

New Marathon Mark Seems Likely With Ideal Conditions Promised

By MIKE GILLOOLY

A dustless marathon—possibly the first in the 51-year history of the BAA Patriot's Day distance run—should find a new record established for the 26-mile, 385-yard course tomorrow at noon as an estimated half a million fans (the curious and the bugs,



JOE SMITH
His Record Seems in Danger

alike) line the roadsides from Hopkinton to the former clubhouse on Exeter st. for this annual Patriot's Day grind.

It's the biggest, free sports show on earth—strictly amateur from the No. 1 Sevki Koru of Turkey, all the way through the list of 181 starters—to former champion Walter Young, Canada.

With the promise of clear weather for the noon-day start, the grind over the pavements promises to be entirely free of the usual hustle-bustle of cars, a race to the finish line as traditionally wild as the chase of the laurel wreath among the entries. Only two cars will be permitted on the route—the Governor's and the Mayor's—with three special buses to accommodate meet officials, reporters and cameramen.

Of course, this is experimental. It may not work out. But for once in the history of the modern marathon, it should be a race for the runners—and the spectators.

Seven former winners of this classic will return to the starting line — Stylianos Kyriakides of Greece; Johnnie Kelly of Acton; Joe Smith of Medford; Walter Young of Canada; Clarence DeMar of Reading; Gerard Cote of Canada and Ellison "Tarzan" Brown of Bradford, R. I. But of this group, only Kyriakides, Kelly and Cote figure to threaten seriously in repeating in this heart-breaker, definitely tinged with international colors this year.

Kyriakides, defending champion, must be regarded with the wisest of distance runners. He has the endurance, the temperament and the confidence to lead Kelly to the wire just as he did last spring in spite of an emotionally-torn state of mind.

Kelly has been up there too often to be counted out. He has kept fairly much to himself this season after but one appearance locally in a handicap race and quite modestly, he has picked another to win the race. It may be Kelly's year; it may not.

Cote mysteriously failed to threaten last year after winning in 1944 in a special flight here from the Canadian army. In his usual swaggering manner, he has told of his fine condition; his snowshoeing and his readiness for another triumph.

The others? Smith, the record holder at 2:26.51.2, may have come out of retirement too late so that he's lacking in actual competition to make it. The same might apply to Young. DeMar has won 7 times and that's enough to satisfy anyone. Brown takes over again as a big question mark, a double winner who could win if he's back in form.

They'll be plenty of local competition to push the gigantic field. There'll be the service veteran,



STYLIANOS KYRIAKIDES
Defending Marathon Champion

Charlie Robbins, running for the NYMA and considered a logical choice; Ted Vogel of Tufts and the BAA; Dave Mazzeon of Rockland, Me., just to name a few.

At least a dozen must be given serious consideration before the event will be settled.