

GREEK HOPES TO WIN MARATHON THIS YEAR

Continued From First Page

When he left Athens on Thursday morning, as he boarded the TWA Starliner Sphinx for his trip to America, the cheers of the people of his homeland were ringing in his ears, in acclaim for the words of President Truman, heard over their loudspeakers but a few hours before.

His address was printed in full length and was topped by banner headlines across the front pages of the Athenian papers which also prominently displayed pictures of Mr. Truman. The runner brought with him several copies of the different publications to show his friends here how warmly the message of the President was received.

Practically everyone in Athens, he said, had remained up to hear the speech which came over the radio at about midnight. Upon its conclusion, wild enthusiasm broke all over the city. Demonstrations and parades followed on Thursday morning, he said.

The runner brought news that a second Grecian would be entered in next month's Marathon. He will arrive here in a few days, starting from Athens as soon as his visas have been arranged. His name is Athanios Ragozos and he is a fast and powerful sprinter, said Kyriakides. In fact, he said, Ragozos had twice beaten him in races before the war. Ragozos is 34 years old or three years the junior of the winner of last year's classic.

Hailed as Hero

Kyriakides said his expenses for the trip here have been provided by Athens Electric Co., Ltd., by which he is employed. Upon his return to Athens last year after his notable victory here Kyriakides was given a wonderful reception, by his countrymen. He was met by the Mayor of Athens and those of several other cities and was escorted to his home. The trip from the airport to his domicile which usually takes about half an hour required six hours on that day. Upon his return, the electric company by which he was then employed as a collector, promoted him to be its treasurer.

Ragozos, the new runner to come here from Greece, is employed by the International Bank of Greece.

Kyriakides, after a brief stay at the airport, boarded the plane last night for New York where he has to transact some business. He expects to return to Boston some time next week and will immediately begin his training for Patriot's Day. Most of this will be done along the route of the race. His fellow townsman Ragozos, upon his arrival here, will train with him, he said. At his Athens home eagerly awaiting the outcome of the Patriot's Day run is his wife and two children, he said.