

AAA 1935

SPECIALIST BEATEN AT HIS OWN TACTICS

Schoolboy's Brilliant Half-mile : D. O. Finlay's Fourth Win

By J. P. JORDAN

BEATEN at his own game is how I would describe the defeat of the world's best miler, J. E. Lovelock, by S. C. Wooderson at the A.A.A. championships at the White City, and to say that the result provided the sensation of one of the most successful meetings the A.A.A. have ever held is to put it mildly.

The crowd of 25,000 expected to see Lovelock win and perhaps beat his own British record of 4min. 12sec.

But Lovelock's tactics were at fault against such a strong finisher as Wooderson. P. D. Ward had raced away to set up a 25 yards lead and cover the first quarter in 61 1-5sec., but thereafter he came back to his field very rapidly and in the meantime Lovelock and Wooderson were going along comfortably, keeping an eye on each other.

The half mile was done in 2min. 7 4-5sec., and it was then that Lovelock made a mistake in being content with a third quarter of 67. 2-5sec. The order at the bell was Ward, Lovelock, and Wooderson. Immediately afterwards Wooderson drew out.

Down the back straight Lovelock sprinted but Wooderson responded, and then Lovelock put in that last big effort for which he is famous and by which he wins his races.

His victory seemed assured, but Wooderson had enough in reserve to stall off the challenge. Lovelock, in fact, could make no impression on him, and Wooderson deserved the cheers that greeted him as he breasted the tape a full second ahead of his great rival.

A week ago Wooderson said he was confident he would beat Lovelock if he could hold him until it came to the final spurt. That is exactly what happened.

Wooderson and Lovelock have now beaten each other twice and everyone is looking forward to their next meeting. That will not be for some time.

Lovelock himself has no excuses to offer. He admitted he was unaffected by the heat, that he felt in good form, and that he was fairly and squarely beaten.

He said, also, that the defeat would do him good.

There was another grand finish in the

three miles, and here again the younger man triumphed. At one time it seemed as if W. J. Beavers would win, but A. V. Reeve put in an electrifying burst and fairly wore his rival down.

Up the straight for home Beavers exerted every ounce to pass Reeve, who hung on in magnificent fashion to win by 1-5sec.

R. Scott, the Ashby-de-la-Zouch schoolboy of 18, covered himself with glory by finishing third to J. C. Stothard and J. V. Powell, only 7-10sec. behind the winner. I doubt if any schoolboy has ever run a half mile in 1min. 54sec.—certainly never in the championships—and Scott's future will be watched with lively interest.

My own view of the race was that Scott finished second, and that the judges were wrong. The photograph of the finish seems to support this.

W. Roberts duly won the quarter mile—great things are expected of this finely built and fast-striding youngster next year—while Britain also repelled the strong foreign challenge in the 100 yards and both hurdle races.

BEAUTIFUL HURDLING

D. O. Finlay gave a beautiful exhibition in the high hurdles, and by winning four years in succession equalled G. B. Shaw's feat of nearly 40 years ago.

A. J. Norris and S. Kyriakides had the Marathon to themselves. Owing to the heat only five finished the 26 miles course out of 41 starters, and the Cypriot finished remarkably fresh.

British records were beaten in the discus and the pole vault, Keith Brown's leap of 13ft. 10in. in the latter being accomplished at the first time of asking and with such ease and grace that I shall not be surprised, when he goes out for the world's record next Saturday, to see him successful.

BRITISH TEAM v. FRANCE

The following are being invited to represent Great Britain against France at the White City Stadium, Shepherd's Bush, on Saturday, July 27:—

100 Yards.—A. W. Sweeney (Milocarian A.C.) and I. C. Young (Edinburgh H.).

220 Yards.—A. W. Sweeney and W. Rangeley (Salford H.).

440 Yards.—W. Roberts (Salford H.) and J. W. Anderson (Middlesbrough H.).

Half-Mile.—J. C. Stothard (Cambridge Univ. A.C.) and J. V. Powell (London A.C.).

One Mile.—S. C. Wooderson (Blackheath H.) and B. C. Eeles (Southgate H.).

Three Miles.—A. V. Reeve (Polytechnic H.) and W. Beavers (York H. and A.C.).

120 Yards Hurdles.—D. O. Finlay (R.A.F.) and A. G. Filbrow (Achilles Club).

Two Miles Steeplechase.—G. W. Bailey (Salford H.) and A. N. Other.

Putting the Weight.—R. L. Howland (Achilles Club) and A. J. A. Watson (Army A. and C.C.A.).

High Jump.—S. R. West (Polytechnic H.) and J. F. Michie (South London H.).

Long Jump.—W. E. N. Breach (Reading A.C.) and K. S. Duncan (Oxford Univ. A.C.).

Throwing the Discus.—D. R. Bell (Achilles Club) and W. A. Land (Army A. and C.C.A.).

Pole Vault.—A. W. Kinally (Army A. and C.C.A.) and P. B. B. Oglivie (Milocarian AC)



C. S. WOODERSON.

NO EXCUSES

SPECIAL SPORTS SECTION

Why Lovelock Lost His Mile

Championship Title To Wooderson