


The Story of the Boston Marathon

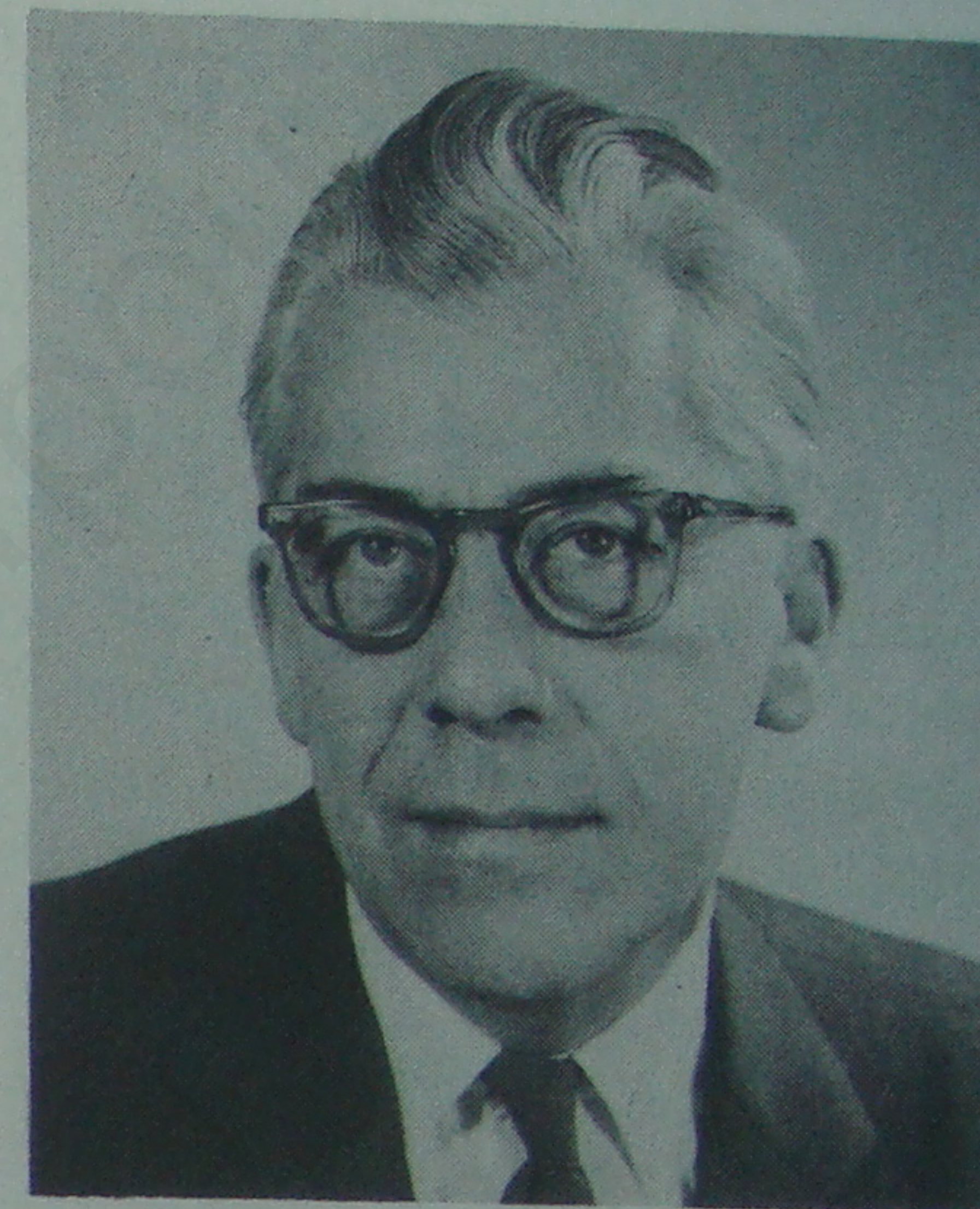
from 1897



Foreword

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A singular oversight is the fact that never before now has there been a history compiled of the Boston Athletic Association's annual Patriots' Day marathon race, New England's most internationally famous sports event.



With this brochure the GLOBE presents the first permanent record of an April tradition which began in 1897. It seeks to preserve in print the exciting foot-racing episodes which have characterized this unique event, separating fact from legend in the process.

Few will challenge the qualifications of Jerry Nason, GLOBE sports editor, to relate the hitherto untold story of the Marathon—a race, incidentally, he first viewed (as he relates it) at the age of five days, cradled in the arms of a nurse at the old frame Newton Hospital, then overlooking the race course.

Nason lived his boyhood and young manhood virtually on the Marathon course in the Newtons. At the age of 12 he began compiling the voluminous Marathon records from which this capsule history results.

As a reporter, he has chronicled the race since 1933 for the GLOBE. Among his many startling predictions in advance of the event have been the '36 victory of 100-to-1 shot "Tarzan" Brown, the 1-2-3 sweep of the Koreans in '50, and the selection of unknown Morio Shigematsu from a record field of 447 entries in '65.

THE EDITOR
The Boston Globe

BEST WISHES, ALWAYS, TO
MY OLD AND CHERISHED
FRIEND "STANLEY" Jerry Nason



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