

Kyriakides Is Liked To Win Boston Race

Boston, April 15. (UP)—A Greek started marathoning some 24 centuries ago and a Greek is liked by many to win the Boston AA Marathon Saturday, but to do so he'll have to turn in some rapid-hopping and skipping along the 26-odd miles of macadam that make up the famed course.

Already 150 pavement pounders were ready to toe the mark in Hopkinton for the 26-mile, 385-yard run to Boston. They included "Old Man Marathon" himself, Clarence DeMar, milkman Joe Smith of Medford, who holds the course record, and entrants from Hawaii, Korea, Turkey, Finland and India.

Kyriakides Races On Congress St.

While this story comes out of Boston, previously prepared, Stanley Kyriakides is here in Portland, in the efforts of Greek War Relief, today. This afternoon he started from the Eastland Hotel with many high school runners, and raced with them down Congress Street and back in a demonstration of the form that won the Boston AA Marathon a year ago for his country. Kyriakides met with many local runners at the Eastland Hotel Monday night, and the affable invader from the Balkans was able to give high school stars some pointers on the art of pacing oneself in a long grind.

Yet slim Stylianos Kyriakides of Athens, Greece, last year's winner, was here to defend his laurel wreath and appeared as a possible pre-race favorite.

Much as did the Greek courier Pheidippides who scampered 25 miles to tell of the ancient victory on the Plains of Marathon, Kyriakides pounded across the finish line in last year's Golden Anniversary running of the classic and shouted:

"I won it for Greece."

But to repeat this year he'll have to defeat perhaps the best field since 1928 when a record-breaking 286 set off from Lucky Rock Manor in hope of winning an Olympic team berth. This year's race will be one of the distance grinds from which an American Olympic team will be selected.

Perhaps three of the most dangerous contenders will be Gererd Cote, Canadian snowshoe champion and thrice winner; Johnny Kelley of West Acton, twice winner and runner up last year and former Coast Guardsman Charlie Robbins of Andover, Conn.

Two others who'll bear watching are Mikko Hietanen and Vaino Muinonen, brought here from Finland by countrymen who settled in nearby Maynard. Hietanen claims the European title for beating Kyriakides at Oslo, Norway, last summer.

Korea will contribute Olympic record holder Son Ki Chung, 34, youthful Suh Yun Bok, and 36-year-old Nam Sun Ryong, who competed in the Berlin race where Chung set his record of 2:29:19.2 for the 26¼ miles.

Also fighting it out over the killing hills and dales will be Turkish national champion Sevki Kuru, Oswald Kisson, a native of India, now resident in Canada and two of Kyriakides' mates, Athanasios Ragazos and Christos Vartzakis.

Other familiar blister builders due to answer the starting gun are Ellison (Tarzan) Brown, a Narragansett Indian, Ab Morton of Galt, Ont., Lou Gregory of the New York Millrose AA, Lloyd Bairstow, and Ted Vogel, of Tufts.