

*Athletics*

# LOVELOCK'S SURPRISE DEFEAT AT A.A.A. MEETING

## STOTHARD'S TRIUMPH: FINEST HALF- MILE EVER SEEN

### WONDERFUL EFFORT BY A YOUTH

By H. M. ABRAHAMS

For some time past many of us have been saying that the standard of athletic performance in this country is higher than ever before, and the achievements of our home athletes at the A.A.A. Championships, which began at the White City Stadium on Friday evening and were concluded yesterday morning and afternoon, more than justify our optimism.

True, as ever, the majority of the field events were won by competitors from the Continent; but this is the usual procedure and calls for little comment.

Seven out of the eight field events went abroad; but of the 14 track events, England won ten and Scotland two, while Holland were successful in the 220 yds., and a club from Budapest retained its title in the 440 yds. relay, in which event their only competitors, the Polytechnic Harriers, were unable to finish through their third man pulling a muscle in the actual race.

We can, then, be justly proud, and not induly so, with what our men accomplished on the track. But the matter goes even further. So many of the performances were stoundingly good—all the races provided one of the best crowds I have ever seen with interest, excitement, and cause for appreciation.

#### Lovelock Beaten

It is difficult to say which was the best race, but certainly the mile was the one which caused the crowd most surprise.

with Stothard and Scott in close attendance. Scott was in the lead down the back straight, Stothard at his shoulder, and Powell fast coming up into third position.

Scott fought grimly, but Stothard got the lead and held it into straight. Scott fought hard to get on terms, and Powell came along splendidly on the outside. The order at the finish, with five yards to go, was three, was Stothard, Powell, 1 min. 53.9 sec.

Britain has never had a mile runner in one race. Tommy Hampson held the record for some time, and both were great runners. We do not expect that we will ever carry our colours again. Scott is not yet in the same class as these three performers. I do not believe we have any other who are capable.

#### Sweeney Wins

A. W. Sweeney ran the mile in 1 min. 53.9 sec. J. Sir, of Hungary

#### LOVELOCK BEATEN



The sensational feature of yesterday's A.A.A. Championship was Wooderson's triumph in the mile (Lovelock is No. 6)