

Complete Coverage of Track and Field Athletics

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A. Ross McWhirter

Oldest World Mark Goes As Lituyev Runs 400m. Hurdles in 50.4

The closing days of the 1953 track season brought forth four more men's and 3 women's relay records in its last bid to be considered as the greatest year in the history of the sport. As of October 1st all but 6 of the 20 standard Olympic events have witnessed marks superior to the top performances recorded in 1952. The latest crop of world records compare with the old thus:-

MEN'S				
Event	Record Breaker	New	Old	
1,000 Metres	AUDUN BOYSEN(Norway) in Oslo on Sept.17th	2:20.4	2:20.8	by Mal Whitfield (U.S.A.) in 1953
400 M.Hurdles	YURIY LITUYEV(U.S.S.R.) in Budapest on Sept.20th	50.4	50.6	by Glenn Hardin (U.S.A.) in 1934
4 x 1500 Metre Relay	HUNGARY(details p.7) in Budapest on Sept.23rd	15:29.2	15:30.2	by Gefle I.F. (Sweden) in 1949
	GREAT BRITAIN(details p.7) in London on Sept.23rd	15:27.2	15:29.2	by Hungary earlier that day
WOMEN'S				
4 x 100 Metre Relay	U.S.S.R. in Budapest on Sept.20th	45.6	45.9	by U.S.A. and Germany in 1952
4 x 220 Yards Relay	GREAT BRITAIN(details p.2) in London on Sept.30th	1:39.9	1:40.0	by U.S.A. in 1952
3 x 800 Metre Relay	U.S.S.R. in Budapest on Sept.19th	6:33.2	6:35.6	by U.S.S.R. in 1953

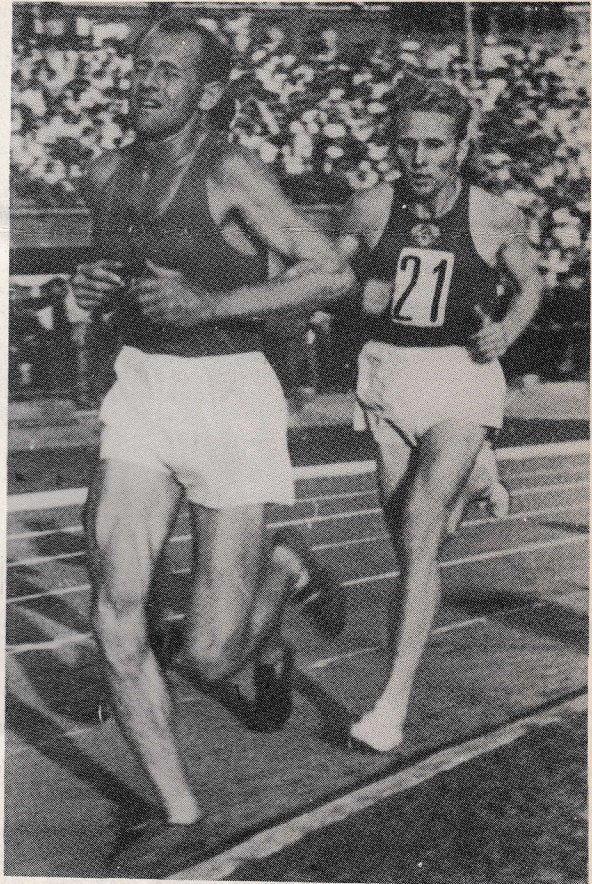
Transcending all was the brilliant new mark for 400 metres hurdles of 50.4 secs by the 28 year old Russian Yuriy Lituyev at the Nép-Stadion in Budapest on September 20 -the first new world mark in a standard Olympic track event since George Rhoden's 45.8 secs 400 metres flat at Eskilstuna,Sweden 37 months ago in August 1950. Full details are included in R.L.Quercetani's masterly report reproduced below. This Hungarian meeting was also marked by the two new women's records listed above. The 4x100 m. relay figures were set by Vyera Kalashnikova,Zinaida Safronova, Nadezhda Khnykina(now Mde. Dugashvili) and Irina Turova while the 3x 800 metre team which beat a Hungarian trio by 150 metres struck an average of 2:11.1 and comprised Nina Chernoshchok, Dora Barakhovich and on the anchor with a 2:08.2 stage the world record-holder Nina Pletnyeva-Otolenko.

FUTTERER (10.4 - 5 TIMES) FAVOURITE FOR EUROPEAN SPRINT TITLE by ROBERTO QUERCETANI.

The intense activity in Europe during September makes it advisable to present the important news in an event-by-event survey,this being the only method through which major events are not easily overlooked. **SPRINTS:** Heinz Fütterer, the strongly built German speedster(22 this month), posted an excellent 21 flat for 200 metres around a full turn at Zagreb in Jugoslavia on Sept.6th. This is barely 0.1 sec. off the European record, held by his countryman Helmut Körnig since 1928. It is to be noted however that Körnig's 20.9(actually 20.82 on a special LÖbner apparatus which was then used to take winning times) was made on a course which included only a very slight turn. During the present season Fütterer's "soccer-player's" legs have carried his compact frame to a most respectable series of marks - 100 metres five times in 10.4 and four times in 10.5; 200 metres eight times in 21.3 or faster. No native European has ever shown such consistency since the days of M.B.('Tinus')Osendarp, the 1938 European champion from Holland.

One of Fütterer's chief rivals in next year's European Meeting at Berne,Switzerland could be Václav Janecek of Czechoslovakia, who was at Aue on Sept.22nd credited with 10.5 secs. On the same occasion the Czech met the German Hans Geister in the 400 metres. In a thrilling finish Geister emerged the victor in 47.5 secs, but Janecek set a new national record of 47.7 secs. in finishing second.

Ardalion Ignatyev of U.S.S.R. ran 400 metres in 46.9 secs at Budapest on Sept.19th -this his third sub 47.0 sec. mark for the season. There has also been a new Swedish record in this event.First it was the energetic Lars-Erik Wolfbrandt who returned 47.4secs (Cont: page 8. col 1.)



The first published photograph from the continent of the new Soviet 5,000 metre star Vladimir Kuts here seen trailing the Olympic Champion Emil Zátopek. This 26 year old sailor from Leningrad stands 5'7¹/₂(1.72m) and weighs 154 lbs.(70 kgs.). The degree to which the 1953 season has transformed the all-time world best performance list is seen here:-(ages)

13:58.2	Gunder Hägg(Sweden)	(23)	Goteborg	20.9.1942
13:58.8	Aleksandr Anufriyev(USSR)	(26)	Moscow	6.6.1953
14:01.2	József Kovács(Hungary)	(27)	Budapest	20.9.1953
14:02.2	Vladimir Kuts(U.S.S.R.)	(26)	Moscow	27.8.1953
14:02.6	Gordon Pirie(Great Britain)	(22)	Berlin	29.8.1953
14:03.0	Emil Zátopek(Czechoslovakia)	(27)	Brussels	26.8.1950
14:03.0	Emil Zátopek(Czechoslovakia)	(30)	Bucharest	5.8.1953
14:04.0n	Vladimir Kuts(U.S.S.R.)	(26)	Bucharest	5.8.1953
14:04.2n	József Kovács(Hungary)	(27)	Bucharest	5.8.1953
14:04.4n	Vladimir Kuts(U.S.S.R.)	(26)	Budapest	20.9.1953
14:05.2	Vladimir Kuts(U.S.S.R.)	(26)	Oslo	2.10.1953
14:06.4	Emil Zátopek(Czechoslovakia)	(30)	Opava	4.10.1953

EXCLUSIVE FEATURE ON PIRIE

The November issue of ATHLETICS WORLD will carry an exclusive article on the training methods of the 22 year old GORDON PIRIE. Also included in addition to world-wide news & photographs, will List No.13 -Best All-Time British Two Miles

PETERS AVERAGES 11.6 M.P.H. FOR MARATHON!

Jim Peters furthered his claim as the greatest marathon specialist in history with two international victories within 22 days of each other, first at Enschede, Holland on Sept. 12th in 2hrs. 19mins. 22.0secs and then at Turku, Finland on Oct. 4th in the best ever recorded time of 2hrs. 18mins. 34.8secs. Peters part in lowering the world's 'bests' at this distance can be best recapitulated in the following table.

2 hrs. 26 mins. 07.0 secs.	Choi Yoon Chil (Korea)	Pusan	Apr. 1952
2 hrs. 20 mins. 42.2 secs.	Jim Peters (G.B.)	Windsor	June 14 1952
2 hrs. 18 mins. 51.0 secs.	Keizo Yamada (Japan)	Boston	Apr. 20 1953
2 hrs. 18 mins. 40.2 secs.	Jim Peters (G.B.)	Windsor	June 13 1953
2 hrs. 18 mins. 34.8 secs.	Jim Peters (G.B.)	Turku	Oct. 4 1953

At Enschede the 34 year old optician was out in 68 mins. followed by his 35 year old shadow Stanley Ernest Walter Cox (69 min) Despite the strong adverse wind Peters managed the return trip in 71 minutes so bettering his own world's best of 2hrs. 22mins 29secs at Cardiff last July for an out-and-home course. Cox was greeted by Peters 5mins 16secs. later and was followed over ten minutes later by Viktor Olsen of Norway (2hrs. 35mins. 20secs.)

At Turku on Oct. 4th Peters had his second chance of proving to disbelieving continental that English marathon courses are if anything over rather than under the regulation 26miles 385yds. This time he took the first mile steadily and then put in a 25 mile kick which left the little Finnish champion Veikko Karvonen 1 1/4 miles in rear (2hrs 25mins. 47 secs.). Peters' 2:18:34.8 meant an average of 5mins 17secs per mile as against Zatopek's Helsinki 5:27 average.

5 AUSTRALIANS BETTER 2 HRS. 30 MINS. by JOE GALLI

Australian marathon standards took a dramatic leap forward at Sydney on Sept. 26th when 5 men beat 2 1/2 hours in heavy rain and a cold wind. Winner was Roley Guy 33 year old, holder of the Australian best at 2:26:59 put up on August 15, who came in with 2:24:48.0 so to occupy seventh spot in the 1953 world list. Following came Kieth Ollerenshaw (2:26.00), Allan Lawrence (2:26:43), Bruce McKay (2:27:21) and fifth completing his first ever marathon Arthur Dunn of Victoria. Roley has logged 2,500 miles inside 12 months while Dunn, who like the 2nd, 3rd and 4th finishers is in his early twenties, has been running around 95 miles a week since February.

Latest news of John Landy is that he is training 5 days a week (2 repetitions, 1 long run, 2 repetitions).

PIRIE RUNS 8:47.4 FOR ENGLAND V HOLLAND

Spurred by pre-meeting publicity talking of 5 possible world records 14,000 people came to the White City on Sept. 30 to see London's last floodlit meeting of 1953, which took the form of an international between England and the Netherlands. With the absence of Wim Slykhuys (suspended) and Fanny Blankers-Koen and 'Puck' Brouwer the match, won 102pts to 59 by England, badly lacked sparkle and the only world mark to go was the softest one on the 86 strong I.A.A.F. schedule, namely the women's 4x 220 yards.

Centrepiece of the match was Gordon Pirie's bid to lower his 3 week old British Empire 2 mile record of 8:47.8. Despite a 30 yd. tactical burst in the third lap to shake off Frank Sando, Pirie ran very close to level pace with miles in 4:23.9 and 4:23.4 so edging the record by 4 tenths with 8:47.4 - world's fastest in 1953 and 5th on the all-time list behind only Reiff's world record 8:40.4 and Hagg's 8:42.8, 8:46.4 and 8:47.2 all done within 40 days of each other in 1944. Especially appreciated by the crowd was the excellent 8:53.0 by Birchfield's Freddie Green the 144 lbs. former parachutist who nearly ended his career on his 39th jump.

England achieved some return lend-lease with the U.S.A. when her quartette of Anne Pashley, 18, Jean Newbould, 21, Shirley Hampton, 18 and Ann Elaine Johnson, 20 clipped their 4x220 yard record of 1:40.0 (White City, Aug. 4th 1952) by the bare tenth. (N.B. The British All-Comers' record remained undisturbed at 1:38.7 set by an ineligible composite team of Australian and South African girls on the same day). The left-handed javelin thrower Anne Collins reached 133' 4 1/2 to place third on the British Empire all-time list behind only Diane Coates (G.B.) and Charlotte MacGibbon-Weeks of Australia.

Holland's Henk Visser from Surinam (Dutch Guiana) recorded 23' 11" in the long jump - best of the year in the unhelpful pit. The new world relay record-holders David Law of Sheffield and Ralph H. Dunkley made hay of the Dutchmen in the last lap of the mile after a 3:15.0 bell to record 4:12.0 and 4:14.0 - the 90th sub 4:13.0 mile by a British athlete so far as Law was concerned. SUMMARY: 100Yds: Shenton 10.2; 220Yds: T. Aret (N) 22.3; 440Yds: Smith 49.4, Fryer 49.4; 880 Yds: Nankeville 1:55.9; 120YdsH Hildreth 14.9; 440YdsH Hardy 54.9 H.J. Cox 6' 4"; P.V. Elliott 13' 0"; S.P. Savidge 52' 4"; D.T. Pharaoh 151' 6"; J.R. J. Fikert (N) 201' 9".

MACA BECOMES 2ND HAMMER MAN OVER 200 FT.

(continued from p.8) Following his record breaking 204' 7 1/2" (62.36) on Sept. 5th at Oslo, Sverre Strandli has established himself as the first consistent 60 metre hammer man in history. Two other men however have passed the magic line-burly Milos Mácá of Czechoslovakia with 200' 1 1/2" at Kutná Hora on Sept. 12 and Olympic Champion József Csermák with 197' 6 1/2" at Budapest on Sept. 13. Veteran Karl Storch of Germany, who late in July returned to the hammer circle, hit his 1952 form during a Southern European tournee with a best of 193' 3 1/4" at Athens on Sept. 10. Ivan Gubijan, the 1948 Olympic silver medallist, got off a throw of 194' 9" at Gorni Milanovaz on Sept. 25 for a new Yugoslav record.

FINNS EQUAL 1939 RECORD WITH 7 JAVELIN MEN OVER 232 FEET

Finland plans a large scale counter-attack for next year to reaffirm her lost supremacy in the javelin. In the present season no less than 7 Finns have been over 232 feet. Youngest of the group is the husky 19 year old Väinö Kuusma, who did 232' 5" at Oslo on Sept. 6th. Another thrower of the same age, Janusz Sidlo of Poland, did 234' 3" at Warsaw on Sept. 20. It should be noted that none of the present greats (Held, Hyttiäinen, Young or Kuznetsov) has been so proficient at such an early age.

STOP PRESS: SIDLO REACHES 262' 11 1/2" (80.15)! KOVACS RUNS 29:21.2

An unconfirmed Radio Budapest report on Oct. 4th stated that Janusz Sidlo of Poland had broken the European record of Yrjö Nikkanen with a throw of 80.15 metres. In Budapest on the same day Jozsef Kovacs set a new Hungarian record with 29:21.2 - fifth equal best ever.

ERRATA: August 1953 issue: page 1. The 880 yards time of Wes. Santee at Turku on July 17 behind Whitfield's world record 1:48.6 was 1:49.9 not 1:48.9 as was initially reported throughout the world. His 800 m. time was 1:48.7 and the long interval is explained due to his nearly stumbling. September 1953 issue: page 10. The accurate series by Sverre Strandli on the occasion of his world record was 62.36, 61.17, 59.80, 59.50, 60.05, 59.00 or 204' 7 1/2", 200' 8 1/2", 196' 2 1/2", 195' 0 1/2", 197' 0 1/2", 193' 6 1/2". page 9. 3rd in the USSR Women's 800m. was Nina Kabysch.

ADDITIONS TO JUNIOR RANKINGS: September 1953 issue p.7
220 Yards: 22.9 P.T. Davies & 23.0 T.A. Jameson both of Lancing College at Lancing April 2. 440 Yards: 51.8 J.R. Davison (SLH) Uxbridge. Mile: 4:28.0 R.J. Darchambeaud (SLH) Uxbridge June 24. 120 HH 16. On J.P. Patten (SLH) Odda, Norway Aug. 22. H.J. 5' 11 1/2" P.R.H. Shinn (Isle of Ely AC) Downham Market June 30; 5' 11 1/2" J.P. Patten Tooting Bec July 6; 5' 9 1/2" Y. B.F. Ash (SLH) Frankfurt Aug. L.J. 21' 7 1/2" J.C. Brown (SLH) Wimbledon May 16. S.P. 47' 4" CG Smith (TVH) Harrow 22/6; 46' 7" P.R. Mills (SLH) Harrow 29/6. D.T. 138' 4" CG Smith (TVH) Harrow 22/6. J.T. 209' 6" CG Smith (TVH) Southgate 22/8 (Colin Smith was believed to be over 19 but he was in fact only 18 in Aug. 1953) H.T. 144' 3" AC Holloway (SLH) Harrow 29/6.

JEAN DESFORGES BREAKS 23 YEAR OLD BRITISH RECORD IN PENTATHLON WIN. In the self same pit that Mrs. Muriel Cornell (née Gunn), former world record holder, set the British long jump record at 19' 2 1/2" at Perry Barr, Birmingham on July 26 1930, Jean Catherine Desforges leapt 19' 5 1/2" in the one-day W.A.A.A. Pentathlon Championships on Sept. 12th. Her 4 other performances of 200m (26.4), Shot (30' 4 1/2"), H.J. (4' 7 1/2") and 80m.H (12.4) contrived to give her a score of 3,221 points thus missing the Sept. 1951 record of Mrs. Dorothy Tyler by 3 points. Betty Lovell jumped 17' 3 1/2" and Joan Linsell (2nd at 2,931pts) cleared 4' 11 1/2".

PIRIE'S SEASON'S RECORD ADDITIONS (page 6.) 27/5 880 Yards 2:00.6 in South London; 24/7 4 Miles 18:57.0 in Dublin, Irish All-Comers' record.

SPRINGBOK WALLY HAYWARD RUNS 'DOUBLE MARATHON' IN UNDER 5 1/2 HOURS! Wally Hayward, the 45 year old South African distance runner who ran 10th in the Helsinki marathon, shattered all road running records when on Sept. 26th he ran the 52 mile 694yds. route between London and Brighton in 5hrs. 29mins. 40 secs. The distance was 76 yards short of two full marathons placed end to end. Hayward's 50 mile time was 5hr. 14:22 thus replacing the previous recorded best of 5:33:15 by his fellow South African Hardy Ballington. Second was the Wembley silver medallist Tom Richards with 5:39:58 and third W.Kelly from the Isle of Man (5:41:30). Fourth from the winning Gernistown Callies was J. Mekler, 21 whose 5:48:03 also bettered the old record.

MALAYAN CHAMPIONSHIPS: FIJIANS RECORD 14.9 (120YdsHH) & 48' 5" H.S. & J. In the Malayan Championships of 1953 J. Kobiti of the Fijian Regt. clocked 14.9secs in the high hurdle heats but was beaten in the final by Naidole in 15.0secs by inches. Tomasi Naidole, who set the Fiji 880 yards record in April 1951, showed remarkable versatility by taking the triple jump from Tan Eng-yoon (47' 6") with 48' 5". He later travelled from Kuala Lumpur to Johore where he had a no jump of over 49 feet. (Acknowledgements to V.V. Kalatcheff of Hong Kong).

STOP PRESS: Ranking List: Add 880 Yards R.T. Taylor 1:54.7 3/10; Amend Mile Driver 4:12.8; Two Miles R.H. Dunkley 9:04.2.

British Best Performances LIST NO. 11 — THE MARATHON

In this 11th list in ATHLETICS WORLD'S unique series featuring Best British Performances of All Time we cover the marathon event with a list compiled by Mr. D.J. Roberts.

Only times made over the full standard distance of 26 miles 385 yards (42, 195 metres) are listed. All marks, except those made on the historic 45 year old Windsor course, have been made on a course of the out & home pattern. It was the Windsor course, which at the 1908 Olympic Games was lined by 70,000 people, that was the route from which the now accepted international distance was standardized. Recent remeasurements showed the Windsor-Chiswick variant to be 159 yards (146.4 metres) over distance.

THE MARATHON — 26 miles 385 yards & 42,195 metres

2:18:34.8	J.H.PETERS	(b) Turku, Finland	Oct. 4 1953
2:18:40.2	J.H.Peters	Windsor-Chiswick	June 13 1953
2:19:22.0	J.H.Peters	Enschede, Holland	Sept 12 1953
2:20:42.2	J.H.Peters	Windsor-Chiswick	June 14 1952
2:21:42.0n	S.E.W.COX	Windsor-Chiswick	June 14 1952
2:22:29.0	J.H.Peters	Cardiff, Wales	July 25 1953
2:24:38.0n	S.E.W.Cox	Enschede, Holland	Sept 12 1953
2:26:19.0n	S.E.W.Cox	Windsor, Chiswick	June 13 1953
2:26:39.0n	G.L.IDEN	Windsor, Chiswick	June 13 1953
2:26:53.8n	G.L.Iden	Windsor, Chiswick	June 14 1952
2:27:01.0n	A.LAWTON	(10) Windsor, Chiswick	June 13 1953
2:29:28.0	J.H.Peters	Windsor, Chiswick	June 16 1951
2:29:38.0n	A.Lawton	Cardiff, Wales	July 25 1953
2:30:40.6	T.RICHARDS	Port Talbot, Wales	July 12 1952
2:30:42.0n	G.L.Iden	Helsinki, Wales	July 27 1952
2:30:48.0n	C.D.ROBERTSON	Windsor-Chiswick	June 14 1952
2:30:54.0n	G.L.Iden	Cardiff, Wales	July 25 1953
2:30:57.8	H.W.PAYNE	Windsor-Stamford Bridge	July 6 1929
2:31:03.4	J.T.HOLDEN	Windsor-Chiswick	June 17 1950
2:31:23.2n	E.HARPER	Berlin, Germany	Aug. 9 1936
2:31:42.0	J.H.Peters	(20) Perry Barr, Birmingham	July 28 1951
2:31:42.0n	R.W.McMINNIS	Windsor-Chiswick	June 14 1952
2:31:55.0n	S.FERRIS	Los Angeles, U.S.A.	Aug. 7 1932
2:32:13.2	J.T.Holden	Brussels, Belgium	Aug. 23 1950
2:32:41.0n	D.McL.WRIGHT	Los Angeles, U.S.A.	Aug. 7 1932
2:32:57.0	J.T.Holden	Auckland, New Zealand	Feb. 11 1950
2:32:57.0n	D.FOTHERINGHAM	Windsor-Chiswick	June 13 1953

© World's fastest time for a point-to-point course.
(b) World's fastest time for an out-and-home course.

SUMMARY:	J.H.Peters	7 marks	J.T.Holden	3 marks
	G.L.Iden	4 marks	A.Lawton	2 marks
	S.E.W.Cox	3 marks	Eight others	1 mark each



Action Photo by H. W. Neale

Under a shadow, Stan Cox Only one man has ever run faster marathons in Europe.

From obscurity, Ian Binnie from nowhere to fifth among history's handful of 19,000 metre men.

BINNIE BREAKS 21 RECORDS

The Dunoon track, scene of the windswept 1951 Triangular International, attracted 20,000 spectators to see Ian Binnie make an assault on the 49 year old British One Hour record of 11 miles 1,137 yards made on Guy Fawkes Day in Glasgow in 1904.

The black cinder circuit was found to be 42 1/2 inches over distance thus necessitating compensations. Binnie, who had turned down invitations to represent Great Britain in Berlin and Stockholm on grounds of unfitness and lack of experience, was opposed by 5 other runners - mostly local hill-climbers. The 22 year old Glasgow draughtsman soon dropped the field to pass through the 3 miles in 14:51.0 and the 6 miles in 30:01.0 as against Shrubbs's 29:59.4. Thereafter, despite the fitful breeze in the back straight, records began to fall like nine pins. Here is the story -:

Distance	Time/Distance by Binnie	British Empire, All-Comers' & Nat:	Scots All-Comers' Rec:	Scots Native Record	A.A.A. Recognized Performance
7 Miles	35:01.8	Not listed	35:04.6 by Shrubbs(1904)	36:01.0 by JS Smith(1929)	35:04.6 by Shrubbs (1904)
8 Miles	40:01.8	Not listed	40:16.0 by Shrubbs(1904)	41:15.6 by FL Stevenson(1929)	40:16.0 by Shrubbs (1904)
9 Miles	45:05.0	Not listed	45:27.6 by Shrubbs(1904)	46:29.8 by JS Smith(1929)	45:27.6 by Shrubbs (1904)
10 Miles	50:11.0	50:30.8 by W.E. Eaton (1936)	50:40.6 by Shrubbs(1904)	51:37.8 by JS Smith(1929)	Not listed
11 Miles	55:24.2	Not listed	Not listed	Not listed	56:23.6 by Shrubbs
ONE HOUR	11miles 1,571yds	11m.1137yds by Shrubbs (1904)	11m.1137yds Shrubbs(1904)	10m.1027yds DMcL Wright('33)	Not listed

For the last 15 minutes of Binnie's run the crowd went mad. Egged on by some excellent announcing by the Scottish Native Hour record-holder Dunky Wright they cheered every step as it became obvious that Shrubbs's venerable old mark was doomed.

After the hour gun Binnie went on to complete the 12 miles which he reached in 60:34.2 thus bettering Jim Peters 62:25.2 in the White City heat-wave on May 25th last.

Binnie thus became the fifth best hour runner of all-time and the best of the year 1953 in beating Ivan Pozhidayev of Russia by 39 yards or 34 metres.

WORLD'S BEST HOUR RUNS

E.Zátopek(Czech.)	(12 m. 809yds)	20,052m. Stara-Bol.30/9/1951
E.Zátopek(Czech.)	(12 m. 268yds)	19,558m. Stara-Bol.14/9/1951
V.A.Heino(Finland)	(12 m. 29yds)	19,339m. Turku 30/9/1945
F.Mihaljic(Jugoslav.)	(11 m. 1,652yds)	19,214m. Belgrade 25/10/1952
P.J.Nurmi(Finland)	(11 m. 1,648yds)	19,210m. Berlin 7/10/1928
V.A.Heino(Finland)	(11 m. 1,572yds)	19,140m. Turku 22/9/1949
I.BINNIE(Gt.Britain)	(11 m. 1,571yds)	(19,139m.)Dunoon 28/8/1953
I.Pozhidayev(USSR)	(11 m. 1,532yds)	19,105m. 1953
J.Bouin(France)	(11 m. 1,442yds)	19,022m. Stockholm 6/7/1913
A.Csaplár(Hungary)	(11 m. 1,426yds)	19,007m. Budapest 26/10/1941
E.Zátopek(Czech.)	(11 m. 1,395yds)	18,978m. Stara-Bol.25/10/1952

© made in course of 30,000 metres race

TRACK WITHOUT TEARS - TIMING RELAYS

What is the fairest way of taking the individual times of runners in a relay? This is a problem which has been the subject of far too little study.

Timekeepers generally are unshakably resolved that the times of the four stages must 'add up' to the total time. In fact, of course, you can be certain that if this is the case that something is wrong unless in the highly unlikely circumstance that all three exchanges are effected with the runners bunched on the centre line.

Let us take a 4 x 440 yard relay as an illustration with a team consisting of Alpha, Beta, Gamma and Delta. Our timekeeper, Mr. Omega, has been detailed by the otherwise enlightened Referee to get the splits. Mr. Omega thus stations himself opposite the centre line of the 22 yard long exchange zone. He starts his watch on the gun flash. Stolidly he waits as Alpha fights his way up the home straight. Beta, seeing that his lead-off man is tiring, relieves him of the baton almost on the back line and flashes past the unblinking Mr. Omega. Some painful moments later the dispossessed Alpha flops across the centre line. Happily Mr. Omega splits his watch and jots down 49.7 secs.

Soon Beta hoves into sight coming strongly up the home straight. Wanting to get in a really slick baton-pass Gamma goes away pretty fast dragging Beta to an exchange right on the centre line. Mr. Omega splits his watch on Beta and jots down 1:37.2. Despite Beta's most unexpected and 'brilliant' 47.5 sec. stage Gamma finds himself being caught and ties up badly in the home stretch. The confident anchorman Delta stays fairly well back, takes the baton and then tucks in behind the opposing team's anchorman. Gamma is down to a tottering walk as he crosses the centre line as Mr. Omega reads off 2:27.2. Delta storms home off the last bend to win. The official time 3:14.8.

Mr. Omega does a bit of subtracting and issues the stage times as - Alpha 49.7, Beta 47.5, Gamma 50.0 and Delta 47.6. The team manager is rather disappointed in Alpha, though he did at least hand over a lead. Gamma was obviously off form. The hero was of course Beta, brilliant! - think of it, 47.5 and he has only twice beaten 50 secs. in a level race. The man's obviously a born relay runner. The star, Delta, ran no better than expected. Beta says that he almost feels like retiring after getting an officially recorded 47.5 stage. Secretly he cannot quite understand it.

Now what in actual fact happened? Beta got in the first 10 to 12 yards of his leg plus a flying start (worth 0.7 of itself) before the worthy Mr. Omega's timing system began debiting him. This was because Mr. Omega was interested only in timing Alpha to complete the full 440 yards.

What then is the solution? The fact is that there is by the nature of things no really equitable method of assessing the true contribution of each runner without making some adjustments to the data obtained. However much less unjust timings can be obtained. The essential point is that TWO watches are needed on each team. The drill is this -:

Start first watch on the gun
 Start second watch as the outgoing Beta crosses the centre line
 Stop first watch as incoming Alpha crosses centre line. Note the time and return to zero.
 Restart first watch as outgoing Gamma crosses centre line.
 Stop second watch as incoming Beta crosses centre line. Note the time and return to zero.
 Restart second watch as outgoing Delta crosses centre line.
 Stop first watch as incoming Gamma crosses centre line.
 Stop second watch as Delta breaks tape. Read off last two stages.

The results will probably compare thus with Mr. Omega's 'official' times -:

	'Official' Times(1)	Two Watch System(2)	True Worth(3)
Alpha	49.7 secs.	49.7 secs.	49.7 secs.
Beta	47.5 secs.	49.1 secs.	49.8 secs.
Gamma	50.0 secs.	50.0 secs.	50.7 secs.
Delta	47.6 secs.	48.4 secs.	49.1 secs.

The times given in column 1 are useless (these are the ones usually given to the Press). The ones in column 2 are the ones which ought to interest track fans who know that the flying starts for the last 3 legs are 'worth' 0.7 secs. apiece. Column 3 is the one which ought to interest the coach and, if they are honest with themselves, the athletes.

Weighing up all the factors our considered recommendations would be these-: (Concluded in next column)

SHORT TAKES

by
The Editors

DON'T BE VAGG ASK FOR HÄGG. After a visit to Sweden we can now record the authoritative Swedish pronunciation of the name of the world's fastest ever miler Gunder Hägg. The Christian name is pronounced with a short Lancastrian 'u' while the 'r' is rolled as in Scots. The surname is pronounced like an egg with an aspirated h. Thus it is Gunderr Hegg. On September 2nd last the world record-holder, who syndicates articles in 15 Swedish publications, changed his job from a salesman of leather goods to a salesman of millinery.

AS YOU WERE. Some readers may have been puzzled by the fact that the 1952 Women's Discus Champion, the 23 year old Nina Romashkova, now seems to be referred to by her maiden name of Ponomaryeva. The explanation is, we learn from an East German source, that she is now a divorcee and that the practice of returning to the maiden name is standard usage in Russia.



NEVER RAINS BUT IT POURS: No athlete has had a rougher season than America's 23 year old Olympic discus champion SIM G. INESS. Recently he was arrested by the Swedish police after a fight, while on June 13th last he was struck in the mouth by a discus at the Pacific Association A.A.U. meeting and lost several teeth. Earlier the giant Trojan, whose long long arms are the envy of his rivals, twisted his knee falling down the stairs of his home. We can categorically deny the rumour circulating among lesser discus throwers that he in fact tripped over his fingers.

NO EXCUSES. Dana Zátopková, whose recent 170'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " javelin throw leads the world, never has an excuse for forgetting her husband's birthday. Both she and Emil have their on the same day - September 19th. She is 32 and he is 31. Married in 1948 both are good bridge players.

FAR AND WIDE. We were last month gratified to receive our first subscribers from the Shetland Islands, Italian Somaliland and from Mozambique. Particularly gratifying was the last-mentioned for it means that we can claim to circulate among a very high proportion of the literate population of this large Portuguese African territory. According to the latest UNESCO returns 5,037,454 of its 5,081,266 population are unable to read or write.

STRONGEST MAN IN THE WORLD. At Bosön, the Swedish Physical Culture Institute 7 miles outside Stockholm, several members of Britain's track team, there for the G.B. v. Sweden match, met Douglas Hepburn the 26 year old Canadian lumberjack. The night before he had broken the world record for the press with 371 pounds when winning the world heavyweight weight-lifting title from America's long-reigning champion John Davis. His biceps match those of the waist measurements of Miss Universe at 21 inches while each thigh totals 2 inches more than Gordon Pirie's waist at 30 inches. His chest is 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, of course that is unexpanded. Meeting him a week later in London we entertained him to a 'half' of milk. Half a gallon. Hepburn has never tried shot putting. His trouble would be feeling the thing in his hand.

THE QUICK AND THE DEAD (2nd Edition). Last June we referred to the fact that 1953's fastest miler Roger Bannister was engaged on post mortems. We now learn that Gordon Pirie, 1953's fastest 10,000 metre man, is engaged in the Executor Department of a bank in Croydon.

SET FAIR FOR THE 1972 OLYMPICS. Arthur Wint, senior member of Jamaica's world record breaking 4x400 metres relay team, tells us that Herb McKenley has recently joined him as the father of a daughter. There is also news that George Rhoden, married last December, is an expectant father while Leslie Laing was married early last month in America. Arthur thinks soon there will be a daughter apiece. What a relay team!

- Abolish the single watch centre-line system (col. 1). Replace it by instructions from the referee that the only 'official' information to be issued apart from the total time are the timings at which the BATON made its three earlier crossings of the centre line.
- Give facilities to coaches and team managers to employ the two watch system, as used in America by the Nelson brothers, since it is the best means of obtaining the column 3 data which they must properly require.

At Helsinki the official timings were very clearly in error in the epic 4x400 metre final. Leslie Laing of Jamaica (2nd stage) was given an official 46.8 though he was beaten 11 yards by America's Gene Cole who was given 46.4. By the Nelson two watch system their times were 47.0 and 45.5 while Herb McKenley's superlative third leg for Jamaica from centre line to centre line was not 45.1 but 44.6 secs.

STARS of the 'THIRTIES No. 5

THE HARBIG STORY

By NORRIS McWHIRTER.

Born in Dresden on November 8th, 1913, the son of a fireman, Rudolf Harbig first began to take an interest in sport when he was 16. His parents were both of slight physique and he was one of four children. His younger brother, Werner, died when he was 12 of rheumatic fever and Rudi always said that had he lived he would have been a greater runner than even he was.

By modern standards Harbig's training would be considered very light. After the end of the track season he would have a complete lay-off for 4 to 6 weeks. Then in November he would start a form of training which was fundamentally Fartlek though the term was not coined until after his death. This was carried out in the woods outside Dresden, mainly on Sunday mornings, until just before Christmas when he would have another 14 day lay-off during which he broke his rule about no drinking and indulged freely in eating. Normally he never drank anything alcoholic, never smoked and never drank either tea or coffee.

After the New Year's feasting, Harbig began to prepare himself for the track season with Fartlek on Sunday mornings, indoor gymnastics on Thursday evenings (including a long series of strengthening exercises) and on Fridays, if conditions allowed, he ran on the track. As the spring approached he stepped up his training. He worked on two fundamental principles:-

- (1) Cutting down the distances of track time-trials as the season approached nearer and nearer.
 - (2) In each session run decreasing distances but at shorter and shorter intervals.
- A typical pre-season work-out in February and March was:-

40 minutes warm-up. Float 3 x 150 metres. 10 minutes loosening up. 2000 metres in 6 minutes - 20 minutes rest - 1000 metres in 2:55.0 - 15mins. rest - 1000 metres in 2:55.0 - 15mins. rest - 1000 metres in 2:55.0. Finish.

Later in April he would finish with the woods and the gym and his track training became 3 days a week - occasionally 4 days but never more.

A typical early season work-out was:-
Warm-up & gymnastics as before. 800m. in 2mins - 15minutes rest - 600 metres in 86secs. - 10 mins rest - 3 x 400m. each in 54 or 55secs. with 7 mins. rest between each.

Later still when the season was in full swing he would begin with 300 metre runs at 37secs with 10mins. rest followed by ones in 36.5, 36.0 and 35.5secs. the last two with only 5minutes rest. Sometimes he liked to finish a session with four flying 100 metres each in about 10.4 seconds.

The Wednesday before the fabulous and still unapproached World's 800 metres record of 1:46.6 at Milan on July 15, 1939 this was his immediate pre-record work-out:-

600 metres 82.0 - 20 minutes rest - 500 metres 67.0 - 15mins. rest - 400 metres 50secs - 10 minutes rest - 300m 37secs - 5mins rest - 200 metres 23secs - 2 mins. rest - 100 metres 10.9. After which he cycled home! Harbig, unlike most athletes of to-day, never considered 'cycling detrimental to runners. In fact his job as a gas meter reader involved a great deal of cycling.

Harbig was a simple man but athletics greatly developed his personality. Latterly he became a competent after dinner speaker and could manage even a little Italian and French. He enriched his natural sense of humour and gained considerable poise that he might never have acquired but for intimate contact with sport. A week before his third world record - the 2:21.5 for 1000 metres at Dresden, Germany on May 24th, 1941, he married Grete, a Dresden girl, and in 1943 a daughter Ulriche was born.

There can be little doubt that Paratrooper Sgt. Rudolf Harbig, Iron Cross(1st & 2nd class) was killed on March 5th, 1944 on the Russian front at a bridge in East Prussia by a stream of machine gun bullets through the head and chest. Owing to the exposed position the eight other members of his platoon could not recover his body. Reports however, persist of his being seen alive by returning prisoners - one even claiming to have cut his hair in a Siberian slave camp. But Grete Harbig is quite convinced that she is a widow and

has presented many of her husband's trophies at sports meetings throughout Germany.

In 1942 Harbig confided in several friends that when the war was over he was going to try to add the world 1500 metre record to those for the 800 and 1000 metres which he already held. Had he lived this phenomenal athlete would have been 31½ when Germany surrendered in May 1945.

Perhaps the most eloquent tribute that can be paid to Harbig is that even now 14 years after his zenith noone has yet surpassed even his second best mark of 1min 47.8 secs. against Mario Ianzi(1:49.3n) at Stuttgart on August 4th 1940.



RUDOLF HARBIG IN 1936

THE CLIMB TO FAME

Harbig began track athletics only after he was 20 having earlier been a cross-country runner.

400 METRES	Age	800 METRES
	20yrs 7mths	2:04.0 (1934)
	20yrs 8mths	1:59.4 (1934)
	20yrs 10mths	1:58.2 (1934)
	21yrs 6mths	1:56.2 (1935)
	21yrs 7mths	1:54.1 (1935)
50.3 (1935)	21yrs 8mths	
50.0 (1935)	21yrs 10mths	
	22yrs 6mths	1:53.5 (1936)
48.8 (1936)	22yrs 7mths	1:52.5 (1936)
	22yrs 9mths	1:52.2 (1936)
47.6 (1937)	23yrs 8mths	1:50.9 (1937)
46.8 (1938)	24yrs 8mths	
	24yrs 9mths	1:50.6 (1938)
	25yrs 6mths	1:50.5 (1939)
	25yrs 7mths	1:49.4 (1939)
46.7 (1939)	25yrs 8mths	1:46.6 (1939)
46.0 (1939)	25yrs 9mths	

Including relay stages Harbig ran 219 races between his first 800 metres in 2:04.0 in Dresden on June 26th 1934 and his last at Braunschweig sometime in October of 1942. Of these 81 were 800 metres and 50 400 metres. His best marks at each distance are as follows :-

50 Metres	6.0	Dresden	6. 7.1940 (Only ran 1)
100 Metres	10.6	Dresden	17. 9.1938 (Ran 8)
200 Metres	21.5	Leipzig	11. 6.1939 (Ran 23)
300 Metres	34.6	Berlin	18. 6.1941 (Only ran 1)
400 Metres	46.0	Frankfort	12. 8.1939 (Ran 50)
500 Metres	65.2	Dresden	1. 6.1935 (Only ran 1)
800 Metres	1:46.6	Milan	15. 7.1939 (Ran 81+1880y)
1,000 Metres	2:21.5	Dresden	24. 5.1941 (Ran 10)
1,500 Metres	4:01.0	Dresden	15. 5.1938 (Ran 4)
High Jump	1.73(5'8")	Dresden	5. 9.1937 (3 Comps)
Long Jump	6.87(22'6")	Dresden	29. 8.1937 (2 Comps)

Relays: Harbig ran in 10 4x100m., 21 4x400m. and 2 1000mx3 relays together with 5 800 metres stages.

His records were :-

5 WORLD RECORDS:	400 Metres	46.0 Dresden	Aug. 12 1939
	800 Metres	1:46.6 Milan	July 15 1939
	1,000 Metres	2:21.5 Dresden	May 24 1941
	4x800 M.Relay	7:30.4 Braunschweig	Aug. 23 1941 (4th stage in 1:49.2)
15 GERMAN RECORDS:	400 Metres	47.6, 46.8, 46.7, 46.0	
	500 Metres	61.7	
	800 Metres	1:50.9, 1:50.6, 1:50.5, 1:50.5,	
		1:49.4, 1:46.6.	
	1,000 Metres	2:24.9, 2:21.5	
		4x400 M.Relay 3:10.6	
	4x800 M.Relay 7:30.4		

A compilation of all Harbig's sub 47.0.sec 400 metres and his sub 1:50.0 800 metre marks was published, together with a photograph, in the November 1952 issue of 'ATHLETICS WORLD'.

Acknowledgements to Herman Beger, H.Sperling and Ekkehard zur Megede of 'LEICHTATHLETIK'.



Harbig seen on his sole appearance in Britain when first in the GB v Germany match of 1937 in 1 min.54.8.

BEST BRITISH MARKS 1953

This fifth list for the year takes in all known marks to Oct. 3rd.

100 Yards.

9.7	McDonald Bailey	6/6
9.8	Olowu(Nigeria)	30/5
9.9n	Shenton	23/5
9.9n	Sexton	20/6
9.9n	Jones	3/8
9.9n	Jack	22/8
10.0	Nine athletes(per List No 4)	

100 Metres.

10.6	McDonald Bailey	4/7
10.7	Shenton	3/9
10.8n	Jones	29/8
10.9n	Jack	4/7

200 Metres (turn).

" = 220yds(201.17m)less 0.1s

21.2"	McDonald Bailey	10/7
21.5	Shenton	2/9
21.8"	Sexton	20/6
21.8	Jones	2/9
21.9"	Jack	13/6
22.0"	Dick	28/2
22.0"	Ferguson	13/6
22.0	Pinnington	14/8
22.1	Groves	14/8
22.2"	Merrett	10/7

220 Yards (straightaway)

21.0	McDonald Bailey	16/5
21.6n	Ferguson	16/5
22.0n	Wright	16/5

400 Metres ("440 yds(402.34m)less 0.3 secs.)

47.8"	Fryer	25/5
47.9"	Sexton	25/5
48.3	Smith	29/8
48.4"	Dick	7/3
48.7"	Wint(Jamaica)	18/7
48.9"	Rawe	4/7
49.2"	Scott	25/7
49.3"	Robertson	27/6
49.4"	Millican	25/5
49.4"	Phillips	4/7
49.5	Whittaker	14/8

800 Metres ("= 880yds (804.67 m.) less 0.7 secs.)

1:50.0"	Bannister	3/8
1:51.2"	Hewson	3/8
1:51.5"	Scott	8/8
1:52.2	Grogan	15/8
1:52.6	Mankeville	25/5
1:52.6	Macmillan(Aust:)	25/5
1:53.5"	Boyd	4/7
1:53.5	Bryant	15/8
1:53.8"	Law	2/5
1:53.9"	Williamson	11/7
1:54.0"	Leftwich	8/8
1:500 Metres.(M = in a mile)		
3:44.8M	Bannister	27/6
3:46.6n	Nankeville	3/9
3:49.0n	Seaman	3/9
3:50.4	Law	16/8
3:50.6n	Dunkley,R.H.	16/8
3:51.8M	Pirie	8/8
3:52.6n	Milligan	17/6

One Mile.

4:02.0	Bannister	27/6
4:06.8	Pirie	8/8
4:07.4	Nankeville	9/9
4:08.0n	Seaman	11/7
4:08.4	Chataway	14/3
4:08.8	Green	3/10
4:09.8n	Dunkley,R.H.	3/10
4:10.6n	Robinson	14/3
4:10.6n	Disley	3/10
4:10.8n	Law	14/3

4:11.2n	Breckenridge	13/6
4:12.0	Brown	10/7
4:12.4	Macmillan(Aust:)	12/8
4:12.5n	Milligan	30/5
4:12.6n	Crooks	10/7
4:13.0n	Barratt	4/7
4:13.2	Driver	9/9
4:14.4n	Blakiston	10/7
4:14.4	Green	5/9
4:15.2n	Hulatt	10/7
4:15.4n	Davis	10/7
4:15.4	Eyre	29/7
4:15.6	Maynard	13/6
4:15.6n	Evans,J.S.	9/9
4:15.8	Brasher	4/7

3,000 Metres.(M= in 2 Miles)

8:11.0	Pirie	5/9
8:17.4n	Green	4/7
8:19.2M	Chataway	25/5
8:21.6n	Dunkley,R.H.	10/9

Two Miles:

8:47.4	Pirie	30/9
8:49.6	Chataway	25/5
8:53.0n	Green	30/9
8:54.7n	Eyre	1/8
8:58.4n	Binnie	1/8
9:02.6	Sando	27/6
9:03.0n	Maynard	9/9
9:04.2	Dunkley,R.H.	1/7
9:05.6	Breckenridge	30/6
9:05.6	Knight	5/8
9:06.8n	Brown	22/8
9:07.6n	Evans,J.S.	3/8
9:08.0n	Ingles	3/8
9:08.4	Parmenter	18/7
9:08.6n	Driver	1/8
9:08.8n	Hatton	18/7
9:09.0	Barratt	30/7
9:09.6n	Norris,K.L	3/8

Three Miles.(M= in 5000m race)

13:34.0M	Pirie	29/8
13:46.0n	Green	11/7
13:48.0n	Sando	23/5
14:01.0	Parmenter	15/8
14:01.0	Norris,K.L	23/9
14:01.4	Binnie	27/6
14:02.0n	Eyre	11/7
14:06.0n	Ranger	11/7
14:07.5n	Gray	15/8
14:08.8n	Maynard	11/7
14:09.2	Heywood	31/8
14:12.4	Barratt	8/8
14:13.6	Peters	12/5
14:15.4n	Schofield	13/6

5,000 Metres.

14:02.6	Pirie	29/8
14:27.2n	Green	29/8
14:31.4n	Eyre	2/9

Six Miles (First 23 as in list No.3)

29:17.2	Pirie	3/9
29:56.2n	Sando	3/9
31:38.1	Hesketh	17/6

120 Yards Hurdles(First 11 as in List 4)

220 Yards Hurdles (As List 4)		
but add		
24.3w	Vine	25/7
24.3wn	Hildreth	25/7

400 Metres Hurdles("= 440yds time less 0.4secs)

52.3"	Whittle	11/7
52.7"	Hardy	11/7
52.7	Gracie	16/8
53.7"	Scott	23/5
54.2"	Parker	23/5
54.3"	Kane	8/8
54.5	Hildreth	5/9
54.9"	Dangerfield	8/8
55.0	Walker,I.	14/8

Pirie's Season : 31 RACES - 36 RECORDS

At the conclusion of the greatest individual season's record ever posted by a British athlete we tabulate the astounding 1953 achievements of Douglas Alastair Gordon Pirie as compiled by the ATHLETICS WORLD staff writer Neil Allen.

Pirie is to forsake all top class cross-country racing in the 1953-54 season and will not accept any invitations to compete outdoors in the Southern Hemisphere nor indoors in the Northern Hemisphere during the European winter.

Pirie's records total 2 World, 6 British Empire, 2 European 6 British All-comers', 6 British National and 14 English Native

Date	Venue	Event	Place	Time	Rating of Performance
18/4	White City	6miles	1st	28:47.4	British Empire record
		(4miles	1st	19:04.0	English Native record
		(5miles	1st	23:56.2	English Native record
25/4	Tooting	880 yds.	4th	1:58.4	Personal best
25/4	Tooting	1mle	1st	4:16.8	
2/5	Oxford	2miles	1st	8:56.0	Personal best (No.2 U.K.)
		(1 1/2 miles	1st	6:39.8	English Native record
		(3000 m.	1st	8:19.2	British Empire best
6/5	Leyton	3miles	1st	13:54.8	Ground record
10/5	Tourcoing	3000 m.	2nd	8:21.4	Winner Reiff
16/5	Wimbledon	1mle	1st	4:18.2	Ground rec.(High wind)
23/5	White City	3miles	1st	13:46.0	
25/5	White City	2miles	2nd	8:55.6	Winner Chataway(8:49.6)
		(1 1/2 miles	1st	6:35.8	English Native record
		3000 m.	1st	8:19.2	own British Empire best
30/5	Motspur Pk.	3 miles	1st	13:54.2	Track & Surrey county rec.
6/6	Carlshalton	2 miles	1st	9:10.0	Ground record
13/6	Chiswick	3 miles	1st	13:54.2	'Kinnaird' & ground record
17/6	Brussels	5000 m.	3rd	14:18.8	Mimoun 14:08.5,Reiff 2nd.
20/6	White City	3 miles	1st	13:41.8	British Empire record
10/7	White City	6 miles	1st	28:19.4	WORLD'S RECORD
		(4 miles	1st	18:45.2	World's fastest timed
		(5 miles	1st	23:43.2	World's fastest timed
11/7	White City	3 miles	1st	13:43.4	AAA Championship record
18/7	Motspur Pk.	1 mile	1st	4:11.0	Personal best
1/8	White City	3 miles	1st	13:36.4	British Empire record
8/8	White City	1 mile	1st	4:06.8	Personal best(No.3 U.K.)
		(1500 m.	1st	3:51.8	Personal best(15.0s diff.)
		1500 m.	1st	3:53.4	Ground record
		(3/4 mile	1st	3:05.0	Personal best
20/8	Voss	3000 m.	1st	8:11.4	British Empire best
22/8	Odda	1500 m.	1st	3:52.2	Ground record
24/8	Notodden	800 m.	1st	1:56.0	Personal best
25/8	Oslo	3000 m.	2nd	8:41.6	Winner Herman 8:39.4
29/8	Berlin	5000 m.	1st	14:02.6	Brit. Emp. best & German
		(3 miles	1st	13:34.0	Brit. Emp. best(allcomers'
3/9	Stockholm	10,000 m.	1st	29:17.2	No.2 World,Brit. Emp. best
		(6 miles	1st	28:20.0	& Swedish allcomers'
5/9	Oslo	3000 m.	1st	8:11.0	British Empire best.
9/9	White City	2 miles	1st	8:47.8	British Empire record
		(1 1/2 miles	1st	6:35.8	own English Nat. record
		3000 m.	1st	8:13.8	Fastest ever in U.K.
23/9	White City	4x1500 m.	1st	15:27.2	WORLD RECORD
		(3 miles	1st	3:50.2	Personal time 3rd stage
30/9	White City	2 miles	1st	8:47.4	British Empire record
		(1 1/2 miles	1st	6:36.2	
3/10	Birmingham	4 miles	1st	18:35.6	World's fastest timed

"Any bouncing cheque is the concern of a bank clerk but Gordon Pirie of the Croydon branch of Lloyds Bank is pre-occupied about bouncing a particular Czech."

In next month's issue of "ATHLETICS WORLD" there will be an exclusive feature on Pirie's training programme and methods.

400 Metre Hurdles cont:	Field Events:(see List 4 but add the following-:	
55.9"	Wilmshurst	9/9
55.9"	Vine	9/9
3,000 Metre Steeplechase.		
9:05.4	Disley	23/9
9:10.8	Johnson	1/8
9:15.6n	Ellis	1/8
9:19.8	Brasher	17/6
Two Miles Steeplechase.(as List no. 3 but add		
10:23.4	Hatton	5/9
200 Metres. Add 21.7" Gibbs		10/7
	12' 0" Howland	5/9
	Pole Vault.	
	46' 3 1/2" Abbott(?light)	22/8
	44' 6 1/2" Vanhegan	15/7
	Discus Throw.	
	145' 8" Silbery	29/8
	140' 4" Jones,P.	6/8
	Javelin Throw.	
	207' 0" Smith,C.G.	12/9
	195' 5 1/2" Riach	5/9

BRITAIN'S MILERS GAIN 2ND WORLD MARK

Great Britain secured her third men's world record of 1953 and the 17th of the season on Wednesday, September 23rd, in the 'EVENING NEWS' Floodlight meeting at the White City Stadium, London when four of her middle-distance runners unexpectedly defeated the national teams of Sweden and Western Germany over 4 x 1,500 metres in 15mins 27.2 secs. (average 3:51.8 per stage).

The story of this greatest ever middle-distance relay is most succinctly told by the hitherto unpublished stage times in the table below. Spice was added to the occasion by the news which broke half an hour before the gun that a Hungarian quartet had just taken one second off the listed 4 x 1,500 metres world mark of 15:30.2 set in 1949 by the Gefle I.F. in the Swedish relay championships with a 15:29.2 clocking in Budapest.

Ralph Dunkley, 23 (G.B.) after leading for 1,300 metres was overhauled first by the German Olav Lawrenz, who was wearing anti-dazzle glasses, and then by Sweden's 4:03.6 miler Ingvar Axel Eriksson. The London University student rallied to pass over level with the Swede both recording 3:53.4 with the German getting a rather generous 3:52.2 from his team manager. The well-knit 29 year old Gefle fireman Olle Åberg and David Law (G.B.) soon demolished the lead given to the German 1:49.6 man Gunther Dohrow though neither took the front position for 2½ laps. Åberg then resolutely struck out to open a 10 yard gap. In fighting to hold the fleeing Swede Law himself dropped the German 70 yards from the second exchange after which they were never again in the hunt. Åberg arrived 8 yards to the good having run the second sub 3:50 stage in relay history while Law recorded his personal best with 3:50.0 (worth 4:09.2).

Gordon Pirie running the third stage for Britain soon wiped out the small deficit against Tore Lundberg. The 24 year old Swede showed spirited resistance and opened a 6 yard lead at the half way stage of this third leg. The world six mile record holder responded powerfully and with only 180 metres to go surged forward to give Bill Nankeville an unwanted lead of 8 yards. The 4 times British champion slowed down the pace to a sauntering 65.8 secs. lap. With 900 metres to go to the tape and the awaiting photographers Sune Karlsson could stand the suspense no longer and passed by. The pace immediately was restored to a more befitting 61.8 secs. At the bell the travel weary Swede, whose 3:44.2 last June heads the 1953 list, tried all he knew to get away. The 28 year old Briton bided his time all the while teeing himself up for a perfidious assault from behind. The strain became intolerable as 10 million televiewers went white at the knuckles as they gripped their arm-chairs. All of a sudden the 23,000 eyewitnesses let out a roar as the explosion came which set the Englishman bursting through the blizzard of flash-bulbs to stop the watches at 15:27.2 - a new European and World's record. Thus with a 57.8 sec. last lap the Woking sportsgoods salesman had brought this 4 x 1500 metre World's record back to Britain after an absence of 13 years. The Swedes with a 59.8 sec. last lap by 'Hallsta' Karlsson set a new national record 12 yards behind in 15:29.0 while the Germans had the scant solace of slicing 15.8 secs. from their poor national record (15:56.6 in 1938) with 15:40.8



Action Photo by H. W. Neale

SUNE KARLSSON of Sweden, the world's fastest 1,500 metre man of the year, leading BILL NANKEVILLE (G.B.) in the anchor stage of the world record 4x1,500 metre race at the 'EVENING NEWS' floodlit meeting.

The match proper between London and Stockholm was an easy win for the home side drawn for a population of over 8 million - more than the whole of Sweden - by 104 points to 76.

Personal bests were recorded by Johnny Rawe (49.2 secs.), in beating Peter Fryer, and by Ken Norris who ran an excellent 14:01.0 3 miles. Brian Shenton gained a sound sprint 'double' with 9.9 secs. and 22.1 secs. Stockholm's only two track victories came in the 880 yards and 440 yards hurdles. Sweden's 1:50.4 man Hans Ring outkicked Brian Hewson in 1:52.4. Hewson recorded 1:53.0 for his 7th sub 1:54 mark in 10 weeks. Lars Ylander (54.1) lead the way in for 1948's momentary Olympic record holder Rune Larsson (54.5) in the quarter hurdles.

Of the 6 field events the Swedes won only the high jump with Bengt Nilsson at 6'4" and the long jump through radio crooner Karl-Erik Israelsson at 23'7". Derek Cox had to retire after clearing 6'2" due to a spike injury but nonetheless succeeded in splitting Europe's greatest duo Nilsson and Svensson. Geoff Elliott sailed over 4 metres (13'1"½) and went straight on for 3 attempts at 14 ft. Denis Tucker won the javelin with his third best ever winning throw of 202'7" while Peter Allday came from behind to snatch the hammer by ½ an inch from Allan Ringström, the Swedish champion, with 165'1"½.

In the women's events pride of place went to Mrs. Michael Lerwill who made her highest jump since her world record of 5'7"½ 26 months ago. A fine straddle over 5'6"½ also dislodged world pentathlon record-holder Aleksandra Chudina from first spot on the 1953 list. Great Britain 'A' also set new British figures for 4x220 with 1:40.2secs.

GEFLE I.F. (old world mark) 1949	HUNGARY 23.9.1953 Budapest	GREAT BRITAIN White City	23.9.1953 1st	SWEDEN 23.9.1953 White City	2nd	GERMANY 23.9.1953 White City	3rd		
I. Bengtsson	3:52.6	S. Garay	3:49.0	R.H. Dunkley	3:53.4	I.A. Eriksson	3:53.4	O. Lawrenz	3:53.0
G. Bergkvist	3:52.7	E. Béres	3:58.2	D.C. Law	3:50.0	O.W. Åberg	3:49.2	G. Dohrow	3:53.2
O.W. Åberg	3:51.9	S. Iharos	3:51.2	D.A.G. Pirie	3:50.2	T. Lundberg	3:51.9e	R. Lamers	3:57.0
H. Eriksson	3:53.0	I. Rozsavölgyi	3:50.8	G.W. Nankeville	3:53.6	S. Karlsson	3:54.4e	W. Lueg	3:57.6
Listed World rec:	15:30.2	World record	15:29.2	World record	15:27.2	Swedish record	15:29.0	German record	15:40.8

NANKEVILLE EDGES BOYSEN IN 4:07.4

Many leading British athletes adopted workaday labels such as 'Shipping', 'Banks' or 'Stock Exchange' as 14,000 Londoners turned out for the first of the three end of season floodlit meetings at the White City Stadium on September 9th, when the 25th City Charities meeting, sponsored by the 'FINANCIAL TIMES' was staged.

Bill Nankeville, fresh from his 3:46.6 run in Stockholm, won the star event, the 'City Mile' in a thrilling race against the fair Norwegian Audun Boyesen (only 8 days away from his world's 1,000 metre record (see page 1.)). Nils Toft of Sweden made the early pace through 62.0 for the first and 63.6 for the second lap. At the bell passed in 3:07.8 Nankeville looked the liveliest though Boyesen was working his way up to the front. Passing a 1500m. marker in 3:51.8 Nankeville had the strength to hold off Boyesen in the short home stretch to record a personal best of 4:07.4 - equal to Wooderson's long standing track record of 1939 three times bettered in 1953.

Boyesen also recorded 4:07.4 to become the second fastest visting miler behind Santee (4:07.2n). Next came Toft in 4:09.4 followed by David Law (4:12.4), B.T. Barratt (4:13.1) and D.S. Crook (4:13.6).

Gordon Pirie, the strongroom man of the Banks team, cracked away from 35 other 2 milers in a mass start team race. Made to look even remoter by a tracking spot-light Pirie reeled off 'halves' in 2:08.8; 2:12.6; 2:14.4 and 2:12.0. The 1½ mile reading of 6:35.8 equalled his own Native record set during his perhaps still rankling 6 secs. defeat by Chataway last May in 8:49.6. His total time of 8:47.8 thus ensured that the name of Pirie stretches without interruption from 1½ to 6 miles. The brilliant run was the fastest in the world for 1953 and second only to Reiff's 8:40.4 and Hagg's 8:42.8 & 47.2. Second was Michael Maynard whose fine 9:03.0 moved him to 6th on the British All-time list to be published in ATHLETICS WORLD'S next issue. Peter Pirie, 24 was 3rd in 9:13.6 a personal best.

SUMMARY: 220 Yards Merrett 22.4; 440 Yds Rawe 49.6; 880 Yds Taylor 1:57.0; Mile Driver 4:13.2, Brown 4:14.2, J.S. Evans 4:15.6; 1200m. Vine 15.2; 4400m. Wilmshurst 56.3, H.S.J. Wilmshurst 47'6"½; J.T. C.G. Smith 199'10".

WILL 1500M/MILE RECORDS SURVIVE 1953?

(cont: from Page 1) and 47.7 secs at 440 yards in the course of an international meeting at Örebro, Sweden, on Sept. 5th. Then Gösta Brännström equalled that mark at Budapest on Sept 12th.

MIDDLE-DISTANCES: No new sub 1:50 800 metre men in recent weeks but a host of little known performers is crowding the 1:50-1:51 bracket. At Belgrade on Sept. 20th Tauno Kontio of Finland shaved almost two seconds off his personal best with a significant 1:50.0 performance. He was hard pushed to it for Velisa Mugosa of Jugoslavia was second in 1:50.4 (new national record). Another Finn, Urpo Vähäranta, was a very close third in 1:50.4. Kontio is a 6'1" 148 lbs. 'find' from Tornio, a town situated near the northern border with Sweden. This 24 year old had a best time of 1:54.5 last year and ducked under 1:53.0 for the first time in the Finnish Championships (mid-August). Mugosa, considered by many the finest prospect Jugoslavia has ever had at these distances, is 22 and could do no better than 1:55.0 last season. At Budapest on Sept. 19 a 21 year old Hungarian quarter-miler, Lajos Szentgáli, surprisingly beat U.S.S.R.'s new 800 metre record-holder, G. Ivakin (1:49.6 in August), over the latter's special distance with a fine 1:50.1. This was only good enough for second, for another Magyar star, Istvan Bárkányi, was one tenth faster. Ivakin was a badly beaten third in 1:52.3.

Audun Boysen of Norway recaptured the world's 1,000 metre record for Europe as he clipped 4 tenths off Mal Whitfield's 2:20.8 (Eskilstuna Aug. 16). The race was at Bislet Stadium, Oslo on Sept. 17 and Boysen was extended to his achievements by 22 year old Roger Moens of Belgium. A Norwegian 'hare' passed the 400 metre mark in 55.0 secs, then Boysen took over and clocked 1:53.0 at 800 metres. In the decisive stage Boysen successfully staved off Moens' strong bid and finished in elegant style to clock 2:20.4. Moens was timed in 2:20.9 - third best ever at this somewhat neglected distance.

EXPECTED RECORDS NOT FORTHCOMING

In the 1500 metre/one mile department the season seems likely to die without the expected new world's records (unless of course Australia's great 'John L.'). This was partly due to the fact that some of the standouts of 1952 have failed for one reason or another to give the expected contribution (this group includes Barthel, Lueg, Reiff, Dohrow). Denis Johansson of Finland is one of those who, coming from the middle ranks, has by now reached the very top. Denis' latest good mark is a 3:46.6 for 1,500 metres at Belgrade on Sept. 19 when he won from his younger countryman Matti Huttunen (3:49.4) and the above-mentioned Mugosa of Jugoslavia (3:50.0). The most impressive 'explosion' was, however, that of the 24 year old Istvan Rozsavölgyi. This Hungarian runner did not have a single sub 4:00 mark to his credit until late June this year. On July 4 he suddenly came up with a promising 3:52.8. In the Hungarian Championships later in the month he did 3:49.6, then at Budapest on Aug. 19 he beat the Magyar record-holder Ernő Béres (3:46.6, this year) with a confounding 3:47.4. Fourteen seconds 'eaten' in less than 2 months - a truly amazing feat!

RUSSIAN SAILOR 'BLOWS UP' IN 14:04.4!

LONGER DISTANCES: For quality and quantity of marks, no continental has this year a record comparable to that of Britain's 'fakir of distance running' (a Swedish label), Gordon Pirie. Nevertheless two men have been most noteworthy in recent weeks - Hungary's diminutive József Kovács (27) and U.S.S.R.'s Vladimir Kuts (26). These men, both turned their attention to distance running as recently as 1951, were the protagonists of a most peculiar 5,000 metre race at Budapest on Sept. 20. Kuts set out with the intention of erasing from the books that old record of Gunder Hägg (13:58.2) and went 'all-out' from the start. The story of the Russian sailor's tearaway tactics and how the little Hungarian caught him is best recited in the form of a table of their 1,000 metre times compared with those of Hägg's

	HÄGG(1942)	KUTS	and	KOVÁCS
1km	2:40.0 (2:40.0)	2:36.4 (2:36.4)		2:47.0 (2:47.0)
2km	5:27.0 (2:47.0)	5:22.0 (2:45.6)		5:35.0 (2:48.0)
3km	8:18.5 (2:51.5)	8:10.4 (2:48.4)		8:28.0 (2:53.0)
4km	11:09.0 (2:50.5)	11:02.0 (2:51.6)		11:15.0 (2:47.0)
5km	13:58.2 (2:49.2)	14:04.4 (3:02.4)		14:01.2 (2:46.2)

As can be seen the 26 year old Soviet athlete's suicidal pace stood him in stead for just four fifths of the route after which Kovács turned a 90 metre deficit into a 12 metre victory in the third fastest mark of all-time and a Hungarian record. The blond runner from Leningrad had some consolation in beating Amufriyev's 3,000 metre record en route after which he must have passed through an unmarked two mile post in around 8:50.0!

(cont: from col 1) At Helsinki on Sept. 5 Hannu Posti of Finland beat Alain Mimoun of France in a personal best of 29:49.8 while Mimoun was a somewhat disappointing second in 29:51.0. The following day Mimoun turned the tables on Posti after a close stretch battle in the 5,000 metres with a 4 tenths margin in 14:28.4.

STEEPLECHASE: In his second major race of the season Vladimir Kazantsev of Russia did 8:49.8 at Budapest on Sept. 20 with his countryman Mikhail Saltikov second in 8:52.8 (good for 7th on the all-time list) and Iászló Jeszzenszky of Hungary third in 8:55.2.

OLDEST WORLD'S RECORD GOES AS LITUYEV RUNS 50.4.

One of the year's truly superlative achievements should be credited to 28 year old Yuriy Lituyev of U.S.S.R. who ran the 400 metre hurdles in 50.4 secs at Budapest on Sept. 20. This mark, which betters Glenn Hardin's 19 year old world record by two tenths, was made on the new Nép-Stadion track - a 'hyper-fast' surface according to Swedish observers. Lituyev began as a decathlon man (he amassed 6,880 points (1934 tables)) and concentrated on the medium hurdles in 1949. Since then his progress has been without a halt -

1949	53.1	1951	51.7	1953	50.4
1950	52.4	1952	51.2		

The top six marks of Lituyev now compare with Hardin and Charley Moore, his Helsinki conqueror, thus:-

LITUYEV	MOORE	HARDIN
50.4 (1953)	50.7 (1952)	50.6 (1934)
50.7 (1953)	50.8 (1952)	51.4 (1934)
51.2 (1952)	50.8 (1952)	51.4 (1934)
51.2 (1952)	50.8 (1952)	51.4 (1936)
51.3n (1952)	50.9 (1952)	51.6 (1936)
51.4 (1953)	51.1 (1949)	51.8 (1934)

In the world record race Anatoly Yulin was second in 51.4. These performances were made on a 'regulation' 400 metres track, which, however, has easy sweeping turns.

SEVEN TWO METRE (6'6"½) MEN IN EUROPE

JUMPS: American high jumpers have been supreme this year, yet Europe can point too to a marked over-all improvement. Seven men over 2 metres in one season is easily an all-time record for the Old Continent. This select group has two Swedes (B. Nilsson 6'7"½ and G. Svensson 6'6"½), two Frenchmen (G. Damitio and P. G. Thiam, both 6'6"½), two Czechs (J. Lánský 6'7"½ and M. Řehák, a junior, 6'6"½) and Ion Söter of Rumania, who recently put himself on top of the list with a 6'7"½ (2.02) jump. In the pole vault Ragnar Lunberg of Sweden has been the most reliable competitor. In recent international meets he has done 14'11"½ (4.30 mtrs.) consistently. Also good has been the temperamental Jugoslav with a best mark of 14'11"½.

Europe has at long last a 25 footer in the long jump, in the person of Hungary's 24 year old, frail-legged, Ödön Földessy. Except for a solitary 25'0"½ (7.63) from Kurt Albert of Germany in 1943, one must go back to pre-war days to find a 25 footer from Europe. Földessy has now done the trick three times this season, most recently with a 25'5"½ (7.76) jump at Budapest on Sept. 19. With this leap he now shares with the 10.4 sec. 100 metre man Wilhelm Leichum of Germany the number two position on the European All-Time List behind the late Luz Long of Germany (25'11" in 1937). Földessy recently crossed a high jump bar set at 6'2"½.

Leonid Shcherbakov triple jumped 52'5"½ (16.00) at Budapest on Sept. 20 - his third winning mark of the season 16 metres. There is a mighty gap behind the Russian the second best European being Roger Norman of Sweden at 49'8"½. Martin Řehák, the new Czech find, has done 49'7"½.

SKOBIA CLIMBS TO FOURTH AMONG SHOT-PUTTERS

Jiří Skobla has now joined the American 'de luxe' class in the shot-putt. On Sept. 13th at Znojmo he putt the 16 lbs. ball 56'11"½ (17.36) for a new European record. At Dresden on Sept. 20 he was content with 56'7"½, but only two days later later at Aue in Saxony he again broke the record on his second effort which, after lengthy measurements, was finally announced as 57'6"½ (17.54) - good for the No. 4 position on the World All-Time List, next to America's three latest record-breakers, Charles Fonville, Jim Fuchs and Parry O'Brien. The long putt of Sept. 22 occurred late in the evening, it was growing cold and the Czech ace reportedly had a sore arm, so he took only 4 throws, of which only 1 failed to pass the 17 metre line.

Behind the evergreen Adolfo Consolini of Italy (whose best September throw was 177'9"½ at Milan on the 13th) things have really begun to move in the discus world. At Budapest on Sept. 20 the Russian shotputter Otto Grigalka set a Soviet record of 174'5"½ (53.17), yet he had to surrender to Ferenc Klics of Hungary who came very close to his best ever with 175'0"½ (53.35). Vitomir Krivokapic improved his Jugoslav record in the last weekend of the month with 170'0"½ at Paracin. (R. L. Queretani's report is concluded on page two.)