



FOUNDED 1887



The 4th Edition

1936.

THE  
**BELGRAVIAN**

The  
OFFICIAL GAZETTE  
of the  
**BELGRAVE HARRIERS**

NOVEMBER, 1936.



THE 4th EDITION  
(1936)  
OF  
**THE BELGRAVIAN.**  
NOVEMBER.

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**FROM OUR PRESIDENT.**

Fellow Members,

1887—1937, the Club Jubilee Year . . . . Strange that in this very year the hopes of some of the old members are at last realised. We are now owners of our Headquarters following the purchase of St. John's Hall, to be known in the future as "Belgrave Hall." Before proceeding further, I thank you all for the honour you have done me by electing me as your President. I hope to justify that honour.

To resume, it is rather amazing that the Club has survived for its 50th anniversary. I am of the opinion that it would possibly have become defunct but for the strenuous efforts of the late Bob Ricketts, who tided the Club through several crises. Frank Thomson, Oscar Horwood & Co., with a little encouragement, will tell you some of the happenings of years ago; and to those who like to delve into the past a photo now hanging in the Hall should prove interesting. My earliest recollections of the Club recall Harry Hare as Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, with Tommy Eaton already installed as Club Masseur. In those days the Walkers were renowned but little of note had been achieved by the Running Section. There were rejoicings when the Team gained a place in the South of Thames Junior Race of 1923, and since that time the runners have gone from success to success. At that time, also, a solitary member, one George Powell, was extolling the virtues of Field Events. Following our recent successes in the Field Events League, he must be feeling very pleased with himself! We now find ourselves in this Jubilee Year renowned in all our activities. Credit is due to no particular person but, in my opinion, this is the result of harmonious working among the whole of the Club personnel.

Some alterations have already been completed at the Hall, which I trust will find favour with everyone. Additional alterations and improvements will no doubt be made from time to time. I am sure we all appreciate the efforts of the various Sub-Committees who have worked so well to raise our financial resources to their present healthy state. May much good come from their efforts. I would conclude with a word or two to those older members whose athletic careers are practically finished. Don't stay away! Your advice to the younger members does much good, and we are always glad of your assistance. Best wishes to you all.

W. L. BAYLISS, *President.*

## THIS AND THAT.

Under this heading in our last issue we expressed our indignation that Bentley had not been invited to accompany the Olympic team to Berlin, and said that it was our intention to take the matter further. This was duly done, and a motion tabled for discussion at the R.W.A. Annual General Meeting.

Considerable discussion ensued, and eventually the motion was lost by 8 votes to 11—but this was regarded as a moral victory by the sponsors, having regard to the conservative element who may always be relied upon to vote as the "Whip" decides, rather than as reason dictates. There is no doubt whatever that there was considerable sympathy for our action, and it is certain that our protest has done much to ensure that future selection will give more general satisfaction, and approximate closer to current form.

\* \* \* \* \*

Many of our members made the journey to Berlin and witnessed the athletic part of the Olympic Games.

In a few lines it is hard to convey the excellence of the arrangements within the Stadium, or the enthusiasm of the hundred thousand spectators each day. Many of us will ever remember the superlative athletic performances, the good humour and impartiality of the crowds, and a fine holiday in Berlin.

We had, of course, a special interest in Jim Ginty's running. Jim just failed to qualify in his heat, but as in the final of the Steeplechase, six men were inside previous Olympic record, we were rather glad that Jim was not there to chase them home!

One last impression—the seeming omnipotence of the negroes in the shorter distance events and some field events, and the amazing skill and potentialities of the Japanese. What does 1940 and 1944 hold?

\* \* \* \* \*

Those who were fortunate enough to be in Berlin, and hundreds who stayed in England, will be interested to hear of the A.A.A. lecture on "The Eleventh Olympiad, Berlin, 1936," by Harold M. Abrahams, to be given on Thursday, December 3rd.

The lecture will be illustrated by films, and takes place by courtesy of the Polytechnic Institute, at the Portland Hall, Little Tichfield Street, Great Portland Street, W.1.

All athletes are invited to attend—the more the merrier—so make a note of the date and come along in time for a 7 p.m. start.

\* \* \* \* \*

Congratulations to E. H. Pack, who is now confirmed as winning an A.A.A. standard medal in the 440 yards Championship in July, and so gained his Club Honours badge.

We do hope that arrangements can be made next year for the announcement of standard winners after each A.A.A. Championship. It seems an absurdity that a competitor cannot be told on the day, but that we have to rely upon the good nature of officials to ascertain these details weeks after the Championships.

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Subscriptions are now due and the Hon. Treasurer would be glad to have your remittance. He also has Club ties, vests and badges for sale and application, with P.O., to him at the address on page 1, will receive a prompt reply.

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At Wimbledon, a newly-decorated cottage, new chairs, our new bath and water-heating arrangements, a new time-piece and the promise of further improvements have brought home to us that our past efforts on behalf of the Building Fund have been well worth while.

These efforts must continue, and we invite those members who have not yet been to Wimbledon and seen the improvements to come along any Saturday.

\* \* \* \* \*

It is regretted that the fine performance of A. L. Fletcher in winning the Surrey County 10 Miles Walk Championship, has been omitted from the list of Notable Performances given in the Club Handbook. We strive to make this list as complete and as accurate as possible, but occasionally the human element fails and a slip creeps in, or an omission is made, as in this instance.

## THE INTER-CLUB RELAYS.

By H. W. SHIELDS.

We have regained the Inter-Club Shield once again and our thanks go to all who helped in this accomplishment.

The third of the series was held at Mitcham on July 29th, and not for the first time, we were handicapped by lack of sprinters. However, by re-arranging the teams, and bringing Albert Bird, Frank Webb and Fred White into the sprint events, with those sprinters who were available, we were able to make a good show.

As usual, we won the 4 x 880 yards relay and Mile team race, but Mitcham A.C. gained one point on us during the evening. We

were not seriously perturbed by this, however, as we had gained a useful lead at the previous meetings.

#### RESULTS.

**4 x 100 Yards.**—(1) Mitcham A.C., (2) Croydon H., (3) Belgrave H., (4) Epsom H.

**4 x 880 Yards.**—(1) Belgrave H., (2) Mitcham A.C., (3) Epsom H., (4) Croydon H.

**4 x 300 Yards.**—(1) Croydon H., (2) Mitcham A.C., (3) Belgrave H., (4) Epsom H.

**Mile Team.**—(1) Belgrave H., (2) Mitcham A.C., (3) Epsom H., (4) Croydon H.

The fourth and last match of the series took place at Epsom on August 26th, and was indeed a day of days, for not only did we regain the Shield, but also had more than enough runners available. Some more of this spirit next Track season, and Belgrave will be as far ahead of the other clubs on the track as we contrive to be on the country.

Our Mile team was a remarkable one, consisting of three Internationals (A. Penny, A. Allum, T. Carter) and an A.A.A. representative (L. Cohen). We won this event, of course, scoring 1, 2, 3, 4. The 4 x 880 yards relay was also won fairly easily, Frank Webb distinguishing himself by running a fine "leg."

These two victories, and a second and third placing in the other two events enabled us to total 53 points over the four contests. Mitcham's total was 50 points, Croydon's 28 points, and Epsom's 25 points.

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**Mile Team.**—(1) Belgrave H., (2) Mitcham A.C., (3) Epsom H.

## FROM OUR TRACK CAPTAIN.

I would like to thank all members who represented the Club in inter-club matches during the past track season. The following members are deserving of a special mention, for without their help and willingness to put Club before self-glorification, we should have had a very moderate season: A. Penny, A. Bird, A. Allum, F. R. Webb, L. G. Bennett, C. T. Carter, L. J. Cohen, R. G. Michael and B. Saunders.

Looking at this list, and remembering the form displayed by these men during the past season, it seems to furnish a complete reply to those who consider an inter-club event as something inferior and not worthy of their trouble.

We have cause to congratulate ourselves upon the Club's showing during the track season. We have regained the "Inter-Club Relay Shield," and are joint-holders with Thames Valley H. of the "Doris" Shield, have acquitted ourselves well in the

S.A.A.L. First Division competition, final details of which appear elsewhere, and have won many open team races.

Now for the future. With Les Bennett as Vice-Captain and an elected member of Committee; and myself, grateful for the confidence you reposed in me at the A.G.M. (confirming the position I took over in such tragic circumstances last season); as your officers for the next season, we ask for your loyal co-operation. We look forward to an even more successful season, and with the assistance of H. M. Quackenbos, as Junior Captain, hope to cater for everyone.

Ideas for next Summer, or indeed any Club phase of activity, are always welcome, and the Committee are always glad to give any such suggestion their earnest consideration. Personally, I shall be only too glad to acknowledge any member's letters, and to see that any matters brought to my notice are debated.

I would remind all members of the subscription club that has been formed to purchase summer track suits. The cost of these will be approximately 15/-, and members interested are asked to get in touch with E. Stimpson, L. G. Bennett, or myself.

Again thanking you for appointing me as Track Captain, and asking for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) HARRY W. SHIELDS.

## SOUTHERN AMATEUR ATHLETIC LEAGUE.

When we last reported our position in this League, with four of the six events held, we led. Our place in the Medley Relay event was fourth, but unfortunately, owing to the fact that no notification of the revised date was received, we were not represented in the re-run 4 x 220 yards relay. This matter was taken up with the Secretary of the League, and eventually, as there appeared to be no suitable date to re-run the race again, and as it would have proved a great hardship to the other competing clubs, we agreed to accept the table as it stood, subject to a note being affixed to this effect.

Accordingly, the final placings are as follows:—

1	Blackheath H. ... ..	30 pts.
2	Polytechnic H. ... ..	26 pts.
3	Belgrave H. ... ..	24 pts.
4	Herne Hill H. ... ..	20 pts.
5	Mitcham A.C. ... ..	15 pts.
6	Highgate H. ... ..	7 pts.

(Belgrave H. did not compete in 4 x 220 yds. event as notification went astray).

Our position, making allowances for our unfortunate absence from the above-mentioned events, must be considered as very creditable.

It is interesting to note that Highgate Harriers will be relegated, and Southgate Harriers take their place. This club should

prove a worthy addition to the First Division, as they scored 32 out of a possible 36 points in the Second Division. It seems that competition will be even more strenuous next year!

## FIELD EVENTS.

We have won the S.A.A.L. Field Events competition for the second year in succession—a performance which no other club has accomplished. In the 23 events in which we competed, we obtained an average of ten out of a highest possible eleven points. We were placed thus: 1st, eleven times; 2nd, five times; 3rd, four times; 4th, twice; and 6th, once.

Our success was due to the fact that we had a team in every event, and that our best men turned out on our behalf every time. To the following men we owe our thanks, and offer our congratulations on their very sound performances: F. Grassau, S. Jones, C. A. Melchior, G. H. Powell, B. Hutchinson, J. Dodd, K. Robertson, T. D. Wiley, F. Pritchard, H. Jones, H. M. Quackenbos, F. Skelley, J. G. Coleman, H. Stannard, E. L. Blyther and W. H. Sutton.

	pts.		pts.
1 Belgrave H. ... ..	229	6 Surrey A.C. ... ..	107½
2 Croydon H. ... ..	196½	7 St. Bride H. ... ..	106
3 Polytechnic H. ... ..	169	8 South London H. ... ..	93½
4 Mitcham A.C. ... ..	165	9 Kensington A.C. ... ..	83
5 St. George's S.S.C. ... ..	129½	10 Blackheath H. ... ..	46

In the various match events of the season we showed our strength in the Discus, Javelin and Shot; and our old weakness in the High and Long Jumps. The new Fields Events Championships were successful, and good entries were received for every event, although holidays prevented many from competing. The most versatile competitor was F. Grassau, who won the Shot and Discus and was third in the High Jump—a fine treble. Melchior won the Javelin and was second in the Discus, and S. Jones took second place in the Shot and third in the Javelin. E. H. Finneron was unable to come up from Guildford, otherwise the Javelin result would have been much closer. It is hoped that these championships have come to stay, and that the measure of support and standard of performance will increase rapidly, and justify to the full the action of the Committee in instituting these championships.

The "Harry Wright" Shield and Club gold medal goes this year to F. Grassau for a Shot Putt performance. Leading positions are as follows:—

1 F. Grassau (Shot, 39ft. 0¾in.) ... ..	90.83%
2 F. Skelley (Long Jump, 20ft. 1in.) ... ..	86.35%
3 S. Jones (Shot, 37ft. 0¾in.) ... ..	86.18%
4 T. D. Wiley (Long Jump, 19ft. 9¼in.) ... ..	85.11%
5 L. Woodman (High Jump, 5ft. 1in.) ... ..	84.61%
6 H. Stannard (Pole Vault, 9ft. 9in.) ... ..	83.83%

At the Annual General Meeting, George Powell was elected Field Events Captain, and E. L. Blyther, Vice-Captain. Bill

Sutton, who has occupied the position of Captain for the past two years, was unable to take office again owing to business pressure. The Club owes a great debt of gratitude to Bill for his pains-taking work during past years, and especially for his efforts in ensuring that we were always fully represented in the S.A.A.L. events.

### AT IMBER COURT IN AUGUST.

On August 22nd we participated in an athletic match with Chelmsford A.C., Metropolitan Police A.C. and Surrey A.C., at Imber Court. The programme contained several relay races and five field events.

Due probably to an important fixture at the White City on the same afternoon, our numbers for the match events were poor. Yeoman service was performed for us in the running events, however, by A. Mewes, E. Simmonds, D. C. Carter, W. Cannon, F. R. Webb, T. H. Scrimshaw, A. Bird, F. A. Walker and C. Penny. Several men were called upon to run twice, and some three times, on our behalf, and we were grateful to them for not sparing themselves. Relay events always make a great call when numbers are limited. As usual, our Field Events men acquitted themselves well, and added to our points. Grassau was responsible for the best Shot Putt of the day, and with Mechior, Sutton and T. C. Jones was also prominent in the other field events. Our hosts were winners of the match, with Surrey A.C. second.

Results did not seem to matter much, however, and the day was rounded off with a swim, tea, and an impromptu cricket match, and dancing—a really pleasant day.

### CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP DAY.

July 25th, 1936.

The Club Championships were held a week earlier this year, owing to parties of club fellows going over to Berlin for the Olympic Games. The entries were much on the same lines as previous years, and I am at a loss to understand why we do not receive better support. A few prominent athletes were absent, but on the whole the championships were very keenly contested.

In the 100 Yds. Boys under 15 race, the holder, S. R. Gardner, easily retained his title, and shows promise of growing into quite a big fellow. So long as he keeps at it, we quite possibly have here a champion of the future. L. V. Barber and S. A. Bailey, who were second, and third, are also two very promising young runners and will in due course add strength to our senior ranks.

Our Hants. County champion, E. Gray, turned out in the 100 Yds. Senior Race, and proved a ready winner, although Les Bennett ran finely to beat F. Stroud, the previous holder, for second place.

In the 880 Yds. a fair field was seen and in rather a slow run race Dick Michael, the holder, came away as they neared home and beat Fred White, with Alby Bird gaining third place. A. E. Lee and Frank Webb gained standard medals for beating 2 mins. 8 secs.

The 2 Miles Walk saw Bill Treacher and Harry Churcher having a battle royal throughout and it was only down the straight that the former just forged to the front, and so won a very fine race. Charlie Churcher finished third, and Percy Wright with A. Readman gained 1st class standard medals, with Alf Harley and Colin Sutton securing 2nd class.

The holder of the 220 Yds. under 18, B. Saunders, was much too fast for his opponents and won in 24 4-5 secs. V. D. Wynyard was second with J. H. Thomas, no relation to the famous "Jimmy," taking third place.

E. Gray accomplished a good double by winning the 220 Yds. Senior race, and here again Les Bennett gave of his best in being runner-up. A. Mewes was third and the holder, F. Stroud, gave up. To use his own words, "he felt definitely off form."

A very poor field turned out for the 440 Yds. and the holder R. G. Michael, won in easy fashion, with A. E. Lee second, and A. A. Bird third. W. J. Ashford was very unlucky to miss his standard medal but should be right to the forefront next season.

Les Cohen copied the example of Pat Parker in the previous year by winning the first club track championship in which he competed. In the Mile he set up a new record time of 4 min. 30 sec. and beat a good-sized field which included most of our best distance men. Pat Parker was second, with A. R. Shaw third, and the following gained standard medals by beating 4 min. 50 sec.: A. W. Penny, F. R. Webb, C. T. Carter, K. N. Wood, D. F. Asher, A. C. Ball.

This year we had an innovation in the shape of five Field Event championships. Entries were not too numerous but we trust that now these events have been established, future years will show an increased interest. In the Shot Putt, F. Grassau won with 37ft. 8½in., with S. Jones 37ft. 0¾in., and Bill Sutton 35ft. 4in. George Powell was beaten in the Javelin Throw, but has for some time been suffering from a strained arm. The winner, C. A. Melchior, threw 156ft. 6in., which was a very good effort. G. H. Powell, with 148ft. 1½in., was second while S. Jones, with 128ft. 10in., gained third place.

F. Grassau completed a double by winning the Discus Throw with 105ft. 5½in. C. A. Melchior (100ft. 1½in.) and Bill Sutton (90ft. 8in.) filled the other places.

Only three turned out for the Long Jump, although in fairness it must be stated that the two jumping events were left to the end of the programme, and by then some of the intending competitors has given up hopes of competing that afternoon. E. Gray added another "first" to his bag, with T. C. Jones runner-up.

The High Jump saw H. M. Quackenbos emerge as the winner, but he, as well as B. Hutchinson and F. Grassau (the other placed men), have done much better jumps than they accomplished here.

So ended yet another Club championship meeting, one which to my mind was very uneventful, the high lights being the 2 Miles Walk and the 1 Mile Run. Whether next year it would be advisable to hold this meeting still earlier in the season, or as in the past sprinkle it with a few handicap races, are debatable points.

## CLUB HANDICAP MEETING.

August 19th, 1936.

Our usual August handicap meeting was held on this Wednesday evening, and once again it was noticed that the entries were not so plentiful as we have seen, in the past.

In the 100 Yds. D. C. F. Carter, off 10 yds., made the most of his start and beat K. J. Crawford, who was on a yard less. M. Holt ( $7\frac{1}{2}$ ) finished third, just beating Alby Bird, who once again qualified for a sprint final.

The 440 Yds. was won by L. W. Herbert on 18 yds., and this runner is likely to make a name for himself as he shows plenty of pluck and power in his running. Frank Webb (24) beat an old rival in Harry Shields (22) for second place.

A good race was seen in the Mile and in the last lap a small knot of three runners moved away, and then ensued a hectic struggle down the finishing straight. A. H. Beaumont (150) proved the winner, with L. Cole (135) narrowly beating Tommy Morrell (160) into third place. It was pleasing to see Beaumont and Morrell securing awards, while Cole, who is a newcomer, ran very well on what was his first track appearance with us.

A. H. East made quite a come-back in the 2 Miles Walk and made good use of his start and score in rather easy fashion. Harry Churcher beat his brother Charlie for second place, but as regards these placings some doubt was expressed as to the number of laps walked, and of course an extra lap would have been all in favour of the back markers.

The Shot Putt was won by E. L. Blyther, who with 14ft. 6in. allowance recorded 38ft. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., while Joe Coleman (9ft. 6in.) was second with 38ft. 6in., and George Fowell (9ft. 0in.) took third position with 38ft. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

## MATCH v. HIGHGATE H. AND SURREY A.C.

On Saturday, September 5th, at Battersea Park, we had as visitors Highgate Harriers and Surrey A.C. These two old rivals came along to provide the opposition to our boys in a series of relay events, although Highgate were not very strongly represented.

The 4 x 110 Yds. proved an easy victory for Surrey, while with a couple of good "legs" by F. E. Jones and Les Bennett, we managed to beat Highgate.

Points were being scored 3, 2, 1 for each event, and in the next race the 4 x 880 yds., we managed to level matters, but only after a series of hair-raising incidents. Alby Bird went first for us and gave us the lead which was greatly increased by L. W. Herbert. Then we found our third man missing, so rushed Tom Scrimshaw from "4" to "3" and he carried on the good work, but still we had no fourth man waiting to take over! Eventually we rushed D. F. Asher on to the track, and he took the last leg for us, greatly, I imagine, to his surprise. He pluckily kept the lead, although the Surrey runner was coming up fast; and with Highgate in the rear, we were now level on points with Surrey A.C.

In the 2 Miles Team Walk only Highgate and ourselves fielded teams, and E. A. Staker, of the former club, proved an easy winner and also led his team to victory.

The Mile Medley Relay saw Alby Bird running the 440 stage for us, but he handed over in the rear, and although our two sprinters, Les Bennett and S. C. Botwright, took us level with Highgate, E. Sears, of Surrey, went off for the 880 yds. "leg" with a good lead. Harry Shields had Stan Tomlin as his opponent, and in a battle of tactics Harry was beaten by his more experienced rival.

We were also beaten in the Mile team race although our team was a make-shift one, and included Tom Carter, who had just previously competed in the Club 3 Miles championship. Harry Shields also turned out in this race, and Alec Ball was our third man. They finished 3, 4, 5; but with Surrey scoring 1, 2, 6, we were beaten in the team race.

The 4 x 220 was another run-away victory for Surrey A.C., but we managed to beat Highgate for second place.

In the 4 x 440 we had to almost scrape a team together and it was mainly due to the very fine sporting spirit shown by those who ran that we gained second place to Surrey. Our team was Hugh Jones, S. C. Botwright (who was attempting his first race at this distance), S. Garland, and L. W. Herbert (who had already competed in two previous half-mile races).

Thus in the running events we were behind Surrey A.C. but we were faring very well in the field events; and with wins in the Shot Putt, Javelin Throw, and Discus we managed to head Surrey on points. The Long Jump was won by Surrey with ourselves second, and when we had totalled the final points it was found we had beaten Surrey A.C. by 1 point. The scores were Belgrave 25, Surrey 24, and Highgate 15.

Our best thanks go to those runners who turned out for us on this occasion, also to those officials who helped, not forgetting Jimmy Gagan, of the Highgate, who proved a most efficient megaphone man.

Also on this programme was our club 3 Miles track championship, and a large field faced the starter. A notable absentee was Pat Parker, who, we are pleased to say, is now domiciled in London.

All the rest of the club cracks were there and we were sure of witnessing a fine race. A small bunch of four runners gradually left the rest of the field, these being Carter, Penny, Cohen and Allum. It soon became a question of who would crack first; and Allum was seen to be slowly falling behind. The other three, however, kept together, all running in splendid fashion. Les Cohen was the next to drop and then with two laps to go Arthur Penny jumped right away from Tom Carter. He maintained his effort over the last lap and finished full of running in 15 mins. 4 2-5 secs. Les Cohen came again, and passed Tom Carter to finish second, although it seemed as if Tom had given up once Penny had shot away in his irresistible fashion. Arthur Allum was fourth and gained 1st class standard, while J. C. Smart ran very well to finish 5th, and secured a 2nd class medal.

Three club handicaps were included in the afternoon's sport and in the 100 Yds. the veterans came into their own by providing the first two in H. E. Jackman (off 17) and W. T. Luther (19). K. J. Crawford (8) was third and shows definite promise of becoming a useful short-distance man.

The 880 Yds. was won in fine style by L. W. Herbert (45), with S. Garland (55) second, and A. H. Beaumont (72) continued his improved form by being third. The time was quite fast for so late in the season; and all these placed men should show us some good performances when next season comes round.

Hugh Jones beat his name-sake T. C. Jones in the Long Jump handicap with 21ft. 5½in. to 21ft. 3½in. D. C. F. Carter was third with 20ft. 9in., and we also saw Alby Bird and Percy Wright trying their luck in the field event section.

# A GRAND DANCE

will be held at the  
QUEENSBERRY HALL,

on

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21st, 1936.

Dancing 7-30 p.m. till 12 midnight.

## THE THREE MILES ROAD RACE.

The annual 3 Miles Road race was run on October 3rd, and fine weather favoured the runners.

George Tyrer was first man away, followed by the other 30 odd runners at intervals of a few seconds, with Arthur Penny as scratch man.

George Tyrer held the lead for some time but had to give way to youth before the end. He was passed by a bunch of runners including Beaumont, Wood, Merryman, Jordan and Bert Mitchell. About 600 yards from the finish Beaumont was leading and over the last stretch he increased his lead by a few yards to beat Jordan (who was making a good effort to catch him) by 2 seconds, followed by Wood a further 2 seconds behind, then Bert Mitchell (running as if he had just started a Marathon). Beaumont did the good time of 15.24 and with an allowance of 2 minutes gave Penny no chance of catching him. Arthur Penny showed that he is now back to his old form by beating his own course record and he will prove a valuable member of our teams this year.

Quite a number of the runners beat 15 minutes for the course and on the showing in this race we should have a successful winter season.

T. C. JONES.

### RESULT.

Pos.	Name	H'cap	Time	Start	Act.
1	A. H. Beaumont ... ..	13	24 ...	2 0 ...	15 24
2	A. T. A. Jordan ... ..	13	26 ...	1 45 ...	15 11
3	K. N. Wood ... ..	13	28 ...	1 30 ...	14 58
4	A. F. Mitchell ... ..	13	32 ...	2 0 ...	15 32
5	G. S. Doubleday ... ..	13	35 ...	2 55 ...	16 30
6	W. F. Merryman ... ..	13	36 ...	2 40 ...	16 16
7	G. W. Youngman ... ..	13	40 ...	3 0 ...	16 40
8	F. G. White ... ..	13	45 ...	2 15 ...	16 0
9	J. C. Edwards ... ..	13	50 ...	1 55 ...	15 45
10	T. F. Morrell ... ..	13	52 ...	2 30 ...	16 22
11	A. E. Taylor ... ..	13	56 ...	1 20 ...	15 16
12	H. W. Shields ... ..	13	59 ...	0 50 ...	14 49
13	W. J. Ashford ... ..	14	0 ...	2 0 ...	16 0
14	L. J. Cohen ... ..	14	0 ...	0 10 ...	14 10
15	A. R. Shaw ... ..	14	0 ...	1 0 ...	15 0
16	L. C. Deadman ... ..	14	5 ...	2 45 ...	16 50

17	G. R. Chantler	...	...	...	14	5	...	1	25	...	15	30
18	A. W. Penny	...	...	...	14	6	...	Scr.	...	...	14	6
19	J. L. Field	...	...	...	14	8	...	2	15	...	16	23
20	F. A. Walker	...	...	...	14	15	...	1	20	...	15	35
21	A. Smith	...	...	...	14	17	...	2	5	...	16	22
22	F. R. Webb	...	...	...	14	22	...	1	25	...	15	47
23	C. H. E. Penny	...	...	...	14	23	...	1	45	...	16	8
24	H. E. Footer	...	...	...	14	32	...	0	35	...	15	7
25	W. E. Lucas	...	...	...	14	35	...	1	30	...	16	5
26	H. S. H. Cook	...	...	...	14	48	...	1	0	...	15	38
27	C. T. Carter	...	...	...	14	48	...	0	5	...	15	53
28	J. E. Flower	...	...	...	14	48	...	1	15	...	16	3
29	J. W. Chamberlain	...	...	...	14	49	...	2	5	...	16	54
30	E. G. Saunders	...	...	...	14	55	...	1	40	...	16	35
31	G. Tyrer	...	...	...	15	9	...	7	30	...	22	39
32	W. G. Webb	...	...	...	15	10	...	1	35	...	16	45
33	A. A. Bird	...	...	...	15	17	...	1	20	...	16	37

## OUR NOVICE RACES.

Novice races over approximately three miles for both runners and walkers were held at Wimbledon on October 10th, and introduced us to some new talent. Most of the participants have become members and we are sure that among these runners and walkers, there are several who will develop into first team men in due course.

### RESULTS.

**Run.**—R. Tobin, 17min. 25sec.; 2, P. H. Bird, 17min. 28sec.; 3, L. Field, 17min. 30sec.

**Walk.**—1, L. J. Coleman, 31min. 28sec.; 2, A. Bellchambers, 31min. 5 sec.; 3, L. Fox, 34min. 0sec.

## AT IMBER COURT.

By GORDON DOUBLEDAY.

Our first Cross-country match was versus the Metropolitan Police and T.V.H. at Imber Court, the course being three laps of the reservoirs—flat grassland, which was, however, without any mud or water—certainly a change from last year. Our team was by no means our strongest, but it was certainly a useful one.

On the first lap, T.V.H. seemed to be packing well in the front, but Les Cohen was setting a fast pace, and the field began to string out. On the second and third laps the runners (now spread out) began to feel the wind in one or two unsheltered places, but it could not be classed as being really troublesome. At any rate, some started in sweaters and discarded them *en route*—an obvious advantage of a three laps course!

Les Cohen held his lead and ran through to finish one second ahead of Bert Footer, and with the rest of our lads packing well; we won scoring 199 to 334, and 596, of T.V.H. and M.P. respectively, 15 a side counting.

RESULT.

		m. s.				m. s.	
1	L. J. Cohen	32	29	19	A. H. Beaumont	34	51
2	H. E. Footer	32	30	24	A. F. Clements	35	12
3	A. Allum	33	5	27	W. E. Lucas	35	25
4	F. R. Walker	33	9	29	E. Saunders	35	25
5	G. F. Morris (T.V.H.)	33	12	30	F. G. White	35	39
7	W. D. Symes (M.P.)	33	30	33	D. W. Martin	36	2
9	A. R. Shaw	33	48	32	W. Merryman	35	59
10	H. W. Shields	33	59	37	G. Youngman	36	28
11	K. N. Woods	34	3	44	N. Dewberry	37	20
12	G. Murdoch	34	10	45	W. Styles	37	36
13	A. T. Jordan	34	12	46	W. Ashford	37	38
17	A. E. Taylor	34	35	47	G. Doubleday	37	47
18	F. R. Webb	34	36				

SCORES (15 a side counting).

1	Belgrave—1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 24, 27, 29	199 pts.
2	Thames Valley H.—5, 6, 8, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 31, 36, 41...	334 pts.
3	Met. Police A.C.—7, 20, 21, 34, 35, 39, 40, 42, 43, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 55	596 pts.

MATCH v. LONDON UNIVERSITY A.C.

On October 24th we had the pleasure of entertaining London University A.C. at Wimbledon. Our rivals fielded eleven men, while we had 28; and it was agreed to score nine aside. The match resulted in a narrow win for our boys, although the Varsity had the first man home in H.B. Young.

RESULT.

1. H. B. Young (L.U.), 28min. 27sec.; 2. K. N. Wood (B.H.), 28min. 35sec.; 3. J. Parker (B.H.), 28min. 37sec.; 4. A. C. Franks (L.U.), 28min. 39sec.; 5. S. J. Everett (L.U.), 28min. 43sec.; 6. A. T. Jordan (B.H.), 28min. 44sec.

Belgrave H., 80pts.

London University, 91 pts.

THE BRIGHTON WALK.

For years past the Brighton Walk has always been an important date in our calendar, and for years our men have entered in good numbers and shown excellent form. In fact, since the re-introduction of the event in post-War years, we can claim to have by far the best record of any club in this race.

This year, however, we most certainly did fall from grace, and for the first time since 1926 we were unplaced in the team event. True it was that several who had intended turning out were prevented from doing so. Bentley, with three toenails missing, was an enforced absentee, as were also Green and Rickards.

In fact, six only of our men entered, and we must look to it that next year's race will find more of our walkers with the inclination to essay the Brighton course. Our record from 1925 onwards in the team event reads: 2nd, unplaced, 1st, 2nd, 1st, 3rd, 3rd, 1st, 1st, 1st, 2nd, and this year, unplaced again. Let's hope that 1937 will find us in the placed list once again!

Of our six walkers, Bill Holman and J. W. Cross, a very promising young man with many years before him to do a first-class performance, retired in the first half of the race. Jack Bidgood led among our walkers until the last few miles, when he experienced a "bad time," and Bob Martin, walking splendidly, became our first man. Martin finished eighth in the race in 8hr. 47min. 12sec., and not only won the "Belgrave Cup"—which goes to the first Belgrave man and is the trophy for the Club Long-distance Walking Championship—but also the prize awarded to the first Services athlete to finish. Bob has been remarkably consistent in his walking. In the last four years his times have been: (1933) 8hr. 47m'n. 19sec.; (1934) 8hr. 48min. 35sec.; (1935) 8hr. 56min. 8sec.; and (1936) 8hr. 47min. 12sec.

Our next to finish was Jack Bidgood, 11th, in 8hr. 53min. 50sec.—a very useful performance.

Harold Whitlock, fresh from his Berlin triumph, had another battle with the record, but on this occasion the conditions were not too favourable from the half-way mark.

Our other two to finish were L. R. Spooner and B. E. Overton, the latter competing in his first race at any distance.

As usual, our men owed much to their cyclist attendants, and we would express the Club's grateful thanks to them for their hard labours. The Club again had a bus on the road, and a very jolly party enjoyed themselves on the way home. The "Brighton" can be a fine sporting event, and a splendid day out. Let's have more competitors and supporters next year!

#### RESULT.

		h.	m.	s.
1	H. H. Whitlock (Met. W.C.) ...	8	1	25
2	T. W. Richardson (Wfd. Grn. A.C.) ...	8	14	3
3	S. F. Abel (Essex B.) ...	8	26	23
8	R. Martin (Bel. H.) ...	8	47	12
11	J. C. Bidgood (Bel. H.) ...	8	53	50
51	L. R. Spooner (Bel. H.) ...	9	46	8
70	B. E. Overton (Bel. H.) ...	11	24	32

#### TEAM PLACINGS.

1	Surrey W.C. ...	29	pts.
2	Essex Beagles ...	53	pts.
3	London Vidarians W.C. ...	61	pts.

## THE FIVE MILES OPENING WALK.

A good field faced the starter for our first road walk of the season, and away went the competitors according to their various handicap allowances, Harry Churcher being on the post of honour.

For the third year in succession he was first to finish, recording very fast time. Harry certainly seems to know how to get fit in the minimum of time, and it may be that this excellent performance of his is the forerunner of similar successes in the open events to come later. Colin Sutton took second place and we look to him to strengthen our "Junior" team this year. Jack

Bidgood showed that walking to Brighton gets one fit, by taking third place; and we were glad to see Cornish, on his first appearance with us, making such a good show.

W. E. Ives and L. J. Coleman both showed that they have only to persevere to improve, and it should not be long before they confound the Hon. Handicapper. Generally, our first race of the season must be said to show every promise of another very good season. One or two familiar faces were missing, but they will be out with us again in the New Year—which being the Club's Jubilee Year, will, we trust, be outstanding for noteworthy performances.

### RESULT.

No	Name	Allee.	H'cap Time	Act. Time
1	H. G. Churcher ... ..	Ser. ...	37 40 ...	37 40
2	C. F. Sutton ' ... ..	3 30 ...	37 51 ...	41 21
3	J. C. Bidgood ... ..	3 15 ...	38 10 ...	41 25
4	E. G. Cornish ... ..	4 45 ...	38 20 ...	43 5
5	W. H. Snell ... ..	4 15 ...	39 30 ...	43 45
6	G. H. Fouldington... ..	4 10 ...	39 35 ...	43 45
7	C. E. Churcher ... ..	0 45 ...	40 0 ...	40 45
8	B. H. Clark ... ..	4 10 ...	40 25 ...	44 35
9	R. F. Elson ... ..	4 15 ...	41 59 ...	46 14
10	A. A. Harley ... ..	3 15 ...	42 2 ...	45 17
11	A. L. Fletcher ... ..	0 10 ...	42 21 ...	42 31
12	L. R. Spooner ... ..	2 30 ...	42 25 ...	44 55
13	F. Jarvis ... ..	4 0 ...	42 35 ...	46 35
14	W. Urry ... ..	3 30 ...	42 50 ...	46 20
15	D. J. Heath ... ..	7 0 ...	42 55 ...	49 55
16	W. G. True ... ..	6 25 ...	43 13 ...	49 38
17	F. W. Chandler ... ..	6 0 ...	43 34 ...	49 34
18	W. E. Ives ... ..	7 0 ...	43 47 ...	50 47
19	J. G. Coleman ... ..	2 10 ...	45 56 ...	48 6
20	L. J. Coleman ... ..	5 30 ...	46 0 ...	51 30

22 started.

### MATCH v. METROPOLITAN POLICE W.C.

On October 17th we visited Imber Court for our first match of the season against our old rivals—so many of whom are to be found in our colours in open competition; and in the Championships. We numbered twelve walkers, the Police fielding about three times our numbers, and it was agreed to score ten aside.

From the start Harry Churcher went into the lead, and but for going off the course towards the end of the race, would have undoubtedly lowered the course record. His was an easy win, and we also supplied the next two home in Charlie Churcher and Len Fletcher. Then came Jack Bidgood, this time in M.P.W.C. colours, having walked one of his fastest races at this distance, followed by other Police colleagues in rapid succession. Their very fine "packing" was our undoing, and victory went to the Police somewhat easily, their tenth man occupying fifteenth position in the race.

It is interesting to note that there were thirteen Police walkers in the first twenty placings—and of these, eight are also Belgrave Harriers! The Police had a handicap in conjunction with this race, and it was won by Frank Jarvis (7.20), with Stan Goold (4.30) second. So Belgrave were well to the fore, even if the Belgrave Harriers did lose a match event!

Glancing at the result, one is glad to see so many Belgrave men—both in the Police ranks and outside—showing up well so early in the season. When these men are joined by others, such as Don Brown, Fred Bentley, Bill Treacher, Len Storey, Jack Rutland, Reg. Elson, Eddie Heather and others, we may be sure our “Junior and “Senior” teams will command respect. It was pleasing to see a new man in E. G. Cornish proving his usefulness, and to note the gradual improvement of W. G. True.

After the walk—tea, a dance and an attempt upon record by Percy Wright, which ended as such attempts usually do! Everyone seemed to have a most enjoyable day; and now we look forward to January 30th, when the Metropolitan Police Walking Club meet us in a 10 Miles walk at Wimbledon, to be held in conjunction with the Club Championship at this distance.

#### RESULT.

		m. s.				m. s.	
1	H. G. Churcher ...	B	53 20	14	P.c. A. Readman	P	59 18
2	C. E. Churcher ...	B	55 16	15	P.c. F. Rickards...	P	59 24
3	A. L. Fletcher ...	B	55 23	16	A. A. Harley ...	B	59 59
4	Insp. J. C. Bidgood	P	55 38	17	P.c. B. Clark ...	P	60 9
5	P.c. Rayner ...	P	55 56	18	P. G. Wright ...	B	60 14
6	P.c. Harris ...	P	56 41	19	P.c. F. Jarvis ...	P	60 20
7	C. H. Speechley ...	B	57 7	20	P.c. G. Boddington	P	60 33
8	P.c. Vanline ...	P	57 59	21	P.c. Mann ...	P	60 44
9	P.c. Sims ...	P	58 8	22	D. A. Earle ...	B	60 45
10	P.c. R. Martin ...	P	58 8	23	E. G. Cornish ...	B	60 47
11	J. G. Coleman ...	B	58 11	24	L. R. Spooner ...	B	60 58
12	P.c. S. Goold ...	P	58 14	25	P.c. Bryant ...	P	61 20
13	P.c. Aylen ...	P	58 55	32	W. G. True ...	B	63 24

(47 finished).

#### RESULT (Varsity scoring).

Belgrave H.—1, 2, 3, 7, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 ...	114 pts.
M.P.W.C.—4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 ...	96 pts.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### Percy Hits Out !

Once again England has supplied the winner of the Olympic Walk, this time H. H. Whitlock (Metropolitan W.C.) leading the field home. For once in a while the newspapers gave a little publicity to our sport, and Whitlock himself received a great ovation on arriving home, as was his due.

With walking upon the “crest of a wave,” now is the time for the sport to be put in order. Clear out those judges who are unqualified to officiate—and there are several! Pompous, self-centred individuals, full of their own importance; only in the

sport to satisfy their vanity. Such a person the athlete has to contend with, after many hard training miles.

*Until judging is done in pairs, as at the Olympic Games, walking will not progress.*

International matches must be arranged. It is the goal of every athlete to represent his country. The Olympic Games is not enough. Once a year a representative match should be arranged with some of the continental countries, who have many good men. The distance most suitable, in my opinion, would be 10 miles, giving the short-distance men a chance to get honours. Expense, we know is a drawback, but if the money cannot or will not be found, race walking is doomed. New blood must be encouraged and the only manner to do this is to offer some incentive. There are too many other competitive interests to allow one to drift along as the walking officials have permitted in the past.

(Signed) PERCY G. WRIGHT.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Dick Michael's Turn !

In the past few years Belgrave have been supreme over the "Country," the London to Brighton Relay Race, and generally speaking all races of three miles and over, but why is it, with a membership of nearly six hundred, we have no even time Sprinters, or Milers producing 4 mins. 20 secs. or better? With six hundred members we must have the material to produce these performances.

In the medley relay in connection with the Southern Amateur League we were beaten by Polytechnic H., Herne Hill H. and Blackheath H. and were again beaten in the Surrey County Medley Relay by Herne Hill H. Why is it we do not win these events?

The days of "Beer and Beef Steak" training, which sufficed a few years ago are not good enough to-day, when to win a race one must nearly produce a new record time. What is needed is the co-ordination of brain and muscle, nursed for three or perhaps four months, with regular training, brought to a peak at a date, or dates desired by the individual, by someone who understands the athlete. But how does the average Belgravian train? He turns up at Battersea Park on odd occasions, and either does nothing, or does too much, doing more harm than good.

It is time we realised, as the clubs previously mentioned have done, that Belgrave employed the services of a competent trainer—a leader in whom members could have confidence. Then, perhaps, we shall have our Even Timers. At least we shall be on equal terms with our rivals.

It not only rests with our Committee, but with every member, to see what can be done, both financially and otherwise, to amend this deficiency.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) R. G. MICHAEL.

### THE HON. EDITOR COMMENTS.

The above letters from two of our most popular members impress by their sincerity, and raise points that could be debated for hours, or, if set upon paper, fill many journals such as this. They are extremely controversial, and we invite other members to contribute their opinions.

The first letter raises the question of Athletic publicity in the Press, judging of walking, and the possibility of International walking matches—three matters worthy of lengthy discussion. In regard to judging in pairs; in effect this is often done, one judge acting in concert with another; but our judges have always reserved the right to act on their own independent judgment and several proposals to make judging in pairs obligatory have failed. However, it may come one day, but short of a mechanical contrivance, or slow-motion films, there is always likely to be variance of opinion about judges and judging. And are two bad judges in agreement better than one good judge acting independently?

The main bar to International walking matches, now that so many Continental athletes have shown they can be both fast and fair, would appear to be financial—and this may well prove to be an insuperable barrier in the absence of "gates" and "guarantees." But I refuse to believe that without this incentive "walking is doomed," to use Percy's melodramatic phrase. After all, things have carried on fairly satisfactorily in past years!

Dick Michael raises a subject that has perplexed generations of athletes. Can a man be trained by someone else with greater success than he can train himself (helped by his club senior members), determined to achieve success? Is the advantage of a trainer psychological only? Does a trainer do anything more than pick out, say, the most promising half-dozen young athletes in a club, blessed with natural ability, and wait for physical maturity to carry them to success? Can a trainer be expected to advise club members, senior and junior, champion and "rabbit," or must the majority of necessity suffer for the minority?

Let us examine the facts that our second correspondent quotes in support of his case. He quotes the S.A.A.L Medley Relay in which Herne Hill Harriers, Polytechnic H. and Blackheath finished ahead of us, but omits to mention that deleting the 4 x 220 yards (in we which were not represented owing to circumstances outside our control) we scored 24 points together with Blackheath H., Polytechnic H. 22 points, and Herne Hill

15 points in the remaining five events. This is surely a fairer test than to pick one isolated event! Herne Hill Harriers' success in the Surrey County Relay event is due to the fact that they have in their ranks two very fine athletes, Pallett and Pell. Omit these two men from an H.H.H. athletic team, and take away our two best men. Who would doubt that our representatives remaining would trounce our H.H.H. rivals? I think Dick Michael has far from proved his case on the facts he cites, but let us leave this and, for the sake of argument, agree that a professional trainer-coach is desirable. Where, then, are we to find such a person, with the necessary qualifications, remembering that the two men whose names come most readily to the mind in this connection are both committed to look after three clubs each already, and could not possibly do justice to other athletes?

Let us admit right away that our track men do not train to the best advantage, and here they could take our cross-country men as an example. The tendency with track men is to turn up at any time between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m., instead of meeting at a definite time and enjoying the benefits of concerted training. Obviously, if a professional coach were appointed, members wishing to take his advice would *have* to meet at a definite time.

Secondly, most athletes do not train sufficiently often, and do too much when they do put in an appearance—which is just what one would expect with the average member living some distance away from the track.

Thirdly, let us admit that we are inclined to disregard the good advice given by senior club members, because (if it can be considered a reason) they are so well known to us. The same words spoken by a stranger, ballyhooed beyond measure, would be regarded as words of wisdom to be carried out to the last letter!

Meanwhile, our Committee do intend to consider the matter of a professional coach from all angles; and if the difficulties outlined above can be overcome, we may be able to make an appointment. At the same time our track men are reminded that there are many senior club members anxious to be of assistance who have been through the mill themselves, and that so much (trainer or not) depends upon the man himself. Does he cooperate with others engaged in similar training to himself? Is he willing to listen intelligently and carry out the advice given on the track, in books, in the lecture hall, and most valuable of all, learn the lessons of experience?

That's enough about Training for the moment. We shall probably return to this subject again, and Mr. Michael's letter may well be the turning point in our history as regards Track running. We should certainly make up our minds that the "Kinnaird" Trophy and the A.A.A. Relay titles shall one day be ours; even as we were determined that the highest awards of the Winter season should be Belgrave's—and, as we all know, have now been well and truly won.

FROM THE SOUTHERN AMATEUR ATHLETIC  
LEAGUE.

I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating your club on winning the Field Events Competition. It was a magnificent effort and your field events members deserve every congratulation in scoring an aggregate of 229 points, to Croydon's 196½, and the Poly's 169.

Best wishes on the Country.

Yours sincerely,  
(Signed) E. H. KLEINSCROTH, *Hon. Sec.*

\* \* \* \* \*

My Dear Old A,

I was really surprised to get your p.c. and welcome invitation to Wimbledon for what you youngsters are pleased to term the "old faces."

Listen! Some of you kids may one day be not too pleased to see some of us old 'uns come along and show you things!

Again, I had a card re Annual General Meeting above the signature of another bright baby, W. L. Bayliss, mentioning that it was proposed to make two old friends of mine Life Members,

What utter rot! Gaudy, old-fashioned, musty and unnecessary ceremony. Of course, they will be Life Members, and it ought to have dawned on your bonehead Committee, that *anno domini*, or the mere lapse of a few years' subscriptions, or turning out for training and races, cannot stop any man, once a "Bel," from being a "Bel" for life.

The only pains we get occur when newspaper reports of the Brighton Walk have no occasion to mention the Club when briefly reporting the race result.

Oh, that I could again have dear Bob Ricketts and Jim Belchamber help me along. My heart is in the game as of old, but old War injuries have stopped everything for the past year or two. Pretty rotten at times.

When Footer is sufficiently advanced to leave the kindergarten, I will start again!

My very best to yourself and the many old friends I still have in Belgrave. Have not enjoyed such companionship anywhere before, or since those days. Tell 'em.

Yours very sincerely,

STAN. A. MANNING.

## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Club A.G.M. took place at "The Rising Sun," on September 29th, and was well attended. The Hon. Secretary's verbal report was well received, and that of the Hon. Treasurer, whose Balance Sheet showed a very satisfactory state of affairs.

Wally Bayliss was unanimously elected President for the Club Jubilee Year, and will also retain office as Hon. Secretary. Other

appointments were on very similar lines to last year, and a glance at the Winter handbook, now in the possession of all members, will give full details.

The Committee's proposal that Life Membership should be conferred upon F. H. Elson and W. G. Webb was agreed to amidst great applause.

Under the heading of "Other Business," several suggestions were made and will be considered by the new Committee. A vote of thanks to the Chair concluded the meeting.

## WITH THE WALKERS.

Another Winter season is on us and our members are up to standard, and performances seem to be on the usual high level. Our teams will lack the services of one or two of our "star" performers prior to Christmas, but in the New Year we should be stronger than ever.

\* \* \* \* \*

This year we hope to enter greater numbers in the Boxing Day Croydon—Godstone and back Walk (18 $\frac{1}{4}$  miles), than we have done in recent years. Particulars will be gladly forwarded to any member upon request.

\* \* \* \* \*

Once again we have a likely lot of "Juniors" and from their numbers it should be possible to find a team capable of winning once again if only they will train steadily and regularly, and not spasmodically.

Names that come to the mind are Speechley, Sutton, Storey, R. F. Elson, Heather, Goold, Jarvis, Boddington, Snell Hamer, Spooner, Cornish, Joe Coleman, Earle, Urry, Clark, Pattenden, Willis, True and several others, some beginners, who are showing rapid improvement. We look to them to uphold the Club's splendid record in the "Junior" R.W.A. Championship.

As has been explained many times, and is now done once again for the uninitiated, the term "Junior" applies to ability, not to age. "Junior" status is lost by being in a winning team, a placed "Senior" team, or by gaining first-class A.A.A. or R.W.A. standard medals.

\* \* \* \* \*

We should like to add our mead of congratulation to that which has been showered upon Harold Whitlock, following upon his Olympic win. He has shown gradual improvement for many years past, and has endeared himself to all walkers by his modest bearing and fine style.

## FORTHCOMING WALKING FIXTURES.

- Nov. 14—Enfield A.C. Open 7 miles Walk.  
Nov. 28—Belgrave H. Open 7 miles Walk.  
Dec. 5—Walk v. Surrey W.C. at Croydon.  
Dec. 12—Club Junior 7 miles Championship.  
(Horwood Cup) and Sealed Handicap.  
Dec. 26—Godstone Walk (18 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles).  
3 miles Handicap at Battersea Park.  
Jan. 23—Ashcombe A.C. Open 7 miles Walk.  
Jan. 30—Club 10 miles Championship (Murphy Shield)  
Sealed Handicap and Match v. M.P.W.C.  
Feb. 6—London Transport Open 7 miles Walk.  
\* \* \* \* \*

It will be seen that our promotion will take place on November 28th, when we hope every active member will enter, and help to make the event a great success.

We expect to have the usual very fine support accorded us by other clubs and hope for a "bumper" entry, a fine day, and a good crowd.

\* \* \* \* \*

All walking enquiries and entries should be addressed to :—  
A. A. HARLEY, 39, Roxburgh Avenue, Isleworth, Mx.

## SOCIAL MATTERS.

Since the last issue of this journal two social events have taken place. A Flannel Dance has been held at the Express Hall, Clapham Junction, also a Social in the Club's Hall at Wimbledon. Those who were present at these functions will agree that two very enjoyable evenings were spent.

The Social Hon. Sec. wishes to express his thanks to all those who sold tickets and generally assisted to make these evenings the success they were.

Arrangements have been made to hold Socials at Wimbledon after the run with the Mitcham A.C., Croydon H. and Epsom H. on November 7th, and also after the Club 7 and 10 miles championships on December 12th, and January 30th, respectively.

Now we have our own Hall it is hoped to improve the Socials considerably, especially the teas. The Social Committee ask for the co-operation of all members in this respect. They do not want a repetition of the orgies that these meals have turned into on past occasions! Members should remember we have visitors to these affairs, and the utmost courtesy should be extended to them.

Several Dances will take place at the Queensberry Hall, Harrington Road, South Kensington, this Winter. Full details appear elsewhere in this issue.

Enquiries to A. E. TAYLOR, *Hon. Social Sec.*,  
11, Fitzneal Street, W.12.

## STROLLERS—PAST AND PRESENT.

From time to time we give some news of the Sunday strollers—of their adventures and appetites, of their walking and wise-cracking, of their rambles and reminiscences.

As usual, numbers have fallen away slightly during the alleged Summer, but with the coming of Autumn and a frosty nip in the air, we expect a return to the ranks of some that have been posted as deserters during past months, and welcome a few newcomers anxious to serve their novitiate.

It is whispered that there may even be a "Reunion" stroll, when those who have strolled in the past will stroll again—for one performance only. But, of course, it's only a whisper; so read this through half-closed eyes—or better still, in the dark!

Leave of absence must be obtained, wifely permission courted, written ticket-of-leave from fiancées secured, dust cast into eyes, excuses perfected, before this reunion can become an accomplished fact. And if it does come to pass, we shall talk again of the Indiscretion that was Shields', the Indignation that was Miller's, the Indelicacy that was Footer's.

We shall recall the Indolence that was Rollins' the Intrepidity that was Ring (he's had his teeth drawn now, though!), the Inscrutability that was Scrimshaw, the Immensity that was Ben May, and Illogicality that was Wright!

After dusk, the hedges shall re-echo the songs we used to sing, and the stars shall shine brighter—but only if our erstwhile strolling companions can loose the chains that bind them for one day, and temporarily put back the clock to the days when there was no power of veto.

"Micky" Walker, "Doub" Doubleday, Fred White, Arthur Beaumont and the Hon. Editor comprise the nucleus of the present-day strollers. Bert Lindsey has been away from London but should be out again shortly (don't get the wrong idea, please!); and several others have made spasmodic appearances.

A few weeks since, our Track Captain made slighting remarks about the strollers. He alleged that they "had gone to powder," "lost their grip," "couldn't take it." This same young man deserted the cake-cutting ceremony for one day and sallied forth with us. Let it suffice to say that before the thirty-fifth mile had been reached, our Track Captain had made for the railway track, and finished the course by "Southern." He's definitely in the "B" team after that!

Well, we could write at greater length and tell you of how the party had free refreshment "on" the owner of a centuries-old mansion; of Percy's adventures with the French language in Belgium; and going further afield, of an evening in Rudesheim. But time is short and space limited, so you must all come out one Sunday and hear all about these things—and others!

## WHY ?

### The Science of Athletics.

This is the title of Capt. F. A. M. Webster's latest book, and as indicated in the title, this well-known coach and author of many works on Athletics writes of the human mechanism and its relation to athletic performance. He explains the action of the heart, the blood stream, the nervous system, the lungs; and how scientific training enables the athlete to place stress without danger upon his body. The great lesson here is to go into training slowly, and also, just as important but not nearly so well known, go out of training slowly. We are initiated into the mysteries of oxygen credit and debit, of the scientific need for "limbering-up", why legs tire, and how our food and digestion affects our athletic performance. He deals with "staleness," with the factors contributing to record-breaking, and with athletic performance from the mathematical standpoint, showing how near the human being can get to theoretical perfection.

Captain Webster also deals with the Psychology of Athletics, perhaps the most puzzling and vital of all the constituents making for the successful athlete. We have all had experience of the athlete with natural ability who seems to lack keenness, and of the poor performer who is enthusiasm itself.

The mechanics and leverage of running and field events is dealt with at length, and a chapter on "The Build of the Athlete" concludes a most interesting book. In this there is a note of the present tendency in Athletics, and a hint of its future development. We read that 25 per cent. of America's Athletic team at the Berlin Games were negroes (3 sprinters, 2 high-jumpers, 2 quarter-milers, 1 half-miler, 1 hurdler and 1 long-jumper), and we all know how they fared. Considering that only a very small proportion indeed of America's negro population at the moment has the opportunity to indulge in athletics, one wonders what performances they will have to show when that proportion is increased. Many theories have been advanced for the superiority of the negro at sprinting, but the opinion of Doctor Stroud, which Capt. Webster quotes, seems to be the most convincing. He declares that actual dissection of negroes has shown that the black man has a more forward pitch of the pelvic bones, and consequently a more forward hang of the thigh. This pitch makes the negro a great sprinter, and also accounts for his quickness in the boxing ring. It is calculated that the pitch referred to gives the negro an advantage of four inches in each sprinting stride over the white runner; and, furthermore, as he tires the legs still go straight forward, whereas the white man's legs tend to bend outward to his disadvantage. Observation of the finish of sprints and study of photographs confirm this.

It is pointed out that this extra forward pitch is likely to act against the negro when he attempts middle-distance and distance running. But, of course, there is always the chance of a "freak" arising who defies all racial (and even training) law, and becomes a world-beater. This, of course, is one of the great charms of athletics.

Capt. Webster has drawn upon his 30 years of Athletic experience, during which time he has met all the prominent world athletes and coaches, and in his latest book he has given us close on 400 pages of absorbing interest, illustrated by 136 photographs, and numerous diagrams. Anyone whose interest in Athletics is something more than turning up once or twice a week with his bag, should read this fine work. It would make an excellent Xmas present to oneself!

A.A.H.

*"Why? The Science of Athletics," by Captain F. A. M. Webster, published by John F. Shaw & Co. Ltd., at 10s. 6d.*

## THE FORTHCOMING WINTER FIXTURES.

By the time you receive this Gazette every member should be in possession of a Winter fixture card. If any member has not received one, maybe the reason is that he has not notified the Hon. Gen. Secy. of a change of address, but whatever the cause, will he at once get in touch with the Secretary, so that the omission can be rectified.

What I am now going to write chiefly concerns the members of the running section, but I am sure that a few words on our forthcoming fixtures will prove of general interest.

We have great pleasure in welcoming the following clubs for the first time on our fixture list: Aldershot Command Harriers, Aylesford Paper Mills S.C., 1st Batt. South Staffordshire Regt., and Guards Depot, Caterham.

Having quite a number of Service men in our own ranks, I am sure our boys will enjoy meeting the members of the above; and, what is more, it is a chance of making new acquaintances, or renewing old ones.

The first of the season's "Open" races will be the South of Thames District Team race, to be held at Epsom Downs on November 14th. There are many barring clauses in this race, which is the reason why it has acquired its "Junior" title. Actually, of course, there is no age limit, it being just a question of perform-

ances already accomplished. Practically every year we have to find a new team for this event. We had the individual winner, and our team were placed third last year. However, here is the chance for our new members to show their paces, and we always enter as many teams as we can possibly field, thus giving more or less every member who is qualified a chance of running for the club.

On the following Saturday, November 21st, we are entertaining, at Wimbledon, the Aylesford Paper Mills S.C., 1st Batt. South Staffs. Regt. and Guards Depot in a four-cornered contest. As we are holding a Dance at the "Queensberry" later in the evening, perhaps we shall be able to have the company of some of our opponents there.

November 28th, being the day of the Club "Open" Walk, our Hall at Wimbledon is taboo so far as the running members are concerned. Every available inch of space is required for housing the walking competitors; and so we have arranged for the runners to pay a visit to our friends the Ealing Harriers over their course at West Ealing.

The first of the Club cross-country championships will be the 7 miles race for the "Blackstaffe" Shield on December 12th. The 5 miles race for Juniors (under 21 years of age) for the "Savage" Shield, will be held on the following Saturday, December 19th. The 10 miles championship for the "Macher" Shield will be held on January 30th. In conjunction with both the Senior championships there will be a Sealed handicap open to all Club members; and in addition both these races will be followed by a Social and Dance in the evening.

As Boxing Day falls on a Saturday this year, I trust we shall see increased entries in our Club handicaps which are held in the morning at Battersea Park Track. There will be the usual three races—120 yds. Sprint, 2 Miles Run and 3 Miles Walk. Entries should be handed in at least a week before, and I hope you will all bring your friends along and so let them see how well our boys can perform "the morning after the night before."

The County cross-country Senior championships will be held on January 2nd. The Surrey race is at Epsom Downs, and the Middlesex race, in which we have quite a number of members interested, at Enfield Lock. In the case of the latter County, I think I am right in saying that their "under 21" race precedes the Senior event on this day.

The Surrey County "under 21" race is being held the following Saturday, January 9th, at Caterham. If there are any members who are eligible for this race, will they kindly give their names to our Junior Captain, H. M. Quackenbos, who is at Wimbledon on most Saturdays.

On February 6th we break new ground by journeying to Aylesford for a match with the local Paper Mills sports club. They include in their ranks M. Frankham, the ex-Army champion, and many other well-known runners.

The following week, February 13th, is the day of the South of Thames C.C. Championship. As we won this race last season (and so consequently the whole of our scoring six are barred), it is up to the other members to strain every ounce to weld themselves into a team capable of putting up yet another good performance in this race.

At this time of the season the gloves are "off" with a vengeance, and every prospective team man should be hard at work endeavouring to "make" that place in the Southern or National team.

The venues for the big races have not as yet been decided, but Farningham is likely to be the course for the "Southern" once again.

The English cross-country championship is this season being held in the Midlands, and the venue chosen is the historic one of Stratford-on-Avon. Full travelling details will be announced at a later date, but our Hon. Sec. is always pleased to give any information he can regarding any of the above-mentioned fixtures, so if you have any queries, don't forget to drop him a line.

E.A.D.

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## A Grand Carnival Dance

will be held on

NEW YEAR'S EVE,

at the

QUEENSBERRY HALL,

South Kensington.

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NOVELTIES    ::    ::    ::    SPOT PRIZES

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Dancing 7-30 p.m. till 1 a.m.

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Watkins, 320, Upper Street, Islington, N.1.



