



The above photograph was taken in the home of the Greek champion. The house was given to him by the people of Greece to commemorate his amazing win in America last year. In the background can be seen just a few of his many trophies.

standing no more than five feet six inches, with dark closely cropped curly hair, and a springy step typical of an athlete.

His face was tanned a deep mahogany colour and it was obvious that he was in the pink of condition. As I was being introduced to him a thought flashed across my mind and I realised at once that this was 'Wooderson all over again.' The same build, the same pinched, thin features. Here was another athletic phenomenon, a man who from no apparent source can produce staying power which outlasts everyone else, and whose fragile looking legs can carry him along at a completely unsuspected pace.

My views were confirmed a

every country in Europe. Year after year he has carried off the 5,000 and 10,000 metres championships of the Balkan States with monotonous regularity, and repeatedly he has represented his country in international events.

His first two years of running clearly indicated that he was a man who could step right forward and compete with the best in the world. In 1936, when he had been running for just about three years, he was chosen to represent his country in the Olympic Games in Berlin, an honour which every athlete strives for but few attain in such a short time. As he stood with the rest of his country's team in the massive Berlin Olympic Stadium, forced by a

man officer to make further inquiries. A photograph of Kyriakides giving the Nazi salute in Berlin at the Olympic Games was produced, and the German officer left without interfering with the house. It will be remembered that all competing nations in 1936 were forced to give the salute.

Kyriakides went on to tell me the story of the 1936 Olympic Marathon in which the Japanese representative broke the world record for the distance, returning a time of 2 hours 29 minutes 20 seconds. "The race," he said, "was started at a cracking pace, and before many miles had been covered I had lost count of the number of miles we had done. In this race I finished 11th, thanks mainly to the fact that I did not know how far we had to go and started quickening my pace too late."

BOSTON BREAKAWAY

A stock question of we sports writers is naturally, "What do you think was your greatest race?" When I put this to Kyriakides he did not hesitate to reply, "At Boston last year."

It was the 50th Boston Marathon and a large entry had been attracted from practically every nation in the world. Away they went, and immediately Kyriakides went up with the leaders. The first five miles were covered in the startling time of 28 and a half minutes, amazing when you pause to think that this was only the opening stages of a marathon.