack's example.

C. W. Redgrave, a very promising young member of our walking section Has a very neat style and should improve with age, being as yet rather on the frail side. Should do well in "Opens" next summer and the Club Handicapper will also have to keep an eye on this young man's performances.

A. J. Flower, an elder brother of "T.J." and "J E" Of much the same build as his brothers, being, in fact, the tallest of the three Is as yet in the Novice stage, but shews promise of developing into a useful track runner Has long stride with rather lumbering gait which he will no doubt improve upon with experience.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

On January 18th we have two fixtures arranged, one being with the Royal Air Force (Kenley). This will take the form of a five miles race between teams of eight men to run, with five to count. If possible our prospective "Senior" team will do duty here, so giving them a useful try-out against the Air Force lads, prominent among whom is Cpl A. P. Whale, the well known Surrey A.C. runner.

The other fixture is a five miles race versus St. George's Services S.C. from their headquarters, "Bishopsford," London Road, Mitcham

It was originally intended that the London Scottish A.C. should also take part, but they have now fixed their own championship for that day.

In the race with St George's an all-to-score rule will operate, so I hope that all members will support this fixture

The 25th sees the second and final Club championship over the country, namely the 10 mile race for the "Macher" Shield (holder, W. S Mitchell). This should be a more level race than was the 7 miles, and although Bert is tipped for the double he will have to stave off many challengers. A sealed handicap will be run in

conjunction with the race and I hope all members will make an effort to turn out and support the last handicap of the season so far as cross-country is concerned. See Social Hon Sec's notes re Social after the run.

On February 1st we have a social run with Croydon H., Mitcham A.C and Epsom H. from the former club's headquarters at Wickham Road, Croydon Their course over Addington and Shirley Hills is a pretty adventurous one. I sincerely hope we don't meet any Alsations, and I recommend members to come along for an enjoyable run. I understand there will be a Social afterwards.

February 8th brings the first of the "Senior" championships, this being the South of the Thames race over a 7 miles course. Venue has not, at the time of writing, been arranged, but Horsham appears likely to stage the event I hope that our loyal supporters will turn up in force, the same as last year, when it was generally agreed that they largely contributed to our team's victory.

I wish to remind members of the fixture arranged for some time in March, in connection with selecting the team for the Brighton Relay.

This will take the form of a 5 miles Scratch Road race, with a Sealed handicap in conjunction. Thus not only are the cracks concerned, but the long mark men are given another opportunity of winning a prize before the season finally ends

All enquiries to F. A. DUFFETT, *Hon Running Sec*,
138 Frant Road, Thornton Heath.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF THE CLUB.

The Extra Dance held at Battersea Town Hall did not prove the success expected This was probably due to the night—Tuesday—which, of course, is a regular training night, and I suppose the very bad weather must also be considered At the same time, it was really disappointing, after the success of our first dance of the season, to think we cannot run a dance, independent of the night, the weather and outside support, successfully. Our membership is well over five hundred; it only needs two hundred to overcome the expense of these dances. I am sure there is no difficulty in obtaining tickets, so I sincerely hope better support will be forthcoming for our next dance. This will be held at Wandsworth Town Hall on Friday, January 31st. Our last Dance at this Hall was a huge success. Apparently, our members are more at home here, for the fact remains that every Dance held here has been successful. I think that the far more

comfortable and pleasant surroundings must account for it, so again I hope the sequence will not be broken.

A few days before our next Dance we hold our last Social of the season, at Wimbledon. This has been brought forward from the original date, February 15th, to January 25th, to enable a few regular lady supporters to come along. Also one has the added attraction of the Club's 10 mile Running Championship being held in the afternoon. Everybody who saw last year's race at this distance will agree that this alone is worth the trip to Wimbledon, and our races already held this season suggest that it will be even more uncertain as to who will eventually take the Shield, and I can assure you that after spending an hour or so on Wimbledon Common one is quite ready for tea. This is laid and served punctually at 5-30 p.m. Later a dance band arrives and quite a good opportunity is provided for anyone to polish up their dancing ability. Nobody is critical, everybody is willing to try a few steps. Dancing is interspersed by vocal efforts from various members, and a really enjoyable evening is spent. So, now, don't forget, you track men; come along and see the fellows who keep the Club's name in print during your close season perform seriously and then, a little later, flippantly.

W. A. RICE, *Social Hon Sec*

THE COMING FIXTURES

RUNNERS.

- Jan. 18—v. R.A.F at Kenley
v St. George's S.S.C. at Bishopsford.
- Jan 25—Club 10 miles Cross-country championship for "Macher" Shield Sealed handicap in conjunction
- Feb 1—Run with Croydon H, Mitcham A C and Epsom H at Croydon
- Feb 8—South of the Thames Championship
- Feb 15—v R A F Kenley at Wimbledon
- Feb 22—Southern Counties Championship at Brighton.

WALKERS

- Feb 1—Club 10 miles Championship for "R Murphy" Shield
- Jan 18—Cambridge H Open Walk
- Feb. 15—Ashcombe A C 10 miles Open Walk
- Feb 22—v M P A A at Wimbledon
- Mer 1—R.W A Junior Championship at Enfield

SOCIAL.

- Jan. 25—Social at Wimbledon.
- Jan 31—Dance at Wandsworth Town Hall.

Have you bought that Club Tie yet? Price 3/- (by post 3/3)
from A. A. HARLEY,
44 Rosebury Road, S W.6.

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LATE NEWS.

Belgrave retained the Surrey cross-country championship rather comfortably at Epsom, finishing four men in the first seven, and the scoring six in eighteen. The final team scores were :—

Belgrave H.	47 pts.
Surrey A C	80 pts.
South London H.	..		117 pts.

In addition, we had the great pleasure of supplying the first man home in H. E. Footer, the first Belgrave man to win this race. Heartiest congratulations ! and may he occupy the same position in other championships to follow

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DON'T FORGET TO SUPPORT THE CLUB DANCE
ON JANUARY 31st AT WANDSWORTH TOWN HALL.

Tickets may be had from—

W. A. RICE,
36 ASCALON STREET, S.W.8

