

# “Peerless Mel”

Melvin W. Sheppard



September 5th, 1883 – January 4th, 1942

# CELTIC PARK

FORMER STADIUM, TRACK & FIELD OF

## THE IRISH-AMERICAN ATHLETIC CLUB

FROM 1898 TO 1930, CELTIC PARK WAS THE HOME OF THE IRISH-AMERICAN ATHLETIC CLUB. BETWEEN 1904 AND 1916, THE I-AAC WON TEN NATIONAL OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND SEVEN NATIONAL INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS.

THEIR HONOR ROLL INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING OLYMPIC MEDALISTS:  
CHARLES BACON JR.\*, GEORGE BONHAG, FRANK CASTLEMAN, ROBERT CLOUGHEN, JAMES DUNCAN,  
JOHN J. FLANAGAN\*, PATRICK FLYNN, JOHNNY HAYES, MARQUIS HERR, ABEL KIVIAI, PAT MCDONALD\*,  
MATT MCGRATH\*, ALVAH MEYER, HARRY PORTER, MYER PRINSTEIN, LAWSON ROBERTSON,  
PADDY RYAN, MEL SHEPPARD, MARTIN SHERIDAN\* AND JOHN BAXTER TAYLOR.

FROM 1900 TO 1924, THESE MEN WON 50 OLYMPIC MEDALS FOR THE U.S. TEAM. THEIR MEMBERS INCLUDED THE FIRST JEWISH AND AFRICAN-AMERICAN OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALISTS. MANY WERE ALSO DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

THEIR EMBLEM WAS A WINGED FIST ADORNED WITH AMERICAN FLAGS AND SHAMROCKS, AND THEIR IRISH MOTTO WAS 'LÁIM LAIDIR ABÚ' OR 'STRONG HANDS FOREVER.'



WINGED FIST ORGANIZATION

\*MEMBERS OF THE NYPD

**Our Family would like to thank Ian McGowan & The Winged Fist Organization for all of their help in putting together this information on Mel Sheppard.**

**Without their wealth of historical data, personal assistance and friendship this would not have been possible.**

**We are forever grateful,  
The Schofield Family**

*Melvin W. Sheppard Sr.*



*Son*

*Melvin W. Sheppard Jr.*

*Granddaughter*

*Cindi (Sheppard) Schofield*

*Great Grandchildren*

*Tracy (Schofield) Miller - Kent G. Schofield - Kevin S. Schofield*

*Great Great Grandchildren*

*James Miller*

*Ryan Schofield*

*Presley Schofield*

*Blaine Miller*

*Kent D. Schofield*

*Cody Schofield*

# Melvin (Peerless Mel) Sheppard



**Born:** September 5, 1883 - Almonesson Lake, New Jersey

**Deceased:** January 4, 1942

The first man to win Olympic gold medals in both the 800 and 1500, Mel Sheppard made his fame prior to World War I while representing the Irish-American A.C. Noted for being a frontrunner, "Peerless Mel," as he was nicknamed, won seven National AAU titles in the middle distances, including five outdoors, and set world records of 1:52.8 and 4:03.4 while winning the 800 and 1500 at the 1908 Olympic Games. He earned another gold medal in 1908 as the anchorman on the winning U.S. medley relay team. In 1912, he won a gold medal as lead-off runner on the 4x400m relay team that set a world record of 3:16.6. In three other appearances at the 1912 Olympics, he was second in the 800, sixth in the 1500 and a non-qualifier in the 400. In addition to his world records at 800m and 1500m, Sheppard set indoor world records for the 600- and 1000-yard runs and was a member of several relay teams that held world records. For many years, he was the recreation director of the Millrose A.A.

## **World Records Held:**

1,500 m - 4:03.40 (July 14, 1908)

800 m - 1:52.8 (July 21, 1908)

1,600 m relay- 3:16.6 (July 15, 1912)

## **Inducted into Hall of Fame:**

U.S. Track & Field.....1976

U.S. Olympic.....1989

Philadelphia Sports.....2009

## **Championships:**

1908 Olympics: 800 m flat (1st)

1908 Olympics: 880 yd (1/2 mile) flat (1st) **AAA\***

1908 Olympics: 1,500 m flat (1st)

1908 Olympics: 1,600 m relay (1st)

1912 Olympics: 800 m flat (2nd)

1912 Olympics: 1,500 m flat (6th)

1912 Olympics: 1,600 m relay - 3:16.60 (1st)

\*Not an Olympic recognised event. Awarded by the Amateur Athletic Association, Detailed on pg. 15.

## **Education:**

Undergraduate: Brown Preparatory (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), 1905

## **Occupations:**

Clerk, Recreational director

## Mel Sheppard- A Champion to Remember

A century ago, South Jersey's Mel Sheppard won the first of his 4 Olympic Gold Medals  
By Phil Anastasia, Inquirer Staff Writer

One of America's greatest Olympic champions was a South Jersey native who ran his first race as a Philadelphia schoolboy.

He was a fierce competitor whose humble background and dogged determination made him a personal favorite of President Theodore Roosevelt.

He was a former street tough - a self-styled member of the "Grays Ferry Roaders" gang in South Philadelphia around the turn of the 20th century - who ran so fast and so well that U.S. middle-distance stars have been chasing his accomplishments for a century. And they haven't caught him yet.

One hundred years ago today, Mel Sheppard won the first of his three gold medals at the Olympic Games in London. A century later, Sheppard remains the last American to win a gold medal in the 1,500 meters.

Sheppard also won the 800 meters and anchored the U.S. sprint medley relay team to a victory in those Games. At the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm, he won a gold medal in the 4x400 relay and a silver medal in the 800.

Four Olympic gold medals, three in world-record time. An Olympic silver medal. Seven AAU national titles. World indoor records in the 600 and 1,000 yards.

All that athletic glory springing from such an unlikely background - plus an eyewitness brush with the aftermath of the sinking of the Titanic - make Sheppard one of the more compelling characters to emerge from the Philadelphia area.

But 100 years is a long time: Today, Sheppard might be the most famous athlete that most people never heard of.

"He should be our Steve Prefontaine," said longtime Haddonfield track and cross-country coach Nick Baker, referring to the late Oregon running star.

Sheppard was born in 1883 in Almonesson, a section of Deptford Township in Gloucester County. He lived there, in a twin house, for the first nine years of his life.

"What I remember most is swimming in Almonesson Lake," Sheppard wrote in his autobiography, *Spiked Shoes and Cinder Paths*, which was published in serial form in *Sport Almonesson Lake*, *Almonesson NJStory* magazine (newstand price: 5 cents) in 1924.

At the time, Almonesson Lake was a rural body of water popular with fishermen and young boys who would tie ropes to trees that grew near the shoreline. For most of the first half of the 20th century, Almonesson Lake was a recreation spot for boaters and swimmers, with amusement rides near the current location of Auletto's Caterers.

At age 9, Sheppard moved with his family to Clayton, and got a job "rolling jars" in a glass factory for \$9 a month. His family moved to Haddonfield a few years later, then to the Grays Ferry section of Philadelphia when Sheppard was about 15.

Sheppard wrote that he had jobs "pulling tacks out of shoes" and as a messenger boy, but that he also joined the Grays Ferry Roaders, a street gang that clashed with rival gangs such as the Ramcats, Pine Streeters and Race Streeters.

Sheppard wrote that the Ramcats were his gang's "special enemies, with whom we would fight when we had nothing else to do."

continued...

## Mel Sheppard- A Champion to Remember

continued from pg. 4

Sheppard's emergence as a world-class athlete was astoundingly sudden. When he was 17, his family moved to West Philadelphia, near Fairmount Park, and he joined the Preston Athletic Club.

About the same time, he enrolled in Brown Preparatory School, in the Odd Fellows Temple at Broad and Cherry Streets. The building, erected in 1893 at a cost of \$1 million, was demolished in 2007 to make way for the Convention Center expansion.

Sheppard wrote that his first race was a 100-yard dash in Washington Park in Philadelphia. He finished third.

"The longer races were more fit to my nature," Sheppard wrote.

In 1904, Sheppard won three races while representing Brown Prep at schoolboy events held in conjunction with the Olympics in St. Louis - a foreshadowing of his success four years later in London.

Sheppard qualified for the 1908 U.S. Olympic team by winning the 800 meters in the Olympic trials, which were held at Franklin Field.

He set sail for London on June 29 with about 100 other members of the U.S. team on the liner Philadelphia. He wrote that the track team trained on "a cork track on the promenade deck," and noted that javelin throwers amused themselves by tying ropes to their spears and throwing them at sharks that approached the ship.

The 1908 Games were the first to have an opening ceremony. About 2,000 athletes, representing 22 countries, competed.

There was a fierce rivalry between the American and English teams, fueled when American shot-putter Ralph Rose did not dip the U.S. flag in salute to King Edward VII. Rose's refusal became standard practice for U.S. athletes in the opening parade.

Sheppard was a surprise entrant in the 1,500 meters - he hadn't even run the event in the trials - but won his heat in 4 minutes, 5 seconds. The next day, he set a world record by winning the final in 4:03.5.

"If it was necessary to die at the finish, why, that would be perfectly satisfactory as long as I hit the tape first," Sheppard wrote. "It was the proudest moment of my life."

Sheppard won the 800 meters in 1:52.4, another world record. And he was the anchor man on the sprint medley relay team that won another gold medal.

About a month later, Sheppard and the rest of the U.S. team were invited to meet President Theodore Roosevelt at his summer home in Oyster Bay, N.Y.

"The president was particularly interested in Mel Sheppard and asked for him several times," the New York Times reported Sept. 1, 1908. "The great middle-distance runner was compelled to describe his races . . . and the president listened with great attention."

Roosevelt was particularly interested in the 1,500 meters, which he called "the greatest race I ever read about." Sheppard told the president about the event, then pulled a Moroccan leather case out his pocket and handed it to the man known as the Rough Rider.

"This is my prize for winning the event," Sheppard said of his gold medal. "I would be honored if you would keep it." When Roosevelt refused, Sheppard said, "I have two others, and I will not miss this one." When Roosevelt accepted, he told Sheppard, "This will be one of my most treasured possessions."

continued...

## Mel Sheppard- A Champion to Remember

continued from pg. 5

In his autobiography, Sheppard described Roosevelt's reaction this way: "The president was like a schoolboy who won his first ribbon."

Sheppard later wrote to Roosevelt asking for help in acquiring a job as a customs inspector at the Port of Philadelphia. Roosevelt's personal secretary wrote back, and Sheppard got the position.

He later was transferred to the Port of New York, and he was on duty the night of April 18, 1912, when the RMS Carpathia arrived with the survivors from the sinking of the Titanic.

From 1906 to 1912, Sheppard was America's best middle-distance runner. He won seven AAU national titles, and barely missed another gold medal in the 800 meters at the 1912 Olympics. His time of 1:52 would have been another world record, but teammate Ted Meredith edged him at the tape and won in 1:51.9.

When his running career ended, Sheppard turned to coaching. He was a civilian athletic director at military bases during World War I. He served as a field secretary for the Playground and Recreation Association of America, traveling the country to help set up leagues and playgrounds. He was the coach of the U.S. women's track team at the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam.

For the last 20 years of his life, Sheppard worked for Wanamaker's in New York as recreation director of the Millrose Athletic Association. He died in 1942 in Queens, N.Y., at the age of 59.

"He was kind of a rough-and-tumble individual," said Howard Schmertz, 83, who served as meet director of the Millrose Games from 1975 to 2003.

Schmertz's father directed the Millrose Games from 1934 to 1974, and was an attorney for Wanamaker's during Sheppard's time with the Millrose Athletic Association.

Looking back, Schmertz said, "In those days, everybody knew Mel Sheppard."

Note: A yearly South Jersey cross country banquet is held every fall in Almonesson with close to a thousand in attendance. Ironically, at the banquet there is no mention or thought for the former Olympic Gold medal winner Sheppard-- a fellow distance runner who once lived only blocks away. At present there are no town memorials or monuments to Sheppard nor is there a memorial race in Shepards honor in his home town of Almonesson or Deptford NJ.

THE FOURTH OLYMPIAD  
LONDON  
1908

OFFICIAL REPORT

Melvin W. Sheppard

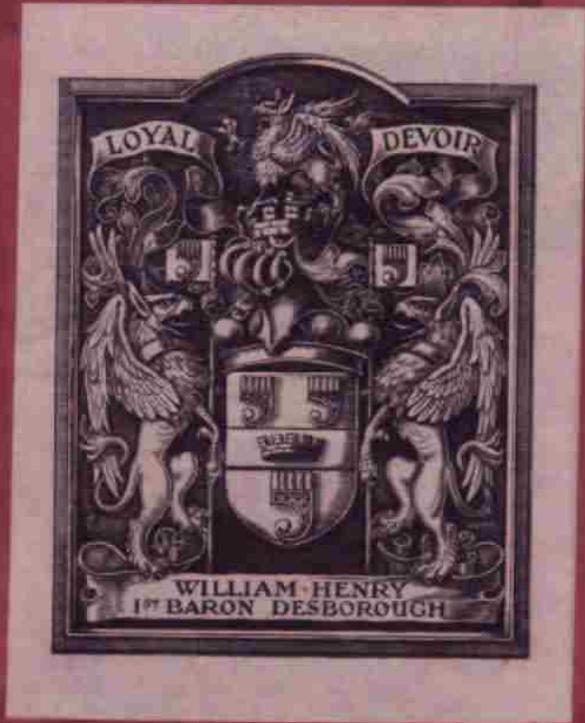
1908 Olympics: 800 m flat.....Gold

*1908 Olympics: 880 yd flat.....(AAA)Gold*

1908 Olympics: 1,500 m flat.....Gold

1908 Olympics: 1,600 m relay.....Gold

Pg. 7 through pg. 20 are from the 1908 Official Olympic Report



# The Fourth Olympiad

BEING

THE OFFICIAL REPORT

## The Olympic Games of 1908

CELEBRATED IN LONDON

Under the Patronage of

His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII



AND BY THE SANCTION OF

The International Olympic Committee

Drawn up by THEODORE ANDREA COOK

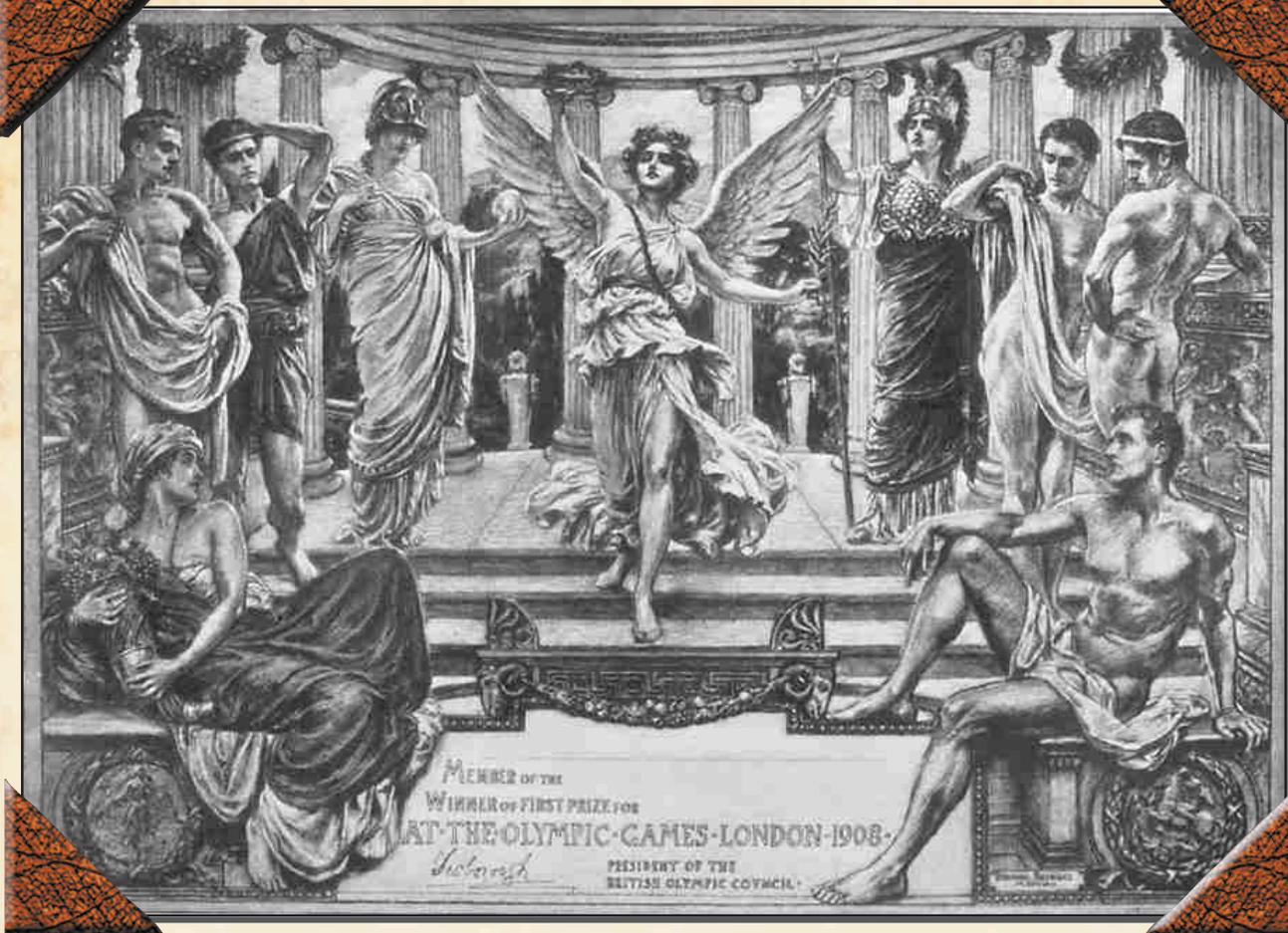
AND ISSUED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF

THE BRITISH OLYMPIC COUNCIL

Together with the Full Code of Rules in each Sport  
Complete Lists of all Competitors and Results  
— and over one hundred illustrations. —

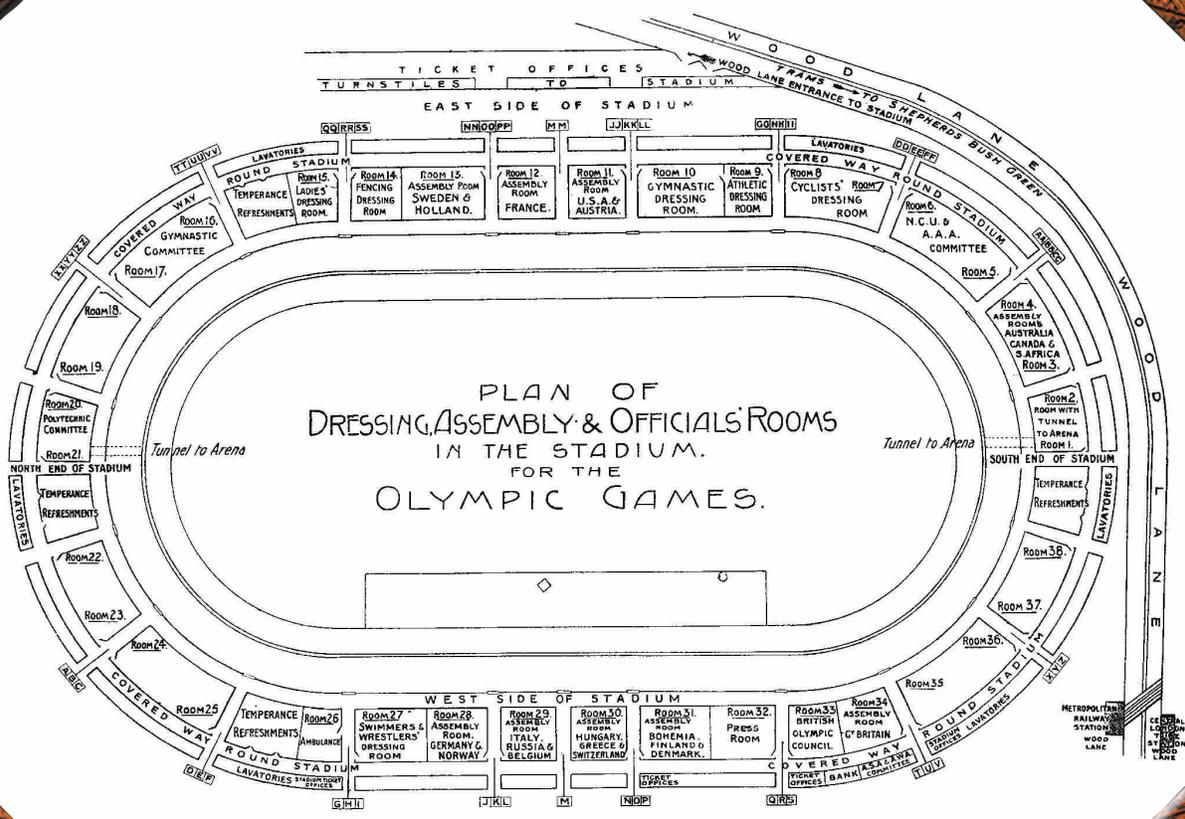
PUBLISHED BY

THE BRITISH OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION, 108 VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, S.W.

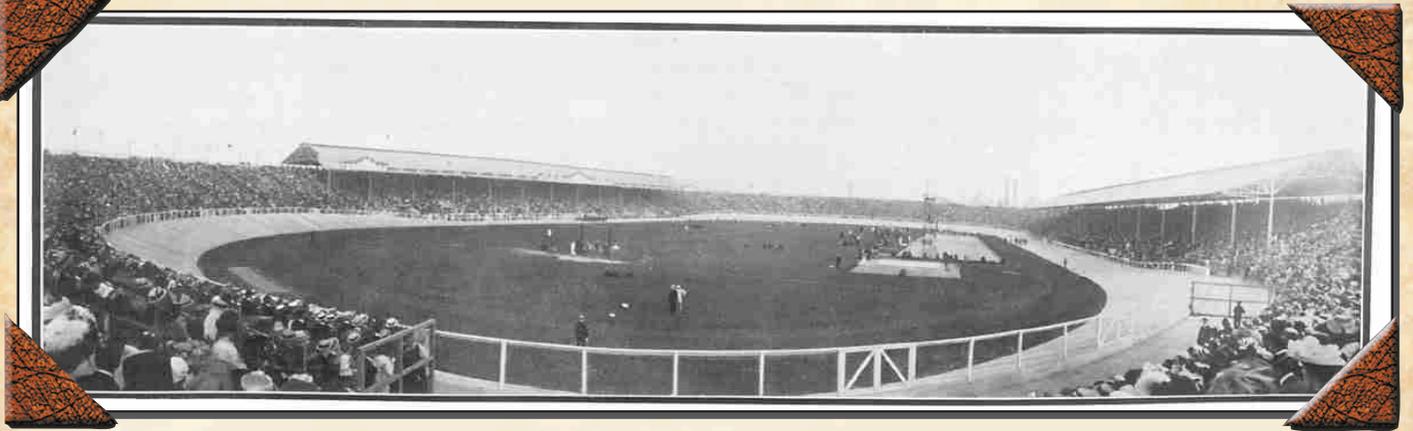




DESIGNS OF THE OLYMPIC MEDALS



PLAN OF STADIUM



THE STADIUM ON JULY 24, 1908

IV.—EIGHT HUNDRED METRES FLAT (874·9 yards).

FIRST ROUND.

*Heat 1.*—O. Bodor, Hungary, 1; G. Butterfield, United Kingdom, 2; E. Björn, Sweden, 3; J. D. Lightbody, United States, 4; F. M. Ashford, United Kingdom, 0; H. J. W. Wal, Holland, 0. Ashford led at first, followed by Butterfield, who went up on the back stretch, with Bodor and Lightbody hanging on. On the last bend Björn went up, but Bodor came with a fine rush, and finishing fast up the straight, won by 2 yards. Time, 1 min. 58 $\frac{3}{4}$  sec.

*Heat 2.*—M. W. Sheppard, United States, 1; J. F. Lintott, United Kingdom, 2; J. Parkes, Canada, 3. Sheppard was nearly always at the head of affairs, and won by 4 yards. Time, 1 min. 58 sec.

*Heat 3.*—J. P. Halstead, United States, 1; J. W. Lee, United Kingdom, 2; G. N. Morphy, United Kingdom, 3; J. Nagy, Hungary, 4. Lee made play at first, then Morphy went along, but 300 yards from home Halstead came out and won a fine race with Lee by 2 yards. Time, 2 min. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  sec.

*Heat 4.*—E. Lunghi, Italy, 1; H. L. Coe, United States, 2; L. P. Jones, United States, 3; J. Parkes, Canada, 4; J. M. Lynch, Australasia, 0; J. C. English, United Kingdom, 0. Parkes and Lunghi shared the work, but the Italian began forcing the pace before the first lap was over, and in the second he came along finely, and won by 6 yards. Time, 1 min. 57 $\frac{1}{2}$  sec.

*Heat 5.*—C. B. Beard, United States, 1; A. Astley, United Kingdom, 2; D. Buddo, Canada, 3; O. Quarg, Germany, 4; C. M. French, United States, 0; E. M. Dahl, Sweden, 0. Beard led off, Buddo came with a rush half-way, followed by Astley. The American, however, had a little left, and finishing strongly, he held Astley, and won a great race by two or three inches. Time, 1 min. 59 $\frac{1}{2}$  sec.

*Heat 6.*—T. H. Just, United Kingdom, 1; A. Breynck, Germany, 2; F. G. Danielson, Sweden, 0; A. C. H. Vosbergen, Holland, 0. Danielson led. In the back straight Just drew up, and coming with one long run he won by more than 50 yards. Time, 1 min. 57 $\frac{1}{2}$  sec.

*Heat 7.*—H. Braun, Germany, 1; J. Bromilow, United States, 2; H. E. Holding, United Kingdom, 3; H. P. Ramey, United States, 0; F. Svanstrom, Finland, 0; B. Evers, Holland, 0. Bromilow led for the first quarter right into the straight, where Braun, on the inside, beat both Holding and Bromilow, and won by nearly two yards. Time, 1 min. 58 sec.

*Heat 8.*—I. F. Fairbairn-Crawford, United Kingdom, 1; K. Hellstrom, Sweden, 2; F. P. Sheehan, United States, 3; H. Sutton, Australasia, 0. Crawford soon took a lead, entered the straight with over 8 yards lead, and won by 15 yards. Time, 1 min. 57 $\frac{1}{2}$  sec.

FINAL.

M. W. Sheppard, United States	..	..	..	..	..	1
E. Lunghi, Italy	..	..	..	..	..	2
H. Braun, Germany..	..	..	..	..	..	3
O. Bodor, Hungary ..	..	..	..	..	..	4
T. H. Just, United Kingdom	..	..	..	..	..	5
J. P. Halstead, United States	..	..	..	..	..	6
I. F. Fairbairn-Crawford, United Kingdom	..	..	..	..	..	0
C. B. Beard, United States..	..	..	..	..	..	0

Time, 1 min. 52  $\frac{1}{2}$  sec.

Fairbairn-Crawford made the pace so hot in this remarkable race that he was fifteen yards ahead in the first 200, and was done with in the first lap. Sheppard then led with Lunghi and Just close behind him. Just tired first. Lunghi hunted the leader all the way home, but was out-paced. Sheppard won by about nine yards in the splendid time of 1.52  $\frac{1}{2}$  completing the Half-mile (5  $\frac{1}{2}$  yards further) in 1.54. This beat by 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  seconds the Olympic record for 800 metres of 1.56, made by Lightbody at St. Louis in 1904, and was within  $\frac{1}{2}$  second of the world's record (amateur) of 1.53  $\frac{2}{5}$  for the Half-mile set up by C. H. Kilpatrick at New York in September, 1895. His time for the Half-mile, 1.54, was also a British record, the previous best being 1.54  $\frac{3}{5}$ , by F. J. K. Cross (O.U.A.C.). Lunghi's time in this race was 1 min. 54  $\frac{1}{5}$  sec., which also beats the previous Olympic record. The pace may be imagined from the facts that the first 400 metres were done in 53 seconds, and the quarter in 53  $\frac{2}{5}$  seconds. Braun only just beat Bodor for the third place.

Diplomas of Merit for the Eight Hundred Metres were awarded to O. Bodor, Hungary, J. P. Halstead, U.S.A., T. H. Just, U.K., C. B. Beard, U.S.A., and I. F. Fairbairn-Crawford, U.K.

M. W. Sheppard was 26 years old, born in New Jersey, U.S.A. He was 5 ft. 8½ in. high, and weighed 10 st. 8 lb., and had never done such fast time before. E. Lunghi, a remarkable runner, was an Italian naval student from Genoa, aged 21, 5 ft. 10½ in. high, and weighing 11 st. He had never approached this pace before, and was not supposed to have trained with particular severity for these Games.

#### V.—FIFTEEN HUNDRED METRES FLAT (1,640 yards).

##### FIRST ROUND.

*Heat 1.*—J. P. Sullivan, United States, 1; J. D. Lightbody, United States 2; F. Meadows, Canada, 3; F. A. Knott, United Kingdom, 4. Also ran :—J. M. Smith, United Kingdom; L. N. de L. Bonniot de Fleurac, France; N. Dahl, Norway; O. Bodor, Hungary; and J. de Keyser, Holland. This was the first race decided in the London Stadium during the Olympic Games of 1908. Meadows led the field for three-quarters of a lap. Entering on the second lap, De Fleurac was in possession. At the bell, Smith took the lead. Three hundred yards from home Lightbody rushed to the front, followed by Sullivan and Knott. Sullivan won by a good 6 yards. Time, 4 min. 7½ sec.

*Heat 2.*—M. W. Sheppard, United States, 1; J. P. Halstead, United States, 2; G. Butterfield, United Kingdom, 3; J. W. Lee, United Kingdom, 4. Also ran :—J. M. Lynch, Australasia; A. Hesse, Germany; and K. Neilsen, Denmark. Sheppard at once ran inside. Positions did not change very materially until the bell, when the order was Lee, Butterfield, Sheppard, Halstead. But entering the straight the Americans beat the Englishmen off, and a splendid finish between the former saw Sheppard win by a bare yard. Time, 4 min. 5 sec. The winner thus beat the Olympic record of 4 min. 5⅓ sec., done by Lightbody at St. Louis in 1904, the second man tying with the previously best figures.

*Heat 3.*—N. F. Hallows, United Kingdom, 1; E. Lunghi, Italy, 2. Also ran:—M. Cartasegna, Italy; F. H. Riley, United States; and E. Björn, Norway. Cartasegna at once went to the front, but was soon displaced by Lunghi, who led at the bell. Then Hallows, two hundred and fifty yards from home, forced his way to the front, with Lunghi a yard behind. The pair struggled right up to the tape, Hallows eventually winning by 2 yards. Time, 4 min. 3½ sec. Lunghi's time was 4 min. 3⅝ sec. The record set up by Sheppard in the previous heat was thus easily broken, Lunghi also being well inside the figures which were destined to stand for so short a time.

*Heat 4.*—E. V. Loney, United Kingdom, 1; H. L. Coe, United States, 2; J. McGough, United Kingdom, 3; S. Demetron, Greece, 4. Also ran :—G. Dreher, France. McGough, whose left ankle was bandaged, set a lively pace until just before the bell. Then Loney shot by. For two hundred yards the others ran stride for stride. But running with grim determination, Loney refused to allow his opponent to get by, and as a result he won by 2 yards. Time, 4 min. 8⅞ sec.

*Heat 5.*—J. Tait, Canada, 1; J. Nagy, Hungary, 2; F. Svanstrom, Finland, 3. Also ran :—A. G. Ragueneau, France. The Canadian was in front, until the bell. One hundred yards further on Ragueneau attempted to go up, but finding himself easily held by Tait, he retired, and Tait won easily by 50 yards. Time, 4 min. 12½ sec.

*Heat 6.*—J. E. Deakin, United Kingdom, 1; A. Breynck, Germany, 2; A. C. H. Vosbergen, Holland, 3. Deakin was always in front, and won by 75 yards. Time, 4 min. 13⅞ sec.

*Heat 7.*—H. A. Wilson, United Kingdom, 1; J. Bouin, France, 2; W. Galbraith, Canada, 3. Galbraith went away with the lead until the bell rang, when Wilson went by, and won very easily by a good 30 yards. Time, 4 min. sec.

*Heat 8.*—I. F. Fairbairn-Crawford, United Kingdom, 1; E. M. Dahl, Sweden, 2; H. Braun, Germany, 3. Also ran :—O. Larsen, Norway; F. Delloye, Belgium; E. A. Andersson, Sweden; and J. Fitzgerald, Canada. Braun and Dahl occupied the leading positions by the Press stand. At the bell the pace became much faster, when the last bend was reached Fairbairn-Crawford went up, with Dahl hanging on. Fairbairn-Crawford, finishing strongly, won by 4 yards. Time, 4 min. sec.

## FINAL.

M. W. Sheppard, United States	..	..	..	..	..	1
H. A. Wilson, United Kingdom	..	..	..	..	..	2
N. F. Hallows, United Kingdom	..	..	..	..	..	3
J. Tait, Canada	..	..	..	..	..	4
I. F. Fairbairn-Crawford, United Kingdom	..	..	..	..	..	5
J. E. Deakin, United Kingdom	..	..	..	..	..	6
J. P. Sullivan, United States	..	..	..	..	..	0
E. V. Loney, United Kingdom	..	..	..	..	..	0

Time, 4 min. sec.

A disappointing race for the United Kingdom, but full of interest. Deakin was reserving himself for the Team Race later on, and Loney could not make the pace hot enough to tire Sheppard in the last half mile. Fairbairn-Crawford did the first 500 yards in fast time, and sacrificed his chances again; but Loney was unable to take on the running, and the race was slow till the last 300 yards, which just suited Sheppard's splendid turn of speed. Here Wilson made his effort and led into the straight, followed by Hallows, but Sheppard beat them both by sheer pace and won a fine race by about 2 yards in  $4.3\frac{2}{5}$ , the same time Hallows had done in just beating Lunghi for the third heat, and over three seconds slower than Wilson had done the distance in his trials. Sheppard and Lunghi, showing the same relative form in both races, thus proved they were as good for 1,500 as for 800 metres among the finest athletes in the world.

Diplomas of Merit for the Fifteen Hundred Metres were awarded to J. P. Sullivan, U.S.A.; J. L. Tait, Canada; E. Lunghi, Italy; E. V. Loney, U.K., and I. F. Fairbairn-Crawford, U.K.

H. A. Wilson, aged 22, born in Lincolnshire, was 5 ft. 4 in. high, and weighed 8 st. 3 lb. At the Olympic Trials he won this race in 3 min.  $59\frac{2}{5}$  sec. N. F. Hallows, of Keble College, Oxford, was not yet 22 years old, 5 ft. 9 in. tall, and weighed 9 st. 13 lb. He won the University Three Miles in 1907 and 1908, and was born at Doncaster.

XXVII.—SIXTEEN HUNDRED METRES RELAY RACE.

(10 $\frac{1}{2}$  Yards short of a Mile).

*Teams of four :—Two to run 200 Metres.*

*One, 400 Metres.*

*One, 800 Metres.*

FIRST ROUND.

*Heat 1.*—Hungary (P. Simon, G. Racz, J. Nagy, O. Bodor), 1 ; Sweden (S. Laaftman, K. Lindberg, K. Stenborg, and E. Bjorn), 2. Simon and Laaftman ran the first 200 metres for their respective countries, and the Hungarian at once took the lead. Running finely, he touched Racz 10 yards before Laaftman reached Lindberg. The latter, however, went hard after his man, and when Nagy was sent off for the 400 metres his opponent, Stenborg, was only 6 yards behind. Striding out splendidly, the Swede was in front after 100 yards of the distance had been covered, and, although Nagy went all out, the half mile was started with Bjorn possessing a three yards' advantage over Bodor. For, say, 400 metres, it was a great tussle between the pair. Then Bodor, who ran so finely in the 800 Metres Final, went ahead. Bjorn endeavoured to catch up the Hungarian, but whereas the latter was running quite easily Bjorn was labouring. As a consequence, Bodor easily kept ahead and won by 3 yards. Time, 3 min. 32 $\frac{3}{4}$  sec. The time for the second half of the race—800 metres—was 1 min. 56 $\frac{3}{4}$  sec., so that Bodor accomplished an extremely fine performance.

*Heat 2.*—Germany (A. Hoffman, H. Eicke, Dr. O. P. Trieloff, H. Braun), 1 ; Holland (E. Koops, J. Hoogveld, V. Henny, B. Evers), 2. Hoffman led Koops almost immediately, and at the end of the first 200 metres Eicke was able to score 10 yards lead over Koops. At the beginning of the next stage Germany were leading by 20 yards, and Braun won by 50 yards. Time, 3 min. 43 $\frac{1}{2}$  sec.

*Heat 3.*—United States (W. F. Hamilton, N. J. Cartmell, J. B. Taylor, and M. W. Sheppard), 1 ; United Kingdom (G. A. Hawkins, H. J. Pankhurst, E. H. Montague, and T. H. Just), 2 ; Canada (F. Lukeman, D. Buddo, L. Sebert, T. Parkes), 3. Hamilton, Hawkins, and Lukeman ran the first 200 metres, and Hamilton touched his man, Cartmell, 2 yards before Lukeman reached Buddo, with Hawkins sending Pankhurst away a yard behind the Canadian. Running beautifully, Cartmell gave Taylor a 6 yards' lead from Montague and Sebert, who were released simultaneously. Taylor just about held his own, but Montague caught Sebert in the last few yards, so that the order was Sheppard, Just, and Parkes for the 800 metres. The issue cannot be said to have been in doubt for one second. Just did his very best, but the man in front of him was speedier, and not even the Light Blue's great stride could save him from suffering defeat by 25 yards. Time, 3 min. 27 $\frac{1}{2}$  sec.

## FINAL

1. United States Team
 

W. F. Hamilton, 200 metres (218·6 yards)	.. ..	23 secs.
N. J. Cartmell, 200 metres	.. ..	23 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
J. B. Taylor, 400 metres (437·4 yards)	.. ..	49 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
M. W. Sheppard, 800 metres (874·9 yards)	.. ..	1.55 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
		Time, 3 min. 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.
2. German Team :  
A. Hoffmann, H. Eicke, Dr. O. P. Trieloff, H. Braun.
3. Hungarian Team :  
P. Simon, G. Racz, J. Nagy, O. Bodor.

As the Americans had won the first race with which the Games opened in the Stadium, so they secured also the last race before Her Majesty the Queen distributed the gold medals, and their form in the 1,600 Metres Relay was well worthy both of this coincidence and of its position in the programme, as may be seen from the fact that their four men covered a mile all but 10  $\frac{1}{2}$  yards in less than 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  minutes, while they had won their preliminary heat two seconds faster. J. B. Taylor, a negro with a magnificent stride, died of typhoid on December 2, 1908, after his return to the United States, much regretted by all who had met him here.

The details of this final are as follows .—

The first 200 metres runners were P. Simon (Hungary), A. Hoffman (Germany), and W. F. Hamilton (United States) ; the second 200 metres, G. Racz (Hungary), H. Eicke (Germany), and N. J. Cartmell (United States) ; 400 metres, J. Nagy (Hungary), Dr. O. P. Trieloff (Germany), and J. B. Taylor (United States); 800 metres, O. Bodor (Hungary), H. Braun (Germany), and M. W. Sheppard (United States). Though drawing outside position, Hamilton was on the inside at 50 yards. Running at the top of his form, he gained yard after yard, and Cartmell started with quite 6 yards' lead of Racz and 7 of Eicke. The two chased the American with all their might, but Cartmell held his own. He drew still further ahead, and Taylor had 8 yards the best of it on starting his 400 metres. His remarkable stride widened the gap very considerably, especially in the last hundred yards. As a consequence, Melvin Sheppard—looking not quite as fit as a few days previously—was sent away with a 15 yards' lead over Bodor, with Braun 5 yards behind the Hungarian. He won by 25 yards. Meanwhile, Braun was making a great race of it with Bodor for second place. Three-parts of the way up the straight the German was only a yard behind, and with a supreme effort he caught Bodor in the last yard and won by no more than a couple of inches.

## WINNERS OF THREE GOLD MEDALS.

M. W. Sheppard, U.S.A.	{	800 Metres Flat .. ..	..	Athletics
		1,500 Metres Flat .. ..	..	"
		1,600 Metres Relay Race ..	..	"
H. Taylor, U.K.	.. {	400 Metres .. ..	..	Swimming
		1,500 Metres .. ..	..	"
		200 Metres Team Race ..	..	"

## WINNERS OF TWO GOLD MEDALS.

A. W. Gore, U.K.	.. {	Covered Singles .. ..	..	Lawn Tennis
		Covered Doubles .. ..	..	"
B. Jones, U.K.	.. {	5,000 Metres .. ..	..	Cycling
		Three Laps Team Pursuit Race ..	..	"
C. B. Kingsbury, U.K.	.. {	20 Kilometres .. ..	..	"
		Three Laps Team Pursuit Race ..	..	"
G. E. Larner, U.K.	.. {	Ten Miles Walk .. ..	..	Athletics
		3,500 Metres Walk .. ..	..	"
T. Thornycroft, U. K.	.. {	Class B. .. ..	..	Motorboats
		Class C. .. ..	..	"
R. C. Ewry, U.S.A.	.. {	Standing Broad Jump .. ..	..	Athletics
		Standing High Jump .. ..	..	"
M. J. Sheridan, U.S. A.	.. {	Discus, Free Style .. ..	..	"
		Discus, Greek Style .. ..	..	"
M. Alibert, France	.. {	Individual Epée .. ..	..	Fencing
		Epée Team .. ..	..	"
H. Fuchs, Hungary	.. {	Individual Sabre .. ..	..	"
		Sabre Team .. ..	..	"
A. Helgerud, Norway	.. {	300 Metres, Team Competition ..	..	Shooting
		300 Metres, Individual Competition ..	..	"
E. V. Lemming, Sweden	{	Javelin, Free Style .. ..	..	Athletics
		Javelin, Restricted .. ..	..	"
A. Swahn, Sweden	.. {	Running Deer, Team .. ..	..	Shooting
		Running Deer, Single Shot .. ..	..	"

THE OLYMPIC GAMES  
OF STOCKHOLM 1912



OFFICIAL REPORT

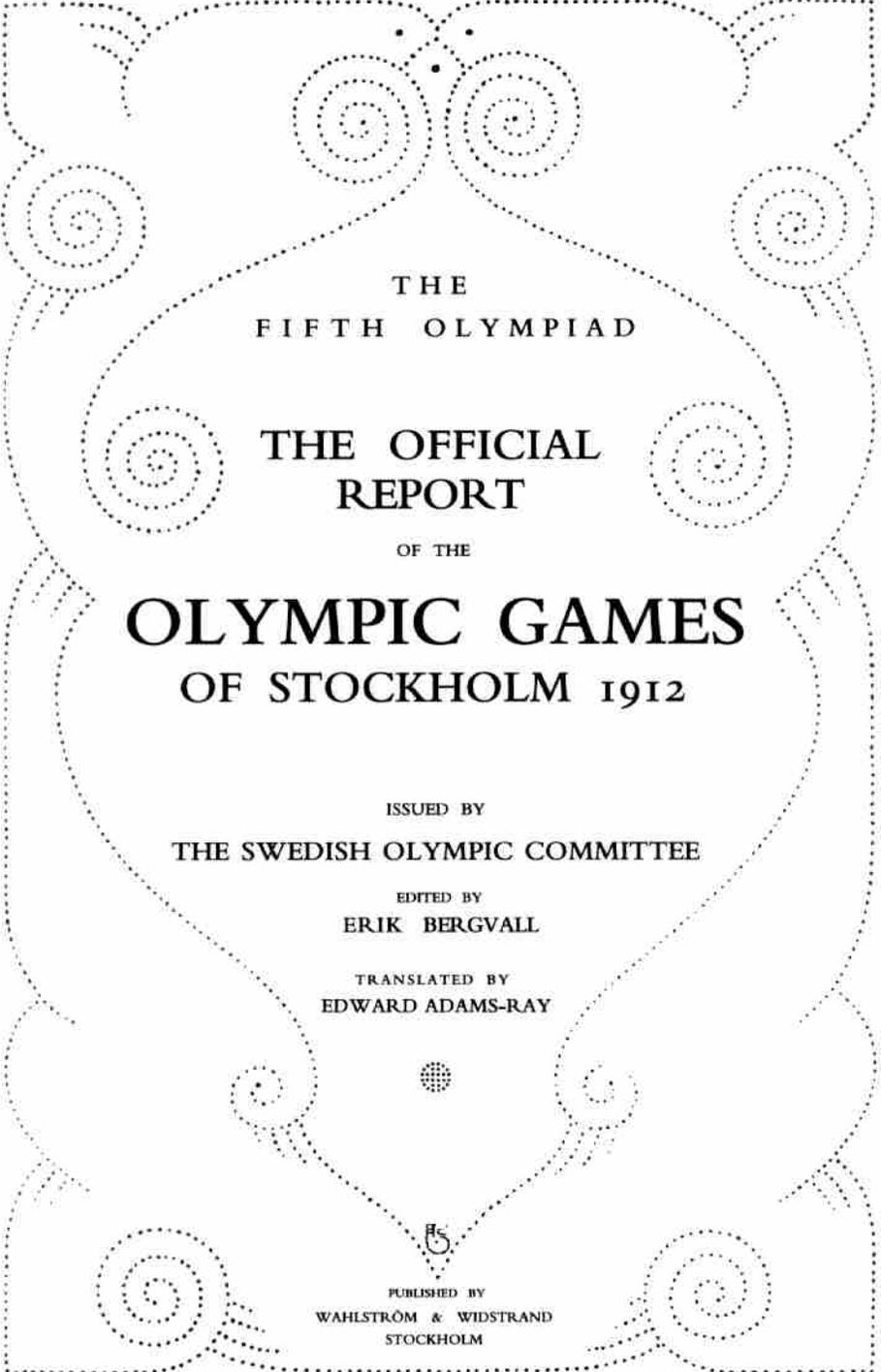
**Melvin W. Sheppard**

**1912 Olympics: 1,600 m relay.....Gold**

**1912 Olympics: 800 m flat.....Silver**

**1912 Olympics: 1,500 m flat.....6th**

**Pg. 21 through pg. 38 are from the 1912 Official Olympic Report**



THE  
FIFTH OLYMPIAD

THE OFFICIAL  
REPORT

OF THE

**OLYMPIC GAMES**  
OF STOCKHOLM 1912

ISSUED BY  
THE SWEDISH OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

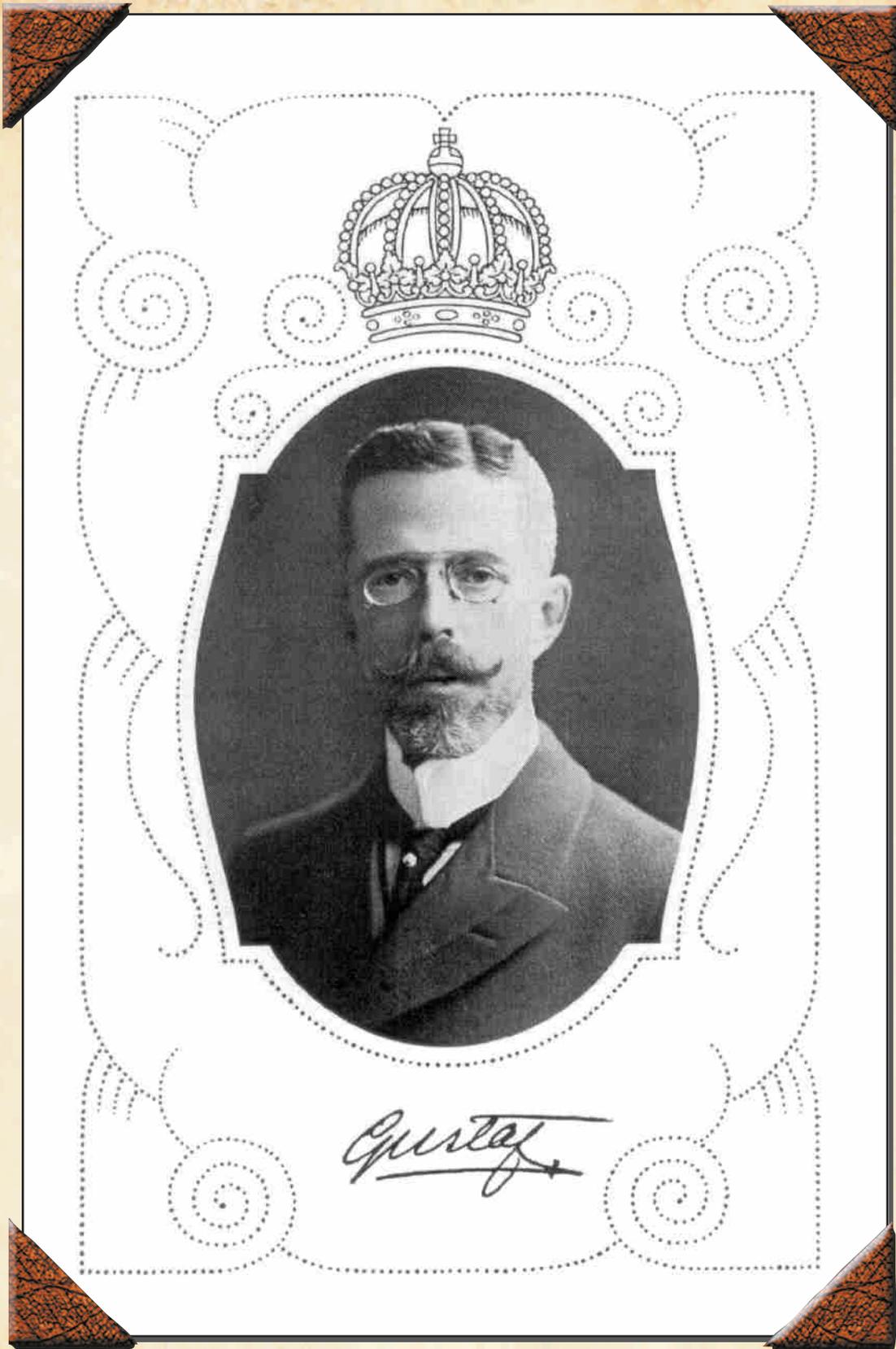
EDITED BY  
ERIK BERGVALL

TRANSLATED BY  
EDWARD ADAMS-RAY

  
  
PUBLISHED BY  
WAHLSTRÖM & WIDSTRAND  
STOCKHOLM

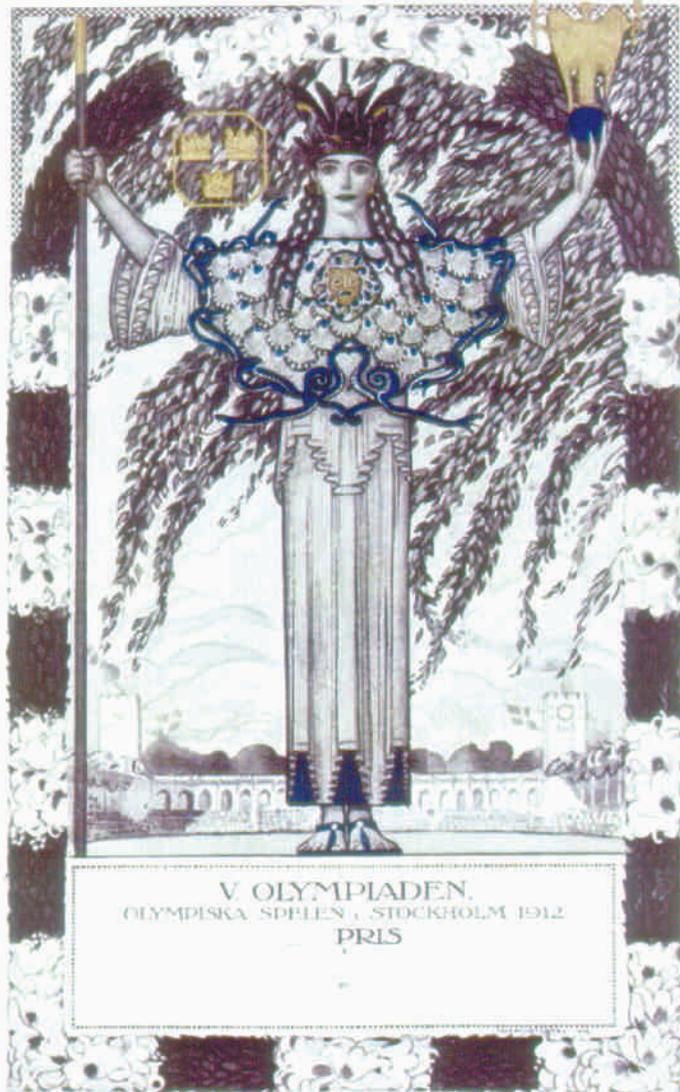


H. M. KING GUSTAF V.  
PATRON  
OF  
THE OLYMPIC GAMES OF STOCKHOLM 1912.



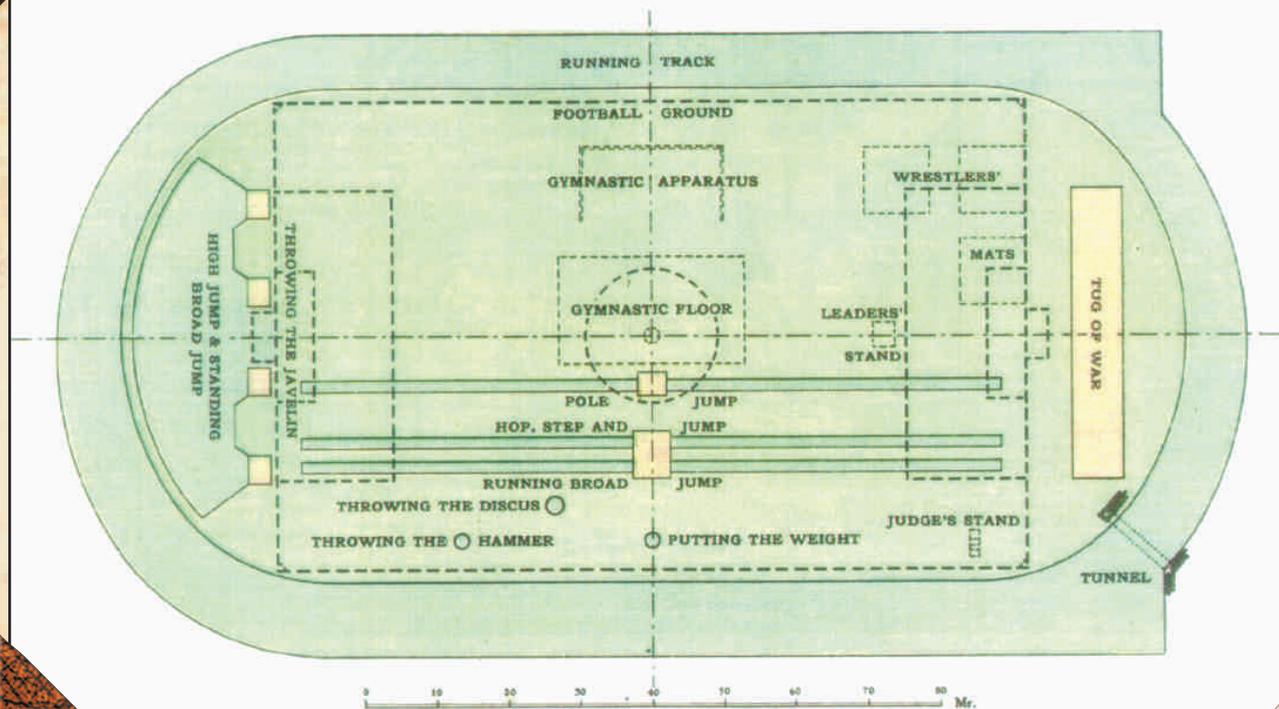


OLYMPIC PRIZE- AND COMMEMORATION MEDALS, 1912.



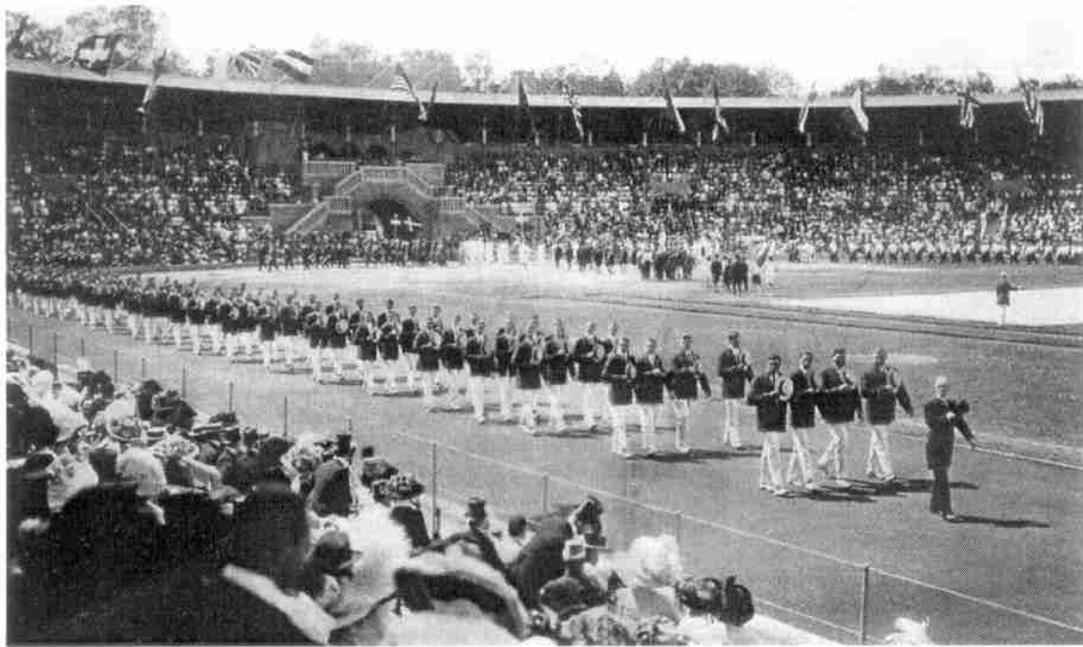
PRIZE DIPLOMA. OLYMPIC GAMES, 1912.

THE STADIUM ARENA DURING THE OLYMPIC GAMES.





THE POSTER OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES, 1912.



THE GRAND MARCH PAST OF THE NATIONS. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

## 800 METRES FLAT.

### First Round.

*Saturday 6 July.*

There were 9 heats in the first round of the 800 metres Flat, the first two men in each heat being qualified for the semi-final. In general, the trials did not occasion any hard struggles, and so the times were not at all remarkable. It was noticeable, however, in more than one heat, that many of the runners could have done far better times if it had been at all necessary. The U. S. A. runners showed their superiority at this distance too, winning 5 of the 9 heats.

*First heat.* 1. D. CALDWELL, U. S. A.; 2. E. LUNGH, Italy. Also ran: Lindholm, Sweden; MC Clure, U. S. A.; Caille, France. Time;  $1.58\frac{3}{8}$  ( $804\frac{1}{2}$  met. half-mile: 1.59). — When the pistol was fired, Lindholm at once went forward and led to the end of the first curve, where Lunghi came on and made the pace. The Italian did not seem to be in his accustomed good form, however. Caille and MC Clure now increased their pace, and then Lunghi fell behind. In the last curve but one, Caldwell came on with a spurt which carried him to the front, where he took the lead, accompanied in the final spurt by Lungi, who, finally, had to be satisfied with second place, being about 7 metres behind the winner.

*Second heat.* 1. P. E. MANN, Great Britain; 2. H. N. PUTNAM, U. S. A. Not placed: Pedersen, Norway and Palma, Chili. Time 1.56 sec. ( $804\frac{1}{2}$  met. half-mile  $1.56\frac{3}{8}$  sec.) — The Englishman at once took the lead, which he retained to the finish, running the distance entirely alone. Putnam kept the second place but, at the close, was strongly pressed by Pedersen who ran exceedingly well. Mann had the best time in the trial heats, but he need not have run so hard to win.

*Third heat.* 1. J. P. JONES, U. S. A.; 2. A. Z. CORTESAO, Portugal. Also ran: Larsen, Norway; Savniki, Hungary and Calvi, Italy. Time  $2.01\frac{1}{8}$ . — The Portuguese led for the first lap, which was taken at a very moderate pace. It was not before leaving the last curve that Jones began to lengthen his stride and leave Cortesao behind him. The latter succeeded in coming in as No. 2.

*Fourth heat.* 1. C. S. EDMUNDSON, U. S. A.; 2. J. L. TAIT, Canada. Not placed: Poulencard, France; Jahn, Germany; Burton, Great Britain (did not finish). Time:  $1.56\frac{3}{8}$  (half-mile;  $1.57\frac{1}{8}$ ) — Edmundson at once took the lead, which he did not lose at any time during the race, although Poulencard made several vain attempts to pass the U. S. A. runner, who won easily; the Canadian representative, Tait, who also ran without exerting himself much, passing the post as No 2.

*Fifth heat.* 1. I. N. DAVENPORT, U. S. A.; 2. F. H. HULFORD, Great Britain. Not placed: Bodor, Hungary; Person, Germany; Nazarov, Russia; Mestecky, Bohemia; and Baker, Great Britain. Time: 1.59 (half-mile:  $1.59\frac{3}{8}$ ). — Davenport had the lead for the first 100 metres, being relieved after that distance by Baker. The pace now became pretty warm, but it slackened a little after little more than a lap had been run. 300 metres from the finish Baker had enough, and Davenport once more went forward and won easily, with Hulford second. Bodor never came up, remaining unplaced.

*Sixth heat.* 1. H.W. HOLDEN, U. S. A.; 2. E. BJÖRN, Sweden. Not placed: Yorke, Great Britain; Forgács, Hungary; Müller, Chili; Haglund, Sweden; Elizarof, Russia. Time:  $1.58\frac{1}{10}$  (half-mile:  $1.59\frac{1}{10}$ ). — Forgács went to the front and made the pace for the first lap. When the bell rang, Holden and Björn went forward simultaneously and a hard struggle ensued, the American getting the lead, with Björn as the nearest man behind him. In the final straight, Björn came up abreast of Holden who then spurred again. Björn did not follow suit, as the second man was of course qualified to start in the semi-final, and there was no one to dispute his title to second place. In this way the American won by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  met.

*Seventh heat.* 1. J. T. SOUTTER, Great Britain; 2. M. W. SHEPPARD, U. S. A. Also ran: Lehmann, Germany; Antal, Hungary (did not finish) and Wilhelmsohn, Russia (did not finish). Time:  $2.0\frac{2}{4}$  sec. — Antal, the Hungarian representative, set the pace at the beginning, with Sheppard and Soutter close at his heels. On leaving the last curve, the American saw that it was time to go forward, he being followed in this manoeuvre by Soutter and Lehmann, Antal giving up the race, just as Wilhelmsohn had done some time before. Soutter ran hard at the finish and Sheppard let him win, merely assuring himself of second place in front of Lehmann.

*Eighth heat.* 1. G. M. BROCK, Canada; 2. J. E. MEREDITH, U. S. A. Not placed: Victor, South Africa; Patterson, Great Britain (did not finish). Time  $1.57$  (half-mile:  $1.57\frac{3}{8}$ ). — At first the pace was rather slow; then the South African put on the pace for a time, but afterwards fell behind, the final struggle lying between Brock and Meredith. It was a hard tussle, both being dangerous men in the last 100 metres but Brock was the first past the post.

*Ninth heat.* E. J. HENLEY, Great Britain; 2. H. BRAUN, Germany. Also ran: Frisell, Sweden; Halpin, U. S. A.; Radoczy, Hungary and Pihkala, Finland; (the two latter did not finish). Time:  $1.57\frac{7}{8}$ . — The lead was taken by Halpin and Frisell, with Braun as third man. When one lap was left, Henley came on, ran outside Braun, and passed Halpin and Frisell. At the beginning of the last curve, Braun began his spurt, and passed Henley, who till then had been leading. In the finish, however, the Englishman once more passed the German representative, who contented himself with second place. There was a hard struggle between Halpin and Frisell for third place, the result being a dead heat in  $1.59\frac{1}{8}$ .

18 runners had thus qualified for the semi-final. Of this number, 8 were U. S. A. men, 4 Englishmen, 2 Canadians, 1 German, 1 Italian, 1 Portuguese and 1 Swede.

## Second Round.

*Sunday, 7 July.*

*First heat.* 1. J. MEREDITH, U. S. A.,  $1.54\frac{2}{5}$ ; 2. H. BRAUN, Germany,  $1.54\frac{3}{5}$ ; 3. M. W. SHEPPARD, U. S. A.,  $1.54\frac{4}{5}$ ; 4. H. N. PUTNAM, U. S. A., 1.55. Also ran: Tait, Canada, Mann, Great Britain, Hulford, Great Britain (did not finish). — Meredith at once put on the pace without any hesitation, and the first lap was run in very quick time. Then Sheppard went forward with long strides outside of Braun, and at the beginning of the final curve, Meredith and Sheppard occupied the two foremost places, with the German runner playing a waiting game as third man. In the final straight, Meredith still kept the lead, while the struggle between Sheppard and Braun became one of extraordinary severity. 75 metres from the finish Braun began his usual speedy spurt, but Sheppard was ready for it and responded gamely. The American fell behind in the last few metres, however, and made no attempt to rob Braun of second honours. Putnam was a good fourth.

*Second heat.* 1. G. M. BROCK, Canada,  $1.55\frac{7}{10}$ ; 2. C. S. EDMUNDSON, U. S. A.,  $1.55\frac{8}{10}$ ; 3. D. CALDWELL, U. S. A.,  $1.55\frac{9}{10}$ ; 4. I. N. DAVENPORT, U. S. A.,  $1.55\frac{9}{10}$ . Not placed: Lunghi, Italy, Holden, U. S. A., Henley, Great Britain, Björn, Sweden and Cortesao, Portugal. — Davenport, the 400-metres sprinter, made the pace for a little while after the start, but was relegated to second place by his countryman Edmundson, who afterwards kept up the pace in front with tremendous energy. The other runners fell in behind the gigantic American, the field keeping very well together. In the last curve Brock was shut in but got clear very cleverly, and came on in the finish with a magnificent final spurt which carried him over the line as first man, although he was very seriously threatened by the three nearest U. S. A. men, who passed the post almost in a straight line.

The result of the semi-finals left 6 U. S. A. men, 1 German and 1 Canadian for the final race.

## Final.

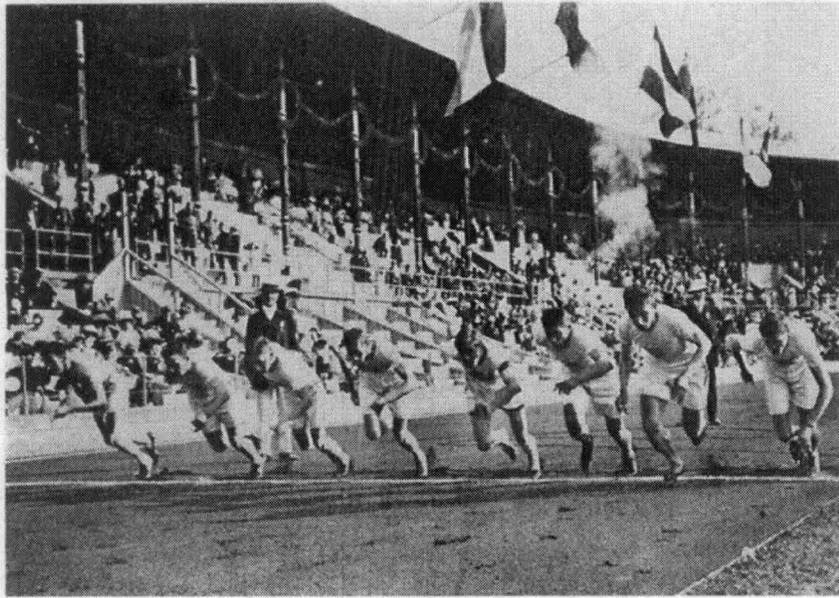
*Monday, 8 July.*

1. J. E. MEREDITH..... U. S. A.  $1.51\frac{9}{10}$   
(Olympic record).
2. M. W. SHEPPARD... U. S. A. 1.52.
3. I. N. DAVENPORT... U. S. A. 1.52.

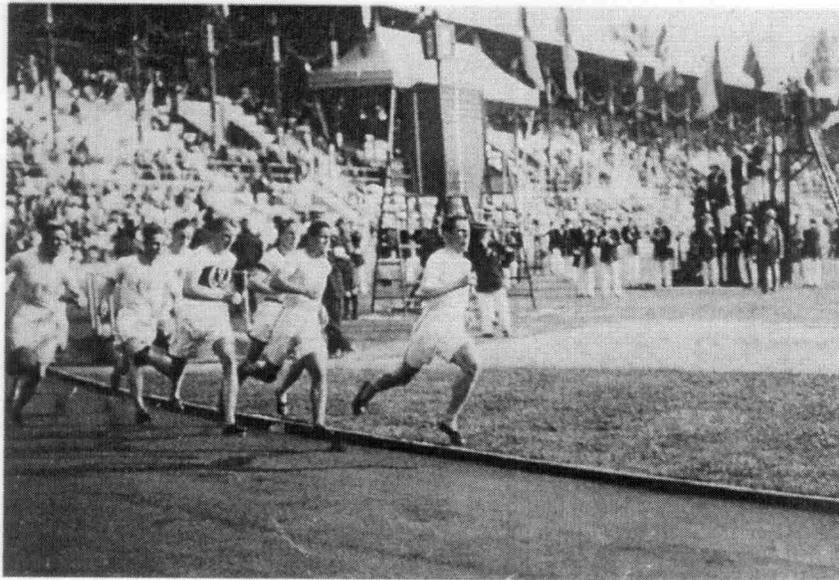
Also ran:

H. Braun .....	Germany	$1.52\frac{1}{5}$ .
D. Caldwell .....	U. S. A.	$1.52\frac{3}{10}$ .
C. S. Edmundson .....		»
G. M. Brock .....	Canada.	
H. N. Putnam.....	U. S. A.	

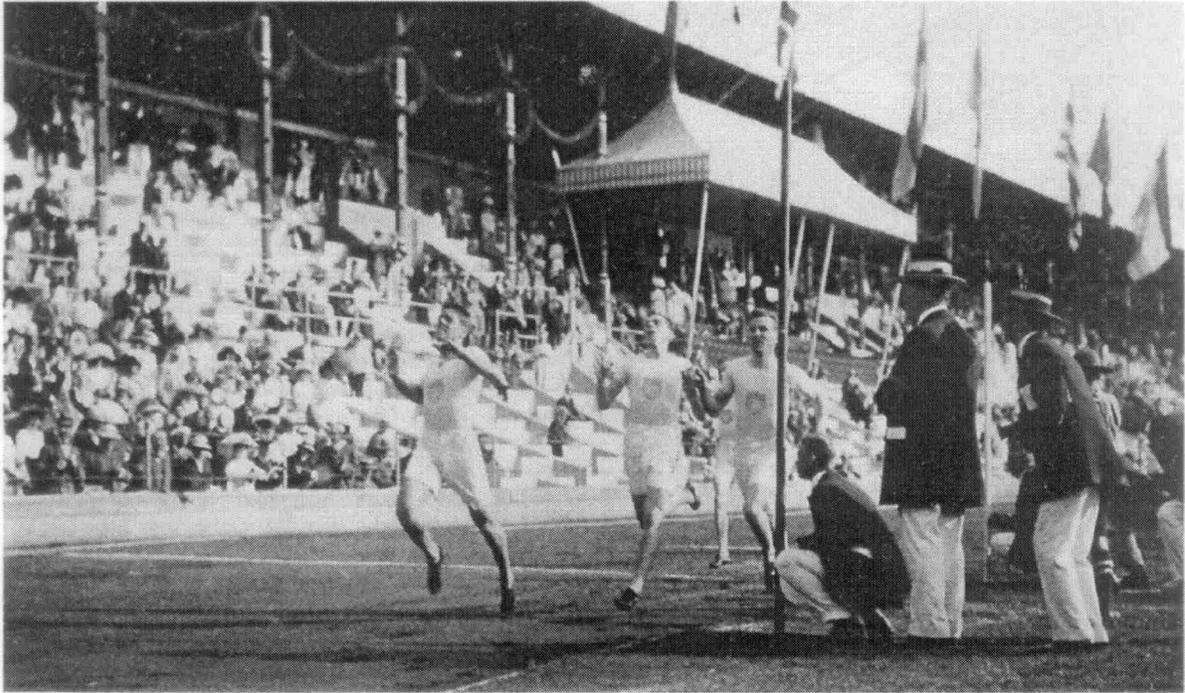
A finer field of 800 met. sprinters had never been brought together than the one that now waited for the starter's signal. Everybody was convinced that a new record would be made, but that the race would be as sensational as it turned out to be, came altogether as a surprise. As soon as the pistol was fired, Sheppard at once threw himself forward, and led at an unheard of pace, with Meredith and Braun as his nearest men. Sheppard's time for the first 400 met. was  $52\frac{2}{5}$  sec., he then still keeping the lead. When the bell rang, Sheppard was still leading, with Meredith close behind him. Behind Meredith came Braun, who had Davenport on his right hand and Edmundson behind him. Behind this group came Caldwell, Brock and the rest of the field. The German was thus pretty well locked in. At the entrance to the last curve, Braun made a desperate attempt to get free by running outside Davenport, but the American was too speedy for him. On leaving the last curve, Sheppard still lay first, but now Meredith came with his spurt which brought him nearer and nearer to the leader. For a moment it looked very possible that Braun would get to the front, but he did not succeed, probably mostly on account of the pace given to the finish by the phenomenal final spurt made by Sheppard and Meredith. Davenport came on, too, in the last five metres, and then Braun was run out. He lost his stride, and was within a hair's breadth of being beaten by Caldwell on the very post. Meredith won the race by half a meter from Sheppard, who was only a hand's breadth before Davenport. Meredith's time for the half mile ( $804\frac{1}{2}$  met.) was  $1.52\frac{1}{5}$ .



800 M. FLAT, FINAL. The Start.



800 M. FLAT, FINAL. During the Race.



800 M. FLAT, FINAL. The Finish.

## RELAY RACE, 1,600 METRES.

### First Round.

*Sunday, 14 July.*

*First heat.* 1. GREAT BRITAIN (C. N. Seedhouse, J. T. Soutter, E. J. Henley, George Nicol), 3.19; 2. CANADA (G. N. Brock, J. L. Tait, J. A. Howard, T. H. Gallon), 3.22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>. — The original intention had been that Canada, Great Britain and Italy should start in this heat, but, as Italy did not put in an appearance, the heat resolved itself into a contest between Great Britain and Canada. The first two men in the two teams were pretty equally matched, and it was really Canada's third man who lost so much against Nicol that a victory for Great Britain became a certainty. Seedhouse ran his distance in brilliant style and increased the lead already obtained, so that the British team won by about 20 met. The time taken by the winning team, 3 min. 19 sec., was the best for the day, and showed that Great Britain had sent a very good four to represent her in this competition.

*Second heat.* 1. U. S. A. (M. W. Sheppard, E. F. Lindberg, J. E. Meredith, C. D. Reidpath), 3.23<sup>3</sup>/<sub>10</sub>; 2. GERMANY, (H. Braun, M. Herrmann, H. Wenseler, E. Lehmann) 3.28<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>. — Germany and the U. S. A. team opposed each other in this heat, as the Bohemians did not come to the scratch. The result of the race was a foregone conclusion, of course. Lindberg, who ran as number 1 in the American team, at once succeeded in getting a lead. The advantage which he thus procured for his team in the first change of the baton was afterwards considerably increased by the remaining members of his side. Braun who, of course, could have given Reidpath a good race for the last distance, had now no chance of catching up the American, and so took things very quietly.

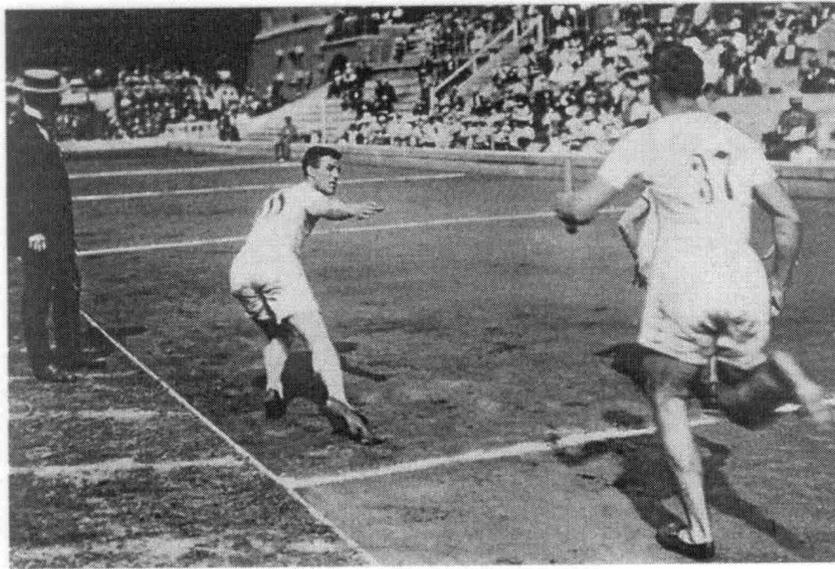
*Third heat.* 1. FRANCE (C. A. C. Poulenard, P. Failliot, C. L. Lelong, R. Schurrer), 3.22<sup>5</sup>/<sub>10</sub>; 2. SWEDEN (J. Dahlin, K. Stenborg, P. Zerling, E. Lindholm), 3.25; 3. HUNGARY (I. Déván, F. Mezei, E. Szerelemhegyi, Ö. Bodor) 3.29<sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub>. — On account of Russia not putting in its appearance in this heat, there were only three teams that competed, France, Hungary and Sweden. Lelong, the first man in the French team, beat his rivals in the first distance with the greatest ease, Zerling (Sweden), especially, not at all running in the form he had been expected to show. At the second change of the baton, Dahlin, who ran number two in the Swedish team, caught up the Hungarian and was able to pass on the stick at the same time as the second runner in this team. The Frenchmen's baton, however, was already 6 met. in front. Lindholm and Failliot were running in the third stretch, and here the Swede caught up the Frenchman, but he had apparently run himself out at the beginning of his distance and, towards the finish, Failliot again left Lindholm. Poulenard, who ran as the final man in the French team, was able to take the baton about 25 metres in front of Stenborg, the last of the Swedish team, and in spite of the latter's brilliant sprint in the final distance, the Frenchman broke the tape about 15 metres in front of his opponent who, in his turn, was considerably ahead of the Hungarian.

Final.

Monday, 15 July.

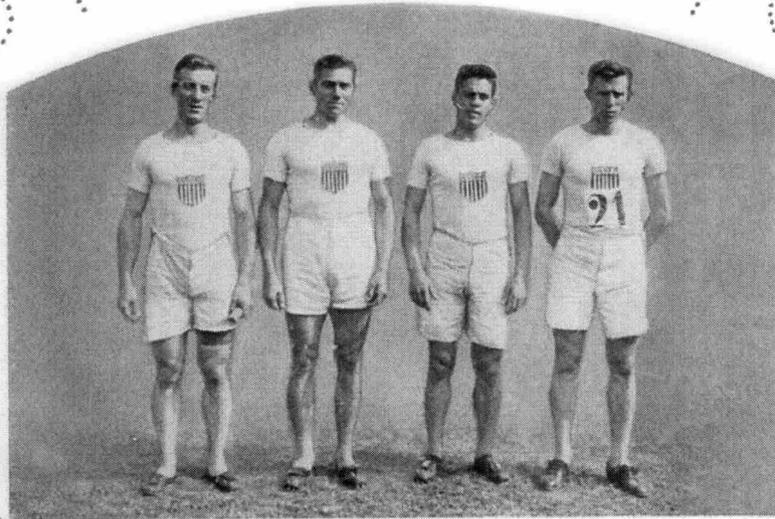
1. U. S. A. .... 3.16<sup>3</sup>/<sub>5</sub>.  
(Olympic record.)  
(M. W. Sheppard, E. F. Lindberg, J. E. Meredith, C. D. Reidpath)
2. FRANCE..... 3.20<sup>7</sup>/<sub>10</sub>.  
(C. A. C. Poulencard, P. Failliot, C. L. Lelong, R. Schurrer)
3. GREAT BRITAIN ..... 3.23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>5</sub>.  
(G. Nicol, E. J. Henley, J. T. Soutter, C. N. Seedhouse)

The first men in the respective teams were Sheppard, Lelong and Soutter. At first the Frenchman, going at a good pace, took the lead with Sheppard close at his heels, while Soutter, who had the misfortune to hurt his foot some time before the beginning of the race, ran with a limp which, of course, prevented him from doing anything like the good work he had shown in the trial heat. After quitting the last curve, Sheppard took the lead with the greatest ease before handing the baton to the next man in his team, which he did some metres in front of the Frenchman. The remaining members of the U. S. A. team steadily increased the advantage already gained, and Reidpath, who ran the last stretch, broke the tape about 30 metres in front of his French rival. In spite of a very pretty piece of work on the part of the last three men in the British team, the representatives of France succeeded in gaining second honours.



RELAY RACE 1600 M. The second handing-on of staff by U. S. A. Team.

WINNERS IN THE FIFTH OLYMPIAD.



U. S. A.'s team in Relay Race, 1,600 m.

## PRESIDENT GREETS OLYMPIC ATHLETES

Tells American Team Their Performance Has Never Been Duplicated in History of Athletics.

### CALLS HAYES 'TOP-NOTCHER'

Sheppard and Flanagan Present Mr. Roosevelt with Trophies Won in the Games.

The closing scene of the celebration in honor of the American athletes whose prowess placed them above those of every other nation at the recent Olympic Games in London took place yesterday at Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt, at his Sagamore Hill home, personally congratulated each member of the team presented to him.

At 8:30 o'clock yesterday morning the Long Island Railroad boat Sagamore started from the East Thirty-first Street dock with the members of the team, the Executive Committee of the athletes' parade, and a few invited guests for Oyster Bay. They did not land at the village, but went on to Sagamore Hill, three miles beyond, intending to land at the launch landing of W. Emlen Roosevelt's estate, adjoining the President's Summer home. The water, however, was too shallow for the steamer to go in close enough, and a small fleet of launches and rowboats volunteered to carry the Olympic victors ashore.

When the party was safely landed, President P. J. Conway of the Irish-American Athletic Club and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the athletes' parade, together with James E. Sullivan, United States Commissioner of the Olympic Games, formed the men into double file and marched up to the President's Summer home whistling "There'll be a hot time in the old town to-night."

The arrival of the athletes had been long expected, as they were nearly an hour behind the appointed time. President Roosevelt stood inside the front doorway with Mrs. Roosevelt. The President wore a white duck suit, and his wife was also in white. On the side porch was Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth, Representative Nicholas Longworth, Miss Ethel Roosevelt, and Kermit and Archie Roosevelt.

As the party halted in front of the porch James E. Sullivan stepped forward and was warmly greeted by the President as an old friend. Following him came P. J. Conway, President of the Irish-American Athletic Club; William McLoughlin, Secretary of the athletic parade; Elbert C. Kammerer, Commissioner John Cloughen, William L. Jones, John J. O'Brien, E. F. Foley, and Michael J. Cosgrove.

### Calls Hayes the Top Notcher.

With the formal congratulations to the official body, the athletes began a procession which will live long in their memory. The first athlete to be introduced was John J. Hayes, the Marathon winner. "Here is the top notcher," said the President, grasping Hayes's hand. "This is fine! fine! and I am so glad that a New York boy won it. By George! I am so glad to see all you boys."

Each member of the team received some word of commendation as he passed the Nation's Chief Executive. Melvin W. Sheppard of the Irish-American Athletic Club, who scored the greatest number of points of any member of the American team at the Olympic games, came in for special recognition, and the President, as he shook Sheppard's hand, said:

"I am right glad to see you—I followed you during the Athens days. Let's see, aren't you a member of the police force?"

"No," replied Sheppard. "They turned me down."

"Well, I wish I was still Commissioner," said the President, and the world's greatest short-distance runner passed into the house of the President, satisfied that he had made a "friend at Court."

James A. Rector of the University of Virginia followed closely on the heels of Sheppard, and as the Southern collegiate sprinting champion shook hand with the President the latter said:

"This is simply great. How about the South African who beat you?"

John J. Flanagan, the Irish-American weight thrower, was the next man to receive special recognition, and as the President shook his hand he said: "This is a big man, all right. This is fine, by George! Your throw over in the Olympic games was fine. I congratulate you."

### Congratulates Trainer Murphy.

When John B. Taylor, the colored middle-distance runner of the University of Pennsylvania, came along he received a hearty greeting, with the remark: "I am very glad to see you. You did nobly." Matt McGrath, the weight thrower, was introduced as "the heavyweight man," and the President, as he shook his hand, remarked: "By George! he looks it. I am glad to see you."

The trainer of the team, Mike Murphy of the University of Pennsylvania, received special recognition from the President. As Commissioner Sullivan introduced Murphy the President cut him short with the remark: "We don't have

continued...

The New York Times

Published: September 1, 1908

Copyright © The New York Times

continued from pg. 39

to be introduced. I am mighty glad to see you. He is an American institution, and we are all glad to meet Milke."

Dan J. Kelly, the long jumper, lingered long enough as he shook hands with the President to thank the latter when Mr. Roosevelt said: "Oh! yes; you boys did splendidly, but, by the way, our riflemen did well, didn't they?"

One by one the athletes filed past the President, and to all Mr. Roosevelt spoke words of welcome and congratulation. Then the athletes were passed along to Mrs. Roosevelt, who also greeted the visitors with a smile and handshake. When the last man filed past, the President, taking the arm of James E. Sullivan, led the way to his library.

"These are some of my trophies," said the President with a sweep of his hand about the walls of the room where hung bear and deer heads, antlers, and skins and guns. Then turning to the athletes who filled the library, the President made a short address.

"Gentlemen," he said, "I want to say one word of greeting to you. I am sure you feel that every one in America is proud of you. I think it is the literal truth, Mr. Sullivan, to say that the feat that this team has performed has never been duplicated in the history of athletics. I think it is the biggest feat that has ever been performed by any team of any nation, and I congratulate all of you. There is not a man on the team who does not deserve his share of the total credit. It is not only the men who won the first, but it is every man on the team who did his duty, as they all did, who deserves his share of the credit. I congratulate you all and I thank you all. I want to say, Mr. Sullivan, a word of special thanks and acknowledgment to you. Without you we could never have got together and sent over such a team, and our gratitude, gentlemen, is due not to those who were so glad to see you come back victors—we have plenty of those—but to those who in any way contributed to send you abroad in such shape that you could be victors. I think I could come pretty near passing a competitive examination on your records and feats. Now that we are here we must not forget how proud we are of the American riflemen and revolver men. You know I believe in straight shooting for the battleship or private citizen, either one."

#### Would Drop Talk of Foul.

As the President started for the dining room with Mr. Sullivan, one of the members of the team proposed three cheers "for the greatest President the country ever had," and the yell that went up almost raised the roof.

The President with difficulty worked his way through the crowd to the dining room, where a large bowl of punch and cake, cigars, and cigarettes were served to the men. Pulling Mr. Sullivan to a seat in a recess in front of the window, the President had a long talk with the commissioner while the others crowded around to hear what he would say.

When Mr. Sullivan referred to the cries of fraud and foul which the British made, the President said:

"Well, we've won and the less talking we do the better. We don't need to talk, we've won. There never has been a team like this one. You fellows have won a place for all time. I feel like giving you

the advice I gave my regiment when it disbanded.

"Remember," I said, "that you're heroes for ten days, but when that time is up drop the hero business and go to work."

President Conway then requested the President to become an honorary member of the Irish American Athletic Club. The President accepted the honor and said he would send his signed photograph for the clubhouse.

The President was particularly interested in Melvin Sheppard and asked for him several times. The great middle-distance runner was compelled to describe his races at Sheppard's Bush and the President listened with close attention. After describing his great run in the fifteen-hundred-meter race Sheppard took a morocco leather case from his pocket and handed it to the President, saying, "This is my prize for winning the event."

#### Give Medals to President.

The President examined it minutely and remarked that it was a very pretty piece of work, when Sheppard requested that Mr. Roosevelt keep it as a memento of the Olympic games. The latter refused, saying: "I could not think of such a thing. In thirty or forty years to come you will be able to point with pride and pleasure to this tribute of your remarkable speed and endurance in a race in which you beat the best running talent in the amateur world."

"I have two others," said Sheppard, "and I will not miss that one. I beg of you, Mr. President, to accept it." It was some time before the President could be persuaded to accept the trophy, which he finally did with the remark: "This will be one of my most treasured possessions, Mr. Sheppard, and I am very glad to place it in my collection."

John Flanagan, the weight thrower, of the Irish-American Athletic Club, was also the recipient of special congratulations from the President, and following the example of Sheppard, he insisted upon the President receiving one of his medals, which was finally accepted by the President.

At the request of Commissioner Sullivan, President Roosevelt permitted the photographers to take a group picture of everybody present. He then stood at the entrance of his house, and bade everybody good-bye, again congratulating the athletic heroes individually.

As the last man was shaking hands with the President, some one in the crowd shouted "Here comes Rose!" and the big California giant, with F. G. Bellara of the New York Athletic Club, was seen leisurely strolling across the lawn. The President waited long enough to offer the two stragglers his congratulations, and the entire party stood in front of the porch and sang "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town To-night." The athletes then sang "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," and as they reformed into double file for the march down the hill, he said:

"One final word—good-bye—and good luck to you all. I am glad you came, and I am proud to have met you. You did nobly, and once more I say good luck attend every one of you."

continued...

The New York Times

Published: September 1, 1908  
Copyright © The New York Times

continued from pg. 40

#### At "Big Tim" Sullivan's Picnic.

The athletes returned to the dock and were taken aboard the Sagamore, which steamed down to College Point, where the athletes again formed into line and

marched through Donnelly's Grove, where "Big Tim" Sullivan's picnic was in progress. They re-embarked on the Sagamore and reached the East Thirty-first Street dock near sundown.

The party consisted of P. J. Conway, President of the Irish-American Athletic Club, and Chairman of the Plan and Scope Committee of the Athletes' Parade; W. L. McLoughlin, Secretary of the Executive Committee; Commissioner John Cloughen, Robert C. Camerer of the New York Athletic Club, W. L. Jones, Climbers Club; James E. Sullivan, United States Commissioner to the Olympic Games; Matthew Halpin, Manager of the American Olympic Team; Charles J. Dieges, John J. O'Brien, Gustavus G. Kirby, E. P. Foley, Michael J. Cosgrove, and the following members of the American Olympic Team:

Platt Adams, Charles J. Bacon, F. G. Bellars, George V. Bonhag, W. G. Burroughs, E. B. Beard, J. C. Carpenter, Robert Cloughen, G. A. Dole, Ray C. Ewry, John J. Flanagan, Robert B. Foster, John C. Garrella, H. A. Gidney, A. M. Gossling, L. Budd Goodwin, N. C. Grote, M. H. Giffin, J. P. Halstead, S. H. Hatch, Harry L. Hillman, Jr., L. V. Howe, W. C. Robbins, B. F. Sherman, Edward P. Carr, C. L. Hall, Clare S. Jacob, Daniel J. Kelly, John H. Krug, Jr., Matt J. McGrath, Thomas P. Morrissey, Frank M. Pleasant, J. F. O'Connell, John N. Patterson, Harry F. Porter, William C. Prout, F. H. Riley, D. R. Robbins, J. A. Rector, L. C. Rich, M. J. Ryan, A. B. Shaw, Melvin W. Sheppard, N. A. Sherman, Forrest C. Smithson, Lee J. Talbott, James P. Sullivan, J. B. Taylor, H. L. Truba, C. D. Trubebach, Lewis Tewanina, and Harvey W. Cohn.

#### The New York Times

Published: September 1, 1908  
Copyright © The New York Times

## TO GIVE OLYMPIC CUPS.

### Members of American Team to Honor Murphy and Halpin.

With President Roosevelt as honorary member and James E. Sullivan, President of the Amateur Athletic Union, honorary President, the members of the 1908 American Olympic team organized yesterday. The plan to hold an annual reunion of the members of the American team had been in contemplation for several weeks, but it was not until after the athletes paid their visit to Oyster Bay that the organization was effected.

A meeting was held on the steamboat Sagamore on the return journey from Sagamore Hill, when Harry F. Porter of the Irish-American Athletic Club was selected as acting Chairman and "Matty" Halpin of the New York Athletic Club secretary. It was decided to hold an annual dinner in the city where the Senior Amateur Athletic Union championships are scheduled. The dinner will be held either on the night of the championships or the evening preceding.

The object of the organization is to keep alive the memory of the Olympics of 1908 and help in every way the cause of athletics and to promote the spirit among athletes that helped the 1908 team to victory in the London Olympic games.

The services of "Mike" Murphy, the coach of the American Olympic team, and "Matty" Halpin, the manager, are not to go unrewarded. The members of the Olympic team have planned to present each with a silver loving cup. The general feeling is that Murphy was in a large measure responsible for many of the victories gained abroad through his training, while Halpin's work as manager is to receive proper recognition.

Bartow S. Weeks and Gus T. Kirby were elected honorary members, as were Murphy and Halpin. A committee consisting of Ray Ewry, George V. Bonhag, Harry L. Hillman, Jr., and Charles R. Bacon was appointed to draw up plans for a permanent organization and send out ballots for a mail vote for officers.

### 6,000 Men Out in Tailors' Strike.

The tailors' strike remained practically at a standstill yesterday. About 6,000 men are out in Manhattan, but settlements are being made from time to time, whereupon delegations of the men go back to work. Sixteen firms have settled in Brooklyn. Committees are at work organizing the tailors in Brownsville, and a mass meeting will be held there in American Star Hall to-morrow night. Meyer Schoenfeld, the strike leader, will speak.

#### The New York Times

Published: September 1, 1908  
Copyright © The New York Times

## \$25 ROYAL ROBES FOR CONEY'S KING

His Majesty Mel Sheppard Objects to Paying for His Own Tinsel, and Gets Help.

### QUEEN NOT SO FORTUNATE

She Must Settle for Her Own Grandeur Unless the Committee Changes Its Mind.

There will be more real royalty about King "Mel" Sheppard, this year's sovereign of the annual Coney Island Mardi Gras, which begins today to last for six days, than there has been since that transplanted carnival was established. If there is one quality that always goes along with kingship, it is that the subjects shall pay the bills.

Heretofore Coney Island Kings have paid for their coach-and-four, their royal robes, and for the food and drink of the Executive Committee and prominent guests. That was thoroughly unkingly. The new King, while he has not established fully the precedent of paying royalty's way during his reign, has at least forced a step in the right direction.

In voting for the King this year, Sheppard, the champion middle-distance runner of the world, an Olympic hero, was elected King with more than 400,000 votes. The result was known only at the end of last week. He is a great runner, and for his fine physique Col. Roosevelt, when he was President, said he should have a place in the United States Customs Service if the police department was so silly as not to pass him. He got the Customs place, which does not pay a large salary.

As soon as he heard of his election he talked with previous Kings, who told him ruefully that his robes, his coach with four white horses, his incidental expenses, would cost him a lot of money. Thinking over the whole subject of kingship, and consulting the precedents of

hood, and consulting the precedents of successful Kings in other parts of the world, he wrote the following letter to the Executive Committee of the Mardi Gras:

815 Ninth Avenue, Astoria, L. I.,  
Sept. 9, 1910.

Mr. S. E. Jackman, President, Mardi Gras Committee, Coney Island, N. Y.:

Dear Sir: I have just been informed that I have been elected King of the Mardi Gras by the largest majority ever given to a candidate for that position.

As the Mardi Gras will benefit the business people of the Coney Island section of this city more than any one else, it seems to me that the expenses of maintaining my kingly dignity should be borne by those who will financially benefit by the event, and not by me. I have nothing but my salary as Custom House officer, and out of that I must support my wife and family.

The expenses of a King, as I understand it, consist of the hire of very elaborate costumes—a coach and four horses for the parade each evening, and the entertainment of your committee and the various guests at the different places where the King and his retinue stop. These expenses, as I figure them, will amount to many hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars.

I am willing to do my share, but it is out of reason to suppose that I alone can stand this enormous expense. It should be borne by those who benefit by the carnival; that is, by the hotel and restaurant keepers, and other business men of the place.

If the committee is unable to defray my expenses, it seems to me that the proper thing to do is to solicit subscriptions not only from the committee and the different business interests of Coney Island, but also from the railroad companies which will be engaged in transporting the enormous crowds to the island during the carnival week. Respectfully yours,

MEL SHEPPARD.

The Executive Committee went into extraordinary session at Coney Island on Saturday night, and was still in session yesterday morning when the Sunday papers went to press. It was stated that different Kings spend money in different amounts, and that the committee couldn't think of supplying what King "Mel" might want to spend. He was allowed \$25, however, to buy his regal raiment, and his coach and four will be supplied every night when, accompanied by the Queen, he leads the procession down Surf Avenue.

It was suggested on the outside, and quite unofficially, that if \$25 seemed too little for regal raiment, maybe some of the Kings of other years might rent their robes for even less.

It appeared, however, that the Queen was going to come out badly by the decision of the Executive Committee to limit the expenses. This year she is Tessie Malloy, head cashier of a Rough Riders' show at Coney Island, and while much money passes through her hands, her salary is not excessive, nor are her parents wealthy. Yet when she felt fairly sure that she was going to be Queen she ordered a royal robe that cost her \$80, her friends said, and then she had just begun to prepare herself to sit beside the King.

Hence, if the Queen doesn't get more money for robes than the King, she will be a loser financially. There was some talk at Coney Island yesterday of following the King's suggestion to collect money from the business men who will benefit by the carnival to reimburse Queen Tess for all the money she loses.

The New York Times

Published: September 12, 1910  
Copyright © The New York Times

## SOLDIER ATHLETES FINED HEAVILY

### Twenty-second Regiment Court Martial Makes Sweeping Disciplinary Blow.

It is almost a certainty that competitive athletics is at an end in the Twenty-second Regiment, N. Y. N. G., and this body, for years so powerful in this branch of sports, will be seen no more in indoor meets. Trouble has been brewing among the soldier boys since last Spring, when Mel Sheppard was ordered off the floor in the Military Athletic League championship games for refusing to allow an examination of his shoes. The climax was reached Monday night when the officers, through the medium of a court martial, inflicted on thirty-two members of the regiment—athletes and rooters alike—fines ranging from \$15 to \$20.

When Sheppard was charged with wearing spiked shoes at the Spring meet he refused to allow the officials to look at the shoes and was finally sent from the floor. When the "Peerless One" departed his team followed suit in spite of the pleadings of leading members of the regiment. The officers took up the case and handed out suspensions of one year to all the offending athletes except one—James McIntee—who drew a three months' suspension. The Military Athletic League then took up the matter and sustained the action of the regimental officials.

It was generally expected that these suspensions would be raised when the time for the annual Fall games of the regiment arrived, but the athletes showed no disposition to hold any games this Fall, and this event—a big feature of the indoor athletic season—was not held. This fact is thought to have brought the matter to a crisis Monday night when the court-martial proceedings affecting thirty-two men were put in force.

This regiment has long been prominent in athletics, numbering in its ranks some of the best athletes of the city. Practically all the stars are affected, and they are positive in their declarations to work no more for the honor of the Twenty-second. Among those who were included in the sweeping action Monday night are Harry Gissing, the half-mile champion; Mel Sheppard, the Olympic champion and holder of many records; F. Clark, R. Koch, A. Lohse, Slattery, and others.

*The New York Times*

Published: December 7, 1910

Copyright © The New York Times

## MILE RELAY RECORD AT TRAVERS ISLAND

World's Mark Made by Cassara,  
Sheppard, Rosenberger,  
and Robbins.

TIME OF QUARTET 3:20 3-5

Kiviat Fails to Lower 1,000-Yard Fig-  
ure—Five-Mile Event Easy  
for Daly.

The one-mile relay team of the Irish-American Athletic Club, composed of C. S. Cassara, M. W. Sheppard, J. M. Rosenberger and W. C. Robbins, yesterday afternoon, at the eighty-third annual games of the New York Athletic Club, at Travers Island, established a new world's record for the one-mile relay event, four men to a team, running the distance in 3:20 3-5. The old mark for the event was 3:21 2-5, which was made in this city in 1898 by the New York Athletic Club team, composed of B. J. Wefers, M. W. Long, T. E. Burke and H. S. Lyons. The mark was equaled four years later by the Harvard relay team, which was made up of Schick, Lightner, Willis and Rust, the event being run in Philadelphia.

The race of yesterday, while open to all clubs and colleges, was in the nature of a match event between the New York and the Irish-American Athletic Clubs, these organizations being the only ones to enter teams. From the first it was a tight race, with the Irish-American team leading all the way after the completion of the first relay, but at no time was the distance separating the rivals great. In only one instance did the Irish team have more than five yards advantage, and that came in the last relay, but this was closed up to a gap of not more than six yards at the finish. In a large measure it was due to the close pressing of the New York A. C. team, made up of C. Frick, G. B. Ford, H. Gissing and J. J. McEntee, that their rivals were able to eclipse the old mark.

Not in a long time has such a gathering of quarter-milers been brought together, and the performance of the win-

ning team shows that on an average but slightly over fifty seconds was made by each of the members of the record-making team. As a matter of fact, two of the quarters were run in better time than this. Rosenberger was clocked at 49 1-5 seconds and Robbins, who won the Canadian championship recently in 48 3-5, was well under the 50 second mark.

C. S. Cassara, of the Irish-American team, was paired with Ford in the running of the first relay, and the latter showed to the best advantage. He went to the front immediately and when the touch off was made gave his team-mate, Frick, a three-yard lead. Sheppard held up the honors for the Irish-Americans in the next relay and went out after Frick, overhauling him after only a short distance had been traveled and pulling into a lead of five yards when Rosenberger took up the running against McEntee, of the New York A. C. The latter made a game struggle to hold his rival, and did succeed in keeping the lead of the "winged fist" man from becoming greater.

The final relay brought together Robbins, running for the Irish-Americans, and Harry Gissing. The five-yard lead which Rosenberger gave him, Robbins gradually pulled into ten yards, and it seemed that the New York man was out of the running. Both were exerting every ounce of strength, and McEntee, coming into the stretch, made a determined sprint and was beaten out by only six yards.

John J. Daly of the Irish-American Club, who won the Metropolitan five-mile championship a week ago, had an easy time in the winning of the race at this distance. Starting from scratch, he quickly overhauled the limit men and, from the three-mile point on, was never headed. Bailey of the New York A. C. trailed Daly for the greater part of the way and tried several times to take the lead, but Daly answered every sprint, and in the last lap raced away from Bailey, winning by forty yards, in 25:56 2-5.

In the 1,000-yard run A. R. Kiviat, the schoolboy champion, made a determined effort to lower the record for the distance and failed by only two seconds. The field which started was a large one, and Kiviat was hampered to a great extent in working his way through his rivals. Had it not been for this, in all likelihood he would have bettered the world's record. Kiviat was to have had a five-yard handicap over Sheppard and Lunghi, but both failed to start, and he went to scratch to try for the record. As it was, he came in second, running the distance in 2:15, with the winner's time a second slower than the record, 2:12.

The 600-yard run, which was expected to be a high-calibre event, proved uninteresting, as the best men entered failed to start. Sheppard was on scratch and took his place on the mark, but too great eagerness to be away cost him three yards, and he refused to continue in the event. E. Frick of the New York A. C. won from the forty-yard mark.

The hammer-throwing event again gave the exponents of its abolition a chance to point to its dangers. "Con" Walsh had the weight break as he was turning for the final heave, but, fortunately, it went in the ground only a short distance away.

Poor judging in the 220-yard hurdle event eliminated J. L. Hartranft of the New York A. C. from a chance to compete in the final. He finished easily first, but was judged third. The decision caused quite a controversy, but was not changed. The summary:

continued...

continued from pg. 44

60-Yard Run, Handicap.—Won by E. Frick, New York A. C., (20 yards); H. J. Dodd, Paterson Y. M. C. A., (35 yards.) second; W. J. Nichols, Xavier A. A., (24 yards.) third. Time—1:12 3-5.

120-Yard Dash, Handicap.—Won by W. Watts, New York A. C., (7½ yards); O. Telschow, Irish-American A. C., (7 yards.) second; C. C. Steinert, New York A. C., (6½ yards.) third. Time—0:11 4-5.

120-Yard Hurdles, Handicap.—Won by L. B. Dorland, Pastime A. C., (5 yards); J. L. Hartranft, New York A. C., (1 yard.) second; I. J. Lovell, Irish-American A. C., (8 yards.) third. Time—0:26.

1,000-Yard Run, Handicap.—Won by R. M. Davis, New York A. C., (46 yards); A. R. Kilhat, Irish-American A. C., (scratch.) second; C. B. English, Paterson A. C., (46 yards.) third. Time—2:14.

300-Yard Run, Handicap.—Won by F. P. McNally, Acon A. A., (16 yards); J. W. Richmond, New York A. C., (12 yards.) second; H. Heiland, Xavier A. A., (10 yards.) third. Time—0:31 2-5.

Five-Mile Run, Handicap.—Won by John J. Daly, Irish-American A. C., (scratch); W. Bailey, New York A. C., (75 yards.) second; H. P. Herma, Irish-American A. C., (25 yards.) third. Time—25:56 2-5.

220-Yard Hurdles, Handicap.—Won by W. B. Bursch, New York A. C., (12 yards); R. E. Goggin, Pastime A. C., (8 yards.) second; W. A. Raleigh, Irish-American A. C., (12 yards.) third. Time—0:24 4-5.

One-Mile Relay Race, Open to Clubs and Colleges.—Won by Irish-American A. C., with C. S. Cassano, Melvin W. Sheppard, J. M. Rosenberger, and W. C. Robbins; New York A. C. second, with G. B. Ford, C. Frick, J. J. McEntee, and H. Glissing. Time—3:20 3-5. New world's record.

Obstacle Race.—Won by H. E. Cloughly, New York A. C.; J. Kuntz, Mohawk A. C., second. Time—2:21 2-5.

#### FIELD EVENTS.

Putting 16-Pound Shot, Handicap.—Won by W. F. Roos, New York A. C., (7 feet.) with an actual put of 40 feet 11½ inches; H. S. Klager, Senator A. C., (7 feet.) second, with an actual put of 39 feet 9¼ inches; P. L. Onken, Irish-American A. C., (7 feet.) third, with an actual put of 39 feet 4 inches.

Pole Vault, Handicap.—Won by T. S. Babcock, New York A. C., (7 inches.) with an actual vault of 17 feet 3 inches; H. S. Babcock, New York A. C., (scratch.) second, with an actual vault of 11 feet 3 inches; W. A. McLeod, Irish-American A. C., (7 inches.) third, with an actual vault of 10 feet 6 inches.

Running Broad Jump, Handicap.—Won by G. J. Fleming, New York A. C., (20 inches.) with an actual jump of 20 feet 3 inches; H. Hausleiter, Irish-American A. C., (24 inches.) second, with an actual jump of 19 feet 9¼ inches; W. A. McLeod, Irish-American A. C., (24 inches.) third, with an actual jump of 19 feet 2 inches.

Throwing 16-Pound Hammer, Handicap.—Won by C. J. Walsh, New York A. C., (8 feet.) with an actual throw of 165 feet 1 inch; W. S. Krapowitz, Irish-American A. C., (25 feet.) second, with an actual throw of 145 feet 1 inch; R. Edgren, New York A. C., (25 feet.) third, with an actual throw of 136 feet 6 inches.

Starling Broad Jump, Handicap.—Won by R. Adams, New York A. C., (8 inches.) with an actual jump of 19 feet 8¾ inches; B. W.

Adams, New York A. C., (6 inches.) second, with an actual jump of 9 feet 10¾ inches; J. J. Elliott, Irish-American A. C., (9 inches.) third, with an actual jump of 9 feet 6 inches.

Throwing the Discus, Handicap.—Won by R. Edgren, New York A. C., (8 feet.) with an actual throw of 124 feet 6¾ inches; T. A. McLaughlin, Laughlin Lyceum, (25 feet.) second, with an actual throw of 107 feet 3¼ inches; W. S. Krapowitz, Irish-American A. C., (20 feet.) third, with an actual throw of 108 feet 7¼ inches.

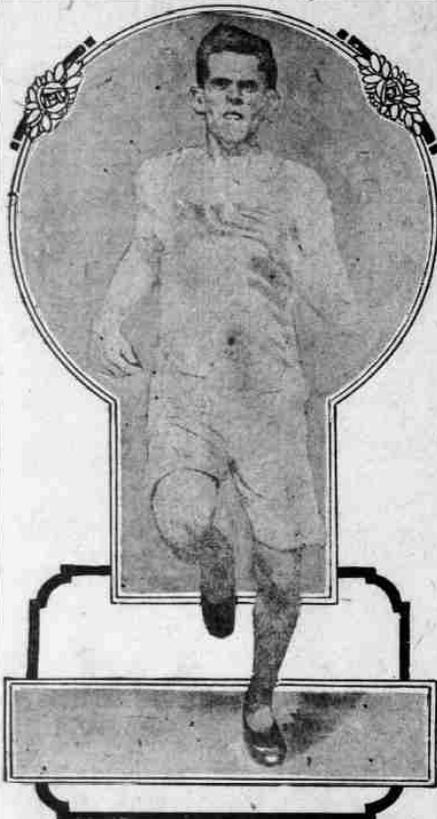
Running High Jump, Handicap.—Won by W. Thomassen, New York A. C., (8 inches.) with an actual jump of 6 feet; H. J. Grumpelt, New York A. C., (8 inches.) second, with an actual jump of 5 feet 11 inches; C. O. Nilson, National A. C., (5 inches.) third, with an actual jump of 5 feet 9 inches.

American Performances On Stadium Track Are the Day's Sensation of Olympic Games

# SPORTING NEWS

EDITED BY R. A. SMYTH

## Sheppard Beats England's Best Men at 800 Meters



Melvin W. Sheppard, who cut Olympic record for 800 meters to 1:52 4-5.

## Swift American Sets New Mark for Distance Race in London

LONDON, July 21.—Melvin W. Sheppard of the Irish-American athletic club, who took the measure of England's best distance man in the 1,500 meter run at the Olympic games just a week ago, scored another victory today, when he finished far in the lead in the 800 meter event, establishing a new Olympic record of 1:52 4-5 for the distance, and continuing on to the half mile, which he ran within 3-5 of a second of C. H. Kilpatrick's world's record made in New York in 1895.

Another gold medal went to America when Harry F. Porter of the Irish-American athletic club captured the high jump by clearing the bar at 6 feet 3 inches and beating the Olympic record made by J. K. Baxter in Paris in 1900 of 6 feet 2 4-5 inches. After assuring himself that he was the winner he went after the world's record. The bar was placed at 4 feet 3 1/2 inches, just one-sixth of an inch higher than the record, which was made by M. F. Sweeney in New York in 1885, but it was just a shade too much for him.

Better weather, a much larger attendance and exciting finishes made today's Olympic sports at the stadium far more interesting than any that have preceded them.

As expected, it was America's day, for besides winning the only two events finally decided, the American sprinters won the great majority of the heats in the other events. The running high jump was the most keenly contested event of the day. It started in the morning, and not until after 6 o'clock was Porter proclaimed the winner.

In the first section of this event H. A. Gidney, Boston athletic club, was defeated by Henson of Norway and Leader of England, but after the other sections had concluded a protest was entered on the ground that the spot where the other sections contested was more favorable to the jumpers than that of the first section. The protest was allowed, and Gidney in the second attempt did 4 feet 1 inch, thus qualifying for the final. There, however, he soon found more than his match in Leahy, the Irish champion, Porter, Somody of Hungary and several others.

### THREE VAIN ATTEMPTS

In his try for the world's record Porter made three attempts, but without success. Leahy, Somody and Andre of France tied for second place, each having topped the bar at 4 feet 2 inches, and although they tried it a quarter of an inch higher none of them could accomplish it.

It was decided to give each a silver medal and award the points for second and third places equally among the three countries.

T. Mills of the University of Pennsylvania did 4 feet 1 inch, which, as he has been ill since coming to England, was a splendid performance.

The Americans suffered two disappointments in the heats of the 200 meter flat race. Lawson, Robertson, Irish-American athletic club, being defeated by Roche, the Irish champion,

and F. W. May, University of Illinois, being compelled to take the dust of the Scot, Canadian, Kerr. Considering, however, that the Americans entered seven of the 15 heats and took five of them, there is not much cause for complaint.

### SEVEN OUT OF NINE

In the heats of the 400 meter flat they took seven out of nine in which they started. The two heats in which they lost in this event were won by Halsewell, who is considered the best man in England at the distance and who did the heat today in 48 2-3 seconds, and Montague, the ex-champion of England, who beat Paul H. Pilgrim of the New York A. C. in 50 1-3 seconds.

J. B. Taylor, Irish-American A. C., the colored champion of the University of Pennsylvania, made his first appearance in this event, and the remarkable ease with which he runs was an eye opener to the English critics. Taylor got a warm reception and won his heat easily. Rhyl of Cambridge, who had a walkover in his heat, had a somewhat similar axils to Taylor, but without the strength.

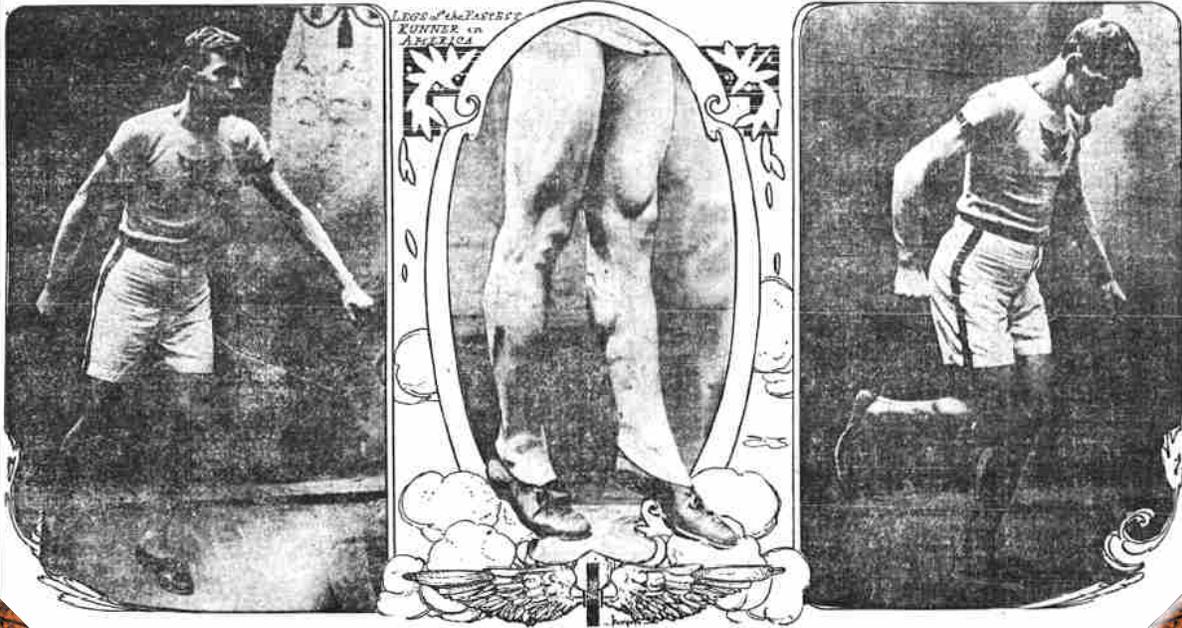
The 100 meters sprint brought out the best aggregation of sprinters yet seen on the track, and it was noticeable that the only countries represented were America, the United Kingdom, Canada and South Africa. The Americans, May and Stevens, lost their heat to Walker of South Africa and Kerr of Canada, but the other two heats were gathered in for America by Roberts and Robertson.

There were four heats in the semi-finals of the 400 meter hurdle, in two of which Americans contested, and they took both of them, Harry L. Hillman of the New York A. C. and C. J. Bacon, Irish-American A. C., doing the trick. The other two went to Great Britain and in both cases in lower time than that made by the Americans.

F. Naraganes, New York athletic club, and E. C. Craig, New York city, lost their bouts in the catch as catch can wrestling, and J. B. Green, Brooklyn athletic club, failed to qualify in the 1500 meter swim, six heats of which were concluded. The preliminary bouts of the Greco-Roman wrestling also were finished today, but no Americans were entered.

THE WORLD: SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 10, 1906.

FIRST PICTURES PRINTED IN NEW YORK OF SHEPPARD, AMERICA'S FASTEST RUNNER.



## SHEPPARD IN TOP FORM

Breaks Two World's Records at Irish-American Games.

### OUTRUNS ALL COMPETITORS

New Mark Made for Six Hundred and Sixty and Seven Hundred Yard Runs.

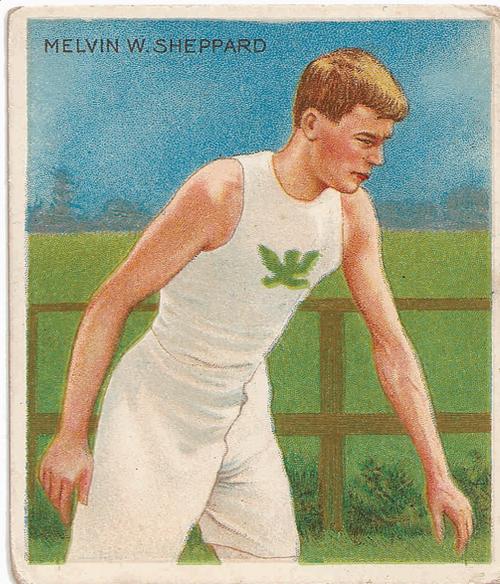
Melvin W. Sheppard, the great middle distance runner of the Irish-American Athletic Club, was the star performer in the annual games of the Irish-American Athletic Club at Celtic Park yesterday, in which he established two new world's records for 660 and 700 yards, while the 125-yard dash world mark was equalled by "Tex" Hamblett, of the University of Pennsylvania.

Daniel Ahern, the Irish jumper of the Celtic Park contingent, improved the American figures for the running hop, step and jump. The feat of the latter was more remarkable, owing to the fact that a steady drizzle fell throughout the contest.

More than a dozen of the athletes who took part in the intercollegiate championships, together with all the star talent of the local district, furnished some brilliant races.



MELVIN W. SHEPPARD.



**MELVIN W. SHEPPARD**

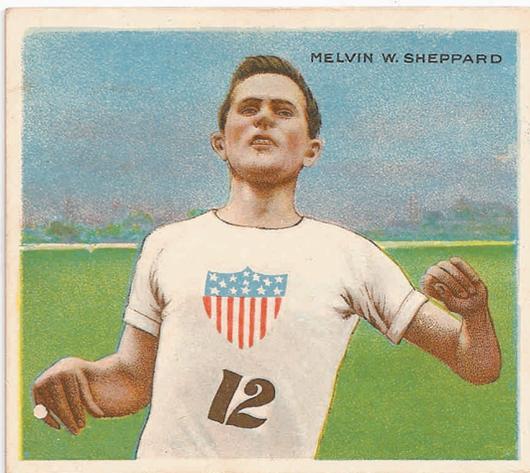
Melvin W. Sheppard, of the Irish-American Athletic Club, is undoubtedly the greatest mid-distancer the world has ever seen.

In 1906 Sheppard won both the Metropolitan and the National A. A. U. championships at the half-mile, running the latter in the wonderful time of 1 minute 55½ seconds.

In 1907 Sheppard repeated his 1906 performances, and in a special race came within one-fifth of a second of breaking Kilpatrick's long standing record of 1 minute 53¾ seconds for the half-mile.

In 1908 Sheppard was a member of the American Olympic team, and performed the most unheard of feat of winning both the 800 and the 1,500 meters. He also won the 830-yard Metropolitan and National A. A. U. championships, and also captured the 1,000-yard National indoor title.

**MECCA CIGARETTES**  
 CHAMPION ATHLETE AND  
 PRIZE FIGHTER SERIES.  
FACTORY No. 649 1ST DIST. N.Y.



**MELVIN SHEPPARD**, of the Irish-American Athletic Club, was a member of the 1908 Olympic team which competed at London, and won premier laurels in both the 800 and 1,500 meter events, establishing new records for each distance.

In 1906 Sheppard won both the Metropolitan and National A. A. U. titles at one-half mile, and repeated in 1907 his performances of the preceding year.

In 1908 Sheppard won the Senior Metropolitan and National A. A. U. half-mile championships, and was also indoor champion at 1,000 yards.

In 1909 Sheppard won the indoor title at 600 yards in the fast time of 1 minute 14 3-5 seconds, and during this year was on the relay team that smashed the long standing record for the one mile relay team of four men, the new time being 3 minutes 20 3-5 seconds.

SERIES # 2  
 51 TO 100

**MECCA CIGARETTES**  
 CHAMPION ATHLETE AND  
 PRIZE FIGHTER SERIES.  
FACTORY No. 649 1ST DIST. N.Y.

## 1910 Cigarette Collector Cards.

# SPORT STORY

TWICE  
-A-  
MONTH

MAGAZINE

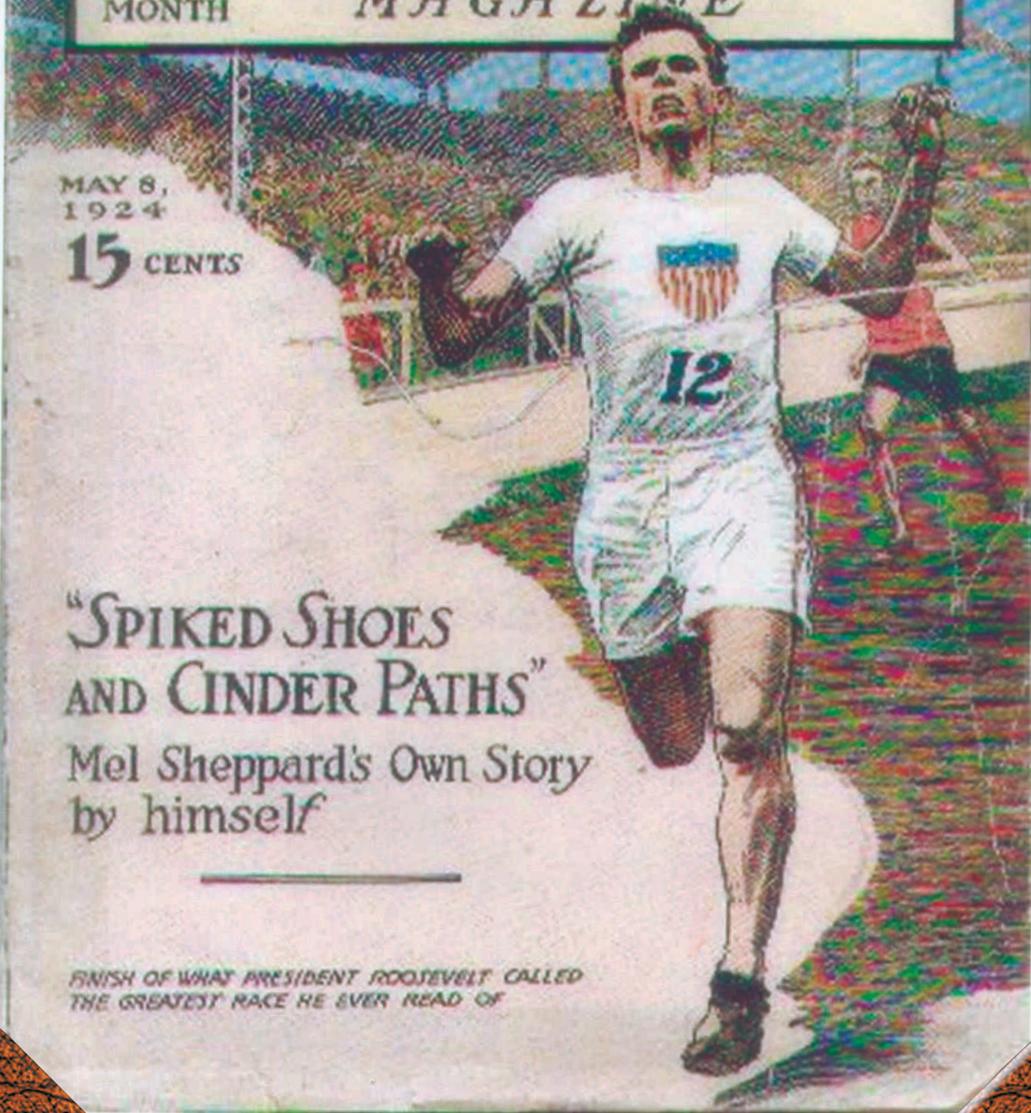
MAY 8,  
1924

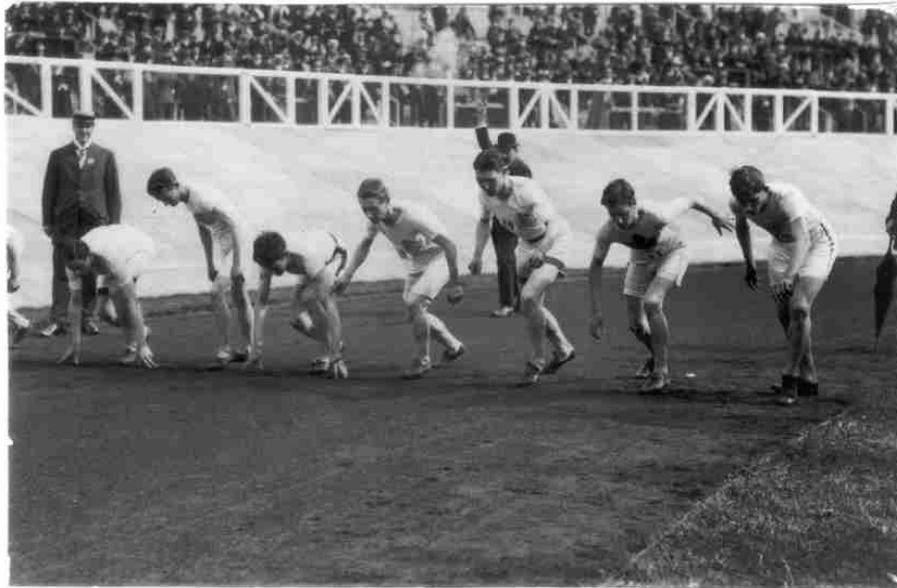
15 CENTS

## "SPIKED SHOES AND CINDER PATHS"

Mel Sheppard's Own Story  
by himself

FINISH OF WHAT PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT CALLED  
THE GREATEST RACE HE EVER READ OF





1908 London 1,500m Start



1908 London 1,500m 1st - Final



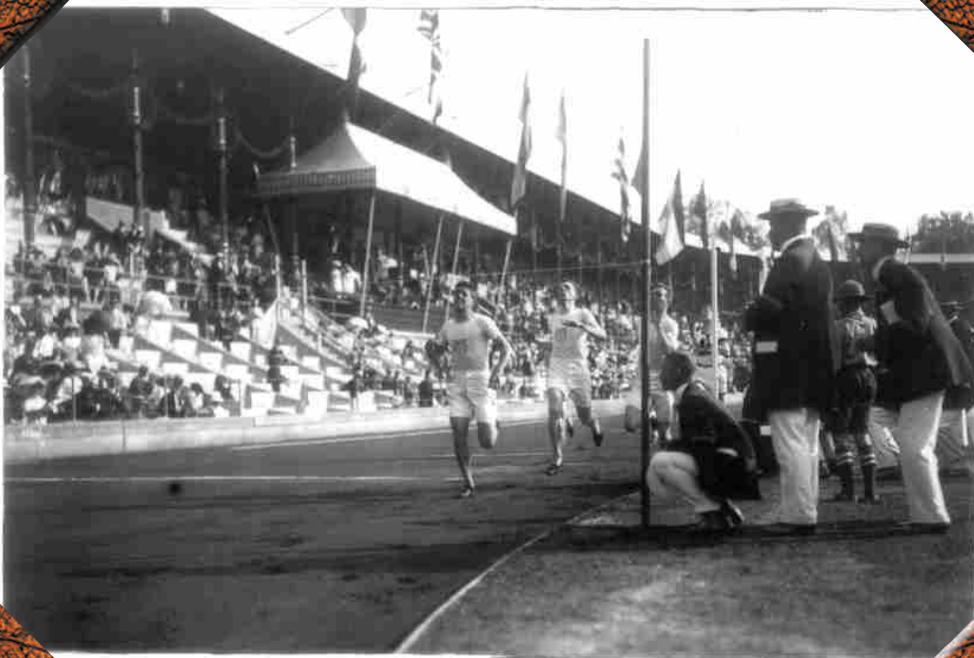
1908 London 800m 1st - Final



1908 London Stadium Aerial Photo



Mel & his Olympic Trainer



1912 Stocholm 800m 2nd - Final

TWO-MILE RELAY TEAM

Mr. McClellan

W. Williamson

G. Corneal

Melvin Sheppard

O. Wheeler

Sheppard won the Olympic Interscholastic Mile and Half-Mile Championship of the World, at St. Louis, June 30, 1904.  
He also holds the World's Interscholastic Record for the Indoor Mile and Half-Mile.





Unknown Date.



Photo taken December 14, 1906 on Travers Island and is of the I-AAC 1907 Amateur Athletic Union Cross Country champion team: H.P. O'Dell, John Joyce, John J. Daly, William G. Frank, Mel Sheppard and George V. Bonhag.



Photo Taken Sept. 20th, 1911



## US 1,600 m Relay Team - Gold Medal - 1908 Olympics

When the US won the 1,600 meter relay gold medal at the 1908 London Olympics, Philadelphian John Baxter Taylor Jr., (#23), became the first African-American to win gold at an Olympic games. The holder of world records at 440 and 660 yards, Taylor died of typhoid pneumonia on December 2, 1908, only five months after winning his gold medal. Other members of the 1600 meter team, from left to right, were Nathaniel J. Cartmell, (#21) Melvin Sheppard (#24), and William F. Hamilton (#25).



Mel Jr. and Mel Sr.



Melvin Sheppard National Guard Photo



**Melvin Sheppard Unknown Date.**

SOLDIERS COMPETE IN ATHLETIC MEET  
New York Times (1857-Current file), Apr 16, 1908.  
ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times (1851-2006)  
pg. 7

## SOLDIERS COMPETE IN ATHLETIC MEET

Twenty-second Regiment Easily  
Wins Chief Honors in  
M. A. L. Games.

### SHEPPARD TAKES 2 EVENTS

Champion Middle Distance Runner  
Beats Field in Half Mile—Van  
den Dries a Point Winner.

The athletes of the Twenty-second Regiment easily proved themselves the peers of all the other organizations of the New York State National Guard by capturing the championship of the Military Athletic League in hollow fashion last night at their own armory. After the games got under way there was but little doubt of the ability of the Twenty-second boys to outscore their opponents in most of the various competitions.

Melvin W. Sheppard, the American champion middle-distance runner, and W. Van den Dries, the crack bicycle rider of the Twenty-second, were the individual stars of the evening. Each had two victories to his credit, and the stellar work of both men went a great way toward the large score the Twenty-second boys rolled up. Sheppard, after capturing the half mile from a good field, started with five other crack runners in the quarter-mile race, and after a keen contest won it in splendid style from his teammate, McIntee. The time, 0:52 3-5, was three-fifths of a second behind the Military Athletic League record, held by Harry Hillman.

Two new records for the Military Athletic League were made. In the mile run James P. Sullivan, the National champion, romped to the front on the last lap and won in good fashion from W. Berker of the Twenty-third Regiment, breaking by one and three-fifths seconds the old record of 4:30 3-5, held by himself. In doing this he broke also the regimental record of 4:31, made by Hertley some years ago. Van den Dries, in winning the two-mile bicycle race from his mate, Meintz, broke by a big margin the old record of 5:11 2-5 for the distance, which was held by Owen Devine, who was a competitor in the race.

The athletes of the Twenty-second, by their easy win of last night, proved themselves to be the champion athletic organization not only of the local Military Athletic League, but of the country, as on their list of point winners were included many men of National reputation.

The local men's final point score was 53 points. The Thirteenth Regiment scored 29, while the Twenty-third was third with 22 points. The summary:

70-Yard Dash, Trials.—First Heat—Won by L. B. Clark, Twenty-second Regiment; A. C. Northridge, Twenty-third Regiment, second. Time—0:07 3-5. Second Heat—Won by Lawson Robertson, Thirteenth Regiment; George J. Merz, Twelfth Regiment, second. Time—0:07 3-5. Third Heat—Won by W. E. Finley, Thirteenth Regiment; L. B. Dorland, Seventy-first Regiment, second. Time—0:07 4-5. Final Heat—Won by Robertson; Clark, second; Finley, third. Time—0:07 2-5.

850-Yard Run.—Won by Melvin W. Sheppard, Twenty-second Regiment; D. C. Kennedy, Thirteenth Regiment, second; F. J. Wright, Seventy-first Regiment, third. Time—2:01 4-5. Carl Walther, Fourteenth Regiment, finished third, but was disqualified for cutting corners.

One-Mile Bicycle Race, Trials.—First Heat—Won by L. J. Weintz, Twenty-second Regiment; O. J. Devine, Thirteenth Regiment, second. Time—2:35 4-5. Second Heat—Won by W. Van den Dries, Twenty-second Regiment; C. Carman, Thirteenth Regiment, second. Time—2:37. Final Heat—Won by Van den Dries, Weintz second, Devine third. Time—2:29 4-5.

220-Yard Hurdle Race, Trials.—First Heat—Won by C. Gmelnder, Twenty-second Regiment; G. W. Flood, Seventy-first Regiment, second. Time—0:29 3-5. Second Heat—Won by S. C. Northridge, Twenty-third Regiment; John West, Thirteenth Regiment, second. Time—0:31 4-5. Third Heat—Won by Charles J. Bacon, Twenty-third Regiment; J. J. McLaughlin, Twenty-second Regiment, second. Time—0:27 4-5. Final Heat—Won by Bacon; Northridge, second; Gmelnder, third. Time—0:28 2-5.

175-Yard Sack Race.—Won by T. MacMeekin, Twenty-third Regiment; W. X. Flood, Twenty-second Regiment, second; no third. Time—0:23 1-5.

Three-Legged Race.—Won by G. E. Hall and Lyndon Pierce, Thirteenth Regiment; R. Lawson and G. W. Flood, Seventy-first Regiment, second; Lawson Robertson and J. H. Teevan, Thirteenth Regiment, third. Time—0:08 2-5.

Tug-of-War.—Won by Fourteenth Regiment; Thirteenth Regiment, second; Twenty-second Regiment, third.

Wall-Scaling Contest.—Won by Twelfth Regiment, Sixty-ninth Regiment second, Fourteenth Regiment third.

440-Yard Run.—Won by Melvin W. Sheppard, Twenty-second Regiment; James J. McIntee, Twenty-second Regiment, second; J. B. Holler, Thirteenth Regiment, third. Time—0:52 3-5.

Mile Run.—Won by James P. Sullivan, Twenty-second Regiment; William Berker, Twenty-third Regiment, second; Joseph Malone, Seventy-first Regiment, third. Time—4:20.

Two-Mile Bicycle Race.—Won by W. Van den Dries, Twenty-second Regiment; L. J. Weintz, Twenty-second Regiment, second; F. E. Adams, Twenty-second Regiment, third. Time—4:58 4-5.

352-Yard Obstacle Race.—Won by J. J. McLaughlin, Twenty-second Regiment; F. L. Sypher, Thirteenth Regiment, second; W. H. Thompson, Fourteenth Regiment, third. Time—1:54 1-5.

220-Yard Run.—Won by Lawson Robertson, Thirteenth Regiment; S. C. Northridge, Twenty-third Regiment, second; L. B. Dorland, Seventy-first Regiment, third. Time—0:24.

One-Mile Relay Race.—Won by Twenty-second Regiment team, composed of Smith, McIntee, Frank, Koch, and Sheppard; Twenty-third Regiment team, composed of Barker, Swaney, Northridge, Sedley, and Bacon, second; Thirteenth Regiment team, composed of Holler, Teevan, Pierce, Becker, and Riley, third. Time—3:22 1-5.

New York Times, April 16, 1908.

The following page shows the medal Mel received  
for his accomplishments in this meet.



**Military Athletic  
Point Trophy**

**For Most Points  
Won Under The  
Colors Of The  
Regiment**

**SNY  
Defendam  
22  
NG  
1907 -1908  
Sacks Medal**

**This is one of three identical medals given  
by President T. Roosevelt to members of the  
22nd regiment of the National Guard. (1908)  
Shown actual size.**



AMATEUR  
ATHLETIC  
ASSOCIATION

Front



880 Yards  
Record  
M. W. Sheppard  
1 Min. 54 Sec.  
Olympic Games  
21st July  
1908

Back

This is the AAA Gold Medal presented to Mel for the 880 yard distance as recorded from the 1908 Olympics official report. (page 15)

*This book is dedicated to the memory of  
Melvin W. Sheppard Sr.*

*“The greatest athlete  
nobody ever heard of”*



As direct descendants of Melvin W. Sheppard, the Schofield Family is honored to share lineage with such an amazing athlete and interesting man. We all appreciate the honors and awards that have been bestowed upon Mel throughout his life and since.

Through the making of this book we have learned many things about Mel we never knew. It has been a great experience for us. We hope the information and photos contained in this book have been as informative and interesting for you as it was for us to create.

Sincerely,  
The Schofield Family

