

TRACK NEWSLETTER

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NEWS

U.S. INDOOR Metropolitan AAU, New York, Jan. 4: Thomas, 6.6; 600-Murphy 1:13.5, from Byrne, Pearman; 1000-Bright 2:14.8 from Soprano, Stevens; Mile-King 4:17.5 from Close, McAllister; 3-mile--McKenzie 14:18.6 from Dougan; 60HH-Herman 6.8 from Cohen; Sprint Medley, Pioneer Club 1:55.6; Mile Walk--Humcke 7:03.1; SP-Marchiony 52'9 $\frac{3}{4}$ "³, Thompson 51'; BJ-Herman 23'2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "³; 35 WT-Backus 62'10", Engel 61'11 $\frac{1}{4}$ "¹; Hall 61'10 $\frac{3}{4}$ "³; Thomson 59'2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "¹; PV-Lynn 13'

All Eastern, Baltimore, Jan. 11: 60-Miles 6.3, Winder, Kave, Cager (Kave 6.1 trials); 600-Culbreath 1:12.5, McMurray 1:12.5; 880-Christian, NC, 1:57.2; Mile-Grim 4:17.2, Close, Party; 2-mile-Sawyer 9:29.0; Mile R-Morgan State 3:21.5, Fordham; 2-mile R-Fordham 8:00.3, Seton Hall; 60HH-Moore, Haddinott, Hearn 7.5; HJ-Dennis 6'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "¹, Barksdale.

BRAZIL Jan. 3, Suarez 14:23.3, Faria, Kuts 14:45. (It is now learned Max Truex was leading Sao Paulo race by 30 seconds with short distance to go when he collapsed from motorcycle exhaust fumes.)

ARGENTINA Dec. 15, Suarez 29:39.6 for South American record, from Lemos 29:39.8.

AUSTRALIA: Dec. 26, Herb Elliott 1:52.4; Dec. 28: Tomlinson 49'1 $\frac{3}{4}$ "³ HSJ; Crowe 170'5" HT

BULLETIN BOARD

Next Newsletters January 28; February 11, 25; March 11, 25; January T&FNews mailed F.6.

Wanted: Track Nut who will translate track and field articles from German into English. Literal translations not needed. In exchange, will send copies of German track magazines.

Meet the Track Nuts will be a new feature of the Track Newsletter. Let's hear from you, who you are, vital stats, how got interested in track, participation, interests, etc.

Statisticians Any track nut who likes to work with stats but is lacking a specific project, can obtain suggestions from Track Newsletter. And readers are invited to submit stats they would like to see compiled.

WIND SPRINTS

Parry O'Brien will compete in three meets in Germany from February 1 through February 8. His banking job has taken him to Palm Springs, Calif. . . Bob Gutowski gave up basketball about a month ago, and there are conflicting reports on whether or not he will compete in the indoor season. . . Occidental's two-mile relay team is scheduled to make an Eastern trip. Oxy had a good fall track season and coach Chuck Coker says they are intending to lower the two-mile relay record to 7:20. . . California reportedly is after both the two-mile and four-mile relay records, . . and rumor has it that Leamon King will not be eligible this spring. . . Max Truex still has not recovered from his Sao Paulo experience and there is some doubt as to his ability to run well indoors. . . Stanford and Cal both are headed for the Texas Relays this year, if plans materialize. . . a new meet on the slate for California schools is the Apple Valley Invitational, in the desert east of Los Angeles, as part of a big real estate promotion. . . Cliff Larrabee, TN, reports that we erred on the indoor record for the 35 lb weight throw last issue. The 67'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "¹ for Hall was with a light weight. Bob Backus did 66'6 $\frac{3}{4}$ "³ same day with light weight. Best legitimate mark is Hal Connolly's 66'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "¹, at Medford, Dec. 31, 1956. So far no word on whether this has been ratified. Connolly's mark was made with a special weight, with small triangular handle, about 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4" per side of the triangle, to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " for the usual weight. If this 66'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "¹ is not the record, then it is 65'10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "¹ by Backus. . . TN Emerson Case reports three good marks by boys under 15. Leamon King ran 9.8 at 14, A.G. Davies, Great Britain, jumped 6' in 1956 at 14, and John Simmons broad jumped 23'1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "¹ at 14 in 1946. . . TN James Powell reports that he timed 9-year-old Paul Hansen, running in street clothes and shoes, running 8 to 12 feet out from the pole, on an odd four turned track, in 1:45 for a 440. The boy had had no training of any kind. . . Edsel Ford, son of Ford Motor Co. founder Henry Ford, and father of the present Ford boys, was a sprinter at the Detroit University school, a private boarding and day school for pre-university students. He was reported to do 10.1 for the 100 and to run anchor on an often victorious relay team. This was in 1911. . .

SO THEY TELL US

FRED BERMAN, former George shot put ace: (56'4 $\frac{1}{4}$ " , 1956): I think my shot put career actually ended with the '56 season even though I went through the '57 one too. About a year ago, while working out, I developed a hell of a pain in my lower back. I'd had so many pulled muscles in my life that I just let it ride, especially since the regular season was still about 4 months away. It got worse and worse with pain running down my legs. As long as I was up, moving around, it was tolerable, but I couldn't sit down or lay down without excruciating pain. I started sleeping on the floor but that didn't help either. The season started and it looked like I might have a pretty good one. Over 55' in the 1st meet, 2 more 55s, one big slump for about 2 weeks, and then a 56' and another 55'. I graduated in June and thought I might try a couple of more meets before going to work. I went out to the Houston Meet of Champions and that's where it hit me. I thought I was breaking in half. I hopped a plane back here and about a week later I had an operation. I had a disc ruptured so badly that the docs wondered why in blazes I was still walking. They cut the disc out, I spent about a month in the hospital, a couple more months resting, and here I am, as good as new, almost. I've been advised not to try to throw anymore or do anything heavy or sudden for a couple of years. I feel great though. I'm working in the Venezuela oil fields in a high paying job with a company that records data about certain properties of the formations."

TN JAMES POWELL, San Pedro, Calif: "I wonder if any fellow TN has as much German track literature as I? I have the last five editions of "Deutsche Leichtathletik Meister", the German championship magazine with pictures and text, a special 50 page magazine on the 56 OG, 13 issues of "Sport Illustrierte" (which has excellent track articles), other programs, including two with no less than 7 European records set at the meets (Germar and Lauer), and a good collection of newspaper photos. All received from my pen pal in a little over a year.

TN EMERSON CASE, Schenectady: "It surprises me how little fuss has been made about George Knight. He ran faster this year at both 5000 and 10,000 than any other man of his age (only 21) ever has. Has the track world become so accustomed to almost constant record breaking that it fails to appreciate fully the performances of this young Briton? However, he isn't far ahead of our own Max Truex at 5000..."

"They tell the story of the high school star who won several medals and wore them virtually everywhere--to school, to meets, etc. Early one morning as the team assembled at the bus for a trip the coach noticed that the chap was not wearing his medals. Asked about it, the lad seemed stunned, and stammered, "My gosh, coach, I must have left them on my pajamas."

DIN TEMPLETON, Coach: "Al Oerter is not getting enough drive off his hop off his left foot. The hop seems to be getting less and less and is very close to being just a step. Once he gets back into the groove on his hop his tremendous power will exert itself fully."

DAVE SHRADER, Kanorado, Kansas: "I most certainly enjoyed your criticism of the AAU meet. I know what you mean. I was a very high strung competitor back in the war years and at the 1944 AAU at Randall Island, Hugh Cannon and I were ready for some good throws. I had just done 173' and 187' in practice the week before and felt good warming up. When we were about to take our first throws when we were delayed for half an hour. Ready to go again, we were subjected to another 20 minute hold up. Once underway, they lost one of my best throws and gave the only good one I had to Bill Bangert. It was ridiculous, Cannon blew his top and was going to talk to Dan Ferris but I persuaded him it would do no good. The same poor officiating has taken place nearly ever year that I competed in the Missouri Valley meet at KC or St. Joe. I competed from 1934 through 1955, with only the war years out, and only twice were the shot and discus run off properly...I have a boy here by name of Don Nelson who ran 4:38 last year. He is 6', 170 and strong as a horse. He is intelligent, has had little or no coaching up to now, and runs 5 miles from home to school out of season. He may get down to record time with a little luck in the weather."

TN GARY HUNT, Los Angeles: "The 120 yard high hurdles is my favorite event. It all goes back to the day when I saw one of the most beautiful stylists and most precision like races I have ever seen. Craig Dixon was the performer (13, 9) and the meet was the 1949 NCAA meet. Ever since that time the highs have been a fascination to me. The event is unique."

SAM JOHNSON, Walla Walla: "I wonder if the NAIA meet (San Diego, June 6&7) will allow Bobby Morrow and Elias Gilbert to qualify for the Saturday finals automatically so that they can run in the Compton Invitational on Friday night?"

STATS

HIGH HURDLE alltime list has 7 under 13.7, 12 under 13.8, 20 under 13.9, 29 under 14.0, 46 under 14.1, 72 under 14.2. All but 10 are Americans.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 13.3y Jack Davis, US, 1956 | 13.9y Charles Hlad, US, 1942 |
| 13.4y Milt Campbell, US, 1957 | 13.9y Bill Porter, US, 1948 |
| 13.4yn Elias Gilbert, US, 1957 | 13.9y Bill Fleming, US, 1950 |
| 13.5y Dick Attlesey, US, 1950 | 13.9yn Jim Gehrdes, US, 1950 |
| 13.5 Lee Calhoun, US, 1956 | 13.9y Bill Curtis, US, 1956 |
| 13.6y Harrison Dillard, US, 1948 | 13.9 Anatoliy Michailov, USSR, 1957 |
| 13.6 Willie Stevens, US, 1957 | 14.0y Bob Osgood, US, 1937 |
| 13.7 Forrest Towns, US, 1936 | 14.0y Pete Owens, US, 1940 |
| 13.7y Fred Wolcott, US, 1940 | 14.0 Haakan Lidman, Sweden, 1940 |
| 13.7yn Joel Shankle, US, 1956 | 14.0y Bob Wright, US, 1941 |
| 13.7y Hayes Jones, US, 1957 | 14.0y Ralph Tate, US, 1943 |
| 13.7 Martin Lauer, Germany, 1957 | 14.0 Alberto Triulzi, Argentina, 1947 |
| 13.8yn Boyce Gatewood, US, 1940 | 14.0yn Clyde Scott, US, 1948 |
| 13.8y Craig Dixon, US, 1949 | 14.0yn Jack Demedicis, US, 1951 |
| 13.8yn Billy Anderson, US, 1949 | 14.0y Ray Weinberg, Australia, 1952 |
| 13.8 Bob Mathias, US, 1952 | 14.0y Joel McNulty, US, 1953 |
| 13.8yn Rafer Johnson, US, 1956 | 14.0n Lee Loewen, US, 1956 |
| 13.8y Charles Pratt, US, 1956 | 14.0n Bert Steines, Germany, 1956 |
| 13.8y Ancel Robinson, US, 1957 | 14.0yn Charles Batch, US, 1957 |
| 13.8y Willard Thomson, US, 1955 | 14.0y Rod Perry, US, 1957 |
| 13.9y Edward Dugger, US, 1940 | 14.0y Joe Gorham, US, 1957 |
| 13.9yn Joe Batiste, US, 1941 | 14.0n Keith Gardner, Jamaica, 1957 |
| 13.9y Lloyd Duff, US, 1948 | 14.0yn Chuck Cobb, US, 1957 |

AMERICAN INDOOR RECORDSDirt Track

60y, 6.0, Jim Golliday, 1956
 300y, 30.3, Herb McKenley, 1947
 440y, 47.9, Herb McKenley, 1947
Metric distances, regulation board track
 60m, 6.6, Jesse Owens, 1935, Ben Johnson, 1935, Herbert Thompson, 1939
 100m, 10.7, Robert Rodenkirchen, 1938
 200m, 22.2, Theo. Ellison, 1935
 400m, 47.9, Roy Cochran, 1942
 500m, 1:02.9, Mal Whitfield, 1953
 600m, 1:20.3, Jimmy Herbert, 1938
 800m, 1:49.7, Arnie Sowell, 1957
 1000m, 2:26.4, Lloyd Hahn, 1927
 1500m, 3:48.3, Wes Santee, 1955

On long track more than 220 yards per lap:

220, 22.1, Robert Rodenkirchen, 1938
 880, 1:47.7, John Woodruff, 1940
 1320, 3:01.2, John Borican, 1940
 800m, 1:47.0, John Woodruff, 1940
 2000m, 5:22.4, Paavo Nurmi, 1925
 3000m, 8:17.7, Horace Ashenfilter, 1954
 5000m, 14:23.2, Willie Ritola, 1925
 14:30.9 (citizens) Don Lash, 1939
 3000m St., 8:48.6, Tom Deckard, 1937
 65m HH, 8.3, Allan Tolnich, 1941
 110m HH, Haakon Lidman, Sweden, 1945
 1000m MedR, 1:59.7, NY Curb Exchange, 1937
 1600mR, 3:17.0, Pennsylvania, 1933
 2900m MedR, 7:08.3, NYAC, 1939

BEST MILING COUNTRIES are rated by Tony Donoghue. Marks in brackets have been converted from 1500m times by IAAF Scoring Tables:

1-Great Britain. Ibbotson 3:57.2, Bannister 3:58.8, Wood 3:59.3, Chataway 3:59.8, Hewson 3:59.8, Pirie 4:00.9, Boyd (4:01.4), Gordon 4:03.4, Clark 4:03.5, Wooderson 4:04.2 (first 10 average 4:00.82), Kent-Smkth 4:04.4, Driver 4:04.6, Berisford 4:04.8, Milligan 4:05.0, Johnson 4:05.0, Everett 4:05.3, Nankeville 4:05.4, Wyatt 4:05.8, Dunkley 4:05.8, Shirley 4:05.8. Average of first 20, 4:03.01.
 2- Sweden. Waern 3:58.5, I. Ericsson (3:59.3), Hagg (4:01.3), Strand (4:01.4), Andersson 4:01.6, Karlsson (4:02.7), H. Ericsson (4:02.9), Landquist (4:03.4), Persson 4:03.8, Aberg (4:04.1) (1st 10, 4:01.9) Lundh (4:04.3), R. Gustafsson 4:04.6, Moberg 4:05.3, Gottfridsson (4:05.6), Berquist 4:05.8, H. Gustafsson 4:06.0, Lundberg 4:06.2, Ahlsen 4:06.6, Ahlden (4:07.0) Toft (4:07.2). (Average 20, 4:03.87).
 3--USA. Bowden 3:58.7, Santee 4:00.5, Dwyer 4:00.8, Walters 4:01.2 (relay), Seaman 4:01.4, McMillen (4:03.8), Tidwell (4:03.8), Dellinger 4:04.6, Wheeler 4:04.7, Wray 4:05.7 (10, 4:02.52), Hulse 4:06, Grim 4:06, Dodds 4:06.1, Beatty 4:06.5, Dreutzler (4:06.6), LaPierre (4:06.6), Truxy 4:06.6, Cunningham 4:06.7, Maly 4:06.7

1920 OLYMPIC GAMES (part five from report of U.S. Olympic Committee)

There were two innovations at the Games. First, the pledges taken by the athletes, spoken aloud by a Belgian athlete holding the flag of his country, in the name of all: "We swear that we are taking part in the Olympic Games as loyal competitors, observing the rules governing the Games, and anxious to show a spirit of chivalry, for the honor of our countries and for the glory of the sport." Thus modern Games go back, little by little, to their illustrious ancestors by the successive restoration of both the ceremonies and the symbolic acts which gave to the former so great and deep a meaning. The second innovation was the appearance of the Olympic flag, with its five entwined circles, multicolors on a white background, evoking the five parts of the world united by Olympism, and at the same time reproducing the colors of every nation. At Antwerp the flag was so popular that a group of athletes sought to bring home this tangible souvenir of the Games. Unfortunately, the police were on guard; arrests, trials and consular interventions followed.

The international comradeship was intensified by the manners in which the athletes were lodged, each large country being quartered in a school. The occupants visited each other, entertained each other, even gave concerts and plays among themselves. The good manners and courtesy found at these gatherings were remarkable, and here was a splendid opportunity to fight against a certain free unrestrained "I don't care" feeling--which sometimes betrayed itself in the stadium in careless attire and uncared for appearance.

America's track team was selected at the final tryouts, which were the National AAU Championships. To qualify for the final trials, athletes competed in preliminaries at Philadelphia, Chicago, New Orleans and Pasadena, while the Army had try-outs for all divisions, then a final meet at St. Louis.

Olympic track events were held in a new stadium, seating 30,000. In the first track event of the Games, the magnificent performance of Frank Loomis not only gave the U.S. first place in the 400 meter hurdles, but also a new world's record of 54.0. John Norton and August Desch were 2nd and 3rd for the U.S. American sprinters again demonstrated their superiority by carrying off first honors in the 100 and 200. In the 100, Charley Paddock won in 10.8 from Morris Kirksey, USA, and Harry Edward, Great Britain. Jackson Scholz, US(later to be a prolific pulp writer), was 4th and Loren Murchison, US, 6th. In justice to Murchison it was stated that he was left "flat footed" on his mark when the gun was fired, partly through his own fault, and partly due to the clerk of the course calling out instructions to the competitors after the starter had commanded them to get set. Three of the four Americans placed in the 200. In this event, Allen Woodring furnished a big surprise by defeating Paddock for first in 22.0, with Murchison fourth behind Edward of Great Britain.

The Americans fared badly in the middle distance events. Frank Shea of Pittsburgh was the only American to win a place, taking fourth in the 400. Beril Rudd, South Africa won in 49.6, from Guy Butler, Great Britain(now IAAF photographer), and Nils Engdahl, Sweden. Our first real upset came in the 800 in which we were depending upon such stellar performers as Eby, Scott, Sprott and Campbell. However, to our disappointment, England provided the winner in A.G. Hill, 1:53.4. Early Eby and Rudd fought it out for 2nd, Eby receiving the decision on the tape. Mountain of England finished a few yards back in fourth place leading Scott and Sprott. Campbell, the fourth American entry, set the pace a good part of the distance, but collapsed 40 yards from the finish and had to be carried from the field. Hill's time was regarded by a majority of experts as the fastest half ever run. The slow time shown by the watches was due to the very slow track on which the race was run, due to continual rains. The first 440 yards were run in 54.2.

Hill again repeated in the 1500, beating the American champ, Joie Ray, 4:01.8 to 4:02.4. Of course, the injury sustained by Ray while training on one of the nearby fields, which was the only place available at the particular time he desired a workout, killed his chances of winning. The 1500 was the second most sensational foot race of the Games, being just a little short of the thrills of the running of the 800. It was run in a drizzling rain. P.J. Baker, another Englishman, finished 2nd, with Larry Shields of US only a few feet behind Baker. In justice to the winner, it must be admitted that Ray, who did not finish in the first 6, at his best would by no means have been certain of victory. Hill ran a splendid race and deserves great credit. He had already raced four days in succession; on Sunday, 800 heats; Monday, 800 semi-final; Tuesday, 800 final; Wednesday, 1500 heat. Ray took the lead at the start and held it for 1000 meters. He was then passed by Hill and Baker, and 100m further by Shields. Then Hill sprinted, but only in the last few yards did he draw away from Baker and Shields, while Joie finished 8th. Ray said his left leg felt lifeless after half the distance. (cont.)