

## TRACK NEWSLETTER

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## LATE NEWS

NEW WORLD RECORDS were made when Russia defeated London on Oct. 13, at London. Chris Chataway trailed Vladimir Kuts until the last 25 yards, then gained a narrow victory for a new 5000m mark, 13:51.6 to 13:51.8, taking five seconds off Kuts' European Championship mark. A great 440y hurdle race produced a new world mark for Lituyev (51.3), with Britain's Kane clocking 51.8 to upset Yulin (51.9). Shaw did 52.0. In the 5000m race Kuts broke the 3-mile record enroute, doing 13:27, and was clocked in 8:54.6 at the two-mile point.

NEW WORLD RECORDS were established by the amazing Kuts on October 23 at Vienna when he easily defeated Zatopek, running 13:26.4 and 13:51.2. His intermediate times were 2:39, 5:30, 8:23, 11:06.4.

Sprints-Futterer ran 10.3, 10.2 and 20.8 (breaking the European record) in Japan. There was an aiding wind on the 10.2, but it was quartering and the mark may be submitted.

800-880Nielsen tied Whitfield's 880 record with 1:48.6 at Copenhagen on Sept. 30. Lueg ran 1:49.7m and Lawrenz 1:49.9m in Japan.

2 mile-Gordon Pirie launched his comeback after his injury-caused lay-off with 8:54.8 on 10/13. Maynard ran 8:56.4.

10,000m-Ken Norris won against the Russians in 29:35.4, beating Sando, 29:40, and Anufriyev, 29:44.6.

Steeplechase-Karvonen's 8:41.4 will not be allowed as a world record as the water jump did not conform. Hence the first IAAF recognized mark will probably be Rozsnyoi's 8:49.6 at Bern. Karvonen, however, beat Rozsnyoi in an 8:50.4 race.

110H-Bulanchik defeated Britain's best twice, with 14.7 and 14.6.

HJ-The latest word places Nilsson on top the 1954 list and second on the all time list. His previously reported 2.11 (6-11) was actually 2.114, or 6-11 $\frac{1}{4}$ . He also did 6-7  $\frac{7}{8}$  on 10/10 and Kovar, CSR, 6-7 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

HSJ-Shcherbakov, 50-10 $\frac{1}{2}$ , London, 10/13; Shoji Kogake, 51-8  $\frac{1}{8}$ w, Japan.

SP-Skobla 55-9 $\frac{1}{4}$  10/10; Grigalka, 55-2 & Heinaste 53-11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , London, 10/13.

DT-Matayev, 171, London, 10/13; Szecsenyi, 172-10  $\frac{3}{8}$  10/2.

HTStrandli did 202-3/8 on 9/26, not 201- $\frac{1}{2}$  as reported last issue;

Also threw 196-3/8 10/4 and 197-3 $\frac{1}{4}$  10/10. Csermak 199-6 $\frac{1}{2}$  9/7 & 10/3.

JT-Soini Nikkinen of Finland has been great. On October 2 he averaged 252-4 on six fair throws, with a best of 257-6 $\frac{1}{2}$ . On October 17 he threw 258-4, then later in the day, at another town, heaved 261-1  $\frac{7}{8}$ .

Heiner Will of Germany achieved 253- $\frac{1}{4}$  in Japan; Sidlo 249-6  $\frac{1}{8}$  and 245-1  $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Hyytiainen 245-6  $\frac{7}{8}$  and 242-4  $\frac{5}{8}$ ; Kuznetsov 246-7; and Leppanen 244-8 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

HH-Don Hildreth did 14.2 in the Japanese National Championships.

PV-Bob Richards did 15-0 at Colombo, Ceylon, 9/11 and 12.

## SO THEY TELL US

TN TAD DOBROSKI, Japan: "Bob McMillen faltered badly in the Japan 5000m, coming in fifth. We both decided he definitely is not in the best of shape and to boot he had a pulled muscle in the left thigh. One just can't seem to do well in the Army in track."

TN JOE GALLI, Australia: "About those professional running records: There is no world or Empire body, only the Victorian Athletic League, generally accepting the following: 75y 7.2 Arthur Postle, Aust, 1908; 110y 10.3, Tim Miles, A, 1928; 300y 29 61/64 Jack Donaldson, A, 1913; 600y 1:12 Jack Fitt, A, 1931; 2 miles 9:11.1, Mick Goss, A, 1941; 3M, 14:18.6, G. McCrae, Scot, 1918; 6m, 29:50, J. White, Eng., 1863. Times not listed as official by the VAL include 7.2 Ewell 1950, 9.4 Ewell 1950, 100m, 10.5, Frank Banner, A, 1949. Timing has always been poor, many times with only one watch, and that not on the finish line. That 9  $\frac{3}{8}$  of Donaldson's was time with three watches, all registering different

and I have long tried to puzzle how they finally got around to 9 3/8. Also we should note that the pro has a start on the amateur, since he starts with his forward foot on the starting line.

So far as it goes, Victoria is the world's last stronghold of pro running. It is a pity, not that men run for cash, but because it is on a level with horse and dog racing. It is all handicap racing, and sprint are most popular, because that offers best prizes. Bookmakers operate, and there is little need to say more, except the only way to really get good money at it is to run "dead" (not try) for years until you get a good handicap, then try to clean up on one race.

The runners are poor, and is it any wonder? Often good boys are kidded into the game with big promises, and under the so-called guidance of the "coaches" just cannot ever be good. Pro coaches work on the lines they must have around the 1850s. Distance coaches believe in plenty of jogging, and much rest, the idea being that by the time a race comes up you are so much raring to go that you can explode and produce a colossal performance. But the funny thing to us amateur followers is this: the times, when worked back to full distance, equal, in the case of the mile, around 4:25. Yet these "trainers" have taken Cerutti to task for his methods, and suggested last summer that Landy would burn out, and never could break the world record. We had much fun publicly pointing out what dopes they were, but their hides are so thick they actually thought WE were the crazy ones.

Here is why prunning sticks here. This is a vast, sparsely populated continent, with the centers of population widely separated. Because track isn't a big time sport (yet) it has not been possible to form many clubs outside the six state capitals, and to give them good competition without costly, long distance travel. Many, many years ago, in the pioneering days, country towns started annual sports carnivals, all with pro running events. As Australia did not grow rapidly, and thus amateur track remained confined to the capital cities, the "bush town" sports stuck. Then, when a pro body was founded to keep the game more or less in order, it became tradition to hold these annual carnivals. And now, any boy in a country town (outside the few large ones which have an amateur club or two) who has ideas of being a runner just naturally thinks in terms of professionalism. It is not that they are money made (most of them love the sport) but simply that they know no better. When all this will change, we do not know. But someday it will.

TN Ronald Jones, Orange, Cal: "I have a clipping which says pro R. P. Williams ran, in addition to the marks Roy Silver noted, 2.2 for 20 yards, 9.8 for 100m and 8.5 for 100 yards with wind, Sept. 28, 1907. The article also says "when Jim Thorpe set a mark of 7476 points in the world all-around championships "Doc" stepped out and scored 9506 points. At the time of the article, about 1947, Williams was still alive and could be reached in care of Lebanon, Ohio.

Another pro I know a little about is Tom Morris of Santa Ana, Cal. He started his pro career in 1890 at the age of 27 after being spotted picking grapes. In 1892 he met Jim Quirk of Canada who held world pro record of 7 1/4 for 75, and Morris won in new record of 7.0. He also beat another great pro runner by the name of Sloan. His best times that year were 9.3 for 100 and 14.0 for 150. During his running career Morris had found that oft times there was more money to be made in losing a race than winning it and therefore his record is spotty. In 1922 at the age of 57 Tom Morris won a 100 yard race in Oceanside, Cal. in 10.3. In 1925 he ran his last race and finished second. He did in 1940 after being struck by an auto. The information on Morris is from the book 'Santa Ana, Story of Yesterday' by C. Swanner, 1952."

RUT WALTER, starter and Northwestern track coach: "I always have tried to protect the boys that are being honest and waiting for the gun and let the jumpers worry about themselves. It is my honest feeling that I have never thrown a boy out of a race, however, many have thrown themselves out. I may be a sprint coach again this year when I get Jim Golliday back out of the army."

## EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Additional data, mostly courtesy of Athletics World) Here's the way the balance of power shifts in European track. Countries scored as follows in the five meets. First figure represents number of placings in first six, second figure are points scored on a 7-5-4,3-3-1 basis: Turin, 1934: Germany, 18, 81; Finland, 17, 75; Italy, 22, 57; Hungary, 16, 56; Sweden, 13, 52; France 9, 35. G.B. & USSR did not compete. Paris, 1938: Germany, 24, 110; Sweden, 22, 82; Finland 19, 79; G.B., 14, 57; Italy, 12, 41; Netherlands, 6, 29; USSR did not compete. Oslo, 1946: Sweden, 76, 160; Finland, 40, 70; France, 18, 54; G.B., 12, 51; Norway, 11, 36; USSR, 15, 28; Germany did not compete. Brussels, 1950: France, 23, 83; Sweden 20, 73; G.B., 17, 72; Italy, 15, 62; Finland, 11, 49; USSR 11, 41; Germany did not compete. Bern, 1954: USSR 22, 115; Hungary, 18, 64; Czechoslovakia, 14, 56; Finland 12, 53½; G.B. 16, 52½; Sweden 16, 42.

Lajos Szentgali had only three hours fitful sleep, vividly dreamed the pack entered the home stretch all even and that he was the one with the most left...Vladimir Kuts was born in 1927 in the Ukraine, has been a Marine since 1944 and his early sports were rowing, skiing and boxing. He took up running only in 1951 at 24 and first came to prominence with sixth in the 1952 national meet, running 14:56.0. In 1952 he did 14:32.2, 14:02.2 the next year and 13:51.8 this year. His 1952 10,000m time was 31:02.4, then 29:41.4 and 29:21.2 this year...Lituyev achieved his planned on 13 strides to the seventh and then an alternating 14 strides between the last three hurdles, doing 51.1 in the semi-final. In the final, though, he tried 13 all the way, but broke stride on the eighth hurdle and lost his rythm...Sandor Rosznyoi, Hungary's surprise steeple-chase victor, ran only one race in 1953, that a poor 9:46.2 effort which led him to say "never again". But this year he ran 11 steeple-chases in four months, consistently cutting his time down from a 9:32.6 opener. He was so dazed with surprise that he told a countryman "It is not true, I don't believe it."...Nine high jumpers used the western roll, six the eastern cut-off, two the straddle, and one the back layout...Hop-step-jumper Leonid Shcherbakov trains weighted down with an 11 pound belt and can jerk 284 pounds...John Savidge did 56-1 in training before the meet...Giuseppe Tosi is the 266 pound bodyguard to the President of Italy...Mikhail Krivonosov is 25, 6-2½, 198, and his name literally means Crooked Nose.

## VANCOUVER LEFT OVERS

All hammer throw chains were too short, so new ones were air expressed from England at cost of \$180...John Savidge says he saw Zatopék coach-cussing him on during a workout at Helsinki...Savidge, who has a very sharp mind, noted in T&FN that O'Brien had four throws over 60 ft. in five minutes. "I wouldn't mind spending six minutes on it" said Big John...On Sunday, six days before the Miracle Mile, Landy's workout was 1:57.8, 1:56.4, 1:56.6...France Press conducted a poll of newspapermen with 13 favoring Landy, 4 Bannister and the average time at 4:01.8. Only one man (Bert Nelson, 3:57.6 predicted under four minutes...Landy said before the heats he could "run down to 4:08 without hurting himself." His modest weight lifting achievements are 160 clean, 118 press, 130 jerk...teammates explained that Chris Chataway has a different physiology than most, in that he does not tie up, but can keep moving ahead when dead tired...Landy's best 400m is 49.7, but he said he can do only 51 now. John says he remembers Helsinki when he thought he was doing great in his sprint, but the whole field swooshed past...Landy said he had no pre-race strategy, would wait for the race to develop. "I can begin to tell at the 220 mark if I have it for the day, and I know for sure by the half-way point." Asked about Halberg, Landy said he is probably better than 4:04.4. "He runs like a fool. He and Jim Baillie run a marathon every Sunday". John's only injury was last year when he had a bad foot from too sharp curves. He cured it by

working three days, then resting three days, for a month...Australia suffered 10 injuries on her 16 man team...Bannister said "the track is very good," Landy, "it's a little loose"...Omega had 10 watches worth \$500 each, and 15 worth \$200 each, totaling \$8000...Ken Doubleday is retiring...At a T&FN luncheon Canadian Barry Lush was asked how he trained for the marathon. Miler Ian Boyd piped up with "do you do much over distance work?"...Jim Peters put in 5400 miles of running last year...Landy, unable to sleep, prowled around one night before the race, cut his foot on a flash bulb, but swore those who knew about it too secrecy. A Canadian newsman leaked the story after the race, but Landy pooh-poohed the accident, asking could he run 3:59.6 with a bad foot?... On TV after the race, Bannister said: "Yes, I'm a bit tired. Had a cold. Not quite as tired as the first four-minute mile. Wind took quite a bit out of me that day. It is always faster when running against an opponent, but it is not easy to find such an opponent in England. My great respect for Landy made me bring the best out of myself. I knew Landy was going a bit too fast. He left me a little on the last backstretch, but I got up to him on the last curve." Landy, a wonderful loser who wanted to know if everybody enjoyed the race, said: "I was pleased we both broke four minutes. The race definitely went to the better man on this day. The pressure hurt, but I don't like to think I could have run faster. In a paced race, yes. I thought 4:02 would win comfortably. The track condition was very good. I think I can run 3:55, but I wouldn't like to do it. It would be very hard, and would need perfect conditions. No, I won't do it at Cardiff (Wales, scene of next Empire Games). I'm not foolish enough to go that far." Bannister: "I knew I had him when he looked around on the third lap. It was the first time I ever shortened my stride to win."...The 73 degree temperature was the hottest in which Peters ever raced... Fred Green: "You Americans eat too much and ride too much. Great Britain decided to do something about our lack of coaching. Now if a boy is good he can get an international coach. My progress is due to the foresight of the British governing body, particularly my coach who taught me a long time ago that you can't burn yourself out. A typical training week goes like this, for me: Monday, Jog a half in sweats. Then run quarters in 64, 30 of them, with a lap of jogging in between. I begin to get tired at 15 or 16 quarters, but at 25 I feel good as I know it will soon be over. After I finish and shower I feel better than before I started training. Tuesday: half-hour warm up and warm down, 10 660s in 95, jogging two laps in between. Wednesday, 30 220s in 27, with 220 jog in between; Thursday: 1320 time trial four times, at about 3:18, which is a two mile pace, 5-7 laps of jogging in between. Friday: job for hour if coming. Sunday: Jog one hour to loosen every muscle. I run every day. (At which point John Savidge wished "A run a day keeps Pirie away") Interval running prevents mental fatigue. The only way to run world records is through mental attitude"...Television is said to have increased interest in track in Great Britain...Landy says competency is born of knowledge of oneself...Landy travelled through Europe as "John Smith, trick cyclist"... Green says he started with a normal pulse, worked it down to 45, and that it will go back when he stops running...Peters averaged 17½ miles of running a day, seven days a week. He ran 25 miles the day before he placed third in the Empire Games six mile...Landy's father, Gordon Landy, said his son was in very good shape, and now is able to keep his pre-race nerves under control. John was in Turku the day Kuts did 8:05.6 but nobody told him about the meet and he missed it... Britishers recalled that at London Olympics javelins were passed out to competitors the night before. When examined the next day all were found to have been illegally altered. All were impounded, new sticks issued, and it was the worst event of the Games...metal training javelins are the most common implement in Britain.