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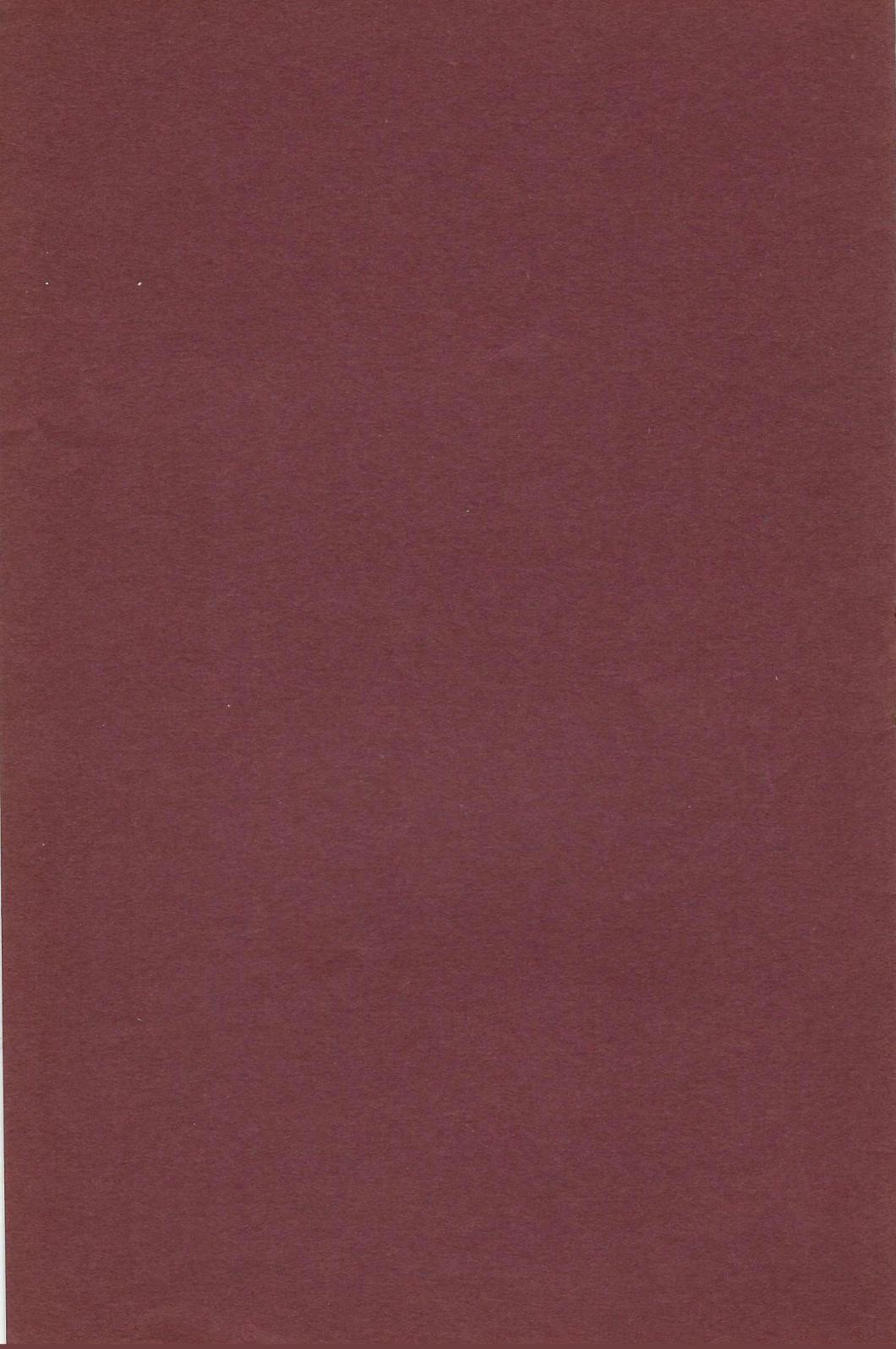
THE  
**BELGRAVIAN**

The  
OFFICIAL GAZETTE  
of the

**BELGRAVE HARRIERS**

JANUARY

Price 4s



THE 1st EDITION  
(1935).

OF

# THE BELGRAVIAN.

JANUARY.

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Published by the Committee of the Belgrave Harriers.

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It is not too late to wish all our readers a Very Happy and Prosperous New Year, and we do so in all sincerity.

For the Club it should bring further successes, and, maybe, 1935 will see the first really definite move towards the acquisition of our own quarters.

The real racing season has just begun with the double victory of our runners in the Surrey and Middlesex County Championships, a repetition of last year's dual win. We should repeat the "Southern" win, and this year have a real tilt at "National" (now known as "English") honours.

As we go to Press comes the news of Penny's fractured foot, but we all hope that he will be in our team for these two big tests. J. Ginty will strengthen the teams, and with every man striving to do a little (or a lot) better than he did last year, we can bring the title South once again. And then we shall think that we have indeed achieved something in 1935.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our very sincere good wishes and congratulations to H. G. Churcher and J. S. Williams upon their recent marriages.

\* \* \* \* \*

It has been found necessary to hold over several matters until our next issue, including the full accounts of the County Cross-country Championships, and the fine performances of our men therein.

\* \* \* \* \*

## SOCIAL FIXTURES.

Feb. 16—Dance. Queensberry Hall.

Mar. 30—Concert. "The Rising Sun."

May 4—Club Dinner. Carr's, Victoria.

Mark your diaries, and write Bill Rice, at 36 Ascalon Street, S.W.8, for tickets, further details, etc.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Hon. Treasurer would be glad to receive any outstanding subscriptions; or to supply vests, ties, badges ,etc., upon request.

## SURREY WANTS BELGRAVE SUPPORT.

By J. C. G. CRUMP.

County Athletics has received a big fillip during the past year, due no doubt to the revival of the Inter-Counties Championships on the track and over the country, and to the inauguration of the Inter-Counties Road-Walking Match. The progress made, too, by the C.A.U. during the past twelve months and the support given to the County Associations by athletic clubs generally, has been very encouraging, and have proved that County Athletics properly organised, and prudently timed, are wanted and appreciated by those who form the representative teams.

The Surrey County A.A. has enjoyed a very successful year although not being the winner of any of the inter-county competitions.

To our cross-country Champions, the Belgrave Harriers, we are glad to record our grateful appreciation of the splendid way in which its athletes and its officials have helped in the past year, and we believe we can expect a continuation of this support during 1935.

By the time these lines appear in print, the cross-country championship will have been held and, although fully aware of the usual fate of prophets, I imagine that the Senior Championship will have remained in your hands. The Road Walk in March will be held from your quarters and over your course, and we hope for more than your usual support from your "heel and toe" men.

The Track Championships have been fixed for June 1st at a venue to be decided later, but which is certain to be sufficiently close to London to ensure, I hope, your usual good support.

So far as Inter-County Athletics are concerned, the Cross-country Championships will be held at Luton on March 30th, and we are depending very largely on your members to represent Surrey, on this occasion. Headed by two of your cricks, both of whom, by the way, deserve our warmest thanks for their efforts on behalf of the county during 1934, at no little inconvenience to themselves, we should taste Victory, despite the strong challenge of Middlesex and Staffordshire.

A number of promising Belgravians will be under our selectors' gaze in the next two months, and county vests should be a common sight at Wimbledon if real efforts are made.

Surrey is a fortunate county in that it possesses two of the strongest cross-country clubs in the country in Belgrave H. and South London H., and certainly two of the strongest walking clubs in Surrey W.C. and the Belgrave Harriers.

This fact should be reflected in the County's performances in each of these Inter-County fixtures, and the amount of support forthcoming from Belgrave is an obvious factor in these matters.

Every encouragement will be given to your younger athletes to win recognition, and I hope it may be my privilege to express congratulations and thanks to your Club in the January of next year.

J. C. G. CRUMP.

(Hon. Secy. Surrey Co. A.A.).

*Tom Cotton shouts*

### "BUILDING FUND NEWS!"

As suggested at our last A.G.M. a "Building Fund Committee" has been appointed and is likely to be an exceedingly busy group. For your information the Committee consists of Messrs. E. Gordon (Chairman), A. W. Penny, T. Scrimshaw, H. Parker, F. H. Elson, C. Poulter and T. Cotton. We have already started work and a number of "Belgrave Building Bricks" have been distributed. If any member desires a brick, any of those mentioned above will be delighted to supply one. Late in March a "Smoking Concert" will be held on a Saturday evening at "The Rising Sun" and the committee will do their best to make the evening a very bright one for all who attend. Details will be issued at a later date.

While our fund is not a failure, it must be said that it is the one project in which Belgrave is not making great headway. Some members do not desire boxes and no doubt have various reasons for not doing so. When the reasons are economic, as often happens in these days of unemployment and depression, we are extremely sympathetic, but it often happens that totally different reasons prompt refusals. Everyone concerned wants better dressing and bathing accommodation but, says A, "by the time it arrives my best running days will be finished"; while B says, "I am only interested in the track events and do not mind much what dressing room is provided for cross-country men." C thinks, "I have already done quite a lot and it's about time some of the other 599 did their bit."

Well, first let me say that the headquarters, as contemplated will be just as big a boon to Belgrave socially, as athletically. When our members are no longer running quite so fast we sincerely trust we shall not lose them, but that they will always find friendly company and enjoyment in the club. This applies to track men also. There are many indoor recreations which help to keep one fit which can come with a club house. To those

who get tired of helping we say we can understand their feelings, but after all that was not the way in which Belgrave grew. True, some who have done little will benefit greatly. We might by this reasoning slacken our efforts because members who join, say, ten years hence, will have amenities we never enjoyed from the beginning of our running days. Let us rather set an example to those not so keen and surely, as the ideal matures, they too will join in the effort and hasten progress. As regards mid-week training, do not be hasty in thinking you will have more expense and travelling. Belgrave is fortunate in having those with them who know all about running, walking, etc., and things connected therewith and who will always see that members are suitably accommodated as far as is humanly possible. One sound common-sense fact is that if in the future we failed to find a dressing room so near at hand, members would pay over and over again in fares the cost of their own headquarters, quite apart from time and inconvenience of travelling.

So make 1935 a record year for the fund and remember, however little you can afford, it helps.

### WITH THE WALKERS.

This issue of our "Gazette" finds us well into the season; but with the most important part still to come.

The Club 10 miles Championship will go a long way towards showing the strength at our disposal, and in a way may be regarded as the start of the "serious" season. The matches and events which have preceded this race may be looked upon as preliminary skirmishes, having a definite value as preparation, but lacking for most that vital interest which intensifies as the championships draw nearer. January, February, March (with the "Junior" and County Championships and Inter-county event), April, May (bringing with it the "Senior" 20 miles Championship) are the months which matter to the true road-walker.

March 2nd (R.W.A. Junior 10 miles Championship) and May 11th (R.W.A. Senior 20 miles Championship) are the really important dates in our calendar, and everything else pales into insignificance with the approach of these eventful Saturdays.

\* \* \* \* \*

The "Junior" will be held from the Dunlop Walking Club's quarters at Fort Dunlop, Birmingham. Our readers will remember that our last visit to this venue, for the Junior of 1933, was a very satisfying one, our team winning with the second lowest score ever recorded.

Can this year's team emulate our men of two years ago? It needs courage to prophecy, but I am full of courage (the festive season is not yet over!), and it is usual to try to peer into the future as December merges into January. Well, then, I pro-

phicy that the "Junior" will be fought out between teams from the following clubs: Surrey W.C., Dunlop W.C. and ourselves. Incidentally, these were the clubs placed first, second and third last year, but the personnel of this year's teams will change. Leicester may come into the picture, and Sheffield can always be relied upon to make a show. \*

Surrey have some very good men eligible. Woodcock, Bell, Christie-Murray, Wildbur and Wells are a few whose names come to mind, and Dunlop over their own course will be all out to win. But in spite of formidable opposition, I say that we *can* win if those upon whom we depend train conscientiously and with the knowledge that whichever way the result goes, it is certain to be very close. Therefore the onus is upon each individual to see that he does not fail his team mates.

Speechley, Charlie Churcher, Storey, Redgrave, Reg Elson, Salter, Jones, Thorn, Dodkin, Brian, Boddington, Heather, Rutland, and all the others who may be called upon all know the value of a careful, studied, steady preparation and we may be sure of a team of determined, fit, walkers to do justice to the Club's record in the race on March 2nd, 1935. \*

Above I refer to the Club's record in this event, and for those who have not seen it in print before, details in post-war years are given below in summarised form:—

First—four times.

Second—twice.

Third—five times.

Fourth—twice.

Unplaced—twice.

We are the only Club to have won this Championship four times, the next best being the three wins of both Surrey Walking Club and Sheffield United H. \*

Many of our "Senior" walkers have been taking things easily, enjoying a well-deserved rest after their strenuous efforts in the R.W.A. 50 kilos. Championship, and London—Brighton team race of a few months back. With the New Year, we shall see them back in harness again, preparing for the 20 miles Championship, which has eluded us in recent years, despite some really fine walking on the part of our men. Bentley, Rickards, Bidgood, Martin, J. F. King, A. H. Field, and probably T. W. Green, together with our other stalwarts, look to May to change our fortunes of the last few championships, and bring the title of National Champions to Belgrave once again. \*

The Championship will be held in the London area, and it has been almost decided that Chingford, North London, shall be

the chosen district. There should be no difficulty in getting a large crowd of supporters to assemble for this race and give our boys the support and assistance which is so much appreciated in a twenty miles race.

\* \* \* \* \*

Our readers will be sorry to learn of the indisposition of Ted Saunders, a Vice-Captain and prominent walker for many years past. All Belgravians will wish him a speedy recovery to normal health, and we all hope to see him fit and well in our company in the near future.

\* \* \* \* \*

And now for some mention of past events. On November 17th the Metropolitan Police team came to Wimbledon and scored a win over us. We had seven men in the first eleven to finish, including the first three, and yet were on the losing side at the finish. We were definitely weak in the middle section of the race and this led to our undoing. A few of our absentees would have made all the difference, but every credit goes to our Police friends for their good numbers and excellent showing. It was pleasing to see several of our newcomers acquitting themselves well. They will not always be in the bottom half of the field.

#### RESULT.

	m.	s.		m.	s.
1. W. A. Treacher ...	57	23	21. E. C. Heather ...	65	0
2. D. E. Brown ...	58	30	25. P. G. Wright ...	65	14
3. C. H. Speechley ...	59	17	26. L. Burns ...	65	45
4. A. Rayner (P) ...	59	41	27. D. Earle ...	65	50
5. A. A. Harley ...	60	0	31. W. R. Adey ...	67	30
9. J. Rutland ...	61	42	32. F. E. Aris ...	69	7
10. C. W. Redgrave ...	62	07	33. F. Seddon ...	69	40
11. W. G. Dodkin ...	62	07	34. D. J. Heath ...	70	24

#### TEAM SCORES.

1. M.P.A.A.—4, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 ... 149 pts.
2. Belgrave H.—1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 11, 21, 25, 26, 27, 31 ... 171 pts

Among our Police members to finish were R. Martin (13th, 62 m. 26 s.), J. Rathbone (17th, 63 m. 14 s.).

\* \* \* \* \*

Much the same story must be told of our return fixture at Imber Court on December 1st. Despite four in the first five, the Police team won by three points, Varsity scoring. Brown, Treacher and Churcher led for three miles, but then had the misfortune to go off the course, which left Harley and Rayner in the lead. Brown and Treacher soon assumed the lead again and finished together.

RESULT.

	m. s.	mi. s.
1. D. E. Brown ... ..	55 02	9. L. J. Wells ... .. 59 35
2. W. A. Treacher ... ..	55 02	22. P. G. Wright... .. 62 05
3. A. Rayner (P)... ..	55 22	23. D. Earle ... .. 62 05
4. C. E. Churcher... ..	56 20	25. J. R. Armstrong ... .. 65 35
5. A. A. Harley ... ..	56 36	28. D. R. Adey ... .. 67 12

TEAM SCORES.

Belgrave H.—1, 2, 5, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18	... ..	87 pts.
M.P.A.A.—3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	... ..	84 pts.

Our Police members scored as follows : R. Martin (10th, 59 m. 50 s.), J. Rathbone (11th, 59m. 55 s.), G. Boddington (14th, 60 m. 20 s.); D. Willis (29th, 67 m. 59 s.).

\* \* \* \* \*

Our match versus Surrey Walking Club over their West Wickham and back course on December 8th, provided the "Swastika" bearers with yet another victory to add to their long string of wins in this annual event. It was emphatic enough, too, and our only consolation was to see Don Brown in good fettle once again, and showing excellent form though playing "second fiddle" to Hake, who created a new record for the course in 1 hour 17 mins. 17 secs.

Our men finished as follows : 2, D. E. Brown ( 1h. 18in. 50s.), 9, C. E. Churcher (1h. 24m. 48s.), 3, A. A. Harley (1h. 25m. 10s.), 20, R. F. Elson (1h. 29m. 55s.), 21, W. G. Dodkin (1h. 29m. 55s.), 23 G. Boddington (1h. 30m. 11s.), 24 A. O. Tookey (1h. 32m. 27s.), 30 L. Burns (1h. 35m. 25s.), 32 L. Jones (1h. 40m. 27s.).

Final points, scored on the 'Varsity system, were: Surrey W.C. 44 pts., Belgrave H. 92 pts.

\* \* \* \* \*

Turning to the future again—in addition to the Championships to which reference is made above, we have the following dates to bear in mind.

Feb. 2—London Transport 7 Miles Open Walk at Bellingham.

Feb. 16—Ashcombe A.C. 10 Miles Open Walk in Richmond Park from East Sheen.

Mar. 2—JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP, BIRMINGHAM.

Mar. 16—County Championships (10 Miles) Surrey Championship at Wimbledon.

Middlesex Championship at Southall.

\* \* \* \* \*

Entries for the London Transport Races at Bellingham, when we shall be defending the "Berman Cup," should be in my hands immediately. We shall make a determined effort to hold on to the above-mentioned trophy which is to be awarded to the first team in the scratch race.

The "Ashcombe" event, held over some of the roads which come in our Richmond Park training course, is a valuable race for the "Juniors" coming, as it does, a fortnight before the big test. Everyone of our Juniors should enter this race and regard it as his final "try-out"—and then resolve to be two or three minutes faster a fortnight later!

All entries and enquiries to

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

## OUR OPEN WALK.

Our Fifteenth Annual promotion took place on November 24th from our quarters at Wimbledon, and once again walkers generally showed their appreciation of the Club, and the popularity of its Open event. 189 entries were received, comprising 24 teams and some 15 individuals. The Surrey W.C. came along with their usual three teams; Enfield A.C., Highgate H., London Vidarians W.C., Polytechnic H., were each represented by two teams. Single team entries were received from Ashcombe A.C., Cambridge H., Essex Beagles, London Transport (T.C.) S. and A.A., Metropolitan W.C., Southgate and Wood Green A.A., Surrey A.C., Valentine's S.C. and Woodford Green A.C., and we entered four teams.

Twenty-seven of our own walkers entered—quite good representation—but several of our men who have given such excellent service in past races were still resting; and circumstances precluded the entry of several others who have added lustre to our teams in the past, and will do so again in the future in all probability.

Among those we missed were Tommy Green, Len Fletcher, J. F. King, F. Rickards, F. E. Bentley, J. C. Bidgood, R. Martin, H. F. King, A. H. Field, E. Saunders, J. E. Field, F. H. Elson; and in addition, some of the slower men—Jarvis, Snell, Willis, Seddon, Armstrong, and others.

One hundred and sixty-three competitors actually started to the signal of our President over our usual seven miles course, and from the start Johnson (Enfield), Cooper (Woodford Green), Redman (Metropolitan), Plumb (Enfield), Stone (Polytechnic) and Treacher, of ours, were prominent.

Plumb and Stone suffered disqualification early on, and Johnson soon showed his superiority over the other competitors by opening up a big gap. Meanwhile, the Surrey W.C. walkers came steadily through the field and, packing splendidly, gained scratch team honours from Enfield A.C. and ourselves.

The individual handicap went to one of our very promising young walkers, J. E. Rutland, who had an allowance of 8 mins. 30 secs. Rutland, when only 15, won our Novice Track Walk, and now, while still a month or two short of seventeen, showed

excellent form to finish 23rd in 60 min. 27 seconds, and annex first prize. His future will be watched with great interest, and given an easy year or so, we should number another first-class walker in our ranks capable of bringing the highest honours to the Club. Second in the handicap was an individual entrant, A. Leveridge (Suffolk R.W.A.), 4 min. 40 sec., with an Ashcombe friend, J. Banfield (9 min.) third.

Our Surrey W.C. friends provided the winning handicap team, with our "B" team taking the second set of awards, and the Metropolitan third prizes.

Of our men, Treacher showed excellent form in winning the prize for the first Belgrave Harrier not gaining any other award. His fourth place, walking as an individual, was very creditable, and showed that Bill will be of great value to us when qualified in the New Year. Our Captain, Don Brown, had an unfortunate day and retired at the half-distance. Speechley again showed that he is faster than ever, and Charlie Churcher and Redgrave also distinguished themselves. In fact, the performances of the three last-named, all "Juniors," were very encouraging, as were those of Rutland, already mentioned, and Storey. Elson and Boddington still have something in hand, and our younger brigade had valuable experience which should be of great help to them in the future.

We cannot conclude without expressing our gratitude to all who contributed to the success of the event, both competitors and officials. Particularly do we wish to thank the latter gentlemen for their valuable assistance, without which we should be unable to carry on.

#### RESULT.

Pos.		Actual Time	Allee.	H'cap Time
1.	J. F. Johnson (Enfield A.C.) ...	54 49 ...	0 10 ...	54 39
2.	A. A. Cooper (Wdtd. Gn. A.C.) ...	55 9 ...	Scr. ...	55 9
3.	F. J. Redman (Met. W.C.) ...	55 53 ...	0 30 ...	55 23
4.	W. A. Treacher (Belgrave H.) ...	56 18 ...	2 30 ...	53 48
11.	C. H. Speechley (A) ...	57 46 ...	3 40 ...	54 6
16.	C. E. Churcher (A) ...	58 52 ...	4 0 ...	54 42
17.	C. W. Redgrave (A) ...	59 11 ...	3 0 ...	56 11
21.	A. A. Harley (A) ...	59 50 ...	3 50 ...	56 0
23.	J. E. Rutland (B) ...	60 27 ...	8 30 ...	51 57
24.	L. Storey (B) ...	60 29 ...	4 50 ...	55 47
57.	G. H. Boddington (B) ...	62 58 ...	9 0 ...	52 58
59.	R. F. Elson (A) ...	63 5 ...	3 30 ...	59 35
70.	J. Rathbone (B) ...	64 10 ...	7 20 ...	56 50
97.	D. F. Asher (B) ...	66 8 ...	7 50 ...	58 50
111.	W. R. Adey (D) ...	67 42 ...	7 10 ...	60 32
112.	D. R. Earle (D) ...	67 51 ...	7 0 ...	60 51
126.	D. J. Heath (D) ...	70 11 ...	8 10 ...	62 1
127.	F. W. Chandler (D) ...	70 13 ...	9 0 ...	61 13
132.	P. Wright (C) ...	70 50 ...	7 10 ...	63 40

163 started, 139 finished.

SCRATCH TEAM RACE.

1. Surrey W.C.—4, 5, 6, 8, ... .. 23 pts.
2. Enfield A.C.—1, 7, 11, 15 ... .. 34 pts.
3. Belgrave H.—9, 13, 14, 18 ... .. 54 pts.

HANDICAP TEAM RACE.

1. Surrey W. C. (Astill, Burt, Murray, Woodcock) ... 217m. 19s.
2. Belgrave H. (B) (Boddington, Rutland, Storey, Rathbone) 218m. 24s.
3. Metropolitan W.C. (Callow, Redman, Watts, Underwood) 220m. 42s.

INDIVIDUAL HANDICAP WINNER.

J. E. Rutland (Belgrave H.).

HIGHGATE H. 7 MILES OPEN WALK.

RESULT.

Posn.		Actual Time	Alloc.	H'cap Time
1.	J. F. Johnson (Enfield A.C.) ...	53 29	...	53 29
2.	F. J. Redman (Met. W.C.) ...	53 52	0 30	53 23
3.	A. W. Hurst (Camb. H.) ...	54 8	0 20	53 48
12.	C. H. Speechley ...	56 46	3 40	53 6
16.	C. E. Churcher ...	57 14	4 0	53 14
24.	A. A. Harley ...	58 40	3 30	55 10
82.	G. H. Boddington ...	62 46	8 30	54 16
86.	J. G. Coleman ...	62 58	5 20	57 38
99.	F. Jarvis ...	64 16	9 0	55 16

HANDICAP TEAM RESULT.

	m. s.		m. s.
1. Polytechnic H. ...	209 29	3. Enfield A.C. ...	211 50
2. Metropolitan W.C. ...	210 49	7. Belgrave H. ...	214 42

ENFIELD A.C. OPEN 7 MILES WALK.

RESULT.

Posn.		Actual Time	Alloc.	H'cap Time
1.	J. F. Johnson (Enfield A.C.) ...	52 45	0 10	52 35
7.	W. A. Treacher ...	54 55	2 30	52 25
13.	C. H. Speechley ...	56 40	3 40	53 0
25.	D. E. Brown ...	57 46	2 40	55 6
28.	C. E. Churcher ...	58 4	4 0	54 4
30.	C. W. Redgrave ...	58 5	3 0	55 5
33.	R. F. Elson ...	58 44	3 30	55 4
36.	A. A. Harley ...	59 1	3 50	55 11
62.	G. H. Boddington ...	60 52	9 0	51 52
93.	D. F. Asher ...	63 40	7 20	56 20

134 finished.

HANDICAP TEAM RESULT.

	m. s.		m. s.
1. Leicester W.C. ...	206 18	3. Enfield A.C. ...	208 25
2. Highgate H. ...	207 36	8. Belgrave H. ...	214 1

THE "HORWOOD CUP" RACE.

This annual Club race, open only to those walkers possessing the "Junior" qualification as laid down in R.W.A. Rules, was contested on December 15th. Charlie Speechley, the holder, was favourite, and went to the front from the start, closely followed

by Charlie Churcher. It seemed, at the half-distance, that we were to be robbed of the close race which had been promised between these twain, for Speechley had opened up what appeared to be a winning gap and seemed comfortable in his walking. But Churcher had other views and towards the finish came along at a tremendous rate, and all but snatched a dramatic win in the last few yards. The holder managed to prevail, however, and both can take credit in having accomplished extremely fine times over an admittedly difficult course.

Len Storey had been in third position practically throughout the race, and he, too, can take pride in his time. If he shows the same ability and determination that featured his racing on this day, in the "Junior" Championship, we shall have another first-rate man in our team.

Of the others, Reg Elson, E. Heather and Leo Jones were clearly below form, but have plenty of time to find it before the first Saturday in March. Wright, Earle, Burns and the others in their first year will find that each race brings its modicum of experience, and next year will find them battling with the more experienced.

Percy Wright (who threatens to become one of the Club "characters" unless we apply a purgative in the near future), showed some much-improved walking and was a well-deserved winner of the handicap. It was pleasing to see Wright record his first success, particularly as he has proved such a good Clubman, and hard worker for the Club on Brighton Walks, and in the matter of the Building Fund.

Len Storey took second prize, with Charlie Churcher third, making the most of a thirty-seconds allowance.

We were glad to have the donor of the Cup, Mr. Oscar Horwood, present as a Judge and to award the prizes. Business has taken up much of Oscar's time lately, but we hope he will soon find it possible to become a "regular" once again, as befits one who has done so much for the Club, particularly in the days when athletes, finance and officials were much more scarce than they are to-day.

Pos.	Name	Act. Time	Start	H'cap Time	Pos. in H'cap
1.	C. H. Speechley	57 40	...	57 40	4
2.	C. E. Churcher	57 43	0 30	57 13	3
3.	L. Storey	59 25	2 30	56 55	2
4.	R. F. Elson	61 37	2 30	59 7	8
5.	P. G. Wright	63 42	8 0	55 42	1
6.	L. Burns	64 29	6 20	58 9	5
7.	L. Jones	65 55	3 30	62 25	9
8.	D. A. Earle	66 40	8 15	58 25	6
9.	W. R. Adey	67 10	8 30	58 40	7
10.	E. C. Heather	68 50	5 0	63 50	11
11.	L. Seddon	72 00	8 35	63 35	10

F. E. Aris also started.

## BOXING DAY.

Our traditional Holiday meeting enjoyed fine weather, and a good crowd of Clubmen and their friends came along, if not to compete, then to gain appetites for the Seasonal feasting.

The Sprint entry was very disappointing, and makes one wonder whether it is wanted or not. Teddy Johns, a half-miler turned sprinter, was successful with 12 yards allowance, and shows promise of becoming a useful performer at the shorter distances.

The Walk gave us an opportunity of seeing Brown at his best, and it was a very fine effort which gained second place for him. Victory went to "Doug" Earle, one of our recent newcomers, and he should repeat this success many times in future races despite shortening marks.

The 2 Mile always makes us expect brilliant running and racing, and this year's race fulfilled all our expectations. Arthur Penny showed his best form to win from the scratch mark once again, and Carter and Shaw also displayed excellent running to fill the minor positions.

There were the usual repentant few retiring with thoughts of the preceding day very much with them—but it was always thus!

### RESULT.

**120 Yards.**—1st, E. J. Johns (12); 2nd, A. M. Dyke (6); 3rd, F. Simmons (10).

**2 Miles Run.**—1st, A. W. Penny (Scr.); 2nd, C. T. Carter (55); 3rd, A. R. Shaw (100). Time 9 min. 38 2/5 sec.

**3 Miles Walk.**—1st, D. A. Earle (7.35); 2nd, D. E. Brown (Scr.); 3rd, R. F. Elson (360). Time 22min. 34 4-5 sec.

*An unsigned contribution descriptive of our clash with Thames Valley Harriers and Ashcombe A.C. from the quarters of the last-named club on October 27th.*

For our oldest inter-club fixture, 26 of our members visited Sheen and with 25 T.V.H. men and 12 Ashcombe runners, comprised the field. In view of the home club's numbers, it was decided to score ten aside, and the race resulted in the easiest of victories for us. In fact, we had the first ten home, but as Bert Cook is only a second-claim member, he was eliminated from the scoring, and we had our 10 in 12.

At the beginning of the race the T.V.H. runners were noticeably prominent—in fact, they held the first dozen places at the end of half-a-mile, but then Harry Shields and Bill Rice decided to move up; Harry led for a while, when Syd Ring ran away cleverly and ultimately finished very fresh 50 yards ahead of Shields, with Tom Carter a similar distance behind. It was very pleasing to have 15 men in 19 places and within two minutes of the winner.

Our International trio went out with the object of coaching

our "South of the Thames" Juniors, and that they did their self-imposed task well is shown by the fact that three of them finished 1st, 7th and 10th. Dan Patience had the misfortune to go off the course about half-a-mile from home, otherwise he would have finished much nearer the winner.

Full result and times are appended.

RESULT.

	m.	s.		m.	s.
1 S. T. Ring.....B.H.	35	8	14 A. L. Phipps ...T.V.H.	36	55
2 H. W. Shields ...B.H.	35	19	15 C. H. E. Penny...B.H.	36	37
3 C. T. Carter.....B.H.	35	36	16 A. W. Penny.....B.H.	36	43
4 H. S. H. Cook.....B.H.	35	43	17 D. Martin .....B.H.	36	45
5 W. A. Rice.....B.H.	35	45	18 H. E. Footer.....B.H.	36	46
6 F. A. Walker.....B.H.	35	46	19 R. Patience.....B.H.	37	24
7 H. J. Fletcher....B.H.	35	46	21 W. G. Webb .....B.H.	37	45
8 D. Patience .....B.H.	35	55	22 F. R. Webb.....B.H.	37	45
9 A. Allum.....B.H.	35	57	23 A. S. Lindsay.....B.H.	37	50
10 E. G. Saunders...B.H.	35	57	35 R. G. Michael.....B.H.	39	28
11 E. Carnegie.....T.V.H.	36	9	37 K. N. Wood .....B.H.	39	32
12 J. E. Flower.....B.H.	36	26	40 G. S. Doubleday..B.H.	40	4
13 A. Cripps .....T.V.H.	36	28	50 A. A. Bird .....B.H.	42	36
14 S. Shirley .....Ash.	36	33	54 G. Still .....B.H.	43	24

TEAM SCORES.

Belgrave H. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11) ... ..	56 pts.
Thames Valley H. (10, 12, 14, 20, 24, 25, 26, 28, 31, 33)...	223 pts.
Ashcombe A.C. (13, 27, 29, 30, 32, 39, 42, 44, 46, 47) ...	349 pts.

*Harry Parker and Frank Webb ("Super Snake") combine to write of*

## THE SOUTH OF THE THAMES JUNIOR CROSS-COUNTRY RACE.

This year's race was held from Henleys' Sports Ground, Gravesend, on Saturday, November 10th. What a day!

We, who were deeply ensconced in the motor coach the Club had provided, congratulated ourselves as we ploughed along blindly through the torrential rain and hoped that it would give over before the race. In this we were very fortunate, as it stopped with our arrival.

Our driver had quite an experience in finding the venue, as the locals seemed only to have a vague idea as to its location—and after an appeal to "Slow-motion" in yellow oilskins, and a further appeal to the fair sex, we found we were off the road but in lovely country. Tom Eaton took such a fancy to our surroundings that he alighted to get a "close-up" and got left. His cross-country experience, however, did not fail him, for he went "as the crow flies," and on our arrival we found him awaiting us.

The supporters had nothing to complain about as regards seeing the race, as the course chosen formed a natural amphitheatre and

the race could be seen throughout without leaving the starting place.

Our team was not, perhaps, quite at full strength, but was very serviceable, and we had great hopes of finding the individual winner in our ranks.

The five mile course of two laps was laid diagonally across a field into a valley, rising to the brow of a hill, which was followed for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles, then a left turn across ploughed fields into the valley again. Then up a field-path to the starting field, and the second lap, which was a trifle more extended. The course was one which "old-timers" call a good sporting one, but was perhaps too heavy for Juniors.

A good start was made, and when the runners appeared on the hill brow, already well strung out, it could be seen that Syd. Ring was laying on the shoulder of the leader, well away from the rest, and running strongly. Comig back to the starting field after a gruelling climb up the field-path, Waldock (Mitcham) was just leading Ring, with Constable (Croydon) third, and the ultimate winner 5th.

At this point it appeared that our old friends, Mitcham, had the race well in hand, their colours being well in evidence supporting their leader.

Towards the closing stages Syd Ring found the heavy going too much and lost ground to finish 5th, thirty seconds behind the winner. Special mention must be made of Chantler and Martin, both having run splendidly over the last lap to finish 12th and 13th. Actually Martin pulled up from 34th position at half-way!

And so we finished four in fifteen places, and Mitcham four in sixteen. Final scores were Mitcham A.C., 40 points; Belgrave, 45 points.

Heartiest congratulations to Mitcham! Of our other members, we can only say that they ran remarkably well under such trying conditions, many taking part in their first big race. With a little more experience they will be finishing much higher up the field.

RESULT.

		m. s.				m. s.	
1	D. B. Pell .....H.H.H.	28	2	51	A. Patience.....B. "A"	30	33
5	S. T. Ring .....B. "A"	28	32	53	E. Pointer .....B. "A"	30	40
12	G. R. Chantler..B. "A"	29	20	90	C. E. Jones.....B. "A"	31	38
13	E. G. Saunders.B. "A"	29	21	95	R. G. Michael...B. "B"	31	47
15	D. Martin .....B. "A"	29	40	106	F. G. White.....B. "B"	32	3
42	H. J. Fletcher B. "A"	30	33	122	G. S. Doubleday B. "B"	32	35
49	G. M. Murray...B. "B"	30	35				

TEAM SCORES.

1	Mitcham A.C. (3, 10, 11, 16)	...	...	...	...	40	pts.
2	Belgrave "A" (5, 12, 13, 15)	...	...	...	...	45	pts.
3	Reading A.C. (2, 18, 26, 27)	...	...	...	...	73	pts.

While Capt. Footer took charge of our "Junior" teams at Gravesend, Vice-Captain Arthur Penny led his men to Motspur Park for our first fixture v. Tyrian Club. Here follow his comments:—

About twenty of the "cream of the Club" were entertained by the Tyrian Club at Motspur Park on November 10th. It was an awful day and we are all grateful to Mr. Gordon, Reg. Freestone and last, but not least, Capt. Ellison, for officiating at the race.

Due, no doubt, to the fact that our opponents were weakened by the Inter-University fixture at Birmingham, we gained an easy victory. Without disrespect to our rivals, our boys enjoyed a rather hard training run, and came back smothered with mud, but none the less pleased with themselves.

We were the guests of the Tyrian Club at tea afterwards, and two of our members showed that rain and mud do not affect their appetites, judging by the amount of cake consumed!

#### RESULT.

	m.	s.		m.	s.
1 A. Allum .....B.	34	40	10 — Stevenson .....T.	35	59
C. T. Carter .....B.	34	40	11 — Pererira ..... T.	37	46
F. A. Walker.....B.	34	40	12 — Phipps-Jones.....T.	37	46
4 J. E. Flower.....B.	34	56	13 — A. Smith .....B.	37	54
5 W. A. Rice.....B.	35	3	14 — Fared .....T.	37	55
6 A. W. Godfrey.....T.	35	14	15 — Wilby .....T.	38	7
7 W. W. S. Mitchell...B.	35	24	16 — Cunningham .....T.	38	35
8 — Watson.....T.	35	32	17 A. Beavan .....B.	38	46
9 C. H. E. Penny.....B.	35	44			

#### TEAM SCORES.

Belgrave H. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7) ... ..	22	pts.
Tyrian Club (6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14) ... ..	61	pts.

Cecil Penny on "Brotherly Love" and, in passing, our match versus 2nd Scots Guards at Wimbledon, on November 17th.

Did I hear remarks such as "A snaky piece of work" emerging from the babel of voices after the match versus our ever-welcome visitors? How brotherly! Now, now, fellows! You must hand it to the veterans this time! To be placed first in a race of any description figuring on our fixture list, is a praiseworthy performance, and I believe I am correct in stating that this was Frank's first win in a cross-country race for the club, so, sarcastic youngsters, hold your peace!

The race itself was not unduly exciting. Several of our visitors were prominent at the start, but principally due to lack of training, they soon fell back and the race resolved itself into a friendly battle between the brothers Patience (who led for a considerable way) and the Webb brothers, with the result as shown.

## RESULT.

	m.	s.		m.	s.
1. W. G. Webb.....B	31	20	16. A. S. Lindsey.....B	32	44
1. F. R. Webb.....B	31	20	17. A. C. Ball.....B	32	44
1. D. Patience.....B	31	20	18. C. E. Jones.....B	32	53
4. F. Patience.....B	31	29	19. C. W. Tame.....B	32	57
5. L/Cpl. Ellis.....G	31	46	21. J. C. Smith.....B	33	20
6. A. Patience.....B	31	59	22. K. N. Wood.....B	33	22
7. L/Sgt. Madden.....G	32	11	23. A. A. Bird.....B	33	47
8. A. F. Mitchell.....B	32	12	25. T. J. Flower.....B	33	58
9. A. Smith.....B	32	13	26. J. E. Tosh.....B	34	4
10. E. Pointer.....B	32	29	32. J. G. Coleman.....B	34	49
11. E. S. Stimpson.....B	32	31	35. A. W. Jannaway...B	35	14
12. Tmr. Hearst.....G	32	32	38. T. F. Morrell.....B	35	51
13. G. M. Murray.....B	32	34	39. L. A. Box.....B	37	30
14. R. G. White.....B	32	36	41. D. R. Smith.....B	37	32
15. G. S. Doubleday...B	32	43			

### TEAM SCORES.

(Varsity Scoring).

Belgrave H.—1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15 ... ..	96 pts.
End Scots Guards—5, 7, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24	204 pts.

*"The onlooker sees most of the game."* Read Jack Flower's account of the match versus Ealing H. and R.A.F. (Uxbridge) and see if you agree.

Once again we had the pleasure of visiting Ealing's course, and amassed a strong team of 25.

The race started steadily (or seemed so to me, but I was only an onlooker!) and four Ealing men led the field through a nice muddy lane, for the country. I was silly enough to follow and managed to become covered in mud, all in order to see who was leading at the half-distance.

As the tail-end passed me, lo and behold! I saw two R.A.F. lads having a nice hike and discussing family histories! Shortly after they had strolled from the field, the leaders came to view, having done about 2½ miles. Allum and Saunders led, with Edwards (Ealing) 20 yards behind, and C. Penny fourth.

When the runners returned to the track for the finish, Carter had joined Allum and Saunders. Then Arthur remembered the hot water and flew down the straight to win from Saunders and Carter! Others followed fast as per result, and it was very pleasing to see men like A. Patience, A. Beavan, Doubleday, A. Smith and Nash, improving each time out, and before long I hope they will be right up with the leaders.

In conclusion, I am on safe ground in saying that our boys thoroughly enjoyed the run, and are looking forward to our next meeting with our hosts—probably on the track next May.

## RESULT.

		m. s.		m. s.	
1.	A. Allum .....	B 30 34	16.	A. Patience .....	B 31 10
2.	E. G. Saunders.....	B 30 36	19.	A. E. Taylor.....	B 31 53
3.	C. T. Carter .....	B 30 37	20.	A. Beavan .....	B 32 0
4.	L. F. Edwards .....	E 30 38	21.	G. S. Doubleday ...	B 32 10
5.	A. W. Penny.....	B 30 39	22.	A. Smith .....	B 32 15
6.	C. H. E. Penny.....	B 30 40	23.	E. Pointer .....	B 32 20
7.	H. E. Footer.....	B 30 41	24.	K. N. Wood.....	B 32 30
8.	C. Box .....	E 30 46	26.	F. Nash .....	B 32 35
9.	R. Ancaume .....	E 30 50	30.	T. J. Flower.....	B 33 10
10.	F. A. Walker.....	B 30 57	32.	A. A. Bird.....	B 33 20
11.	M. E. Thomas.....	E 30 58	33.	F. G. White .....	B 33 20
12.	H. W. Shields .....	B 31 0	34.	R. G. Michael .....	B 33 30
13.	D. Martin .....	B 31 2	38.	A. Hewett .....	B 33 54
14.	F. R. Webb.....	B 31 3	39.	T. F. Morrell .....	B 34 20
15.	A. C. McLean .....	R 31 4			

### TEAM SCORES (12 aside).

Belgrave H.—1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 19	... 108 pts.
Ealing Harriers—4, 8, 9, 11, 17, 18, 27, 28, 36, 37, 41, 43...	279 pts.
R.A.F. Uxbridge—15, 25, 29, 31, 35, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49	462 pts.

*G. R. Chantler writes of*

## BELGRAVE H.

### v. METROPOLITAN POLICE A.A.

On December 1st a team of 24 made the journey to Imber Court, for our match with the M.P.A.C The Police, fielding a team of 22, Varsity scoring with 20 aside was decided on. The field was smartly away and the Claret and Gold were soon in evidence, about a dozen being packed in good team formation at the head of the field by the time the Reservoir was reached.

When the field was sighted, for the turn home, Carter was leading the pack, running comfortably, followed by Ring, Shields, Rice, and J. Flower, with our "South of the Thames" Juniors, Martin, Saunders and Chantler, close on their heels. These positions were held until the finish, Carter crossing the line 20 seconds to the good of Ring. Our team finished 20 men in 26 places—fine packing. Congratulations to J. E. Tosh, who scored for the team on a course which is a stiff trial for a track runner!

## RESULT.

	m.	s.		m.	s.
1. C. T. Carter.....	B	27	35	16. A. S. Lindsey .....	B 29 48
2. S. T. Ring .....	B	27	55	17. W. Styles .....	B 30 7
3. H. W. Shields .....	B	27	58	19. G. S. Doubleday....	B 30 25
4. W. A. Rice .....	B	28	10	20. K. N. Wood.....	B 30 29
5. J. E. Flower.....	B	28	29	21. A. T. A. Jordan ...	B 30 32
6. D. Martin .....	B	28	33	23. A. E. Taylor .....	B 30 52
7. E. G. Saunders.....	B	28	33	25. C. E. Jones.....	B 31 3
8. G. R. Chantler ....	B	28	33	26. J. E. Tosh.....	B 31 5
9. E. J. Hengle.....	P	29	23	32. F. Nash .....	B 31 32.
12. W. W. S. Mitchell	B	29	27	35. F. G. White.....	B 31 45
13. W. G. Webb.....	B	29	27	37. T. J. Flower.....	B 32 11
14. F. R. Webb .....	B	29	27	42. E. G. Holt.....	B 33 10
15. A. F. Mitchell .....	B	29	40		

TEAM RESULT (20 aside). (Varsity Scoring).

Belgrave Harriers .....	257	pts.	Metropolitan Police.....	563	pts.
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*Syd King will tell us the story of*

### THE "BLACKSTAFFE" SHIELD RACE.

A record field of forty faced the starter on 15th December to compete for the honour of holding the "Blackstaffe" Shield and the title of Club 7 Miles Cross-Country Champion for the ensuing year.

Again a match between Belgrave and Cadogan was arranged in conjunction with the Championship, but the interest in this did not appear to be so great as in previous years.

It was the 23rd race for the Shield, but although past descriptions of the race mention dark, dismal weather, I think this year it was darker, more dismal, and certainly wetter than any other within my recollection. Large puddles were everywhere, the ground being waterlogged over large stretches of the course.

Owing to late-comers, and the usual athletic tendency to take a tremendous time in changing, it was a quarter to four before our President gave the word to go and in heavy rain the runners set off on their uncomfortable journey.

By the time they had traversed the first field and were going out on to the Common it was seen that H. S. Cook was making the pace, and he was a few yards ahead with Penny, Allum, Carter and Footer lying next, and a crowd of others close up, while our old veteran, George Still, brought up in the rear.

The few, but enthusiastic, spectators now moved to the end of the first lap and soon in the failing light a few runners could be seen struggling along the course, but after frantic efforts to distinguish Penny, Footer or other of the "cracks" it was discovered that, after all, it was only training pack.

When the competitors did come along, Penny was nearly hundred yards ahead of Ginty and he in turn was about the same distance in front of a hot little trio consisting of Footer, Allum and Carter, followed a little later by Ring and Shields. Then another gap and along came a half-dozen together, amongst whom could be seen Martin, the ultimate winner of the handicap, Jack Flower, and Bill Rice who, incidentally, was running in this race nine years ago.

The running of Ginty was a pleasant surprise to many of us, and enquiries were made as to who he was and where he came from and whether he is eligible to represent us in the forthcoming cross-country championships. Those "in the know" confided to us in a very secretive manner that his previous performances included fourth place in the Army Championship. Whether this is correct or not, his running on this day shows him to be a useful addition to our team.

At this point the proximity of the dressing room, combined with the mud and rain, caused six or seven of the runners to retire, and had it not been for the coaxing of the spectators that number would have been much larger, and who could wonder at it under these conditions?

Over the second lap Ginty dropped away a bit, and Bert Footer passed him on the hill, whilst Carter and Allum both made on him.

By the time the runners arrived at the finish it was so dark that electric torches had to be used for time-keeping, and it was only with difficulty that the competitors' numbers could be distinguished.

Arthur Penny was first past the post, thereby creating a record for this race, inasmuch as he is the first one to win the Backstaffe Shield on three occasions, although several have two wins to their credit.

Thirteen seconds later Bert Footer appeared out of the darkness, to fill second place for the fourth time, the last occasion being in 1927. In 1929 he was the winner and in 1923 he was third, but I think he must have been too small to run prior to that, for I have seen no record of him appearing until then.

There was a good race for third place, for only four seconds separated the next three, Ginty finishing just in front of Allum and Carter. Half a minute later Harry Shields put in an appearance.

After waiting another forty seconds or so a crowd rushed at us through the darkness, no less than seven runners finishing in 8 seconds—the same little bunch that had been in company at the half-way point led by King, who had dropped back during the last mile or two.

Altogether thirty-three finished and it will no doubt surprise many to see who was last, but I think he must have been whipping in, instead of racing.

In the team race Belgrave beat Cadogan fairly comfortably, whereas last year a bare two points separated them.

D. Martin won the handicap with two minutes less than he had last year when he also took first prize, and Cecil Penny was runner-up only four seconds behind and Ginty, in his first club race, was placed third, so with a medal and a "pot" he certainly had some encouragement.

The Hon. Handicapper put up a good performance also, for a minute covered the first eleven, which we must admit was not too bad. Have a look for yourself:—

#### RESULT.

Pos.	Name	Club	Act. Time	Start	H'cap Time	Pos. in H'cap
1.	A. W. Penny	... B	39 1	Scr.	39 1	11
2.	H. E. Footer	... B	39 14	0 20	38 54	8
3.	J. Ginty	... C	40 10	1 45	38 25	3
4.	A. Allum	... C	40 12	0 40	39 32	13
5.	C. T. Carter	... B	40 14	1 15	38 59	9
6.	H. W. Shields	... C	40 48	2 0	38 48	6
7.	S. T. Ring	... B	41 27	1 30	39 57	18†
8.	A. E. Taylor	... C	41 28	3 0	38 28	4
9.	J. E. Flower	... C	41 28	1 45	39 43	15
10.	W. A. Rice	... B	41 30	2 30	39 0	10
11.	D. Martin	... B	41 31	3 15	38 16	1
12.	F. A. Walker	... B	41 32	2 40	38 52	7
13.	C. H. E. Penny	... B	41 35	3 15	38 20	2
14.	G. R. Chantler	... B	42 20	3 0	39 20	12
15.	A. F. Mitchell	... B	42 32	3 45	38 47	5
16.	E. A. Duffett	... B	43 17	3 15	40 2	20
17.	F. R. Webb	... C	43 17	3 0	40 17	22
18.	H. S. H. Cook	... B	43 36	1 30	42 6	28
19.	W. W. S. Mitchell	... B	43 39	2 45	40 54	23
20.	W. H. Styles	... B	43 39	3 45	40 55	24
21.	A. Patience	... C	43 40	2 45	40 55	24
22.	G. S. Doubleday	... B	44 5	4 30	39 35	14
23.	A. S. Lindsey	... B	44 6	4 0	40 6	21
24.	K. N. Wood	... B	44 30	4 45	39 45	16
25.	W. G. Webb	... B	44 31	3 15	41 16	26
26.	A. Beavan	... B	44 57	5 0	39 57	18†
27.	C. E. Brockwell	... C	45 6	4 0	41 6	25
28.	A. Smith	... C	45 10	3 45	41 25	27
29.	C. W. Tame	... B	45 53	3 45	42 10	29
30.	A. C. Ball	... B	47 55	4 0	43 55	32
31.	F. G. White	... B	47 57	5 45	42 12	30
32.	D. Sargent	... C	49 20	6 0	43 20	31
33.	T. J. Flower	... C	49 45	4 15	45 30	33

#### TEAM SCORES.

(Varsity Scoring)

Belgrave H.—1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13	...	...	...	61 pts.
Cadogan A.C.—3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16	...	...	...	75 pts.

*A dissertation by Joe Flower on*

## THE FIVE MILES JUNIOR CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

Ten of our junior members turned out to compete in the above championship, and for the honour of holding the "Savage" Shield for the next twelve months.

Harry Shields, last year's winner, was no longer eligible, owing to the age limit. However, those who were fortunate enough to witness this event were treated to a tip-top race over a five miles course.

G. R. Chantler, the new champion, had a ding-dong battle all the way with D. Martin, and it was only in the finishing straight that Chantler forced himself to the front and victory. Both these juniors are to be congratulated on the fine fighting spirit they showed, and with average luck should gain many further honours for Belgrave.

Chantler and Martin cut out a fast pace from the start, closely followed by Clements and Stimpson. Just over a mile out Clements had the misfortune to twist his ankle and had to retire. Very unfortunate for him, for we know him to be a real good runner anxious to carry off the Shield.

At the half distance Martin held a slight lead from Chantler, with Stimpson running very strongly about forty yards behind. At the Windmill, about a mile from home, Chantler and Martin were running stride for stride at a very fast pace. With half-a-mile to go Chantler made an effort and started to open up a gap. Martin was not finished with yet, however, and slowly but surely pegged the other man back. On entering the finishing straight these two game lads were level, and only then was Chantler able to force himself to the front to win from a very gallant loser.

Stimpson, who finished third, also ran splendidly. He has nothing like the experience of the other two, but I like his style and determination, and feel confident he will make a good name for himself as a cross-country runner. Jordan, who was fourth, ran a better second half and finished very strongly. K. N. Wood is another who calls for praise, for he was only 75 seconds behind the leader in his first year of racing.

We should like to see larger fields for this event; but meanwhile we can feel very proud of those who treated us to such a

fine race as shown in the result below :—

	m. s.		m. s.
1. G. R. Chantler ... ..	27 35	5. K. N. Wood ... ..	28 50
2. D. Martin ... ..	27 55	6. W. F. Merryman ... ..	31 0
3. E. S. Stimpson ... ..	28 32	7. F. Nash ... ..	31 50
4. A. T. Jordan ... ..	28 36	8. M. J. Davey ... ..	32 50

## FORTHCOMING

### CROSS-COUNTRY FIXTURES.

I believe that this issue will be in your hands on or before January 26th, which is the day fixed for the Club 10 Miles Cross Country Championship for the "Macher" Shield. Arthur Penny is the present holder, but whether he will be fit enough to compete is open to doubt. In his absence Bert Footer should win readily enough, and even if Arthur does run (we all hope he will) there is no doubt that Bert will make him go all the way, and it seems to be a case of any odds, bar two. There is, however, a Sealed Handicap for this race and this is where the rank and file come in. No matter how far back you may finish, when the handicap is worked out you may have the pleasure of finding yourself in front, on handicap. Another reason why all members should do their best to compete is that the subsequent teams for the "South of Thames," "Southern" and "National" are selected on the form displayed in this race. Previous events are, of course, also taken into account, but to be really sure of your place you should make up your mind to be present at Wimbledon on January 26th.

February 2nd. We have a quiet day at Wimbledon and this should give members a chance to have a breather before the big races that are due in week or two's time. Above all, remember to keep behind your pack-leader and also finish with a little bit in reserve. There is plenty of time to go "all out" when the day of the race comes round.

On February 9th the South of Thames 7 Miles Cross Country Championship will be held from the Grandstand, Epsom Downs. This is country which should be familiar to all our lads, and with the team which is qualified to run, we ought to stand a sporting chance of winning. Most of our cracks are barred, under the various barring clauses, also our "Service" members, such as Dan and Ron Patience and our new member, Jim Ginty, but we can still turn out a fair team and if they run to form (unfortunately this seems to be a race where some of our members do not reproduce their best!), as stated above, I think we

should be there at the finish. In any case there is the "Sir Jeremiah Colman" Cup, awarded to the first club who finish their complete team of 12 men, to be considered, and so everybody is given a chance of helping the Club to success. Being near Town, I hope our supporters will come along and give our boys a cheer. Compared with some clubs we are a little backward in this respect, and it is up to the non-active members to do their best to remedy this.

The following Saturday, February 16th, we are again at Epsom Downs, this time for a Social run with our friends, the Herne Hill Harriers. It was thought this would provide a steady foundation for the gruelling test a week hence. All members are invited to come along, for there will be packs to suit all, fast and slow, and it makes a change from our own country at Wimbledon.

FEBRUARY 23rd. THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES 10 MILES C.C. CHAMPIONSHIP AT HASSOCKS (SUSSEX). This can be reached by Southern Railway from either Victoria or London Bridge. I have not yet heard whether a "special" is going down, but from Victoria there is the 1-10 and 1-32, and from London Bridge the 12-30, 1-24 and 1-32. These I give for the benefit of members who are not in touch with our mid-week training quarters, but as soon as I hear something definite I shall post full instructions on the notice board at "The Rising Sun." All team men will, of course, be advised, time and place of meeting, etc., as usual.

As regards Hassocks, I see it is  $43\frac{1}{2}$  miles from London, so it cannot be so very far from Brighton, and those who remember the "Southern" held at the latter place in 1930, the first time the Club was placed in this race, will know what to expect from the surrounding country. Still, we did well at Brighton and with our present team, who are easily over 100 per cent. stronger than in those days, we ought to be able to hold our title of Southern Champions. Funnily enough, a few years back this was a thing to shout about, but nowadays, well! I doubt if some people know who are the holders, which we might put down to Belgrave modesty or the trend of modern conditions. Be that as it may, we are proud of our title and I am sure all our lads will fight to their last ounce to hang on to it. Of our rivals, Surrey A.C. appear the most formidable. True, they were runners-up last year, but on present form their men are running perhaps even better than then, and although some of the smaller clubs are coming along, I think it is a little early to think of them as possible Southern contenders. The Polytechnic Harriers seem

to be improving of late, as regards the country, whereas South London Harriers seem definitely on the down-grade, which is a pity when one considers their past record, but I suppose this comes to all clubs in due course. Wycombe Phoenix are always great triers and can be relied upon to put up a good fight, but I expect they will miss their old stalwart, Sam Ferris, who could always be relied upon in a race of this description.

I hope the above has whetted your appetite and that you will be there on February 23rd, complete with throat lozenges. Instead of going along and booing the "Ref." at Stamford Bridge, come down into the wilds of Sussex and give vent to your feelings by cheering our lads to yet another hard won victory.

And don't forget that the "Senior" race is preceded by the "Junior" (under 21) Championship over 5 miles. We have high hopes of winning this for the first time, possessing, as we do, several very fine young runners. So use your voice to shout for a "Belgrave Double Win."

A fortnight later, March 9th to wit, there comes the most important test of all, the National 10 Miles C.C. Championship. This will be held at Beaconsfield, which was the venue in 1929, and in those days although we started a team, only four men closed in. Their positions were 73, 104, 106 and 178, and this only six years ago, mark you, whereas now we expect our whole team of nine men home before 73. I won't mention names, but even one of our Internationals was one of the above, and I bet he enjoyed his run as did another who finished the course, although nearly last. Such was the spirit then, and in my opinion this has largely contributed to our present-day position. We hear the smaller clubs talk of their days of struggling, but on looking at the above we find it is not so long ago that we are not in the same place. It just shows what can be done, not by huge transfer fees as in 'Soccer, but by developing your present members, not forgetting the all-important Junior, who after all is the Senior of to-morrow. If other clubs have the same club spirit as pervades the Belgrave (perhaps they have) they will soon reap their reward and will rise from a place of minor importance into being one of the most powerful clubs in the country to-day, which is the Belgrave position.

All entries and enquiries to the Gen. Hon. Sec.,

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

## CRAZY CABARET.

The second Social of the season was held on November 3rd, and was well supported by our guests, Croydon H. Epsom H. and Mitcham A.C., supplemented by the ladies who had been running from the Windmill during the afternoon.

No doubt the advertised Crazy Cabaret, produced by Tom Cotton and trained by Miss Jo Parsons, was one of the attractions, and accounted for the really fine crowd which assembled.

The versatile talent among the Bels. is outstanding! Among the performers were several who have delighted us before, including Tom Cotton, Florrie Footer (once again in the rôle of Princess Charming), and our old friends Castor and Oil, who again left us without a leg to stand on.

The curtain rose at 9 p.m. with Miss Gladys Bailey singing "Over My Shoulder," which served to introduce us to "The Seven Belgrave Sisters" (including sylph-like Sidney and Harley, the original Harlequin) in a singing and dancing act which was well received.

Then followed Castor and Oil (alias T. Carter and P. Donnelly, or *vice versa*. Which is vice and vich is versa, I'll leave you to guess). Their act was very moving. Tom, girlishly garbed in a shimmering creation of russet and gold which displayed her form (or that which he used in lieu of) to advantage, and with lovelight in her eyes, although a trifle haughty as becomes such a queenly figure, was soon swept off her feet by the advances of Paddy, all sackcloth and gnashes. Eventually her feminine charm, plus a half-nelson, brought the debonair swain grovelling at her feet, only to be left flat for his pains! Curtain, amidst tremendous applause!

Charlie Boud then gave a number dedicated to Capt. Footer, entitled "Belgravian Bertie," although his costume reminded one of the famous advertisement, "1887—and still going strong." The words, written by C. Williams (father of "J.S."), and Charlie's interpretation, gave great pleasure.

The most spectacular act of the evening—"Love in Bloom"—was then given with the following cast:—

*Belgrave Sisters* ... S. T. Ring, C. H. Penny, F. R. Webb,  
F. A. Walker, T. H. Scrimshaw, A. A. Harley.  
*Singer* ... .. Tom Cotton.

*Castor and Oil* ... Irresponsible Equilibrists.

*Love (in full bloom)* ... H. E. Footer.

The ballet opened with Tom Cotton singing the theme song, "Love in Bloom," in front of a large representation of a flower-tub, while the Belgrave Sisters entered and with incantations to Sol, gracefully gyrated round the flowery bowery. Then with full pomp and glory, entered Castor and Oil with wheelbarrow, the Heralds of Spring. They joined in the now maddened whirl of pink and flounces, to bestow the first dew of spring and natural fertiliser upon the virgin soil. Then to the words, "You planted a seed," the dancers sowed in dumb show, and soon amidst a thick grey mist of morning glory and on the words, "This is the hour of sweet fulfilment," Love in Bloom appeared from the flower pot in the form of Footer in a blonde wig, garlanded with yellow pansies and little else. Around the Hall he scampered, followed by the corps-de-ballet, spraying the audience with sweet scents and Mitcham Lavender. (If I came from Mitcham, I wouldn't boast of it!).

Personally, judging from the sulphurous smell which accompanied the "sweet fulfilment," I should have thought "Little Love" came from the nether regions rather than from Sol!

Then exit, and the company re-appeared a few seconds later for the final item—a tableau. If the desire was for laughter, this item may also be said to have well succeeded. Altogether a most successful show!

Those who participated, and indeed, all of us, would like to express their appreciation of Miss Jo Parsons' invaluable assistance in rehearsal, and also their gratitude to Miss G. Bailey and Miss L. Smith for their splendid help.

The next Social is on January 26th, and offers of entertainment are invited. Don't keep that talent to yourself! Let the Social Committee hear from you. As a matter of fact, I believe they are arranging for a paper-tearing act by Tommy Scrimshaw, so if you want to avoid that, come forward with *your* suggestions early.

Don't forget,—January 26th.

A.S.L.

## THE GOSSIP COLUMN.

BY ARTHUR PENNY.

—Or it would have been, if I had been able to decipher Arthur's pencilled notes commenting on the last "Queensberry" Dance! Amidst a mass of pencilled matter, one typewritten line stands out in stark simplicity—in mute reproach to the past. It reads, "A.W.P. was in at the finish." Whether the word "all" should be interposed between "was" and "in" I am unable to say, but suggest we should give him the benefit of the doubt on this occasion, and offer our congratulations!

Our amateur columnist's first paragraph seems to contain a libellous comment which might be taken by some to refer to the Hon. Editor. As the writer is not sure of his rights, as an individual, to sue under the Law of Libel in respect of a comment sanctioned by him as Hon. Editor in a journal published by a Committee of which he is a member—breath—no comment must appear which might prove Penny-wise and pound foolish!

A tribute is then paid to the tangoing grace of H.E.F. and F.R.W., and reference made to our contributor's lapsed contract with the House of Guinness. Penitent Penny!

He concludes with a statement that he has heard of beetroots growing in dirt, but never of dirt growing on beetroots, and couples with this the initials H.L.R.

On the face of it this seems ridiculous (the statement, of course!) and if a fellow, for reasons of his own—possibly very good reasons—decides to disguise himself, is it our concern? Or is it? And if not, why?

Arthur adds a personal note giving me permission to delete anything which I consider too personal! I have exercised that permission!

A.A.H.





