

# 1948 Marathon course

## A route through Hertfordshire

The idea of staging the Olympics in London had first been raised by Lord Burghley of the British Olympic Association in 1937, for the 1944 Games. War again prevented the Games from taking place, but it was decided that London should host the 1948 Olympics.

### The Hertfordshire route

The routes for the 50k walk and the Marathon took the athletes through parts of Hertfordshire and its countryside. The Marathon course entered the county from Mill Hill, crossed Stirling Corner, past the Thatched Barn on the Barnet by-pass, past Elstree War Memorial, along Theobald Street and into Radlett. The course then took the runners through Elstree village and rejoined the main road to Edgware for the final run back in to the stadium.

### A dramatic finish

The closing stages of this race were as exciting and dramatic as they had been in 1908. Etienne Gailly of Belgium was the first to enter the stadium, but he could scarcely put one foot in front of the other and he was soon passed by

Delfo Cabrera of Argentina, closely followed by Tom Richards of Great Britain. Cabrera cruised comfortably to the finish with Richards in second place, while Gailly agonisingly managed to scrape the bronze medal.

### The Olympic fireman

At the time of his Olympic win Cabrera was a fireman, but when he returned home he and his wife were given a house by the Peron government and he went on to qualify as a professor of physical education. Tom Richards was a very experienced marathon runner and in 1945 he had set a world's fastest time for 30 miles on the road. He was still road-racing at the age of 62.



Cabrera, fine-striding, confident winner, passes Gailly. For 26 miles the plucky Belgian has done so much...now he can do so little.



Marathon runners living the white city stadium – Kyriakidis with number 267



Βιβλιοθήκη Πανεπι



*Le dernier des 1700 athlètes, porteur de la flamme, fait le tour du stade et passe devant les membres du comité d'organisation. Au second plan, MM. les membres du C. I. O.*





Excessive heat during the games

# OLYMPIC GAMES



29 JULY 1948 14 AUGUST  
**L O N D O N**

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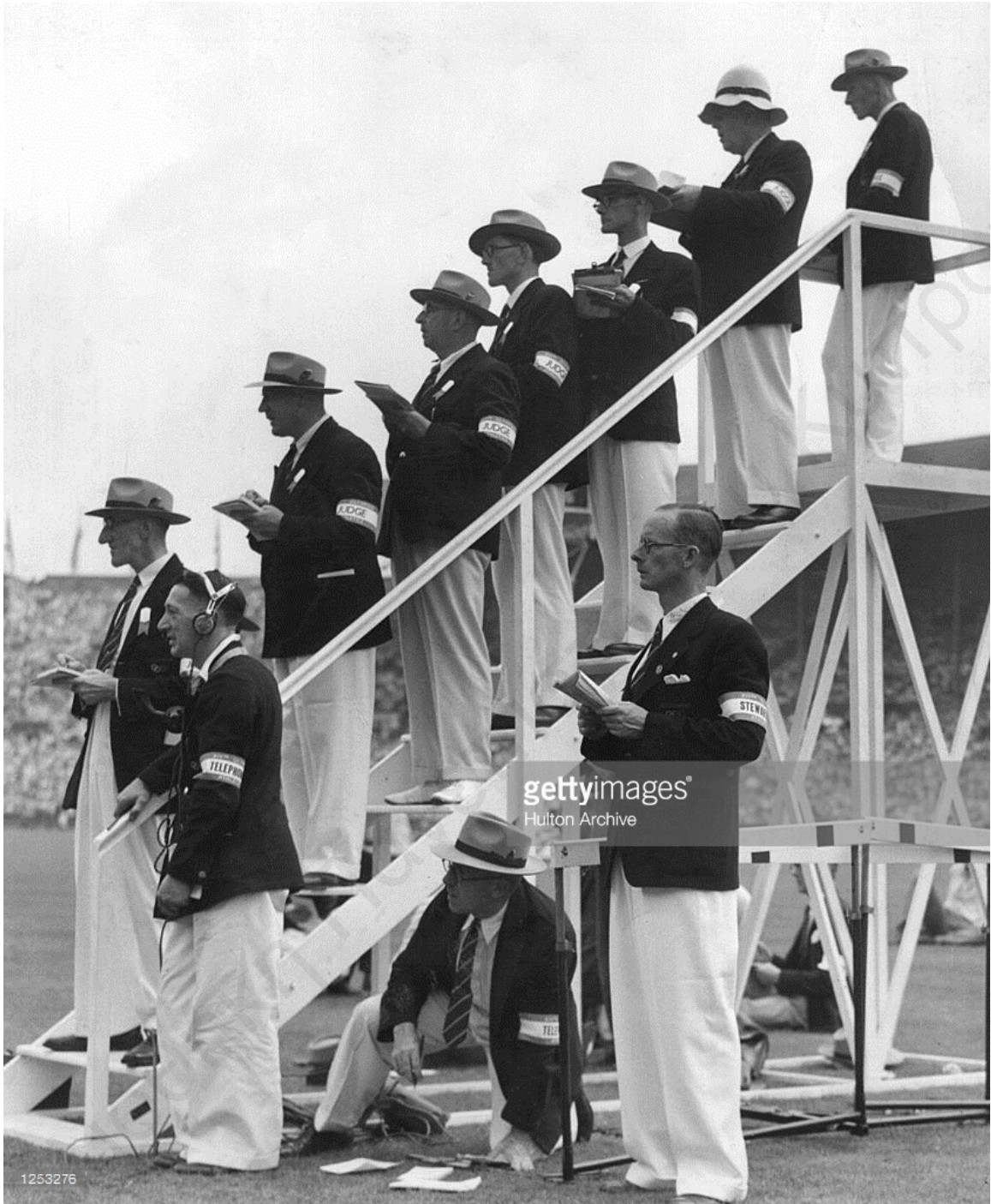




Cabera of Argentina winning to 1948 Olympic marathon







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ΚΥΤΤΡΟΥ

Βιβλιοθήκη

Dorando Pietri – 1908 London Olympic marathon



Lighting of flame for 1948 Olympic games

