

TRACK NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1, No. 8, November 12, 1954 P. O. Box 296, Los Altos, Calif.  
 By Bert & Cordner Nelson of Track & Field News \$5.00 per year (24 nos)

LATE NEWS

HEINZ FUTTERER equalled the world's record with 10.2 and tied his own European record with 20.8 at Yokohama on October 31. There was no wind assistance. In the same meet Will threw 245.08, and Geister won in 47.2 from Ulzheimer, 47.7. Luog 1:51.3; Schade 14:27, Steines 14.8. BENGT NILSSON jumped 6-10 5/8 in an exhibition but sprained his left ankle and tore a muscle.

RUSSIA beat Czechoslovakia at Prague, Oct. 23 and 24 in the meet in which Kuts regained his world record. The score was 117 to 95 in quite a meet. Ignatyev 21.2 and 46.4; Vrecnik, C, 48.0; Podebrad, C, 48.3; Jungwrith 1:49.8, Liska, C, 1:50.8. Jungwrith 3:47.0, Zwolensky, C, 3:47.4, Marichew, R, 3:48.2; Bagrejew, R, 3:48.8. Kuts 13:51.2, Zatopek 14:19, Ullsperger C 14:25.2. Zatopek (the next day) 29:20.8, Anufriyev 30:18.8. Brlica, C 8:56.6, Slavicek C 8:57.4, Maralin R 9:03.9. Bulanchik 14.7. Yulin 51.4, Ilin 51.9, Lubomir Bartos C 53.0. Leonid Grigorjev R 25-0. Denisenko and Bulatov 14-1 1/2. Lansky C 6-7 7/8. Shcherbakov 51-7 5/8. Skobla 57-1, Grigalka 55-5 3/8. Cihak C 174-10 1/2. Matveyev 174-4 1/2. Krivonosov 202-7 3/8, Rydekin 200-1 1/2. USSR 40.7 and 3:10.2.

WIND SPRINTS

Chris Chataway was presented in Vancouver with an Australian medal for the part he played in Landy's 3:58; has declined an invitation to compete in the U.S. this winter; and is the man for whom Frans Herman's son is called "Chris"....Jesse Owens has predicted his broad jump mark will be broken before long, noting that record breaking comes in cycles. ...Veikko Karvonen and Erkki Puolakka of Finland will take part in the big International Marathon at Tokyo Dec. 5....J. W. Mashburn recently ran 48.9 and 48.0 on the same day. He is getting in shape for the Sugar Bowl...Louisiana, not normally a great track state, has produced far more than its share of the limited number of US hop-step-jumpers (Billy Brown, Roland Romero etc.) because the event is on the high school schedule...Larry Pulford, University of Washington frosh has done 51-5 1/2 in shot put practice, second best ever by a Washingtonian (herman Brix did 51-8 in 1928...is any part of the reason for Britain's progress in track due to the extension of the competitive season from the first of August well into October?...German Coach Woldemar Gerschler noted the results of the German junior championships and said "we have never had anything like our present amount of young talent"...in addition to Max Truex, the SC Trojans landed Bruce Kitchen 48.7, Dick Bronson 60-4 1/2, Ray Taylor 185- 3/4 (javelin), Bob Lawson, 6-4 1/2, and Tom Anderson, 1:55.2, the nucleus of a fair frosh squad....TN Norman Lumian, Morningside High coach in So. Calif., has an article on cross country timing in the October Scholastic Coach....Michigan coach Don Canham hit the big time journalism with a Sports Illustrated lead article telling how the Russians were going to beat us in track... SC leads the list of NCAA track and field individual champions with 51, followed by Ohio State, Illinois, Michigan, Stanford, California, Notre Dame, Penn State and Marquette. Texas, which holds a strong second place in the Athletic Journal's composite high school meet, is not represented. Michigan on the other hand ranks only 22nd in the U.S. in producing high school stars....Max Truex, who only shaves once a week but runs like a man, says he plans to run the 5000m in the 56 Games, with the 10,000 his next best bet. He also says "anybody who doesn't go to Southern California for track is crazy"....Ernie Shelton says now that brother Warren is at SC (he did 6-5 3/4 this summer) no one will do better than third against the Trojans, who also have Jack Findlay, and only Stanford's John Stewart will do that well.

## SO THEY TELL US

TN BILL SULLIVAN, coach James Lick high, San Jose, Cal.: "I get a particular bang out of those brief expositions of daily training routines in the Track Newsletter. I feel that one can find more clues to better coaching technique by utilizing these than by most other methods!"

TN BILL JIMESON, Baltimore: "I have a friend who wrote me all about the European championships. The track was superb, but the stands, dressing facilities and officiating were unequal to the demands place upon them. There was no place to park and the athletes all had to ride the trolley to the meet. The handling of the disqualification of Germany in the 400 relay was very poor. The Judge on the pass zone was a boy of 15. Photos showed clearly that the Germans were passing well in zone and that the boy had apparently been watching a line for the 1500m start. Up to 100m from the finish of the 800m it was anybody's race. The time for 600 must have been close to a world's record. One interesting feature was the number of "officials" brought by all Iron Curtain countries. Russia had 72 athletes and 28 officials. Germany, on the other hand, had 73 athletes and only 9 officials. All Iron Curtain people looked just like everyone else except the Russians. They looked terrible, like laborers or peasants. The men had big bell-bottomed trousers, caps, black shirts with white stripes. The women all had red dishpan hands and were wearing things like flowered dresses with high heels and white anklets. However, they seemed to be having a fine time. I am told the Russians do nothing but train for track--in fact they are said to train three times daily."

TN ART HOFFMAN, Los Angeles: "My friend told me the Bern meet was the most orderly and efficient meet he had ever seen. The field was virtually clear of all except officials, a few cameramen, and competing athletes. There was a special section for non-competing athletes. The athletes were marched onto the field exactly 15 minutes before starting time. Prior to that they could warm up on two separate small tracks outside the main stadium, one for men and one for women. Also the Stars and Stripes reported that a German competitor claimed Alexandra Chudina is a man. But my friend, who was very close to her, doubts this even though she is 6-2 and muscular. She has feminine features, and movements. Also all women athletes had to submit a doctor's certificate stating that they were feminine. Sounds funny but it was true. Such goings on!"

TN JOHN ALLAN, Lomita, Cal: "I was 13 at the time of the L.A. Olympics and probably became a lifetime track nut in those two weeks. I agree that no outstanding personality emerged, though to me the absence of Paavo Nurmi gave him a unique position. Declared ineligible as a professional at the last moment, he was in the stands at the opening ceremony and received a salute from the Finnish team as they passed him. His place in the marching ranks was empty and his name and number were removed from the official programs. I'm glad his day came 20 years later at Helsinki. Other highlights were: the comparison in strides of Ben Eastman and Willie Carr as they raised little dust clouds down the back stretch seemingly a two man race with Ben's stride a foot or so greater...the ease with which Iso-Hollo ran the extra lap in the steeplechase after sprinting to the missing tape...Stella Walsh winning the women's 100 by a foot and after 22 years she would still do it if the rules didn't keep her out...Lehtinen weeping after the 5000m and offering his medal to Hill, whom many feel he fouled on the stretch; maybe so but he was pretty groggy and I've seen the same thing happen in other meets...Would like to have seen Whitfield some place in that European Chs. I think he is the most beautiful running machine I have ever seen except perhaps Owens. We'll see how he meets the challenge of being moved along way down the all time list."

TN JACK MORTLAND, Bowling Green State U., Ohio: "Ohio State is going to field a cross country team again this year. Larry Snyder wanted a boy from Worthington, Jack Blackburn who won the state H.S. cc meet and took third in the mile, but he wouldn't go unless they had cross county....The Mid American Conference is coming up fast in track and may soon be among the best. Miami and Western Michigan are way up now and we are trying to build. The others may take longer but will produce a few individual stars. The times at the conference meet last year compare favorably with most conferences: Murchison, WMich 9.8 and 21.0; Wood, Miami, 1:56.1 and 4:21.7; Coleman, WRes 9:32.2; Henderson, WM, 14.7; Burton, Miami 23.5; Jones 56-3 5/8; Tilman, M, 23-1 7/8 and Hope, WM, 6-4 1/8."

TN HAL HIGDON, Chicago: "I'd like to put the finger on South Dakota State as having one of the best small college cross country squads around. They're headed by Jack Pearson, NAIA mile champ (4:18 miler), and might give a lot of the bigger schools trouble in the NCAA. Also beware of the University of Chicago Track Club. We've got close to 30 runners working out and there are no less than 9 men who have cracked 2:00 in the 880, and this leaves out some of the better runners who are primarily two milers....I'm not so sure that Joe Tyler of the Navy doesn't rate a place in the Olympic 5000 or 10,000m placings you people picked. I believe he has more potential than any other distance runner I've seen around in some time."

JOHN BARNES, Olympic 800m runner, now in USAF: "I plan to continue running as long as time will permit. After the last two miserable seasons I cannot honestly quit. Too many of my friends are waiting and watching to see if Christianity and athletics can really exist side by side. My workouts so far this year have been good. This is the first time since 1952 that I have had any fall workout. Sat. night I ran a 660 in 1:27 plus about 27 seconds for five 220s. I know that is nothing to rave about but it is not bad for me this time of year. As far as I can see I will be attending San Francisco Theological Seminary in 1955. If it is possible I would like to compete while going to school."

TN DON JACOBS: "You cited some averages for milers (prior to Vancouver) from Bob Haore showing a 4:01.93 average for Landy, and 4:02.95 for Santee for six races. Maybe we can't locate the same figures, but I make it 4:01.26 and 4:01.96."

TN JACK DUNFORD, Portland: "I have one great gripe about the lack of articles in the US about European distance runners. I don't think it is because of a lack of interest as whenever I have tried to get back issues of magazines with such articles I am told they are sold out. I hope somebody will do something to make such information public."

DAVE RANKIN, Purdue track coach: "I am inclined to agree with Bill Jameson that high school boys run too hard. I cannot say that the coaches work the boys too hard, but I do know that the work the boys have scheduled for themselves, from reading workouts of much older boys, have run their bodies down to a point of poor function. I sincerely feel that this problem will continue to enlarge itself, if the boys of high school age continue to try to pursue the interval or punishment system without the necessary knowledge to administer such a system. I am presently speaking of the mile and two mile high school cross country program."

TN ALLAN BANGS, Monterey Park, Cal: "Max Truex told me that back in Indiana the people didn't realize what he was doing in training. His training consists of 100s, 220s and 440s. In the race I saw him win Max looked a little heavy in finishing, but kept his powerful, driving, "chop" kick. In my book I'll be he is America's 4-minute Olympic miler in 1960--he and a few others who want to explore the still vast desert of distance running."

SO THEY TELL US is open to all Track Nuts. Let's hear from YOU.

## NOTED WITH INTEREST

ATHLETIC JOURNAL has, for the past eight years, conducted a "national high school track meet" by combining the results of the various state meets into one large meet, using the NCAA scoring system of 18,8.6,4,2,1. California, of course, is the top state, having won all but one year, when Texas won. California has scored in 83 out of a possible 95 events, and has won first place in 39% of the events she competed in. Cal's total points are 623 to Texas 314, Ohio 251, Illinois 221, Indiana 216, New York 186, New Jersey 159, Iowa 136, Oklahoma 123, Pennsylvania 119, Wisconsin 80, Oregon 76, Missouri 74, Mass. 71, Washington 68, Kansas 68, Colorado 67, Arizona 43, Conn. 40, Louisiana and Virginia 35, Michigan 34, Florida 28, Minnesota and Nebraska 23, Montana 19, Utah 18, Idaho 15, Tennessee 14, North Dakota 8, Kentucky 8, New Mexico 6, West Virginia 5, South Dakota 4, Georgia 2, Alabama 1, Mississippi 1, Wyoming 1/3. Following are the number of times a state has been in the top ten: California 8, Texas 8, Indiana 7, Ohio 7, Illinois 6, New Jersey 5, New York 5, Pennsylvania 5, Iowa 4, Oklahoma 4, Wisconsin 4, Oregon 3, Massachusetts 2, Missouri 2. Average points for states by sections are: Pacific 33.6, Middle Atlantic 29.1, West South Central 21, East North Central 7.6, New England 5.0, West Central 3.9, South Atlantic 2.2, Mountain 1.9, and East South Central .3. (these averages based on 1953 meet, which is the last figured. Results of the 1954 meet will be carried here soon). The accompanying honor roll prepared by E. A. Thomas showed California to have 45 of 133 listings, as compared with 64 of 125 in 1952.

ATHLETICS WORLD made a study of the men who have jumped the greatest distance over their own height. Tops is Berghin of Russia, 1954, 5-3 to 6-4 3/8 for 13 3/8; Ifeajuna, Nigeria, 1954, 5-6 3/4 to 6-8 for 13 1/4; Kerrigna, USA, 1904, 5-4 to 6-4, 12; Larson, USA, 1924, 5-9 1/2 to 6-9 3/4, 12"; Odobo, Nigeria, 1952, 5-6 to 6-6, 12"; Nilsson, Sweden, 1954, 5-11 1/4 to 6-11 1/4, 12"; Tanaka, Japan, 1935, 5-8 1/8 to 6-7 1/8, 11", Spainhower, USA, 1954, 5-9 to 6-8, 11". (Track & Field News lists Ifeajuna at 5-6 3/4, hence a winning differential of 13 1/2").

ATHLETICS WORLD also compares the top six marks (five in a few events) at the 1952 Olympics and 1954 European Championships (the Olympic averages noted first): 100, 10.43 to 10.72; 200, 20.97 to 21.32; 400, 46.6 to 47.4; 800, 1:49.6 to 1:48.1; 1500, 3:45.8 to 3:45.3; 5000, 14:13.9 to 14:15.4; 10,000 29:42.7 to 29:34.6; marathon, 2:25:47.6 to 2:26:19.5; HH 14.25 to 14:68; MH, 52.43 to 51.55; HJ, 6-6 1/2 to 6-5 1/4; PV 14-4 7/8 to 14-2 1/4; BJ 24-0 3/8 to 24-3 5/8; HSJ, 51-0 1/2 to 49-6 7/8; SP 55-5 1/2 to 53-7 3/4; DT 173-1 to 170-1 5/8; HT, 192-11 5/8 to 196-5 1/2; JT, 236-4 1/2 to 241-1 1/4; 400R 40.63 to 40.92; 1600R 3:07.32 to 3:09.94; decathlon 6,860 to 6,217; SC, 8:52.6 to 8:55

ORIENTING is a novel running sport pioneered by Sweden, taken up by Norway, Denmark and Finland, and being tried in Germany, Britain, Switzerland, and Canada. Little hope is held for "car-crazy" America to adopt the sport which combines the arts of map reading, woodmanship and cross country running. Each contestant gets a map, and then by his skill in reading the map and in using his compass covers a real cross country course across rough, trackless terrain, steep hills, icy streams, and swamps. Every couple of miles they pass through carefully spotted check points to prove that they are sticking to the prearranged course, which is always different and unknown until the race begins. The finish is more than 10 miles and more than two hours away. There is no predicting winners as a missed check point can cost the race. For instance, Sweden's 1954 international winner lost 20 minutes searching for a check point in the national championships and wound up 115th in a field of 157. The winner was 99th the year before. Sweden has 1500 orienteering clubs with 189,000 members. All school children over 12 spend two full days a month practicing.