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Photo by E. D. Lacey

MICHAEL WHEELER (47.7) loses by inches to PETER FRYER (47.7) in A.A.A. 440 yards watched by 35,000 at the White City, London June 16. (Reports pages 156-7-8 & 160)

COURTNEY RUNS 1 MIN. 46.8 SECS.

NEW LOOK 2 LAP LIST

800m.		880yds.	
1.	1:46.6	r	Harbig 1939
=2.	(1:46.8)	1:47.5	Spurrer 1955
=2.	1:46.8	-	Courtney 1955
4.	(1:46.9)	1:47.6	Sowell 1955
5.	1:47.0	-	Moens 1955
6.	1:47.1	-	Szentgali 1954
7.	1:47.3n	-	DeMuynek 1954
=8.	1:47.4n	-	Boysen 1954
=8.	1:47.4n	-	Johnson 1954
=8.	(1:47.4)	1:48.1n	Tidwell 1955
11.	(1:47.8)	1:48.5	Santee 1955
=12.	1:47.9	1:48.6	Whitfield 1953
=12.	1:47.9	1:48.6	Nielsen 1954
=12.	(1:47.9)	1:48.6n	Stanley 1955

Kouvola, Finland. July 17. Tom Courtney, the 21 year old American half-miler from Fordham University, this evening made the closest approach in 16 years to Rudolf Harbig's seemingly 'permanent' 800 metres world record of 1:46.6 secs. set 7 weeks before the war broke out in 1939. Courtney revealed his potential as anchor man on the world 4x880 yards record relay team from Fordham in May 1954 with a 1:48.2 stage.

Courtney's performance which was un-reported in either British or American newspapers came as no surprise following his 1:48.0 clocking in the A.A.U. race behind Arnie Sowell (1:47.6y) and his 1:47.6m at at Turku on July 5. Pekka Vesaja led at the bell in 51.5 seconds. R. Nieminen was second in 1:52.0s.

4 WOMEN'S WORLD RECORDS SO FAR

The 1955 season has so far brought forth four women's world records. After the news from Erfurt, Germany last May 29 of Christa Stubnick-Seliger's 23.8 sec. 220 yards three world records fell in the space 11 days. First in Leningrad on July 6 the virtually unknown Galina Vermolenko broke Shirley Delahunty's 1952 80 metre hurdles record by a tenth with 10.8 secs. Two days later in Leningrad Nina Martynenko totalled 4,977 points in the pentathlon while on July 17 in Moscow a Russian trio anchored by Nina Otkalenko returned 6:32.6 for 3 x 800 m.

WORLD'S TOP MARKS-1955

The following are the best marks achieved anywhere in the world in each standard event up to the end of July.

100 Yards	9.3	Jim Golliday (USA)	Evanston, Ill.	May 14
100 Metres	10.3	Willie Williams (USA)	Mexico City	Mar. 14
	10.3n	Michael Agostini (Trinidad)	Mexico City	Mar. 14
	10.3	Rod Richard (USA)	Mexico City	Mar. 16
220 Yards (turn)	20.6	Bobby Morrow (USA)		June 3
400 Metres	45.4	Louis Jones (USA)	Mexico City	Mar. 18
800 Metres	1:46.8	Tom Courtney (USA)	Kouvola	July 17
380 Yards	1:47.5	Lon Spurrer (USA)	Berkeley, Cal.	Mar. 26
1,500 Metres	3:42.2	Istvan Rozsavölgyi (Hung)	Belgrade	June 16
One Mile	3:59.0	Istvan Rozsavölgyi (Hung)	London	May 28
2,000 Metres	5:08.8	Istvan Rozsavölgyi (Hung)	Budapest	May 28
3,000 Metres	7:55.6	Sandor Iharos (Hungary)	Budapest	May 14
Two Miles	8:33.4	Sandor Iharos (Hungary)	London	May 30
Three Miles	13:29.8	Gordon Pirie (G.B.)	Manchester	June 21
	13:29.8	Frank Sando (G.B.)	Chiswick	June 25
	13:29.8n	Kenneth Norris (G.B.)	Chiswick	June 25
5,000 Metres	14:09.8	Ivan Ullsperger (Czech.)	Prague	June 8
6 Miles	28:21.4	Gordon Pirie (G.B.)	London	Apr. 23
10,000 M.	29:10.6	Aleksandr Anufriyev (USSR)	Minsk	May 20
110 m. Hurdles	13.8	Jack Davis (USA)	Calif., Columbia	Mar. 27
400 m. Hurdles	51.4	Yuriy Lityuev (USSR)	Minsk	May 21
3,000 m. St/Ch	8:45.4	Pentti Karvonen (Finland)	Oslo	July 15
High Jump	6'11 ¹ / ₄ "	Ernie Shelton (USA)	Los Angeles	June 10
Pole Vault	15' 3"	Bob Richards (USA)	Los Angeles	May 21
Long Jump	26' 4 ¹ / ₈ "	Roslyn Range (USA)	Mexico City	Mar. 14
Triple Jump	54' 3 ¹ / ₂ "	A.F. da Silva (Brazil)	Mexico City	Mar. 16
Shot Putt	59' 1"	Tom Jones (USA)		May 21
Discus	185' 3 ¹ / ₄ "	Karl Merta (Czechoslovakia)	Breznice	July 17
Hammer	209' 1 ¹ / ₈ "	Mikhail Krivonosov (USSR)	Moscow	June 25
Javelin	268' 2 ¹ / ₈ "	Bud Held (USA)	Modesto, Cal.	May 21

EUROPEAN RECORDS by R.L.Q.

400m-46.0 IGNATYEV; 880y-1:48.3 MOENS; 1,500m-3:42.2 RÓZSAVÖLGI

During June and early July European track thinclads began to get really hot. A European record was bettered by István Rózsavölgyi of Hungary, who ran 1,500 metres in 3:42.2 (Belgrade, June 16) and another was equalled by Ardalion Ignatyev of USSR with a fine 46.0 for 400 metres (Moscow, June 25). A world record which however is not even a track record - see story below - was created by Pentti Karvonen of Finland, who negotiated the 3,000 metres steeplechase in 8:47.8 (Helsinki, July 1). Two throwers had narrow misses with great marks as Mikhail Krivonosov of USSR reached 209'1¹/₈" with the hammer (Moscow, June 25) and Janusz Sidzo of Poland got one off to 262'8³/₈" with the javelin (Prague, June 28). Roger Moens of Belgium came out a most gallant loser after three "duels" with Harbig's 800 metres record, doing 1:47.5, 1:47.0 and 1:47.6 (in this last race the Belgian set a new European half mile record of 1:48.3). Athletes from Western and Northern Europe made their first full scale appearance in Russia during a two day meeting in Moscow, June 25-26, in which no less than five European champions suffered defeat.

SPRINTS

No one has so far matched the 10.4 clockings returned in May by the two Russians, Leonid Bartenyev and Yuriy Kononov. The former beat some of the best Eastern European sprinters in Moscow on June 25 with a fair 10.6. Elsewhere, Fütterer and Janeczek continue to be the most consistent dashmen, though it is clear that the German has not yet fully reached his 1954 form. As we now learn, Fütterer stumbled soon after the start of the 100 metre race at Prague on June 8 (see last month's report), and this mishap was no doubt contributory to his defeat. Germany has two new 10.5 men in Naujocks and Möhring, who must however confirm the authenticity of their marks. Prinz and Feneberg, also of Germany, have done 10.5 with an aiding wind.

EUROPEAN REPORT CONTINUED ON PAGE 159 and CONCLUDED PAGE 160.

AMERICA'S NEW CHAMPIONS 11 MEN CLEAR 6 FT. - 6 INS.!

The American season wound up with two great meetings—the N.C.A.A. Championships at Los Angeles, on June 17 & 18 and the A.U.U. (National) Championships at Boulder, Colorado, on June 24 & 25. If Uncle Sam's Olympic confidence was shaken by the 1953 and 1954 seasons, then all need for further worry has vanished. It looks as if the trombones and trumpets in which every band is engaged at Melbourne to do the musical honours will be able, when the time comes, to play the "Star Spangled Banner" almost untouched by human hand or lips.

The National Collegiate A.A. meeting saw 5 new records and one equalled. Jim Colliday ran a furlong round a turn in 20.9s in the first heat. Tom Courtney won the half mile, having surged to the front he stayed there to come home in 1:49.5. In the field events Ernie Shelton sailed over 6'11"¹/₂; Don Bragg of Villanova cleared 15'1"¹/₂ after a five hour pole vault battle and so took the No.4 place on the all-time list and Les Bitner threw the javelin 246'1" for a 17'5" improvement on George Roseme's 1952 record. The one equalled record came in the high hurdles when the decathlon silver medallist Milt Campbell returned 13.9 in both semi-final and heat.

The main surprise was the victory of Australia's Jim Bailey in the mile in 4:05.6 ahead of his Oregon team-mate Bill Dellinger (4:06.4) and Bob Seaman (U.C.L.A.—4:06.9).

GREAT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The unrestricted mixture of college men with those comparatively few Americans who stay in the sport well into their twenties produced a great 67th Edition of the A.A.U. (National) Championships. The smoothly run meeting was watched in dull conditions by a near record crowd of 8,500 on the first and 14,500 on the second day. The 5,350 ft. altitude of the Colorado track, as expected, hurt the distance marks.

There were five new championship records and one equalled. The highest high light was Arnie Sowell's 1:47.6 880 yards to lead home a tightly bunched field in the greatest race ever seen at this distance (see Photograph on p.160). Rod Richard, the double Pan American Games champion, ran the furlong round the turn in 21.0 seconds. Josh Culbreath won his third successive 440 yards hurdles in 52.0 seconds. In the field Hal Connolly—another great thrower in the Irish-American tradition of Flanagan, McGrath, Ryan—flung the hammer 199'8" and Bud Held gained his fifth javelin title with 260'3". Bob Backus outclassed the small field in the half hundred-weight weight sling with a mighty cast of 43'5".

Bobby Morrow the Texan won the 100 yards by inches in his 40th straight sprint win. The quarter mile was not quite the thrill expected because Lou Jones, the world 400 metres record holder, and J.W. Mashburn were non-starters and Jim Lea and Mal Whitfield were not in top shape. Young Charley Jenkins had a stirring win in Lane 2 as Lea made the mistake of watching out for Whitfield.

The half mile was no mean consolation to lanky Arnie Sowell who had gone to sleep in his N.C.A.A. heat and failed to qualify. This time Arnie was very wide awake. Nobody looked like catching him as he flew off the last bend. Lon Spurrier, the world's record holder (1:47.5) weakened over the last 110 yards and was shunted back into fifth place by the finish.

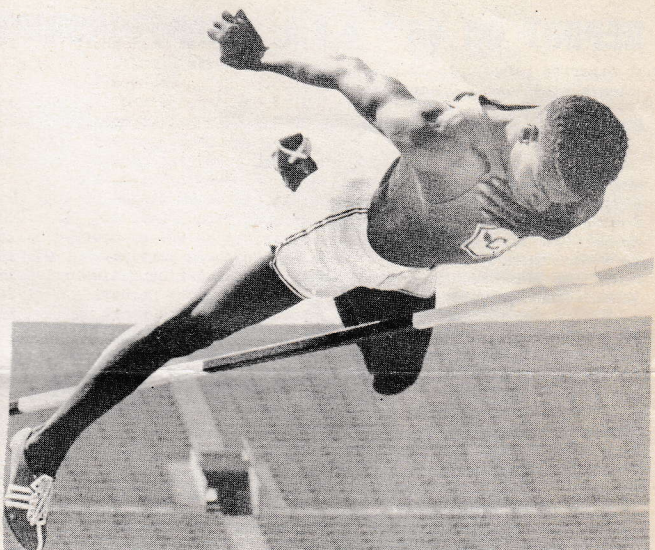
The mile was a thing of fits and starts. When Jim Elder collided with Bob Seaman at the start the crowd—probably encouraged by an 'inspector' who waved a red flag—took over and shouted the race down to a halt. Santee although a street length behind in the early stages won in 4:11.5s, thanks to an explosive last lap.

The sensation of the hurdles was that Jack Davis, the King of them all, was pulled by the starter in the Highs (some children disturbed concentration at the start) and failed by misjudgment to qualify for the lows.

The amazing standards reached in high jumping and pole vaulting in the United States were brought home sharply when 11 men cleared 6 feet 6 ins in the former and 7 cleared 14 feet in the latter. Charles Dumas at 18 looked a great prospect for the first amateur seven foot clearance.

The only foreign winner in this annual event, which is open to the world, was Victor Peredes of Cuba in the triple jump with his 50'4"—nearly two up on the best American. It is worth noting that Cuba produced two other fifty footers for the Pan-Am Games last March. Farry O'Brien became the only double winner with a 13" discus victory.

SUMMARY:	(a) = 1st day June 24th	(b) = 2nd day June 25th.
100 YARDS:	(a) 1. Bobby Morrow 9.5	4. John Haines 9.7
	2. Rod Richard 9.5	5. Bob Washington 9.7
	3. Dean Smith 9.5	6. Jerry Prewitt 9.7
220 YARDS:	(b) 1. Rod Richard 21.0	4. Bobby Morrow 21.3
(turn)	2. Dick Blair 21.1	5. Dean Smith 22.8
	3. Andy Stanfield 21.2	6. Bob Gary 24.7
440 YARDS:	(b) 1. Charley Jenkins 46.7	4. Mal Whitfield 47.2
	2. Jim Lea 46.9	5. Russ Ellis 47.8
	3. Dick Maiocco 47.1	6. Don Ward 47.9



CHARLES DUMAS, 18 the co-holder with Ernie Shelton of the title of High Jump champion of the United States. Having cleared 6 ft. 10 ins., Dumas elected to miss 6 ft. 11 ins., and came close to clearing 7 ft. on his third attempt. Note his habit of putting his left hand on his chest as he straddles the bar.

SUMMARY CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS COLUMN.

880 YARDS:	(b) 1. Arnold Sowell 1:47.6	4. Iang Stanley 1:48.6
	2. Tom Courtney 1:48.0	5. Lon Spurrier 1:48.7
	3. Billy Tidwell 1:48.1	6. Ted Wheeler 1:51.6
ONE MILE:	(a) 1. Wes Santee 4:11.5	4. Joe La Pierre 4:15.5
	2. Fred Dwyer 4:14.1	5. Phil Coleman 4:16.1
	3. Bob Seaman 4:14.8	6. Len Simpson 4:18.8
3 MILES:	(b) 1. Horace Ashenfelter 14:45.2	3. Bob Hunt 15:13.7
	2. Gordon McKenzie 14:59.6	4. Dick Hart 15:17.8
	5. Al Frame 15:17.8	
6 MILES:	(a) 1. Dick Hart 31:58.4	3. George King 33:00.3
	2. George McKenzie 32:28.0	4. Fred Schoeffler 33:25.3
120 YARDS	1. Milt Campbell 13.9	4. Lee Calhoun 14.5
HURDLES:	(a) 2. Bill Youkers 14.2	5. Jack Mathews 14.5
	3. Charles Pratt 14.4	6. Willie Stevens 14.5
220 YARDS	1. Charles Pratt 23.5	4. Raifer Johnson 23.6
HURDLES:	(b) 2. Tirrel Burton 23.6	5. Jack Mathews 23.6
	3. Arnold Jackson 23.6	6. Jim Luttrell 23.6
440 YARDS	1. Josh Culbreath 52.0	4. Ken Stapley 53.6
HURDLES:	(a) 2. Willie Atterberry 52.4	5. Eddie Southern 53.8
	3. Jim Luttrell 52.8	6. Don Dwyer 56.3
TWO MILES	1. Ken Reiser 10:20.7	3. Ed Shea 10:35.0
STEEPLECHASE	2. Horace Ashen-ft 10:28.9	4. Fred Schoeffler 10:46.8
HIGH JUMP	(a) 1. Ernie Shelton 6'10"	6. Bernard Allard 6' 6"
	1. Charles Dumas 6'10"	6. Phil Fehlen 6' 6"
	3. Verne Wilson 6' 8"	6. Bob Barksdale 6' 6"
	4. Wilfred Lee 6' 7"	6. Chuck Holding 6' 6"
	4. Jack Razetto 6' 7"	6. Floyd Smith 6' 6"
		6. Ralph Bonham 6' 6"
POLE VAULT	(b) 1. Bob Richards 15' 0" ¹ / ₂	4. Ron Morris 14' 0"
	2. Bobby Smith 14' 6"	4. George Mattos 14' 0"
	2. Walt Levack 14' 6"	4. Don Laz 14' 0"
		4. Fred Barnes 14' 0"
LONG JUMP	(a) 1. Gregory Bell 26' 0" ¹ / ₂	4. Erwin Cook 24' 0" ¹ / ₂
	2. John Bennett 25' 1" ¹ / ₂	5. Frank Herrmann 23' 11" ¹ / ₂
	3. Mal Andrews 25' 0" ¹ / ₂	6. George Shaw 23' 9"
HOP, STEP & JUMP	(b) 1. Victor Peredes 50' 4"	4. Glen Beerline 48' 4" ¹ / ₂
	2. Bill Sharpe 48' 6" ¹ / ₂	5. Sal Mazzocco 47' 3"
	3. Kent Floerke 48' 5"	6. Ellis West (S.A.) 47' 0" ¹ / ₂
SHOT PUTT	(a) 1. Parry O'Brien 58' 5" ¹ / ₂	4. Don Vick 55' 6" ¹ / ₂
	2. Tom Jones 56' 6" ¹ / ₂	5. Tom Meyer 54' 4" ¹ / ₂
	3. Bill Neider 55' 10"	6. Roosevelt Grier 53' 9"
DISCUS THROW	(b) 1. Parry O'Brien 175' 7"	4. Ron Drummond 169' 2"
	2. Fort. Gordien 174' 6"	5. Jack Ellis 167' 1"
	3. Des Koch 171' 10" ¹ / ₂	6. Woodson Linn 164' 8" ¹ / ₂
HAMMER THROW	1. Harold Connolly 199' 8"	4. Stephen Dillon 169' 9"
	(a) 2. Bob Backus 185' 1"	5. Vincent Gattulio 163' 3" ¹ / ₂
	3. Sam Felton 171' 2"	6. Thomson 160' 2" ¹ / ₂
JAVELIN THROW	1. Franklin Held 260' 3"	4. Al Cantello 238' 1"
	(b) 2. Cy Young 251' 11" ¹ / ₂	5. Gerald Church 236' 8"
	3. Bill Miller 243' 10" ¹ / ₂	6. Sid Kiwitt 231' 5" ¹ / ₂
TWO MILE WALK	1. Henry Iaskau 15:09.4	561b WEIGHT Bob Backus 43' 5"

REPORT ON 66TH A.A.A. CHAMPIONSHIPS

100 YARDS.

Championship Best Performance: 9.6s E.McDonald Bailey(Trinidad)1950, 1951 and 1952.

The only sprinter to break even time in the 3 rounds was the 22 year old Burmese born member of Hercules A.C. Noel S. Fontyn with 9.9s in Heat 5. Alan Thomas, who comes from Mill Hill School and was 18 only last March won Heat 3 in 10.0s. Notable casualties were George Ellis, the holder, who seemed to use his heat as a mere warm up for the 220 yards which he won next day; and Michael Ruddy and John Spooner of the younger element. Ken Box, the Lancashire international, scratched.

Thomas again showed 10.0s to win the first semi-final as Brian Shenton was knocked out. The Rumanian 10.5s 100 metres (= 9.6s for 100y) man Ion Wiessenmayer won the second semi-final but found that the English weather and track conditions humbled his time to 10.1s.

A stiffish breeze came up to hurt the final times. Sandstrom, wearing the pale blue of the R.A.F., got a good start and a good pick up to gain his first Championship in a time of 10.0s. Thomas, this time had a poor start.

RESULT: Heats July 15. Semi-finals and FINAL July 16.
 1.E.Roy SANDSTROM(R.A.F.) 10.0 4.Ronald D.Holtum(Belgrave H.)10.1
 2.Ion Wiessenmayer(Rumania) 10.1 5.Karim A.B.Oluwu(Nigeria) 10.3
 3.Alan C.Thomas(Mill Hill Sc.)10.1 6.Orion G.Young(Bermuda) 10.4

220 YARDS.

Championship Best Performance: 21.2s W.R.Applegarth(G.B.) 1914.

The only man to duck under 22.0s in the first round was the 27 year old Scottish international William Henderson of Edinburgh with 21.9s in Heat 4 in an inches finish with George Ellis (22.0s). But all six men qualifying for the final had to beat 22.0s. This is no mean feat round the tight White City turn. A succession of great American champion sprinters have come year after year and not a single one has bettered 21.7 yet. Samuel Clemson of St.Helens had the cruel misfortune of clocking 21.9 and yet not qualifying in the first semi-final because Clay Gibbs (21.7s), Roy Sandstrom(21.7s) and Brian Shenton, the 1950 European 200m Champion and the holder, (21.8s) had already grabbed the three places. Henderson won the second semi-final also in 21.7s from Ellis, the current European 200m bronze medallist, (21.7s) and 19 year old Michael Ruddy of Maidstone (21.9s).

Ellis, who has been nursing a muscle injury, put his all into the wind from lane 6 in a desperately close final. Victory compensated for his lost 100 yards title. Many thought that Henderson, in lane 1, had won. The Scots team manager was reported to have entered a protest; at least one judge was prepared to say that he had not the slightest doubt that Ellis was the winner. Sandstrom nearly got the sprint double-something nobody, except McDonald Bailey, has done since F.P.Reid (Atalanta Club, Scotland) ran 9.9s/22.0 in 1932-when he returned the same time as the winner, against the wind.

RESULT: Heats and semi-finals on July 15. FINAL July 16.
 1.George S.ELLIS(London A.C.) 22.0 4.Michael Ruddy(Poly.H.) 22.1
 2.E.Roy Sandstrom(R.A.F.) 22.0 5.Clay Gibbs(Trinidad) 22.2
 3.William Henderson(Scotland) 22.1 6.Brian Shenton(Poly H.) 22.3

440 YARDS.

Previous Best Championship Performance: 47.9s D.C.Pugh(G.B.) 1951.

With five internationals on the fixture list and a 4 x 440 yards or 4 x 400 metres relay event in each the standard in this championship was particularly important. The heats were uneven with Peter Fryer, the holder, (49.3s) and 21 year old James Paterson from Scotland (49.4s) the fastest. In the second semi-final however 20 year old Watford born Michael Wheeler, now teaching at Bournemouth, set a personal best of 48.2s. Fryer, an auctioneer from Peterborough, was second by inches in 48.8s to Peter Higgins (48.8s) in the first semi-final thus showing that his "retirement" had not caused any loss of form.

The final was most thrilling with Wheeler putting in a very busy first furlong in lane 3. Meanwhile in lane 2 Fryer, the 1953 and 1954 Champion, was shrugging his 6 ft. 5ins tall frame into great action. Fryer just got his chest to the tape before the tiring Wheeler. Both men were caught at 47.7s - an new English Native Record besides a Championship Best. Only Godfrey Brown, the 1936 Olympic silver medal winner, among British runners has done the full quarter mile faster. In 1938 on the same track he ran 47.6s but got no English record because he was born in India.

RESULT: Heats and semi-finals on July 15. FINAL July 16.
 1.Peter G.FRYER(London A.C.) 47.7 4.John T.Wrighton(Southgate)48.7
 2.Michael K.V.Wheeler(L.A.C.)47.7 5.Terry L.Higgins(Herne H.H)48.8
 3.F.Peter Higgins(Southgate)48.5 6.Mike Orrell(Jones Achilles Club)49.5

880 YARDS.

Championship Best Performance: 1:49.6s A.S.Wint(Jamaica) 1951.

The new system of qualifying for the final by which only heat winners reach the final as of right-the eight then being made up by the four fastest losers-worked out oddly.

Heat winners were Derek Johnson(1:53.4); Ron Henderson(1:53.2); Donald Gorrie(1:53.8) and Norman Lloyd(1:54.9). Ernie Gallagher came through with 1:53.8 behind Johnson but the remaining qualifiers were all in the next Heat-No.2. :-Richard Mackay, a Londoner (1:53.4), John Douglas a 26 year old Australian (Victoria)(1:54.0), and veteran 32 year old Alan Murray-Carter of Essex (1:54.6). The emphasis on time seems odd just when the current trend of track officialdom's thought is to say 'times don't matter-the race is the thing'. Any way is the new system really so fair and satisfactory when Lloyd's time of 1:54.9 in Heat 4 was beaten by three non-qualifiers? They were :-Derek Lovelady, the Lancashire champion, (1:54.7); 21 year old Edward Caiger, the R.A.F. Championship record holder (1:54.8)-both in Heat 1; and the second man in Heat 3 Fred Millward(Victoria Park H., London)(1:54.7).

In the final Johnson, the favourite, was drawn in the 8th and outside station. He wanted to use starting blocks to make sure of a good start and so of gaining the pole on the bend. The Referee, although agreeing there was no International rule against them, disallowed their use because of the A.A.A. rule 61 (v) which excludes them for races of over 440 yards. Later poor Johnson was in more trouble, being warned for cutting across the field as he just beat Norman Lloyd (station 4) in that mad scramble for the pole. The only solutions to this problem are surely (short of running the race in lanes and so spoil its character) 1) to cut the field to six and/or 2) to move the start (and therefore the finish) further back up the home straight. In a national championship the quality of the finalists is bound to be very even thus creating the risk of scrambles.

To return to the race-Johnson never gave up his hard won lead. The bell went at 54.1s. Donald Gorrie, a Scotsman born in India and Johnson's second string at Oxford University, was a dogged second until the home straight when first Henderson and then Douglas inched past him. Henderson launched his attack at the jaded Johnson from the inside but could not get past. Johnson won his first Championship by a short foot in the second best time set in the long series.

RESULT: Heats July 15. FINAL July 16.
 1.Derek J.N.JOHNSON(Woodford)1:51.4 4.Donald C.E.Gorrie(Achilles)1:52.0
 2.Ron Henderson(Elswick H.) 1:51.4 5.Norman A.Lloyd(Mitcham) 1:52.6
 3.John G.Douglas(Australia) 1:51.9 6.Richard Mackay(Horsey) 1:52.8
 7th was Gallagher in 1:52.8 and 8th Murray-Carter in 1:54.8.

ONE MILE.

Championship Best Performance: 4:05.2 R.G.Bannister (G.B.) 1953

This time the new qualifying system worked out no differently than the former one-the first three in each heat, as it happened, came through to the next day's final.

Ken Wood was the fastest heat winner in 4:07.4 and John Cameron in the same Heat 2 the slowest qualifier in 4:11.0. (N.B. The A.A.U. title was won at 4:11.5-but the altitude at Boulder was of course a harmful factor). The fastest non-qualifier was Ivor Hawkins of Bristol with 4:12.8s. Two others also beat 4:15.0 and failed to gain a place in the final :- Alex Breckenridge, the 23 year old Buffalo born Scot, returned 4:13.2 and Donald Owers(Ilford A.C.) 4:13.4 both in Heat 2. Six others won Standard Medals by beating 4:18.0.

The final was a strangely canny affair. Cameron lead, with only occasional and minor shufflings for position, through the first three laps in 62.8-2:06.6(63.8) and 3:11.0(64.4). All this while Wood lay in 6th position and Brian Hewson on his shoulder. Then as the 35,000 spectators were murmuring with surprise and disappointment at the way the chances of a fast mile were leaking away, Wood shot off, just after the bell, round the 5 men still in front of him and Hewson, as if fixed by a coupling, followed. The race at last was on. These two opened a huge gap as they sped down the back straight to the rising crescendo from the onlookers. The inevitable result of a tussle between a cross country man and a champion half miler followed as Hewson cruised past the bucking and flailing Wood to win untroubled in 4:05.4. Hewson's last lap could only have taken 54.0 seconds-that is less time than the first lap of the half mile.

RESULT: Heats July 15. FINAL July 16.
 1.Brian S.HEWSON(Mitcham) 4:05.4 4.Ralph H.Dunkley(Poly,H) 4:08.3
 2.Ken Wood(Sheffield Un.H) 4:06.2 5.John S.Evans(Poly.H) 4:10.6
 3.Brian W.Jackson(Essex B.)4:08.6 6.Ian H.Boyd(Herne Hill H.)4:11.6
 Other finalists, with their heat times were :-Martin Walmsley(South London H.) 4:09.8; Frank Wyatt(Bristol A.C.) 4:10.8; John R.Cameron (Thames Valley H.) 4:11.0.

H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh attended the first day of the meeting. Co-editor Norris McWhirter was one of those presented to him.

CHATAWAY TURNS ON BLOW-TORCH FINISH

THREE MILES: (July 16) The 3 miles was the clou of the meeting with Christopher Chataway, Britain's First Gentleman of the Track, the chef de fil. A shade temperature of 88 F. (British record 100.5 F in 1868) put paid to hopes of the recapture by Chataway of the world record which he and Freddie Green held for 50 days in 1954. Cpl. Pat Ranger, the international cross-country runner scarpered round the first 4 laps in a bumptious 62.2, 67.8, 66.0, 69.0 for 4:25.0. By this time 23 year old Derek Ibbotson, also of the R.A.F., closed up to second (4:28.7) with the Red Fox right on his tail (4:28.9). The next two laps (71.4, 73.1) still saw Ranger out ahead on what was clearly an R.A.F. mission. Ibbotson soon realized that the route to stardom needed a little extra 'ardua' and he accordingly took the lead so raising the lagging tempo with laps of 69.5 and 69.8 to reach the two miles in 9:08.8

Short of being struck by lightning more than once it was clear that it was now Chataway's race. He doodled along in his zany gold-edged pants looking like a naughty boy who had lit the fuze and was looking forward to the bang which only he knew would go off a little earlier than most had expected. Ibbotson, No. 11 in the world of all-time at 13:34.6, toiled on with laps of 69.9, 70.3 and a fine 68.0 to pass the bell in 12:37.0. The rest of the big field led by the excellent Tony Barrett, an 8:45.8 two-miler, had obviously heeded the instructions on most pyrotechnics about 'retiring to a safe distance'. Ibbotson put in a strong surge off the crown of the last but one bend. Chataway's response put an end to the Mary and Martha act for he blasted his way past to enter the last bend nearly 15 yards to the good and with a couple not over-respectful glances over his shoulder coasted home for a 25 yard win after a 56.4 sec. last lap. The total time was 13:33.6- his fourth best- with Ibbotson returning 13:37.0 and Barrett 13:46.6.

Result:

1. Chris Chataway (Achilles) 13:33.6
2. Derek Ibbotson (R.A.F.) 13:37.0
3. Tony Barrett (R.A.F.) 13:46.6
4. K.F. Caulder (Surrey A.C.) 13:59.2
5. M.R. Maynard (Herne Hill) 14:01.0
6. Tom Harwood (Q.Park H.) 14:03.6
- 7th: Len Eyre 14:06.0; 8th: Hugh Foord 14:08.0; 9th: John Thorpe 14:09.0; 10th Jack Braughton 14:12.0; 11th Pat Ranger 14:19.0

SIX MILES: (July 15) High expectations of a six miles event that would produce times to challenge even the Berne top 6 average time of 28:34.6 were doomed to disappointment in the muggy heat of an evening with the sort of temperature (79 F.) which is responsible for slow 6 miling in the United States. Fifteen courageous men lined up and after a lap and a half Pirie, the 1953 champion and No. 3 on the all-time list at 28:19.4, was in the lead. Pirie cut out the first 6 laps in 7:00.4 and was thus almost dead on a level pace schedule for a world record (27:59.2 by Zatopek on June 1 1954 in Brussels). Even after 11 laps in 12:59.9 Pirie was still inside a schedule for his own British Empire record. Just before the half-way mark 24 year old Ken Norris took the lead (14:12.0). With now the No. 4 on the world all-time list (28:25.6) to help bear the brunt it looked as though there would still be a good time as well as a fierce race between these two. The rest of the field had already completely lost contact. Norris passed the 4 mile mark in 19:04.2 and the 5 mile post in 24:04.6.

By this stage Pirie looked in poor shape with his spine folding up and close observers noted that he was showing an unhealthy lack of perspiration. In the 23rd lap the deathly pale gaunt Pirie flowed past Norris on the back straight giving the apparant lie to an earlier drunken stagger. Coming up to the bell the considerable crowd and millions of televisioners saw Pirie throw up his arms and lurch crabwise to the outside rail. The dumbfounded Norris pressed on amidst thunderous cheers while the luckless dehydrated Pirie fought with two St. John's Ambulance men who were trying to bring him succour. It will long be argued whether or not Pirie knew he was a beaten man but the fact remains he had denied himself any liquid for 6 hours beforehand and was in the same desiccated state as was Jim Peters at Vancouver. Over 250 yards behind the gallant Norris, Jack Heywood lost out in a second place battle with the canny velvet-striding Frank Sando. The holder Peter Driver finished a bemused and unhappy sixth.

RESULT:

1. Ken Norris (Thames Valley) 29:00.6
2. Frank Sando (Aylesford PM) 29:31.0
3. Jack Heywood (Herne Hill) 29:31.8
4. Andrew Brown (Motherwell) 29:35.2
5. Dennis O'Gorman (St.A) 29:44.0
6. Peter Driver (S.London) 30:06.4

120 YARDS HIGH HURDLES: (July 16 Heats and Final) The biggest ever entry occasioned three heats with only two through to the 6 man final. Heat I saw Jack Parker, the 1951 and 1954 champion, well overhaul Paul Vine to register 14.7 against 15.0 with Vic Matthews (15.1) and the Army Champion J.R. Bradley (15.2) third and fourth. In heat II the 14.3 second Rumanian record-holder Ion Opris got away to a lively start to drop Empire runner-up Chris. Higham by 2 yards (15.0n) to win in 14.8 secs. Heat III was an easy thing for the 1950 and 1953 champion Peter Hildreth, also in 14.8, with the Dublin boiler-maker Eamon Kinsella



Left: FAR TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT. Derek Johnson, 22 seen winning his first ever A.A.A. Championship. Left to right:- 6th R.J. Mackay (25) 1:52.8, 1st Johnson (22) 1:51.4, 4th Gorrie (15) 1:52.0, and 2nd Henderson with 1:51.4 also.

Johnson's and Henderson's times were second only to Arthur Wint's stately 1:49.6 4 years ago in 1951. Like Wint Johnson lead from start to finish. Henderson, 21 was not selected for the G.B. v. Germany match- the first of Britain's five tests in August and September. Photo E.D. Lacey.

(cont: from col.1) who clocked 15.0 secs.

Thus in the final Opris faced 4 Englishmen all of whom had recorded 14.7 or better and the tall Irishman who last year reached 14.6 and dropped Opris into 6th place in the European final. Once again the 27 year old engineering architect Parker ran with fine fire and held off the field after getting ahead at the 3rd hurdle. Opris was a close second $\frac{3}{4}$ a yard back but awarded the same time of 14.6 sec. as the winner. Hildreth seemed to close over the last 3 flights but lost it in the middle register.

Result:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------------|------|
| 1. Jack Parker (S.London) | 14.6 | 4. Chris Higham (Achilles) | 14.8 |
| 2. Ion Opris (Rumania) | 14.6 | 5. Paul Vine (Achilles) | 14.9 |
| 3. Peter Hildreth (Poly H.) | 14.7 | 6. Eamon Kinsella (Ireland) | 15.2 |

220 YARDS LOW HURDLES: (heats and Final July 15)

This event only in its fourth year produced perhaps the most thrilling race of the whole Championships. The first heat saw Donal O'Sullivan (Achilles) give his fellow Oxford 'Blue' Bob Shaw quite a fright with a personal best of 24.8 secs. only a couple of feet behind his 24.7 secs. Paul Vine won the second heat by 15 yards in 24.3 secs., only a tenth off Harry Whittle's 1953 best of 24.2. Second was a very off form Dennis Merrett in 26.0 secs. Derek Salter of London University got in as the faster third with 25.3 sec. For the final 70 minutes later Vine drew the blind lane six the only benefit of which is a less tight turn. Vine either got away like a lambent out of hell or got a flier but he winged his way into the straight before Bob Shaw had woken up to the seriousness of the situation. Shaw with impeccable style pulled back the frenzied Vine inch by inch such that they crossed the tenth barrier in line. Insurance triumphed over Physics and the 26 year old Vine got an inches verdict in the British All-Comers' record time of 23.7 secs. which must surely become also the inaugural European record.

Result:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|
| 1. Paul Vine (Achilles) | 23.7 | 4. Donal O'Sullivan (Achilles) | 25.0 |
| 2. Bob Shaw (Achilles) | 23.8 | 5. Derek Salter (U.L.A.C.) | 25.1 |
| 3. Dennis Merrett (Belgrave H.) | 24.7 | | |

440 YARDS HURDLES: (heats July 15; Final July 16):

The accent was on conservation in the 3 heats with noone bettering 55.0 secs. The 22 year old European finalist Bob Shaw came through the first in 56.2 with Clive Dennis of Edinburgh University second in 56.6. The swarthy Rumanian Ilie Saval, a 52.0 performer, went through the motions in 55.1 ahead of Derek Salter (56.0) and Michael Jenkins (56.5s). Tom Farrell took the third heat in 55.2 from the British Empire record-holder (51.8) Harry Kane who has been afflicted all season with a swelling on his ankle. Kane did 55.6 to qualify ahead of Eric di Verteuil (56.8).

For the final the draw from the inside was Farrell, Kane, Shaw, Salter, Dennis and Saval. Shaw once again showed the wisdom of his policy of *festina lente* (hastening slowly) for when it came to the 9th and 10th barriers which look about 4ft. 6ins. high he preserved his form and beat the wildly bucking Rumanian on the run in. Shaw's time was an excellent 52.2 which sliced $\frac{3}{4}$ sec. off Harry Whittle's 7th and best time of 52.7 of 1953 and which elevated him to equal fifth in the world behind only Lituyev (51.3), Moore (51.6), Kane (51.8) and Armando Filiput at 51.9 secs.

RESULT: Previous Championship best 52.7s H. Whittle (G.B.) 1953

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|--------------------------------|------|
| 1. Robert Shaw (Achilles Club) | 52.2 | 4. Harry Kane (London A.C.) | 53.2 |
| 2. Ilie Saval (Rumania) | 52.6 | 5. Derek Salter (Univ. London) | 54.8 |
| 3. Thomas Farrell (Loughboro' C) | 53.0 | 6. Clive Dennis (Edinburgh U.) | 55.3 |

Disley's remarkable 61.5s last lap

3,000 METRES STEEPLECHASE.

Previous best Championship Performance: 9:00.8 K.E. Johnson (G.B.) & L. Jeszenszky (Hungary) 1954.

The 18 starters kept fairly closely bunched until the fifth lap when the 'Big Four'-Disley, Johnson, Brasher and Shirley-detached themselves. In the last but one lap Disley looked extremely fresh and relaxed but Johnson, the holder, rather weary. Disley, the Olympic bronze medallist (8:51.8), streaked away in the last lap which he covered in an amazing 61.5s (compare 71.8s at Helsinki) and so lapped 2.8s off Eric Shirley's 3 weeks old British Allcomers' record and clocked 8:56.6. Brasher seeing he had Shirley beaten did not attempt to fight the receding Disley and returned to the British team with a personal best time of 8:59.4. One could not help being gratified on noting the advance of British steeplechasing since 1948 at Wembley. Then we marvelled at the Swedish grand slam of Sj6strand (9:04.6), Elms6ter and Hagstr6m and saw our trio all fail to even look like qualifying for the final.

RESULT: Final only on July 16.
1. John I. DISLEY (London A.C.) 8:56.6 4. Kenneth Johnson (Leics. Coll) 9:05.4
2. Christopher Brasher (Achil) 8:59.4 5. Roger Dunkley (Shaftsbury H) 9:09.2
3. Eric Shirley (Pinchley H.) 9:03.4 6. Edward L. Hardy (Derby C.A.C.) 9:13.4

HIGH JUMP.

Best Championship Performance: 6 ft. 5 ins. R.C. Pavitt (G.B.) 1951; & B.M.P. O'Reilly (Ireland) 1954.

Only 5 men cleared the Qualifying height of 6 ft. on the Friday evening. Desmond Luke, the son of a Sierra Leone judge, who is an Oxford undergraduate, made up the finalists to 6 strong. In the competition proper Malcolm Ash went out at 6ft., being preoccupied with the high hurdles and pole vault. Luke (straddle) failed at 6'2", having sat out at 6'1". Charles Vandyck (roll), the son of a Gold Coast judge, despite an ankle injury, cleared 6'1" first time and Paul Stableforth, also a roller, cleared second time. At 6'2" Oladipo Okuwobi, 22, a Nigerian who has done 6'5" with his Eastern cut-off, cleared at the last attempt. Bill Piper, a 24 year old Glasgow policeman, rolled over the bar first time. At 6'3" both men got over on their last attempts; Piper was the worthy winner on the count back from a depressingly poor field. (N.B. 11 men cleared 6'6" in A.A.U. champs.)
1. William Piper (Glasgow Pol.) 6'3" 4. Paul Stableforth (Walton A.C.) 6'1"
2. Oladipo Okuwobi (Nigeria) 6'3" 5. Desmond Luke (Sierra Leone) 6'0"
3. Charles Vandyck (Gold Coast) 6'1" 6. Malcolm Ash (Belgrave H.) 5'10"

POLE VAULT.

Best Championship Performance: 14 ft. T. Homonnay (Hungary) 1954.

Eight men cleared 12'0" in the qualifying competition. The next afternoon, except for Hermund H6gheim (Norway) and Geoffrey Elliott, the 1952 & 1953 Champion who elected to make their first vaults at the height, only Geoffrey Schmidt cleared 12'6". Elliott tried to pull out of his first attempt but touched the pit past the plane of the uprights with his pole and so scored a failure. The two survivors both cleared 13'0" first time, Elliott much the more easily but only after some treatment for a leg muscle. With the bar at 13'6" Elliott was behind because the Norwegian had a spotless record. H6gheim, holder of his own National championship at 13'5" 2/3, however failed thrice and the R.A.F. Officer made it on his last effort.
1. Geoffrey ELLIOTT (Woodford Gn.) 13'6" 4. Gilbert Howland (Shaftsbury) 12'3"
2. Hermund H6gheim (Norway) 13'0" 5. Raymond Petitjean (Middleton) 12'3"
3. Geoffrey Schmidt (South London) 12'6" 6. Rex B. Hayden (Ilford) 12'0"

LONG JUMP.

Best Championship Performance: 24 ft. 8 ins. A. Maffei (Italy) 1938.

Not one of the 16 starters beat 23 ft. in the qualifying round, let alone the set standard of 23 ft. 6 ins. Arthur Cruttenden was best with 22'8" 1/2. Ken Wilmshurst, the Empire Games record holder, had laryngitis so scratched. His runner-up at Vancouver, Oluwu reached an excellent 24'2" in the third round, despite a head-on breeze. The Nigerian's fifth round effort of 23'0" 1/2 was the only other respectable jump into the hated White City pit. Cruttenden was rock steady with three jumps all precisely of 22'9". Peter Whaley placed with his first round effort; the other five were all no jumps.
1. Karim A. B. OLUWU (Nigeria) 24' 2" 4. S. Orman (Polytechnic H.) 22' 5" 1/2
2. Arthur R. Cruttenden (Poly) 22' 9" 5. Peter Whaley (London A.C.) 22' 0" 1/2
3. David Brigden (Mitcham) 22' 6" 6. David Brown (Thames Valley) 21' 10" 1/2

HOP, STEP AND JUMP.

Best Championship Performance: 50 ft. 9 ins. W. Peters (Netherlands) 1927.
Four men cleared the Qualifying standard of 46 feet :- Ken Wilmshurst, sufficiently recovered from his laryngitis, 48'4"; Paul Bamela Engo (Cameroons) 47'8" 1/2; Lloyd Parry 46'4" 1/2; and George Roden 46'7". Engo led the competition proper with 49'1" 1/2 - a personal best ever performance. Wilmshurst replied in the next round with 49'9" 1/2 and that was enough to gain him his third successive A.A.A. title. Denis Field, 24 did well with a 47'0" 1/2 and a 47'2" 1/2 for the bronze plaque.
1. Ken WILMSHURST (Walton AC) 49'9" 1/2 4. George Roden (Thames Valley) 46' 3"
2. Paul Engo (Cameroons) 49'1" 1/2 5. Lloyd Parry (Bolton Un.H.) 46'0" 1/2
3. Denis Field (Birchfield H) 47'2" 6. Raymond Joslin (Woodford Gn.) 44'11"

BRITISH MARKS 1955. FIELD EVENTS

POLE VAULT:

13' 6"	Geoffrey Elliott	16/7
13' 1" 1/2	Ian Ward	3/7
13' 0" 1/2	Geoffrey Schmidt	20/7
12' 6"	Norman Gregor	4/6
12' 6"	George Broad	8/6
12' 4"	Ken. North (N.Z.)	11/6
12' 3"	Gilbert Howland	16/7
12' 3"	Raymond Petitjean	16/7
12' 1" 1/2	Rex Hayden	8/5
12' 0"	Malcolm Ash	(10) 14/5
12' 0"	A.B. Hopkins	8/6

LONG JUMP:

24' 3"	Kenneth Wilmshurst	12/2
24' 2"	Karim Oluwu (Nigeria)	15/7
23' 2" 1/2	Arthur Cruttenden	11/6
23' 2"	David Brigden	25/6
23' 1" 1/2	N.G. Hamilton	30/4
23' 0" 1/2	Percy Luxon	9/7
22' 11" 1/2	Peter Whaley	25/6
22' 9"	N.D. Watkins	8/6
22' 8"	A. McKelvie	23/4
22' 8"	Christian Alele (Nigeria)	21/5

with wind:

23' 6"	Percy Luxon	14/5
23' 5" 1/2	N.G. Hamilton	4/6
23' 1"	David Brown (no detail)	- /5

HOP, STEP AND JUMP:

50' 8"	Kenneth Wilmshurst	30/5
49' 1" 1/2	Paul Engo (Nigeria)	16/7
47' 2" 1/2	Denis Field	16/7
47' 0"	John Whall	8/6
46' 9"	John Garner	30/5
46' 8"	Tom McNab	11/5
46' 5" 1/2	A. Ridings	30/4
46' 4" 1/2	Robert Sussex	9/7
46' 3"	George Roden	16/7
46' 0" 1/2	Raymond Joslin	(10) 9/7
46' 0" 1/2	Lloyd Parry	16/7
46' 0"	Kenneth Selby	21/5

SHOT PUT:

50' 2" 1/2	John Savidge	24/5
49' 9"	Barclay Palmer	23/4
48' 4"	Bill Robbins	19/4
47' 10" 1/2	Mark Pharaoh	12/5
47' 5"	Geoffrey Budd	14/5
46' 5"	Ted Gaworski	18/6
46' 5"	John Byrne	20/6
46' 0"	Gerald Carr	20/7
45' 9"	Christopher Neville	21/5
45' 8"	Geoffrey Elliott	(10) 4/5
45' 8"	Desmond Byrne	6/7

DISCUS THROW:

166' 9"	Mark Pharaoh	9/7
152' 8"	Otto Feldmanis	2/7
148' 7"	Konstanty Maksimczyk	20/6
147' 10"	Ted Gaworski	9/7
147' 9"	James Sampson	2/7
147' 0"	Hywell Williams	9/7
146' 0"	Gerald Carr	16/7
144' 4"	Peter Isbester	25/6
142' 4"	S.S.I. Cleaver	15/6
142' 1"	D. Childs	(10) 9/7
139' 8"	Ewan Douglas	12/5
137' 1"	Ernest Brewer	4/6

HAMMER THROW:

192' 6"	Ewan Douglas	28/4
186' 9"	Peter Allday	9/7
185' 4"	Alec. Valentine	18/5
184' 5"	Don Anthony	4/6
177' 0"	John Bard (U.S.A.)	15/7
171' 6"	Frank Gandy	11/6
170' 7"	Carl Harper	18/6
164' 0"	Percy Porter	2/7
163' 1"	Roy Kinnaid	28/5
162' 6"	Michael Ellis (J)	(10) 5/7
161' 1"	Mark Pharaoh	5/7
160' 4"	James Lally	15/7

JAVELIN THROW:

220' 3"	Peter Cullen	14/5
212' 6"	Colin Smith	25/6
211' 9"	Dennis Tucker	25/6
209' 5"	Ray Davies	19/3
207' 11"	Clive Loveland	18/6
206' 0"	Richard Miller	19/3
205' 0"	Malcolm Harradine	1/6
204' 11"	Donald Mackenzie	28/5
202' 0"	Michael Ruda	30/5
201' 1"	John Roberts	(10) 25/6
201' 1"	N.B. Hughes	20/7
198' 6"	Frank Gandy	30/5
196' 4"	Peter Garland	24/5
195' 0"	Maurice Morrell	4/6
194' 10"	John Iawson	26/3
193' 3"	Brian Sexton	4/6

Additions: Alterations etc.
100y. Edward McKeating (J) 10.0 23/7
880y. Martin Warnsley 1:53.6 23/7
H.J. Bill Little (S.A.) 6'1" -
H.S.J. Lloyd Parry 46'4" 1/2 16/7
D.T. John Savidge 143'7" 1/2 21/5
- Yaxley 139'5" 1/2 -

PUTTING THE SHOT.

Best Championship Performance: 54' 1" 1/2 J.A. Savidge (G.B.) 1952.
Not a man beat the qualifying standard of 46 feet. Ted Gaworski, the 38 year old Pole, putt 44'9". In Round 1 Mark Pharaoh lead. Canadian born Barclay Palmer took over in Round 2 with 47'11" and next time round improved to 49'7"-within two inches of his best. Bill Robbins, Palmer's second string at Oxford, advanced from last to 3rd with his final putt.
1. W. Barclay L. PALMER (Achilles) 49'7" 4. R.H. Taylor (Dublin Univ.) 44'7"
2. Mark Pharaoh (Walton & R.A.F.) 47'7" 5. Ted Jan Gaworski (Belgrave) 43'6"
3. William Robbins (Achilles Cl.) 44'9" 6. Richard Harris (Belgrave) 43'5"

THROWING THE DISCUS.

Best Championship Performance: 175'9" 1/2 G. Tosi (Italy) 1951.
The performances fell away steadily as the loose cinder circle deteriorated. Four of the six finalists, headed by Mark Pharaoh (159'3"), failed to improve on their qualifying performances. Pharaoh's four good throws were all over 150'-No. 4 being the winning mark. Gerald Carr, 19 gained second place with his first throw, that round also produced best marks for the 4th, 5th and 6th men. The Norwegian Erling Helle won third place however with his 6th and last throw.
1. Mark PHARAOH (Walton & R.A.F.) 156'7" 4. Otto Feldmanis (Mitcham) 137'3"
2. Gerald Carr (Woodford Gn.) 146'0" 5. R.H. Taylor (Dublin Univ.) 132'2"
3. Erling Helle (Norway) 140'6" 6. John Butterfield (Camb. H.) 128'5"

THROWING THE HAMMER.

Best Championship Performance: 194'11" J. Cserek (Hungary) 1954.
The hammer championship (July 15) was the most keenly awaited field event because of the four home products throwing over 180 feet, two were Scots-Ewan Douglas and Alec Valentine-and two English-Peter Allday and Don Anthony-and the battle was on for two places in the Great Britain team. Unfortunately Anthony had a (Cont: p160.)

EUROPEAN RECORDS AT 880y & 1,500m

By far the greatest of all European sprint marks this year is Ardalion Ignatyev's 46.0 for 400 metres on June 25 in Moscow. This equals the European record set by Germany's Rudolf Harbig on a 500 metre track at Frankfurt/Main back in 1939 (after Mario Lanzi had set the pace with a 21.7 first half -- first 100 metres in 11.2!). According to a French columnist, an eyewitness to the meet, Ignatyev showed remarkable pace judgment, running the first half in 22.7 and the second in 23.3. If, however, we must go by the "official" comment made in a Russian paper by Robert Lyulko (10.6 and 21.6 before the war), Ignatyev was out very fast and covered the first 200 metres in 21.5, and yet found enough resources to add a second half in 24.5. The race was run at about 9.30 p.m., and Ignatyev, who an hour before had won his heat in 48 secs., drew the third lane. Two other national records went by the board as Zoltán Adamk of Hungary came in second in 47.5 and Zbigniew Makomski of Poland took third in 47.7. Second in the European Year List, however, is Roger Moens of Belgium, who posted an easy 47.3 at Longwy, France, on June 26. Karl-Friedrich Haas of Germany is back in circulation and has early season times of 21.4 and 48.0. Voitto Hellsten of Finland has done 10.6 and 21.5, equalling in both cases the best-on-record marks by a Finn.

MIDDLE DISTANCES

Roger Moens, the 25-year old Belgian, has been after Harbig's fabulous 1:46.6 with more determination than any other 800 metre man. After two "warm-ups" early in June - 1:49.7 in Belgium and 1:49.9 in Norway within 48 hours! - Moens tried to "steal" the record before the eyes of the Germans themselves: on June 29 in Nuremberg, after leading from start to finish, he accomplished a splendid solo effort in 1:47.0 (first 400 metres in 52.0), four tenths off the Dresdner's magic figure. In other record attempts Moens did 1:47.5 on June 15 and 1:47.6 on July 15, both times in Brussels: in the latter race he went on to break an 880 yards tape in 1:48.3, a new European halfmile record. Ronnie Delaney of Eire was second in 1:51.2y (1:50.6m). Moens is the only 800 metre man who can point to five sub-1:48 clockings.

The 1955 edition of the classic Scandinavian feud Boysen vs. Nielsen still has to begin, but judging from the form shown by the two in their separate efforts, it should amount to something truly great, especially over the 1,500 metres/1 mile, where these experienced wizards seem capable of cracking even Landy's marks. Both Boysen and Nielsen are so far undefeated. The Norwegian has added five more sub-1:50 marks to his collection, which now at 23 comes dangerously close to matching that of the Imperturbable Mal, who in the last two seasons has raised his own tally of sub-1:50 800 metre marks only by three "notches", from 21 to 24. Boysen ran the metric distance in 1:48.5 on June 25 in Moscow: truly remarkable running in a 14-man field. European champ Lajos Szentgáli of Hungary was second in 1:49.2. Boysen then showed further improvement on July 6 in Stockholm when with his classic long spurt he "killed" Britain's dangerous Derek Johnson - times for the two 1:48.0 and 1:49.3.

This report of European activities cannot ignore the feats of the Americans touring Europe. Best of the U.S. "tourists" so far was perhaps Tom Courtney, the strongly built Fordham half miler. In his European debut at Helsinki's Olympic Stadium on July 1 he ran a beautiful front race and returned a fine 1:48.3 for 800 metres. Olavi Salsola of Finland was runner-up in 1:49.1 thus breaking "Bebbe" Storskrubb's 10-year-old Finnish record. Jorma Kakkonen, another Finn, was third in 1:49.4. On July 5, running on the world famous Turku track, Courtney, out in front from gun to tape, posted a great 1:47.6, three tenths under Mal Whitfield's track record (1953). His first half was very fast, 51.7. It is interesting to note that the world's greatest 800 metres/880 yards men continue to be rather irrational when it comes to pace judgment. This can at best be understood in the case of highly competitive races, like the halfmile final in the A.A.U. meeting, where, as Cordner Nelson tells us in his account in "Track and Field News", "...Sowell used his 9.9 sprint speed to advantage, grabbing the lead in the first forty yards." Here are the intermediate times in the year's four fastest races to date:-

Lon Spurrer (Berkeley, 26.3.)	51.6y + 55.9y = 1:47.5y
Arnie Sowell (Boulder, 25.6.)	51.7y + 55.9y = 1:47.6y
Roger Moens (Nuremberg, 29.6.)	52.0m + 55.0m = 1:47.0m
Tom Courtney (Turku, 5.7.)	51.7m + 55.9m = 1:47.6m

Courtney had a comparatively faster time when he ran second to Sowell in the A.A.U. meeting in 1:48.0 (880 yards). Curiously enough, Boulder equalled Berne, inasmuch as the first six in the halfmile race at the A.A.U. festival averaged 1:48.8, which compares on even terms with the average of the first six in the famous Berne 800 metres final of last year, 1:48.1! And it should be added that there were great "absentees" in both races: in

Berne, Gunnar Nielsen, and in Boulder, Santee and Whitfield. Those in Europe who keep underestimating the U.S. track potential had better reflect on this cold yet highly significant fact: only twelve months ago Santee and Whitfield were considered to be Uncle Sam's only halfmilers of true world class. In the intervening time, things have changed to the point that even without these two, the fifth man in the A.A.U. halfmile final - world record holder Lon Spurrer - is clocked in 1:48.7!

From a competitive angle another good halfmile race was run at Dublin on June 15, when Derek Johnson narrowly beat Ronnie Delaney - 1:50.8 to 1:51.0. Also worthy of mention are the 800 metres times returned at Budapest by three of the famous Honved milers: Rózsavölgyi 1:51.0, Iharos 1:51.1, Mikes 1:51.4. Nielsen has done no better than 1:49.6 over the 800 metres so far, but in the 1,500 metres he has already proved almost invincible. On June 26 in Moscow he came from nowhere with a spectacular sprint to nail all the fast improving Eastern European "cracks" in 3:46.6. Three men, Siegfried Herrmann and Klaus Ritzzenhain, both East Germany, and Sergey Slugin, U.S.S.R., followed in that order, all in 3:47.0. Slugin's mark is the new U.S.S.R. record. Fifth in 3:47.2 was another Russian, Vladimir Okorokov. István Rózsavölgyi of Hungary, the newly crowned European record holder, dropped out after 1,000 metres. His record race was at Belgrade only 10 days earlier. Here Rózsavölgyi, after following a local hare in the first two laps (55 and 62 secs. respectively), had passed the 1,200 metre mark in 3 minutes flat and covered the last 300 metres in 42.2, for a total time of 3:42.2, two tenths under Iharos' European record, and yet no better than Bannister's unofficial 3:42.2 in the great Vancouver mile race last year. Another good 1,500 metres race was run at Turku, July 5 when Olavi Vuorisalo and Matti Huttunen of Finland did 3:46.0 and 3:46.4 respectively, beating America's Bob Seaman, 3:47.6.

Right behind Brian Hewson in the 1,000 metres list comes Gunnar Nielsen, who on July 3 in Berlin returned a fine 2:20.5, winning from Werner Lueg, 2:20.8, and Olaf Lawrenz, 2:21.0. Lueg's mark is a new German record and its significance lies in the fact that the previous mark was held by Harbig. If the Germans have begun to beat Harbig's records, the Swedes are themselves losing respect for Hägg's records. This was indicated at Stockholm on July 7, when Ingvar Ericsson lowered the Swedish 2,000 metre mark to 5:11.4. This was four tenths faster than Hägg's best, yet the best proof to the effect that "tempora mutantur" was given by the fact that two runners finished ahead of Ericsson in that race: namely Britain's Chris Chataway, 5:10.6 and John Disley, 5:11.0! We may add that the 1955 list of the world's leading 2,000 metres men - with Tábori of Hungary seventh at 5:13.2 - is better than the All Time List itself was as of Dec. 31, 1954! Good proof that Britons are slowly but steadily becoming a little more "metric minded" is offered by the fact that four of these seven men are from England.

LONG DISTANCES

Jerzy Chromik, the Polish steeplechaser, ran two fine 3,000 metres races - 8:04.6 at Chorzów on June 5 (4:04 plus 4:00.6) and 8:05.0 in Warsaw on June 19 (4:02 plus 4:03). In the latter race he beat Ivan Ullsperger of Czechoslovakia, 8:12.8, who had earlier made a name for himself by twice trouncing Emil Zátopek over the 5,000 meter route, as reported last month. It seems by now clear that the Colonel considers this distance far too short for his old slow combustion machine: on June 16 in Belgrade he could do no better than 14:49.6, in a race won by former Austrian Walter Konrad, now competing for Germany, in 14:17.0. It should be said, however, that Zátopek was not in good health on that day. Generally speaking, it would seem that Europe's great distance prospects have refrained from going all out so far. In the 5,000 metres, for example, Ullsperger's 14:09.8 is still tops, even though nine others have already bettered 14:20. Only other outstanding distance marks are the following: Eero Tuomaala and Matti Huttunen 8:08.8 for 3,000 metres, in different races, new Finnish record; József Kovács, Hungary, 29:43.6 and Drago Stritof, Yugoslavia, 29:57.0 for 5,000 metres. At this distance Zátopek has so far been content with times of 29:33.0 (May 14) and 29:54.0 (June 29).

STEEPLECHASE

The smooth striding Pentti Karvonen of Finland posted a fine 8:47.8 at Helsinki Olympic Stadium on July 1, winning from brother Reino, 9:00.8. This will make the books as a world record, a "phoney" one we should say, without wishing to detract from Karvonen's merit. In fact his time is not even a track record, because Horace Ashenfelter in the 1952 Olympics and Olavi Rinteenpää in 1953 both have run faster on the same surface (8:45.4 and 8:44.4 respectively). But the I.A.A.F. codified this distance only a year ago and decided not to consider any marks made before 1954. So, Karvonen beat the record set by Sándor Rozsnyófi of Hungary in the 1954 European Championships, 8:49.6.

ROBERTO QUERCETANI'S EUROPEAN REPORT IS CONCLUDED OVERLEAF (Page 160).

Shelton's 79 victory streak broken

Young Vasilii Vlasenko of U.S.S.R. ran away from a fine field at Moscow on June 26 to record 8:51.0. Mikhail Saltikov was second in 8:52.4 and Norway's Ernst Larsen third in 8:57.4.

HURDLES

Stolyarov's 14.2 and Lituyev's 51.4 are still tops here. The former won a good race on June 25 in Moscow, beating, in 14.3, Ion Opris of Rumania, 14.4, and veteran Yevgeniy Bulanchik, 14.5. Stanko Lorgor has done 14.5 four times and 14.6 twice, so he should beat his own Yugoslav record (14.3) before long.

Kurt Bonah of Germany moved to second in the 400 metres hurdles list with 52.4 at Düsseldorf on July 2, being extended by America's Josh Calbreath (52.2). Ilie Savel of Rumania did 52.5 at Warsaw on June 19 and Vyacheslav Bogatov, believed to be Russia's fourth string in this event, downed France's Guy Cury in Moscow, June 26 - times 52.7 and 52.9.

JUMPS

The Shelton vs. Nilsson high jump duels have stolen the headlines in Scandinavian papers. This feud involving America's and Europe's greatest specialists in vertical elevation was advertised very much like some "prize fights" of old in professional boxing. At the time of writing the amazing Nilsson, 21, leads from his arch rival Shelton, 23, two to one. The first round was at Göteborg, July 4, on one of the world's best high jump take-offs. Both men had to be content with 2:08 (6'9¹/₂"), and Nilsson won on fewer misses. Under American (AAU) rules this would have been a "tie." So, Shelton was outjumped for the first time outdoors since 1953 (a winning streak of 79, including a few ties!) in Stockholm on July 7. Competing in the Lion's Den, the Californian perfectionist could do no better than 2.05 (6'8³/₄"), "poor" indeed for him, if you consider that his average for 1955 prior to his departure for Europe was an amazing 6'9¹/₄! Nilsson, Sweden's most popular athlete since the Hagg - Andersson era, cleared 2.10 (6'10³/₈"). The third clash occurred at Enköping on July 8: Shelton won at 2 meters even (6'6³/₄") from Nilsson, 6'4¹/₂". It should be noted that on this occasion the two great high jumpers produced their poorest marks of 1955! Shelton, though reportedly tired of several months of non-stop high jumping, went on to Saarbrücken where on July 10 he cleared 6'10¹/₂" and had a narrow miss at 2.14 (7'0¹/₂"). Nilsson's fine achievements came rather as a surprise to the Swedes themselves because on June 25 in Moscow he had done no better than 6'5¹/₂" to finish third behind two Russians, Yuriy Stepanov (6'6¹/₂") and Vladimir Sitkin (6'5¹/₈"). Stepanov had raised the Russian record to 6'7¹/₈" on June 13 in Moscow. Another fine national record went to the credit of Yugoslavia's Vlado Marjanovic 6'7¹/₈" at Augsburg on June 25.

Nothing sensational but plenty of good marks in the pole vault. Eeles Landström of Finland, returned from Michigan University to enjoy a summer vacation in Suomi, did 14'5³/₈" and 14'6" in close succession, moving to third in the European all time list. 33-year-old Edward Adamczyk of Poland vaulted 14'3³/₈" on July 2 in Berlin - a new national record. Ragnar Lundberg's best so far this season is 14'3¹/₂" - he has not met Landström yet.

Little to report from broad jump pits. But the European champion Ödön Földessy, whether non-Hungarian printers like his name or not, is sure to return to the top very soon. Competing in his second meet of the season on June 25 in Moscow, Földessy did 24'3³/₈" to decisively beat Russia's 25-footer Leonid Grigoryev, who was content with 23'9". On top of the list is Henryk Grabowski of Poland, 24'6¹/₈" (Warsaw, June 19).

There have been interesting developments in the hop, step and jump. The Moscow meet of June 26 saw four men over 50 feet, with 21-year-old Yevgeniy Chen on top at 15.85 (52'0"), second best in European history. What is more, the young Russian beat the European champion and record holder, Leonid Shcherbakov, whose last defeat dated from the Helsinki Olympics. The 28-year-old Shcherbakov was competing in his first meet of the season and did 51'7³/₈". Third at 50'7³/₈" another Russian "hope," Valentin Dementyev, and fourth Sweden's Roger Norman at 50'2³/₈". At Rostock on July 9 Wolfgang Kleinfart of Eastern Germany produced a new all-German record of 50'3³/₈".

THROWING EVENTS.

Irigalka is still in the lead in the shot with his 55'5" of last May, but Jifí Skobla is expected to produce a good mark any time now. U.S.S.R. have a new 55'-man in Feliks Pirts, an Estonian who improved to 55'1" at Tartu on May 28. The best of a new crop of national records are: -Tadeusz Pryor (Poland) 53'5³/₈" at Zodz on June 12; S.Meconi (Italy) 52'7³/₈"; and J.Mihályfi (Hungary) 52'7¹/₂". Karl Heinz Wegmann raised the German post-war best to 53'5¹/₂".

Defeat finally came to the Grand Old Man of discus throwing. Adolfo Consolini (Italy) was last beaten by a European, other than Tosi, in 1940. On June 25 in Moscow Latvian-born Otto Grigalka opened with a good 174'4¹/₂", and then fell away. Consolini, despite

THE GREATEST EVER
880 YARDS RACE.
Boulder, Colorado.
June 25. A.A.U.
Championships.
Left to right.
Tom Courtney 1:48.0
Bill Tidwell 1:48.1
Lang Stanley (hidden)
1:48.6; Lon Spurrer
1:48.7; and the
winner Arnold
Sowell in 1:47.6.



his usual good series, could only manage a best of 173'6³/₈". And that was that. But the most notable progress in the discus circle is that of Karl Merta, 25 with throws of 177'6¹/₂" (Celákovice June 19) and 178'2¹/₂" (Stará Boleslav July 10). Consolini set his season's best with 179'3³/₈" at Bologna on June 19.

There was a fantastic hammer contest in Moscow on June 25. No less than SIX men beat 190 feet. This historic festival of whirling muscle must be recorded in detail:-

- 1st. Mikhail Krivonosov (USSR) 209'1¹/₂"
- 2nd. Nikolay Ryedkin (USSR) 194'3¹/₂"
- 3rd. Sverre Strandli (Norway) 194'1¹/₂"
- 4th V. Plyechenkov (USSR) 193'3¹/₂"
- 5th Yuriy Nikulin (USSR) 192'7"
- 6. József Csermák (Hung.) 191'8³/₈"
- 7. Constantin Dumitru (Rum) 189'10"
- 8. Fyeodor Tkachev (USSR) 188'2³/₈"
- 9. Tesco Taddia (Italy) 184'2¹/₂"
- 10. Stanislav Nyenashev 181'10¹/₂"

Krivonosov (World's No. 2 mark), Plyechenkov, and Nikulin set personal bests and Dumitru a national record for Rumania.

Strandli threw 200'9" at Oslo on June 30 for his 7th 200'+ competitive mark. But on July 14 again at Oslo he lost to Tadeusz Rut who set a Polish record of 197'4¹/₂".

With the Finns not yet in full action, Poland's Janusz Sidlo is undisputed King of the spear throwers. The European champion missed his European record by only about 3 inches when on June 28 he threw 262'8³/₈". Earlier in the season two new 250'+ men arrived:- Charles Vallmann, 21 of Estonia with 255'7¹/₂" at Tartu on May 28 and Sándor Krasznai, 23 of Hungary with 252'7¹/₂" at Budapest on June 11. The best Finn to date is Soini Nikkinen at 249'4¹/₂" (July 10).

A.A.A. CHAMPIONSHIPS REPORT CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 158.

(Hammer throw continued.) pulled stomach muscle so had to scratch. The Sassenach pointed out that Douglas had fallen away from his 190 foot + form and that he had never won an A.A.A. title. The Edinburgh doctor qualified at only 166'1" behind the only two to reach the 170' standard - Allday (175'11") and Dumitru of Rumania (173'3"). After Round 1 of the competition proper the best of the six was John Bard a 25 year old "Yank at Oxford" from Akron, Ohio who made the best throw of his life - 177ft. 0ins. (worth an easy third in the A.A.U. Champs.). Ewan Douglas was second with 175'7". In the second round Douglas took the lead with 182'1" from the Rumanian's 180'1". In round 3 the Scotsman advanced to 185'5", the best ever done by a home product in this event, and Peter Allday got in his first valid throw with 178'0" to pass Bard. Douglas wound up the afternoon's work with throws of 182'0", a foul, and 179'5". The 39 year old 1938 & 1939 Champion Bert Healion, a reinstated amateur from professional wrestling and holder of the Irish record at 192'11" (Dublin 1943) did well to reach 167'2".

RESULT: Qualifying and final on July 15

- 1. Ewan DOUGLAS (Field Events C) 185'5"
- 2. Constantin Dumitru (Rumania) 182'1"
- 3. Peter Allday (London A.C.) 178'0"
- 4. John Bard (U.S.A.) 177'0"
- 5. Alec Valentine (LAC) 175'6"
- 6. Bert Healion (Ireland) 167'2"

THROWING THE JAVELIN.

Previous Best Championship Performance: 222'9" S.A. Lay (N.Z.) 1928

Four men beat the qualifying standard of 195ft. - Zamfir (Rumania) 208'4", Dennis Tucker 201'9", Peter Cullen 199'4", and Colin Smith 195'11". Tucker hit 210'7" in the first round, but, despite having to use one of the disliked and unsympathetically fashioned all metal javelins provided, Zamfir threw 222ft. 9ins which exactly nailed Stanley Lay's great throw of 27 years ago. Cullen reached 205'3" with his fourth throw but no others beat 200 feet. The consistent Tucker wound up with throws of 209'7" and 209'4" but the Rumanian was too good and ended with a 214'9" cast.

- 1. Dimitri ZAMFIR (Rumania) 222'9"
- 2. Dennis Tucker (Herne Hill) 210'7"
- 3. Peter Cullen (Loughboro') 205'3"
- 4. Colin Smith (Thames V.) 194' 2"
- 5. Richard Miller (Reading) 183'10"
- 6. Michael Lanning (Thames) 181' 1"

OTHER A.A.A. CHAMPIONS:-

MARATHON. 2 hrs. 39m 53 secs. - Bill McMinnis (R.A.F.), 40 won from Geoff Iden (Victoria Pk.H) by over 10 minutes, at Reading on July 23. Only 16 finished from a field of 53 owing to the exceptional heat.
4 x 110y Relay. 42.9 secs. Thames Valley H. Reading July 23.
4 x 440y Relay. 3:19.0 s. Mitcham A.C. (Hewson 48.8 anchor) Reading 23/7
TWO MILES WALK. 14:01.0s. George Coleman (Highgate) White City July 16.
SEVEN MILES WALK. 53:04.6s. Roland Hardy (Sheffield Un) Wh. City July 15. These were Hardy's 8th and Coleman's 4th A.A.A. titles.