CHAMPION DAY FOR BRITISH ATHLETICS

Higher Standard All Round At A.A.A. Championships

NORRIS THE HERO OF GRUELLING MARATHON RACE

SEVEN of the twelve A.A.A. champions who defended their titles were successful. Four of these were individuals—Holden (six miles), Cooper (two miles walk), Finlay (high hurdles), and the Frenchman, Paul (long jump). Of the 24 titles at stake, nine went overseas, writes J. Armour Milne.

Although many wonderful performances were accomplished, the high standard to which the A.A.A. championship records have attained was reflected in the setting up of new figures in only two of the events.

THE RECORD-BREAKERS

Only the fact that world's record holders were competing accounted for the new best performances being accomplished. H. Andersson (Sweden) did 169ft 11½in with the discus, and Keith Brown, the Yale University president, 13ft 10in in the vault.

Previous records in these events were 157ft 9½in in the discus by the Frenchman J. Noel, 1933, and 13ft 9in in the vault by another American, Lee Barnes, in 1928. Brown is to try for 14ft when representing Harvard and Yale against Oxford and Cambridge at the White City next Saturday.

Among outstanding efforts, apart from Wooderson's defeat of Lovelock in the mile and Stothard's gallant half-mile win, were Donald Finlay's fourth consecutive win in the high hurdles, Bert Cooper's fourth win in the two miles walk, Jack Holden's third successive victory in th. six miles, and George Bailey's remaining the steeplechase title which he last held in 1930.

LIKE A CHAMPION

Finlay never faltered in his race, and, allowing for the breeze blowing against the runners, his time was value for at least 14 4-5sec.

The steeplechase was a runaway win for the Salford representative. He was quickly out on his own, and won as he liked, without any apparent effort. His time—10min 20 2-5sec—incidentally, was the third fastest ever done in the championship.

Stan West's high jump win at 6ft 3in was a personal best performance, the second best performance accomplished by any Englishman in the championship series, and only a quarter-inch short of Howard Baker's winning height in the 1930 competition.

The nearest approach to the double event was made by Arthur Sweeney and the Dutchman, M. B. Osendarp, in the sprints. Sweeney won the hundred and was second in the furlong, while Osendarp was second in the dash and first in the "two twenty."

Restlessness on the marks spoiled the hundred. First Minach broke and pulled Sir with him. Then Sir went over. At the third attempt, Sir, the holder, nearly went over again, pulled himself back again and was left while correcting his balance.

STEADY SWEENEY

The Hungarian put in a great finish but could not quite get up. Another ten yards and he would have been with the leaders. A pleasing feature of the race was the steadiness of Sweeney both on the marks and during the race. Hewran with perfect control right through to the tape.

Bert Norris, the Poly. Harrier, and winner of the recent "Sporting Life" marathon, won his first A.A.A. marathon title. Thirty-nine started, but only four finished. The intense heat took its toll of the runners.

The time, 3hrs. 2min. 57 4-5sec. was the slowest on record. Only Kyriakides, the Cypriot stayer, had any spirit left at the finish.

THIS YEAR'S CHAMPIONS

100 Yards
A. W. Sweeney (Milocarian)
220 Yards M. B. Osendarp (Holland)
440 Yards..W. Roberts (Salford A.C.)
880 Yards
J. C. Stothard (Cambridge)
Mile..S. C. Wooderson (Blackheath)
Three Miles ....A. V. Reeve (Poly.)
Six Miles ....J. T. Holden (Tipton)
Steeplechase
G. W. Bailey (Salford H.)
Marathon .....A. J. Norris (Poly.)
Two Miles Walk
A. A. Cooper (Woodford Green)
Seven Miles Walk
H. A. Hake (Surrey W.C.)
120 Yards Hurdles
D. O. Finlay (R.A.F.)
440 Yards Hurdles
F. A. R. Hunter (L.A.C.)
Relay (4 x 110 Yards)
Budapesti B.T.E. (Hungary)
High Jump ....S. R. West (Poly.)
Long Jump .....R. Paul (France)
Hop, Step and Jump
W. Peters (Holland)
Pole Vault ....K. S. Brown (U.S.A.)
Weight..A. G. T. de Bruyn (Holland)
Hammer ....F. Warngard (Sweden)
Discus ....H. Andersson (Sweden)
Javelin .....L. Atterwall (Sweden)
Tug of War (100 st) R.A.S.C. (Feltham); (Catch-wt.) Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Lovelock takes his defeat with a smile.—S. C. Wooderson hangs on to beat the record-holder in the A.A.A. mile at the White City.