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FOREIGN MASS ATTACK ON A.A.A. TITLES

By **ROY S. MOOR**, the English international and present inter-Counties quarter-mile champion

ENGLISH sporting titles are the envy of the world.

Foreigners have made their bid for our golf, tennis and rowing glories, and now athletes from overseas will make a mass attack on our A.A.A. championships which begin at the White City Stadium on Friday evening and end with the major finals on Saturday afternoon.

The winning of three of the championships last year has whetted the appetite of the Hungarians for even further success.

Now they will have no fewer than 30 representatives bidding for the 22 titles which will be at stake.

France, Holland, Poland, Sweden, Greece, Luxembourg, Cyprus and America will also be challenging the British product for the spoils.

But have no qualms. A.A.A. titles are not going to flow freely from this country. Home talent is far too strong to permit that to happen.

Our strength is keyed-up to concert pitch, for it is upon the showing in these championships that Britain's team to face France at the same place a fortnight hence will be chosen.

Returns will also have a bearing on the selection of the British team to oppose Germany in Munich next month.

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While every race provides its thrill, the 100 yards always has its particular fascination.

Most people have themselves tried to sprint at some time or other, and as a result can appreciate the performance of covering 100 yards in 10 seconds.

But "even" time is not good enough to carry off the national short sprint title nowadays, and in J. Sir (Hungary), the holder, A. W. Sweeney (Milocarian), the Empire champion, Ian Young (Scotland), and C. B. Holmes (Manchester) there will be four competitors in the race on Saturday who have registered 9 9-10sec., or its equivalent for 100 metres, on at least one occasion this season.

Sweeney is my fancy to win. He was narrowly beaten into second place in the event last year, but has since avenged the defeat by Sir.

Sweeney wins favour for the 220 yards championship, too.

Here he will have to contend with the same opposition as in the short sprint, with the addition of such stars as C. Berger, the Dutch and European champion, who won our 100 yards in 1930, Godfrey Rampling, the Empire Games quarter-mile record holder, J. Kovacs, of Hungary, and F. H. Bowen, the Army champion.

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Because Rampling is not defending his quarter-mile title a fine chance is offered to W. Roberts, of Salford, who, although an unplaced finalist in this event last year, finished second

in the Empire race over the distance last August to become the new champion.

Business may prevent him from competing, however.

C. H. Stoneley, winner in 1932, is unable to take part owing to an injured foot. Nevertheless, J. A. Judson, T. H. Warren and D. L. Rathbone are capable of preventing the foreign element from reigning supreme.

The half-mile promises unusual thrills because J. C. Stothard, the Cambridge University president, J. V. Powell, K. Kucharski (Poland), M. Szabo (Hungary), the European

C. K. Allen and R. H. Thomas can make things pretty hot for him.

Frank Close is resting. Jack Holden has only to win the six miles title to complete a hat-trick of successes in the championship. It will be a great achievement if he succeeds. During the winter he won the international cross-country championship for the third successive year.

The marathon race with its 43 entries may go to the Scot, D. McNab Robertson, again, as it has each year since 1932. But A. J. Norris showed up well when winning the Poly race over 26 miles 385 yards several weeks ago, while the Cypriot, S. Kyriakides, is entered with a big reputation abroad.

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Don Finlay is performing well enough to carry off the 120 yards hurdles for the fourth year in succession despite the presence of Kovacs (Hungary), the European champion. The quarter-mile hurdles seems destined to provide a close finish between R. K. Brown, the holder, F. A. R. Hunter, the Empire champion, and, possibly, B. Mandikas, of Greece.

For the two miles walk A. A. Cooper, the holder, stands out alone. He may even take the seven miles walk from J. F. Johnson, though, with his eye on the world record for the shorter distance, Cooper may leave the "seven" alone.

S. C. Scarsbrook is not running as well as he has done and will probably be called upon to submit his two miles steeplechase title to either T. P. Campbell or G. W. Bailey, two Salford men.



A. W. SWEENEY, Milocarian, who is a competitor in the thrilling 100 yards race for the A.A.A. championship.

champion, and Jack Cooper, the holder, are in opposition.

Stothard gets my vote by reason of his 1min. 53 3-5sec. when winning the Scottish championship recently.

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For the one mile Jack Lovelock becomes an obvious choice, but I know that S. C. Wooderson is confident that he can beat the New Zealander, as he did in the South of England championships last year. What a sensation it would be if the Blackheath boy succeeded!

If Rochard, the French champion, starts in the three miles he should win, but A. V. Reeve, W. J. Beavers,

SPEEDWAY TO-NIGHT

NEW CROSS (8.15.)

National Trophy Match: New Cross v Belle Vue.

(Helmet colours: New Cross red and blue; Belle Vue white and yellow.)

Heat 1.—R Johnson (red), R Dook (blue) v E Langton (white), B Harrison (yellow).

Heat 2.—T Farndon (red), G Newton (blue) v J Abbott (white), A Dobson (yellow).

Heat 3.—S Greatrex (red), J Francis (blue) v B Kitchen (white), M Grosskreutz (yellow).

Heat 4.—T Farndon (red), G Newton (blue), v E Langton (white), B Harrison (yellow).

Heat 5.—S Greatrex (red), J Francis (blue) v J Abbott (white), A Dobson (yellow).

Heat 6.—R Johnson (red), R Dook (blue), v B Kitchen (white), M Grosskreutz (yellow).

Heat 7.—S Greatrex (red), J Francis (blue), v E Langton (white), B Harrison (yellow).

Heat 8.—R Johnson (red), R Dook (blue) v J Abbott (white), A Dobson (yellow).

Heat 9.—T Farndon (red), G Newton (blue) v B Kitchen (white), M Grosskreutz (yellow).

NOTE.—The second half of the match is a repetition of the first half. Heat 10 is the same as Heat 1. Heat 11 as Heat 2, and so on.