

THE EVENING STANDARD. 12-0-35

England Faces Rest of the World in the A.A.A. Championships

By "TRIPLE OLYMPIAD"

THE Amateur Athletic Association open championships have been likened to a miniature Olympiad, because of the high standard of the foreign challenge. That which will be begun this evening and concluded to-morrow will be no exception to the rule. There is a very strong overseas entry; and for most of the onlookers the struggle will resolve itself into England v. the Rest of the World.

There are many outstanding points, but I imagine that several people will visit the scene of the struggle—the White City Stadium—chiefly to see Jack Lovelock. Well, here are two items to whet the interest.

First, there are rumours that Lovelock may attack record in the final to-morrow; and second, there are many people who, even if they are partisan, are athletic followers of considerable experience, and who believe that the young Blackheath Harrier, S. C. Wooderson, may prove the winner of the race.

MAGNIFICENT RACE

Of the half-mile it is only necessary to say that if the final is worthy of the field it should be a magnificent affair. In it there should be J. A. Cooper, the holder, J. Kucharski (Poland), J. V. Powell and J. C. Stothard; and besides these there are others who have best personal performances of 1min. 55sec. or less.

The 440 yards, however, with most, if not all, of our great runners at this distance either scratched or out of form, is liable to be disappointing. If W. Roberts turns out there may be no one to touch him.

Chief interest in the sprints will, I think, centre in A. W. Sweeney's attempt on the double. Most of his running this season has been over 100 yards, in which his smooth and enormously powerful finish has made him invariably successful.

In the Three Miles the outstanding performer, after last Saturday at Ravensbourne, would seem to be A. V. Reeve. His feat in running away from such a strong finisher as C. K. Allen, not to speak of R. H. Thomas, at the end of a not particularly slow-run race, was really remarkable.

Passing to the Marathon, we find two men who, on paper, may give the holder, D. M. Robertson, something to think about. These are A. J. Norris, winner of the Polytechnic race, and S. Kyriadies, of Cyprus, the best long-distance runner in Central Europe. Kyriadies has come



J. E. Lovelock



D. O. Finlay

over especially for this event, and has been in hard daily training for the past month.

The last of the flat running events is the 4 x 110 yards relay; and the Polytechnic Harriers, after their fine showing at Ravensbourne, are really hopeful of winning. They will certainly have to move if they are to get away from the French and Hungarian teams.

CRACK HURDLERS

Both the 120 and 440 yards hurdles promise to be unusually exciting. In the short race D. O. Finlay, the holder, has two first-class foreign opponents in J. Kovacs, the Hungarian, and C. Mandikas (Greece) to extend him, not to mention A. G. Pilbrow, who is not far behind the champion these days. At the longer distance R. K. Brown, the holder, F. A. R. Hunter, the Empire champion, C. Mandikas and J. Simpson should make the final a great race, with G. Nagy (Hungary) also a possible danger.

As usual the field events will be noteworthy for the quality of the foreign champions. I should like to see K. S. Duncan pull one out of the bag to win the long jump; but the opposition will be very strong. The holder, Robert Paul, of France, has lately cleared 25 feet.

Look out for Keith Brown, the American holder of the world's record in the pole vault! Although just off the boat he will be worth watching.

ORDER OF EVENTS

- 5.0.—220 Yards: First Round.
- 5.5.—Long Jump. Preliminary Trials.
- 5.20.—Tug-of-War (100st.): First Round.
- 5.30.—440 Yards Hurdles: Heats.
- 5.45.—880 Yards: Heats.
- 6.5.—220 Yards: Semi-finals.
- 6.15.—Two Miles Walk
- 6.15.—High Jump. Qualifying Competition.
- 6.40.—One Mile: Heats.
- 6.50.—Pole Vault. Qualifying Competition.
- 7.0.—440 Yards: Heats.
- 7.15.—Tug-of-war (100st.): Semi-finals.
- 7.20.—Six Miles
- 7.25.—Hop, Step and Jump.
- 7.35.—440 Yards: Semi-finals.
- 8.0.—440 Yards Relay (4 x 110 yards): Heats.
- 8.10.—Tug-of-War (100st.): Final.