

OLYMPIC GAMES CHANCES

Opposition American Athletes Are Likely to Meet.

DOPE ON THE BIG LONDON EVENTS

Yankees Strong in Pole Vault, Sixteen-Pound Shot, Hammer and Hurdles—England's Strength in the Distance Runs.

NEW YORK, June 25.—America's chances of victory in the Olympic games look very good now, and if the prospective competitors from the European countries are only as good as their paper performances would indicate...

In the first place Great Britain and Ireland was poorly represented in 1904—there being but a few Englishmen, fewer Irishmen and only a couple of Scotchmen. This time the very best of the Englishmen will be there by the hundreds, as well as the flower of Ireland...

Where Yankees Stand. Just now to size up the American team in a few words, it is strongest in the hurdles, sixteen pounds shot, hammer, pole vault and standing jump, weak in the distance runs and only middling in the sprints, middle distances, discus and running jumps...

Taking the events in rotation the sprints come first. America has no wonder for the 100 meters nowadays, that is a man who like Wefers could give yards to his opponents and who could at once be put down as a dead sure thing for the hundred border on the phenom class and at their very best have only a fighting chance to score. Calculating the possibilities from a speed test seemingly the foremost man on the team is W. W. May, Illinois university, with his record of nine and four-fifths seconds for the 100 yards, his figures for the 100 meters being only conjecture...

On his last outing Robertson of the Irish American Athletic club was beaten in poor time, and in order to be at all within the big distance of the front rank he will have to improve yards before July 13. If Sherman of Dartmouth should round back into his form of early spring he will show well and in much the same box as Huff, Chicago, and Whitman, Pennsylvania. After all things have been said up and down of Pennsylvania is the most likely to pull through the two rounds of trials, the semi-final and final, without having his colors lowered. He is a seasoned campaigner, is accustomed to the English weather and the change of atmosphere should not bother him as much as the others.

Climate and Time.

It is a well known fact that no sprinter has recorded as fast time in England as in America, the conclusion being that there is at least a fifth of a second between the two countries. Cartmel's visit to the other side last year has been an illustration of the theory. The Pennsylvania man left this shore in great fettle and able at any time to reel off the hundred in nine and four-fifths seconds, yet singularly enough, he was beaten by J. W. Morton, the English champion, in the ridiculously slow time of ten and four-fifths seconds. Several times afterward Morton beat the Quaker, but toward the close of the season Cartmel won a race when it was said that the Britisher had gone stale. Report from the land of the Saxon has it that Morton is away off his form and that the Pennsylvania man will fall back on J. P. George, the turlow champion, who is capable of about ten and one-fifth for the hundred.

From Ireland there is word of a new wonder by the name of R. J. Roche, the younger brother of P. J. Roche, the Irish champion sprinter. Last year the younger had a few sprints and on each occasion exhibited a rare turn of speed, but this year it seems he is still faster. His latest appearance was at the spring meet of the Queens college, Cork, where he was credited with nine and three-fifths seconds for the 100 yards. There was no mention made of the weather conditions, but perhaps Roche had the aid of a breeze. The older Roche has done ten and one-fifth seconds for the 100 yards, and as both will be in the 100 meters at the Olympic the visitors will have ample opportunity to get a line on the Irishman.

On paper the really fastest sprinter the Americans will meet is Knut Lindberg, the Swedish champion and holder of the world's record for the 100 meters of ten and three-fifths seconds, made at Stockholm last fall. That the performance was genuine there is little doubt, for soon afterward in the international meet, Lindberg easily beat J. W. Morton in eleven and one-fifth seconds. Lindberg is also speedy for the 200 meters, having done twenty-two and three-fifths, but the best man here is Cartmel, who should, bar accident, scratch home in front of J. P. George, the Englishman. Whitman is a good reliable man in this event and he should be in the hunt at the finish.

For the 400 meters. Picking the winner of the 400 meters is more or less of a problematical task at this moment. If all goes well with Lieutenant Halswell, the ex-quarter-mile English champion, he should be first past the post, but only time can reveal whether he can round into form. He pulled a tendon last year, and has been absent from the path until lately, and on his first trial did something like two minutes two seconds for the half mile and later ran 400 meters in fifty and two-fifths seconds and 800 yards in one minute twelve and one-fifth seconds. When well wound up Halswell could

do forty-eight and two-fifths seconds for the 400 meters, and these figures seem beyond the speed of any man on the American team. Were Hillman to devote his attention solely to the 400 meters, he is the only man able to give Halswell a chase for first money. In his recent quarter mile race at Travers Island Hillman showed something like forty-nine seconds for the distance and that at least he could reach the 400-meter post in forty-eight and four-fifths seconds, and these figures mean that Hillman is as fast now as of yore. The layout for this event at Philadelphia showed that Taylor, Pennsylvania and Atie, Princeton, are pretty evenly matched and good for about forty-nine and four-fifths seconds at the very slowest. Both may do a little better in England. Outside of Halswell the foreigners billed for trouble in this race are very few, and these few are not known to be extra speedy. In the

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English tryouts a couple of weeks ago first place in the 400 meters was won by A. Patterson of Sheffield in the poor time of fifty-one and three-fifths seconds, but this is no sample of what might be developed out of the English championship, the pick of which will go to the scratch in the Stadium. Probably E. H. Montague of the London Athletic club will be one of these, for he ran fairly for the quarter all through last season, the English championship being one of his best races. Nothing very formidable in this line comes from Ireland or Scotland.

On the continent the fastest man appears to be Belin de Coteau of the Societe Athletique de Montreux, France, the present French record holder and champion and whose best time for the 400 meters is fifty seconds. The best Swede is C. A. Toren, who has done fifty-one and seven-tenths seconds, though in last year's championship K. Stenberg of Goteborg won in fifty-two and four-fifths seconds. Exactly the same figures have been credited to George Raak, the Norwegian champion, while H. Stenberg, the Finnish record holder, is two-fifths of a second faster. J. Runge, who, it will be remembered, came to St. Louis in 1904, has the German record, with fifty-one and one-fifth seconds and the Belgian record is fifty-three and one-fifth seconds by W. Jacquemin. There should be no fear of any stiff opposition from the Hungarians in this event, as Z. Mestoky, the champion, has only done fifty-four and four-fifths seconds. The Russian champion, Paul Lidva, is still slower, his record being fifty-five and two-fifths seconds. There is not the least fear of any stiff opposition from the Americans, who can defeat the best of the continental races.

In the 800-meter race. The 800 meters is bound to be one of the best contests on the program and with every possibility of the Olympian record being knocked sky high, several of the wise ones who are good at picking the winners think that with Sheppard first place is the easiest sort of a cinch for America. If there was anything to warrant that Sheppard will do one minute fifty-four seconds for the 800 meters in England it is reasonable to believe that he will have a fair chance of the event. But there is a good precedent to go by that the Irish-American Athletic club runner will not clock as fast time abroad as at home. No American ever yet did, not even the great John Fairbairn-Crawford has a record on grass of one minute fifty-seven and one-fifth seconds, made last year, and is reported to be much faster this season, so that the man who lands in front of either the Dark Blue or the Frisky man will have no easy task before him.

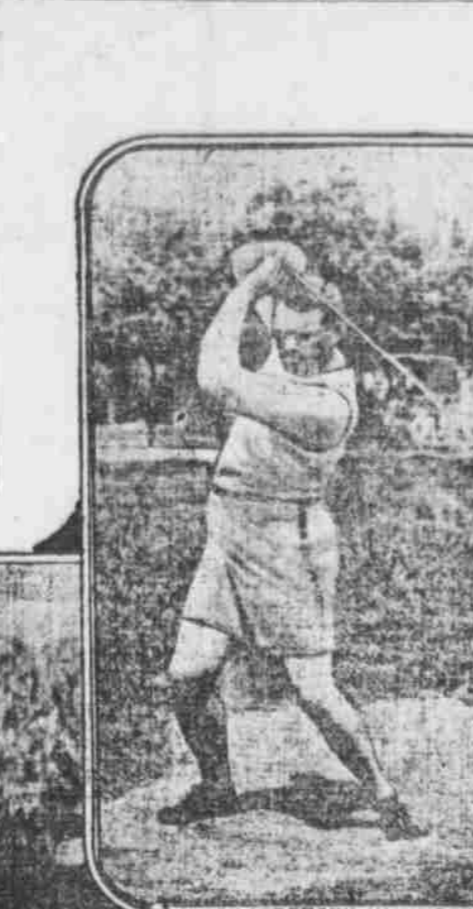
Of the other American selections Coe, Michigan, and Jones, Pennsylvania, seem the most reliable. Paul Pilgrim, who did such fine work two years ago at Athens, may find his form at the right time and again surprise the critics by doing the unexpected. Very likely J. D. Lightbody will devote his attention to the longer distance. Coe is a good half miler and if he should happen to strike a favorable day will be well up with the leaders, and the same might be said of Jones and of Bromlow of the Irish-American Athletic club. An erratic sort of a starter in this event from abroad will be G. N. Morphy of Dublin university, holders of the Irish record of one minute fifty-three and four-fifths seconds. When the notion takes him he is liable to run a smashing race and the very next time out he is just as liable to be rotten; therefore, should he hit the Stadium in the right mood, he will be up with the van.

The best of the Continental delegation will be Kristian Halstead, holder of the Swedish record for 800, 800 and 1,000 meters, and it is now reported that he is good for 1:36 for the middle distance. He has been a resident of England for the last year or so and will have the same advantage over our men as have the Englishmen. France will be represented by H. Seloge, who has covered the distance on one minute fifty-nine and one-fifth seconds last year, and it is said that he is much faster this season. The second string for the French will be Poullot, nearly as good a

man as Dolore, Runge, the German champion, is a fifth of a second slower than the Frenchman on paper, but the rating may be reversed when they meet. G. Delaire, the Belgian champion, is rather slow for this event, his time in last year's championship being two minutes twenty-five and two-fifths seconds. The distance was not run at the Hungarian track and field meet last year, but R. Hollies won the half mile in the slow time of two minutes thirty-seven seconds, but if the Englishmen are true to their traditions, the figures will not cut much in the Stadium. In the English Harriers beat this record of Halstead's by two-fifths of a second and he is not even classed among the second raters on his own soil. The man to keep an eye on for the event is G. Butterfield of the Darlington Harriers, the present English mile champion and a man with a record of four minutes eighteen and two-fifths seconds for the mile. This rate of traveling would mean something like three minutes fifty-five seconds for the 1,500 meters, and perhaps when Butterfield guesses his race fit that exact distance, he will lower the record to three minutes fifty-two seconds.

A few others not quite as good as Butterfield will be on hand for this event, so it is hard to see where anybody else but the Britons will have a chance to score. J. McLaughlin Bellpouison Harriers, who is a strong 4:20 man for the mile, should be heard from in the contest. The French are very sweet on a youngster they have for the race. His name is Keyser, and though the present champion of France for the distance, no real line can be had now as to his exact speed. John Svanberg, who, it is national champion of Sweden, as he won the race last fall in the third poor time will be remembered, ran thirty in the Marathon race at Greece two years ago, and who has done some fine racing since, the of four minutes twenty and three-fifths seconds.

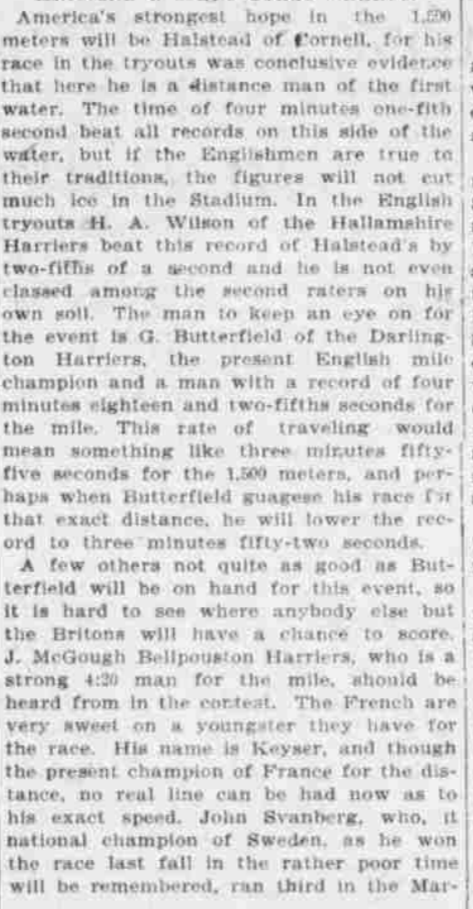
But the Swedes are on the ground already with two men much better than Svanberg, who this time will be reserved for the longer distances. The new ones are E. Bjorn and E. Dahl, both of Stockholm, and they are said to be much speedier than their public performances would indicate. In the international meeting last year at the Swedish capital Dahl won in four minutes thirty-five and four-fifths seconds and Bjorn won in four minutes thirty-two and one-fifth seconds. The record of the Butterfield caliber during his career. Dull and Rowe are good men and well inside the 4:30 class for the mile, but Sullivan will, in all probability, find the heavy English atmosphere a little too much for him.



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DAN J. KELLY, 100 YARDS SPRINTER—RAY EWRY, STANDING HIGH AND BROAD JUMPER.



Champion Broad Jumper

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U.S. LIGHT BODY WINNING 1500 METRE RACE, OLYMPIC GAMES, ATHENS, 1906.



RALPH ROSE SHOT PUTTER.



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All sorts of records. At any rate, Garrels will have the satisfaction of meeting Sheridan and Dearborn, and for once a mooted question will be settled, whether Garrels or Sheridan is the better man. To capture first place will be rather hard especially in the face of Jaervinen, the "big Finn," and his world's record of 16 feet four inches made last year. Sweden has a good man in John Paikenberg, who has thrown 120 feet two inches, and the Hungarians boast of another good one in H. Hatos, whose best mark is 128 feet six and one-half inches. The Greek style depends largely upon what the English officials might term a fair throw. If the out and out Greek rule is enforced and Georgantas of Athens is on the spot he will win with a throw of about 110 feet, but should unrestricted arm action be permitted it will be a tossup between Jaervinen, Garrels, Dearborn and Sheridan, first place most likely going to the Finn.

For the Jumps. To figure on the running broad jump is merely a guess. If Peter O'Connor of Ireland is the best, as was any of his former snap he will win, and the English championship on July 4 will tell whether he is or not. Mellander of Sweden is doped for big things and now supposed to be clearing twenty-four feet or thereabouts. In this event the Europeans will have the chance of seeing a real broad jumper, his name is Frank Mount Pleasant, the Carlisle Indian, will be a contender and he should be close on the winner. If his leg proves strong Dan Kelly should win with O'Connell, New York Athletic club, Cook, Cornell, and the Indian fighting for the places.

The running high jump looks like a win for Con Leahy of Ireland, who is said to be clearing six feet five inches in practice at his home in the Green Isle. Sweden has it is said, a man who is getting over six feet three inches, and between him and Porter, who is good for the same height, there should be the keenest sort of a tussle. The candidates for the hop, step and jump from this side can hardly be rated good enough for the Irish brigade if they turn out in force for the competition. Brennan, the champion, can clear forty-nine feet under the poorest conditions, and if Leahy and O'Connor, who were first and second at Athens, should try they will shut out all others.

Ray Ewry should land the two standing jumps for America, though he is liable to be well extended in the high jump by L. Dupont of France. At the international meet at Stockholm last fall the Frenchman cleared five feet one inch, so that Raymond will have no soft thing, like all Athens. Hillers and Adams will be valuable second strings to Ewry.

The Swedes should have a monopoly of the points in the javelin. Erik Lemming, who won with a new world's record two years ago, has now moved the mark up to 180 feet two inches. At the German tryouts it was reported that the winner sent the spear 206 feet, and if this proves to be correct and he repeats the throw in England, Germany will surely be credited with first place. Finland has a good man in U. Aaltonen, who has a record of 154 feet.

To calculate the probable outcome of the points on the basis of five points for first, three for second and one for third, the figures show a peculiar result. Allowing that America will win all the points in six events, that is in the hurdles, shot, hammer, pole vault, standing high and broad jumps, and with points in the sprints, middle distances and other events, still England shows to be a winner. The margin in favor of the Britishers is something like ten points. Of course it is all guess work, but the dope figures that way now.

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