

TRACK NEWSLETTER

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NEWS

EUROPE (from R.L.Q.) Hary, Germany, 10.4; Foik, Poland, 10.5; Hanka, CSR, 1:50.1; Jungwirth 3:44.2 and 3:45.8; Rozsavolgyi 7:59.6, third best in world this year, from Szabo 8:03.6 and Hecker 8:04.2, (Hecker, a steeplechaser, has better time on flat than Rozsnyoi) Zatopek 14:18.2 & 29:38.8, from Desyatchikov 14:24.2 & 29:58.2; Rozsavolgyi 14:10.4 from Hecker 14:18.8 and Szabo 14:22.4; Zimny 14:12.2; Rzhshchin 8:45.8; Omyelchuk 6'9 $\frac{1}{8}$ " (2.06), Smirnov 6'8 $\frac{3}{8}$ " (2.04), Myasnikov & Bulkin 6'6 $\frac{3}{8}$ " (2.00), thus bringing total of Russia's two meter men for 1957 to 19; Rabemila, French colonial, 2.00, exactly 1' 1.4" above his height; Arino, 6'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (19.7), Spanis record; all with built up shoes, of course; Wazny 14'6" (4.42), best by Pole this year; Trofimovich 14'1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " (4.30); Szabo 13'11 $\frac{3}{8}$ " (4.25) and Tranafilov 13'11" (4.24) both bettering Rumanian record; Skobla 57'7 $\frac{3}{4}$ " (17.57) and 57'3" (17.45) from Plihal 55'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (16.98) and 55'9 $\frac{3}{8}$ " (17.01); Meconi 55'4 $\frac{5}{8}$ " (16.88); Piatkowski 51'11 $\frac{5}{8}$ " (15.84); Szecsenyi 175'10 $\frac{3}{8}$ " (53.61) and foul of 184'; Kompaneyets, believed to be 19, 175'6 $\frac{3}{8}$ " (53.50) and 177'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (54.14), new Ukrainian record; Griesser 172'3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " (52.51), best by German since Schroder and Lampert; Niklas 202'3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " (61.63); Petovari, Hungary, 245'8" (74.88);

ELSEWHERE Brazil: Telles da Conceicao 10.3, equals South American record, and 21.1; Adhemar da Silva 51'2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (15.60); China: Tsai Yi-sku 14'2 $\frac{1}{8}$ " (4.32), record; Sitkin 6'9 $\frac{1}{4}$ " (2.08).

AUSTRALIA Nov. 2, Jim McCann 24'7" for national junior record, 9.8, 23.9w; Albert Thomas 4:09.0 from Dave Power 4:09.0; Brisbane, Nov. 2, Viliame Liga, Fijian divinity student at Univ. of Queensland, 215'6"; Tony Olsson new schoolboy mile best of 4:15.5; Laurie Elliott, 17 year old brother of Herb, 1:59.7, 4:36.6, 1:58.5; Oct. 26, Hamilt: Herb Elliott 3:00.5 (58.0, 60.0, 62.5) from scratch in handicap race, ran fast enough to take lead, then coasted; John Murray 14:09.6, 3 miles. Elliott hurt foot slightly last week, but out of action few days only.

WIND SPRINTS

Oregon's Steve Anderson is rated "great decathlon prospect--doubt that he would ever be in top 6 in USA in any one event" by coach Bill Bowerman... Jim Bailey is running cross country for Oregon and has another year of eligibility, but graduates in December... British authorities feel Ibbotson has competed too much this year, will not allow him to run in South Africa this winter. He has run 55 races of a mile or more this year, has raced about 610 times in 10 years. Derek says he will concentrate on three miles. "I believe I could win the Empire mile in Cardiff, but the European 1500 at Stockholm looks very tough. I fancy my chances more in the 5000"... Flint Hanner claims that the west coast used to have an advantage in pole vaulting because all the bamboo poles from Japan came through west coast ports and local colleges grabbed off the best ones, leaving the rest to supply the rest of the country... Leamon King, although healthy, had only two workouts and one race between the PCC meet on May 18 and the NCAA on June 14... Kansas broad jumper Blaine Hollinger is a near straight A student in pre-med... Ron Delany says that when he beat Tom Courtney at Houston he ran on him all the way and didn't want to move too early because Courtney can come back. "I felt good" he says... NCAA cross country champ Walt McNew of Texas is studying to be a medical missionary. He's rated a better 4-miler than 2-miler... the famed University of Texas high jump and broad jump runways (and what's wrong with the pole vault runway, off which Gutowski soared 15'9 $\frac{3}{4}$ "?), have an 8" base of big rocks. Each year are topped with 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2" of 50% cinders and 50% clay. Grass is grown over the broad jump and pole vault runs after each season, so King Football can reign, but not over the high jump pit, which is out of the way... Joe Lancaster, top British marathoner trains as follows: Monday, runs home from work 13 miles at 11 mph; Tuesday, to and from work, 26 miles, at 9-10 mph; Wednesday, the same; Thursday, 13 miles to work, 6 miles after work in 32-33 minutes; Friday, rest; Saturday, race, or 10-15 miles; Sunday 20-25 miles easy pace... as have many other runners, Henry Kennedy, the MSU c.c. ace, has been hard hit by flu... Karl Schlademann may be prepping Dave Lean, the hurdler-middle distancer, for the mile... as of October 23, Steve Devan's world ranking (10 points for first down to 1 for 10th) give USA 442 points to USSR 252, Germany 55, Poland 49, England 47, Czechoslovakia 42, Norway 40, Finland 38, Hungary 22, South Africa 14, Australia 13, Iceland 11, Belgium 9.

NOTED WITH INTEREST

YOUTH GAMES of Moscow, 1957, produced a pretty fancy Programme and Guide. About the size and style of an autograph book, bound in blue simulated leather, and printed in gold on the cover. Has a history of the Games, with a little propaganda thrown in, a complete day by day, hour by hour schedule for all the 24 sports, a record section, a spot for notes, and other information in its 106 pages. Apparently given to all contestants at the Games. To quote the introduction:

"Perhaps you would like to know a bit more about the International Friendly Games. There is a lot to talk about--records, friendly competitions, Bucharest, Warsaw... (this book is in English; apparently it was produced in many other languages, too.) The Youth Games are a product of the 20th Century, they arise directly from the spirit of our time when the youth of all countries are coming into closer contact, when their interests, in this case sports, are becoming more and more common interests. The 1st International Friendly Youth Games were held in Bucharest in 1953. Young people of all countries poured into the sun-flooded Rumanian capital for the opening ceremony in the Stadium of the Park of Culture and Sport. 4360 sportsmen from 54 countries entered, the men competing in 18 events and the women in 10. Today the name of Vladimir Kutz is world known after his brilliant successes in Melbourne, but in 1953 he was comparatively unknown. Kutz started in both the 5000 and 10,000 and each time finished second to Zatopek. Kutz led most of the way in the 5000 and was only beaten in the very last lap by two-tenths. Afterwards the fabulous Zatopek himself said to Kutz: 'The gold medal I won should have been yours.' A new star had appeared. Among other title holders at the 1st Youth Games we can find the names of other stars--Strandli, Skobla, Jungwirth, Dolezal; several world records were broken at Bucharest--the women's pentathlon and 4x200m relay and the 6 miles (28:30). --

"In true Olympic tradition, the torch that was lit in Bucharest was carried to Warsaw for the 11nd Friendly Youth Games in 1955. This time the competitors totalled 3583 and came from 35 different countries, 1½ million spectators had plenty to cheer about in 23 events for men, 13 for women. Four world records, 2 European records and more than 100 national records in athletics were surpassed at Warsaw... That Soviet people know and love sports you will appreciate when we tell you that nearly 20 million people took part in the competitions of last year's Spartakiad of the Peoples of the USSR."

(Note: This Programme and Guide will be awarded to the TN who submits the best essay, in 100 words or less, on "Why I like track & Field". Entries close Nov. 30.)

HAL CONNOLLY'S NEUROLOGICAL CASE HISTORY by Dr. Ernst Jokl: "Harold Connolly is afflicted with a combined upper and lower left brachial plexus paralysis. Hal, 25, a young man of intelligence and modesty and of strong moral principles, was able to give me a strong and precise history of his affliction. It appears that he suffered an injury at birth. As far back as he could remember, the left arm had hung at the side as it does at present: internally rotated at the shoulder with the elbow extended and the hand pronated. The whole left upper extremity is underdeveloped, a fact which is all the more evident as the right arm is unusually powerful and extremely well trained. The difference in length between the two arms is 4.5 in. The size of the left hand is less than two-thirds that of the right. The right arm is 17.5 inches to 14 for the left, upper; 13.5 to 11, lower; and 8½ vs. 7½, wrist. Paralysis of the left deltoid renders abduction at the shoulder virtually impossible. Flexion at the left elbow is performed with feeble power on account of paresis of the flexors; extension can be effected, as the triceps function well; outward rotation at the shoulder is almost completely lost; biceps and supinator jerks cannot be elicited. There is wasting and weakness of the ulnar flexors of wrist and fingers and paralysis and wasting of the small muscles of the hand, which at rest assumes a semi-closed position resulting from the unopposed action of the long flexors of the fingers. Neuritic pains occur in the upper part of the arm. The whole left upper arm is colder and more sensitive to touch. The skin of the arm feels waxy, the veins of the forearm are soft, in contrast to those of the right side. The patient reports of involuntary twitching of the musculature of the afflicted arm. In lifting weights he developed a powerful right arm and improved the left. Twice he broke bones... When throwing, Hal wears a thick glove over the left hand, which he uses as a steering influence upon the grip during the first two turns. During the third turn he holds the grip with the finger tips only, the full weight being carried by the right hand. "After my best throws the ends of my left fingers are black with blood blisters" Hal says. "This young man's motor achievements reveal a new insight into the scope of compensatory adjustment of the nervous system."

1920 OLYMPIC GAMES (from the report of the U.S. Olympic Committee, which is dedicated as a "Souvenir of the pluck, perseverance and athletic prowess which won the world's championship in sport for the American Olympic Team in the Seventh Olympic Games

As at the First Olympic Games at Athens in 1896, the Second at Paris in 1900, the Third at St. Louis in 1904, the Fourth at London in 1908, and the Fifth at Stockholm in 1912, so at the Seventh Olympic Games at Antwerp in 1920, the competitors representing the USA led the world in track and field athletics by a wide margin, scoring $201\frac{1}{2}$ points as against $121\frac{1}{2}$ for the nearest contender, Sweden.

The first difficulty encountered by the newly reorganized American Olympic Committee was the delay in receiving the detailed general program of the Games from the Belgian O. C. Although the 7th Olympiad had been awarded to Antwerp in April 1919, and although the first events were scheduled to take place in April, 1920, no definite word of the sports upon the Olympic program was received until the middle of February, 1920. It was estimated that over \$200,000 would be needed to send our teams to the Games and bring them home--more than twice the sum required for Stockholm--and quotas were assigned to various cities.

The Navy cooperated in many ways, including sending the many Navy members of the team to Antwerp in the armored cruiser Frederick. Army aid made it possible to transport the rest of the team to Belgium. The US Army of Occupation on the Rhine had its base at Antwerp so had regular schedules of army transports to that city. Many of the staterooms were not being used. On the other hand, the condition of commercial trans-Atlantic shipping during all of 1920 was chaotic--steamers had been destroyed by the war, some had been removed for other trade, many were tied up by strikes, sailing were being cancelled, embargoes placed on shipping and fresh difficulties arising daily in foreign countries as well as our own. All lines were greatly overbooked. It seemed then that the only reliable hope of getting the team to Antwerp and back was in obtaining passage on the army transports. A strong point in favor of this was the saving over \$70,000. A special resolution of Congress was necessary to allow the army transports to be so used, and it was obtained.

The boat selected to carry a majority of the team was the Northern Pacific, as fine and fast as any trans-Atlantic passenger steamer, making the voyage in 7 or 8 days. Unfortunately, the Northern Pacific loosened a plate on her hull beneath the waterline on the preceding voyage (before schedule departure) and was laid up. This most unfortunate and unforeseen happening produced a condition as serious as it was unexpected. First of all it practically left stranded the 254 members of the team who were to sail on the Northern Pacific. In order that these athletes might not break training and be kept together it was arranged for the majority to be housed at Fort Slocum where they had the daily use of the NYAC track across the bay. Whereas this added burden taxed the resources of Fort Slocum so that such luxuries as privacy and special food were lacking, to the disgust of certain athletes who preferred to pay their own expenses in NYC, most of the men found the food adequate and the accommodations as good as could be expected under the circumstances.

But far more serious than this temporary discomfort, the removal of the Northern Pacific left a gap in the transport sailing schedule which could not be filled. To obtain transportation on passenger steamers would have been impossible for at the best all which could have been done would have been to send over the teams, a few on one boat and a few on another with many changes due to trans-shipments and the like and with practically no care nor attention from coaches or trainers, but with constant exposure to the unusual temptations of present ocean travel. It would also have entailed an expense which the funds in the treasury did not warrant.

The Army did all that it could. It first of all offered the Buford, but it would take not less than 16 days and was too small for training, so the team could not be landed in good condition. So it was decided to keep the team at Fort Slocum an extra week (original departure was scheduled for July 20), and the Princess Matoika was ordered to hasten to New York, unload and get ready for the return voyage as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, the Matoika was not the Northern Pacific; one was an up-to-date, fast going ocean steamer, the other slow and of ancient vintage. Moreover, not only did the loss of the Northern Pacific mean sending on the Matoika the members of the Olympic team, but also placed on board her both the officers and government officials who were supposed to have sailed on the Northern Pacific as well as those on the Matoika herself, and it must be remembered that under the law, officers and their wives, federal officials and their wives must have stateroom accommodations. It therefore followed that the bulk of the men were forced to cross troopship. (cont.

PAN ARAB GAMES (as reported by Vince Reel, Calif. high school coach now with U.S. Embassy in Baghdad): I attended the Games as advisory coach of the Iraq track team. Due to the tension in the Middle East, it was thought unwise to become officially any closer to the team than that title. Because of the same reason, I did not travel with the team, since they went by bus and had to cross Syria. It was thought that when the team came to the Syrian border with 135 Iraqis and one American there might be questions and delay.

The opening ceremonies took place on Saturday, Oct. 13, and were very impressive. The Lebanese had worked hard on preparations and had built a most impressive 60,000 seat stadium for track, etc., plus a 6000 seat wrestling-boxing-gymnastics stadium, a 5000 seat swimming stadium, and a 7000 seat basketball-tennis arena. I don't want to give the impression that everything was 100% okay. It wasn't. None of these stadia were completed. Little things were missing, such as signs on the men's and ladies rest rooms. Consequently, in true middle eastern style, the men used one side and the ladies the other. No drinking water was available. Plasterers had worked after the floor had been finished, and gobs of plaster had fallen and hardened all over the passageways. The steps were uneven into the stadium and up the aisles which required concentration of your movements, always. No connection between seats and stadium floor had been provided and anyone wishing to go onto the field had to jump an 8' moat. All these were little items, but they serve to give you a background of the Games. The middle east is learning, but it will be a long, slow process and they must have patience with their results, as we, who are trying to help them, must have patience with their lack of understanding of some of our basic facts.

At the opening ceremonies, 85000 people crowded into the stadium, and President Camille Chamoun of Lebanon and King Saud of Saudi Arabia were the leading personalities in the marble box. The parade of teams--Jordan, Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Kuwait, Morocco, Libya, Tunis and Lebanon--was very impressive, as these parades always are. There were mass dancing exhibitions by more than 1000 Lebanese school girls, fencing and judo demonstrations en masse, and a marching band from Jordan--a surprise to me since they featured Scottish bag pipes and really stole the show with their maneuvers and famous slow march. One of the features of the evening was the release of the 500 pigeons, but the birds were confused by the lights and the people and awed by the 21 gun salute which had just been fired, and only about 25 of them took to the air. The others were poured out of their boxes in desperation by the native boys, and then to everyone's delight, they were chased and flung into the air by policemen, small boys and even a few staid officials. It was to no avail, however, and for the rest of the evening they strutted about the field getting in everyone's way. The evening closed with a dazzling display of fireworks, outdoing Disneyland. As the fireworks were set off I wondered what the local fire departments would have thought back in the USA, for people were packed into every aisle and in between the rows of seats all over the stadium, and most of the firework displays were fastened onto the side of the stadium itself.

After the ceremonies the crowd was terrific outside the stadium, and traffic control was practically non-existent. This was the first time the stadium had been used and a king sized traffic jam ensued. In addition to which one of the busses carting the Iraq team failed to show up until after 10:15. This brings me to another part of the story which must be known to understand just what must be done to help these people understand the real meaning of training and conditioning. The Iraq team was housed in a small town about 30 miles from Beirut, in the mountains about a mile high. The weather was much colder than Beirut where the boys were to compete. On the day of the opening ceremonies the team ate a 1, then bussed to Beirut and formed for the parade at 4. The ceremonies finished about 9:30 and we waited for our bus until just about 10:30. Then the traffic was so jammed and we didn't get back to our hotel until almost 1 a.m. In the meantime, no provision had been made for meals from the time they left the hotel until they returned and some of them were to compete the next day. I remember that I shuddered when I saw Hassan Lefta, the 10,000 meter runner, eating his dinner at 1:30 a.m. And their meals certainly were not planned by a track man. I honestly don't see how they did it. I just couldn't do any kind of athletics and eat that menu. But to many of these boys, this was deluxe living, for they had never been out of their country, and many had never been away from their own small town. (to be continued)

BULLETIN BOARD

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